



Mineralogical Magazine

The November 2014 issue of *Mineralogical Magazine* is a special, online only, open access issue of the journal devoted to papers by researchers in the 'MINSC (Mineral Scale Formation)' and 'CO₂ React' Research and Training Networks. The list of contents is as follows:

- Christine V. Putnis, Encarnación Ruiz-Agudo and Jörn Hövelmann: Coupled fluctuations in element release during dolomite dissolution
- F. di Lorenzo, R. M. Rodríguez-Galán and M. Prieto: Kinetics of the solvent-mediated transformation of hydromagnesite into magnesite at different temperatures
- Juan Diego Rodríguez-Blanco, Beatriz Vallina, Jesus A. Blanco and Liane G. Benning: The role of REE³⁺ in the crystallization of lanthanites
- D. B. Meier, E. Gunnlaugsson, I. Gunnarsson, B. Jamtveit, C. L. Peacock and L. G. Benning: Microstructural and chemical variation in silica-rich precipitates at the Hellisheiði geothermal power plant
- Beatriz Vallina, Juan Diego Rodríguez-Blanco, Jesus A. Blanco and Liane G. Benning: The effect of heating on the morphology of crystalline neodymium hydroxycarbonate, NdCO₃OH
- Prathap Moola, Berger Sigfússon and Andri Stefánsson: Pore-volume alteration measurements to evaluate scale formation during solid–fluid interactions
- U.-N. Berninger, G. Jordan, J. Schott and E. H. Oelkers: The experimental determination of hydromagnesite precipitation rates at 22.5–75 °C
- Fernando Berro, Matteo Lelli, Ilaria Minardi and Giorgio Virgili: A procedure for eliminating sulfide interference on silica colorimetric analysis
- Cristina Ruiz-Agudo, Christine V. Putnis and Andrew Putnis: The effect of a copolymer inhibitor on baryte precipitation
- Thomas Rinder and Eric H. Oelkers: On the colorimetric measurement of aqueous Si in the presence of organic ligands and common pH buffering agents
- M. Prieto: Nucleation and supersaturation in porous media (revisited)
- Tamara Diedrich, Jacques Schott and Eric H. Oelkers: An experimental study of tremolite dissolution rates as a function of pH and temperature: Implications for tremolite toxicity and its use in carbon storage
- Taher Rabizadeh, Caroline L. Peacock and Liane G. Benning: Carboxylic acids: effective inhibitors for calcium sulfate precipitation?
- Jan Prikryl and Andri Stefánsson: CO₂ mineralization by olivine at hydrothermal conditions
- J. Olsson, S. L. S. Stipp and S. R. Gislason: Element scavenging by recently formed travertine deposits in the alkaline springs from the Oman Semail Ophiolite
- Deirdre E. Clark, Marjolein F. A. Vogels, Marcel van der Perk, Philip N. Owens and Ellen L. Petticrew: Effects of a small-scale, abandoned gold mine on the geochemistry of fine stream-bed and flood-plain sediments in the Horsefly River watershed, British Columbia, Canada
- B. Y. Zhen-Wu, K. Dideriksen, D. A. Belova, P. J. Raahauge and S. L. S. Stipp: A comparison of standard thermodynamic properties and solubility data for baryte, Ba²⁺(aq) and SO₄²⁻(aq)

Kevin Murphy
Executive Director
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It was a busy 2014 for SIMP. Our society was involved in several activities that had as their aim the better promotion and awareness of mineralogy and petrology both in Italy and abroad.

Many grants and awards given out during 2014. SIMP awarded 18 grants to selected members to participate in Italian and international meetings; two prizes of equal merit were awarded for the best scientific paper by a young researcher (to Matteo Ardit and Cristian Biagioni); three grants were awarded for the recipients to study abroad (to Sara Callegaro, Silvia Gentili and Vincenza Guarino); four prizes of equal merit were awarded for the best PhD theses in mineralogy and petrology (to Veronica D'Ippolito, Elisa Gasparini, Davide Novella and Luca Ziberna).

On the social network side, SIMP Facebook profile is gaining more and more “likes,” and this indicates how important it is to grab the attention of the younger generation of researchers using social media.

SIMP joined with the Italian Geological Society to sponsor the 3rd series of distinguished lectures: these focused on planetary deposition environments (Gian Gabriele Ori) and on quasicrystals found in meteorites (Luca Bindi). The two lecturers travelled throughout Italy during 2014 and will continue giving their lectures during the first half of 2015.

The Cultural Heritage School was organised by the Georesources, Environment and Cultural Heritages informal group and was held in Catania (1–4 July 2014), and the School on Geological and Practical Application on Mineral Physics (Bressanone, 2–5 February 2015) was organised by the National Mineralogy informal group. Our society has also sponsored many Italian and international meetings over the last year, such as the *Giornate Mineralogiche di Tavagnasco* and the Himalaya–Karakorum–Tibet workshop.

We celebrated the International Year of Crystallography (IYCr2014) by supporting several events organized by SIMP members: the exhibition “*Cristalli!*” started in Padova and then travelled across Italy; “*Cristalli ai raggi-X*” was held in Modena; “*Vedere l'invisibile*” was held in Perugia; the 1st European Crystallography School was held in Pavia; and there was the Accademia dei Lincei workshop, “IYCr2014 Challenges in Crystallography.”

SIMP has also sponsored Diamond School held in Bressanone (http://www.indimedeia.eu/diamond_school_2015.htm), and will support the 8th European Conference on Mineralogy and Spectroscopy in Rome (www.ecms2015.eu).

We congratulate several SIMP fellows who were elected to the IMA: Marco Pasero (councilor); Federico Pezzotta (chairman of the Commission on Museums); Paola Comodi (secretary of the Commission on Physics of Minerals); and Giovanni Pratesi, Mauro Prencipe, and Francesco Di Benedetto as SIMP representatives on IMA commissions.

The last year will be remembered most of all for the successful meeting (held 10–12 September in Milan; <http://www.geoscienze2014.it/>) that was jointly organized by SIMP and the Italian Geological Society (SGI) and that was featured in the previous issue of *Elements*.

Building on the above success, SIMP has organised a new joint meeting – entitled “The Dynamic Planet: Developments and Perspectives 100 Years After Wegener” – that will feature collaborations with SGI, with the Italian Society of Geochemistry, and with the Italian Association of Volcanology. The meeting will be held September 2–4, 2015, in Florence. There will be a two day pre-congress workshop (August 31st–September 1st) and a one-day post-congress workshop; short courses will accompany the meeting. Full information will be soon available on the SIMP website (www.socminpet.it).