



The Clay Minerals Society

www.clays.org

THE PRESIDENT'S CORNER



Dear CMS Community,

Greetings again from Sandersville, Georgia (USA), the "kaolin capital of the world"!

As I promised in my last message, below is the summary of the 52nd CMS Annual Meeting/Euroclay2015 held 5–10 July 2015 in Edinburgh (Scotland). The conference was superbly organized by Dr. Steve Hillier and Mr. Kevin Murphy and was attended by over 500 delegates, including about

130 students from around the world. I also am pleased to convey that planning for the 53rd CMS Annual Meeting, led by our past president, Dr. Crawford Elliott, is in full swing. The upcoming meeting will be held 5–8 June 2016 in Atlanta (Georgia, USA). I would like to welcome y'all to Atlanta in 2016. Please make every effort to attend and make this conference a great success!

The time has come to renew your 2016 membership of the Clay Minerals Society. You should have recently received an e-mail to this effect. The online renewal process (www.clays.org) is straightforward. Please take a few moments to renew your membership. I urge you to take advantage of the significant early renewal discount (before 30 November 2015). I hope you still remember my appeal from the CMS business meeting in Edinburgh, as well as in the August issue of *Elements*, about recruiting at least one colleague to become a member of the CMS. I call this the "peer to peer" concept. As you know, members are the pillars of any organization, and the CMS would not exist without you, its members.

I am glad to announce that the CMS website is being revamped in order to make it friendlier to handheld devices. Another notable activity of the CMS leadership is considering the best path forward for the journal *Clays & Clay Minerals*, the heart and soul of our society. In particular, the editorial board, executive committee, and council are examining proposals from two vendors that could influence the impact factor, circulation, distribution, and revenues from the journal.

I know for certain that both CMS and clays science are dear to your minds and hearts. I would highly appreciate your suggestions, recommendations, and contributions to any aspect of the operation of the society. Your contribution to the CMS would be a great way to give back to the profession and could be personally very gratifying.

With best regards,

Prakash B. Malla, PhD
President, The Clay Minerals Society
Research & Development
Thiele Kaolin Company, Sandersville, Georgia, USA

52nd ANNUAL MEETING OF THE CMS

In July 2015, the Clay Minerals Society (CMS) coorganized the Euroclay 2015 meeting in Edinburgh (Scotland). This event ran for seven days in early July and included five field trips, a workshop, a short-course, numerous social events (including a superb banquet at "Our Dynamic Earth"), five parallel sessions, and two poster sessions. More than 500 delegates attended the meeting, including about 130 students.

The conference was organized by CMS member Prof. Steve Hillier of the Hutton Institute in Aberdeen (Scotland) and was supported by a large team that included the program and finance committees, session chairs, the staff of the Mineralogical Society of Great Britain and Ireland, and the managing editor of *Clays and Clay Minerals*, Kevin Murphy.



The CMS travel grant scheme gave assistance to 15 students to attend the meeting in Edinburgh. (FROM LEFT TO RIGHT) Liva Dzene, Michal Janosik, Chu-Chun Hsu, Patrizia Will, Carmen Ciotonea, Bhabananda Biswas, Mathias Köster, Fabien Baron, Jonathan Fafard, Valentin Robin, and Ruhaida Rusmin. Not pictured: Austin Boles, Jared Freiburg, Eleanor Olegario-Sanchez, and Kiho Yang.

A large international event like this allows us the opportunity to get together and talk about CMS business as well as CMS science. In addition to the usual meetings of the Executive Committee and Council (held 4th July!), the editorial board of CCM also met (over dinner) with the editors of our sister journal, *Clay Minerals*. We also took the opportunity to discuss future marketing strategies for *Clays and Clay Minerals*.

The Awards Ceremony saw us celebrate the contribution to the conference made by our guest speakers, Jim Kirkpatrick and Balwant Singh. Biographies of our award winners will be included in the next edition of *CMS News*. We also had the opportunity to thank Reed Glasmann for his huge contribution to the society in terms of managing the finances over the last several years.

Awards for the best student poster and best student oral presentation were made jointly with the European Clay Groups Association and Association Internationale pour l'Étude des Argiles. Award winners for the best student oral presentations were Bhabananda Biswas, Mathias H. Köster, and Sayako Inoue. Award winners for the best student poster presentations were Cristina Fernández-Barranco, Katherine Rothwell, and Darja Komar.



CMS President Crawford Elliott passes the gavel to the new president, Prakash Malla.

At the beginning of the society's business meeting, CMS President W. Crawford Elliott offered a thoughtful summary of the current state of health of the society. In a time of significant change in the publishing world, small societies like the CMS need to work hard to survive. A refreshed executive committee (new treasurer is Paul Schroeder; new president is Prakash Malla) now takes over the mantle of responsibility to carry the society forward.

Finally, the entire clay community recognized Steve Hillier, the meeting's organizer, for his work in putting together such a great event. The CMS will benefit financially from the meeting, which in turn will enable it to support future such meetings, including student attendances.

Kevin Murphy



53RD ANNUAL MEETING OF THE CLAY MINERALS SOCIETY
Atlanta June 5-8, 2016

For more information, please visit <http://conferences.illinois.edu/CMS2016/>.