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## FROM THE PRESIDENT

The annual meeting of the DMG, as well as that of the DGGV (the geological society of Germany), was organized by the GeoForschungsZentrum (GFZ) Potsdam and the Free University of Berlin (FU-Berlin) within the framework of the international conference "Dynamic Earth – From Alfred Wegener to Today and Beyond." The conference illustrated the wide range of geological and mineralogical disciplines that are represented around Berlin and Potsdam (the consortium known as the Berlin–Potsdam Geosciences Geo.X), with three universities, the Museum für Naturkunde, and several Helmholtz institutes. The sessions covered a wide range of mineralogical fields: applied research, materials science, mineral resources, fundamental research, and mineralogy related to environmental and geological processes at all scales.

The meeting was a real success, with more than 800 scientists attending, and it gave the opportunity for participants, mainly composed of young researchers, to appreciate the difficult path that new scientific hypotheses have to follow before they become accepted by the whole community. Exactly 100 years ago, Alfred Wegener, one of the most outstanding of all German geoscientists, published the first edition of his seminal book, *Die Entstehung der Kontinente und Ozeane* (or in English, *The Origin of Continents and Oceans*). Wegener's seminal hypothesis was rejected by his contemporary scientists and was only accepted once the pieces of the "plate tectonics" puzzle were put together in the 1960s. Wegener was 50 years ahead of his time.

With contributions from several eminent international keynote speakers, the conference reviewed how Wegener's findings evolved into modern Earth system science, including its impact on climate, on Earth's surface, and on how the Earth system affects our daily life, e.g. environmental problems, natural hazards, and the formation and exploration of mineral resources.

The importance of how our understanding of large geodynamic processes have advanced was perfectly illustrated by the 2015 recipient of the Abraham Gottlob Werner Medal (in silver), Albrecht Hofmann. Hofmann was among the first scientists to propose scenarios for the evolution of the Earth's mantle based on geochemical investigations.

Many thanks go to Friedhelm von Blanckenburg (scientific coordinator, GFZ), Alessandro Airo (FU-Berlin), Kirsten Elger (GFZ) and Max Wilke (GFZ, but now at the University of Potsdam) for this successful meeting.

The next DMG meeting will be held in conjunction with the EMC<sup>2016</sup> meeting in Rimini (Italy), along with several European mineralogical societies. EMC<sup>2016</sup> will be the second meeting of this type; the first was held in Frankfurt in 2012.

I wish all the members of the mineralogical community a peaceful Christmas, and may it be an ideal time to develop new inspirations for the forthcoming year.

François Holtz (DMG President)

## DMG AWARDS FOR 2015

DMG announced the recipients of its 2015 awards at the 2015 Joint Meeting of the German Mineralogical Society (DMG) and the German



Geological Society (Deutsche Geologische Gesellschaft-Geologische Vereinigung e. V., or DGGV) in Berlin (Germany).

Albrecht Hofmann (left) being honored by DMG president, François Holtz (right)

The **Abraham Gottlob Werner Medal** (in silver) is the highest award of the German Mineralogical Society and honors outstanding contributions to research in mineralogy and closely allied fields. The 2015 medal was awarded to **Albrecht Hofmann** (formerly of the Max-Planck-Institut für Chemie, Mainz, Germany, now at Lamont–Doherty Earth Observatory, Columbia University, New York, USA) for his pioneering research in the field of geochemistry and the evolution of Earth's mantle. Hofmann is one of the leading geochemists who quantitatively describe the relationship between the depletion in Earth's mantle of incompatible elements with the complementary elements' enrichment pattern in continental rocks. He has also significantly deepened our understanding of isotope systems in Earth's global geochemical transport processes and of the relationship between geochemical and geophysical observations.



Eva Stüeken

The **Victor Moritz Goldschmidt Prize** is given to young researchers for outstanding contributions to the mineralogical sciences. The 2015 award goes to **Eva Stüeken** of the University of Washington (Seattle, USA) for her outstanding contributions in the field of isotope geochemistry. Her studies on isotope compositions of selenium, sulfur, and nitrogen in Precambrian systems are innovative and of exceptional quality in terms of both method development and data interpretation. Based on her work, we can now couple the evolution of environmental conditions on the early Earth with the metabolism of former organisms. Eva Stüeken will give a plenary talk at the next DMG meeting (EMC<sup>2016</sup>), which will be held in Rimini (Italy).



Eleanor Berryman

The **Paul Ramdohr Award** is given for the best student contribution at the previous year's annual meeting of the DMG. The 2014 awardee is **Eleanor Berryman** of the Technische Universität Berlin (TU Berlin) and GFZ Potsdam, both in Germany. The DMG honors her excellent presentation entitled "P–T–X controls on K and Na incorporation in dravitic tourmaline" at the 2014 DMG meeting in Jena, Germany. In 2015, Eleanor Berryman also received the **Bernd Rendel Prize of the German Research Society (DFG)**, which is awarded annually to qualified early career geoscientists.



Doreen Turner, winner of DMG's Beate Mocek Prize, is presented with a facsimile of the first German edition of Wegener's book *The Origin of Continents and Oceans* by DMG president François Holtz.



Sara Niedenzu

The **Beate Mocek Prize** is dedicated to supporting mineralogical research, particularly petrology or geochemistry, by young female scientists. This year's prize goes to the two young scientists, **Doreen Turner** (Friedrich Schiller University Jena, Germany) and **Sara Niedenzu** (University of Bremen, Germany). Doreen Turner is researching the formation and exhumation conditions of ultrahigh-pressure rocks. She will use the financial support related to the prize for field work. Sara Niedenzu studies the formation of serpentinite and its influence on the formation of hydrogen in the ocean floor. Winning the prize means she will be able to perform research at Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution (USA).

## DMG AWARDS 2016 – CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

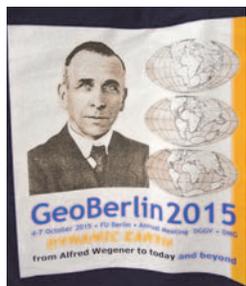
The **Abraham Gottlob Werner Medal** is the highest award of the German Mineralogical Society (DMG). It recognizes outstanding original research in mineralogy (silver medal) or distinguished service for the advancement of the mineralogical sciences (gold medal). The **Georg Agricola Medal** recognizes outstanding achievements in the field of technical and applied mineralogy. The **Victor Moritz Goldschmidt Prize** is given to young researchers for outstanding contributions to mineralogical sciences.

Every DMG member is eligible to submit nominations for these DMG awards. Nominations should include the CV and the publication list of the candidate, as well as a cover letter outlining the candidate's qualifications. Please submit your nominations by 31 January to Prof. François Holtz, Leibniz Universität Hannover, Institut für Mineralogie, Callinstrasse 3, 30167 Hannover, Germany; e-mail: f.holtz@mineralogie.uni-hannover.de.

In memory of the late petrologist and geochemist Beate Mocek the **Beate Mocek Prize** of the German Mineralogical Society was created by her family to encourage female young scientists in the areas of petrology and geochemistry. Female undergraduates or PhD student members of the DMG are eligible to apply for this prize. Please submit your application by 30 June 2016 to François Holtz.

The **Paul Ramdohr Award** is given for the best oral presentation by a student at the annual meeting of the German Mineralogical Society (DMG). In 2016, the meeting will take place in Rimini, Italy (EMC<sup>2016</sup>). DMG student members may apply when submitting an abstract for the meeting.

## GEOBERLIN 2015 – IMPRESSIONS



This year, the 93<sup>rd</sup> annual meeting of the German Mineralogical Society (DMG) and the annual meeting of the German Geological Society–Geological Association (DGGV) took place 4–7 October 2015 at the Free University of Berlin. Called “Dynamic Earth – from Alfred Wegener to Today and Beyond,” the latest results in the fields of geosciences were presented in more than 700 scientific contributions. Furthermore, the life and work of Alfred Wegener (1880–1930) was discussed in two public lectures on Sunday and Wednesday.



On Monday, GeoBerlin 2015 was officially opened by Prof. Dr. Johanna Wanka (Federal Minister for Education and Research) in the big auditorium of the Free University's Henry Ford Bau.



In addition to the talks and poster sessions, there was information

available on the latest analytical methods and their applications at the booths of companies like Thermo Fisher Scientific, JEOL, Renishaw, PANalytical, HORIBA, and Bruker.

The DMG and DGGV both held their annual business meetings at the conference. Here, the foundation of the new federal umbrella association of geosciences (DVGeo) (Dachverband der Geowissenschaften; or in English, Federation of Earth Sciences) was announced by both of them. Also at the meeting, honorary memberships of the DMG were awarded to Hans Seck, Jochen Hoefs, Friedrich Seifert and Martin Okrusch: more detailed citations will be published in the February 2016 issue of *Elements*. At the end of the conference, the 2015 Paul Ramdohr Award winners were announced: Maria Stuff (Potsdam) and Aurelia Zirner (Bonn).

The thematic diversity and excellent organization of GeoBerlin 2015 resulted in very positive feedback from all the participants. Everybody took home many new insights and ideas.

Gerald Buck (Tübingen)

## DMG SHORT COURSES 2016

In 2016, DMG will support six short courses. All courses will be aimed primarily at advanced-level undergraduate and graduate students but, as always, are open to more senior researchers as well. Nonlocal student members of DMG will be eligible for travel support to the amount of €50. Further information can be found at [www.dmg-home.de/kurse](http://www.dmg-home.de/kurse).



Attendants of the joint MSA DMG shortcourse on diffusion modeling at Bochum

(1) **High-Pressure Experimental Techniques and Applications to the Earth's Interior**, Bayerisches Geoinstitut/University Bayreuth, Dr. Stefan Keyssner, 22–26 February 2016 (Stefan.Keyssner@uni-bayreuth.de)

(2) **Solid-state NMR Spectroscopy** (Anwendungen der Festkörper-NMR-Spektroskopie in der mineralogischen und geowissenschaftlichen Forschung), Institute for Geology, Mineralogy and Geophysics, Ruhr University Bochum, Dr. Michael Fechtelkord, 17–20 May 2016 (Michael.Fechteltkord@rub.de)

(3) **In situ Analysis of Isotopes and Trace Elements by Femtosecond Laser Ablation ICP-MS** (In situ-Analyse von Isotopen und Spurenelementen mit (MC-) ICP-MS gekoppelt mit Femtosekunden-Laserablation), Institute for Mineralogy, Leibniz University Hannover. Organised by Prof. Dr. Stefan Weyer and others, 10–14 October 2016 (s.weyer@mineralogie.uni-hannover.de)

(4) **Introduction to Secondary Ion Mass Spectrometry in the Earth Sciences**, Helmholtz-Centre Potsdam–GFZ German Research Centre for Geosciences, M. Wiedenbeck, 5 days, tba October/November 2016 (michael.wiedenbeck@gfz-potsdam.de)

(5) **SEM-based Automated Mineralogy**, Helmholtz-Zentrum Dresden-Rossendorf (HZDr), Dr. Axel Renno (HZDr), Prof. Bernhard Schulz (Freiberg), 17–21 October 2016 (a.renno@hzdr.de)

(6) **Application of Ion Beam Analysis in Mineralogy and Geochemistry**, Helmholtz-Zentrum Dresden-Rossendorf, Dr. Axel Renno, Dr. Frans Munnik, Dr. René Heller, 21–25 November 2016 (a.renno@hzdr.de)