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NOMINATE A COLLEAGUE FOR A GEOCHEMICAL SOCIETY AWARD



Laurie Reisberg

As the summer nears its end, I'd like to take this chance to remind you that 31 October 2016 is the deadline for submitting nominations for this year's Geochemical Society (GS) awards. Anyone, with the exception of GS Board members and those directly involved in the award selection process, may submit a nomination. This includes young geochemists as well as more senior scientists. I strongly encourage all of you to consider supporting in this way a deserving colleague, former student, teacher, or simply someone whose work has inspired you. Submitting a nomination package is an act of real generosity. It can also be immensely rewarding, as your time and effort may allow a person you admire to realize the esteem in which he or she is held by the community.

I'd also like to emphasize the importance of assuring a wide diversity of candidates for the various GS awards. Considerable progress has been made in this respect in recent years, particularly with regards to the number of women among the nominees and recipients. Nevertheless, more progress is still needed. Reading through the list of attendees at the last Goldschmidt conference, I was struck by the tremendous variety of names, and felt proud of how truly international our community has become. This cultural richness should also be reflected in the awards that we grant for scientific achievement. This is important not only in the interest of equity but also to ensure that all the young scientists who attend Goldschmidt conferences recognize their potential future selves in the persons being honored.

Information on how to submit an award nominations package can be found at the GS's website: www.geochemsoc.org/awards/makeanomination/

The main Geochemical Society awards are as follows:

- The **V. M. Goldschmidt Award** is the society's highest honor. This award is presented for major achievements in geochemistry or cosmochemistry, consisting of either a single outstanding contribution or a series of publications that have had great influence on the field. It is named after Victor M. Goldschmidt (1888–1947) whose classification of the elements in the Earth and meteorites and pioneering work on crystal chemistry laid the basis of modern geochemistry. The importance of this award has been recently reinforced by a generous gift from former Goldschmidt award winner Prof. Gerald Wasserburg: the recipient will now be able to travel to the Goldschmidt conference to receive his or her award as a guest of the conference.


- The **C. C. Patterson Award** recognizes an innovative breakthrough of fundamental significance in environmental geochemistry, particularly in the service of society, consisting of either a single outstanding contribution or a short series of papers published within the last decade. Clair C. Patterson (1922–1995) developed the uranium–lead dating method. Using lead and uranium isotopic data from the Canyon Diablo meteorite, he calculated the first accurate and precise age for the Earth.





GS President Barbara Sherwood Lollar (LEFT) presented the 2015 Clair C. Patterson Medal to Karen Johannesson (RIGHT) during the 2015 Goldschmidt Conference in Prague, Czech Republic



2016 F. W. Clarke Award recipient Anat Shahar (RIGHT) joined GS President Barbara Sherwood Lollar (LEFT) during the award ceremony in Prague, Czech Republic.

- The **F. W. Clarke Award** recognizes an early-career scientist for a single outstanding contribution to geochemistry or cosmochemistry, published either as a single paper or as a series of papers on a single topic. Frank Wigglesworth Clarke (1847–1931) was a chemist who determined the composition of the Earth's crust.


- **Joint GS–EAG Geochemical Fellows.** In 1996, the Geochemical Society and the European Association of Geochemistry established the honorary title of Geochemical Fellow, to be bestowed upon outstanding scientists who have, over some years, made a major contribution to the field of geochemistry
- The **Alfred Treibs Award**, presented by the Geochemical Society's Organic Geochemistry Division, is given for major achievements, over a period of years, in organic geochemistry. The legacy of Alfred Treibs (1899–1983) consists of his classic papers on porphyrins, which provided the starting point of organic geochemistry.



Laurie Reisberg, GS President

GS INTRODUCTORY STUDENT MEMBERSHIPS

In order to increase student participation, the GS grants free 2-year memberships to students in countries that are under-represented in the society. Introductory Student Memberships offer benefits including print and online subscriptions to *Elements*, the weekly *Geochemical News* email, and discounted registration rates for the Goldschmidt Conference and other scientific meetings. More information is available at www.geochemsoc.org/programs/ism/. For students from countries not included in this program, membership is just US\$15. If you know students studying geochemistry, encourage them to join!