



Italian Society of Mineralogy and Petrology

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PRESIDENT'S WELCOME ADDRESS

Dear *Elements* reader,



Piergiulio Cappelletti

First of all, I wish to thank, on behalf of the Council of the Italian Society of Mineralogy and Petrology (SIMP), Past President Alessandro Pavese for his commitment in serving the society and for the assistance which I am sure he will continue to provide in the future. After 50 years, once again, the Federico II University of Napoli will host a SIMP president, and I am particularly proud for this reason. Several new members will join the council for next two years: Giovanni Andreozzi (Sapienza University of Rome), Mariano Mercurio (University of Sannio) and Alessandra Montanini (University of Parma), representing, respectively, the three "souls" of the SIMP community: mineralogy, petrology, and their applications. Along with new Vice President Maurizio Mazzucchelli (Università degli Studi di Modena e Reggio Emilia), Nadia Malaspina (Treasurer, Università degli Studi di Milano-Bicocca) and Sabrina Nazzareni (Secretary, Università degli Studi di Perugia), I am sure that this "team" is perfectly suited for the challenging tasks which lie ahead.

With the new council, SIMP will continue its efforts to strengthen the presence of our branches of science in Italy and abroad with a series of scientific and cultural initiatives, along with continued support to all SIMP members for initiatives yet to come. One of our goals will be to involve young and brilliant researchers in the life of the society, which will also hopefully increase their sense of belonging to SIMP.

As regard to SIMP's activities in 2017, several important meetings took place which testify to the health of the society (see www.socminpet.it for further details), notably the annual meeting, which was held in Pisa and called "Geosciences: A Tool in a Changing World".

This year, there will be many initiatives and readers are encouraged to visit www.socminpet.it and www.facebook.com/socminpet.it/ to find more information on SIMP activities. Myself, I am looking forward to the joint conference with the Italian Geological Society (SGI) that will be held in the prestigious location of Catania in September 2018: see <http://www.sgicatania2018.it>.

Best wishes,
Piergiulio Cappelletti
 Federico II University, Napoli
 President, Società Italiana di Mineralogia e Petrologia



MEETING REPORT

2nd International Workshop – European Atlas of Natural Radiation (IWEANR 2017)

The 2nd International Workshop on the European Atlas of Natural Radiation (IWEANR 2017) was held 6–9 November 2017 in Verbania (Italy), and was organized by the Radioactivity Environmental Monitoring (REM) research group of the Joint Research Centre (JRC) of the European Commission.

The meeting was facilitated by Raffaele Sassi and Claudio Mazzoli, co-chairs of the special session "Radon and Geology".

The workshop focussed on the following topics: radon policies and European basic safety standards; indoor radon; sources of natural radiation and their mapping; relationships between radon-related quantities and radon hazard index; and the classification and mapping of radon hazard areas. In addition, there was a special session entitled "Radon and Geology", which emphasized the important role of geological factors on radon exhalation (convener: Raffaele Sassi and Claudio Mazzoli from Padova University, Giancarlo Ciotoli from IGAG-CNR-Roma, and Paola Tuccimei from Roma3 University). This special session focussed on geological features that can generate, promote, or prevent radon flux towards the surface: tectonics; the near-surface geometry of geological bodies; and soil and rock permeability.

The workshop was attended by 85 participants from 30 different countries, and there were a total of 64 oral presentations.

An achievement of the workshop was the rich and animated round-table discussions that followed each session. Here, radon researchers from different disciplines (mathematicians, physicists, chemists, and geologists) shared ideas, different approaches, viewpoints, and sensitivities to the same problem.

The book of abstracts is available at the website <https://remon.jrc.ec.europa.eu/About/News/2017/11/06/2nd-International-Workshop-on-the-European-Atlas-of-Natural-Radiation>.

FIorenzo MAZZI: A TRIBUTE

SIMP wishes to gratefully acknowledge an important bequest left by one of its oldest members, Prof. Fiorenzo Mazzi. His donation will fund grants to support national and international research of mineralogical crystallography.



Fiorenzo Mazzi (1924–2017) had been a Professor Emeritus at the University of Pavia since 1997. He was an active member of SIMP since 1951, was considered a pioneer of modern mineralogical crystallography in Italy, and was an expert on the resolution and refinement of complex mineral and inorganic structures, particularly polytypes and twins. He founded the Pavia school of crystallography and mineralogy and remained a reference person,

perhaps a guru, for many Italian mineralogists from the 1960s to his retirement. Fiorenzo Mazzi co-authored more than 90 papers, which were mainly devoted to the crystallography and crystal chemistry of minerals and inorganic complexes. He also wrote a number of sophisticated freely released computer programs to improve crystallographic analysis during its pioneering years.