

EMPG-XVII

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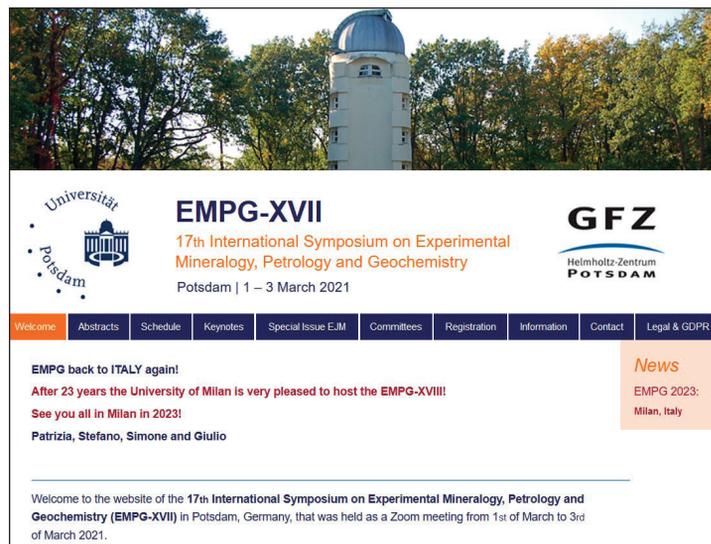
Europe, was invited to provide a Chief Editor and to join the Managing Committee. Other national societies were regularly invited to join the consortium as co-owners, with a designated Chief Editor and Managing Committee Member, with the stipulation that a joining society should give up publication of its national journal, just as the French, German, and Italian societies had done. On that basis, the Sociedad Española de Mineralogía (SEM, Spain's national mineralogical society) joined in 2004. In 2007, electronic publication was in place and the *EJM* had joined GeoscienceWorld (GSW) to make electronic files of papers available to a large audience. Nevertheless, copy-editing, proofreading, and blueprint checking still had to be done, and the inevitable glitches with authors needed to be ironed out. Despite offers of secretarial assistance, Christian Chopin took over all these chores. He was always dedicated to the ideals of a journal published by a learned society, one where scientists sacrifice their time for the benefit of other scientists by contributing to a low-cost but high-quality publication that has a rigorous peer review process to guarantee scientific quality. The four societies and co-owners of *EJM* have now voted to switch to gold open access beginning in 2020. For the first time in 30 years, Christian Chopin was watching this transition from the side lines, but still giving good advice when asked.

Considering the workload that the *EJM* imposed on Christian, it is amazing that he found the time to establish a fantastic scientific career as well. Christian is probably best known to every metamorphic petrologist in the world for his role in establishing a whole new area of research called ultrahigh-pressure (UHP) metamorphism. The key to this is the mineral coesite, a high-pressure polymorph of SiO₂. No doubt the report of metamorphic coesite in crustal rock by Chopin (*Contributions to Mineralogy and Petrology*, 1984, v86, pp107–118) and in the same year by Smith (*Nature*, 1984, v310, pp641–644) is a milestone in the geosciences. Over the course of his career, Christian Chopin has published more than 100 papers in international journals. He has not only studied and mapped HP and UHP rocks in the field, he has also used high-pressure laboratory techniques and thermodynamic calculations to delineate the *P–T* stability fields of their constituent minerals and mineral assemblages.

His scientific career has received international acclaim. He was awarded the V.M. Goldschmidt Prize, which is the “young scientist” honor of the German Mineralogical Society. The European Mineralogical Union awarded him its Medal for Research Excellence. Christian also received the Buttgenbach Prize of the Royal Academy of Belgium, the Van den Broeck Medal of the Belgian Geological Society, and the Bronze Medal of the Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique. A new mineral, the high-pressure form of Mg₃(PO₄)₂, was named chopinite in his honor. In 2005, Christian Chopin was inducted into the prestigious Leopoldina, which the German National Academy of Science founded in 1652. Finally, in 2012, he became a member of the equally esteemed Accademia dei Lincei in Rome (Italy), founded in 1603.

Now, in recognition of 30 years of dedicated service to the *European Journal of Mineralogy*, the German Mineralogical Society awards Christian Chopin an Honorary Membership. Christian joins an elite group of scientists: in over 110 years of its existence, the DMG has only awarded 62 such honors. At present, there are 14 honorary members active in the society.

The 17th International Symposium on Experimental Mineralogy, Petrology and Geochemistry (EMPG-XVII) took place 1–3 March 2021 as an online event. This conference is a biennial meeting organized by the European community of experimental working groups. The meeting was originally planned to take place June 2020 in Potsdam (Germany) and to be organized by Section 3.6. of the GeoForschungsZentrum and the mineralogy group of Potsdam University. There were 133 abstracts submitted and presented, which were given in 5- or 12 minute presentations. In total, 230 people from Europe and overseas were registered for this online meeting, making it similar to previous meetings in international scope.



Contributions covered a wide range of subdisciplines within mineralogy, petrology, and geochemistry and touched on many topics of the solid Earth and planetology, as well as on applied and environmental subjects. The invited keynote speakers were Nadege Hilairet (Lille, France), Kate Kiseeva (Oxford, UK; now in University College Cork, Ireland), Gleb Pokrovski (Toulouse, France) and Agnès Dewaele (Paris, France), all of whom presented their work and achievements to an appreciative and distinguished audience. Despite the limitations, there were very active discussions and exchanges, which took place as online discussions, as online chat, and by e-mail. Only the conference dinner on the Havel River will have to wait for the next EMPG meeting in Potsdam. Many thanks to everyone who helped organize this symposium, especially to Monika Koch-Müller, Beate Hein, and Tanja Klaka-Tauscher who tried twice to organize a real meeting. The next EMPG meeting will be organized by colleagues in Milan (Italy) in 2023 ... and will hopefully include an ‘in-person’ conference dinner.

Max Wilke · Potsdam