Dana Medal to Carlson

James Dwight Dana (1813–1895) and Edward Salisbury Dana (1849–1935), recognizes continued outstanding scientific contributions to the mineralogical sciences through original research by individuals in the midst of their career. Bill Carlson has pioneered truly major advances in the mineral sciences in (1) developing a three-dimensional understanding of the textures of rocks, and (2) quantifying the kinetics of diffusion-controlled metamorphic mineral reactions. In order to accomplish the former, he was the primary force behind the transfer of the technology of X-ray computed tomography (a longstanding medical imaging technique) to a high-resolution application firmly rooted in Earth science, but which has grown to encompass many scientific applications. His earlier researches in experimental, field, analytical, and computational phase equilibria and the quantification of rate phenomena represent equally significant contributions. The Dana Lecture that he will give at the Goldschmidt Conference is entitled “Rates and mechanisms of metamorphic processes from natural occurrences.”

Clarke Medal to Van Orman

JAMES A. VAN ORMAN is the recipient of the 2005 F.W. Clarke Medal, awarded by the Geochemical Society. The medal, awarded to 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, recognizes Van Orman for his experimental and theoretical contributions to our understanding of diffusion in the deep Earth and its consequences for trace element geochemistry and rheological behavior. Dr. Van Orman received his PhD from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology in 2000. He was then an NSF postdoctoral fellow at the Carnegie Institution of Washington for two years before moving to his current position as associate professor at Case Western Reserve University in Cleveland, Ohio.

Watson is Goldschmidt Medalist

E. BRUCE WATSON is the recipient of the 2005 V.M. Goldschmidt Medal, awarded by the Geochemical Society. The medal, given to honor major achievements in geochemistry or cosmochemistry, recognizes Watson for his innovative experimental designs that have changed our understanding of the transport of volatile species in the Earth and the control that surfaces exert on melt and fluid migration. Professor Watson received his PhD from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and was a postdoctoral fellow at the Carnegie Institution of Washington before moving in 1978 to the Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute where he is currently Institute Professor.

Bruland Awarded Patterson Medal

KENNETH BRULAND, of the University of California Santa Cruz, is the winner of the 2005 Clair C. Patterson Medal awarded for Environmental Chemistry by the Geochemical Society. The medal recognizes Bruland’s exceptional contributions to the field of trace metal biogeochemistry and elemental cycling in the ocean. Bruland pioneered the development of modern sampling and analytical protocols for the determination of trace metals and metalloids in natural waters. Bruland’s early work produced some of the first “oceanographically consistent” profiles of trace metals in the Pacific Ocean and guided subsequent conceptual interpretations and analytical efforts. He helped establish 234Th disequilibria in the mixed layer of the ocean as a basis for measuring new production. Most recently, Bruland’s group has made major contributions to our understanding of the importance of natural organic ligands on the chemical speciation and biological utilization of elements such as Fe and Zn in marine systems. His interdisciplinary research has significantly enhanced knowledge of the behavior and biogeochemical importance of trace metals in the ocean and has provided a basis for investigation of environmental pollution and toxicological effects of metals. Bruland earned his BA in chemistry from Western Washington University and his PhD in oceanography from Scripps Institution of Oceanography. He joined UCSC in 1974.

Bodnar Selected as SEG Distinguished Lecturer

ROBERT J. BODNAR, University Distinguished Professor and C. C. Garvin Professor of Geochemistry, Virginia Tech, has been selected as the Society of Economic Geologists Distinguished Lecturer for 2005. He will present his lecture entitled “Contributions of bouncing bubbles to ore genesis research in the last century” at the Centennial Symposium of the SEG in Salt Lake City in October 2005.

Lopano, Bose, and Goeke Receive Research Grants from MSA

The Mineralogical Society of America awards three $5000 grants to support student research. The 2004/2005 Kraus Crystallographic Research Grant recipient is CHRISTINA L. LOPANO for the study “Time-resolved structural analysis of cation exchange and hydrothermal heating reactions in synthetic manganese oxides: birnessite and todorokite,” which will be conducted at Pennsylvania State University and Brookhaven National Laboratory.

The 2004/2005 Mineralogy/Petrology Research Grant recipients are SAUMYADITYA BOSE for the proposal “Combining studies in mineral–microbe interaction and nanomineralogy: measuring and understanding the bio-reduction kinetics of Mn oxyhydroxides driven by Shewanella oneidensis” to be carried out at Virginia Tech, and ELIZABETH R. GOEKE for the study “Quantitative textural modeling along a strong decompression path: example from the Adula Nappe, Central Alps,” which will be carried out at the University of Iowa.

Congratulations to the research grant recipients. Detailed information on the awards and the application process can be found on the MSA website (www.minsocam.org).