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Geochemical Society

NOTES FROM ST. LOUIS

Paytan Selected as 2005 Ingerson Lecturer

Dr. Adina Paytan at Stanford University's Department of Geological and Environmental Sciences has been selected as the 2005 Geochemical Society F. Earl Ingerson Lecturer. The lecture will be presented at the 2005 GSA annual meeting in Salt Lake City, Utah. The series is named after the Geochemical Society's first president.

2005 Committee Member Changes

Several committee members completed their three-year terms this past June. They are:

Richard Carlson (Goldschmidt Award), Flip Froelich (Nominations), Sigurdur Gislason (Goldschmidt Award Chair), Roland Hellmann (Nominations Chair), Janet Herman (Clarke Award Chair), Nancy Hinman (Patterson Award), Briant Kimball (Program), Patricia Maurice (Program), William McDonough (Clarke Award), and Barbara Sherwood-Lollar (Patterson Award). Your hard work and long service is much appreciated.

Beginning new terms on GS committees as of July 1 are:

Vickie Bennett (Nominations Chair), Liane Benning (Patterson Award), Patrick Brady (Goldschmidt Award), Richard Carlson (Clarke Award), Louis Derry (Nominations), Marilyn Fogel (Program), James Kubicki (Nominations), Andreas Lutge (Program), Patricia Maurice (Goldschmidt Award), Samuel Mukasa (Goldschmidt Award Chair), Eric Oelkers (Program), Laurie Reisberg (Clarke Award Chair), Susan Stipp (Clarke Award), and Arthur White (Patterson Award). Thank you for your service and support.

Nominations must be received by November 1, 2005

2006 Geochemical Society Award Nominations Sought

The **V.M. Goldschmidt Medal** is awarded for major achievements in geochemistry or cosmochemistry, consisting of either a single outstanding contribution or a series of publications that have had great influence in the field.

The **F.W. Clarke Medal** is 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.

The **C.C. Paterson Medal** is awarded for a recent innovative breakthrough in environmental geochemistry of fundamental significance, published in a peer-reviewed journal.

The **A.E. Treibs Medal** is awarded by the Organic Geochemistry Division for major achievements in organic geochemistry over a period of years.

Submission requirements and procedures are available on the GS website at: <http://gs.wustl.edu/archives/nominations.html>

Please take the time to honor your peers!

It is up to you to ensure that all of geochemistry is recognized and all deserving geochemists are considered!



Down Under

Abstracts are now being accepted for the 2006 Goldschmidt Conference. The conference will be held in Melbourne, Australia from August 27 to September 1, 2006. For more information on how to submit an abstract, visit the conference website at: www.goldschmidt2006.org/program.asp

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Mineralogical Society of America and Geochemical Society

Short Course

MOLECULAR GEOMICROBIOLOGY

DECEMBER 3-4, 2005

University of California, International House,
Berkeley, CA 94720-2320, USA

Conveners

JILLIAN F. BANFIELD and JAVIERA CERVINI-SILVA, Department of Earth and Planetary Science, University of California-Berkeley

KENNETH NEALSON, Department of Chemical Engineering and Materials Science, University of Southern California

The course reviews recent results of the integrative molecular approaches to biogeochemistry. Critical geochemical processes, such as aqueous complexation, nucleation, dissolution, adsorption, and precipitation, which are stepping stones within the larger context of trace-metal cycling, mineral weathering, and crystal growth, are now being studied at molecular and atomic scales through the application of microscopic, spectroscopic, and computational tools. Many reactions that were previously assumed to occur abiotically, such as reductive dissolution or precipitation of Fe and Mn oxides, are now known to be catalyzed by microbes under a wide range of conditions. Conversely, reactions that have been mainly attributed to microbial metabolism, such as reductive degradation of organic contaminants, are now found to proceed also via novel abiotic paths that are coupled indirectly to biological activity.

More description, topics, speakers, and registration information for the short course are on the MSA website (www.minsocam.org) or available from the MSA Business Office, Mineralogical Society of America, 3635 Concorde Pkwy Ste 500, Chantilly VA 20151-1125, USA. Tel.: +1 (703) 652-9950; Fax: +1 (703) 652-9951, e-mail: business@minsocam.org. Registration fee includes MSA short course sessions, refreshments at breaks, lunch on Saturday and Sunday, Saturday evening banquet, the *Reviews in Mineralogy and Geochemistry* volume, and ground transportation from Berkeley, CA to the AGU meeting on Sunday. There will be an ice-breaker reception at the Lawrence Hall of Science on Friday, December 2 from 7:00 to 10:00 p.m.

The course is sponsored in part by the US Department of Energy.

THE MOSCOW IDAHO GOLDSCHMIDT CONFERENCE: A HUGE SUCCESS



The 15th annual V.M. Goldschmidt Conference was held at the University of Idaho in Moscow, Idaho, USA on May 20–25, 2005. The meeting, organized by Scott A. Wood,

Mickey Gunter, and Peter Larson, was a huge success both scientifically and socially. The total of 1713 accepted abstracts was more than 50 percent greater than the number of abstracts accepted by any previous North American Goldschmidt Conference, exceeded in numbers only by several of the recent European meetings. All abstracts were published as a supplement to *Geochimica et Cosmochimica Acta*. In total, 1558 delegates and 36 accompanying persons from 35 different countries participated in the Moscow conference. Participants were free to choose from 84 special and 19 general symposia held during the conference.



Eric Oelkers attempts to make a point during his Gast Lecture.



Conference co-organizer Scott Wood presides over some local entertainment during the welcoming reception.

The 2005 meeting was also unprecedented in the number of participating societies. In addition to the two charter sponsors of the Goldschmidt Conference, the Geochemical Society and the European Association for Geochemistry, twelve other societies and associations were involved in its organization: the Association of Applied Geochemists, the Division of Geochemistry of the American Chemical Society, the Geochemical Society of Japan, the Inland Northwest Research Alliance, the International Association of GeoChemistry, the International Humic Substances Society, the International Mineralogical Association, the Microbeam Analysis Society, the Mineralogical Association of Canada, the Mineralogical Society of America, the Society of Geology Applied to Mineral Deposits, and the United States Geological Survey.

Many of us may have been skeptical about traveling across the country or half-way around

the world to attend a meeting in Moscow, Idaho. Some might have decided instead to attend other meetings held in more touristy locations that week. To the skeptics, however, Moscow was a very pleasant surprise. Moscow is a small town dominated by the University of Idaho. The university campus turned out to be an ideal site for a large scale scientific conference; it is a well-groomed, wooded campus filled with state-of-the-art lecture halls. As the meeting took over the campus, it



EAG president Bruce Yardley excitedly presents Mark Hodson with the Houtermans Medal during the plenary session.



Susan Stipp checking out some of the local geology during the mid-conference field trip.

was particularly easy to find friends and collaborators. And there was more than enough space to get away from the conference and work privately with friends on collaborative projects. For those in the mood, open-access computers were available throughout the campus for anyone wanting to kick around their graduate students from a distance. Lunches and dinners were provided in the Kibbie Dome for all participants, giving this large conference a small-meeting feeling, despite the large number of attendees. Kibbie Dome dinners also served as the starting point for many extended pub crawling evenings.

Participants will have fond memories of this conference. Many of us were impressed by the extraordinary effort made by both the residents of Idaho and the

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Mineralogical Society of America and Geochemical Society

Short Course THERMOCHRONOLOGY

October 14–15, 2005

Snowbird Resort, Snowbird, Utah, 84092, USA

Conveners

PETER W. REINERS, Department of Geology & Geophysics, Yale University

TODD A. EHLERS, Department of Geological Sciences, University of Michigan



GS president and secretary, Tim Drever (right) and Jeremy Fein (center), find some time to have a beer and a chat.