Mineralogical Society of America

FROM THE PRESIDENT

News from the Annual Meeting

The MSA presence at GSA was strong this year, as usual. In addition to the well-attended technical sessions, we sponsored a short course entitled “Low-Temperature Thermochronology” (convened by Peter Reiners and Todd Ehlers), and gathered for the annual luncheon. The awards and lectures were highlights of the meeting:

Ho-kwang (David) Mao received the 2005 Roebling Medal and presented the Roebling Lecture, “Four Decades of High-Pressure Mineralogy.”

Robin P. Brett received the 2005 Distinguished Public Service Medal in absentia for his “extraordinary services to national or international science societies,” which include the USGS, NASA, NSF, NAS/NRC, IUGG, and IUGS.

Tiziana Boffa Ballaran received the 2005 MSA Award and presented the MSA Award Lecture, “Local Strain Heterogeneity in Mineral Solid Solutions: The Relationship between Line Broadening in IR Spectra and Excess Enthalpy.”

Robert Hazen gave the MSA President’s Lecture, “Minerals, Molecular Selection, and the Origin of Life.”

The highly popular MSA Lecturer series has been expanded to include more institutions worldwide. Next year, two of the lecturers will visit a total of eight universities in Europe. We thank last year’s lecturers, John M. Hughes, treasurer, remains in office, and the new councilors are Roberta Rudnick and Simon Redfern. They join the continuing councilors David London, Mickey Gunter, Ross John Angel, and Robert T. Downs. MSA thanks the outgoing councilors Barb Dutrow and Rebecca Lange for three years of dedicated service to the Society. A total of 709 ballots were received (28.5% of those eligible) by the August 1 deadline. This is the highest number of voters since 1995 when 713 members voted. This level of participation has been consistent for some time. Even in the early years of the Society (1920s–1930s) the number of voting members seldom reached 50%. Voting was more complex at that time because the fellows were on the ballot as well.

Accepting the recommendations of the respective award committees, the MSA Council has selected W. Gary Ernst as the 2006 Roebling Medalist, Daniel Frost as the 2006 MSA Awardee, and Frank Spear as the 2007 Dana Medalist. The Distinguished Public Service Medal is biennial with no awardee for 2006.

All 2004 and 2005 MSA members have been contacted by mail, electronically, or both about renewing their membership for

NOTES FROM CHANTILLY

- The 2005 MSA elections were run, for the first time, on the Web. The 2006 president of the Society is John W. Valley, our 2006 vice president is Barb Dutrow, and in his second term as secretary is George Harlow. John M. Hughes, treasurer, remains in office, and the new councilors are Roberta Rudnick and Simon Redfern. They join the continuing councilors David London, Mickey Gunter, Ross John Angel, and Robert T. Downs. MSA thanks the outgoing councilors Barb Dutrow and Rebecca Lange for three years of dedicated service to the Society. A total of 709 ballots were received (28.5% of those eligible) by the August 1 deadline. This is the highest number of voters since 1995 when 713 members voted. This level of participation has been consistent for some time. Even in the early years of the Society (1920s–1930s) the number of voting members seldom reached 50%. Voting was more complex at that time because the fellows were on the ballot as well.

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Last fall, I had the pleasure of writing to many of you in appreciation of your donations to MSA in 2005 and I look forward to writing more in the future. Our Society depends on the generous and dedicated members who give both time and money. This support provides the extra margin to enable special programs like student awards, the website, and the lecture program. Furthermore, in these uncertain times when rapidly improving technology is reshaping the publication environment, MSA may need to call on its members to ensure the stability of American Mineralologist and our other important publications.

John W. Valley
President
The Society is pleased to announce and congratulate the following new Fellows:

Yong-Fei Zheng /rhombus4
Donna Whitney /rhombus4
Frederick J. Ryerson /rhombus4
Simona Quartieri /rhombus4
Clark M. Johnson /rhombus4
Reto Giere /rhombus4
John FitzGerald /rhombus4
Randall T. Cygan /rhombus4
Joel Brugger /rhombus4
John Brodholt /rhombus4
Lynn Boatner /rhombus4

The slate of candidates for the MSA Council elections is:

PRESIDENT
Barb Dutrow

VICE PRESIDENT
Jonathan Stebbins
Peter Heaney

TREASURER
John M. Hughes

COUNCILLORS
Jay Bass
Klaus Mezger
Jean Morrison
John Parise


Election materials will be available to MSA members in April in time for the voting deadline of August 1, 2006.

Rachel Russell
Managing Editor, American Mineralogist

NEW MSA FELLOWS

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• John Brodholt • Lynn Boatner

Nominations Sought
Nominations must be received by June 1, 2006

The Roebling Medal is MSA’s highest award and is given for eminence as demonstrated by outstanding published original research in mineralogy.

The Dana Medal recognizes continued outstanding scientific contributions through original research in the mineralogical sciences by an individual in mid-career.

The Mineralogical Society of America Award is given for outstanding published contribution(s) prior to the awardee’s 35th birthday or within 7 years of the PhD.

The Distinguished Public Service Medal is awarded for distinguished contributions to public policy and awareness about mineralogical topics.

Society Fellowship is the recognition of a member’s significant scientific contributions.

Mineralogical Society of America

Submission requirements and procedures are on MSA’s home page: http://www.minsocam.org/

The Mineralogical Society of America 2006 Grants for RESEARCH IN CRYSTALLOGRAPHY, MINERAL PHYSICS OR CHEMISTRY, AND MINERALOGY from the Edward H. Kraus Crystallographic Research Fund with contributions from MSA membership and friends

STUDENT RESEARCH IN MINERALOGY AND PETROLOGY from an endowment created by MSA members

Selection is based on the qualifications of the applicant, the quality, innovativeness, and scientific significance of the research of a written proposal and the likelihood of success of the project. There are three US$5000 grants with no restrictions on how the funds may be spent, as long as they are used in support of research. Application instructions and forms are available from the MSA home page, http://www.minsocam.org, or the MSA offices. Completed applications must be received by June 1, 2006.