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## International Association of Geochemistry

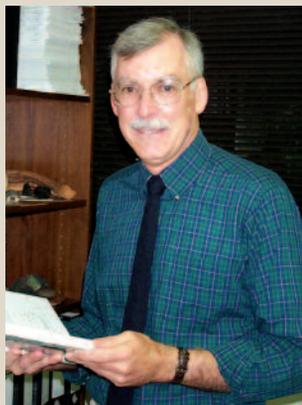
### UPCOMING EVENTS

This year and next are busy and important times for the IAGC. Two major conferences were supported by IAGC in August and September of 2006—the 16<sup>th</sup> Annual Goldschmidt Conference and the 7<sup>th</sup> International Symposium on Environmental Geochemistry—and next year WRI-12 will be held in August near the time of the 17<sup>th</sup> Goldschmidt Conference. The IAGC is planning to celebrate its 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary in conjunction with the Goldschmidt Conference (see below for more details).

**Mel Gascoyne**

Manager, IAGC Business Office and Newsletter Editor

### IAGC 40<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION AND SYMPOSIUM



Russell Harmon

Next year is the IAGC's 40<sup>th</sup> birthday. A special celebration to recognize this anniversary will be held at the University of Cologne, Germany, on Saturday, 18 August 2007, immediately prior to the 2007 Goldschmidt Conference.

This special event will consist of a day-long scientific symposium and an evening anniversary celebration and awards ceremony. The symposium will begin with a series of retrospective vignettes by former IAGC presidents and IAGC Ingerson Lecturers and will be followed by technical presentations highlighting the research

interests and activities of current IAGC officers, councilors, and members. The contributions from the symposium will be published in a special issue of *Applied Geochemistry* dedicated to IAGC co-founder Professor Al Levinson, who passed away in December 2005.

The evening event will consist of an anniversary reception. This event will honor IAGC past presidents and other important figures in IAGC history. The recipients of the inaugural set of IAGC Awards—the Vernadsky Medal, the Ebelman Medal and the Hitchon Award—will be announced, but the awards will be formally presented later in the week during the Goldschmidt Conference at the joint society awards ceremony. Certificates of Merit recognizing special service to IAGC will be presented at the anniversary celebration.

The chair of the organizing committee for the IAGC 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration and Symposium is Jochen Hoefs. Any IAGC members wishing to join the committee or otherwise volunteer to assist with the organization and implementation of the event should contact Prof. Dr. Hoefs by e-mail (jhoefs@gwdg.de).

**Russell Harmon**  
IAGC Vice President

### IUGS, IYPE AND EPISODES

The International Year of Planet Earth (IYPE) was registered in March this year by Proclamation of the United Nations General Assembly. By June 2006, national committees had been created in 15 countries (Australia, Austria, Germany, India, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Malaysia, Mongolia, Namibia, New Zealand, Peru, Sweden, Switzerland and UK), and 20 other nations were well advanced in launching similar committees. Geoscience activities will be led by the International Union of Geological Sciences (IUGS). Geoscientists worldwide have been invited to contribute to and participate in this largest-ever global event for the geosciences, which will span 2006–2010. More information can be found at [www.yearofplanetearth.org](http://www.yearofplanetearth.org)

The IAGC, as an affiliated society of IUGS, is proposing to hold a special session as part of IYPE activities at the next International Geological Congress in Oslo, 2008. This session will comprise two sections:

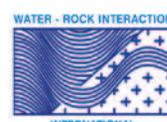
- a historical review of geochemistry and its applications
- a series of presentations on future developments in geochemistry and how geochemistry may be used to solve environmental and other problems

It is proposed that the proceedings of this special session be published in book form by Elsevier (which publishes the Association's journal, *Applied Geochemistry*).

Recently, IAGC has been contacted by Dr. Godfrey S. Nowlan, chair of the IUGS Publications Committee, to promote *Episodes*, its official quarterly journal ([www.iugs.org](http://www.iugs.org)). *Episodes* covers developments of regional and global importance in the Earth sciences and is distributed worldwide in four issues (March, June, September and December) each about 80 pages long. Articles cover a wide range of Earth sciences, and authors are from all over the world. The content is of interest to a broad audience of professional Earth scientists with diverse cultural and linguistic backgrounds.

*Episodes* welcomes thoughtful contributions in the topical areas listed above. Please consult the *Episodes* website for submission guidelines ([www.episodes.org](http://www.episodes.org)) and direct further inquiries concerning preparation and submittal of manuscripts and illustrations, special requirements, and pre-press processing to the *Episodes* staff, whose contacts are listed on the website.

Recent and current issues of the journal can be viewed online at [www.episodes.org/](http://www.episodes.org/). The printed version of the journal can be obtained for the annual subscription price of US\$24.00. A subscription order form is published regularly in the journal, and you can also subscribe by contacting the editorial office by mail at P.O. Box 823, 26 Baiwanzhuang Road, Beijing 100037, China or by e-mail at [episodes88@yahoo.com](mailto:episodes88@yahoo.com)



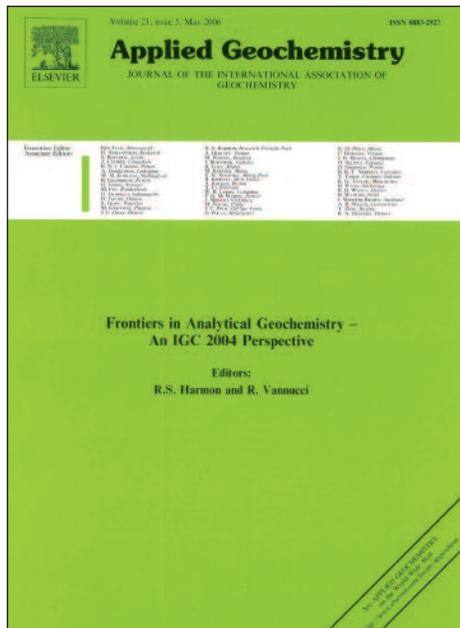
### The 12<sup>th</sup> International Symposium on Water-Rock Interaction (WRI-12) August 13–18, 2007 Kunming, China

The first circular is out (see website [www.wri12.org](http://www.wri12.org)), and the second circular is due out in October 2006, with abstracts due in December. A list of conference topics can be found on the website.

## IAGC SYMPOSIUM PAPERS PUBLISHED IN SPECIAL ISSUE OF APPLIED GEOCHEMISTRY

The three facets of the IAGC mission are (1) to foster the use of the tools and techniques of chemistry to advance the understanding of Earth and its component systems for the benefit of mankind and modern society; (2) to contribute to the advancement of geochemical research throughout the world, including both fundamental geochemical research aimed at understanding the global Earth system and applied geochemical research that addresses problems of particular relevance to the welfare of mankind and society; and (3) to promote international and educational cooperation in geochemistry through outreach activities, including sponsoring international scientific meetings related to geochemistry, disseminating new knowledge and fostering communication in geochemistry across the international scientific community. The IAGC sponsorship of a symposium entitled 'Frontiers in Analytical Geochemistry' at the 32<sup>nd</sup> International Geological Congress, held in Florence, Italy, in August 2004, provided an opportunity for IAGC to accomplish all of these objectives.

Across many areas of science, the frontiers of research are moving rapidly forward as a result of fast-paced and revolutionary advances in technology, particularly as regards emerging applications for in situ, spatially resolved analysis across a broad spectrum of organic and inorganic geochemistry. This symposium was an open forum to discuss the development of new techniques and progress in established technologies, which are providing new ways to advance our understanding of many geological and environmental processes. It was apparent during the symposium that the tremendous advances in both new and established analytical techniques are rapidly pushing down the limits of detection, allowing the detection and accurate quantification of a



growing number of geochemical and isotopic tracers in smaller and smaller samples. Exciting new methods have recently been developed whereby geochemical investigations can be carried out within a spatial context that takes into account the microstructural relationships of analysed materials. The important messages coming from the symposium presentations and the papers from the symposium recently published in May 2006 as a special issue of the IAGC journal *Applied Geochemistry* (vol. 21, no.5; see contents in side bar) are that analytical geochemistry is continually providing new tools for the ever-more-detailed characterisation of geomaterials at higher levels of spatial resolution and that vast new territories in every aspect of Earth and environmental sciences are potentially available for exploitation through exploration of the new frontiers in analytical geochemistry.

**Russell Harmon**  
IAGC Vice President

## NORDIC MINERALOGICAL NETWORK

[WWW.OULU.FI/MINNET/](http://WWW.OULU.FI/MINNET/)

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**The aim of the network is to promote mineralogical research and teaching of mineralogical subjects in Nordic and Baltic countries.**

**We provide financial support for shorter study visits to other universities or research visits to laboratories or other institutions.**

**Enquiries and applications for participation in the network or financial support: contact the network coordinator Tonci Balic-Zunic (University of Copenhagen) [tonci@geol.ku.dk](mailto:tonci@geol.ku.dk)**

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