www.eag.eu.com

European Association for Geochemistry

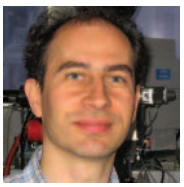
EAG INTRODUCES ITS NEW OFFICERS AND COUNCIL MEMBERS

The European Association for Geochemistry (EAG) elected two new officers and five new councilors at its general assembly held at the annual Goldschmidt meeting in Melbourne, Australia. Eric H. Oelkers was elected new EAG vice-president and Susan Stipp was elected EAG secretary. Chris Ballentine, Bernard Bourdon, Lara Duro, Michael Walter, and Bernhard Wehrli were selected as councilors to serve from 1 January 2007 to 31 December 2009.

Eric H. Oelkers, EAG's new vice-president, is a CNRS research director and the chair of the Experimental Geochemistry and Biogeochemistry Department in Toulouse, France. Eric has previously served the EAG as a councilor and treasurer. He has also served as a director of the Geochemical Society, co–Editor in Chief of *Chemical Geology*, and associate editor of *Geochimica et Cosmochimica Acta*. Eric has also co-edited four special journal issues over the past year, including the 2005 *Chemical Geology* issue 'Geochemical Aspects of CO_2 Sequestration'. His primary research area is experimental determination of the thermodynamics and kinetics of mineral–fluid reactions. He has recently raised over 5 million euros to create two Europe-wide training and research networks (MIR and MIN-GRO) aimed at quantifying the reactivity of mineral–fluid interfaces.

Susan L.S. Stipp, EAG's new secretary, is professor of geochemistry and leader of the NanoGeoScience Group at the University of Copenhagen. Her research focuses on defining the mechanisms that control the uptake and release of trace components by mineral surfaces, typically in groundwater regimes. Recently, she began the Nano-Chalk Venture, which provides funding for a cooperative effort by 30 to 40 physicists, chemists, mineralogists, molecular biologists, engineers and students to apply nanoscale technology to improve oil recovery. Susan brings to her EAG position a good measure of organisational background. She has previously served as councilor for EAG and on governing boards and executive committees in several research networks, scientific societies and government advisory panels. In 2004, she convened the Copenhagen Goldschmidt Conference, and in January 2007, she will begin a term as principal editor of *Elements*.

Chris Ballentine is a professor of isotope geochemistry at The University of Manchester. His research is aimed at developing the inert noble gases as a tool to trace fluid origin and process in a wide range of geological settings, from the origin and evolution of planetary volatiles to basin fluids. Past work has included quantifying the role of the regional groundwater system in the basin-scale transport of oil and gas, and identifying the origin of CO_2 and N_2 in natural gases. More recently, his work has resulted in the development of models that provide a quantitative understanding of the interaction between natural gas and groundwater in various targets or analogues for the geological storage of anthropogenic CO_2.



Bernard Bourdon is a professor of isotope geochemistry at the ETH Zurich, Switzerland. His main research interests are in the field of isotope geochemistry, with a focus on understanding magma generation, the processes of early planet evolution (including the Earth's), and the application of isotopes for understanding processes at the surface of the Earth. He has been involved in developing new applications of U-series geochemistry for understanding chemical weathering and transport in aquifers. He completed his PhD at Columbia University, New York (1994), then was at the Institut de Physique du Globe de Paris (France) before moving to ETH Zurich in 2005.

Lara Duro completed a PhD at the Universitat de Barcelona (1996) on the coupling between Fe(III) and U(VI). She started her professional career in 1994 in the newly created Spanish office of INTERA, an environmental consultancy specialised in radioactive waste management. Since 2000 she heads the Waste Management Department of ENVIROS Spain, a scientific-technical consultancy whose main area of work is related to nuclear waste management, and since March 2006 she is the deputy managing director of the same company. Her main technical areas of expertise are the geochemical modeling of heavy metals and trace elements (including radionuclides) in natural waters, thermodynamic and kinetic modeling of laboratory-scale and pilot-scale experiments, development of chemical models to understand the behaviour of spent nuclear fuel under repository conditions, reactive transport modeling to predict the evolution of contaminant plumes and input to global risk and performance assessment.

Michael J. Walter is currently employed as a reader at the University of Bristol. His interests are in high-P–T experimental petrology, geochemistry, and mineral physics. High-P–T experiments on model terrestrial compositions are used to simulate conditions ranging from shallow crustal levels to planetary cores. Phase equilibrium, element partitioning, and thermoelastic data from such experiments help to constrain modern theories for the origin and evolution of Earth and other planetary bodies. In recent years, his work has focused on three general areas: (1) the generation of mafic and ultramafic magmas and residual peridotite in the upper mantle, (2) the differentiation of the mantle and core in the early Earth, and (3) subsolidus deep mantle phase relations and crystal chemistry

Bernard Wehrli is currently a professor of aquatic geochemistry at the ETH Zurich. His main area of interest involves biogeochemical processes in surface waters, including rivers, lakes, and wetlands. In part, his efforts are directed towards developing solutions for the integrated management of aquatic systems.

EAG HONORS ITS 2006 AWARD WINNERS

The EAG awarded its annual Urey Medal to Herbert Palme and its Houtermans Medal to James Badro during the annual Goldschmidt meeting in Melbourne, Australia.

Herbert Palme receiving the 2006 Urey Medal from Bruce Yardley, EAG President

James Badro accepting the 2006 Houtermans Medal from Bruce Yardley, EAG President

CALL FOR NOMINATIONS FOR THE 2007 UREY AND HOUTERMANS MEDALS

Urey Medal

The H.C. Urey Medal is given annually by the European Association for Geochemistry and is intended to honour established scientists for outstanding research contributions to any field of geochemistry. The award is based solely on scientific merit without regard to nationality, and will normally be presented at the V.M. Goldschmidt Conference. Nominations for the H.C. Urey Medal should be accompanied by a brief statement from the nominator outlining the reasons for the nomination and should include an abbreviated curriculum vitæ and bibliography of the proposed candidate, as well as several letters of support. Recent recipients are H.C. Helgeson (2004), A. Navrotsky (2005), and H. Palme (2006).

Nominations for the 2007 H.C. UREY MEDAL should be submitted **before 15 January 2007** to:

Eric H. Oelkers
Experimental Geochemistry and Biogeochemistry
LMTG/CNRS
14 ave Edouard Belin
31400 Toulouse, FRANCE
E-mail: oelkers@lmtg.obs-mip.fr

Houtermans Medal

The Houtermans Medal is given annually by the European Association for Geochemistry and is awarded in recognition of an outstanding publication or series of publications by a young scientist under the age of 35 in the fields of geochemistry or cosmochemistry. The award consists of a medal and a certificate. The 2005 recipient was James Badro.

Nominations for the HOUTERMANS MEDAL should consist of a brief statement from the nominator outlining the reasons for the nomination and should include an abbreviated curriculum vitæ and bibliography of the proposed candidate. They should be submitted **before 15 January 2007** to:

Bruce W.D. Yardley
School of Earth Sciences
University of Leeds
Leeds LS2 9JT, UK
E-mail: bruce@earth.leeds.ac.uk