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German Mineralogical Society

FROM THE PAST PRESIDENT



Gregor Markl

I am very glad to be able to finish my presidency of the German Mineralogical Society (DMG) with this open letter to our members, as well as to friends and colleagues from the other societies participating in *Elements*. Being part of this active and steadily growing group of societies, which have managed to found an intellectually and scientifically superb journal that in addition acts as an international connection between our societies, is one of the most important steps a national society can take. I am grateful to board members of the DMG and to all members who, during our annual meeting in Hannover in September 2006, unanimously supported the idea to "enter the club." So, here we are!

DMG currently has about 1200 personal and about 100 institutional members and, therefore, is one of the largest mineralogical societies worldwide. However, size alone does not matter. We are an active society as well. Together with our partner societies from Italy, France, and Spain, we publish the *European Journal of Mineralogy*. We sponsor workshops for senior scientists and PhD students, and we offer travel grants for student members for participation in both national and international conferences.

Our annual meeting in Germany attracts 350 to 600 participants, and we play an active role in forming a cooperative German geoscientific community beyond mineralogy. In addition to performing outstanding scientific work, networking is, I believe, the central goal in the next decade. Efficient networking will help to strengthen cooperation on all levels: national, European, and international.

I believe we are on track, and I hope being part of *Elements* will create an even more dynamic environment for the evolution of the DMG and our partner societies. Let us try not to stop at the boundaries of mineralogy and geochemistry—our colleagues in geology, geophysics, paleontology, and geomicrobiology are our "natural" allies in the public competition for money, where large groups such as the physicists, the chemists, and the biologists easily manage to marginalize us just by their numbers.

A task like becoming an active part of *Elements* is nothing without the people working on it. The



Hans Keppler



Klaus Mezger



Friedhelm von
Blanckenburg



Michael Burchard

team responsible for connecting the DMG to *Elements* includes Michael Burchard at the Universität Heidelberg, who is our society news editor; and Hans Keppler from the Universität Bayreuth and Klaus Mezger from the Universität Münster, who are members of *Elements* Advisory

Board. In addition, Friedhelm von Blanckenburg is our member on the Executive Committee.

I look forward to fruitful cooperation and discussion with all societies participating in *Elements*!

Gregor Markl
Past President

WINNERS OF THE 2006 DMG AWARDS AND MEDALS

The 2006 Abraham-Gottlob-Werner Medal in Silver to Jochen Hoefs



The Werner Medal in Silver is the highest honour bestowed by the DMG for basic research. It is given in recognition of outstanding scientific work. The 2006 medalist is Prof. Dr. Jochen Hoefs, head of the geochemical institute at the University of Göttingen. His fundamental research on the isotope geochemistry of hydrogen, lithium, carbon, oxygen, and sulfur is the foundation of today's understanding of geochemical cycles. He has published the results of his research in more than 100 international papers and book chapters. His book *Stable Isotope Geochemistry* is the foundation of many university courses worldwide.

The 2006 Victor-Moritz-Goldschmidt Award to Andreas Audétat



The Goldschmidt Award is given to honor excellent young researchers. The 2006 award was bestowed on Dr. Andreas Audétat for his research on the hydrothermal formation of ore deposits. Andreas Audétat developed a new laser-ablation method for determining the composition of single fluid inclusions. This method will be useful in the study of complex hydrothermal systems.

The 2006 Georg-Agricola Medal to Ekhard Salje



The Georg-Agricola Medal is given to recognize excellence in the field of applied mineralogy. The 2006 medalist is Prof. Dr. Ekhard K.H. Salje, professor at Cambridge University and fellow of the Royal Society. He is honored for his innovative work on encapsulation of radioactive debris and on the ferroelastic properties of minerals.

The 2006 Paul-Ramdohr Award to Juliane Gross



The Paul-Ramdohr Award is given to recognize excellent presentations at the annual DMG meeting by young graduate or postgraduate students. Juliane Gross is recognized for the presentation of her diploma thesis in a lecture entitled "Petrology of the contact zone between eclogite and marble, Stümpelfelsen, Hammerunterwiesenthal, West-erzgebirge." Juliane is now a graduate student at Ruhr-Universität Bochum.