

www.univie.ac.at/Mineralogie/EMU

European Mineralogical Union

EMPG CONFERENCES

The 11th International Conference on Experimental Mineralogy, Petrology and Geochemistry (EMPG XI) was held in Bristol (UK) on September 11–13, 2006. EMPG is an independent conference that is linked to, and financially supported by, EMU. It is held every two years and organised by a local committee from the host university. Key members of the EMPG XI organising committee were Patrice Hornibrook, Simon Kohn and Bernie Wood. EMU would like to thank the committee and their volunteer helpers for the excellent organisation of this three-day conference, held at the Victoria Rooms of the University of Bristol. EMPG is a unique conference in that it is the only regularly organised meeting exclusively dedicated to experimental research in mineralogy, geochemistry, petrology and rock deformation. EMPG XI attracted about 180 participants from all over the world. The scientific programme involved eleven oral and two poster sessions (40% oral and 60% poster presentations). Highlights among the many excellent presentations included the keynote lectures presented by Ho-Kwang Mao (Geophysical Laboratory, Washington, USA), Thomas Duffy (Princeton University, USA), Craig Manning (UCLA, USA) and Mark Hirschmann (University of Minnesota, USA). The programme also included invited lectures from two recent recipients of the EMU Medal for Research Excellence, Martin Kunz (2004) and David Dobson (2005). Their presentations were entitled 'Extracting Structural Information at Extreme Conditions: Present Status and Outlook' (Martin Kunz) and 'Deforming the Earth' (David Dobson). Their lectures summarized their past and current research and provided an insight into future 'hot topics' in their respective research fields. A special presentation was made to Martin Kunz, who unfortunately had been unable to receive his medal in person at the 2004 EMPG in Frankfurt (Germany).

The University of Innsbruck (Austria) has agreed to organise the 12th EMPG conference, which will take place in the autumn of 2008 near Innsbruck in Tyrol, Austria. The EMU officers and Council are grateful to Jürgen Konzett and Peter Tropper for offering to organise this meeting and look forward to a lively conference in the beautiful environment of the Inn Valley in Austria. Further information about this meeting will be provided in *Elements* and through other appropriate channels as soon it becomes available.

EMU COUNCIL

EMU also held its annual Council and an Executive Council meeting at the EMPG conference. Prof. Rosario Lunar (Madrid) was unanimously elected as a new vice-president of EMU. The chair of the EMU Medal Committee, Stefano Merlino, who is thanked for many years of service in this

position, stepped down at the end of 2006. The EMU Council has elected Roland Oberhänsli (University of Potsdam) as the new chair of this committee. The EMU Council also decided to award one or two poster prizes to young scientists at the EGU, IUCR and ECA meetings.

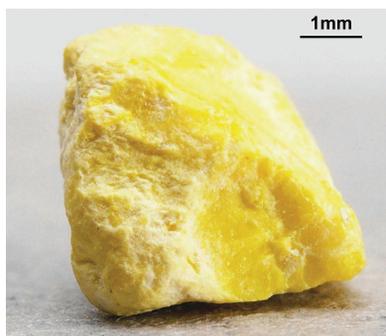
ANNOUNCEMENT

The EMU Medal Committee calls upon member societies and all European mineralogists for nominations for the EMU Medal for Research Excellence. This medal is awarded to young scientists who have already made outstanding contributions in research and who have helped further European collaboration in science. Nominations should be sent to the chairman of the EMU Medal Committee, Roland Oberhänsli (Universität Potsdam, Institut für Geowissenschaften, Karl-Liebknecht-Strasse 24, Haus 27, D-14476 Golm, Germany; e-mail: roob@geo.uni-potsdam.de).

Peter Ulmer, President
David Vaughan, Past President
Herta Effenberger, Secretary

IMA (cont'd from page 291)

Nomenclature and Classification (IMA-CNMNC). One of them is coutinhoite, named in honor of José Moacyr Vianna Coutinho (1924–), a leading Brazilian mineralogist and a professor of mineralogy at the Instituto de Geociências of the Universidade de São Paulo.



Coutinhoite $[\text{Th}_x\text{Ba}_{1-2x}(\text{H}_2\text{O})_y(\text{UO}_2)_2\text{Si}_5\text{O}_{13}\cdot\text{H}_2\text{O}]$ ($0 < x < 0.5$ and $0 < y < (2+x)$) – a new mineral described from Brazil by Atencio et al. (2004).



Brazilianite $(\text{NaAl}_3(\text{PO}_4)_2(\text{OH})_4)$ in quartz, from the pegmatites of Galiléia, Minas Gerais, Brazil. PHOTO: ANTONIO LICCARDO

Brazil has up-to-date analytical facilities, including the Synchrotron National Laboratory (www.lnls.br) and more than 40 well-equipped laboratories in public universities. By the end of 2007, the national collaborative 'GeoChronos' agreement will have resulted in the establishment of a SHRIMP laboratory in the University of São Paulo (www.igc.usp.br/shrimp), thus continuing the institution's pioneering tradition in isotopic and geochronological research in South America. Closer connections between Earth scientists and physicists are likely to bring increasingly interesting results in the future.

REFERENCES

- Pecchio M, Andrade FRD, D'Agostino LZ, Kahn H, Sant'Agostino LM, Tassinari MML (2004) Applied Mineralogy: Developments in Science and Technology. São Paulo: International Council for Applied Mineralogy, 2 volumes, 1062 pp
- Atencio D (2000) Type Mineralogy of Brazil. 1st ed. São Paulo: Museu de Geociências – Univ. São Paulo, 114 pp
- Atencio D, Carvalho FMS, Matioli PA (2004) Coutinhoite, a new thorium uranyl silicate hydrate, from Urucum mine, Galiléia, Minas Gerais, Brazil. American Mineralogist 89: 721–724

Fábio Ramos Dias de Andrade

Brazilian IMA National Representative,
Departamento de Mineralogia e Geotectônica,
Instituto de Geociências Universidade de São Paulo,
Rua do Lago, 562, 05508-080 São Paulo, SP – Brasil
E-mail: dias@usp.br