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Geochemical Society

MANUSCRIPT SUBMISSION ASSEMBLY FORMAT

Most of us have grown up thinking that scientific manuscripts should be written in a "standard" (some might think "natural") format: title/authors, abstract, and then, in separate sections, the main text, references, tables, figure captions, and finally, one to a page, figures. Actually, this sequence format reflects the needs of blue-pencil-wielding copyeditors and typesetters, not the convenience of authors, reviewers, or editors. Now that the mechanical aspects of journal publication, like so many other things, are fully computerized, there is no reason to do this any more, so we might as well suit the convenience of authors, reviewers, and editors. *Geochimica et Cosmochimica Acta* thus encourages authors to format or assemble manuscript elements in sequences that are easier to read and no harder to write.

For one thing, it makes sense to print a figure and its caption on the same page, which is a lot more convenient than fumbling around to find the caption on a separate page. In addition, there is no intrinsic requirement for only one figure on a page: for simple figures that need no more than a fraction of a page (think of what the published journal looks like) and that have short captions, there is no reason not to put two or more figures on a single page.

There is also no reason to collect tables and figures at the end of the manuscript. It makes more sense that they be located closer to where they are cited, so that it will be easier for the reader to find them when needed. Ideally, figures (with captions) and tables should be embedded in the text, so that they appear printed on the same page as text, as in the published journal. To get your word processor to do this in a reasonable fashion, however, may be more of a challenge than some of us wish to undertake, especially when we want to go back and edit text upstream of the display item without totally messing up the layout. But it is a simple matter to prepare separate pages of figures and tables, make PDF versions, and then, rather than collect them at the end, insert them among the text pages where they are discussed.

Some time ago we surveyed *GCA*'s clientele—both authors and reviewers—concerning these potential format changes. There was universal approval for the idea of printing captions right next to figures, and almost universal support for inserting figures and tables near the text that cites them, on interleaved pages if not actually embedded in the text. *GCA* will continue to accept manuscripts assembled the old way, of course, but we encourage authors to try the more reader-friendly format.

We also continue to encourage authors to provide optional manuscript versions that are single-spaced and/or in two-column format, in a smaller font, i.e. something that looks more like the published journal. Many reviewers say that they much prefer such a format. But this must remain an optional addition to the mandatory single-column, double-spaced format with 12-point font, since many other reviewers are rather adamant that review copies should look like this.

Frank A. Podosek

Geochimica et Cosmochimica Acta Executive Editor

NOTES FROM SAINT LOUIS

GS at GSA-Denver Meeting (October 28–31)

Seth Davis (GS business manager) will be at the GS exhibit (booth 306) during the conference if you would like to renew your membership or address a specific issue in person. The GS booth is located close to the MSA booth, which will likely have several RIMG volumes for sale. Dr. Terry Plank (Boston University) will be presenting the 2007 Ingerson Lecture, "Squeezing Water from a Stone (Water in Arc Magmas)," on Monday, October 19 (12:15 pm – 1:15 pm). The MSA/GS Joint Reception will be on Tuesday October 20 (5:45 pm – 7:00 pm). It is a ticketed event (\$10 for professionals, \$5 for students). Check your GSA program for locations.

Call for 2008 Award Nominations

We remind you that nominations for the Goldschmidt Medal, Clarke Medal, Patterson Award, Treibs Award, and GS/EAG Geochemical

Fellows will be accepted until November 15, 2007. For nomination requirements, please visit geochemsoc.org. Please take the time to honor the accomplishments of your valued friends and colleagues; with your help we can ensure that all of geochemistry is encompassed and all deserving geochemists are considered.

A New Look for geochemsoc.org

Our website has a fresh face and new features. Please check it out and let us know what you think!

Need to Contact GS?

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Elements – free! (included with membership)
GCA hardcopy + online access (1995 to date)
Professional: \$145 / Student or Senior: \$80
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Professional: \$80 / Student or Senior: \$40
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Professional or Senior: \$80 / Student: \$40

Member Discounts

Publication discounts

- 25% off GS Special Publications
- 25% off most MSA publications including RIMG
- 25% off Elsevier book orders
- 20% off Wiley/Jossey-Bass publications

Registration discounts

- AGU JOINT ASSEMBLY – Fort Lauderdale, FL, USA, May 27–30, 2008
www.agu.org/meeting/ja08/
- V.M. Goldschmidt Conference™ – Vancouver, Canada, July 13–18, 2008
www.goldschmidt2008.org
- GSA Annual Meeting & Exposition – Houston, TX, USA, October 5–9, 2008
www.geosociety.org/meetings/2008
- AGU Fall Meeting – San Francisco, CA, USA, December 15–19, 2008
www.agu.org/meetings/

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| 1: Early Solar System Chronology | 12: Resource Geochemistry |
| 2: Planetary Geochemistry | 13: Sediment Geochemistry/Crustal Evolution |
| 3: Early Earth | 14: Geochemical Interactions of Sediments and Fluids |
| 4: Archean Crustal Evolution | 15: Marine Geochemistry |
| 5: Mantle Dynamics | 16: Weathering and Landscape Evolution |
| 6: Mantle Geochemistry | 17: Paleoclimate |
| 7: Experimental Petrology | 18: Environmental Geochemistry |
| 8: Diamonds and Fluids in the Mantle | 19: Biogeochemistry |
| 9: Subduction Processes | 20: Advances in Analytical Techniques |
| 10: Magma Chambers/Volcanology | |
| 11: Thermochemistry | |

The Vancouver meeting will feature an exciting scientific program with 20 themes



Photos: Tourism Vancouver & UBC

Goldschmidt2008 will also offer delegates numerous short courses and workshops focusing on applications in analytical geochemistry as well as a selection of field trips throughout southern British Columbia to explore the unique geologic processes that have shaped this stunning landscape

The University of British Columbia (UBC)
July 13-18, 2008
www.goldschmidt2008.org

