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International Association for the Study of Clays

RECENT ACTIVITIES OF THE ASSOCIATION INTERNATIONALE POUR L'ÉTUDE DES ARGILES (AIPEA)

AIPEA acts as an umbrella organization for all of the world's national clay societies, and it organizes the quadrennial International Clay Conference. In addition, AIPEA participates actively in intervening years at the Euroclay conferences, organized by the European Clay Groups Association (ECGA). The most recent Euroclay meeting was held in Aveiro, Portugal, from July 22 to 28, 2007. It was organized by the Portuguese Clay Association and the ECGA, and was held at the University of Aveiro. A total of 377 participants from more than 40 different countries attended the meeting, the largest delegations coming from Spain (65), Portugal (41) and Japan (23). The meeting began with two plenary lectures, one by Prof. Celso Gomes, "Teaching Clays in Aveiro," and the other by Prof. Maria Isabel Prudencio, "Ceramic in Ancient Societies: a Role for Clay Analysis." The George Brown Lecture was given by Prof. David Bish and was entitled "Phase transitions in 1:1 dioctahedral phyllosilicates: The importance of the interlayer region." Each session began with an invited lecture (TABLE 1) on the subject of the session. Several field excursions were held during and after the meeting. One trip during the meeting visited local ceramics factories, where participants were able to follow production from the raw materials to the finished products. A post-meeting field trip looked at smectitic and ball clay deposits of central Portugal, and was guided by Dr. João Coroado (Centro Tecnológico da Cerâmica e do Vidro). The visit concentrated on the Bustos (Cretaceous smectitic clays) and the Pombal (Plio-Pleistocene ball clays) pits, which are the most important Portuguese pits for clay raw materials near the city of Aveiro. Both occurrences belong to Adelino Duarte da Mota S.A., whose president kindly greeted the participants and took part in most of the field activities. Due to their plastic and firing properties, the clays from these pits are used in the ceramic industries (construction and decorative sectors), and participants were able to view the mining, treatment, and production processes. The next Euroclay Conference will be held in 2011 in Turkey.

During the Aveiro conference, AIPEA held its biannual Council meeting. At this meeting, AIPEA inaugurated a new student awards program. These cash awards will be given out in the future at both the International Clay Conferences and during the intervening Euroclay Conferences. The inaugural 2007 AIPEA student awards for an oral presentation at the 2007 Euroclay Conference went to:

- Mariana da Silva Rebelo et al. (University of Aveiro, Portugal) for the paper "Mineralogical and physico-chemical properties of some Portuguese Meso-Cenozoic clays used as healing clays."

- Vanja Biševac et al. (University of Zagreb, Croatia) for the paper "New data on metamorphic events in the eastern part of Mt. Papuk, Slavonia, Croatia."

The winners in the poster presentation category were:

- Mathieu Gautier et al. (University of Orléans, France) for the paper "Interaction between ammonium smectite and some simple organic molecules: pollution prediction in waste landfill."
- Eva Káfunková (Academy of Sciences, Czech Republic) for the paper "Photofunctional materials based on intercalated layered double hydroxides."

TABLE 1: INVITED LECTURES AT EUROCLAY 2007

Maria Franca Brigatti	New advances in crystal chemistry and structure of layered silicates
João Labrincha	Industrially oriented applications of new clay-based formulations
Fernando Nieto	Clay-slate evolution. Onset of metamorphism
Lynda Williams	Clay mineral light stable isotope geochemistry
Alain Meunier	Textures as markers of the origin of clay minerals in basaltic rocks
Savério Fiore	Bacteria and clay minerals
Norbert Clauer	Clay-mineral radioactive isotope geochemistry
Jan Srodon	Illitization of smectite and history of sedimentary basins
João Rocha	Engineering photoluminescent lanthanide centers in layered materials
George Christidis	Explaining the bentonite paradox: An attempt to find answers to unanswered questions about bentonites
Chris Breen	Organoclays – How mixed up can we make them?
Cesar Viseras	Clays in the manufacture of pharmaceutical products
Bruno Lanson	Crystal-chemistry of nano-crystalline mineral phases: A key to the understanding of trace metal element fate in the environment
Derek Bain	The Macaulay Institute and clay science
Robert Schoonheydt	Smectite-protein biocomposites
Shlomo Nir	Developing the "ClayMix": Water purification from organic contaminant microorganisms and perchlorate by micelle-clay complexes
Shlomo Shoval	Patterns of ceramic manufacture in the early Bronze Age, Golan and northern Canaan

AIPEA will meet next at the 14th International Clay Conference (ICC), June 14–20, 2009, organized jointly with the Associazione Italiana per lo Studio delle Argille. The theme of the conference, "Micro et Nano: Scientiae Mare Magnum", will provide a unique opportunity for mineralogists, soil scientists, physicists, geochemists, engineers, chemists, and other specialists to share ideas and knowledge on the boundless world of Micro- and Nanoparticles: the Mare Magnum

of the Sciences. The 14th ICC will take place at the Calanè Conference Centre, Nova Yardinia Resort, an enchanting place located a few kilometres from Castellaneta Marina, on the Ionian Sea. Visit the ICC website for more information: <http://www.14icc.org/index.html>.

Daisy Barbosa Alves
Secretary-General, AIPEA
David L. Bish
President, AIPEA

Methods for Study of Microbe-Mineral Interactions (2006) CMS

Workshop Lectures Volume 14, Patricia A. Maurice and Leslie A. Warren, eds.

For more description and table of contents of this book contact
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