A Preview of Goldschmidt 2009
Davos, Switzerland • June 21–26, 2009

The 19th annual V.M. Goldschmidt Conference will take place June 21–26, 2009 at the Congress Centre in Davos, Switzerland. The Organizing Committee invites you to come and discover the unique blend of landscape, architecture, sporting and urban delights.

Challenges to Our Volatile Planet
This year the conference focuses on past, contemporary and future challenges to the Earth’s resources and environment. The 20 themes and over 100 sessions will be joined by high-profile speakers and compelling panel discussions to highlight the future of geochemistry in its global context.

Important Dates
Abstract submission and early registration will be open at the conference website on January 1, 2009, and the deadline for submission of abstracts is February 22, 2009. Early registration, at reduced cost, closes May 22, 2009.

Venue
Davos is set in the breath-taking mountain landscape of the Grisons Alps, and at 1560m above sea level the town is the highest in Europe. Most famous for hosting the World Economic Forum, Davos is also known as a place for exhilarating summer and winter sports. It was founded in the Middle Ages, and from the middle of the eighteenth century Davos became a popular destination for wealthy visitors and those who sought the clear mountain air for their health.

Today Davos has a plenty of sights and entertainments for visitors and their families including horse-drawn carriages, pony trekking, mountain biking, water-sports, rambling, museums, shopping and the botanical garden. For those who want more science there is the Physical and Meteorological Observatory and the relic Silderberg mines. If you would rather relax, try a visit to the golf course, casino, brewery or spa centre.

Davos Congress Centre
Goldschmidt2009 will take place at the Congress Centre in Davos Platz. Located within easy reach of accommodation, shops and restaurants, it is also served by excellent bus services to the nearby valleys and sites. Davos has over 35 years of experience in hosting international congresses, including Goldschmidt2002. The Congress Centre offers a selection of modern and comfortable theatres, equipped with hi-tech presentation technology. The entire Centre has wireless network access.

Travel
Reliable public transportation connects Davos to key places in Switzerland and Europe, making your journey through the scenic landscape a relaxing start to the conference. By car, the journey from Zurich International Airport takes just 2 hours, and by train, 2.5 hours. Detailed information on how to reach Davos can be found on the official Davos website: www.davos.ch

Accommodation and Food
Davos has 20-30,000 beds in accommodation to suit every budget, from self-catering to 5* hotels. There are also nearly 100 restaurants and bars in which to enjoy a wide range of international cuisine. Detailed accommodation, travel and amenities information will become available on the conference website.

Social Events and Field Trips
The conference ice-breaker, banquet and other social events will be held in the Congress Centre. A number of short Field Trips are planned to take a look at the varied geology of the Alps. Details of the excursions will be posted on the conference website.

Conference Website
See the conference website for the list of themes, all the latest news and information, and to sign up for the mailing list. www.goldschmidt2009.org

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NOTES FROM ST. LOUIS

Nicholas Wigginton Named GN Editor

Dr. Nicholas Wigginton (Ecole Polytechnique Fédérale de Lausanne) has been appointed as the editor of Geochemical News. He succeeds Carla Koretsky and Johnson Haas, who had held the position since 2001. Nick is a recent PhD graduate of Virginia Tech and was endorsed by Carla and Johnson for his innovative ideas and enthusiasm. Be sure to visit the Geochemical Society website for the latest issue of Geochemical News.

Melbourne Goldschmidt Receives Meeting of the Year Award

In May 2008, it was announced that the 2006 V.M. Goldschmidt Conference™ was awarded the prestigious Meetings and Events Industry’s 2007 Meeting of the Year Award for meetings with more than 500 delegates. The 2006 conference was held from August 27 to September 1, 2006, at the Melbourne Exhibition and Convention Centre in Melbourne, Australia. It was the 16th annual V.M. Goldschmidt Conference and the first one held in the southern hemisphere. A total of 1515 abstracts were submitted, and 1283 delegates from 37 countries attended.

The Executive Organizing Committee included Simon Turner (pictured with the award), Janet Hergt, John Foden, Hugh O’Neil, and Greg Yaxley. The Scientific Program Committee included Mark Harrison, Jon Woodhead, Marc Norman, Vickie Bennett, Andy Barnicoat, Andy Gleadow, Kurt Knesel, and Bruce Schaefer. The conference was managed by Tour Hosts Pty. Limited of Sydney, Australia.

Goldschmidt2009 — Challenges to Our Volatile Planet

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Davos is set in the breathtaking mountain landscape of the Grisons Alps, and at 1560 m above sea level, the city is the highest in Europe. Most famous for hosting the World Economic Forum, Davos is also known as a place for exhilarating summer and winter sports. Other entertainment includes numerous restaurants and bars, museums, shopping, golf course, casino, brewery, spa center, and even horse-drawn carriages. Located within easy reach of accommodation, shops, and restaurants, the Congress Centre has over 35 years of experience in hosting international conferences, including Goldschmidt2002. It offers a selection of modern and comfortable theaters equipped with hi-tech presentation technology, including wireless network access. Reliable public transportation connects Davos to key places in Switzerland and Europe, and with some 20,000–30,000 beds, there is accommodation to suit every budget, from self-catering to five-star hotels.

JANUARY 1, 2009: Abstract submission and online registration open
FEBRUARY 22, 2009: Abstract submission deadline
MAY 22, 2009: Early-registration deadline

See the conference website for a list of themes and the latest news and information, and to enter your name on the mailing list. www.goldschmidt2009.org (See also ad on page 338.)

2009 Fellows Nominations Deadline is December 15, 2008

Every year we ask that you please take the time to consider the accomplishments of your valued friends and colleagues by nominating them for a Geochemical Society award. With your help, we can ensure that all of geochemistry is recognized and all deserving geochemists are considered. The GS/EAG Geochemical Fellows Award is bestowed upon outstanding scientists who have, over some years, made a major contribution to the field of geochemistry. December 15, 2008, is the deadline for nominations to be considered for these awards. For information on nomination requirements, visit the Geochemical Society website at www.geochemsoc.org/awards.2009.

Membership Drive
Join online at www.geochemsoc.org

REGISTRATION DISCOUNTS
AGU Joint Assembly
24–27 May 2009: Toronto, Ontario, Canada
www.agu.org/meeting/ja09/
V.M. Goldschmidt Conference™
21–26 June, 2009: Davos, Switzerland
www.goldschmidt2009.org

GS Annual Meeting & Exposition
18–21 October 2009: Portland, Oregon, USA
www.geosociety.org/meetings/2009/

AGU Fall Meeting
14–18 December 2009: San Francisco, California, USA
www.agu.org/meetings/

COMMUNITY
• Access our website’s members-only content
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For a full report on the Goldschmidt Conference, go to pages 352 and 353 in the Meeting Reports Section

How Are We Doing?

We want to hear from you about our programs and services. Send comments and/or suggestions to Seth Davis at: seth.davis@geochemsoc.org