

FROM THE PRESIDENT



Falko Langenhorst,
President

On behalf of the DMG, it is my pleasure to express our sincere gratitude to past president Ulrich Bismayer for his committed and enthusiastic work for the society. He is now switching offices with me. I am glad to have him as vice-president and all board members as supportive partners in managing DMG matters for the next two years. I would particularly like to thank all DMG members for their vote of confidence.

Under Ulli's presidency, the number of DMG members has increased to about 1400. This enhancement is due to a significant increase in the number of student members (about 250), who can also take advantage of the attractive double membership of DMG and GV (Geologische Vereinigung). The high quality and attractiveness of *Elements* may have contributed to this success, as well. I encourage all DMG members to reinforce this tendency by continuing to attract new members.

The DMG has just celebrated its 100th anniversary during a marvelous conference in Berlin, and the organization is now entering a new century of existence. This year we will amplify our educational activities. The successful PhD program of the DMG is expanded to eight short courses covering experimental and analytical topics. Half of the short courses will be held completely in English and will hopefully also attract a large attendance from abroad. In 2009, we are looking forward to two upcoming meetings. The "Micro-Analysis, Processes, Time (MAPT)" meeting will be held in Edinburgh from August 31 to September 2, 2009. This joint conference of the British, French, and German mineralogical societies will certainly strengthen our scientific collaborations and interactions at an international level. MAPT will address recent developments in microanalytical techniques and present new information derived from their application to large-scale geological processes. Soon after, the 87th annual meeting of the DMG will be held in Halle, September 13 to 17, 2009. Its focus will be largely on topics of applied and environmental mineralogy. Thus the meetings complement each other, and I would be pleased if DMG members were to attend both in large numbers.

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President

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atmosphere and the biosphere. Such an "environment," on which plants and animals, including humans, depend for survival, can be disrupted by human activities, particularly those associated with exploitation and use of Earth's resources. The symposium will deal with complex mineral-containing systems that constitute key environments: modern sediments, soils, atmospheric aerosols, and parts of some micro- and macroorganisms including the human body. Both pristine systems and those contaminated through human activities will be considered, with emphasis on a fundamental and predictive understanding of such systems at molecular to global scales.

The following thematic sessions are offered: Nanoparticles, environment and health; Environmental health: Sources of exposure and effects of trace elements, toxic metal, metalloids; Mineral dusts and human health; Soil-plant transfer: Effect of soil mineralogy; Environmental toxicology, geochemical studies and health effects.

Contact: Stéphanie Rossano (Stephanie.Rossano@univ-mlv.fr)
For more information go to www.univ-mlv.fr/master_geoenv/symposium2009.html.

ERC ADVANCED INVESTIGATOR GRANT TO DAN FROST OF THE BAYERISCHES GEOINSTITUT



Dan Frost

Dr. Dan Frost of the Bayerisches Geoinstitut, Bayreuth, Germany, was successful in the first round of Advanced Grants from the European Research Council (ERC). The ERC's Advanced Investigator Grants are aimed at experienced scientists with an outstanding record in research and can be worth up to 3.5 million euros. Close to 1000 applicants competed in the first round of proposals in the category of physical sciences and engineering, with 105 successful projects spread across 19 European countries. The grant will run for 5 years and will be directed at the investigation of acoustic velocities in minerals at simultaneous high temperature and high pressure. In addition to supplying mineral-physics data for the interpretation of seismic studies of the deep Earth, the project seeks to provide elasticity data for the calibration of an absolute high-temperature-pressure scale. The project will fund a number of positions, with a main focus on Brillouin scattering spectroscopy and single-crystal X-ray diffraction.

DMG POSTGRADUATE SHORT COURSES IN 2009

Applications of Solid-State NMR Spectroscopy in the Mineral and Geological Sciences

2–5 June 2009

At the Institute of Geology, Mineralogy and Geophysics, Ruhr-Universität Bochum, Bochum, Germany

Information: Michael Fechtelkord
(Michael.Fechtelkord@ruhr-uni-bochum.de)

Introduction to Secondary Ion Mass Spectrometry in the Earth Sciences

Summer 2009, duration 4½ days

At GFZ-Potsdam, Potsdam, Germany

Information: Michael Wiedenbeck
(michawi@gfz-potsdam.de)

Archaeometallurgy

5–9 September 2009

At the Johann-Wolfgang von Goethe Universität Frankfurt, Frankfurt, Germany

Information: Sabine Klein
(sabine.klein@kristall.uni-frankfurt.de)

Microanalytics with Laser Ablation Mass Spectroscopy

5–9 October 2009

At the Johann-Wolfgang von Goethe Universität Frankfurt, Frankfurt, Germany

Information: Stefan Weyer
(stefan.weyer@em.uni-frankfurt.de)

Noble Gases in Geochemistry and Geochronology

Summer/Autumn 2009

At GFZ-Potsdam, Potsdam, Germany

Information: Samuel Niedermann
(nied@gfz-potsdam.de)