



International Mineralogical Association

www.ima-mineralogy.org

IMA TO SOUTH AFRICA IN 2014 AND NEW WORKING GROUP ON SOLID EARTH

Composition and Evolution

IMA held two Council meetings and two wider participation business meetings during the 2008 Goldschmidt Conference in Vancouver. Current IMA affairs were discussed and the activities of the IMA commissions and working groups were reviewed. Full details can be found on the IMA website. One highlight was the choice of South Africa as the venue for the 2014 General Meeting of IMA, hosted by the Mineralogical Society of South Africa (contact Sabine Verryn: sabine.verryn@up.ac.za).

Another highlight was the creation of the Working Group on Solid Earth Composition and Evolution. Its objectives are to encourage and promote collective effort in the international community using mineralogy, petrology and geochemistry of igneous and metamorphic rocks as a basic means, assisted by tectonic and geophysical methods, to understand the origin and evolution of the solid Earth, including its mantle and crust on land and beneath ocean basins. The chair is Yaoling Niu (yaoling.niu@durham.ac.uk), the vice-chair and treasurer is Andrew Kerr and the secretary is Ian Campbell.

Seventeen IMA officers of IMA commissions and working groups were elected in Vancouver, including Lee Groat as chair of the Commission on Gem Materials and Peter Williams as chair of the Commission on New Minerals, Nomenclature and Classification. Peter Williams' appointment had an exciting start with an 'outbreak' of discussion of some recent controversial CNMNC decisions on MSA-Talk, the discussion list of the Mineralogical Society of America. Commissions sometimes complain they suffer from lack of interest and feedback, so it is good to hit the headlines once in a while. The CNMNC is considering the points that were raised.

There are a few seats vacant in some groups. The Commission on Museums and the Working Group on Inclusions in Minerals need vice-chairmen, while the Working Group on Mineral Equilibria needs new officers.

For more details on the Council and business meetings and a complete list of IMA commissions and working groups, along with your national representatives, see www.ima-mineralogy.org/.

NEW-MINERAL LISTS

A REMINDER: the lists of recently approved new minerals are now published on the CNMNC website at <http://pubsites.uws.edu.au/ima-cnmnc/recentmin.htm>, which is also accessible via the IMA main site if you want to avoid typing out this link. At the time of writing the latest list available is that of September 2008.

PREWITT IMA MEDAL LECTURE

Professor Charles Prewitt of the Carnegie Institution, the first recipient of the IMA Medal, will give his plenary lecture on Tuesday, 23 June 2009 at the Davos Goldschmidt meeting on the occasion of the award of the 2008 medal.



IMA2010, 21–27 AUGUST 2010, BUDAPEST

A preparatory meeting for IMA2010 held 17–18 October in Budapest attracted 26 participants from 11 countries – an international conference in itself! IMA2010 is being organised by a consortium of countries in the region, led by Austria, Hungary, Romania and Slovakia. Seventy-five proposals for scientific sessions were received and are being evaluated. Further information is available at www.ima2010.hu/.

CALL FOR IMA MEDAL NOMINATIONS

The second IMA Medal (awarded for excellence in mineralogical research) will be presented by the International Mineralogical Association in 2009. You may be interested in encouraging nominations from your national society, or from your specific research field, or elsewhere. All nominations will be welcome and should be submitted before the deadline of April 1, 2009. The recipient will be chosen for scientific eminence as demonstrated primarily by scientific publications of outstanding original research in mineralogy.

The medal is a lifetime achievement award. The successful candidate will be drawn from one of the 38 member nations of the IMA. Service to mineralogy, teaching, and administrative accomplishment will not be the primary consideration for the award.

Nomination packages must be up to date and complete. Each nomination must be accompanied by a nomination checklist, which is available online or from the IMA secretariat. A nomination package must include a cover letter from the nominator outlining the candidate's qualifications in light of the criteria for the award, together with supporting letters from at least three but no more than five individuals. These letters should focus on how the candidate meets the criteria for the award and should include a complete curriculum vitae and bibliography of published works, exclusive of abstracts, book reviews, and papers that have not yet been accepted for publication.

The IMA encourages the nominator to send an electronic version of the nomination package to the committee chair. The recipient of the IMA Medal will present a lecture on a topic related to the award at an international meeting. The lecture will be published in a suitable international journal of mineralogy, with the agreement of the IMA Medal Committee.

Marcello Mellini

Chair, IMA Medal Committee
Dipartimento di Scienze della Terra, Via Laterina 8,
53100 Siena (Italy)
E-mail: mellini@unisi.it