European Association of Geochemistry

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2010 EAG MEDALLISTS

CHARLES H. LANGMUIR, RECIPIENT OF THE UREY MEDAL

Charles H. Langmuir is the 2010 recipient of the Urey Medal, awarded by the European Association of Geochemistry for his outstanding contributions to our understanding of the geochemistry of terrestrial basalts. He has shown great intuition in formulating elegant and insightful models for the genesis of magmas at mid-ocean ridges and in arc and back-arc settings. More information about Charles Langmuir is available at www.people.fas.harvard.edu/~langmuir/homepage.html.

WILLIAM H. CASEY, RECIPIENT OF THE SCIENCE INNOVATION AWARD

The EAG Science Innovation Award comprises five medals, each in a distinct discipline; one medal is awarded each year. In 2010 the EAG awarded the Werner Stumm Medal for advances in low-temperature geochemistry and/or processes at the mineral–water interface. William Casey has been recognized for greatly improving our understanding of reactions between aqueous fluids and mineral surfaces through the use of novel atomic-scale techniques, including atomic force microscopy, elastic recoil detection, Rutherford backscattering, and NMR spectroscopy. Much of his recent work has centered on studying large aqueous clusters, which mimic the behavior of mineral surfaces. He is currently a professor of geology and chemistry at the University of California, Davis. More information about William Casey can be obtained at www.eag.eu.com/William_Casey.html.

KARIM BENZERARA, RECIPIENT OF THE HOUTERMANS MEDAL

This year's Houtermans Medal was awarded to Karim Benzerara (Institut de Minéralogie et de Physique des Milieux Condensés, Paris), a highly talented young scientist working at the interface between mineralogy and microbiology. Karim has studied a range of problems, reflected in more than 30 peer-reviewed publications in top journals. For example, he has clearly demonstrated that, at least in some instances, so-called nanobacteria are a complex association of minerals and proteins. Using the best microscopy tools, he has shown that carbonate minerals from microbialites, such as stromatolites, are mostly formed on extracellular polysaccharidic substances produced by the cells, rather than directly at cell surfaces. For more information about Karim, go to www.ipgp.fr/pages/1611.php.

Société Française de Minéralogie et de Cristallographie

www.sfmc-fr.org

THE SFMC GETS A NEW WEBSITE!

The Society is pleased to invite you to visit its fully redesigned website at www.sfmc-fr.org. The new architecture of this dynamic website, built using the user-friendly SPIP CMS publishing system, will allow more efficient updates and enrichments. New links to mineralogical databases, job offers, meetings, and information related to the new SFMC working groups ("Synchrotron" and "Igneous Petrology") will be posted on the site. Contributions from the mineralogical community are welcome, and people wishing to post information are invited to contact Étienne Balan, Anne-Line Auzende, or Bertrand Devouard (sfmc@ccr.jussieu.fr).

THE GROUPE DE PÉTROLOGIE ENDOGÈNE (GPE) IS BORN

The French Igneous and Metamorphic Petrology Group promotes its activities in coordination with the SFMC. One of the first activities of the GPE is to bring together researchers working in a broad spectrum of igneous, metamorphic, and structural petrology, including the study of natural and synthetic samples, field projects, etc. The main aim of the group is to provide information to members via a mail diffusion list, a website, and an annual scientific meeting. While the website is under construction, more information about GPE and its activities can be obtained from Michel Grégoire, the initiator of the group (michel.gregoire@dtp.obs-mip.fr).

MEETING ANNOUNCEMENTS

Training Days: "Méthodes d'Analyse des Matériaux et des Minéraux"

The Society will hold two training days in Paris, France (Pierre and Marie Curie University) on November 30 and December 1, 2010. These days will be devoted to reviewing a wide range of technical tools and, in the spirit of the previous sessions held in 2000, 2002, and 2004, will be open to a large audience of PhD students, engineers, and researchers. Each invited speaker will present one or two analytical methods suitable for the study of minerals and/or fluids. The speakers will show how parameters determined at molecular or nanometer scales can provide important constraints for understanding global processes. The organizing committee comprises Anne-Line Auzende (Anne-Line.Auzende@impmc.upmc.fr), Marc Blanchard and Etienne Balan. Further information can be obtained at http://sfmc-fr.org.

23e Réunion des Sciences de la Terre (RST)

The RST Earth sciences meeting will be held in Bordeaux on October 25–29, 2010. This joint FFG-SGF-SFMC meeting occurs every two years and brings together about 600 scientists from various fields in the Earth sciences. The meeting will be held on the Talence campus of the École Nationale Supérieure d'Électronique, Informatique & Radiocommunications of Bordeaux (ENSEIRB).

RST offers to students and senior scientists the opportunity to present their most recent work. More than 600 oral communications and 200 posters will be presented to academic and industrial geoscientists. Nine thematic sessions will be offered: Earth observation, geomorphology, natural hazards; Sedimentary basins, characterization of deposits, processes, hydrocarbon-bearing rocks; Geological fluids; Mineralogy and mineral resources; Paleoenvironments, paleoclimates; Erosion and sedimentary transport from continent to ocean; Geodynamics, tectonics, magmatism; Education, valorization, applications of geosciences; Transverse sessions. Seven fieldtrips (pre- and postmeeting) are proposed. Information is available on the website www.rst2010.epoc.u-bordeaux1.fr/.