



Association of Applied Geochemists

www.appliedgeochemists.org

2010 IN BRIEF



Dave Lentz



Our Association is 40 years young and has been very active leading up to the next International Applied Geochemistry Symposium (IAGS 2011), which will be held in Rovaniemi, Finland, this coming summer (see adjacent column). The organizers of IAGS 2011 have planned a wide variety of workshops, as well as field trips to key mineral resources in the region. So please take a look at the program on the meeting website and the call for abstracts.

Prof. Kurt Kyser (Queen's University, Kingston, Ontario, Canada) finished his AAG Distinguished Lecture tour in 2010. Kurt is director of the Queen's Facility for Isotope Research and has research interests that include isotope geochemistry, the evolution of fluids in basins, environmental and exploration geochemistry, and fluid-rock interactions. The AAG Executive thanks Kurt for his substantial efforts on behalf of AAG.

This past year has seen increased emphasis on subsidizing membership and involvement of students through the new Education Committee, led by senior AAG Fellows. The mandate of this committee was to formulate criteria for identifying students who qualify for support and to determine the level and type of support. This program is supported by AAG in partnership with the private sector. We hope this program will help counter the worldwide crisis looming in the education of the next generation of qualified people for the applied environmental and mineral exploration industries. Engagement with private industry makes this student support program much more effective and far reaching, as our members work in many different regions on a very wide variety of projects. These efforts are in part related to our outreach efforts during the recent International Year of Planet Earth. The AAG's global perspective is accentuated by the fact that our regional councilors are working on identifying opportunities in their respective regions. T. C. Davies (Africa), Brian Townley (South America), Benedetto De Vivo (Europe), and Xuequi Wang (China) presented the status of their regions in the latest EXPLORE newsletter (December 2010) and highlighted the innovations and applications in geochemistry and their relation to education.

Our newsletter **EXPLORE** (available on our website) continues to highlight important aspects of our science. In the latest issue, a lucid debate on sampling and statistics is presented in the article "How Many Samples are Enough?" by Robert G. Garrett of the Geological Survey of Canada. Garrett heads some of the GSC's regional geochemistry research in Canada (and abroad), in cooperation with provincial governments, universities, and consultants (see the GSC's geochemical data repository). In the most recent issue of AAG's journal, **Geochemistry: Exploration, Environment, Analysis**, the lead article is by Clifford R. Stanley, Nelson O'Driscoll, and Pritam Ranjan and is entitled "Determining the magnitude of true analytical error in geochemical analysis." This subject is all too often not given the attention it deserves, particularly in view of the rigor demanded by governments, industry, and stock exchange regulators.

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IAGS 2011

AAG's biennial International Applied Geochemistry Symposium (IAGS) will be held at the University of Lapland in Rovaniemi, Finland, on 22–26 August 2011. The symposium's theme is "Towards Sustainable Geochemical Exploration, Mining and the Environment." The meeting will encompass a variety of disciplines, including applied geochemistry, new analytical methods, interpretation of data, and the importance of taking care of the environment in mineral exploration and mining.

The symposium is being jointly organized by the Geology section of the Finnish Association of Mining and Metallurgical Engineers, the Geological Survey of Finland, and the Institute of Geosciences at the University of Oulu, in conjunction with the Rovaniemi-Lapland Congresses. The local organizing committee also includes representatives from mining and exploration companies and geochemical laboratories.

The symposium will feature daily keynote presentations, several morning and afternoon sessions, and separate poster sessions. Pre-symposium workshops will include analytical quality assurance, environmental risk assessment, indicator mineral methods, integration of geochemical data using GIS, and exploration for orogenic gold deposits. Symposium excursions will focus on active exploration and mining projects and on the rehabilitation of mining districts. In addition, field trips will visit historical gold-panning sites and an amethyst mine. An excursion to the Khibiny Mountains and Monchegorsk, Kola Peninsula, Russia, is also on the program.

The city of Rovaniemi is the capital of Lapland and is located at the Arctic Circle. Rovaniemi is a cultural city and one of the most popular tourist destinations in Finland. Living through four totally different seasons and surrounded by wilderness, its residents have developed a strong and unique culture. The social program will emphasize Finland's northern traditions and wilderness – and Santa Claus will not be forgotten.

The second circular is now available, and the website (www.iags2011.fi) is now open for registration and abstract submission.

Welcome to Rovaniemi, Finland!

Pertti Sarala and Juhani Ojala

Chairs of the 25th IAGS Organizing Committee

www.iags2011.fi

25th IAGS 2011

25th International Applied Geochemistry Symposium

22 - 26 August 2011
Rovaniemi FINLAND

On-line registration open at www.iags2011.fi

IMPORTANT DATES AND DEADLINES

Deadline for abstracts 31 March 2011
Notification of acceptance by 30 April 2011
Deadline for early-bird registration 31 May 2011
Registration deadline for workshops, field excursions and accepted presenters 31 May 2011
25th IAGS Conference 22-26 August 2011
Deadline for Special Issue submission 10 November 2011