



Mineralogical Society of America

www.minsocam.org

PRESIDENT'S LETTER



Dave Bish, President

MSA has completed its 90th year in fine shape! Our membership is stable, and the number of student members is increasing. Our endowments are sufficiently healthy to allow us to continue our popular research grants, lecture program, and awards. However, we are not resting on our laurels. Vice-president Mike Hochella and I have begun planning for the future of MSA, something that has been done several times in the recent past by previous presidents. We plan to evaluate our publications, membership programs, and conference

participation, among other things. Our members are very generous to our society, and we are constantly looking for ways in which we can provide additional services and benefits to our members.

In my last letter, I discussed changes in how we publish and circulate *American Mineralogist*, and several important changes have resulted from Council action at the last GSA meeting. Many of our subscribing members are familiar with the popular "Papers in Press" section of the website, and Council approved providing access to these preprints to all members of MSA, whether or not they subscribe to the journal. Take a look at this section at www.minsocam.org/msa/ammin/am_preprints.html and be sure to have your membership id number handy. You will need it to access the full preprints. In addition, we recently changed publishers to Cadmus, which provides us with a richer variety of options for electronic publishing and distribution than was previously available. I am confident that you will notice no change in quality, and we will all find new options in the near future. Finally, I am happy to announce that new Letters editor Ian Swainson joins coeditors Jennifer Thomson and Martin Kunz to lead the journal. Letters papers are four typeset pages long; they present the latest important research and feature a rapid turnaround. I would also like to reemphasize to readers of *American Mineralogist* that the best electronic portal for the journal is GeoScienceWorld (GSW). Not only does accessing our journal through GSW provide a significant income to MSA, you can also sign up for alerts and learn who is citing your articles. If your library does not currently subscribe to GSW, please encourage them to do so.

The 2010 GSA meeting has come and gone, and MSA had an impressive presence, including a special session related to the recent "Mineral Evolution" issue of *Elements*. We hope in the future to organize similar MSA sessions related to individual *Elements* issues, and I encourage anyone with an idea for a session at GSA or the Goldschmidt Conference to respond to the calls for session proposals. I also urge you to convey your ideas for potential MSA short courses to the committee chair, Lee Groat.

MSA also announced its 2011 award recipients. The Roebling Medal was awarded to Prof. J. G. Liou of Stanford University, the Dana Medal (for 2012) to Prof. Roberta Rudnick of the University of Maryland, the MSA Award to Dr. Motohiko Murakami of Tohoku University, and the Distinguished Public Service Award to Jolyon Ralph. The Crystallographic Research Grant was awarded to Lindsay Sochalski-Kolbus of Virginia Tech, and the Mineralogy/Petrology Research Grants went to Kirsten Hodge of the University of British Columbia and Fan Wang of Purdue University. The new Fellows of the Society are James Beard, Bruno Reynard, Wolfgang F. Mueller, Fernando Camara, Giulio A. Ottonello, Patrick J. O'Brien, Brian L. Phillips, Wilson Crichton, Li-Fei Zhang, Makoto Arima, Hiroyuki Kagi, and Huifang Xu. I congratulate all these accomplished scientists.

Upcoming MSA events include joint sessions at the Goldschmidt 2011 meeting in Prague, from August 14 to 19. I remind you that we will also present the Dana Medal to Dr. Ross Angel of Virginia Tech at this

meeting. We will hold a special session entitled "Structure, Elasticity, and Thermodynamics of Minerals" to recognize Ross's accomplishments. Of course, our annual fall meeting will be held at the 2011 GSA Annual Meeting in Minneapolis, Minnesota, on October 9–12. The abstract deadline is July 26, and by now, planning is well underway for MSA-sponsored sessions.

Finally, I noted that our student membership has been increasing. We are all aware that today's students are tomorrow's scientists who will keep MSA active and vital. With this in mind, I encourage our members to consider giving student membership donations. Student membership in MSA is a tremendous bargain at only \$10, and for this amount, a student receives access to "Papers in Press", the magazine *Elements*, and member rates for all our publications. Those of you at educational institutions also have the opportunity to give an American Mineralogist Undergraduate Award each year (see www.minsocam.org/MSA/Awards/UnderGrad_Award.html). This award recognizes outstanding undergraduate students in the fields represented by MSA. The recipient receives a citation, along with membership in MSA, electronic access to the journal, and one of our RIMG volumes or monographs. I can't think of a better way to encourage our best young geoscientists in pursuit of their studies in the mineral sciences. As always, thanks for supporting MSA with your science and participation.

David Bish, MSA President

NOTES FROM CHANTILLY

- All 2009 and 2010 MSA members have been contacted by mail, electronically, or both about renewing their membership for 2011. If you have not renewed your MSA membership, please do so. If you have not received a notice by the time you read this, please contact the MSA business office. You can also renew online at anytime.
- Results of the 2010 election: The 2011 president of the Society is Dave Bish; the vice president is Mike Hochella; Darrell J. Henry was reelected to another term as treasurer; and Mickey Gunter, secretary, remains in office. The new councilors are Pamela Burnley and Guy Hovis. They join continuing councilors Wendy A. Bohrsen, Sumit Chakraborty, Peter C. Burns, and Carol D. Frost.

J. Alex Speer, MSA Executive Director
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NOMINATIONS SOUGHT FOR 2012 AWARDS

Nominations must be received by June 1, 2011

The **Roebling Medal** is MSA's highest award and is given for eminence as represented by outstanding published original research in mineralogy.

The **Dana Medal** recognizes continued outstanding scientific contributions through original research in the mineralogical sciences by an individual in the midst of his or her career.

The **Mineralogical Society of America Award** is given for outstanding published contribution(s) prior to the 35th birthday or within 7 years of the PhD.

Society **Fellowship** recognizes a member's significant scientific contributions. Nomination is undertaken by one member with two members acting as cosponsors. Form required; contact the committee chair or visit the MSA home page.

MINERALOGICAL SOCIETY OF AMERICA

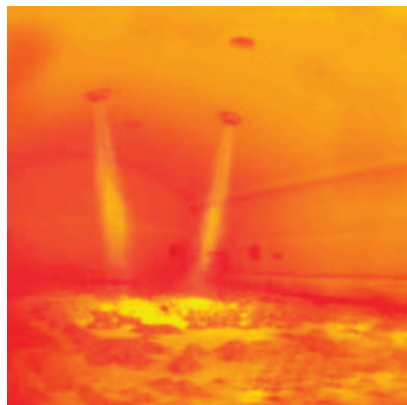
Submission requirements and procedures are on MSA's home page: www.minsocam.org/.

Mineralogical Society of America and Geochemical Society
SHORT COURSE ANNOUNCEMENTS

Sulfur in Silicate Magmas and Melts and Its Importance for Natural and Technical Processes

AUGUST 21–23, 2011 (AFTER GOLDSCHMIDT 2011)
 GOSLAR, GERMANY

CONVENORS: Harald Behrens, University of Hannover, and
 Jim Webster, American Museum of Natural History



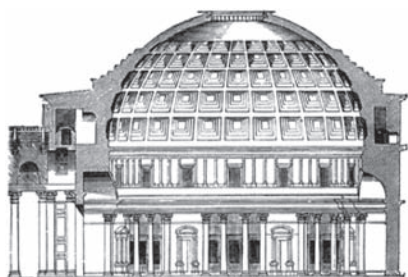
The course will cover advances in analytical protocols for sulfur determination in rocks, minerals, and glasses; experimental, spectroscopic and thermodynamic constraints on the speciation, solubility, and diffusion of sulfur in melts; sulfur stable isotope systematics; partitioning of sulfur between fluid, melts, and minerals; the importance of sulfur in preparing, coloring, and melting industrial glasses; volcanic degassing and fining of glass melts; sulfur and magmatic ore deposits; sulfur in solar systems, and others. There will be a poster session for students on August 21 and two workshops:

- (1) "The Volcanological Kitchen" (hydrothermal experiments and methods), on August 20 in Hannover, Germany, and
- (2) a "Glass-Making and Glass Properties" session on August 24 in Clausthal, Germany.

Applied Mineralogy of Cement and Concrete

JULY 30–31, 2011 (PRECEDING 2011 ICAM)
 TRONDHEIM, NORWAY

CONVENORS: Maarten A. T. M. Broekmans, Geological Survey of Norway
 Herbert Poellmann, Martin Luther Universitaet



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 courtesy FCIT

To be held before the International Congress for Applied Mineralogy (ICAM), the course will cover the mineralogical and geochemical aspects of clinker and cement production, cement hydration, and concrete damage. Selected topics represent both "hot issues" (reduction of CO₂ emission, alternative cements) as well as "long-standing problems" (rebar corrosion and "deleterious alkali-silica reaction" [ASR], first described in 1940).

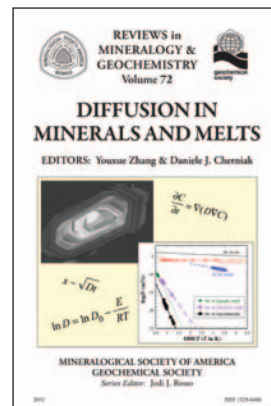
More information and registration for both courses:
www.minsocam.org

NEW TITLE

**REVIEWS IN MINERALOGY
 AND GEOCHEMISTRY**

Mineralogical Society of America
 and The Geochemical Society

Volume 72 – Diffusion in Minerals and Melts, Youxue Zhang and Daniele J. Cherniak, editors. i-xvii + 1038 pages. ISBN 978-0-939950-86-7, \$50 (\$37.50 for members of MSA, GS, and CMS).



A review of diffusion at moderate to high temperatures in minerals and silicate melts, with a focus on basic theory, experimental methods and analytical techniques in diffusion studies, and diffusion data in minerals and melts and their applications to geology. The goal is to help students and practitioners to understand the basics of diffusion, the experimental diffusion data, and how they can be applied to geological problems.

For more description and tables of contents of these books, and online ordering, visit www.minsocam.org or contact the Mineralogical Society of America, 3635 Concorde Pkwy Ste 500, Chantilly, VA 20151-1110 USA; phone: +1 (703) 652-9950; fax: +1 (703) 652-9951; e-mail: business@minsocam.org.

The Mineralogical Society of America

2012 Grants for

Research in Crystallography

from the Edward H. Kraus Crystallographic Research Fund with contributions from MSA members and friends

Student Research in Mineralogy and Petrology

from an endowment created by MSA members



Selection is based on the qualifications of the applicant; the quality, innovativeness, and scientific significance of the research as described in a written proposal; and the likelihood of success of the project. There are three US\$5,000 grants with no restrictions on how the funds may be spent, as long as they are used in support of research. Application instructions and online submission are available on the MSA website, www.minsocam.org. Completed applications must be submitted by June 1, 2011.