



International Association of GeoChemistry

www.iagc-society.org

FROM THE PRESIDENT



Rich Wanty

This is my inaugural letter as the incoming president of IAGC. During my two-year term, I expect we will see some large changes in the Association and in the world around us. Some of these include:

- Changes in our official journal, *Applied Geochemistry*
- As scientists we live in an ever-changing world, with publications venues, communications, technology, etc. One of the benefits of being an IAGC member is being part of a global network of colleagues, organized for our mutual advancement and maintaining the excellence of our science.

- Turnover in our Board of Officers and Council, as members' terms are completed and new members step up to volunteer
- As time marches on, happily welcoming new young members and unfortunately saying sad goodbyes to others

The biggest and most immediate change is that our *Applied Geochemistry* editor, Ron Fuge, is stepping down after more than 19 years on the job. I have had the great fortune to be a friend of Ron's for some time, and it really is not possible to say thank you in a sufficient way. From my perch in Denver, Colorado, I am removed from Ron by 7 time zones, but frequently I get messages from him when it is approaching (or past) midnight in Aberystwyth, Wales, or on weekends, holidays...you name it. Under Ron's tenure, our journal's impact factor has increased from below 1 to significantly over 2, and the number of papers submitted annually has more than quadrupled. Ron's dedication to our journal and our society has been beyond exemplary. Whether you have published in *Applied Geochemistry* or not, we all owe Ron a huge debt of gratitude. Our sincere thanks also go to Michael Kersten, the new editor in chief of *Applied Geochemistry*. Michael volunteered to take Ron's position and was IAGC's nomination to succeed Ron. We all appreciate his willingness to serve in this most important capacity. I look forward to getting to know Michael and working with him. Of course, as some of us rotate into new positions, others are transitioning out. Clemens Reimann has been our president the past two years and has done a marvelous job of maintaining the Association in excellent health, including negotiating our current contract agreement with Elsevier, which helps support the day-to-day operations of the Association and also funds the graduate student research grant program and the working group meetings that the Association supports financially. Clemens now begins a two-year term as past president, and I look forward to continuing to learn from his experience. Russ Harmon is transitioning out of the past president position, and I cannot thank Russ enough for his dedication to IAGC and for all his hard work over the past 20 years. Russ continues to be an extraordinarily valuable asset to the Association, and he is currently working on the next version of our contract with Elsevier. Fortunately, Tom Bullen will remain on as secretary and Berry Lyons as treasurer, and we are all supported by the dedicated work of Chris Gardner, manager of our business office. One of the things that continually strengthens our scientific network is communication amongst us. This can take a variety of forms, from *Elements* to the IAGC Newsletter, to attending working group meetings, or to a simple e-mail. With that in mind, I am always open to suggestions/comments, or anything else. Please e-mail me at rwanty@usgs.gov. I look forward to working with all of you.

Rich Wanty, IAGC President

APPLIED GEOCHEMISTRY CALL FOR ASSOCIATE EDITORS

As mentioned in "From the President" (above), Ron Fuge retired as the executive editor of *Applied Geochemistry* at the end of last year, after over 19 years of dedicated service. Our new executive editor, Michael Kersten (Johannes Gutenberg University Mainz), is looking for enthusiastic new associate editors for the journal. If you are interested, please e-mail Michael directly at kersten@uni-mainz.de.

SUCCESSFUL URBAN GEOCHEMISTRY SESSION AT GSA CONFERENCE

The IAGC and the newly reorganized Urban Geochemistry Working Group sponsored the first "Urban Geochemistry" session at the annual Geological Society of America meeting in Charlotte, North Carolina, in November 2012. It is planned to hold other sessions on this theme at future GSA meetings. There were 11 oral presentations and 11 posters on a very wide array of topics, ranging from the concern for potential lead contamination from urban gardening to the impacts of urban disasters on human health. A number of themes were evident from the presentations. They included: (1) the presence of geochemical inhomogeneities in the urban setting and ways to deal with them in the design of hypotheses, sampling campaigns, and data analysis; (2) the nature of "background" concentrations in urban environments; (3) the potentially harmful concentrations of chemicals in many urban areas; (4) the need to link geochemistry to human health risks; (5) the influence of the legacy of human development in time and space and its interplay with environmental policy and technological innovation; and (6) the need to better characterize the chemistry of complex urban materials.

W. Berry Lyons (The Ohio State University) and **David T. Long** (Michigan State University)

APPLIED ISOTOPE GEOCHEMISTRY CONFERENCE (AIG-10)

The 10th Applied Isotope Geochemistry Conference of the International Association of GeoChemistry will take place on September 22–27, 2013, in Budapest, Hungary. Early registration extends through March 31, 2013. Please visit the official conference website at www.aig10.com for more information. Look for an official meeting announcement in the next issue of *Elements*.

WATER-ROCK INTERACTION CONFERENCE (WRI-14) REGISTRATION STILL OPEN

The 14th Water-Rock Interaction triennial symposium of the International Association of GeoChemistry will take place on June 9–14, 2013, in Avignon, France. Early registration has ended, but regularly priced registration remains open. Please visit www.wri14-2013.fr and register as soon as possible!

Renew Your IAGC Membership Today!

Don't miss any issues of *Elements*! Remember to renew your 2013 IAGC membership, still only \$25. Visit www.iagc-society.org and click on Society, then Membership, today!