

THIS ISSUE

Most people associate the word nitrogen with the air we breathe, the fertilizers we use for growing our flowers and vegetables, and perhaps algal blooms in our lakes and rivers. There would certainly have been more than enough thematic material for an issue on the nitrogen cycle at the Earth's surface. However, Guest Editors Gray Bebout, Marilyn Fogel, and Pierre Cartigny chose to focus on the large-scale cycle of nitrogen, ranging from the cosmos to the deep Earth and its surface. How did our atmosphere come to be made up of 78% nitrogen? Even though nitrogen is present only in trace amounts in minerals, this is where most nitrogen is stored. An interesting perspective, indeed!

ELEMENTS AT GOLDSCHMIDT

We thank Russell Rajendra and Kevin Murphy of the Mineralogical Society for staffing the *Elements* booth during the Goldschmidt Conference in Florence. The original plan was that the Mineralogical Society would help to man the *Elements* booth along with staffing their own booth. Early on during the conference, Russell decided to merge the booths together in the *Elements* location. The booth was well located near the front door and the registration desk, so traffic was good. Thanks also to the principal editors and members of the Executive Committee who spent time at the booth and answered questions. And thanks to the many visitors who came over to say how much they liked the magazine and the articles in it.



Russell Rajendra at the *Elements* + MinSoc + EMU booth

BUSINESS AS USUAL

As you will read in the advertisement in the next column, I have decided to step down at the end of 2014. I still love doing this job, and for me it is business as usual until December 2014. I am convinced that there is someone out there perfectly suited to take over, who will think as I do that this is the best job in the world—and who will have the energy and the drive to take *Elements* to greater heights in its second decade.

Pierrette Tremblay, Executive Editor

BACK ISSUES OF ELEMENTS ABOUT ELEMENTS



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FROM THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Surrounded by exquisite art, delectable cuisine, and fascinating science, members of the Executive Committee of *Elements* diligently met for their annual meeting on August 26, 2013. Representatives from fourteen of the seventeen participating societies spent the afternoon discussing our most pressing issue: the upcoming retirement of our one-and-only managing editor, Ms. Pierrette Tremblay. It was a bittersweet afternoon as we celebrated nearly ten years of publication and *Elements'* success, but we now look to a new future without the guiding hand and dedication of Pierrette. With *Elements* from the first issue, she helped *Elements* grow, providing the care she would extend to a family member, and she has placed *Elements* as a must-read for mineralogists, petrologists, and geochemists. We begin the search for her replacement now; it will take time to identify the best possible choice and have this person overlap with Pierrette to learn at least a portion of her job. As the list of her duties grew, it became apparent that she was more than a managing editor—likely three people wrapped into one. Better late than never... she's been promoted to executive editor! Although the position is now advertized—see the ad below—she is not leaving for another year! This month, we will celebrate her achievement by bestowing on her the MSA Distinguished Service Award, in part for her key role in the development and success of *Elements*.

Barb Dutrow, Chair of the Executive Committee

Executive Editor
for *Elements* Magazine

WE seek an outstanding and creative individual to lead *Elements* magazine into its second decade, as the current Executive Editor will retire at the end of 2014. *Elements*, published six times yearly, is a joint publication of 17 international societies covering the fields of mineralogy, petrology, and geochemistry (MPG). Each issue comprises a thematic content of six peer-reviewed articles geared to the technical MPG nonspecialist, as well as nonthematic content. The Executive Editor (EE) is responsible for the production and delivery of *Elements*, which includes coordinating the issue according to a schedule and budget, assembling society news, and copyediting/proofreading. The EE works closely with a global network of three principal editors, guest editors, authors, societies, advertisers, and the *Elements* Executive Committee. Excellent written and oral communication skills are essential. The EE is responsible for the day-to-day operations, which involve editing duties (60%) and administrative duties (40%), including billing and securing advertising. This position allows for creativity and vision and is ideal for those seeking a challenge. There are no geographic restrictions on the location of the EE, but there must be ready access to the Internet.

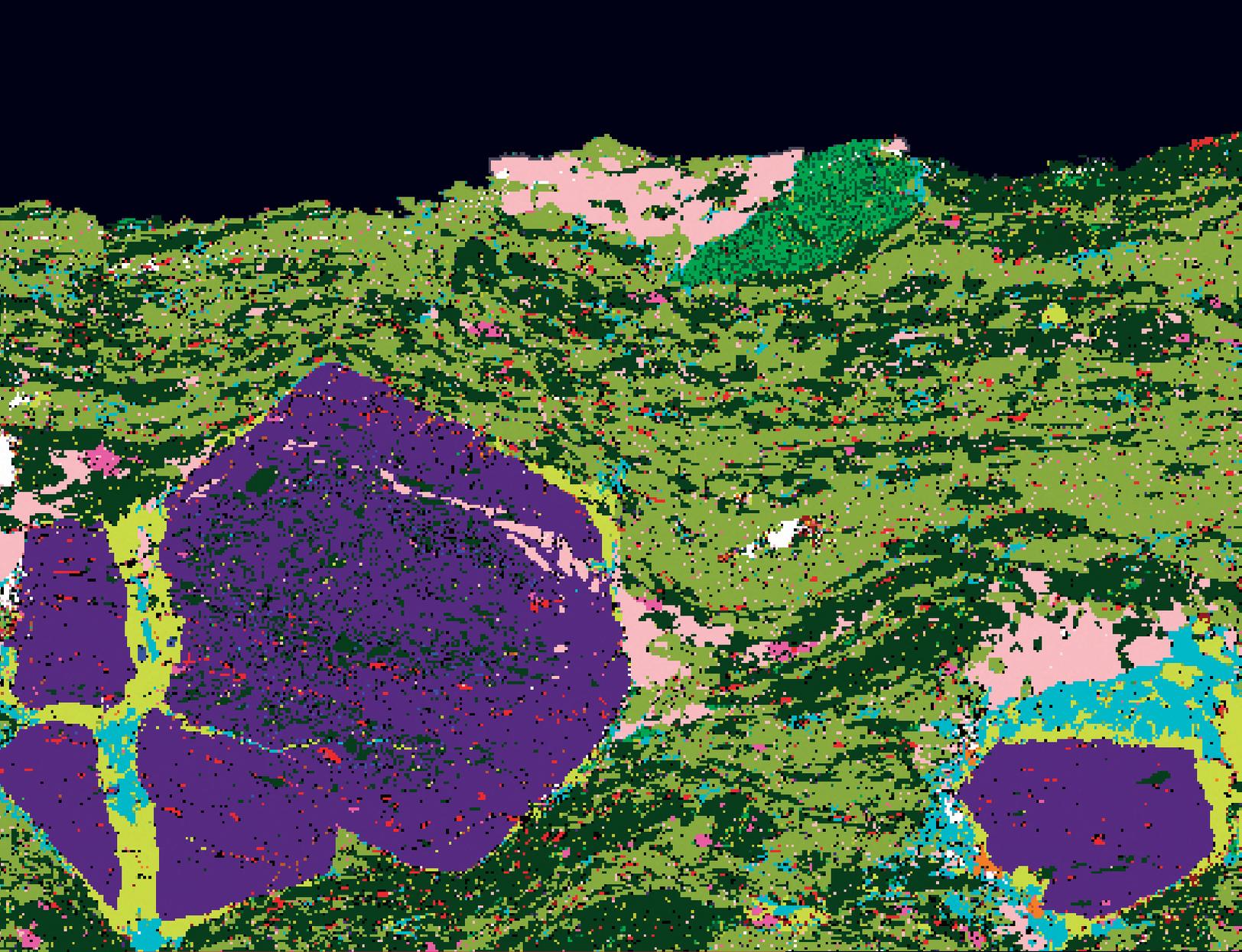
Required qualifications An MSc or PhD in the Earth sciences or a related scientific field, or equivalent experience. Fluency in both written and spoken English is essential. A minimum of 3 years of editing and/or publication experience is needed, including writing for a general geoscience audience. Good organizational skills are necessary. The successful candidate must be able to travel to 1–2 meetings per year of the Editorial Board.

Preferred qualifications Experience with a professional academic society, preferably in the geosciences. Experience developing and managing a budget, securing advertising, and using publishing software.

This is a permanent position, subject to annual review. Salary is competitive and commensurate with experience. The new Executive Editor will be in charge beginning January 2015, but a period of overlap with the current EE is required. This starting date is negotiable. For additional information about *Elements*, see www.elementsmagazine.org.

Applications should include a cover letter clearly addressing the required qualifications, a CV, and the names of three referees. Applications and/or questions should be sent electronically to: Dr. Barb Dutrow, Chair, *Elements* Search Committee: Dutrow@lsu.edu.

APPLICATIONS WILL BE REVIEWED STARTING 15 NOVEMBER 2013,
AND THE POSITION WILL REMAIN OPEN UNTIL FILLED.



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FEI's Automated Mineralogy technology is helping petrologists unravel the many and varied geological events that metamorphic rocks have undergone.

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The image is a of a garnet-mica schist from Brittany, France. Microtextures suggest the rock has undergone high-grade, regional metamorphism with associated poly-deformation. Image courtesy of Michael Garrick.



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