



# Association of Applied Geochemists

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## FROM THE PRESIDENT

### IAGS 2013



Bob Eppinger

The 26<sup>th</sup> International Applied Geochemistry Symposium (IAGS) in Rotorua, New Zealand, is fast approaching. The 18–21 November program is full of varied and interesting presentations, as well as pre-meeting workshops and pre- and post-meeting field trips. Concurrent sessions during the meeting will whet any applied geochemist's appetite. The 35<sup>th</sup> New Zealand Geothermal Workshop, incorporated in the IAGS, will hold geothermal-related sessions. The Society of Economic Geologists is cosponsoring sessions on ore deposits. All of the above plus nearly 60 posters and numerous keynote talks over four days will ensure intellectual stimulation and animated discussions.

Workshop topics include exploration for orogenic gold deposits, molar element ratio analysis, the environmental geochemistry of mine drainage, quality assurance in geochemical analyses, the use of portable XRF in mineral exploration, and the basics of geothermal science and practical geothermal geochemistry. An informal student-publishing workshop will also be held. Pre- and post-meeting field trips will focus on active and fossil geothermal and epithermal systems, active volcanoes, orogenic gold mines, environmental geochemistry, wine terroirs, geothermal resources, and the Rocklabs factory.

In the tradition of previous IAGSs, there will be an extensive social program. The partners program includes numerous sightseeing tours and visits. The official symposium dinner will include presentation of the best student paper award and the AAG's Gold and Silver Medals.

This is certain to be a memorable IAGS, thanks to Tony Christie and his dedicated local organizing committee. Numerous corporate, university, and society sponsors and a promising trade exhibition are helping to ensure the meeting's success. Support for students includes very low registration and conference dinner fees, prizes for best student oral and poster presentations, and limited student travel grants. Further information is available at [www.gns.cri.nz/iags/](http://www.gns.cri.nz/iags/).

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Exploration in areas of transported overburden, one of the prime exploration challenges in northern Chile: geochemical sampling in Pampa La Cuchara, Inca de Oro district



Student life: a mining exploration field course in the Cerro Reemplazo district, northeast of Vallenar

## NEWS FROM AAG REGIONAL COUNCILLORS

### Chile

Applied geochemistry in Chile has slowly been growing, as geochemistry is being used in ever broader applications, such as geothermal energy exploration and evaluation, environmental baseline and impact studies, mining, geo-mineral metallurgical characterization, and exploration. Workers trained in geochemistry are still few, but young Chilean geologists returning from overseas graduate programs and a growing number of our own graduates are showing increasingly more interest in applied geochemistry. The number of students engaged in applied geochemistry field courses and graduate and undergraduate studies has increased.

Recent ongoing applied research projects include rutile and tourmaline chemistry in porphyry copper environments (AMIRA project, Universidad de Concepcion); geochemistry in geothermal environments (Andean Geothermal Centre of Excellence–CEGA, Universidad de Chile); geochemistry applied to geo-mineral metallurgical characterization (Department of Geology, Universidad de Chile–DGUCH and recently the Advanced Mining Technology Center–AMTC at the

Universidad de Chile); exploration geochemistry (DGUCH), including geochemistry applied to exploration in areas of transported overburden, and caliche geochemistry, including isotopic geochemistry; various projects in environmental geochemistry (Universidad de Concepcion, Universidad de Chile, and Universidad Catolica del Norte); and, soon to begin, geochemistry, mineralogy, and geology applied to the characterization of terroir in the wine industry (DGUCH together with the Chilean Wine Consortium).

On an interesting note, upcoming environmental legislation will include baseline geochemical regulations and the evaluation of geochemical environmental impacts, likely to become mandatory as of 2013–2014. The definition of environmental baseline studies was developed by a multidisciplinary group from the departments of geology, geophysics, and civil engineering of the Universidad de Chile.

Ravi Anand, AAG's 2013–2014 Distinguished Lecturer, visited Chile during the first week of March and gave two talks at the Central Codelco Auditorium in Santiago, Huerfanos.

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