



The Clay Minerals Society

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THE PRESIDENT'S CORNER



Peter Komadel

This month, the CMS is celebrating its 50th anniversary at its annual meeting, held this year at the University of Illinois in Urbana-Champaign, Illinois, USA. The number of participants will likely be larger than the combined attendance of the last two annual meetings. This is an encouraging basis for an excellent anniversary annual meeting. In this issue we conclude a series of short contributions

on the history of the Society prepared by Dr. Duane (Dewey) Moore, previously at the Illinois State Geological Survey in Urbana and currently at the University of New Mexico. We are grateful to Dewey for his efforts in preparing this article. The complete article and additional information are available on the CMS website, www.clays.org/CMS%20ORGANIZATION/CMShistory.html.

Best wishes,

Peter Komadel (peter.komadel@savba.sk)
President, The Clay Minerals Society

2013 CMS AWARDEES

The following awards were presented at the CMS annual meeting at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. More awards news will appear in the December 2013 issue of *Elements*.



The G. W. BRINDLEY LECTURE AWARD went to **Dr. Andrey Kalinichev**, Research Director, Radiochemistry Group, École des Mines de Nantes, France. Andrey has been a pioneer in the use of molecular dynamics modeling and other computational techniques to study clays and related materials, with a focus on understanding the structure, dynamics, energetics, and reactivity of clay–fluid

interfaces. He also puts special effort into integrating spectroscopic and computational studies, working with NMR spectroscopists and more recently with high-energy neutron techniques, to deepen our understanding of clay and surface science. Among his many published papers, he is a key author on one of the most influential papers in molecular modeling of phyllosilicates and other oxide minerals: the CLAYFF molecular dynamics forcefield. Andrey's current research involves modeling organo-mineral interactions and the development of larger, more structurally diverse models of clay minerals.



The PIONEER IN CLAY SCIENCE LECTURER AWARD went to **Dr. Thomas J. Pinnavaia**, Emeritus Distinguished University Professor, Michigan State University. Professor Pinnavaia has had an illustrious career spanning the fields of dynamic stereochemistry of higher coordination number metal complexes, the intercalation chemistry of smectitic clay minerals and related lamellar solids, the role of metal ions in the self-assembly of nucleotides, and the supramolecular assembly of inorganic mesophases. He has advised over 80 PhD students and an equal number of postdoctoral and visiting scientists. He has authored more than 400 technical publications and holds 80 patents. He is a Distinguished Member of CMS and served as president in 1990–1991.

HOW THE CLAY MINERALS SOCIETY GOT STARTED, PART III

Before World War II, there were stirrings of interest in clay science in all parts of the world. After WW II, interest blossomed across the globe. The group that had been sponsored by the U.S. National Research Council, which had originally met in St. Louis in 1951, applied for incorporation as a nonprofit organization on July 18, 1962, in Washington, D.C. This led to The Clay Minerals Society's first meeting as an incorporated entity, the Twelfth Clay Minerals Conference (counting those before incorporation), which was held in Atlanta on September 30–October 4, 1963—this was the birth of The Clay Minerals Society. Attendees came from many diverse scientific disciplines with a common interest in clays and clay minerals.

In that first year of incorporation, The Clay Minerals Society had 33 charter sustaining members. The disciplines of the officers and the associate editors emphasized the broad and balanced interests of the Society—three geologists, three chemists, two soil scientists, one civil engineer, one oil company employee, and two persons from government agencies. As of 2011, CMS included seven corporations and 21 individuals as sustaining members. The notably successful twelve years of operation as a committee under the aegis of the National Research Council served as a model for conducting the business of this new organization. Several available histories related to The Clay Minerals Society thoroughly cover the subject up to 30 years ago; two are by Ralph E. Grim (1961, 1988)^{1,2} and one is by Richards A. Rowland (1968).³

Beginning in about 1985, interest in clays and clay-sized minerals and compounds, and in mineralogy and geochemistry in general, grew rapidly. At about the same time, the term *nano* came suddenly into widespread use in a variety of contexts. One consequence of this spreading interest in clays was that The Clay Minerals Society combined its meetings with those of other societies: the Soil Science Society of America; the American Chemical Society; the Mineralogical Society of America; the clay societies of France, Japan, and Spain; and the Association Internationale pour l'Étude des Argiles (AIPEA). This latter organization, coincidentally, is celebrating its 50th anniversary in 2013, as is The Clay Minerals Society.

- 1 Grim RE (1961) History of United States National Clay Conference. In: History and Future of the National Clay Conference, 10th National Conference, Austin, TX
- 2 Grim RE (1988) The history of the development of clay mineralogy. *Clays and Clay Minerals* 36: 97-101
- 3 Rowland RA (1968) History of The Clay Minerals Society. *Clays and Clay Minerals* 16: 319-321

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2014 CMS ANNUAL MEETING

May 17–21, 2014, at Texas A&M University,
College Station, Texas, USA

"Everything is Big: From Nanoparticles to Planets"

Events: Workshop on surface modification of clays and nanocomposites, field trips, 18 technical sessions

Information: <http://cms2014.tamu.edu>