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SEM 2013: 33rd MEETING OF THE SPANISH MINERALOGICAL SOCIETY

The 33rd Meeting of the Spanish Mineralogical Society (SEM 2013) was held in Caravaca de la Cruz (Murcia, Spain) between 24 and 28 June 2013. The meeting was coordinated by Francisco Guillén Mondejar (University of Murcia). The organizing committee included members of nine other institutions.

The meeting achieved two main objectives: (1) To give a well-deserved posthumous tribute to Rafael Arana Castillo, professor of crystallography and mineralogy (University of Murcia), who died in 2011, and (2) To promote the conservation and cultural and touristic use of our mineralogical heritage by holding the 10th International Seminar of the Spanish Mineralogical Society and several scientific field trips.

Scientific Communications and Lectures

Fifty communications were presented, 24 oral and 26 posters, involving nearly 200 scientists. Contributions covered topics on mineralogy, petrology, geochemistry, mineral resources, environmental sciences, archaeometry, the conservation of historical, geological and mining heritage, among others. The SEM 2013 program featured four plenary lectures: "Current status of the teaching of geology" (Amelia Calonge), "Origin of the southeastern Spanish volcanoes" (José Lopez Ruiz), "The strength of phyllosilicate-rich fault zones" (Daniel R. Faulkner) and "Remediation of marine mining waste in Chile and Peru" (Bernard Dold). All scientific contributions were published in volume 17 of *Macla*, the journal of the SEM.

Awards for Young Researchers

Awards for the best communications were given to: Cristina Fernández-Barranco, for "Thermal ageing of sepiolite / polyamide 6,6 nanocomposites," and Catalina Sánchez-Roa, for "Injected clastic dykes in the Galera fault zone."



Cristina Fernández-Barranco receiving her Young Researcher Award from Carlos Ayora (SEM president)



Catalina Sánchez-Roa receiving her Young Researcher Award from Carlos Ayora

10th International Seminar on Conservation of Mineralogical and Petrological Heritage and Its Touristic and Cultural Uses

This seminar was offered as the 10th Summer School on the Campus Mare Nostrum, which is the International Campus of the University of Murcia and the University of Cartagena. The seminar was open to all those interested in geological heritage and the management, use and conservation of the natural environment, including students, supporters of geology, professionals, teachers, researchers, tourism companies, associations and scientific societies, services for the protection of nature and society in general. The program included 7 lectures, which were published in volume 10 (2013) of the journal *Seminarios de la Sociedad Española de Mineralogía* (www.ehu.es/sem/revista/seminarios_m.htm#Vol10) (the titles below have been edited):



Field trip participants gathering in the Cehegín ornamental-rock quarry

- Arrufat L – The microscopic beauty of the mineral deposits in Southeastern Spain
- Calonge A – Current state of geology teaching, particularly the crystallography, mineralogy and petrology contents
- Carracedo JC – Unique geological characteristics of Mt. Teide as the basis for its inclusion on the World Heritage List
- Lozano RP – Moveable mineralogical and petrological heritage: The example of the Geominero Museum (Spanish Geological Survey, IGME, Madrid)
- Manteca JI – The situation of the geo-mining heritage in the region of Murcia and mining tourism as a sustainable alternative for its protection: Current regional and national status
- Martínez-Frías J – Meteorites and impacts: Research, cataloguing and geo-ethics
- Mata-Perelló J, Climent F – Geoparks, a Unesco-supported initiative for geoconservation and rural development: The Central Catalonia Geopark
- Palero FJ – The geological singularities of a worldwide patrimony: The giant mercury deposits of Almaden (Spain)
- Puga E, Díaz-de-Federico A, Rodríguez-Martínez-Conde JA, Lozano JA, Díaz-Puga MA – The patrimonial value of the Betic ophiolites: Rocks from the Jurassic ocean floor of the Tethys
- Guillén-Mondéjar F – Geodiversity and its geological heritage: The legacy of our planet to humanity. Proposals for use and management legislation based on international and Spanish regulations on geoconservation

Field Trips

Three field trips were held to highlight the rich mineralogical and petrological diversity of the region of Murcia:

- Geosites (IUGS, UNESCO) in Murcia: Neogene volcanoes of ultrapotassic rocks (Calasparra Moratalla, Cancarix and Jumilla) and the apatite deposit of Mina La Celia
- Ornamental rocks from Cehegín: Visit to the Marble Technology Center and the "Ivory Cream" ornamental-rock quarry of the Sierra de la Puerta
- Mineralogical and mining heritage of La Union mining area: La Union Mining Museum (Mina Groups-Vicenta), Mina-Cueva Victoria and Cabeza Rajao. Regeneration of Portman Bay.

Other Scientific Activities

Exposition "Original or Replica" of the Instituto Geológico y Minero of Spain, which includes a replica of Spain's largest meteorite, the Molina de Segura meteorite. House of Culture of Caravaca de la Cruz, 17–28 June

Documentary "The mystery of the giant crystals." House of Culture of Caravaca de la Cruz, 27 June