



Mineralogical Society of America



www.minsocam.org

PRESIDENT'S LETTER



Although MSA is committed to supporting all of its members, we offer special opportunities to our student members, as they are the next generation of mineralogists, petrologists, and geochemists. Our special membership rate of \$20/year provides student members with a subscription to *Elements* magazine and online access to our flagship journal *American Mineralogist* (both current issues and archive). Students also receive a 25% discount on MSA's many publications, including textbooks and the *Reviews in Mineralogy & Geochemistry* series (88 volumes and counting).

Student members receive discounted registration fees for any of MSA's short courses. Our most recent virtual short course on *Diamonds* was attended by a large number of students, who not only participated in the two-day live session, but were also given access to the recorded presentations to peruse at their leisure.

Student members are also eligible, and encouraged, to apply for MSA's annual grants of \$5,000 each for research in mineralogy/petrology, and one grant for research with a focus on crystallography. The first mineralogy/petrology grant was awarded in 1981 to a scholar who later became one of MSA's Presidents (Dr. William Carlson). The crystallography research grant, which was established by MSA founder Dr. Edward H. Kraus, was first awarded in 1973. Both types of grants are supported by endowment funds, to which MSA members contribute generously each year. Information about these grants, as well as the lists of past recipients, are available on MSA's new website at: <https://msaweb.org/awards-grants/>.

I am particularly proud of the special benefit MSA offers to our faculty members of MSA to nominate their exemplary students for a prestigious **MSA Undergraduate Prize**. A nomination consists of a letter to the MSA Executive Director with a description of the students' excellent work in the mineral sciences, which is signed by the faculty member and the department chair. The nominee receives a year's membership in MSA with all the benefits, a choice of an MSA publication (usually one of the *Reviews in Mineralogy & Geochemistry* volumes), and a handsome certificate to be awarded by the nominating department. **MSA Undergraduate Prize** winners are also recognized on the MSA website. The process is simple and provides an excellent opportunity to recognize and encourage an outstanding student. If you are an MSA member in a faculty position, please consider nominating one of your students at any time throughout the year. Information about the process is available on the MSA website or can be obtained from the MSA Business Office.

We welcome other creative ideas from our membership for programs and services to support and engage our student members.

Jeffrey Post
2023 MSA President

NOTES FROM CHANTILLY

- MSA 2023 membership renewals continue. Please renew today using the link on the MSA home page (www.msaweb.org) if you have not already done so.
- Members and Fellows who are in the senior, honorary, and life categories are sent renewal notices. They need not pay dues but are sent notices as the best way to prompt an update of membership information, particularly mail and e-mail addresses.

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Karen Hudson-Edwards was elected to a three-year term as a Director. She is an environmental geochemist and mineralogist and Professor in Sustainable Mining at the Camborne School of Mines, University of Exeter, UK. Her research focuses on understanding the geochemical and mineralogical mechanisms controlling the cycling of contaminants in mine wastes, mining-affected soils and waters, and other contaminated environments. She has published >100 peer-reviewed papers in these and related areas in collaboration with colleagues in microbiology, geomorphology, engineering, business, and social science. She has served once as a member of the Science Committee and twice as a theme leader of the Goldschmidt Conference, Chair of the GS Nominations Committee, and Chair of the F.W. Clarke Award Committee. She has also served as Chair of the Environmental Mineralogy Group and Publications Manager of the Mineralogical Society of Great Britain and Ireland.



Carme Huguet was also elected to a three-year term as a Director. She is an associate professor in the Department of Geosciences at Universidad de los Andes in Bogotá, Colombia. Her overall aim is to understand climate change and other anthropogenic impacts and how they will affect life on Earth, which can only be tackled in a multidisciplinary

way. She uses biomarkers and inorganic geochemistry tools to trace the fate of organic matter, past climate changes, and their impact on biogeochemical cycles to understand the links between terrestrial and marine biogeochemical processes, as well as multi-matrix studies to understand contamination. She served on the Executive Committee of the Organic Geochemistry Division of the Geochemical Society between 2016 and 2019.



Lucien Nana Yobo was elected to a two-year term as an Early-Career Director. He is a low-temperature isotope geochemist who uses non-traditional isotopes to investigate the effects of past changes in Earth's history from marine sedimentary rocks. Combined with these proxies, he uses numerical box models to understand how these global biogeochemical changes occurred. He holds a PhD from the University of Houston (USA) and is currently at Texas A&M University (USA) as an assistant professor.

CONTRIBUTIONS

Many members contribute to MSA by including a contribution with their annual dues and/or by responding to special appeals. The new MSA Forward Annual Fund supports upgrades to our websites and IT infrastructure. Depending on the wishes of the member, contributions are deposited with the principal of the MSA Endowment, J. Alexander Speer Outreach Fund, MSA Mineralogy/Petrology Fund, J. B. Thompson Fund, Edward H. Kraus Crystallographic Research Fund, F. Donald Bloss Fund, or Peter R. Buseck Lecture Fund. The income of these Funds is used to support MSA's research grants in crystallography, mineralogy, and petrology; the MSA undergraduate prizes; the Mineralogical Society of America Award; the Distinguished Public Service Award, the Dana Medal, the Roebling Medal; the website; and the Distinguished Lecturer program. If you have not done so previously, please consider contributing at the next opportunity.

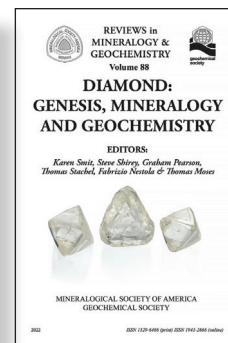
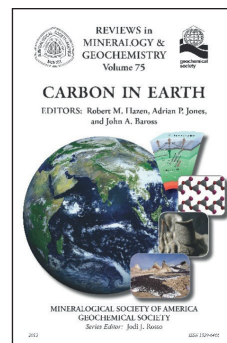
CHANGES TO MSA AWARDS NOMINATION PROCESS

MSA awards the Roebling Medal, Dana Medal, and MSA Award each year and the Distinguished Public Service Medal every other year. To encourage as many awards nominations as possible, the MSA Council has recently voted to change the nomination procedure. It is now a two-step process: Preliminary Nomination and Final Nomination. Preliminary nominations will consist of a Nomination Coversheet; a letter from the nominator (limit two pages); and the CV of the nominee. The names of three other individuals who are likely to supply support letters for the final nomination are optional at this stage. This preliminary package is due by March 10 and should be sent to Ann Benbow in the MSA Business office: abenbow@minsocam.org.

The awards committees will review the preliminary nominations and will notify nominators by April 10 if they are to submit a final nomination. The final nomination, which is due to the MSA Business Office by June 1, will consist of a completed Nomination Coversheet; a letter from the nominator outlining the candidate's qualifications in light of the criteria for the award (limit: two pages); a complete curriculum vitae and a bibliography of published works exclusive of abstracts, book reviews, and papers that have not yet been accepted for publication; and supporting letters from three (3) other individuals that are focused on how the candidate meets the criteria of the award (limit two pages per support letter). Final nomination packages that include more than three support letters will not be considered. Please visit the Awards and Grants section of the MSA website for details about each award. The Nomination Coversheet is available either online as a pdf file that you may copy from the screen or download to complete, or by mail from the MSA Business Office, 3635 Concorde Pkwy Ste 500, Chantilly, VA 20151-1110, USA, voice: +1 (703) 652-9950, fax: +1 (703) 652-9951, e-mail: abenbow@minsocam.org.

REVIEWS IN MINERALOGY AND GEOCHEMISTRY (RiMG)

RiMG is a series of multi-authored, (mostly) soft-bound volumes containing concise reviews of the literature and advances in theoretical and/or applied mineralogy, crystallography, petrology, and geochemistry. The content of each volume consists of fully developed text that can be used for self-study, research, or as a textbook for graduate-level courses. RiMG volumes are typically produced in conjunction with a short course but can also be published without a short course. There are currently 88 volumes in the series, the last of which was *Diamond: Mineralogy, Geochemistry, and Genesis* (2022). Volume 88 is Open Access online, but you can order a print copy from the MSA Bookstore. Other titles include: *Carbon in Earth* (open access), *Diffusion in Minerals and Melts*, *Oxygen in the Solar System*, *New Views of the Moon*, *Pore-Scale*



Geochemical Processes, and many more. The series is jointly published by the Mineralogical Society of America (MSA) and the Geochemical Society. Volumes are available both in hard copy and online via the MSA website: www.msaweb.org.

2023 CALENDAR

Order your 2023 16-month calendar today. Published by Lithographie, this year's calendar is entitled *Tsumeb*. Each month is illustrated with a stunning photograph of a mineral sample. Calendars can be purchased online at <https://msaweb.org/2023-calendar/>.



EVENTS

MSA will have a booth at the 2023 Joint North-Central and Southeastern Section Meeting (March 17–19, Reston, VA) of the Geological Society of America.

2023 Goldschmidt Conference: This conference, which is organized by the Geochemical Society and the European Association of Geochemistry, will be held from July 9 to 14 in Lyon, France. Abstracts are due March 1, 2023. Visit <https://conf.goldschmidt.info/goldschmidt/2023/meetingapp.cgi> for more information.

DID YOU KNOW?

The Mineralogy4Kids website is one of MSA's most popular offerings for the K–12 audience (<https://min4kids.org>). The free site has content and activities for grade-school children, their parents, and their teachers grouped into the following categories.

- Mineral Properties
- Mineral Groups
- Mineral Identification
- Minerals in Your House
- All About Crystals
- Rock Cycle
- Mineral Games

Please encourage elementary teachers and students you know to visit the site. Any feedback or suggestions are welcome and can be emailed to business@minsocam.org.