

The annual Swiss Geoscience meeting was held in Lausanne on November 18–19, 2022. During the meeting, the “Best Master’s Thesis Award” from the Swiss Geological Society and the “Paul Niggli Medal” were presented. Since the 100<sup>th</sup> birthday of Paul Niggli in 1988, the medal has been awarded by the Paul Niggli Foundation. This medal is Switzerland’s most prestigious “young scientist award” in Earth Sciences; it is open to researchers that are up to 35 years old or have received their doctorate in the last six years and work in the field of mineralogy, geochemistry, petrology, resource geology, or solid-Earth geophysics. For further information see the awards page on the SGS website at <https://geolsoc.ch/en/awards/>.

Below are short citations of the awardees. The committees of the two awards are looking forward to again receiving nominations of outstanding young scientists for these prizes.

With best wishes,

**Jörg Hermann** (President of the Swiss Geological Society)

## JULIANA TROCH RECEIVES THE 2022 PAUL NIGGLI MEDAL



The Board of the Paul Niggli Foundation decided, in their session on June 2, 2022, to award the Paul Niggli Medal for 2022 to **Dr. Juliana Troch** in recognition of her innovative research combining field work, experimental petrology, and modelling to understand the evolution of fluids in magmatic systems.

**Maria Schönbächler** (ETH Zürich)

On behalf of the Foundation Council of the Paul Niggli Stiftung

The Paul Niggli Medal is Switzerland’s most prestigious award for young Earth scientists who have made outstanding contributions in the research fields of mineralogy, geochemistry, petrology, resource geology, or solid-Earth geophysics. The Paul Niggli Medal honours and supports young ambassadors of Swiss geoscience, who are either Swiss citizens or obtained at least two of their academic degrees in the Swiss university system (BSc or MSc and usually their PhD).

The laudatio from Prof. Dr. Peter Ulmer and response of Dr. Juliana Troch can be found in the Swiss Journal of Geosciences volume 115, article 28, and is freely available at <https://sjg.springeropen.com/articles/10.1186/s00015-022-00428-7>.

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## METEORITICAL SOCIETY ANNUAL MEETING SCHEDULE

|      |  |
|------|--|
| 2023 | 13–18 August, Los Angeles, California, USA |
| 2024 | 28 July–2 August, Brussels, Belgium (EU)   |
| 2025 | 13–18 July, Perth, Australia               |
| 2026 | Dates TBD, Frankfurt, Germany (EU)         |

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## 2022 BEST THESIS AWARD



The winner of the 2022 Best Thesis Award from the Swiss Geological Society is **Kim Lemke** from the University Bern, now at the University of Lausanne for the work:

**“Ophiolitic Relicts in the Cima-Lunga Unit and Adula Nappe (Central Alps): Timing the Transition from High-Pressure Melting to Amphibolite Facies.”**

Kim studied high-grade metamorphic rocks from the Central Alps, focussing on petrography and petrology combined with trace element geochemistry and particularly the dating of metamorphic zircon and rutile. The jury was particularly impressed by Kim’s data-rich thesis. The following are some citations from the nomination letter of supervisor Daniela Rubatto.

“The topic of the thesis is one of the ‘holy grails’ of Swiss Alpine geology and the work of Kim delivered new results. The outcome of the thesis is the geochemical proof of the oceanic setting for the protolith of the high-pressure rocks, the reconstruction of their metamorphic conditions, including new evidence for melting at depth, and the surprisingly tight timing of the subduction and collisional stages. The conclusions are novel and add significant constraints to the geology of the Central Alps in particular, and subduction processes in general.

Kim demonstrated a strong aptitude for research, driven by curiosity and interest; she was always ready to go the extra mile to achieve a better outcome, and she understood that research sometimes has to deal with setbacks and change of plans. The final thesis is excellent, in content and presentation.”

**Jörg Hermann** (SGS president)

**Daniela Rubatto** (University of Berne)