



International Association of GeoChemistry

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IAGC AWARDS

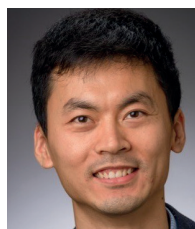
Harmon Distinguished Service Award 2023



Dr. Michael Kersten was born in 1956 and educated as a mineralogist. He has been conducting research in applied geochemistry for four decades. He started his career as a marine scientist in 1983 with Prof. Ulrich Förstner at the Hamburg University of Technology, Germany. Over 10 years, he participated in more than 50 marine RV cruises around Europe. For his postdoctoral fellowship, he joined the group of Prof. Werner Stumm at EAWAG (Switzerland) from 1992 to 1994, after which he returned as group leader

to the Baltic Sea Research Institute in Rostock, Germany. From 1997 until his retirement in 2022, he was Professor of Environmental Geochemistry at the Johannes Gutenberg University, Mainz, Germany. The topics of his studies evolved over time from characterization of intertidal and marine sediments, with a special emphasis on pore water geochemistry and early diagenesis, to thermodynamics of cements as waste disposal matrices, and contaminant retardation by minerals in soils and aquifer sediments. Professor Kersten used a wide-ranging spectrum of research techniques, from laboratory chemical analytics to advanced synchrotron X-ray techniques, including time-lapse nanotomography and μ -XAS. The goal was to understand the spatiotemporal reactive solute transport and microbial activities at the pore scale. In addition to his research, he was active in several national and international societies. He served as an officer of IAGC and as Editor-in-Chief of our IAGC/Elsevier journal *Applied Geochemistry* from 2013 to 2022. With his full dedication and active engagement in this service role, *Applied Geochemistry* reached exciting metrics such as a historically high WoS Impact Factor of 3.84 in 2022.

Kharaka Award 2023



Shuo Zhang is an associate professor in the Department of Hydraulic Engineering at Tsinghua University, Beijing, China. He received his PhD in Earth and Planetary Science from the University of California, Berkeley (USA) in 2014. He worked at the Aramco Global Research Centers-Houston from 2014 to 2019 before joining Tsinghua University. His research focuses on fluid-rock interactions in porous media, especially when related to climate change and global warming. He has worked on geochemical

mineralization of carbon dioxide during geological carbon sequestration, deep sea sediment-fluid interactions and reaction kinetics, and is currently also looking at terrestrial weathering of carbonate minerals and its role in removing atmospheric carbon dioxide. He has contributed over 30 journal publications in geochemistry, hydrology, and marine science covering theoretical, experimental, and modeling approaches.

IAGC Fellow



Philippe Négrel was awarded a PhD in isotope geochemistry and an accreditation to supervise research work (HdR). He specialized as an isotope geochemist for 30 years and has made interdisciplinary contributions in the fields of surface water-groundwater interactions, water-rock interaction, continental erosion, and tracing actual and paleo circulation. His achievements are well reflected in publications in top journals, with more than 183 being referenced in the Web of Science (H-index 44)

and 335 communications in international conferences. Since his accreditation to supervise research work in 2005, he has been acting as a PhD supervisor and has trained ten PhD students and several postdoctoral fellows. He is currently supervising one PhD student. Additionally, he was involved in the organization of scientific events, acquired experience as a member of conference organizing committees and scientific committees for interna-

tional conferences and workshops. He is a committed research coordinator with experience in supporting the research of a large team of scientists (geochemists, geologists, isotope specialists, and chemists) and systematic reviewers. He gained immense skill in handling multiple projects with tight deadlines being involved in EU projects (Coordinator, Work Package Leader) and national research projects with French public bodies (project manager for ADEME and water agencies, and regional councils' projects). He gained a great deal of experience in managing and coordinating research, being Deputy Director of Divisions in BRGM (2010–2022) and developing relationships with companies for scientific contract research and co-funded research projects and for communication activities of the divisions. He is currently involved in major international bodies and international programs, as a member or chair of international working groups dedicated to geochemistry (President of the International Association of Geochemistry IAGC 2017–2018, Chair of the EuroGeoSurveys Geochemistry Expert Group since 2018), to sediments transfer (Steering Board member of the European Sediment Network SedNet) and to soil health (EuroGeoSurveys delegate in the Enlarged Soil Expert Group for the implementation of the European Soil Strategy to 2030 to prepare the European Law on Soil).

ELSEVIER/IAGC PHD STUDENT RESEARCH GRANTS



Soisiri Charin graduated from the University of Colorado Boulder, USA with a BA in geological sciences and from the University of New Mexico, USA with an MS in Earth and planetary science. She is currently a 2nd-year PhD student at the University of Minnesota, USA in the Earth and Environmental Science Department. The primary objective of her research is to gain insights into the marine potassium cycle emphasizing the seafloor hydrothermal systems through the use of MC-ICP-MS to analyze stable potassium isotopes and hydrothermal experiments.



Rajarshi Dasgupta is a geographer who studies earth surface processes and anthropogenic impacts on the natural environment, particularly in the tropics, using techniques from geomorphology, low-temperature geochemistry, and social sciences. He completed his BSc Honours and MA in geography from the University of Calcutta, Kolkata, India and Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi, India, respectively. He also has an MSc in geology, with a specialization in environmental geochemistry, from

the University of Cincinnati, USA. He is currently a PhD candidate in geography at Presidency University, Kolkata, India, where he is investigating weathering and landscape denudation in the Rarh region of eastern India. The Rarh is an important physiographic region, being a transitional zone between the Chotanagpur Plateau to the west and the Ganga Delta to the east. The area is characterized by the presence of laterites that either formed in situ (primary laterites) or developed over allochthonous materials (secondary laterites) and experienced high rates of soil loss due to extensive gully. Rajarshi plans to investigate major and trace element geochemistry of the Rarh's laterites, sedimentary deposits, and rivers together with the area's geochronology to discern the spatial variations in weathering pathways, intensity of laterization, and denudation rates across the region



Cecilia Inés Gutiérrez graduated from University of Buenos Aires, Argentina in 2020 with a degree in geological sciences. During her coursework, she undertook internships in oil and gas where she studied different basins and their petroleum systems, such as the Neuquina and Malvinas basins. In 2021, she started her PhD with a scholarship granted by the Argentinian National Scientific and Technical Research Council at the Austral Center of Scientific

Research in Ushuaia, Tierra del Fuego, Argentina. Her PhD research focuses on the characterization of the geometries of the external Fuegian Andes, and aims to establish constraints on the timing of deformation and cooling along the strike of the thrust-fold belt to develop a tectonic model for the region. Given the conditions of the area, geochemical studies, such as vitrinite reflectance, geochronology (detrital zircon U/Pb dating), and thermochronology ((U-Th-Sm)/He and fission-track ages in apatites and zircons) are key to achieving the main objectives of her research. She is also currently working at the University of Tierra del Fuego, Argentina as a teaching assistant.



Thomas LaBarge received his BSc in Earth science from Montana State University, USA in 2020 and his MSc in geological sciences from Indiana University, USA in 2022. He is now a PhD student in the Department of Earth and Atmospheric Sciences at Indiana University Bloomington, USA. He is interested in paleoecology and reconstructing the biology of animals in deep time. For his dissertation research, he is using stable isotopes to investigate how the community interactions of the Serengeti ecosystem

have changed over time. He is interested in determining how animal diets, interspecific competition structures, and predator-prey relationships have changed between the Pleistocene environments of Olduvai Gorge and Laetoli and the modern ecosystem of Serengeti National Park. To accomplish this, he is measuring N, C, and Zn isotopes from tooth enamel to examine the diets of modern and extinct animals and investigate the contribution of various dietary components to isotopic niche space. He hopes to apply his work to both the interpretation of the ecological relationships of early hominins and the conservation of the modern Serengeti ecosystem.



Priya Minhas earned her BSc and MSc in geology from the University of South Wales, UK. After graduating, she completed a Postgraduate Certificate in Education at the University of Warwick, UK before gaining employment as a geography teacher. Priya is currently completing her PhD in volcanology at Swansea University, UK. Her research focuses on using $^{40}\text{Ar}/^{39}\text{Ar}$ geochronology to determine the spatio-temporal evolution and eruptive recurrence rates of monogenetic volcanism in Armenia. Her aim

is to use new $^{40}\text{Ar}/^{39}\text{Ar}$ ages to inform statistical modeling to forecast the location and timing of future eruptions. The ages will also be used in combination with SEM and XCT to examine the role of sample vesicularity and crystallinity on $^{40}\text{Ar}/^{39}\text{Ar}$ systematics. Overall, the project aims to provide a case study to better understand the nature and evolution of monogenetic volcanism and offer the prospect of dating traditionally difficult-to-date but common volcanic scoria.



Xianjiang Zeng received his BS degree in Groundwater Science and Engineering from China University of Geosciences (Beijing), China in 2019. The goals of his present research are to clarify the groundwater DOM characteristics in epidemic areas of chronic kidney disease with unknown etiology (CKDu) in Sri Lanka, explore their impact on CKDu-related groundwater quality, and recognize CKDu-related groundwater in CKDu-epidemic areas. Based on these goals, he is using Fourier transform

ion cyclotron resonance mass spectrometry (FT-ICR MS) and excitation-emission matrix (EEM) fluorescence spectroscopy to obtain DOM information about molecular and fluorescent characteristics.

APPLIED GEOCHEMISTRY EXCELLENCE IN REVIEW AWARDS

Since the founding of Applied Geochemistry in 1986, many outstanding reviewers have helped shape our Society's journal and our success as a Society. We are indebted to those contributions, and starting in 2020, we began highlighting the reviewers who deserve extra recognition. The editorial board of Applied Geochemistry launched our annual "Excellence in Review Award" to recognize the dedicated community of expert reviewers inside and outside our organization. We offer a big THANK YOU to all our awardees, and congratulations!

Ellina Bernard – Empa, Laboratory for Concrete & Construction Chemistry, Switzerland

Martin Blumenberg – Geoscience Center, Geobiology Group, Georg-August-University Göttingen, Germany

Tiziano Boschetti – Department of Chemistry, Life Sciences and Environmental Sustainability-University of Parma, Italy

Wengeng Cao – The Institute of Hydrogeology and Environmental Geology, CAGS, China

Zeljka Fiket – Ruđer Bošković Institute, Croatia

Adam Jew – SLAC National Accelerator Laboratory, USA

Peter Knappett – Department of Geology & Geophysics, Texas A&M University, USA

Chengshuai Liu – State Key Laboratory of Environmental Geochemistry, Institute of Geochemistry, Chinese Academy of Sciences, China

Peng Liu – School of Environmental Studies, China University of Geosciences, China

Richard Metcalf – Quintessa Ltd., UK

Kunfu Pi – School of Environmental Studies, China University of Geosciences, China

David Polya – Department of Earth and Environmental Sciences, University of Manchester, UK

Joerg Prietzel – School of Life Sciences, Technical University of Munich, Germany

Monia Procesi – National Institute of Geophysics and Volcanology, Italy

Bernard Sanjuan – French Geological Survey, BRGM, France

Guangcai Wang – School of Water Resources and Environment, China University of Geosciences, China

Zhen Wang – Nicholas School of the Environment, Duke University, USA

Oliver Warr – Department of Earth Sciences, University of Toronto, Canada

Deli Wu – School of Environmental Science and Engineering, Tongji University, China

Guodong Zheng – Northwest Institute of Eco-Environment and Resources, Chinese Academy of Sciences, China