IAGOD was pleased to sponsor the 14th International Platinum Symposium at Cardiff University on 4–7 July 2023. The sponsorship was facilitated through the Commission on Ore Deposits in Mafic and Ultramafic Rocks (CODMUR). The symposium attracted 170 delegates from 20 countries for four days of presentations and posters. Although delegates had the option to attend online, most decided to attend in person, and it was fantastic to experience the lively atmosphere of an international conference again. For many delegates, including myself, it was their first experience of an international conference after the pandemic, and the dynamic discussions during breaks and poster sessions demonstrated how important social interactions are in developing and testing ideas. IAGOD sponsored the icebreaker reception and student attendance, and it was instrumental for the organisers to waive registration fees for students from developing countries.

The symposium covered the diverse aspects of academic and applied research on the platinum-group elements from the processes of global fractionation to the intricate complexities of solid substitution and mineralogy. Best student presentations included Marie Kieffer's (University of Quebec at Chicoutimi, Canada, 1st prize) study on apatite geochemistry, Maria Cherdantseva's (University of Western Australia, 1st prize) investigation into alkali metals in sulfide liquids, Fangfang Guo's (Oulu University, Finland) presentation on the ore potential of NE Fennoscandia, Matt Divers's (Glasgow University, UK) study of nanoscale mineralisation, Erin Thompson's (Leicester University, UK) study of the northern limb of the Bushveld Complex, and Emily Madoff’s (University of St. Andrews, UK) structural analysis of Ilmaaussaq kakortokites. Other highlights included the novel use of ruthenium isotopes to examine the evolution of the Archean mantle (Mario Fischer-Gödde), and the application of machine learning to exploration targeting (Alok Porwal, Shenghong Yang) and lithological logging (Tom Buckle).

The conference dinner was held at the Cornerstone Restaurant, where Alan Boudreau, Sarah-Jane Barnes, Steve Barnes, and Judith Kinnaird received honours for their long-term commitments to the PGE research community. Highlights from the symposium will be presented in special issues in Mineralium Deposita and the Canadian Journal of Mineralogy and Petrology.

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