

German Mineralogical Society

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FROM THE PRESIDENT



Dear members and friends,

At the end of 2023, a number of people concluded their service on the steering committee of the DMG and the recent elections have successfully helped to fill those positions. I would like to thank in particular two members, Gerhard Franz and Klaus-Dieter Grevel, who have served on the committee for the past nine years (2015–2023) as treasurer and secretary, respectively. Their

experience in running the DMG's business was invaluable for me and my predecessor chairmen, and the constructive collaboration and strong support in all our meetings and conferences over the past years have been very much appreciated. Klaus-Dieter Grevel continues to be part of the DMG steering committee as the newly elected treasurer. His previous job as the society's secretary was taken over by Ina Alt. The fourth member of the steering committee, past-president Friedhelm von Blanckenburg, has left the inner circle and his place is now filled by newly elected Frank Schilling, designated chairman for 2025–2026. I want to thank Friedhelm for his years of service for the DMG and the many ideas and initiatives he has brought about. I also want to thank all the newly elected members of the board and the steering committee for running for all the various offices that carry the DMG and for accepting the appointment. I am looking forward to working with the new team in 2024.

> Yours sincerely, Horst Marschall

DMG YOUNG SCIENTIST AWARDS

Call for Applications 2024

At the annual meeting of the German Mineralogical Society (DMG) the **Paul Ramdohr Award** is given for the best oral and poster presentations by a student. Student DMG members may apply when submitting an abstract for the 102nd annual DMG meeting in 2024, which is enclosed in the 4th European Mineralogical Conference emc² (https:// emc-2024.org/). The application form can be downloaded from https:// www.dmg-home.org/fileadmin/user_upload/Form-Paul-Ramdohr-Preis_v2024.pdf.

The **Beate Mocek Prize** of the DMG is intended to promote female scientists in an early stage of their career in the field of mineralogy, specifically in the areas of petrology and geochemistry. This award was created in memory of the geochemist and petrologist Beate Mocek by her family in 2013. Female undergraduate or PhD students who are also DMG members are eligible to apply. Please submit your application to Horst Marschall (marschall@em.uni-frankfurt.de).

Awardees 2023



Last year's **Beate Mocek Prize** was awarded to **Victoria Kohn** (University Vienna) for her part of the international FWF-ARRS-funded (a joint project of the Austrian research fund and the Slovenian Research Agency) research project "Mineral Inclusions in Garnet: Correlating Shape and Crystallographic Orientation Relationships with Compositional and Interface Characteristics to Infer Inclusion Origins" at the Department of Lithosphere

Research. As part of her dissertation, she investigated the controlling factors of mineral phase relationships between rutile inclusions and the garnet as host mineral. Victoria Kohn used various analytical methods, both 2D and 3D, providing valuable new insights into these relationships between crystallographic and chemical intra- and intergranular processes. Her dedicated and independent work and her well-founded scientific contribution are therefore honored with the Beate-Mocek Prize. The award was used by Victoria to attend the "Fluid and Melt Inclusions Protagonists in Palermo" workshop, which allowed her to deepen her knowledge concerning the identification, characterization, and use of fluid and melt inclusions, both in science and industry, in addition to new analytical methods.



The **Paul Ramdohr Award** 2023 was given to **Rebecca Volkmann** (GFZ Potsdam) for her presentation "*Tracking Transformation Processes in the Mg-Phosphate Mineral System – A Mineralogical Study for Environmental Applications*", which was presented at MinWien2023 in Vienna. This study investigated the transformation and decomposition of struvite at different temperatures in both closed and open systems over a period of nearly a

whole year. Ms. Volkmann showed that in the open system at room temperature, a slow transformation to newberyite was observed, while at higher temperatures of up to 60 °C, it transformed at a higher rate into dittmarite. In closed systems, struvite remained stable. This is an important finding because agricultural struvite fertilizer can lose up to 15% of its ammonia content after 10 months of open storage at 22 °C. Therefore, Ms. Volkmann recommends storing struvite fertilizer only in closed containers. This is crucial as today's society must act more resource-conscious and environmentally friendly than ever before.

Andreas Wittke, Mannheim



conference • Dublin, Ireland 18-23 August 2024

FEBRUARY 2024

SOCIETY NEWS



Field trip to the Erzgebirge, Germany, 2021 (Group photo). PHOTO: M. WILKE.

DFG SPP 2238, DYNAMICS OF ORE METAL ENRICHMENT – DOME

The global demand for resources, especially for metals required within our highly technological society and for metals necessary for the current development of CO₂-neutral economic cycles, is already leading to the search for new metallic deposits. Central to this search is the development of new exploration concepts and methods based on an improved understanding of ore-forming processes. The necessity of such efforts is widely known within the field of mineralogy and has been excellently illustrated, e.g., by publications on the criticality of various metals (see e.g., Elements past issues "Mineral Resources and Sustainability" (vol. 13, no. 5) and "Geometallurgy" (vol. 19, no. 6)). In addition to increased research on and re-evaluation of already-known ore deposits at various institutes within Germany, e.g., by programs funded by the Federal Ministry of Education and Research in the last decade, basic research on ore-forming processes has also been significantly funded by the German Research Foundation (DFG) since 2020 through the Priority Programme 2238 (DOME). This SPP will now enter its second funding phase in 2023 for another three years.

DOME - Dynamic of Ore Metal Enrichment - was initiated by a Germany-wide interdisciplinary group of experts and is coordinated by scientists from the University of Potsdam, University of Münster, University of Freiburg, and the German Research Centre for Geosciences (GFZ). In the first phase, the funding comprised 26 projects on different topics of metal enrichment. In addition to newly gained research knowledge, the SPP will create a new generation of geoscientists with cuttingedge expertise in the field of ore geology research within Germany. In the first phase, 18 doctoral and 8 post-doctoral positions were created. The same number of projects will also be funded in the next three years. The well over 50 publications and numerous more still to come out of the first phase demonstrate the successful execution and complexity of the research projects in DOME, which also strives to intersect the focal points of the individual projects. Over the entire DOME funding period, almost all possibilities for evaluating ore-forming processes are used (e.g. fieldwork, geochemistry, experimental approaches, numerical modelling).

The projects of the two funding periods are distributed among numerous German universities and research institutes in 17 German cities. There is great value in the methodological and disciplinary diversity of the research projects, as a broad exchange takes place in the jointly organ-

ised DOME workshops and meetings. Young scientists not only present their research, but are also encouraged to engage in interdisciplinary exchange and learn new methods. The workshops organised for all DOME young researchers are intended to provide SPP members with an overview of ore-forming systems and processes, as well as common and newly developed methods. Further, they also enable contact with leading scientists from Germany and abroad. The workshops include field trips and introductions to modelling and experimental and analytical methods. These meetings are also open to interested (young) scientists who are not directly funded by the DOME SPP. All information on approved projects, research highlights, and meeting/ workshop announcements can be found on the DOME website (www. uni-potsdam.de/en/spp2238/). If you have any questions, please contact us at spp2238@geo.uni-potsdam.de.

Maximilian Korges, University Potsdam

DMG SHORT COURSES 2024

As before, DMG will support several short courses next year. All courses will be aimed primarily at advanced-level undergraduate and graduate students but, as always, are open to more senior researchers as well. Nonlocal student members of DMG will be eligible for travel support to the amount of € 100. Further information can be found at https:// www.dmg-home.org/aktuelles/doktorandenkurse/.

(1) **Metal Stable Isotopes as Fingerprints in the Earth and the Environment**, GFZ Potsdam and FU Berlin, Geosciences, Friedhelm von Blanckenburg, Patrick Frings, 8–13 April 2024 (patrick.frings@gfz-potsdam.de, f.v.b@fu-berlin.de)

(2) **Solid-state NMR Spectroscopy, Institute for Geology, Mineralogy and Geophysics**, Ruhr University Bochum, Michael Fechtelkord, 21–24 May 2024 (michael.fechtelkord@rub.de)

(3) In-situ Analysis of Isotopes and Trace Elements by Femtosecond Laser Ablation ICP-MS, Institute for Mineralogy, Leibniz University Hannover, Ingo Horn, Marina Lazarov, Martin Oeser, Stefan Weyer, TBA Summer/Fall 2024 (s.weyer@mineralogie. uni-hannover.de)

(4) **Application of Diffusion Studies to the Determination of Timescales in Geochemistry and Petrology, Institute for Geology, Mineralogy and Geophysics**, Ruhr University Bochum, Sumit Chakraborty, Ralf Dohmen, TBA Summer/Fall 2024 (sumit. chakraborty@rub.de)