DVGeo 2023 – A SHORT REVIEW

In 2023, the DVGeo, as umbrella organization of geosciences in Germany, hosted various events to inform decision-makers from political and administrative sectors on core geoscientific topics such as raw materials and carbon capture storage.

The DVGeo continues to reinforce its activities on “Geosciences in School” owing to the fact that geoscience remains excluded from the secondary school curriculum in Germany. The DVGeo organized the inaugural German Geosciences Olympiad in 2023. This nationwide competition is based on school knowledge from geography, as well as biology, chemistry, and physics, thus providing deeper insights into the geosciences. The German Geosciences Olympiad is also the national selection competition for the established International Earth Science Olympiad (IESO). This Olympiad was designed and organized by representatives from scientific societies from paleontology, mineralogy, geology, and geophysics, as well as the management of DVGeo. The event has a two-stage structure and was strongly supported by the geo-community. The four winners will take part in the IESO, which will take place in China in 2024.

German Geosciences Olympiad: Winner Meret Urban (left) with her teacher Tom Fleischhauer (right) from Jena, Thuringia. Photo: DVGeo.

DMG SECTION MEETING 2024

Petrology/Petrophysics & Geochemistry

Save the date for June 7–8, 2024 in Karlsruhe for the next joint meeting of the DMG Petrology/Petrophysics and Geochemistry sections, where the research activities of both sections will be presented together. Traditionally, the event is intended to offer young scientists (master and doctoral students, and postdoctoral researchers) a forum to present their own work as a talk or poster.

Location

The meeting will take place on the southern campus of the Karlsruhe Institute of Technology (KIT). The exact building location for lectures will be announced later.

Schedule

The event will start on June 7 at 2 p.m. and is expected to end on June 8 at 4 p.m. with awards for oral presentations and posters. The poster session will take place on June 7 at 5 p.m. The traditional BBQ thereafter offers possibilities to exchange ideas and maintain old contacts or make new ones in a convivial atmosphere.

SOCIETY NEWS

Costs

A contribution towards expenses of 35 € is granted for the various catering costs. As always, travelling DMG student members can apply for a travel allowance of up to 100 €.

Registration and Abstract

The expected deadline for registration and abstract submission is May 3, 2024. The abstract template and registration website for the meeting will be announced soon via the email list and at https://www.dmg-home.org/.

Overnight accommodation

There are several hotels and B&B options near the campus or downtown, which are well connected to the public transport or close by foot.

We hope that many will find their way to Karlsruhe and look forward to hosting this meeting at KIT.

Kirsten Drüppel, Armin Zeh, and Frank Schilling (Karlsruhe)

PREDICTIVE GEOMETALLURGY SHORT COURSE IN FREIBERG (SAXONY)

“Predictive Geometallurgy” was the topic of the 18th Freiberg Short Course in Economic Geology held at the Helmholtz Institute for Resource Technology (HIF) in Freiberg (Saxony) from December 11 to 15, 2023.

The organizers and lecturers were Raimon Tolosana-Delgado (HIF), Max Frenzel (HIF), and Julian Oritz (Queen’s University, Canada). The course addressed interested participants with background knowledge in the field of deposit geology, mineral and ore processing, and/or mining engineering. The number of participants was limited to 30. The course was divided into one morning and one afternoon session and included lectures and exercises.

Apart from a general introduction, the first lectures and exercises dealt with the handling and collection of data that allow the economic and geological characterization of a deposit. An optimal deposit model, which is influenced by many factors, should lead to the optimal exploitation of a deposit. To achieve this aim, methods and approaches from geology, ore characterization, geostatistics, comminution technology, and the mining industry were presented during the course. Guided tours through the HIF’s flotation and analytical laboratories were also offered. The tours not only allowed participants an opportunity to learn more about what they had heard throughout the short course, but also provided an insight into current research topics.

The Predictive Geometallurgy short course participants and lecturers. Photo: HIF Freiberg.
One challenge is to include all of the aspects mentioned in the lectures in models that should produce feasible predictions. The problem of finding the best possible way to model potential uncertainties was also discussed. The lecture series was concluded with two case studies that illustrated these challenges.

In the exercises, the participants were able to try out various models that integrated aspects from the lectures on their own laptops. The programming language R was mandatory for the course, and an optional introductory course was offered on the morning of the first day. During the exercises and after the lectures, interesting discussions took place, which often continued during the coffee and lunch breaks. At the end of the first day, a barbecue was organized for interdisciplinary exchange among the diverse group of participants. The course ended with a feedback and discussion session about the future of predictive geometallurgy.

A big thank you goes to the organizers and HIF staff for the successful and very informative course.

Elisa Winkes (JGU Mainz)