



Geochemical Society

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THE 34th V.M. GOLDSCHMIDT CONFERENCE

The annual Goldschmidt Conference of the Geochemical Society (GS) and the European Association of Geochemistry (EAG) was held as a hybrid conference in Chicago and online from August 18 to 23, 2024. Many people contributed to the success of the meeting by volunteering as theme and session chairs, grant application reviewers, mentors, student helpers, DEI advocates, and more. All scientific sessions were available to delegates attending in person and remotely. Talks were also recorded and available to registered delegates for 30 days after the meeting, allowing people to watch sessions they couldn't attend.

Approximately 2,450 delegates from 70 countries gathered in person and online to participate in this year's conference. The ratio of in-person/remote attendance was approximately 80/20 and students made up 30% of attendees.

Total attendance by country	
USA	1112
China	234
India	216
Canada	162
United Kingdom	78
Australia	72
Germany	68
Japan	60
France	57
Korea, Republic of (South)	42
Switzerland	34
Brazil	24
Poland	16
Italy	14
Netherlands	14
Nigeria	14
Other (55 countries):	233



The Local Organizing Committee (LOC) was co-chaired by Thomas Johnson and Craig Lundstrom (University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, USA) and included Annie Bauer, Selva Marroquin, and Emily Mixon (University of Wisconsin, Madison, USA), Max Berkelhammer and David Hernández Uribe (University of Illinois Chicago, USA), Maggie Osburn (Northwestern University, USA), and Jacob Waldbauer (University of Chicago, USA). The Science Committee, co-chaired by Elizabeth Griffith (The Ohio State University, USA) and Tamsin Mather (University of Oxford, UK), included Thomas Johnson, Sujoy Mukhopadhyay (University of California, Davis, USA), Martin Reich (Universidad de Chile), Barbara Sherwood Lollar (University of Toronto, Canada), Elisabeth Sikes (Rutgers University, USA), Andy Smye (Penn State University, USA), and Yuichiro Ueno (Tokyo Institute of Technology, Japan).

Members of both committees contributed to ensuring a very productive and fun conference experience for all. The Science Committee, theme chairs, and session leads did an outstanding job reviewing and organizing the abstracts into a coherent and well-organized program, combining in-person and online oral presentations and posters. The LOC planned an engaging series of lunchtime programs on career development, DEI, and public policy topics.



The GS and EAG welcomed a new class of Geochemistry Fellows during the conference.

A special addition for Goldschmidt 2024 was "Theme 14: Cross-cutting Theme: Geochemistry Informing the Public and Policy for a Better World," which included four exciting sessions: Advancing Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion in Geochemistry; Industry-Academic Alliances for Geochemistry; 25 years of GEOROC and PetDB; and Celebrating the 3rd Edition of the Treatise on Geochemistry. Abstracts presented in other themes that included a public policy or science communication component were also cross-listed with Theme 14. Altogether, the presentations in this theme highlighted ways that science is influencing the public discourse.

The Goldschmidt Conference offered many opportunities for early career scientists to expand their knowledge and networks. These included career development workshops, Meet the Plenary lunches, and the spectacular Early Career Mixer and Chicago Blues Night at the Buddy Guy's Legends blues club. Special thanks to the outstanding student helper team, which contributed to the smooth running of events throughout the week, and congratulations to Edoardo Ammannati and the helper teams for winning the 2024 Distinguished Service Award. The mentor/mentee program returned for this year's conference and aimed to pair mentees with an experienced scientist mentor to help them navigate the conference either in person or remotely. This program is designed for novice conference attendees, students, and early career scientists. With over 300 mentee applications, it is clearly an important initiative for students and early career folks—we strongly encourage all those who are interested in being a mentor at the 2025 Goldschmidt Conference in Prague to apply during registration. Thank you to all the mentors who participated this year and made a difference for the mentees!



Legendary blues artist and Rock and Roll Hall of Fame member Buddy Guy performed at his eponymous club during the Monday evening social event.

This year, the daily plenary talks featured captivating and important topics ranging from climate change to the chemistry of the inner Earth. Monday's plenary was given by Corinne Le Quéré (University of East Anglia, UK) on "Carbon Storage by the Natural Land and Ocean Reservoirs in a Changing Climate". On Tuesday, Jiubin Chen (SESS, Tianjin University, China) gave the Paul Gast Lecture on "Tracing Metal Adventures from Earth to Life". Ellen Stofan (Smithsonian, USA) presented "Space for a Sustainable Planet" on Wednesday and Catherine Chauvel (Institut de Physique du Globe de Paris, France) presented "Geochemistry and Inner Earth" on Thursday. The final plenary was given by Christopher Reddy (Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution, USA) on "Science Communication in a Crisis". All plenary lectures can be viewed online at www.youtube.com/@goldschmidtconf.

The 2024 conference offered early career grants to participants in several categories. These included students and recently graduated scientists from countries with low-income or lower-middle-income economies. With support from the U.S. National Science Foundation, geoscience diversity grants supported students from underrepresented groups in the U.S. NASA also provided support for planetary science grants. In total, 37 grants were awarded. Additionally, 245 remote participants from countries with low and lower-middle income economies received free registration for the conference.

We invite you to revisit some Goldschmidt #socialmedia content! Targeted Film (@TagetedFilms) created numerous short videos during the week featuring conversations with conference committee folks, members of the GS and EAG, and conference attendees. You can find these videos by searching #GoldschmidtTV on X (x.com) or on YouTube



Plenary sessions were held in the Hilton Chicago's historic Grand Ballroom.



The student helper team assisted delegates at registration and in every session throughout the week.



Goldschmidt brings together scientists from 70 countries in person and remotely.

at www.youtube.com/@goldschmidtconf. New this year, Goldschmidt shared several interesting and impactful abstracts on X through the #Newsworthy hashtag—why not scroll through during your next coffee break? Find them on Goldschmidt's X account, now named @goldschmidt2025 in preparation for next year's conference.

Finally, a successful Goldschmidt would not be possible without the support of generous sponsors and supporting societies. Thirty exhibitors shared their expertise throughout the week in the exhibit hall and during lunchtime seminars. The GS and EAG wish to thank our principal co-sponsor, the Geochemical Society of Japan, and the many other societies represented at the meeting. Goldschmidt is an event created by and for the international geochemistry community and we thank everyone who contributed to a great conference this year!



On the final evening of the conference, delegates enjoyed a private evening at the Field Museum.