



# Mineralogical Society of America



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## PRESIDENT'S LETTER



I am excited to announce that we are moving forward with planning an MSA Symposium in February 2026 in Tucson, Arizona! The workshop will follow the Tucson Gem and Mineral Show and will allow people to attend both. We hope to plan some activities at the end of the Tucson Gem and Mineral Show, a possible field trip, and, of course, opportunities for sharing our science! The venue for the Symposium is the Pima County Historic Courthouse in downtown

Tucson, which is also the location of The University of Arizona's Alfie Norville Gem & Mineral Museum. Keep your eyes on MSA communications over the coming weeks for more information. If you are interested in being involved in the planning, please reach out to Ann Benbow at [abenbow@minsocam.org](mailto:abenbow@minsocam.org).

It is also the time of year when we announce our student research grant recipients. Congratulations to this year's grantees! I am constantly amazed at the diversity of science in which the students are engaged. The work of recent grantees illustrates this diversity, ranging from probing timescales and depths of magmatic processes, investigating the structure and behavior of mantle minerals, determining mechanisms of precipitation and isotopic behavior in carbonate minerals, probing the sequestration of lead in the environment, determining the nature of phase transitions, teasing out fluid-rock and mineral-melt interactions through trace element and isotopic tracers, and understanding the origin of melts on the Moon! I am also pleased by the geographic diversity of grant recipients, who come from all over the U.S. and from other countries as well.

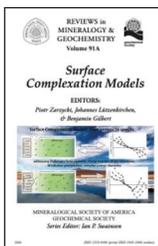
**Sarah Penniston-Dorland**

## NOTES FROM CHANTILLY

- 2026 Renewal Season!** MSA will start its 2026 renewal season in September. Dues are the same as in 2025: Regular Members and Fellows (\$90); Early Career Members (\$50); Student Members (\$20); Senior Members (\$0); Sustaining Members (\$240 – membership plus a \$150 contribution to support MSA's many activities). You can renew via the home page of MSA's website: [www.msaweb.org](http://www.msaweb.org). At that time, we hope that you will also make a contribution to one or more of MSA's funds. These funds support our student research grants, lecture series, websites, education and outreach activities, awards, and much more.

## REVIEWS IN MINERALOGY & GEOCHEMISTRY (RiMG) VOLUME 91A: SURFACE COMPLEXATION MODULES

The latest volume in the *RiMG* series is available both in print and online. The editors of Surface Complexation Modules are Piotr Zarzycki, Johannes Lützenkirchen, and Benjamin Gilbert. The Editor of the *RiMG* series is Ian Swainson, and the Managing Editor of production is Christine Elrod. For more information and how to order: <https://msaweb.org/volume-91a-surface-complexation-models/>.



## 2025 STUDENT RESEARCH GRANT RECIPIENTS

Each year, MSA solicits proposals from its student members to support their research. Three \$5,000 grants are awarded: Two from the Mineralogy/Petrology Fund, and one from the Edward D. Kraus Crystallographic Fund. We are delighted to announce the two 2025 recipients for the research grants in mineralogy and petrology from MSA's Mineralogy/Petrology Research Fund. They are:



**Victoria Cassidy**, University of Southern California, USA. – “Exploring Mechanisms of Microbialite Mineralization through mapping *in situ* CaCO<sub>3</sub> precipitation and Microbial Cell Position,” and



**Oluwaseye Oyetade**, Texas Tech University, USA. – “Geochemical and molecular simulation study of rare earth elements' (REE) partitioning by hydrothermal chlorite.”

The 2025 recipient for the research grant in crystallography from the Edward H. Kraus Crystallographic Research Fund is:



**Dongyoun Chung**, Pennsylvania State University, USA – “A new approach to understanding the mechanism of dolomitization: Time-resolved X-ray diffraction of the calcite-to-dolomite transformation.”

## DID YOU KNOW?

MSA has a number of Open Access publications and resources that are available via its website: <https://msaweb.org/open-access-publications/>. In addition to these, there is the Handbook of Mineralogy (<https://handbookofmineralogy.org/>); teaching resources (<https://msaweb.org/teachingminpet/>); Minerals Day website ([www.mineralsday.org](http://www.mineralsday.org)); and Mineralogy for Kids (<https://min4kids.org/>). In addition, there is a collection of videos on MSA's YouTube Channel covering mineralogical topics, as well as career options, mineral use in the arts and humanities, mineral photography, gemology, and much more. The link to the YouTube channel is <https://www.youtube.com/@mineralogicalsocietyofamer6947>. Check it out!