



International Association of GeoChemistry

www.iagc-society.org

IAGC GOVERNANCE & COUNCIL NEWS

Dear IAGC Members,



It is with great honor and a sense of deep responsibility that I write to you today as I step into a double role that is both professionally fulfilling and personally meaningful: President of the International Association of GeoChemistry (IAGC) and Co-Editor-in-Chief of *Applied Geochemistry*, our association's flagship journal.

This dual appointment feels like a natural culmination of a journey that began many years ago,

when I first submitted an article to *Applied Geochemistry* as a young researcher. I remember the invaluable guidance I received from Prof. Mike Edmunds during that early experience, and how it shaped my appreciation for rigorous yet constructive peer review. Since then, *Applied Geochemistry* has been a scientific home for me—second only to one in number of my published papers—and I have proudly served on the Editorial Board for over a decade.

During the early stages of my career, I had the opportunity to work in several laboratories across Europe, Australia, and North America. These international experiences—along with a long-standing collaboration with the United Nations' International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA)—allowed me to connect with and learn from colleagues in many low-income countries. These interactions not only enriched my scientific outlook but also deeply sensitized me to the disparities in research opportunities and visibility across regions. As a result, I care deeply about the issues of geographic and gender diversity, and I believe they must remain central to both the IAGC's mission and the editorial vision of *Applied Geochemistry*.

As a long-time IAGC member, Council Member (2019–2022), and Vice-President (2023–2024), I have watched our community grow more diverse, dynamic, and interconnected. I am inspired by the energy and dedication that each of you bring to our shared goals: advancing the science of geochemistry, fostering meaningful international collaboration, and mentoring the next generation of researchers.

As President, I hope to build on the solid foundations laid by my predecessors. We are entering an exciting, yet challenging, time for the geochemical sciences. Pressing environmental issues—from groundwater contamination to climate change—are demanding more integrated and interdisciplinary approaches. Our association must continue to evolve to remain relevant, visible, and impactful.

One of my key objectives is to strengthen connections between geochemists across the globe, particularly by increasing engagement with colleagues from regions that have historically been underrepresented. The vitality of our discipline depends on the inclusion of diverse perspectives, methodologies, and experiences. I also aim to reinforce the presence of early-career scientists in our activities—by offering platforms to showcase their research and creating more opportunities for networking and mentorship.

In parallel, as Co-Editor-in-Chief of *Applied Geochemistry*, I am committed to cultivating and growing a journal that reflects the broad scope and high standards of our field. I have experienced first-hand the evolution of the publishing landscape, including the increasing demands on authors, reviewers, and editors alike. My vision for the journal involves expanding its reach, encouraging high-quality interdisciplinary submissions, and revitalizing the peer-review process to make it both rigorous and rewarding.

We are actively working on initiatives to promote gender balance and geographical diversity in our Editorial Board, recognizing the crucial role these aspects play in shaping the journal's identity and scholarly impact. I believe that if we foster a more connected and inclusive editorial culture, we will also strengthen our scientific community as a whole.

Lastly, I want to express my sincere gratitude to all of you who volunteer your time as reviewers, editors, organizers, and mentors. Your contributions are the backbone of our association and our journal. I invite you to continue sharing your ideas, concerns, and hopes—whether through IAGC working groups, at conferences, or by reaching out directly. Let's keep the conversation going.

I look forward to working closely with many of you in the coming months and years, and to seeing the IAGC and *Applied Geochemistry* flourish with your continued support.

Warm regards,

Elisa Sacchi

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Co-Editor-in-Chief, *Applied Geochemistry*
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REPORT ON THE WRI18-AIG15 (IAGC3) CONGRESS Cagliari, June 16–21, 2025

The WRI18-AIG15 (IAGC3) congress was held from June 16 to 21, 2025, at the University Citadel in Monserrato, Cagliari (<https://www.unica-wri-18.it/>). The event was organized by the Department of Chemical and Geological Sciences of the University of Cagliari, with the support of a team of over 20 young researchers. The General Secretary of the Congress was Professor Giovanni De Giudici.

The congress welcomed approximately 300 registered participants from 22 countries across five continents, highlighting its international significance. A total of 308 scientific contributions were submitted and compiled into a digital volume published by UNICAPRESS, accessible at the following link: <https://unicapress.unica.it/index.php/unicapress/catalog/view/978-88-3312-187-1/978-88-3312-187-1/941-1>.

The seven mid-conference field trips were all well attended and received. There were the expected trips to mines, volcanoes, geothermal areas, and archeological sites and so on, but the wine tasting parts of the field trips were also particularly well-enjoyed.

A number of IAGC awards were presented at the conference banquet at Ristorante Sa Festa di Casa Atzeri in Marcalagonis, Sardinia.

These included new **IAGC Fellows**:

- **Chen Zhu**, who delivered a talk entitled: "An overview of thermodynamics, kinetics, and modeling of water-rock interactions in ore-forming and critical mineral extraction processes."



Chen Zhu



Harue Masuda

- **Harue Masuda**, who gave a talk entitled: "Microbial impact of groundwater chemistry of ATEs wells at coastal area of Osaka Bay, Japan."

- **Rosa Cidu**, from the University of Cagliari Department of Chemical and Geological Sciences, awarded in 2024.



Rosa Cidu

- **Carol Ptacek**, who presented a talk entitled “Arsenic mobilization in abandoned Au-mine tailings and removal using passive treatment systems.”
- **Daniele Pinti**, who delivered a talk entitled: “Isotopes at the interface between the mantle



Carol Ptacek



Daniele Pinti

The **IAGC Ebelmen Award** can be awarded biennially to a geochemist of particular merit and outstanding promise less than 35 years old at the time of nomination, and was presented to three IAGC members at the conference banquet:

- **Yao Du** (awarded in 2024), gave a talk entitled “Geogenic phosphorus enrichment in ground-water due to anaerobic methane oxidation-coupled Fe(III) oxide reduction.”
- **Rachel Coyte**, 2025 awardee, gave an award talk on “Gadolinium on the move: Improving detection in water and understanding human uptake.”
- **Rosanna Margalef Marti**, also a 2025 awardee, spoke on: “Evaluating biostimulation efficiency in a constructed wetland to treat nitrate pollution with isotopic tools.”
- **Lamine Boumaiza** was honored as the Jin Jingfu Lecturer. The lecturers selected must have received their PhD within about 10 years and have contributed on a single geochemical research topic through one or a series of publications resulting in a measurable impact in her or his discipline. (The 2024 Jin Jingfu awardee, Meret Aeppli, received her award at the 2025 Goldschmidt meeting in Prague.)
- **Gabe Filippelli** received the Ingerson Lecturer Award. He presented his Ingerson lecture at the IAGC-3 conference: “Confronting Urban Lead Contamination Using a Community Science Approach.”



Yao Du



Rachel Coyte



Rosanna Margalef Marti



Lamine Boumaiza



Gabe Filippelli

The **IAGC Kharaka Award** is bestowed annually to deserving scientists who have demonstrated outstanding scientific accomplishment from countries affiliated with the Research4life Group A and B Lists (<https://www.research4life.org/access/eligibility/>) used by Elsevier. This award was presented to **Kamel Zouari** for 2024 and **Daniel Emilio Martinez** for 2025.



Kamel Zouari



Daniel Emilio Martinez

The **IAGC Vernadsky Medal** can be awarded biennially to a single person for a distinguished record of scientific accomplishment in geochemistry over the course of a career. Two awards were presented at this year’s meeting: **Ramon Aravena** for 2024 and **Yanxin Wang** for 2025.



Ramon Aravena



Yanxin Wang

François Chabaux (current IAGC past-president) received the **Harmon Distinguished Service Award**, bestowed intermittently as a deserving candidate is identified to recognize outstanding service by an IAGC member to the Association or to the geochemical community that greatly exceeds the normal expectations of voluntary service.



François Chabaux



Giovanni Di Giudici

A number of WRI-specific awards were also presented, including: Best Student Oral Presentation Award, and Best Student Poster, Leadership Awards and, importantly, a plaque to thank **Giovanni Di Giudici** for his work as organizer of the IAGC-3 Convention in Cagliari, Sardinia.

For the final two presentations of the meeting, **Huaming Guo** of China and **Orfan Shouakar-Stash** of Canada delivered proposals for the location of the next IAGC Conference, IAGC-4 in 2027. After the two presentations, a vote was taken that affirmed Beijing China as the location for the next conference. Canada was nominated for the IAGC-5 in 2029.

From an Idea to a Published Issue

Every year, *Elements* publishes six thematic issues on subjects related to the general disciplines of mineralogy, geochemistry, and petrology. The editorial team looks for topics that

- are broadly related to mineralogy, geochemistry, and petrology
- are interdisciplinary
- represent established but progressing fields
- would be of interest to a broad cross section of readers
- have not been adequately represented by *Elements* before or have advanced considerably since the topic was previously covered

Each proposal is carefully evaluated by our editorial team for thematic scope, content, and authorship. Feedback is then provided to the proposers.

Once a proposal is accepted and included in the *Elements* lineup, the fun really begins!

Over the subsequent 15–20 months, timelines and deadlines are set, authors are invited by the guest editors to write articles, and articles go through several stages of review (by external reviewers, by the guest and principal editors, and by the *Elements* editorial team). At the end of this process, the issue goes to press and is shipped to our over 16,000 readers.

The journey from an idea to a published magazine involves many steps. The goal? A lineup of well-written thematic issues that readily conveys the exciting aspects of mineralogy, petrology, and geochemistry to specialists and non-specialists alike.

Call for Thematic Proposals

Would you like to read about a certain topic in *Elements*?

Do you think your research area would make a great thematic issue?

Submit a thematic proposal!

Elements has two annual submission deadlines each year:

March 25 and **September 25**.

For more information, visit:
<http://elementsmagazine.org/publish-in-elements/>

We look forward to receiving your proposal!

