



# The Clay Minerals Society

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## THE PRESIDENT'S CORNER



As we turn the page to 2026 and reflect on our New Year's resolutions for the Clay Minerals Society (CMS), one of our greatest goals is to grow our membership. CMS was founded to meet the needs of an interdisciplinary community, bringing together diverse perspectives on the same materials. Over the past two decades, clay research and applications have expanded significantly, with new local clay groups forming across countries and regions, and conferences on clays becoming more frequent at both regional and international levels. This growth was highlighted at the 2025 International Clay Conference in Dublin, which featured 35 technical sessions spanning topics from fundamental research to applied innovations. Sessions explored molecular-level structures and disorder in clays, volcanism, weathering, and diagenesis, as well as applications in space exploration, sustainable energy, nuclear waste disposal, greenhouse gas remediation, catalysis, nanoelectronics, nanophotonics, advanced functional clays, and environmental and health-related uses.

CMS is the professional home for anyone fascinated by the tiny particles that shape our world. CMS membership offers numerous benefits (see details at [https://www.clays.org/join\\_benefits\\_of\\_membership/](https://www.clays.org/join_benefits_of_membership/)), but most importantly, it advances our careers by fostering opportunities to teach, learn, and collaborate within the strongest network of scientists, engineers, policymakers, and business leaders who share a common interest in clays.

We warmly invite you to join this vibrant society and become part of its growth. Please help us spread the word by encouraging your colleagues and students to join CMS at <https://cms.clays.org/membership.html>.

Warm regards,

**Youjun Deng**, CMS President

## JOURNAL ISSUE UPDATE

We are pleased to share the latest accepted manuscripts from *Clays & Clay Minerals*. These recently published articles highlight new research advances in clay science, mineralogy, and applications, and will appear in upcoming issues of the journal.

- **Mechanism of sand–bentonite barrier cushion consolidation–rebound deformation under diesel erosion**, by Yong Yang, Tenglong Liang, Yeyang Chun, Jing Du, Song He, Guangyuan Li
- **Thermal and rheological characterisation of mixed inorganic/organic natural hydrogels to be used in physical medical treatments**, by Rosanna Palumbo, Raquel Barbosa, Felisa Cilurzo, Christian Celia, Luisa Di Marzio, Rita Sánchez-Espejo, Pilar Cerezo, César Viseras
- **A machine learning technique for estimating the zeta potential of clay minerals under various brine conditions**, by Yanqi Huang, Ayat Hussein Adhab, Vicky Jain, Abhinav Kumar, Roopashree R, Aditya Kashyap, Suman Saini, Pushpa Negi Bhakuni, Morug Salih Mahdi, Aseel Salah Mansoor, Usama Kadem Radi, Nasr Saadoun Abd, Mamurakhon Toshpulatova, Mehrdad Mottaghi
- **XPS characterisation of benzethonium- and cetylpyridinium-lauroyl sarcosinate-loaded organomontmorillonites and their antibacterial properties against *Actinomyces viscosus* and *Bacteroides fragilis***, by Günseli Özdemir, Saadet Yapar, Çinel Köksal Karayıldırım, Aslı Şahiner

## JOIN CMS

Join us with new types of membership! Please visit <https://www.clays.org> or contact the Business Office at [cms@clays.org](mailto:cms@clays.org).

## COMPETE IN THE REYNOLDS CUP 2026

The 13<sup>th</sup> biennial Reynolds Cup (2026) for quantitative mineral analysis is now open for registration.

The competition is open to anyone interested in quantitative mineral analysis, with particular emphasis on clay mineralogy. Register online at: <https://www.clays.org/reynolds-cup-2026/>.

## SAVE THE DATE! CMS ANNUAL MEETING 2026



The 63<sup>rd</sup> annual meeting of the Clay Minerals Society will be held at Brigham Young University (BYU), which is located in Provo, Utah, USA, along the front of the strikingly beautiful Wasatch Mountains. The immediate area is also the home of some fascinating halloysite, and other clay, deposits. Keep an eye on <https://clayconferences.org/clay-minerals-society-2026-meeting/>.

Alongside 11 diverse sessions on clays and clay minerals, the program includes two key experiences:

- **Field trip:** Visits to two local companies producing clay-containing or clay-derived products, with explanations of the geology, manufacturing facilities, and products by geologists and company experts. <https://clayconferences.org/timetable/event/field-trip/>
- **Social programs:** Salt Lake City tour, Rock Canyon tour, planetarium show, Timpanogos Cave, and a palaeontology museum visit. <https://clayconferences.org/activities-cms-2026/>

## BOOK PROMOTION

We are pleased to highlight both our long-standing, highly useful book series and newly published titles! Check out our Workshop Lecture Series, and order one today: [https://www.clays.org/pubs\\_workshop-lectureseries/](https://www.clays.org/pubs_workshop-lectureseries/). Also, read the new book *Bentonites: Characterization, Geology, Mineralogy, Analysis, Mining, Processing and Uses* by

**Stephan Kauffhold** (Ed.)

