



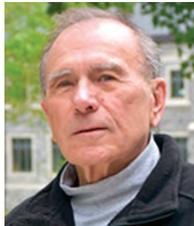
Mineralogical Society of America



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PRESIDENT'S LETTER



We have entered the home stretch, and all systems are “go” for the MSA events in Tucson, AZ, USA, in February. These include the MSA Booth at the Tucson Convention Center during the annual Tucson Gem and Mineral Show (TGMS), Feb. 13–15; the new MSA *Breakfast with a Mineralogist* event in Rooms 102 and 103 in the Convention Center, Sunday, Feb. 15 at 10–11 AM; and the Inaugural MSA Annual Meeting, February 16–19, 2026 (details below).

MSA Booth at TGMS: MSA will have its customary booth on the second floor of the Convention Center, with publications, educational displays, giveaways, and chances to interact with mineralogists.

Breakfast with a Mineralogist: The *Breakfast* event is on Sunday, February 15, from 10 to 11 AM. At the event, members of the general public will have the chance to learn about their favorite minerals from professional mineralogists stationed around the rooms. There will be mineral-themed giveaways, along with a continental breakfast. MSA will also launch its new Mineral Enthusiast membership category at this meeting.

MSA Inaugural Annual Meeting: The MSA Annual Meeting is an opportunity for our professional and student members to share their scientific discoveries and insights.

There has been huge interest in the meeting, which has been gratifying (and exciting!). The program and other detailed information about the meeting are available on the meeting website at <https://msaweb.org/annualmeeting/>, but, in short, here are the events:

Monday, February 16: Five field trips to science-themed venues in and around Tucson, followed by an evening reception at Mineral Nexus and a keynote address by Dr. Peter Megaw.

Tuesday, February 17, and Wednesday, February 18: Oral presentations in the GEM Ballroom at the Doubletree by Hilton, Tucson Convention Center, followed by evening receptions and poster sessions at the Pima County Historic Courthouse. The University of Arizona Alfie Norville Gem & Mineral Museum, housed in the Courthouse, will be open for visits from 6 to 9 PM during the Wednesday evening reception.

Thursday, February 19: Oral presentations at the Doubletree, with the meeting ending at noon.

We hope to see you there!

Robert J. Bodnar
2026 MSA President

NOTES FROM CHANTILLY

- **Renewal Season!** It is time to renew your memberships for 2026, as well as subscriptions to MSA's publications. Member dues are: Regular Members and Fellows (\$90); Early Career Members (\$50); Student Members (\$20); Senior Members (\$0); Mineral Enthusiast Members (brand-new category – \$40); Sustaining Members (\$240 – membership plus a \$150 contribution to support MSA's many activities). You can renew via the homepage of MSA's website: 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.

MSA 2026 AWARDEES AND FELLOWS

MSA is delighted to announce the **2026 Awardees**. They are:

- **Roebbling Medal: Tetsuo Irifune**
Ehime University, Matsuyama, Japan
- **Dana Medal: Clara Chan**
University of Delaware, Newark, Delaware, USA
- **MSA Award: Suzette Timmerman**
University of Bern, Bern, Switzerland

The **2026 Fellows** are:

- **Arianna Gleason**
SLAC National Accelerator Laboratory, Menlo Park, California, USA
- **Beda Hofmann**
Natural History Museum Bern and University of Bern, Bern, Switzerland
- **Astrid Holzheid**
Universität Kiel, Kiel, Germany
- **Yang Liu**
NASA Jet Propulsion Laboratory, Pasadena, California, USA
- **Takuo Okuchi**
Kyoto University, Kyoto, Japan
- **Thomas Stachel**
University of Alberta, Edmonton, Alberta, Canada
- **Matthew Steele-MacInnis**
University of Alberta, Edmonton, Alberta, Canada

2026 RESEARCH GRANTS

March 1, 2026 is the deadline to submit proposals for the Edward H. Kraus Crystallography Research Grant and the Mineralogy/Petrology Research Grant. There is one Kraus grant of \$5,000 awarded each year, two \$5,000 Mineralogy/Petrology grants for graduate-level research, and one \$2,000 grant for undergraduate research. For more information about the proposal format and how to submit, visit <https://msaweb.org/awards-grants/>. For any questions, please contact Ann Benbow at abenbow@minsocam.org.

MSA STUDENT CLUBS

MSA Student Clubs are designed to encourage both undergraduate and graduate students to pursue mineralogical studies and to spread the word about the importance of the mineral sciences to all. To form a club, an institution needs at least one faculty sponsor, as well as three students willing to serve as officers. The officers receive complimentary student membership in MSA for one year, which makes them eligible for student research grants, as well as discounts on publications and conference/short course registrations. MSA can also provide up to \$500/year/club in grant funds to support club activities. Drs. Laura Breitenfeld and Steven Jaret, as well as Past Presidents Drs. Sarah Penniston-Dorland and Donna Whitney, are guiding this effort. For more information on this new program, contact Ann Benbow at abenbow@minsocam.org.