Société Française de Minéralogie et de Cristallographie

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FORSTERITE: A SCIENTIFIC TRAINING IN THE FIELD OF THE EARTH'S INTERIOR

7–10 October 2025, Auzat, Pyrénées, France

The FORSTERITE 2025 session was devoted to reviewing the current state of knowledge and technical advances in oceanic lithosphere formation, made possible thanks to the French Oceanographic Fleet and France's participation in the international IODP programme. It brought together 35 colleagues who registered as participants, speakers, and/or organisers. The training took place in the Village de Marc, Auzat (Ariège). A geological excursion was organised in the Soulcem Valley (Ariège) with the aim of visualising the relationships between metamorphic sedimentary terrains and the Hercynian granites intruding them.

Forsterite participants during the formation and in the field in the Soulcem Valley.

SFMC LAUREATES SCHOLARSHIP FOR THE RÉUNION DES SCIENCES DE LA TERRE - MONTPELLIER - 27–31 OCTOBER 2025

The French Society of Mineralogy and Crystallography committee attributed three scholarships to:

Georgia Grypaiou-Iskenteridou (Géosciences Paris Saclay, Laboratoire de Physique des Solides – Université Paris-Saclay). She presented her work which was about "Evolution of the Crystal Chemistry of Critical Metallic-Bearing Phases Over Time." Her PhD supervisors are A. Courtin, E. Paineau, E. Léger, J. Nouet, A. Plautre, and M. Bereksi. The results provide an initial overview of the leaching capacity of trace elements in relation to different solution chemistries. It also gives insights into the weathering of minerals/mineraloids, the potential acidity generation, and the elemental redistribution toward various environmental compartments in the surrounding area.

The laureate: Georgia Grypaiou Iskenteridou during the RST conference.

Arthur Aymond (The Earth Sciences Institut d'Orléans, France, now at The Earth Sciences Institut, Grenoble, France). He presented the results of his master project "Strain localization in the Quiberon detachment zone (South Armorican Massif, Brittany, France): from micro to macroscale." He was supervised by L. Airaghi and R. Augier. He characterised the diversity in the mechanisms of strain localisation at the microscale due to the heterogeneity of fluid percolation and distribution of reactions, resulting in differences in the style of deformation at the mesoscale during the two-stage exhumation of the Quiberon massif.

The two laureates: A. Aymond, L. Dubern, in front of the conference center.

Lucie Dubern (Université Gustave Eiffel, Marne-la-Vallée, France). She presented the results of her master project: "Acid mine drainage: study of the role of trace elements in pyrite in its oxidation by atmospheric oxygen." She was supervised by G.P. Odin, C. Trellu, and S. Rossano. Her first results show that particle size, pyrite mass, and relative humidity are extrinsic factors affecting the rate of oxidation. By optimising these parameters, they developed a protocol for studying the influence of trace elements content and nature. These results will allow identification of the most reactive pyrites to thus better anticipate the risks of acid mine drainage at different mining sites.

SFMC HAÜY-LACROIX PRIZE-GIVING CEREMONY

Jeanne Caumartin received the SFMC Haüy-Lacroix Prize at the Institut de Minéralogie, de Physique des Matériaux et de Cosmochimie, Paris, France, 14 November.

Jeanne Caumartin received the SFMC Haüy-Lacroix for her PhD entitled "Study of environmental determinants and anoxia in the formation of microbialites" and she presented her project during a seminar at the IMPMC. Her project was carried out at the Institut de Minéralogie, de Physique des Matériaux et de Cosmochimie (Sorbonne University) and the Écologie, Société et Evolution laboratory (Université Paris-Saclay) under the supervision of K. Benzerara and P. López-García.

Jeanne Caumartin receiving the prize after her seminar from Hélène Bureau, SFMC vice president.