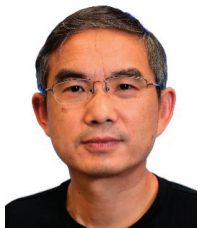


## The Clay Minerals Society

[www.clays.org](http://www.clays.org)

### THE PRESIDENT'S CORNER



With the arrival of spring, many of us are beginning to plan outdoor activities. For clay scientists, a field trip that blends geology, geography, soils, botany, wildlife, and local culture is always a favorite. As you make your plans, we invite you to include the social events, technical sessions, and field excursions of the 2026 Annual Meeting of the Clay Minerals Society, to be held July 7–11 in Provo, Utah, USA.

The organizing committee has worked diligently to develop a strong program, and both the abstract submission portal and registration site are now open. We look forward to your participation and contributions.

This year's meeting features 16 technical sessions covering a wide range of topics—from molecular-scale investigations using spectroscopic and microscopic methods and molecular dynamics simulations, to applied research in wastewater treatment, nuclear waste disposal, medicine, toxicology, health, agriculture, climate, construction, oil and gas, and even space exploration.

Our field trip will visit local azomite and halloysite mines, along with facilities that manufacture clay-based products for applications such as poultry feed additives, soil amendments, Si metal nanotubes for Li-ion batteries, and rare earth element production. Attendees will also have opportunities to explore nearby attractions, including a Salt Lake City tour, Rock Canyon, the planetarium, Timpanogos Cave, and the Paleontology Museum.

More than 90 teams have registered for the 2026 Reynolds Cup contest organized by CMS. As you read this issue of *Elements*, many teams are actively analyzing and calculating their results. We wish all participants the best of luck.

With the Society's computer server now migrated to a commercial platform, the membership site is fully operational. We encourage you to renew your CMS membership to continue enjoying the many benefits we offer. If you are not yet a member, we warmly invite you to join this dynamic, multidisciplinary community.

Warm regards,

**Youjun Deng**, CMS President

### 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. <https://clayconferences.org/>



Register now if you have not done so yet. A wide range of technical sessions, social programmes, and field trips await you. The technical sessions include:

Session 1: General Session

Session 2: Clays as Paleoclimate Indicators

Session 3: Clays in the Computer

Session 4: Clay-hosted Critical Mineral Resources

Session 5: Software for Clays

Session 6: The Use of Clays, Organoclays and Nanocomposites for Water Treatment

Session 7: Science and Engineering of Clays for Nuclear Waste Disposal

Session 8: Investigating Clays on Planetary Bodies

Session 9: Sorption, Transport, and Remediation of Emerging Contaminants by Natural and Engineered Clays

Session 10: Clay-based Strategies for Mitigating Toxins

Session 11: Clays and Zeolites in the Oil and Gas Industry

Session 12: Advanced Characterization of Clay Minerals: Pushing the Boundaries of Resolution, Sensitivity, and Interpretation

Session 13: Tubular and Fibrous Clay Minerals: From Structure and Surface Chemistry to Functional Hybrid Materials

Session 14: Clay-sized Minerals in Soils: Characterization, Reactivity, and Agro-environmental Implications

Session 15: Clays and Construction Materials

Session 16: Mineral-Organic Matter Interactions Across Environments: Mechanisms, Variability, and Change

### FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL PLATFORMS

Our regular updates and engagement are on our social platforms. Please follow us:

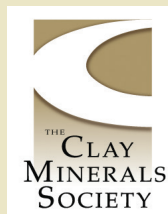
- **LinkedIn:** <https://www.linkedin.com/company/the-clay-minerals-society>
- **Facebook:** <https://www.facebook.com/TheClayMineralsSociety/>
- **X (formerly Twitter):** <https://x.com/ClayMinSociety>
- **YouTube:** <https://www.youtube.com/@theclaymineralsociety2982>

### JOIN CMS

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

### BUY SOURCE AND SPECIAL CLAYS

By the early 1970s, the need for sources of homogeneous clay samples had become apparent to researchers. Natural deposits are so variable that data generated by different investigators working at the same outcrop often cannot be compared with confidence. Thus, The Clay Minerals Society set up the Source Clays Project. You can order online: <https://cms.clays.org/sourceclayproforma.html>.



### Do you know? FROM CMS HISTORY

The Clay Minerals Society has a long history of the "Source Clay Minerals" project, initiated in the early 1970s. You often see coded mineral names such as SAz-1 or KGa-1. This coding system was proposed by F.J. Flanagan at the USGS in 1973. For example, SAz-1 denotes **S**

(mineral type: smectite), **AZ** (locality: Arizona), and the sequential number **1**.