



International Association of GeoChemistry

www.iagc-society.org

WATER-ROCK INTERACTION-19 /APPLIED ISOTOPE GEOCHEMISTRY-16 (IAGC-4) BEIJING, CHINA — SUMMER 2027

WRI-19 / AIG-16 (IAGC-4) will be held in the summer of 2027 in Beijing, China. The conference will be chaired by Professor Huaming Guo of the China University of Geosciences (Beijing). The planned venue, the Beijing Conference Center, is located near the city's northern Fifth Ring Road.

The scientific program will include approximately 30 technical sessions, covering topics such as geothermal energy, groundwater biogeochemistry, radionuclide migration, reactive transport across scales, urban geochemistry, groundwater management, nanoparticle geochemistry, emerging contaminant geochemistry, microbe-organic matter interactions, isotopes in contaminant tracing, and radioactive isotopes for groundwater dating.

2027 also marks the 60th anniversary of the founding of the IAGC, and we hope to include a celebration of the occasion at the conference in Beijing. Please send any suggestions to businessoffice@iagc-society.org.

CO-EXECUTIVE EDITOR FOR APPLIED GEOCHEMISTRY JOURNAL

The IAGC Nominations Committee has evaluated the applications for Co-Executive Editor of *Applied Geochemistry*, and Chen Zhu of Indiana University (USA) has been offered the position and has accepted. He will start as the new Co-Executive Editor on July 1, 2026.



About the Journal

Applied Geochemistry, the official journal of the International Association of GeoChemistry (IAGC), has been a leading publication since 1986. With an impact factor of 3.4 and a Cite Score of 6.7, it serves a multidisciplinary audience in the geochemical community, focusing on research with practical applications. The journal supports the UN's sustainable development goals, particularly SDG 3, SDG 6, and SDG 13.

2027 will mark the 40th anniversary of *Applied Geochemistry*, and we will be taking suggestions on how to commemorate that milestone. A special issue might be in order, but other ideas are welcome.

IAGC STUDENT RESEARCH GRANTS

IAGC Student Research Grants have been awarded as of May 1, 2026. Approximately 56 proposals were submitted, and six awards of up to \$2300 were made.

The following students and proposals were successful:



Faris Ruzain earned his BSc (majoring in chemistry) and a MSc (with distinction) in chemistry from the University of Melbourne (Australia). Whilst undertaking his MSc in 2022, he began working as a research assistant in a project looking to identify biomarkers in oxalate-rich mineral accretions associated with rock art. Using gas chromatography mass spectrometry (GC-MS), the biomarkers identified would lend insight into accretion formation mechanisms and support the use of these accre-

tions as rock art dating proxies worldwide. In 2025, he commenced his PhD research at the University of Melbourne with a project focused on

developing an optimal radiocarbon dating protocol involving these mineral accretions. His project looks to develop protocols to ensure the isolation and subsequent dating of target oxalate carbon within these accretions for accurate and reliable radiocarbon dating. He will be using a suite of geochemical techniques including laser ablation-inductively coupled-mass spectrometry (LA-ICP-MS), scanning electron microscopy-energy dispersive spectroscopy (SEM-EDS) and X-ray diffraction (XRD) among others to characterize these accretions. These geochemical techniques will be used to not only guide his sampling, but will also add geochemical context to the radiocarbon dates of these accretions. Ultimately, he hopes that his work will result in more accurate and reliable dating of rock art, which are windows to past environments and cultures.



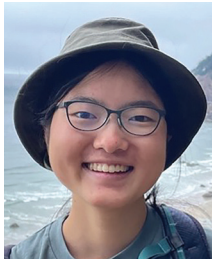
Aida Zyba received her BA in environmental Earth science from Washington University in St. Louis (USA) in 2022. She is currently a PhD candidate in the Earth and Environmental Sciences Department at Vanderbilt University (USA). Her research focuses on reconstructing past climate and precipitation variability in the western United States using stalagmites. To investigate these changes, she measures a variety of geochemical proxies including traditional proxies, such as stable oxygen and carbon

isotopes and trace elements, as well as more novel proxies such as calcium isotopes and fluid inclusion isotopes. Her dissertation research aims to improve understanding of hydroclimate dynamics in this region during the Holocene and last interglacial, providing insight into climate behavior during intervals that may serve as analogs for projected future climate conditions.



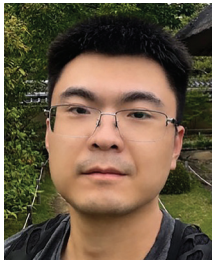
Bepuaka Ekuka obtained his BSc in geology in 2012 and his MSc in applied geology in 2022, both from the University of Buea in Cameroon. During his MSc, he investigated the quality of groundwater and the contamination mechanisms in the aquifers, where he studied the geochemistry of groundwater and the hydraulic parameters, such as the transmissivity and permeability of the aquiferous formations of Tiko and environs in the northwestern edge of the Douala Basin, Cameroon. Bepuaka is

currently a PhD candidate at the University of Buea studying the petrology and geochronology of black sand in the Kribi-Campo basin in the Nyong complex with a focus on the geochemistry of the heavy minerals, such as rutile and zircon, using black sand samples from the coast of the Kribi-Campo Basin. The main goals of his dissertation are to understand the provenance of the heavy minerals, their source terrain and tectonic settings, metamorphic grade of source rock, and eventually assessing the economic potential for critical heavy minerals for future exploration. He is using X-ray diffraction for bulk mineralogy, scanning electron microscopy, ICP-MS trace element geochemistry, LA-ICP-MS U-Pb geochronology, and zircon-in-rutile geothermometry to realize the goals of his dissertation.



Elena Lee graduated from Swarthmore College (USA) in 2023 with a BA in geophysics, although she also owes much to the Geology Department at Bryn Mawr College for the “geo” portion of that degree. She is currently pursuing a PhD at the University of Michigan (USA) in the Earth and Environmental Sciences Department. Her research focuses on investigating terrestrial paleoenvironments using clumped (Δ_{47}) and triple oxygen isotopes ($\Delta^{17}\text{O}$) in carbonates.

These isotopic tools can constrain temperatures and water stress in the past, but they may also reflect a rock’s diagenetic history. Elena aims to apply Δ_{47} and $\Delta^{17}\text{O}$ to the Upper Jurassic Morrison Formation to better understand its burial history and to evaluate the fidelity of its isotopic record for paleoenvironmental reconstructions.



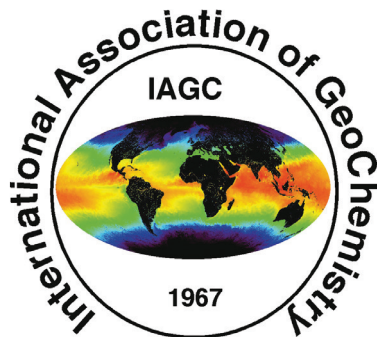
Yukun Xing received his BSc in geology from Nanjing University (Jiangsu, China) in 2019 and his MSc in structural geology from the Institute of Geology, China Earthquake Administration (Beijing, China) in 2022. In 2023, he commenced his PhD at the University of Melbourne (Australia), focusing on advancing the methodology of monazite fission track (MFT) thermochronology. His research integrates the development of monazite reference materials for LA-ICP-MS trace element analysis with systematic investigations into the effects of crystallographic orientation on fission-track etching and annealing behavior, with the aim of improving the reliability and geological interpretation of MFT data. By combining geochemical characterization with methodological improvement, his work seeks to establish a durable analytical foundation for MFT, contributing to both the broader geochemical and thermochronological community.

atic investigations into the effects of crystallographic orientation on fission-track etching and annealing behavior, with the aim of improving the reliability and geological interpretation of MFT data. By combining geochemical characterization with methodological improvement, his work seeks to establish a durable analytical foundation for MFT, contributing to both the broader geochemical and thermochronological community.

OTHER IAGC NEWS

Daniele Pinti, IAGC Fellow awardee, and professor at the Université du Québec à Montréal (Canada), is helping to organize the **DINGUE IX (Developments in Noble Gas Understanding and Expertise)** conference, which will be held at the University of Ottawa from **9–11 July 2026**.

The IAGC has signed up as a bronze-level sponsor for this conference.



JOURNÉES DE LA SFMC 2026 (SFMC DAYS 2026)

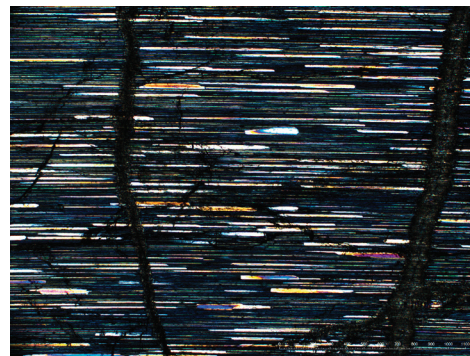
The SFMC will be organizing a three-day workshop on meteorites and planetary materials from 5 to 7 October 2026 at the Midi-Pyrénées Observatory in Toulouse. Invited leading researchers in this field will discuss the current state of scientific research in this field, as well as future challenges, through a series of lectures and poster presentations. Topics discussed will include planet formation, the internal dynamics of planets, fluids and weathering, impacts, sample return, and technological advances in mineralogy and crystallography. A day trip will be organized to the Pic du Midi to visit the astronomical facilities (<https://picdumidi.com/en>). We will also be welcoming PhD and postdoctoral researchers working on topics in this field. Details for these scientific days and registration can be found on the SFMC website (<https://sfmc-fr.org/>).



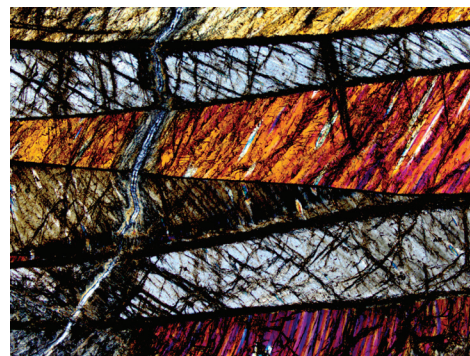
SFMC MICROPHOTOGRAPH CONTEST 2025 RESULTS AND CALL FOR THE 2026 CONTEST

The SFMC will soon launch its second annual photography competition this year, following the success of last year’s event. A calendar was made with the selected awarded 2025 photos from each month, photos can be viewed on our website (<https://sfmc-fr.org/?cat=284&lang=fr>). The 2025 award-winning photos are from Gilles Chazot (1st prize), Marine Paquet (2nd prize), and Manon Bickert (3rd prize).

“Ramifications” by **Gilles Chazot** – Comb-layer microstructure of clinopyroxene in a dyke.



“Kinking” by **Manon Bickert** – Kink bands in an orthopyroxene crosscut by serpentine veins in a peridotite.



“Hyperspeed” by **Marine Paquet** – Fine exsolution lamellae of clinopyroxenes in an orthopyroxene from a peridotite.