



Mineralogical Society of America



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Robert J. Bodnar

PRESIDENT'S LETTER

Celebrating the 150th Anniversary of the Mineralogical Society of the UK and Ireland

I recently had the privilege of representing MSA at the 150th Anniversary Meeting of the Mineralogical Society of the UK and Ireland (MinSoc), which was held at the University of Manchester, UK, from June 23–26, 2026. The conference attracted mineralogists from around the world, and each attendee received

a copy of an illustrated commemorative volume describing the long and successful history of MinSoc. MSA was well-represented at this celebratory event, with past-Presidents Barb Dutrow, Bob Hazen, Mike Hochella, and MSA Executive Director Ann Benbow also representing the MSA.



The academic portion of the meeting consisted of plenary talks, followed by oral presentations on a wide variety of topics that documented the role of mineral sciences to address important societally-relevant problems ranging from climate change to finding the critical minerals needed to support our technology-based society. There were also poster sessions on June 24, and students and early career researchers were well represented in the program.

Social events included the conference banquet on the evening of June 23, which was held in the magnificent Whitworth Hall on the University of Manchester campus. After dinner, I had the opportunity to present MinSoc President Sam Shaw with a plaque commemorating the

150th year of their organization. The plaque featured a slice of Ca-rich elbaite tourmaline, with the logos of both of our organizations, and the message:

Commemorating 150 years of promoting excellence in the mineral sciences by the Mineralogical Society of the United Kingdom and Ireland



Professor Barb Dutrow, 2026 Collins Medal Recipient

A highlight of the meeting was when MSA Past President Barb Dutrow was presented with the 2026 Collins Medal at the Awards Ceremony on June 25. The Collins Medal is “awarded annually to a scientist who, during a long and active career, has made an outstanding contribution to pure or applied aspects of Mineral Sciences and Associated Studies.” Professor Dutrow certainly meets these criteria, and I and MSA congratulate her on this well-deserved recognition. Barb was honored, along with past recipients of the Collins Medal and other awardees, at a special reception and dinner on June 24 at the famous Kimpton Clock Tower Hotel that was hosted (virtually) by Professors Ed and Priscilla Grew. (Prof. Ed Grew was the 2015 recipient of the Collins Medal.)

The 150th Anniversary of the founding of the Mineralogical Society of the UK and Ireland was truly a stellar event, and MSA was honored to be part of the celebration. We look forward to our continued collaboration with MSUKI as we work together to promote the mineral sciences across the globe.

Robert J. Bodnar
2026 MSA President

NOTES FROM CHANTILLY

- **RENEWAL SEASON!** It is time to renew your memberships for 2027, as well as subscriptions to MSA's publications. Member dues are: Regular Members and Fellows (\$90); Early Career Members (\$50); Student Members (\$20); Mineral Enthusiast Members (\$40), Senior Members (\$0); Sustaining Members (\$240 – membership plus a \$150 contribution to support MSA's many activities). You can renew via the home page 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, student travel to the MSA Annual Meeting in Tucson, lecture series, websites, education and outreach activities, awards, and much more.

PLEASE NOTE When you join or renew, you will be asked by our new membership system to create a password. This password is only for accessing your membership information. You will still use your email (username) and five-digit member ID (password) to access MSA's online publications.

MSA 2027 ANNUAL MEETING

MSA will be holding its second Annual Meeting in Tucson, Arizona, USA from February 14–17, 2027. On the morning of Sunday, February 14, MSA, in collaboration with the Tucson Gem & Mineral Society, will host its second Breakfast with a Mineralogist event in the Tucson Convention Center. The afternoon of Sunday, February 14 will be devoted to oral presentations of interest to both mineralogists and mineral enthusiasts. There will be poster sessions at the GEM Ballroom of the Doubletree Hotel Convention Center on Monday and Tuesday of the meeting. Oral presentations will be at the Tucson Convention Center, which is adjacent to the Doubletree Hotel. On the Thursday after the meeting (February 18), there will be field trips to areas of geoscientific interest around Tucson. Please put the 2027 MSA Annual Meeting on your calendar now!

2026 MSA STUDENT RESEARCH GRANT RECIPIENTS

Each year, MSA solicits proposals from its student members to support their research. Three \$5,000 grants are awarded: Two from the Mineralogy/Petrology Fund, and one from the Edward D. Kraus Crystallographic Fund. We are delighted to announce the two 2026 recipients for the research grants in mineralogy and petrology from MSA's Mineralogy/Petrology Research Fund. They are:



Vaishvi Tyagi, Oxford University, United Kingdom – “Experimental constraints on fluorine behaviour in Martian magma: Implications for mantle storage and degassing;” and



Lindsy Allman, Florida State University, USA – “Quantifying metamorphic sulfur and carbon release during basaltic intrusion, West Virginia.”

The 2026 recipient for the research grant in crystallography from the Edward H. Kraus Crystallographic Research Fund is:



Cijin Zhou, California Institute of Technology, USA – “Lattice dynamics, thermo-elasticity, and shear wave speeds of hcp-Fe at extreme pressure-temperature conditions: Implications for Earth's core.”



IAG Early Career Researcher Award 2027

The International Association of Geoanalysts (IAG) sponsors an annual award for outstanding research accomplished by a scientist in the early stages of their profession that supports the mission of the IAG.

This award promotes the career of researchers who have either developed new analytical methods and strategies to improve data quality or developed and characterised new reference materials relevant to the field of geoanalysis.

Eligibility is limited to early career scientists who are either currently pursuing a post graduate degree in a field related to geoanalysis or who have completed their post graduate studies within the past three years.

The candidate must be nominated by a senior scientist from the geoscience community. Evaluation and selection criteria for the IAG Early Researcher Award is based on impact of first-authored peer-reviewed papers published in international journals.

The award includes an 18-month membership to the IAG and a cash prize of \$1000 USD. The awardee is expected to present their work at the 2027 Goldschmidt conference in Paris, France, where they will also be presented with their IAG award. The IAG will pay the Goldschmidt registration fee for conference attendance.

Submission requirements, further details and the nomination form can be downloaded from the IAG website: <http://www.geoanalyst.org/early-career-researcher-award/>

Nominations must be received by **31 October 2026**