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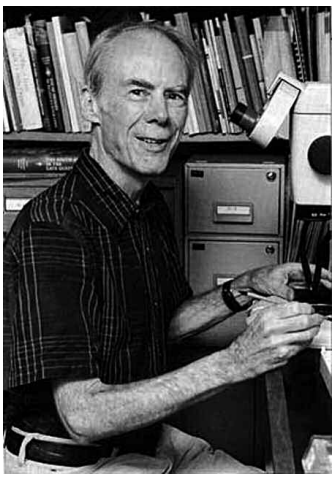
European Association for Geochemistry

EAG LAUNCHES THE SCIENCE INNOVATION AWARDS

The EAG begins its new program of Science Innovation Awards to recognize scientists who have recently made a particularly important and innovative breakthrough in geochemistry that is considered of fundamental significance. The recipient must be between 35 and 55 years of age in the year in which the award is received. The award will be bestowed annually in a selected subject area, but the subjects will differ from year to year. Subjects to be selected include (1) biogeochemistry and organic geochemistry; (2) surface and aqueous geochemistry; (3) climate, oceans and geochemical cycles; (4) isotope geochemistry; and (5) petrology, mineral physics and planetary-scale geochemistry. Each Science Innovation Award will be named in honor of a prominent geochemist. The first EAG Science Innovation Award, for fundamental advances in climate, oceans and geochemical cycles, will be made at the 2008 Goldschmidt meeting in Vancouver, Canada.

This first EAG Science Innovation Award, in the subject of climate, oceans and geochemical cycles, is named in honor of Nicholas Robert Shackleton.



Shackleton died in 2006 following a long career at the University of Cambridge. He earned a bachelor's degree and a PhD from Clare College at the University of Cambridge. In 1995 he became the director of the Godwin Institute of Quaternary Research. In 1998, he was knighted for his contributions to science. During his career, Shackleton made major fundamental contributions to our understanding of climate change and the link between CO_2 and global warming. He was renowned for his efforts to reconstruct ice age cycles from deep-sea sediments using a combination of evidence including new magnetic reversal dates established by radioactive potassium dating and the isotopic variations of forams. Through this work he confirmed the Milankovitch theory by identifying dozens of glacial epochs during the Quaternary with cyclic periods near 100,000 years, as well as weaker cycles of 41,000 and 23,000 years.

Details on the nomination procedures for the Shackleton Award and other EAG Science Innovation Awards can be found at the EAG website: www.eag.eu.com.

DAVOS CHOSEN TO HOST THE 2009 GOLDSCHMIDT MEETING

The EAG is proud to announce that Davos has been chosen as the site of the 2009 Goldschmidt Conference, which will be held June 22–26, 2009. This site was selected because it is an ideal location for an international scientific conference. The town of Davos, reached via a spectacular 2.5-hour train voyage from the Zurich airport, is small enough to allow delegates to find one another and closely interact during the meeting. The newly expanded conference center offers 14 seminar rooms of various sizes and, together with a new large poster/reception area, can accommodate in excess of 3000 attendees. In addition to the exceptional Alpine surroundings, Davos will have a large selection of rooms available for delegates at bargain prices. We look forward to seeing you all in Davos.

The Goldschmidt 2009 committee taking a short break during their first organizational meeting in Davos. From left to right, Paul Beattie, Judith McKenzie, Christopher Ballentine, Eric Oelkers, Philippe Van Cappellen, and Janet Hering.

SEEKING A LOCATION FOR THE 2011 GOLDSCHMIDT MEETING

The EAG has begun the search for the location of its 2011 Goldschmidt Conference. The conference site needs to (1) be able to handle up to 3500 participants and (2) be a good value for these participants and include ample low-cost housing for students. The local committee at the chosen meeting site will need to work closely with the EAG and the international geochemical community to assure a top-rate international conference. Please send suggestions to either Eric Oelkers, the EAG Vice-President (oelkers@lmtg.obs-mip.fr), or Susan Stipp, the EAG General Secretary (stipp@geol.ku.dk).