



Geochemical Society

www.geochemsoc.org

GS BOARD OF DIRECTORS OPEN POSITIONS

The Nominations Committee of the Geochemical Society (GS) is seeking nominees for open board seats with terms beginning in January 2020. The potential nominees should have established reputations of leadership in geochemistry and be willing to devote considerable time and effort to the work of the society. Suggestions should be communicated by 5 July 2019 to any member of the Nominations Committee or to the GS business office at gsoffice@geochemsoc.org. More information regarding the duties and responsibilities of board positions can be found at www.geochemsoc.org/about/governance.

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

The society will hold its annual membership meeting and reception on the afternoon of Wednesday, 21 August 2019 in Barcelona (Spain) during the Goldschmidt Conference. All current GS members are invited to participate in the meeting and the subsequent reception. Visit the GS website (<https://www.geochemsoc.org/>) for more information about the time and location of the meeting.

GS EMBARKS ON STRATEGIC PLANNING PROCESS

In 2018, the GS board identified a need for the society to examine how well its activities are serving the international geochemistry community. The organization has a broad mission statement: The Geochemical Society is a nonprofit scientific society founded to encourage the application of geochemistry and so improve our understanding of the Earth and solar system. How effective is the society at achieving this mission? To answer that question, this year the board decided to undertake a strategic planning process.

The GS has grown rapidly in the last decade, with membership rising from 2,500 to more than 4,000. The Goldschmidt Conference, which the GS runs in partnership with the European Association of Geochemistry, has also increased in size and scope. We have launched new programs, such as the Introductory Student Membership and the Endowed Biogeochemistry Lecture, while expanding others, such as Goldschmidt student grants. These programs receive continuous refinement based on member feedback, but the society has not conducted an overall analysis of its efforts in many years.

The strategic planning process will begin with data collection—members will receive a short online survey asking for their views on the society and how it might improve. Some members will also be asked to provide more in-depth comments via interviews. With this feedback in mind, the board will meet in August 2019 to conduct an in-depth review of the current state of the organization and to establish goals for the next several years. The process will be facilitated by a professional consultant who has guided many other organizations through the same process.

The finished product will be a short document that identifies specific goals that can help the GS achieve its mission of advancing geochemistry. If you are a GS member, **we encourage you to respond to the online survey**. The purpose of this exercise is to align the society's activities with the needs of its members, so your input is very important. For questions or comments, please contact gsoffice@geochemsoc.org.

2019 GS AWARDS

V.M. Goldschmidt Award



Don DePaolo, Graduate Professor of Geochemistry and Chancellor's Professor Emeritus at the University of California, Berkeley (USA), will receive the 2019 V. M. Goldschmidt Award this summer. The Goldschmidt Award recognizes major achievements in geochemistry or cosmochemistry consisting of either a single outstanding contribution or a series of publications that have had great influence on the field. Prof. DePaolo is recognized

for outstanding contributions to the development of new isotopic methods and their application to crust and mantle evolution, igneous and metamorphic petrology, ocean chemistry and reactive chemical transport.

Victor Moritz Goldschmidt (1888–1947) was a chemist considered to be the founder of modern geochemistry and crystal chemistry. He developed the Goldschmidt Classification of the elements and worked for many years at the University of Oslo (Norway). The society has presented a medal in his honor since 1972.

Alfred Treibs Award



Sylvie Derenne of CNRS and Sorbonne Université (France) will receive the 2019 Alfred Treibs Award this summer. Presented by the society's Organic Geochemistry Division, the award is given for major achievements, over a period of years, in organic geochemistry. Dr. Derenne is recognized for her research on the selective preservation of algal cell walls to form kerogen and the hypothesis that carbonaceous chondrite organic matter derives

from solar gases and dust. She will accept the award at the International Meeting on Organic Geochemistry (IMOG) which will take place 1–6 September 2019 in Gothenburg (Sweden).

Alfred Treibs (1899–1983) was a chemist who is often recognized as the “father” of organic geochemistry. He worked for 50 years at the Technical University of Munich (Germany) where he conducted groundbreaking research on porphyrins. He published about 140 papers and mentored dozens of students. The Alfred Treibs Award was created in 1979 to honor his contributions to the field.

C.C. Patterson Award



Barbara Sherwood Lollar, University Professor at the University of Toronto (Canada), has been named the 2019 recipient of the Clair C. Patterson Award. The Patterson Award recognizes an innovative breakthrough of fundamental significance in environmental geochemistry, particularly in service of society, consisting of either a single outstanding contribution or a short series of papers published within the last decade. Dr. Sherwood Lollar has

pioneered environmental geochemistry methods based on compound-specific isotope analysis to detect and monitor the biodegradation of organic pollutants in water. These methods have reshaped the assessment of contaminated sites world-wide and have provided a molecular-level technique to improve the sustainability of water resources.

Clair C. Patterson (1922–1995) developed the uranium–lead dating method. Using lead and uranium isotopic data from the Canyon Diablo meteorite, he calculated an age for the Earth of 4.55 billion years, a figure that has remained unchanged for over 50 years. Patterson also

made enormous contributions to the understanding of the role of lead (Pb) as an environmental contaminant and its subsequent elimination from many products.

F.W. Clarke Award



Thomas Kruijer, a postdoctoral research scientist at the Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory (California, USA), will, this summer, receive the 2019 F. W. Clarke Award. The Clarke Award recognizes an early career scientist for a single outstanding contribution to geochemistry or cosmochemistry published either as a single paper or as a series of papers on a single topic. Dr. Kruijer is recognized for his groundbreaking work on the Hf-W chronometer to discover the remarkably early differentiation and protracted accretion of planetesimal cores, Jupiter's possible age of formation, and the discovery of distinct provenances of iron meteorites based on W-Mo nucleosynthetic anomalies. The award will be formally presented at the 2019 Goldschmidt Conference in Barcelona (Spain) this August.

Frank Wigglesworth Clarke (1847–1931) was a chemist who determined the composition of the Earth's crust. He taught chemistry and physics at the University of Cincinnati (USA) and served in the U.S. Geological Survey for many years. The society established the award in his name in 1972.

Distinguished Service Award



Marc Norman, Emeritus Fellow in the Research School of Earth Sciences at the Australian National University will receive the Geochemical Society's Distinguished Service Award for 2019. Dr. Norman is recognized for his stewardship of the society's journal, *Geochimica et Cosmochimica Acta*, for the last seven years. During his tenure, the journal continued to grow in size and stature, achieving an impact factor of 4.690 in 2017 and a 5-year impact factor of 5.052. He brought stability and efficiency to the journal, reading more than 1,000 manuscripts annually and providing individual, constructive feedback to authors. This recognition of Dr. Norman's service to GCS and the community marks the first time since 2015 that the award has been presented.

John Hayes Award



Ann Pearson, the Murray and Martha Ross Professor of Environmental Sciences at Harvard University (Massachusetts, USA), will receive the 2019 John Hayes Award from the GS. The award is given to a mid-career scientist for outstanding accomplishments that draw together multiple fields of investigation to advance biogeochemical science. Prof. Pearson is recognized for her work using the structure and isotopic composition of organic

molecules to understand how and why particular organisms leave unique signatures in the geologic record.

The Hayes Award was created in 2017 by the Organic Geochemistry Division and a group of friends, colleagues, and students of John Hayes. His rigorous research drew from multiple disciplines in a manner that led to novel outcomes. His accomplishments, based in isotope science and aided by innovative analytical developments, together created novel insights in geoscience. He made major contributions that detailed the timeline for the origin of life, the carbon cycle, and the development and recent change to the global geo-environment.

NEW CAPACITY-BUILDING GRANTS



The GS is launching a new program to support initiatives aimed at promoting networking, educational activities, analytical training or capacity building related to geochemistry in countries with low and lower-middle-income economies. Grants up to \$2,500 will be awarded later this year. Apply by 30 September 2019.

tinyurl.com/geochemistry-grants