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APPOINTMENT OF PROFESSOR MANUEL PRIETO AS SEM HONORARY MEMBER

Professor Manuel Prieto (University of Oviedo, Spain) was named Honorary Member of the Spanish Mineralogical Society (SEM) on 1 October 2021. The Spanish Mineralogical Society by law establishes that the recipients of the Honorary Member appointment must be highly acclaimed researchers or must have contributed in a relevant way to the dignity and development of the SEM. Professor Prieto was President of the Spanish Mineralogical Society from 2007 to 2010. As president, his most important contribution was to propose the SEM as one of the scientific societies in charge of publishing *Elements: An International Magazine of Mineralogy, Geochemistry, and Petrology*. Currently, *Elements* is published by 18 scientific societies.

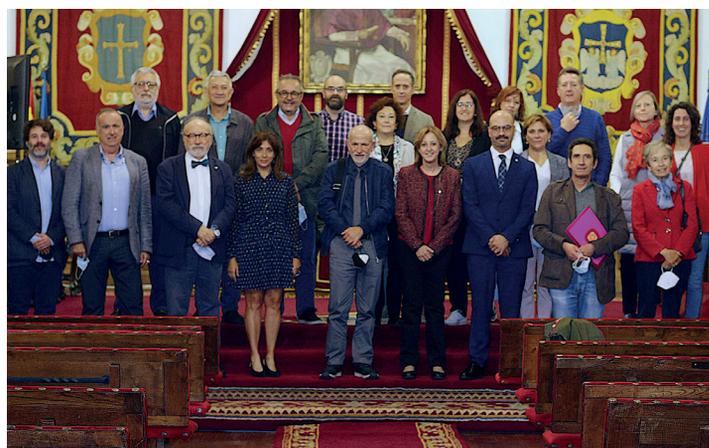


President Blanca Bauluz, Manuel Prieto Rubio, Vice Rector Humberto Rodríguez, and Juan Manuel García Ruiz during the ceremony.

When considering his outstanding career in crystallography and in applied geochemical and mineralogical research (as evidenced by the publication of more than 100 research papers and 10 book chapters; the supervision of 13 PhDs; his contribution to the SEM), the SEM General Assembly, which was held 26 June 2019 in Ronda (Spain), approved his appointment as SEM Honorary Member.



Professor Juan Manuel García Ruiz giving his speech during the ceremony.



Participants on site after the ceremony.

The event took place in the University of Oviedo, and it was presided over by Blanca Bauluz (SEM President), Juan Manuel García Ruiz (Research Professor of CSIC at the University of Granada and great friend of 'Manolo'), and Humberto Rodríguez (Vice Rector of Institutional Relations, University of Oviedo). The ceremony was broadcast live on YouTube (for attendees on-line). It was a touching moment when some of his PhD students, colleagues, and good friends said a few words and offered their sincere thanks to Manolo for his good work and, specially, for his friendship and support. The ceremony concluded with a very emotional speech by Manolo. The current pandemic situation meant that the event was simple but very moving.

The Spanish Mineralogical Society deeply thanks Professor Manuel Prieto for agreeing to accept the appointment as Honorary Member, and we encourage him to continue with his great passions of music and, of course, scientific investigation.

YOUNG RESEARCHER AWARDS FOR THE BEST ORAL PRESENTATIONS 2021

Two awards were given to the best oral presentations at the 3rd European Mineralogical Conference (Cracow, Poland). The winners were Andrea García Vicente (University of Salamanca) for "Advanced Statistical Analysis of X-ray Diffraction Data: Kaolinite Polytypes" and Ricardo Millán Becerro (University of Huelva) for "Rare Earth Elements (REE) used as Environmental Tracers to Elucidate the Weathering Model of a Phosphogypsum Disposal Area".

AWARD FOR THE BEST MASTER'S THESIS 2021

The winner was Claudia Prieto Torrell (University of Barcelona) for "Evolución petrológica, geoquímica y volcanológica de El Hierro (Islas Canarias)". Thesis supervisors were Meritxell Aulinas and Alejandro Rodríguez.