



The Clay Minerals Society

www.clays.org

THE PRESIDENT'S CORNER



Our 50th Anniversary Annual Meeting in Urbana-Champaign was a success! Joe Stucki and the other members of the 2013 Local Organizing Committee combined anniversary-themed sessions with thoughtfully defined thematic and general sessions, and included well-planned social activities and field trips, all centered on an accessible, effective,

and historically significant venue for clay science. This combination drew the usual diversity and high quality of CMS-member scholarly presentations, and attracted registrants in numbers not seen since the early days of the recent economic downturn. Perhaps highly successful CMS annual meetings are a sign of emerging and continuing improvement in the larger economy!

By the time this issue of *Elements* arrives in your physical and virtual mailboxes, it will be only a few months until our next annual meeting, to be held on May 17–21 in College Station, Texas, USA. Visit the 2014 meeting website (see the ad below) to see the broad range of exciting sessions Youjun Deng and the 2014 Local Organizing Committee have assembled around the theme “Everything is Big: From Nanoparticles to Planets.” Make your plans now to join in the scholarship and networking of our multidisciplinary clay science community.

Best wishes,

Michael Velbel (velbel@msu.edu)
President, The Clay Minerals Society

NOMINATIONS SOUGHT FOR CMS AWARDS

The CMS gives four awards at its annual meetings. See the CMS website at www.clays.org for a description of the awards and an overview of the nomination process. **The nomination deadline for the 2015 awards is March 31, 2014.**

STUDENT RESEARCH GRANTS AND TRAVEL AWARDS

The research grant program is designed to provide partial financial support (up to \$3000) to graduate students pursuing master's and doctoral research in clay science and technology. The travel grant program provides graduate students with partial financial support to attend the annual meeting of the Clay Minerals Society and present the results of their research. All student members of the Clay Minerals Society are eligible for the travel grant program. See the CMS website, www.clays.org, for more information. **The application deadline is March 31, 2014.**

REYNOLDS CUP 2014



The 7th biennial Reynolds Cup competition for quantitative mineral analysis is now open. Information about the competition, including guidelines and the names of previous winners, can be found at www.clays.org/SOCIETY%20AWARDS/RCintro.html. The competition is free for all to enter; however, persons who are not members of the CMS are encouraged (but not obliged) to become members (see www.clays.org/MEMBERSHIP/MemberRates.html for details).

You can register your interest in the contest by sending an e-mail mentioning the subject “Reynolds Cup 2014 registration” to rc2014@ethz.ch. Registration e-mails must include the following information: name, institution/organization, shipping address (must work for DHL/Courier delivery), phone number (for delivery), and e-mail address.

About 90 sets of samples will be available for distribution. Each set comprises three samples of approximately 4 g each composed of mineral mixtures commonly found in clay-bearing rocks and soils. Sets of samples will be distributed in the order of registration. Samples are expected to be dispatched on January 20, and the deadline for the submission of results is March 31, 2014. The top three contestants with the most accurate results will be announced at the 51st annual meeting of the Clay Minerals Society (May 17–21, 2014). Only the names of the top three contestants will be published. The names of the other participants will remain strictly confidential.

Because of the popularity of the Reynolds Cup and the enormous amount of work put into its preparation, potential participants are strongly encouraged to plan ahead and only request samples if they are sure they can complete the analysis and return results to the organizers by the due date. Those who request samples and do not send in results or fail to return the samples unopened well before the due date will not be eligible to participate in future Reynolds Cups.

We look forward to your participation!

Michael Ploetze, Reynolds Cup 2014 organizer

51st Annual Meeting
The Clay Minerals Society

EVERYTHING IS BIG

From Nanoparticles to Planets

May 17-21, 2014

Texas A&M University
College Station, Texas, USA

http://cms2014.tamu.edu

Field trips

- Clay and lignite mining, processing, & reclamation (May 17)
- Local soil tour: genesis and mineralogy (May 21)

Workshop

- Surface modification of clays and nanocomposites (May 18)

Local organizing committee contacts

- Youjun Deng (Chairman), yjd@tamu.edu
- Gary Beall, gb11@txstate.edu
- Sam Feagley, sfeagley@ag.tamu.edu
- Bruce Herbert, herbert@geo.tamu.edu
- William F. Jaynes, william.jaynes@ttu.edu

Dates and deadlines

- February 3/4: Abstract submission/Early Registration open
- February 28: Deadline: Abstract submission ENDS
- April 4: Early registration rate ENDS 5pm

Technical sessions

- Functional clay nanoparticles
- 2-D nanomaterials
- Qualitative and quantitative characterization of clay minerals and short-range ordered materials
- Structural characterizing of lamellar materials
- Structural characterization of short-range ordered materials
- Clays by spectroscopy
- Molecular simulation of clay minerals and reactions
- Clays in geological Processes
- Clay mineralogy and geochemistry on Mars
- Clays and oil/gas production
- Clays in soils and sediments
- Clays and environments
- Clay interactions with radioactive waste and waste forms
- Interactions of clay minerals with microorganisms and biomolecules
- Clays, nanoparticles and health
- Current research progresses of Asian Clay Minerals Group
- Teaching clay mineralogy
- General Session