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### THE PRESIDENT'S CORNER

The Association Internationale pour l'Étude des Argilles (AIPEA, the International Association for the Study of Clays) acts as the international umbrella organization for all of the world's national clay societies. The aim of AIPEA is to promote clay research and technology and facilitate international cooperation. Information from clay groups around the world can be found in the *AIPEA Newsletter*. You can download past and present newsletters from the AIPEA website (www.aipea.org).

AIPEA participates actively in clay conferences, including those of the European Clay Groups Association (ECGA). The last conference, Euroclay 2015, was held in Edinburgh (UK) and organised jointly by the ECGA and the Clay Minerals Society (CMS), in association with the International Natural Zeolite Association (INZA) and the Geological Society. Thanks go to Steve Hillier (the Conference Chair), Kevin Murphy (the Executive Director) and an outstanding



Organising Committee, Euroclay 2015 was a great success! And it was powerful evidence that clay societies, groups and organizations should hold joint meetings in order to attract and reach the widest possible audience who are interested in micro- and nanoparticles.

One of the more important tasks that AIPEA undertakes is to stimulate the careers of excellent young clay scientists. To further this aim, the association established the AIPEA Student Awards. Two award categories were introduced at the International Clay Conference and Euroclay: the Best Student Poster Award and Best Student Oral Presentation Award. The 2017 AIPEA Student Awards were made jointly with the European Clay Groups Association and the Clay Minerals Society. It was very hard to decide between the many deserving candidates – but we tried! Thanks go to the judging help of more than 60 senior scientists (!) who evaluated more than 100 oral and poster presentations.

Cont'd from page 54

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## **Original Articles**

Petrogenesis of Triassic gabbroic and basaltic rocks from Chukotka, NE Russia: Eastern end of the "arc-type" Siberian LIP? – Minyahl Teferi DESTA, Akira ISHIWATARI, Sumiaki MACHI, Shoji ARAI, Akihiro TAMURA, Galina V. LEDNEVA, Sergey D. SOKOLOV, Artem V. MOISEEV and Boris A. BAZYLEV

**Annealing effects on cathodoluminescence of zircon** – Yuta TSUCHIYA, Masahiro KAYAMA, Hirotsugu NISHIDO and Yousuke NOUMI

Effect of temperature on the frictional behavior of smectite and illite – Tatsuro KUBO and Ikuo KATAYAMA

**Bismuth minerals from the W-Mo-Sn deposits hosted in the Iwafune granitoids, Niigata Prefecture, Japan** – Yuya IZUMINO and Kazuo NAKASHIMA

### Letter

Raman spectroscopic thermometry of carbonaceous material in chondrites: four-band fitting analysis and expansion of lower temperature limit – Yoshitaka HOMMA, Yui KOUKETSU, Hiroyuki KAGI, Takashi MIKOUCHI and Hikaru YABUTA

The winners for the oral category were as follows:

**Sayako Inoué** (University of Tokyo, Japan) for "A combined study by HRTEM and HAADF STEM for Fe-rich berthierine and chlorite interstratified minerals."

**Bhabananda Biswas** (University of South Australia) for "Competitive adsorption of mixed contaminants on metal-immobilising organoclay (MIOC): Implication in the degradation of polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PHAs)."

**Mathias H. Köstner** (Technische Universität München, Germany) for "Boron content and boron isotope composition of Na, Ca and Mg bentonites."

The award winners for the poster category were as follows:

**Katherine Ann Rothwell** (Newcastle University, UK) for "Assessing the redox reactivity of Fe(II)-reduced clay minerals."

**Darja Komar** (University of Ljubljana, Slovenia) for "Physical, chemical and thermal characteristics of Makirina bay peloids (N. Dalmatia, Republic of Croatia)."

**Cristina Fernandez-Barranco** (University of Jaen, Spain) for "Study of spatial distribution of sepiolite in polyamide 66/sepiolite."

The next AIPEA meeting will be the 16th International Clay Conference (ICC), to be held 16–21 July 2017, organized jointly with the Spanish Clay Society (SEA) under the chairmanship of Alberto Lopez Galindo. Information can be found at www.16icc.org.

Keep yourself informed about clays and clay minerals! Simply subscribe to the email listserv by sending a request to talk.subscribe@aipea.org. And you can unsubscribe at any time by sending a request to talk.unsubscribe@aipea.org.

**Saverio Fiore** (president@aipea.org)
President, AIPEA

## **VOLUMES IN THE AIPEA EDUCATIONAL SERIES**

Publication #1

Interstratified Clay Minerals: Origin, Characterization and Geochemical Significance

S. Fiore, J. Cuadros & F.J. Huertas (Eds.) 2013, 2nd ed., x + 175 pages ISBN: 978-88-7522-046-4

E-copy is available for free download. Just send a request to info@aipea.org

Publication #2

Magnesian Clays: Characterization, Origin and Applications

M. Pozo & E. Galán (Eds.) 2015, xii + 380 pages ISSN: 978-88-7522-093-6

Now available for purchase. PDF copy: €5.00. Hard Copy: €20.00

Information at www.aipea.org