



Roberta Rudnick

It is an honor to start my term as President of the Geochemical Society (GS), following in the very able footsteps of Laurie Reisberg, who has now taken on the role of Past President. I have learned a lot during these past two years as GS Vice President. The most impressive thing I've learned is the incredible volunteer efforts that keep the society functioning and strong. These range from all of the people who work to make the annual Goldschmidt Conference a success—the science committee, the local organizing committees, the theme chairs, the session chairs, the mentors, the student volunteers (I could go on, but I think you get the point)—to the people who serve on the Board of Directors, and those who contribute their time and knowledge to various GS committees. In the past couple of years, the society has formed two new committees: the Ethics Committee, chaired by Liz Sikes, who is drafting the first-ever ethics policy for our society; and the Strategic Planning Committee, chaired by Steven Goldstein, who is advising the society about how we can do even more for our membership within the constraints of our resources (for committee memberships see www.geochemsoc.org/about/committeesandpersonnel/). We live in trying times. And it is in these times that one can appreciate even more the words of US President John F. Kennedy, who famously said, “Ask not what your country can do for you—ask what you can do for your country”. The same sentiment applies to your society. If you would like to volunteer on a committee or to help, in any capacity, in future Goldschmidt meetings, please visit www.geochemsoc.org/membership/get-involved.

In closing, I would like to welcome Vickie Bennett as the new Vice President, and new board members Erdem Idiz (Organic Geochemistry Division Chair), Weidong Sun, and Lesley Warren. I would also like to extend my deepest thanks to Barbara Sherwood Lollar, who spent six years working to keep the society strong and formulate best practices for our awards committees, and to outgoing board members Liz Sikes, Anne Peslier and Yuji Sano. Finally, Marc Norman, who ably served for six years as the Executive Editor of *Geochimica et Cosmochimica Acta*, has announced his plans to retire from the editorship this year. All of these individuals gave selflessly of their time to keep the society on a firm footing and moving into the future. They deserve our heart-felt thanks.

Roberta L. Rudnick

President, Geochemical Society (2018–2019)

2018 GS AWARDS

V.M. Goldschmidt Medal



Michael A. Arthur, professor emeritus of geosciences at Pennsylvania State University (USA), will receive the 2018 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. Arthur was nominated for his work on light-element stable

isotopes; on major, minor and trace elements; on paleoceanography; and on paleoclimatology.

Victor Moritz Goldschmidt (1888–1947) was a chemist who is considered to be the founder of modern geochemistry and crystal chemistry. He developed the Goldschmidt Classification of 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 Medal



Stefan Schouten, Senior Research Scientist at the Royal Netherlands Institute for Sea Research (the Netherlands), will receive the 2018 Alfred Treibs Award. Presented by the society's Organic Geochemistry Division, the award is given for major achievements, over a period of years, in organic geochemistry. Prof. Schouten is recognized for his unique contributions to organic geochemistry, paleoclimatology, hydrology, biogeochemistry, and microbiology, including, most notably, the development and application of new organic proxies.

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 Medal

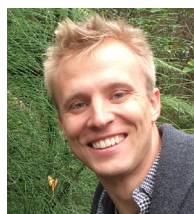


Sigurður Reynir Gíslason, research professor at the University of Iceland's Institute of Earth Sciences, will receive the 2018 Clair C. Patterson Award. The Patterson Award recognizes an innovative breakthrough of fundamental significance in environmental geochemistry, particularly in service of society, consisting of either a single outstanding contribution or a short series of papers published within the last decade. Prof.

Gíslason is recognized for his work on carbon capture and storage and on volcanic hazards.

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. This figure was far more accurate than those that existed at the time and it has remained essentially unchanged for over 50 years. Patterson also made enormous contributions to the understanding of lead's role as an environmental contaminant and the need for its subsequent elimination from many products.

F.W. Clarke Medal



Noah Planavsky, assistant professor of geology and geophysics at Yale University (USA), will receive the 2018 F.W. Clarke Award, which recognizes an early career scientist for a single outstanding contribution to geochemistry or cosmochemistry published either as a single paper or a series of papers on a single topic. Dr. Planavsky is recognized for his work on mid-Proterozoic oxygen levels, as defined by his novel application of the chromium (Cr) isotope proxy.

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. He also collaborated with the Smithsonian Institution (USA) on atomic weight research. The society established the award in his name in 1972.

GS INTRODUCTORY STUDENT MEMBERSHIPS

To increase student participation, the GS grants free memberships to students in countries that are under-represented in the society. This includes most countries in Africa, Asia (excluding China, Japan, and South Korea), and Central and South America. Introductory Student Memberships offer benefits that include print and online subscriptions to *Elements*, the weekly Geochemical News email, and discounted registration rates for the Goldschmidt Conference and other scientific meetings. More information is available at www.geochemsoc.org/programs/ism/.

Current Introductory Student Members come from Botswana, Brazil, Colombia, Ghana, India, Indonesia, Mexico, Nigeria, the Philippines, and South Africa. We want to expand this list to many more countries, so if you know students studying geochemistry, encourage them to join!

For students from countries not included in this program, membership is just \$15 for one year or \$25 for two years. Joining a professional society is a great way for students to expand their professional networks and learn about the latest developments in the field.

ORGANIC GEOCHEMISTRY DIVISION ANNOUNCES BEST PAPER AWARD

The society's Organic Geochemistry Division (OGD) recently restructured its Best Paper Award and accepted nominations for articles published in 2015. The OGD is pleased to announce that the award will recognize the authors of, "Reappraisal of hydrocarbon biomarkers in Archean rocks" (*Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences* (2015), vol. 112, no. 19, p 5915–5920). The meticulous work described in the paper was done by Katherine L. French, Christian Hallmann, Janet M. Hope, Petra L. Schoon, J. Alex Zumberge, Yosuke Hoshino, Carl A. Peters, Simon C. George, Gordon D. Love, Jochen J. Brocks, Roger Buick, and Roger E. Summons. In choosing the article, the selection committee commented, "There are few papers that have made such a profound contribution to this field."

The authors would like to acknowledge funding of this unique study by the Agouron Institute (USA) and, in particular, John Abelson and Mel Simon.

Later this year, the OGD will accept nominations for the Best Paper Award that will recognize articles published in 2016. Visit www.geochemsoc.org/awards/bestpaperaward to learn more.

GS CAREER CENTER

The Geochemical Career Center features job opportunities from employers all around the world. If you are looking for a teaching, research, or postdoctoral position, be sure to add the Career Center to the websites you follow. If you are an employer seeking excellent candidates, it's a great way to advertise your position to members of the society. Job postings in the Career Center are also featured in *Geochemical News*, the society's weekly electronic newsletter. Visit www.geochemsoc.org/career-center to get started.

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**Early Registration Deadline:
June 12**

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