

THE 29th V.M. GOLDSCHMIDT CONFERENCE[®]

Goldschmidt2019 is now behind us. After two years of intense preparation, there is a sense of relief that it all went well and that everyone had a fantastic conference. Yet also a tinge of sadness that it's all over. However, Goldschmidt2020 will be here soon enough!

Goldschmidt2019 was held 18–23 August 2019 in Barcelona (Spain) in the beautiful Centro de Convenciones Internacional de Barcelona, located near the beach, which many delegates enjoyed (and to which some groups even managed to get pizzas delivered!). Nearly 4,100 delegates participated in the six-day meeting, making Goldschmidt2019 the third largest Goldschmidt conference, after Paris in 2017 and Florence in 2013. Student representation reached 32%, significantly up on the 25% in 2013.



A warm welcome from the student helpers

The organization of Goldschmidt2019 was led by the European Association of Geochemistry (EAG) and overseen by the co-chairs of the Organizing and Science Committees; Derek Vance (ETH Zürich) and Helen Williams (University of Cambridge). However, as always, Goldschmidt is a community-run conference involving hundreds of scientists, ranging from committee members to theme chairs, session chairs, workshop panellists, mentors, student helpers and many more. Everyone contributes to the success of the conference, so the EAG warmly thanks everyone for their participation, time and energy.



Delegates enjoying the Icebreaker Reception

GOLDSCHMIDT2019: THE DATA

Scientists love data, so here are the main numbers for this year's conference:

- 4,075 delegates, including 32% students (and 79 accompanying persons)
- 14 themes and 121 sessions
- 4,032 abstracts
- 2,395 talks, including 479 flash talks
- 2,208 posters
- 5 plenary speakers (all recorded and available on the conference YouTube channel)
- 17 pre-conference workshops, attended by 444 participants
- 14 lunch-time events for early career scientists, attended by 394 participants
- 4 field trips
- 67 student helpers
- 240 mentees and 154 mentors
- 40 grant recipients
- 5 bloggers who contributed 15 blog articles
- 7 press releases and exposure in major media outlets (CNN, BBC, Fox News, *New Scientist*, *New York Times*, *New York Post*, *Le Monde*, *The Australian*, *El Mundo*, *The Sun*)
- 47 exhibitors and 18 sponsors
- 340 delegates at the Club Night, 560 at the banquet, and over 100 delegates on the walking tours
- 122 childcare bookings



The Hungarian delegation managed to all get together on the beach!

Delegates travelled from 74 different countries, and the 15 largest delegations came from the following countries:

USA	749	Canada	156
China	583	Switzerland	157
Germany	410	South Korea	117
Great Britain	344	Russia	75
France	316	Italy	74
Japan	180	India	71
Australia	170	Brazil	50
Spain	164		



NEW THIS YEAR: THE FLASH TALKS

Goldschmidt2019 introduced a new talk format: the flash talk. This is where delegates could present a snapshot of their research in four minutes, in addition to presenting a poster. There were 479 flash talks presented in the two flash talk theatres, which were located in the exhibition area. Attendance was very high from the first day and the feedback very positive. As a result, the experience will be repeated in the future.



Flash talks: a new talk format introduced at Goldschmidt2019

EARLY CAREER PROGRAM: SPECIAL FOCUS ON NON-ACADEMIC CAREERS

This year, the Early Career Program, developed by Sami Mikhail and Arola Moreras Marti, included a special focus on careers outside academia, inviting geochemists who now work, or have worked, in consultancy, scientific publishing or research and development to share their experience about their career paths.

In addition to these, workshops were held on oral presentation skills, science communication, best practices in academic publishing, interactive teaching methods, confidence and public speaking, and the difficult topic of love and careers in academia (or how to manage career paths when a couple consists of two academics). Some of those workshops have been video recorded and you can watch them on the conference YouTube channel.

Each day, a small group of students also had the opportunity to share lunch with the plenary speaker and ask all their questions in an informal setting. The plenary speakers themselves enjoyed the experience. Finally, the pop-up talks were presented mid-week.

All in all, this made for a very comprehensive program for our early career delegates, and we are delighted to notice an increasing representation of the new generation.

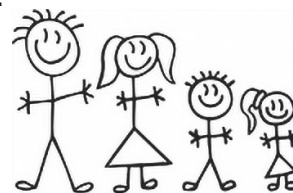
A MORE INCLUSIVE GOLDSCHMIDT: AMIGO

The AMIGo initiative was started in 2018, following the efforts made by the Geochemical Society to implement a code of appropriate conduct for the conference. All participants had to abide by this code, and the EAG Council and GS Board members, as well as society staff, received special training and served as points of contact for any delegate who had questions or who experienced harassment during the conference. Those points of contact were easily identified through their yellow badge.



FAMILIES AT THE CONFERENCE

This year, special efforts were made towards offering subsidized childcare at €10 per half day (or €100 for the entire week). We are very happy to report that the childcare facility was fully booked throughout the week. The children themselves interacted very well together and had a lot of fun, and, most importantly, the parents were extremely satisfied with the level of care, which brought them peace of mind while they in turn attended the conference. We are very grateful to Noah's Ark Childcare for their fantastic work.



PHOTOS, VIDEOS, BLOGS AND MORE

Links to conference websites, videos, photos, program volumes or abstracts can be accessed from the Goldschmidt Archive at goldschmidt.info/conferencesView.

All the blog posts written during Goldschmidt2019 are available on the EAG Blog (blog.eag.eu.com). These include interviews with Bethany Ehlmann (plenary speaker), Katharina Marquardt (EMU medallist), and the non-academic careers forum panellists of Anne Trinquier, Katja Amstätter, Rebecca Neely and Lewis Collins.

The European Association of Geochemistry and the Geochemical Society now look forward to welcoming you 21–26 June to Honolulu (Hawaii, USA) in 2020 and then 4–9 July to Lyon (France) in 2021.



GOLDSCHMIDT®

Hawaii 2020

21–26 June




IMPORTANT DATES

18 October 2019
Call for Workshops and Sessions Closes

15 December 2019
Abstract Submission Opens

31 January 2020
Grant Application Deadline

14 February 2020
Abstract Submission Deadline

goldschmidt.info/2020