Society News



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International Association for the Study of Clays

Association internationale pour l'étude des argiles International Association for the Study of Clays Internationale Vereinigung zum Studium der Tone Межлунаролная ассоциация по изучению глин



David L. Bish

It is a great pleasure to join the increasing number of societies participating in *Elements,* and I hope this forum will foster increased collaboration between us. AIPEA is an international association consisting of the national clay societies of the world. It acts as an umbrella organization to coordinate and facilitate international activities and collaborations relating to clay mineralogy (much like IMA). AIPEA represents clay mineral societies from France, Czech Republic, Brazil, Mexico, Italy, Israel, South Korea, South Africa, Belgium, The Netherlands, Japan, Russia, Poland, Hungary, India, Spain, Romania, Australia, Colum-

bia, Yugoslavia, Turkey, Bulgaria, the United Kingdom and Ireland, Sweden, China, Germany, Portugal, and the USA. Broadly speaking, the aim of AIPEA is the worldwide promotion of international cooperation in clay research and technology. AIPEA accomplishes this by sponsoring the International Clay Conference (ICC) every four years. A full report on our recent annual meeting, held last August in Tokyo, Japan, with 396 participants from 36 countries, was published in the December 2005 issue of *Elements* (volume 1: 313-314).

AIPEA also produces an annual newsletter that contains information on the activities of our national clay society members, together with information on upcoming meetings and grant programs. Our awards program recognizes and encourages young and not-so-young clay scientists. The Bradley Award is given to a young clay scientist based on a research paper, and the 2005 award winner was Dr. Javiera Cervini-Silva of the University of California at Berkeley, USA. In her Bradley Award presentation, she discussed the effects of iron redox cycling and the hydration properties of smectites on the Brønsted basicity of adsorbed water. The AIPEA Fellowships and Medals are given to honor active clay scientists for their contributions to clay science. The 2005 AIPEA Fellowships were awarded to Dr. José Julien Fripiat (France) and Dr. José Serratosa (Spain). AIPEA Medals for excellence in clay science, sponsored by the Associación Española des Arcillas, were given to Dr. Eduardo Ruiz-Hitzky (Spain) and Dr. Stephen Guggenheim (USA).

The Nomenclature Committee of AIPEA has established a consistent clay terminology, and we will shortly place nomenclature discussions of the past 30 years on the AIPEA website (http://aipea.org/). Over the next four years, the Teaching Committee will investigate ways to expand clay science teaching, not only to clay scientists but also to those in the materials and chemistry fields who work with clay materials in their research.

AIPEA will meet next at the Euroclay Conference in 2007 in Portugal, at which time the AIPEA council will hold formal meetings. The next International Clay Conference will be held June 20–26, 2009, and is being organized by Dr. Saverio Fiore of Italy. Plans are already well advanced, and a detailed scientific proposal will be put forward at the Euroclay meeting in 2007.

AIPEA officers for 2005–2009 are Prof. David Bish, Indiana University (president); Prof. Takabumi Sakamoto, Chiba Institute of Science (vice president); Prof. Robert A. Schoonheydt, Katholieke Universiteit Leuven (past president); Dr. J. Theo Kloprogge, Queensland University of Technology (secretary general); and Dr. Jeanne B. Percival, Geological Survey of Canada (treasurer). The AIPEA council consists of Dr. Peter Komadel (Slovak Academy of Sciences), Dr. Atsuyuki Inoue (Chiba University), Dr. N. Clauer (Centre de Géochimie de la Surface), Prof. Saverio Fiore (Consiglio Nazionale delle Ricerche, Potenza), Dr. Celso S.F. Gomes (Universidad de Aveiro), Dr. Daisy Barbosa Alves (Petroleo Brasileiro S.A.), Prof. Darrell G. Schulze (Purdue University), and Prof. Stephen Guggenheim (University of Illinois at Chicago).

David L. Bish President, AIPEA

