



# European Association of Geochemistry



www.eag.eu.com

## PRESIDENT'S CORNER



Chris Ballentine

Taking on the EAG president's position is a great privilege. When you read this I will have been in post for two months. My first and most important task is to thank **Bernard Bourdon**, our outgoing president, for the fantastic job he has done. Under Bernard's leader-

ship we have seen continued growth in the profile of European geochemistry. The success of the 2011 Goldschmidt Conference in Prague, with a record attendance and superb feedback on the quality of the science, is the most obvious measure of the recent success of EAG. Equally important are the community-building processes that EAG manages. The new *Geochemical Perspectives* journal is attracting the world's greatest geochemists to publish in a style that explains both their science and the context of its discovery. The blogs and interviews that you can access through the EAG website provide personal insight into what motivates different people and give a real sense of what is happening now. The Distinguished Lecture Program, the EGU Eminent Speaker Award and the sponsorship of students and workshops are essential components of our activity because they establish both personal contacts and community identity. The medals and fellowships awarded by the EAG to our best geochemists provide evidence that they

can show to their institutes and national funding bodies of the international recognition they have received for the quality and impact of their science.

EAG is a vibrant and dynamic society that would not function without the time given by Council members and non-Council volunteers who sit on our committees. I would like to take this opportunity to thank two councillors whose current roles are finishing: **Bernard Marty**, who has been the EAG Goldschmidt officer for the last four years and who delivered the Prague Goldschmidt in 2011, and **Christina Facchini**, for the huge amount of work she has done in integrating the aerosol community into the Goldschmidt conferences. We nevertheless have great new people joining us, too (see beside). This renewal is essential because as a community there are many challenges to meet. Not the least is the role our science has to play in energy and resource security, climate, the environment and waste management. The publishing environment is going through a transformation with open access publication routes and is struggling with the historical dominance of just a few publishing houses. Educational resources in the form of simple textbooks are being superseded by electronic resources. Our community is still growing and finding its true strength. EAG is working to meet these challenges, and working with other societies is essential for achieving our goal of supporting geochemistry at all levels.

Chris Ballentine, EAG President

## JOINING THE EAG COUNCIL

Elections for the EAG Council took place in the fall of 2012, and we'd like to thank all EAG members who voted. We are especially grateful to the candidates for their participation. The EAG Council would like to welcome the three newly elected councillors:



**Britta Planer-Friedrich** (University of Bayreuth, Germany) received her PhD in hydrogeology and environmental geochemistry in 2004 from the Bergakademie Freiberg,

Germany. After postdoctoral research posts in the UK and Canada, she became an assistant professor of environmental geochemistry and the leader of an Emmy Noether Young Researcher Group at the German Research Foundation, University of Bayreuth, Germany; she was appointed associate professor in 2012. Her research interests are in the field of biogeochemistry, specifically the abiotic and microbially catalyzed processes that control the mobility, uptake in the biosphere and toxicity of aqueous and volatile trace elements in suboxic to anoxic environments.



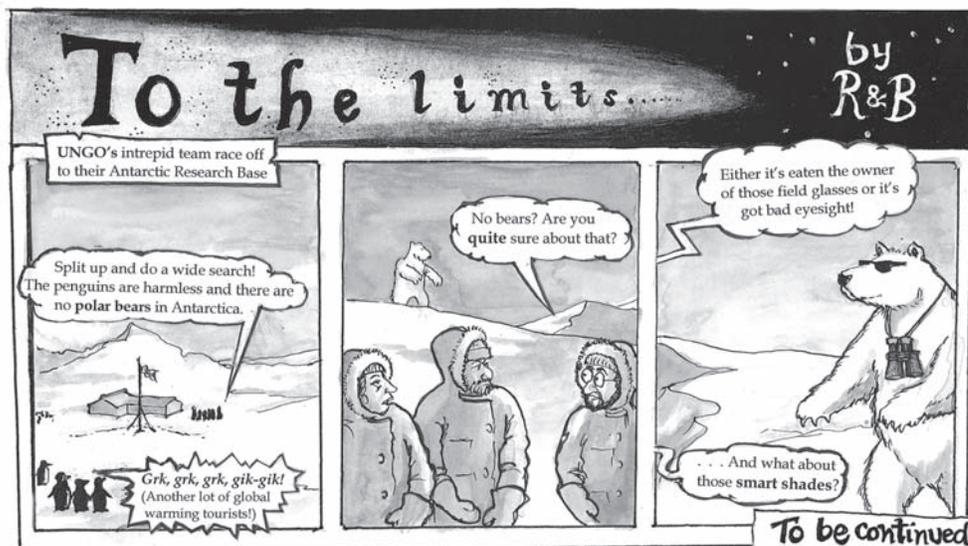
**Maria Schönbächler** (ETH Zürich, Switzerland) is an associate professor in isotope geochemistry at ETH Zürich, Switzerland. She is particularly interested in the formation, differentia-

tion and early evolution of the Earth and other planetary bodies. Her research is orientated towards chronology, stable isotope fractionation of non-traditional elements and the development of new techniques for high-precision isotope analyses of geological materials. She received her PhD from ETH Zürich and held postdoctoral positions at the Carnegie Institution of Washington and Imperial College London. She was appointed to a lecturer position at the University of Manchester in 2007 and moved to Zürich in 2012



**Nathalie Vigier** (CRPG Nancy, France) obtained her PhD in 2000 in isotope geochemistry at the Institut de Physique du Globe de Paris. After a two-year postdoctoral position at the Open

University (UK), she joined the CRPG (Centre de Recherches Pétrographiques et Géochimiques) in Nancy as a CNRS researcher. Her research interests include the chemical



and physical erosion of continents, clay formation, the carbon cycle and palaeoenvironments. Her most recent contributions concern the understanding of the isotope geochemistry of lithium and manganese in low-temperature, biotic and abiotic systems. She has published 31 papers, is part of the Scientific Technology Panel of IODP and has been co-convenor of several sessions at the Goldschmidt, EGU and AGU conferences.

**EAG AT THE EGU GENERAL ASSEMBLY 2013**



In 2012, the EAG began expanding its presence at the EGU General Assembly by:

- Awarding the distinction of Eminent EAG Speaker to two scientists (this distinction includes an invited talk and a 500-euro honorarium)
- Sponsoring several sessions in geochemistry
- Welcoming delegates at the EAG booth

At the EGU General Assembly on 7–12 April 2013, the EAG will once again present the Eminent Speaker Award, sponsor several sessions and welcome delegates at booth no. 2. Details on the awardees and sponsored sessions can be found on our website at [www.eag.eu.com/awards/eminent-speakers/](http://www.eag.eu.com/awards/eminent-speakers/).

**GEMSTONES SHORT COURSE**

Early December 2012, 40 students, professors, researchers and senior geologists gathered for the EAG sponsored short course on “Gemstones: Their Geology and Gemmology” at the University of Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. This short course included a two-day lecture, and one day of practical work based on the identification of gems by microscopy and gemmological instruments. Find out more at [www.eag.eu.com/education/shortcourse/](http://www.eag.eu.com/education/shortcourse/).



# goldschmidt 2013

geochemistry's conference

**Abstract  
Deadline**

**April  
12, 2013**



**Florence  
Italy**

**August  
25-30, 2013**

We invite you to share your experiences and insights on the EAG Blog ([blog.eag.eu.com](http://blog.eag.eu.com)). Contact us at [office@eag.eu.com](mailto:office@eag.eu.com)