



FROM THE PRESIDENT



Greetings from Canberra (Australia) in this summer of fires and ice (severe hailstorms). January 2020 brought the biennial change of leadership to the Geochemical Society (GS). It is with great pleasure, and a sense of the past successes and the potential future achievements of the GS, that I start my term as president. The outgoing president, Roberta Rudnick, has set the bar very high. We all thank her for her initiative, leadership, and selfless contributions to the GS as president, and we count on her continuing expertise as she takes up the role of past-president. We congratulate and welcome new vice-president Sumit Chakraborty, our new treasurer Haibo Zou, and new board members Tracy Rushmer, Mark Rehkämper, and Hilairy Hartnett (Organic Geochemistry Division Chair). We give a heartfelt thanks to Laurie Reisberg for six years of leadership and devoted service to the GS, and to retiring treasurer Sam Savin who so capably managed the purse strings and investments of the GS for nine years!

This is actually the second version of my column. In the first version, submitted a few months ago, I wrote about the many wonderful events being planned for the Goldschmidt Conference in Honolulu, Hawai'i. Obviously, much has changed since then. At the time of this revision in late March, many GS members around the world are dealing with the impacts of a global pandemic. Classes and field trips have been cancelled, labs closed, and teaching shifted online. With deep regret, the GS recently decided that Goldschmidt could not proceed as planned in Honolulu.

Our foremost concern is for the well-being of Goldschmidt participants. Cancelling the in-person meeting was necessary for this reason. This will have serious financial implications for the society, but it was the right decision. Thanks to the careful stewardship of past GS leaders, we have the means to make it through this difficult time. Beyond the finances, there is also a loss to the scientific enterprise when we cannot come together to share our latest discoveries. That is why we have turned our full attention to a virtual Goldschmidt meeting.

While the details are still being worked out, the virtual meeting will offer participants opportunities to share their findings and receive feedback. Even before the pandemic hit, we were planning to record some sessions and make them available to the community. Now, those efforts are being shifted to an entirely remote participation format. The methods will be different but the goal remains the same: bringing together geochemists from around the world for knowledge exchange and collaboration. One advantage of this new format is that without the need to travel, participation opens up to many who could not come to Honolulu. We invite you to visit the conference website to get the latest information on the conference (<https://goldschmidt.info/2020>).

I should pause now to recognize the extraordinary efforts of Ken Rubin, Chair of the Local Organising Committee, and his team. They developed a wonderful array of field trips, workshops, social events, and more. Our gratitude for their efforts is not diminished whatsoever. The same is true for the Science Committee, theme chairs, session conveners, and everyone who is quickly pivoting to the virtual format to preserve as much of the conference as possible. In times of crisis like this, I take great pride in the resiliency of our community in the face of immense challenges.

Beyond conferences, a major focus of 2020 will be to advance the strategic planning initiatives that have been in development for the past year. We are aiming to increase participation opportunities for our membership, including early career researchers, by using a range

of programs and media. We are continuing to develop and promote best practices to increase the breadth of diversity (including geographic, discipline, gender, age, ethnicity, and socio-economic groups) in the society membership, participation, and in awards. These things are more important than ever. The GS is adapting to meet the needs of our members in difficult times.

If you have ideas, comments, or want to contribute to the GS, please contact me (president@geochemsoc.org).

Vickie C. Bennett, President 2020–2021

GS UNVEILS NEW STRATEGIC PLAN

Following more than a year of work, the Geochemical Society is pleased to present its first strategic plan, which will guide decision-making for the next 3–5 years. The society began a strategic planning process to ensure that our activities are aligned with the needs of our 4,000 members and others who participate in GS programs.

Development of the plan involved a survey of the entire membership, in-depth conversations with a smaller cross-section of members, and a board of directors' workshop. The final draft of the plan reflects the diverse perspectives of these stakeholders. Over the next several years, new and existing programs will be evaluated against the goals laid out in the plan.

Goal 1. Engagement: To create a stronger connection of members to the society beyond Goldschmidt & GCA.

The Goldschmidt Conference and the journal *Geochimica et Cosmochimica Acta* are well-known to most in the geochemistry community. They are important and successful ways that the GS helps its members connect and share their science. The first goal of the strategic plan is to expand on these programs and give members other means of connecting throughout the year. To achieve this, we are considering new ways that members could collaborate virtually, improving volunteer opportunities, and increasing participation from scientists in developing countries.

Goal 2. Identity: To ensure our members have a clear understanding (and connection) to our society and all that it offers.

One thing we learned in the planning process was that some people do not realize the Geochemical Society's role in some of our own programs. For example, some Goldschmidt attendees did not realize that the conference is owned and organized by the GS and the European Association of Geochemistry. So, there is a need to better communicate the value of our programs and the benefits of being a member. As other scientific societies are experiencing declining membership, we have to continually demonstrate the value of participating in the GS.

Goal 3. Stewardship: To ensure the Geochemical Society identifies and promotes best practices for professional conduct, where human values and professional excellence coexist.

The GS serves students and scientists in more than 70 countries. This goal is about understanding how our core values apply across our diverse membership. We want to remove barriers to participation of underrepresented groups. For instance, we are already providing more travel grants for scientists from countries with low-income economies to attend Goldschmidt. We recently adopted a new code of ethics for the society and code of conduct for Goldschmidt to demonstrate the respect and professionalism every member deserves. There are also a number of GS programs designed to nurture future geochemists.

Goal 4. Foundation: To strengthen our society's capacity to evolve with the needs of our membership.

One reason we conducted a strategic planning process was to think about the long-term direction of the society, rather than simply responding to issues as they arise. This goal is about adapting to changes in our field and the ways our members will utilize our programs in the future. For example, we are considering how we should respond to the rise of open access publishing and how this might impact our business model.

The plan will continue to evolve over time, and we welcome your comments at president@geochemsoc.org.



AWARDS TO BE PRESENTED AT GOLDSCHMIDT 2020

The Geochemical Society and the European Association of Geochemistry look forward to welcoming you to the 30th Goldschmidt Conference®. During the conference, the societies will honor the distinguished scientists below.

Learn more about Goldschmidt and register at: goldschmidt.info/2020/

GEOCHEMICAL SOCIETY



GOLDSCHMIDT MEDAL:
Richard Carlson
(Carnegie Institution for
Science, Washington DC,
USA)



2020 PATTERSON
MEDAL: **Naohiro
Yoshida*** (Tokyo
Institute of Technology,
Japan)



2019 PATTERSON MEDAL:
**Barbara Sherwood
Lollar*** (University of
Toronto, Canada)



CLARKE MEDAL: **Daniel
Stolper** (University of
California, Berkeley, USA)



Endowed
Biogeochemistry
Lecture: **Samantha
Joye** (University of
Georgia, USA)



F. EARL INGERSON
LECTURE: **Christian
France-Lanord***
(Centre de Recherche
Pétrographiques et
Géochimiques, Nancy,
France)

EUROPEAN ASSOCIATION OF GEOCHEMISTRY



UREY MEDAL: **Jill
Banfield** (University of
California, Berkeley, USA)



SCIENCE INNOVATION
AWARD: **Kevin Rosso***
(Pacific Northwest
National Laboratory,
Washington, USA)



HOUTERMANS MEDAL:
Kun Wang (Washington
University in St. Louis,
Missouri, USA)

GS/EAG



GAST LECTURER: **Jochen
Brocks** (Australian
National University,
Canberra)



ROBERT BERNER LECTURER:
Andreas Andersson
(Scripps Institution of Oceanography,
University of California, San Diego, USA)

2020 GS/EAG GEOCHEMISTRY FELLOWS



Édouard Bard (Collège
de France and CEREGE of
Aix-en-Provence, France)



Liane Benning (GFZ
German Research
Centre for Geosciences,
Germany)



Kirk Cochran (Stony
Brook University,
New York, USA)



Baohua Gu (Oak Ridge
National Laboratory,
Tennessee, USA)



Sidney R. Hemming
(Lamont-Doherty Earth
Observatory, Columbia
University, New York,
USA)



Trevor R. Ireland
(The Australian National
University, Canberra)



Andreas Kappler
(University of Tübingen,
Germany)



**Syed Wajih Ahmad
Naqvi** (Council of
Scientific and Industrial
Research, New Delhi,
India)



Caroline Slomp
(Utrecht University, The
Netherlands)

GEOCHEMICAL SOCIETY OF JAPAN



2020 GEOCHEMICAL JOURNAL AWARD:
François-Régis Orthous-Daunay
(Université Grenoble Alpes, France)

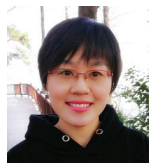
SHEN-SU SUN FOUNDATION



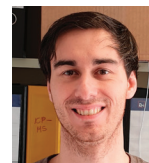
2020 SHEN-SU SUN AWARD:
Haojia Abby Ren (National
Taiwan University, Taipei City)

INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF GEOANALYSTS

IAG YOUNG SCIENTIST AWARD:



Jie Lin (University of Wuhan, China)



Michael Weber (Johannes Gutenberg-
Universität Mainz, Germany)

* Award recipients who are also receiving the Geochemistry Fellows honor.