



European Association of Geochemistry



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PRESIDENT'S CORNER



Derek Vance

It is a great honour to become the President of the European Association of Geochemistry (EAG). I have just taken over from Sigurður Gíslason ("Siggi") who has led EAG so brilliantly during his two years as president. As Siggi noted in this same piece two years ago, the governing structure of EAG, whereby the incoming president has just spent two years as vice-president and is supported by the retiring president as "past-president", is a clever one. The organization reaps the benefit of multiple sources of wisdom, and years of experience. I want to say a particular thanks to Bernard Marty (the retiring past-president), who has now finished his six-year period of service to EAG: we will miss his calm outlook, often finding the funny side of things, but also always getting to the core of the issues we discuss on the council. I am also, of course, very much looking forward to working with the new vice-president, Catherine Chauvel. She will bring invaluable experience of running large scientific organisations.

The EAG is extremely well-served by the energy and enthusiasm of many geochemists. It relies on unselfish and generous volunteers, not just those highlighted above but across the geochemical community. Several others have just left the EAG Council, and we thank them for their contribution. Helen Williams energetically co-chaired the 2019 Goldschmidt Conference. Caroline Peacock and Sami Mikhail co-created the EAG Code of Ethics. Sami was also an enthusiastic and proactive early career councillor, while Caroline was also a proactive chair of the Fellows Nominations Committee. Encarnación Ruiz-Agudo has helped with the evaluation of Goldschmidt grant applications. We also thank Heather Buss for helping to start the Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee. Our new councillors for 2021 onwards introduce themselves below.

And it doesn't stop at the council. The EAG also benefits from the engagement of a much larger section of the geochemical community, whether it is to chair Goldschmidt themes and sessions, as editors and contributing authors of our journals, as outreach lecturers, on awards

committees, or as members of other committees and working groups, such as our new one aimed at promoting diversity, equity, and inclusion in geochemistry and in science generally. We really are a vibrant and engaged community!

Everything EAG does is coordinated by the business office. I know I speak for all recent presidents in saying that the support, engagement, and sheer efficiency of Chief Operating Officer Marie-Aude Hulshoff and Programmes and Membership Manager Alice Williams make the jobs of the council ... well ... possible.

One of the main tasks of EAG is to organize the Goldschmidt Conference in Europe every second year. I cannot avoid, here, a mention of the challenges that this task is currently raising, as all of you will appreciate. My term as president comes in the wake of many highly successful such meetings, with Paris (France) in 2017 being the biggest ever and Barcelona (Spain) in 2019 being only slightly smaller. The 2020 conference presented a huge challenge to the Geochemical Society, one that they rose to splendidly under the circumstances. At the beginning of this year, we announced our plans to create a hybrid Goldschmidt conference, and we were very much looking forward to having an onsite meeting in Lyon in addition to an online component. However, after watching how things have developed, we have reached the conclusion that vaccinations and other measures are unlikely to be effective enough by the summer to ensure the safety of delegates traveling to and meeting at the conference. The organizing committee for 2021, led by Dan Frost and Maud Boyet, have therefore decided that we should plan a online format for Lyon (France) in early July. We have not taken this decision lightly.

The year 2020, for the same unfortunate reasons that the Goldschmidt Conference had to move online, has witnessed a renewed appreciation of how important science and scientific thinking is to the world. But science continues to face challenges from populist politics and "alternative facts". All of us – yes, even we geochemists – need to do all we can to counter these societal trends.

Whatever happens in 2021, we will meet in July. Even if it is on our computer screens we will do our very best to make it worthwhile. Above all ... stay healthy!

Derek Vance, EAG President



GOLDSCHMIDT[®]

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4–9 JULY

EARLY REGISTRATION DEADLINE: 18 MAY 2021

Details of the Conference Format now available
at 2021.goldschmidt.info




CHANGES IN THE EAG COUNCIL

The EAG Council recently elected Catherine Chauvel as Vice-President, Janne Koornneef as Early Career Councillor, and Catherine Jeandel and Carmen Sanchez-Valle as Co-Chairs for the Goldschmidt2023 Organizing and Science Committees.



Catherine Chauvel is a CNRS Directrice de Recherche at the Institut de Physique du Globe de Paris (France). Her research focuses on high-temperature geochemistry with a special emphasis on mantle geochemistry. Catherine has previously served as treasurer of the European Association of Geochemistry, board member of the Geochemical Society and president of the Volcanology, Geochemistry, and Petrology section of the American Geophysical Union.



Janne Koornneef is an assistant professor at the Earth Science Department of the Free University of Amsterdam (The Netherlands). Her research focuses on the geochemical evolution of Earth's mantle and the exchange of elements between surficial and deep reservoirs as a result of tectonic processes acting over billions of years.



Catherine Jeandel is Director of Research at the Laboratoire d'Etudes en Géophysique et Océanographie Spatiales, CNRS, Paul Sabatier University, Toulouse III (France). An oceanographer and marine geochemist, Catherine's research is focused on quantifying the fluxes and processes that govern the chemical state of the ocean.



Carmen Sanchez-Valle is Professor of Mineralogy at the University of Münster (Germany). Her research covers a broad range of topics in experimental (fluids) geochemistry, high-pressure mineralogy, and planetology.

EAG members also elected two new councillors in the elections last autumn, who will serve for three years.



Susan Little is a lecturer and NERC independent research fellow at University College London (UK). She is an isotope geochemist, interested in developing novel tracers of carbon cycling in the past and present ocean. Her research utilises the isotopes of various bio-essential and redox-sensitive trace metals, unlocking their potential to reconstruct the co-evolution of oxygen and life on Earth.



Olivier Namur is an assistant professor of petrology in the Department of Earth and Environmental Sciences at the Catholic University of Leuven (Belgium). He is an igneous petrologist investigating crustal formation on Earth and other terrestrial planets, and he currently leads a research group investigating the effect of crustal thickness on the composition and mineralogy of basaltic lavas erupting from presently active volcanoes.

2021 EAG COUNCIL

PRESIDENT Derek Vance
(ETH Zürich, Switzerland)

VICE-PRESIDENT Catherine Chauvel
(Institut de Physique du Globe de Paris, France)

PAST-PRESIDENT Sigurður Gíslason
(University of Iceland, Iceland)

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Catherine Jeandel (CNRS Toulouse University, France)

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Olivier Namur
(Catholic University of Leuven, Belgium)
Carmen Sanchez-Valle
(University of Münster, Germany)
Jill Sutton
(University of Brest, France)

NEW EAGE-EAG COMMUNITY GROUP ON LINKEDIN: MAKE CONNECTIONS WITH GEOCHEMISTS IN THE INDUSTRY

