

FROM THE PRESIDENT

Friedhelm von
Blanckenburg

Dear members of the DMG,

Have you ever thought of submitting a topical proposal to *Elements* Magazine?

With more than 1400 members, the DMG represents the fourth largest group of subscribers. It is, in part, also “our” journal. Yet in 16 years of *Elements* magazine with six issues per year, there have been only seven issues in which scientists from Germany served as guest editors.

Yes, being guest editor of an *Elements* issue does mean work. But it is incredibly rewarding work. You yourself will collect an exciting group of international scientists from your field as authors. Typically co-authors consist of individuals who would often not even write a joint “ordinary” scientific article. In fact, you may even liaise with your fiercest competitor to provide a balanced view of the state of affairs in a field. This can be productive and lead to new frontiers. You will write for an audience that differs from specialists in your field. In the process, *Elements*’ authors become much more proficient in communicating complex scientific content to a general audience—an ability that is rare but that we increasingly need in an era in which public science communication is in ever-increasing demand. You will also design a few beautiful colourful graphics that you and many others will use in undergraduate lectures for years to come.

With 15,000 printed copies and online access through Geoscience World, your article will likely be much more read than your papers published in specialty science journals. As a result, your name will increase in recognition—something that can be very beneficial for early-career scientists.

I was guest editor of one *Elements* issue, and I served as a Principal Editor for three years. Many articles have moved across my desk and all of them were a lot of fun to deal with. I learned much in-depth scientific content, how to write accessible text, and great collaboration with the *Elements*’ staff.

So why wait? I know of many exciting topics that we work on in the DMG community. Think of the one topic that you wish to broadcast to a large audience, be that a scientific field, a method, or a field area. Seek a co-guest editor somewhere on this planet, suggest six articles and their authors, and send the proposal off to *Elements*. And then the fun work begins...

I am looking forward to holding your issue in my hands.

Yours,

Friedhelm von Blanckenburg
President of the DMG

PUBLIC OUTREACH EVENT

Family Science Sunday, GeoMinKöln 2022

The GeoMinKöln 2022 will take place in late summer this year, September 11–15 right in the center of Europe. The beautiful city of Cologne will host this conference and will be the meeting point for many Earth scientists from Germany, Europe, and the whole world, who will present their latest and most exciting research results. This conference also marks the 100th general assembly of the German Mineralogical Society that will be celebrated by several special events. One of these is the “Family Science Sunday”, 11 September, between 11 am and 3 pm. We, the Earth Science community, invite families, teachers, young and old explorers, students, and everyone who is interested to visit the



Example for a booth at the science market. PHOTO: L. FISCHER

conference venue for this special outreach event. Here, you will have the chance to talk to scientists and discover all the different aspects that make the Earth Sciences not only exciting, but also highly relevant for many different aspects of our daily life and for future challenges that we are facing as a society.

This event addresses all members of the public and offers many different formats to meet the interests of visitors of all ages, backgrounds, and interests.

The core of the “Family Science Sunday” is the *science market* that will comprise a variety of exciting science booths on different Earth Science related topics such as volcanoes, the mineralogy of sand, meteorites, or mineral resources that we can find in mobile phones or even in our food. We would like to get in contact with people and give visitors the chance to walk around, watch, investigate, try and explore whatever catches their attention.

Visitors who like to watch documentaries or want to learn a bit more about a specific topic are invited to attend short presentations in lecture halls located directly next to the market. Here you can, for example, learn about how the Earth became a habitable planet, as well as the quality of Cologne’s drinking water and why it is enriched in Rare Earth Elements. You can have a look on our planet from a satellite view or learn about what to expect, if you are interested in studying Earth Sciences in Germany.

Everyone who really wants to dive deeper into a topic and participate more can book a workshop. Teachers may want to get to know more about the mineralogical tool boxes (Mineralogischer Lehrkoffer “mileko”) and their applications in school education. There is also the chance to learn what pigments are and what it takes to create colors of your own.

These are of course only a few examples and there will be much more to explore. With this, we want to invite all *Elements* readers to visit us in September and hope to see many of you at the “Family Science Sunday”.

Bastian Mrosko on behalf of the organizers

SECTION MEETING 2022

Crystallography and Applied Mineralogy

The joint meeting of the DMG sections Applied Mineralogy and Crystallography was held online on March 3rd. Presentations were given to the topics *recycling*, *mining*, and *new materials* followed by a lively discussion. The participants also discussed future activities of the sections. We all hope that face-to-face meetings will resume soon and look forward to the next joint workshop, which will be held on 8–10 March in 2023.

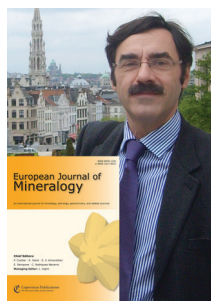
Uta Helbig (Nürnberg)

EDITORIAL

Back to basics on scientific publishing

The first scientific journals date back to the 17th century, when the French *Journal des sçavans* and the English *Philosophical Transactions of the Royal Society* first began systematically publishing research results¹. After more than three centuries, I would like us to reflect on the fundamental function for writing scientific papers and publishing. Scientists publish papers in specialized international journals essentially for two reasons: i) to test their results and ideas within the community, and ii) to allow the community to (re)use these results to progress in their own research:

- The review process by the peers is an important step in the testing process for authors, even if it is not always seen as such. It provides essential validation and feedback to the authors at a stage prior to publication of their work.
- The editorial process is also key to ensure that the publication correctly and completely conveys the information to the community.



1 Kronick DA (1976) A History of Scientific and Technical Periodicals: The Origins and Development of the Scientific and Technical Press 1665–1790. (Second Edition) Scarecrow Press, 336 pp.

The continuous exchange of knowledge and feedback within the communities is fundamental for research advancements. Overall, research is a mix of a community and an individual adventure. A good equilibrium between these two dimensions is required to make new discoveries.

Some of us may feel that these two objectives are no longer the main motivation for publications. The search to gain visibility in order to attract more funding, enhance one's career, and to become more influential are more and more present, risking to shifting significantly the equilibrium toward the individual dimension of research.

At the European Journal of Mineralogy (EJM), we remain loyal to the two main basic reasons for scientific publication. As editors, our decisions are taken without judging how influential a paper could become. If a manuscript is scientifically original and of high quality, we try to provide the most complete possible review to the authors. We encourage a publication culture that ensures that the data and ideas are understandably transferred to the scientific community. The team at our journal works hard to defend the fundamental function of scientific publications. Editors, publishers, and authors should never forget the final objective of scientific publications and our role within the community.

J. Ingrin

Managing Editor of EJM

KLAUS KEIL (1934–2022)

A special issue of the international journal *Geochemistry* was dedicated to Klaus Keil on the occasion of his 85th birthday.

On February 26, 2022 Klaus Keil passed away. Professor Keil was an outstanding petrologist, who worked on extra-terrestrial samples. He was a pioneer in the application of the electron microprobe to meteorites. Together with Kurt Fredriksson, he was the first to quantitatively determine the compositions of minerals in meteorites, and their carefully performed analyses are still valid today. Klaus later became interested in the strongly reduced enstatite chondrites. Using the electron microscope, he and his co-workers detected a series of new minerals in these meteorites such as sinoite, ninigerite, heidite, and others. A sulfide carries his name, keilite (Fe,Mg,Mn,Ca,Cr)S.

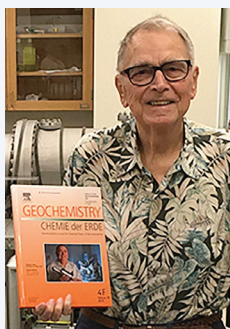


PHOTO: HAWAII INSTITUTE OF GEOPHYSICS AND PLANETOLOGY

Klaus Keil was born in Hamburg in 1934. He grew up in Jena, where he studied mineralogy and chemistry at the local Friedrich Schiller University. Early on, Fritz Heide, one of his teachers, got him interested in meteorites and convinced him to begin a dissertation in meteoritics. Hans Suess, working in La Jolla at the time, learned about the work Klaus was doing in Jena and tried to convince him to come to La Jolla. As a result, Klaus left East Germany, shortly before the Berlin Wall was built. He first travelled to the Max-Planck-Institute for Chemistry in Mainz, where he completed the research for his dissertation and was awarded his doctoral degree. He then moved to La Jolla and later took positions at the NASA Ames Research Center at Moffett Field. In 1968, he was appointed director of the Institute for Meteoritics and Professor of Geology and Geophysics at the University of New Mexico. In 1990, he became Director of the Planetary Geosciences Division at the Hawaii Institute of Geophysics and Planetology. He retired from university in 2012, but remained active doing research.

After becoming director of the Institute for Meteoritics in Albuquerque in 1968, Klaus established one of the most influential research groups in cosmochemistry with Marty Prinz, Jeff Taylor, Ed Scott, Hort Newsom, Adrian Brearley, Rhian Jones, and others. During the Apollo program, Klaus and his group participated in the study of lunar rocks. Their focus was on highland rocks. Klaus created the acronym ANT-series for a variety of interrelated rock types such as anorthosite, norite, and troctolite. He was Principal Investigator for studies of lunar rocks for many years and was also very active as a member of several NASA advisory boards and committees.

At the same time Klaus's research group also performed ground-breaking research on meteorites. The meteorite work continued in Hawaii, where Klaus established a very successful new meteorite research group, including researchers from his Albuquerque time. At the Hawaii institute, Klaus and the volcanologist Lionel Wilson developed a concept for the early history of planetesimals. They postulated formation, ascent, and loss of early gas-saturated partial melts in small planetesimals, in order to explain the residual character of many differentiated meteorites.

In 1988, Klaus was awarded the *Leonard Medal* of the Meteoritical Society and in 2014 he was recipient of the *Abraham Gottlob Werner Medal in Silver*, the highest scientific award of the German Mineralogical Society (DMG). In 2019, a special issue of the international journal *Geochemistry* was dedicated to Klaus on the occasion of his 85th birthday (vol. 79, issue 4) and in 2020 he became an honorary member of the DMG.

Astrid Holzheid (Kiel), **Herbert Palme** (Frankfurt/Main)