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LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT



Prof. Blanca Bauluz

In June 2022, the General Assembly of the Spanish Mineralogical Society (SEM) renewed the board. The new team will be led by Prof. María Angeles Fernández (University of Oviedo, Spain). They will begin their terms in January 2023.

During the last four years, it has been a pleasure for me to coordinate the board as president of the society.

Due to SARS-CoV-2 pandemic, the activities of the society could not be face-to-face during the years of 2020 and 2021 and we had to make a special effort to keep the society alive with online activities.

Among the online activities that we organized, it is worth mentioning the **2nd Conference of Young Researchers**, that took place in March 2021. Thirty-two

young SEM students presented their research orally. The following scientific communications were awarded in three different categories.

- PhD category: “Mineral and textural transformations during calcination of bauxitic materials and their relationship with the physical properties” presented by Elisa Laita Florian from the University of Zaragoza.
- Master category: “Ankaramitic lavas from El Hierro island: insights from petrography” presented by Claudia Prieto-Torrell from the University of Barcelona.
- Undergraduate category: “Characterization and genesis of Balcoll mineralization (Priorat, Catalunya) and dissemination” presented by Marta Henrich Griñó and Aleix Saiz Alexandre from the University Autònoma de Barcelona.

The Society also organized the **1st WEBINAR of the Spanish Mineralogical Society entitled “DISCOVERING THE WORLD OF MINERAL DEPOSITS,”** where young and senior researchers talked about REEs, copper, diamonds, lithium, platinum, and much more. The webinar was addressed to a non-specialist public interested in geological sciences and to secondary and undergraduate students, and took place from 22 April to the 3rd of June 2022. The aim of this event was to provide tools for secondary school teachers to adapt their teaching material for their students.

As a novelty and to promote interest in mineralogy, geochemistry, and petrology among undergraduate students, in July 2022, we convened a new award called the “Bachelor’s Thesis Award.” The call was a success, and we received 13 great works about ore deposits, environmental geochemistry, crystal growth, heritage, igneous petrology, etc. Three awards were given to the best bachelor’s thesis and oral presentations of the ceremony:

- Carlos Espinoza Enriquez de Luna (University of Granada) for the contribution “Experimental study of arsenic and selenium co-precipitation with barite”
- Alejandro Andrés Escorihuela (University of Zaragoza) for the contribution “Mineralogical characterization of the Candelaria ore deposit (Gallinero de Cameros, La Rioja)”
- Sara Romero Cruz (University of Huelva) for the contribution “Alkaline treatment of highly polluted acid effluents sourced from mining and industrial activities”

With the aim of **increasing the visibility of the SEM** and spreading our activities and research, we have promoted the use of social networks such as Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn, Instagram, and YouTube to reach more members of the public.

I would also like to highlight the work carried out during these four years by the **Commission of the Mineral Nomenclature of the SEM**, which is composed of several SEM members and researchers from the Catalan Mineralogical Group and the Geological and Mining Institute. This commission has expanded on an interesting document to establish criteria for mineral nomenclature in Spanish.

Finally, I would like to wish the new president and her board much success in leading the new term that begins in January.

Prof. Blanca Bauluz
SEM President

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During his scientific career, Keppler has very successfully supervised many postdocs and PhD students in numerous externally funded projects. Many of them have gone on to successful international scientific careers. Keppler’s charisma as a scientist in the field of experimental high-temperature and high-pressure research and the importance of his laboratories at the Bayerisches Geoinstitut are unique worldwide. Accordingly, Hans Keppler is awarded the Abraham-Gottlob-Werner-Medal in silver.

Francois Holtz (Hannover), **Marcus Nowak** (Tübingen), and **Alan Woodland** (Frankfurt/Main)

ANNUAL DMG MEETING 2023

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Deutsche Mineralogische Gesellschaft Österreichische Mineralogische Gesellschaft Slovenská mineralogická spoločnosť

DMG **ÖMG** **Slovenská mineralogická spoločnosť**

Date
17 - 21 September 2023

Organisation
Institut für Mineralogie und Kristallographie
Universität Wien

Venue
Universität Wien - Geozentrum
Josef-Holaubek-Platz 2 (UZA II)
(before: Althanstraße 14)
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