



# Mineralogical Society of America



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## PRESIDENT'S LETTER



The MSA-published journal, *American Mineralogist*, is more than 100 years old. The large number of articles that have been published between 1916 and today represent an exceptional archive of mineral sciences research and authors from many countries. MSA is proud to announce that this remarkable publication now has a beautiful new and user-friendly website: <https://msaweb.org/MSA/AmMin/>.

The current editors, Don Baker (McGill University, Canada) and Hongwu Xu (Los Alamos National Laboratory, USA), will be stepping down at the end of 2024 after serving for six years. MSA is therefore in the process of searching for two new editors. By tradition, one editor has expertise in petrology or geochemistry and the other in mineralogy—recognizing that these terms used to describe research disciplines are very broad and flexible. Ideally, the new editors will be identified in time for a transition period before they start their new positions in January 2025. MSA welcomes expressions of interest from potential new editors. Please contact Ann Benbow in the MSA Business Office for more information ([abenbow@minsocam.org](mailto:abenbow@minsocam.org)).

## NOTES FROM CHANTILLY

- **Renewal Season!** Don't forget to renew your memberships for 2024, as well as subscriptions to MSA's publications. Member dues are: Regular Members and Fellows (\$85); Early Career Members (\$45); Student Members (\$20); Senior Members (\$0); Sustaining Members (\$135—membership plus a \$150 contribution to support MSA's many activities). You can renew via the home page of MSA's website: [www.msaweb.org](http://www.msaweb.org). At that time, we hope that you will also make a contribution to one or more of MSA's funds. These funds support our student research grants, lecture series, websites, education and outreach activities, awards, and much more.

## AWARDS NOMINATION 2024 DEADLINE

Last year, MSA implemented a change in the nomination procedure for four awards (Roebing, Dana, MSA, Distinguished Public Service). The main change was to require a pre-nomination in March, in advance of the full nomination deadline of June 1. The motivations for the change were:

- to help committee chairs identify and manage conflicts of interest well in advance of the full nomination deadline; and
- to lower barriers for possible nominators by first requiring only a nominator statement and the nominee's CV (with support letters only required for the full nomination step); ideally, more nominators—representing a wider range of career stages than has typically been the case—would be inspired to submit pre-nominations.

As with any change to a long-standing procedure, there has been a transition period as MSA has worked to advertise and implement the change. The transition has been complicated by the fact that, for various operational reasons, the "old" MSA website has still been accessible, even as the "new" MSA website with the updated information superseded the old. Owing to this confusion, MSA will accept full nominations for the four awards

until the usual deadline of June 1 this year. That is, nominations that did not have a pre-nomination this spring will be accepted this year. MSA is very grateful to those who submitted pre-nominations, as this has helped attain the goals of the procedure change.

If you did not submit a pre-nomination and plan to submit a new, full nomination, it would be helpful if you communicated your intent to the committee chair in advance.

For more information, please check the Awards section of the MSA website at <https://msaweb.org/awards-grants/>.

## MSA FELLOWS NOMINATIONS

It is again the time of the year when MSA is soliciting nominations for MSA Fellowship. Nominations for fellowship can be made by any MSA Fellow or Member by following the instructions at <https://msaweb.org/fellowship-in-msa>—please follow these instructions carefully so that the committee can evaluate all candidates equally. The committee asks that the nominator will compile the *nomination* (including cover page,

The screenshot shows the homepage of the American Mineralogist website. At the top, there is a navigation menu with links for About, Author Info, Manuscript Info, FAQs, Table Of Contents, Special Collections, Papers In Press, and Editor's Notes. The main heading is "American Mineralogist" with the subtitle "International Journal of Earth and Planetary Materials Research". Below this, a paragraph describes the journal as the flagship journal of the Mineralogical Society of America (MSA), continuously published since 1916. A "Quick Links" section features five icons: "Table of Contents", "Papers In Press", "Special Collections", "Editor's Notes", and "Online Access".

A recent member survey produced the unsurprising results that *American Mineralogist* is one of the MSA-based activities that members value the most. The journal is supported by expert staff—Rachel Russell (Managing Editor), Christine Elrod (Assistant Editor), and Kristi Bailey (Editorial Assistant)—as well as a dedicated team of about 70 Associate Editors. Together with MSA administration and a new Publications Committee, the journal is striving to improve aspects that members have identified as concerns and to grapple with major publication-related issues, such as open access and the use of artificial intelligence in research and writing.

I want to take this opportunity to thank all those who contribute to making *American Mineralogist* a premier international journal of the mineral sciences (broadly defined)—editors, staff, authors, and readers.

**Donna Whitney**  
2024 MSA President



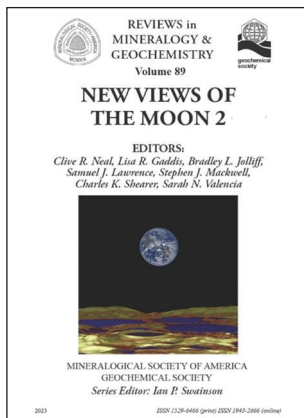
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which is available at <https://msaweb.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/01/Fellowship-Nomination-Cover-Page.pdf>); *all letters of support*, and the *supplementary materials* into a **single electronic file** before submitting the nomination package. The entire package must then be submitted to Reto Giere, the Chair of the Committee for Nominating Fellows of the Society ([griere@sas.upenn.edu](mailto:griere@sas.upenn.edu)) no later than **June 1**.

## NEW VIEWS OF THE MOON 2

This new publication of *Reviews in Mineralogy & Geochemistry* Volume 89: *New Views of the Moon 2* sold so quickly that we are reprinting. Volume editors are Clive R. Neal, Lisa R. Gaddis, Bradley L. Jolliff, Samuel J. Lawrence, Stephen J. Mackwell, Charles K. Shearer, and Sarah N. Valencia. The series editor is Ian P. Swainson, and *American Mineralogist* Managing Editor Rachel Russell is responsible for production. The volume is available in both hard copy and online via a subscription to the *Reviews* series. For more information, visit the Publications section of the MSA website: [www.msaweb.org](http://www.msaweb.org). While there, you can also view the list of MSA's other publications. The next *Reviews* volume to be published in 2024 will be Volume 90: *Exoplanets*. This volume will be accompanied by a short course at the Goldschmidt conference in Chicago, IL, USA this summer.



## CONTRIBUTIONS

Many members donate to MSA by including a contribution with their annual dues and/or by responding to special appeals. The *MSA Forward Annual Fund* supports MSA's infrastructure. Depending on the wishes of the member, contributions are deposited with the principal of the MSA Endowment, the J. Alexander Speer Outreach Fund, MSA Mineralogy/Petrology Fund, J. B. Thompson Fund, Edward H. Kraus Crystallographic Research Fund, F. Donald Bloss Fund, or the Peter R. Buseck Lecture Fund. The income of these Funds is used to support MSA's research grants in crystallography, mineralogy, and petrology; the MSA Undergraduate Prizes; the Mineralogical Society of America Award; the Distinguished Public Service Award; the Dana Medal; the Roebing Medal; the website; and the Distinguished Lecturer program. If you have not done so previously, please consider contributing at the next opportunity.

## DID YOU KNOW?

MSA has a new Communications Committee, chaired by Dr. Andrea Koziol. The Committee's charge is to review MSA's existing communications mechanisms (websites, MSA-Announce, MSA-Talk listserv, social media, etc.) and make suggestions for improvements, additions, and/or enhancements. Already, due to the efforts of this Committee, MSA's social media portfolio now includes LinkedIn, in addition to our other social media outlets.

## SEM 2025 ANNUAL MEETING IN SEVILLE

The 41<sup>st</sup> annual meeting of the Spanish Mineralogical Society (SEM) will be held in Seville on January 15–18, 2025. This special event will be co-organized with the Spanish Clays Society (SEA) at the Faculty of Chemistry, University of Seville. The organizing committee, led by Cinta Barba-Brioso and Antonio Romero Baena, comprises members from the University of Seville and University Pablo de Olavide (UPO), Seville.

The meeting will feature a one-day workshop on January 15<sup>th</sup>, focusing on cultural heritage and chaired by Pilar Ortiz (UPO). The workshop will commence with a plenary lecture and, thereafter, high-relevance international researchers will lead discussions on topics such as monumental stone restoration, historical pigments, aquatic heritage research, and glass-ceramics. During the two-day meeting, renowned researchers will provide plenary conferences followed by four sessions: Mineralogy and Geochemistry, Clays, Crystallography and Material Science, and Petrology and other topics. Each session will feature invited keynote speakers presenting the latest advances in their respective fields, along with oral presentations and poster sessions. Communications in the fields of clays, mineralogy, petrology, crystallography, geochemistry, and education can be submitted.



IMAGE SOURCE: FREETOURSEVILLA.COM.

The lectures from the workshop will be published in volume 16 of "Seminarios SEM", while the scientific contributions will be included in volume 28 of *Macla*, the journal of the Society.

The meeting will conclude with a one-day field trip on Saturday, January 18<sup>th</sup>, showcasing some geological wonders of Seville province.

We invite you to join us in Seville for this enriching scientific exchange and to explore the vibrant city. For more information and inscriptions, please visit <https://gestioneventos.us.es/congreso-sem-sea-2025>.

**Cinta Barba-Brioso** (University of Seville)  
Coordinator SEM-SEA 2025

Source: [freetoursevilla.com](http://freetoursevilla.com).