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PRESIDENT'S LETTER



Donna L. Whitney

The major decision-making body of MSA is the Council, which consists of six elected members. At the recent spring meeting of the Council, a major topic was implementation of the new Strategic Plan. A few updates from this meeting:

Program and mission review. A Task Group chaired by MSA Vice-President Sarah Penniston-Dorland is conducting a program review that includes evaluating MSA programs and operations. The task group has made initial recommendations about how the Distinguished Lecturer Program and Short Courses could be more effective at reaching wider audiences (e.g., recording some of the Distinguished Lectures and posting these on MSA's YouTube channel). These ideas were strongly endorsed by Council.

Communications. Council supported an enhanced social media initiative spearheaded by the new Communications Committee, chaired by Andrea Koziol, to highlight mineral scientists and the mineral sciences.

Membership. A rejuvenated Membership Committee, chaired by David Vanko, has proposed a new Associate member category for mineral enthusiasts and teachers.

Council also supported recommendation of the new Early Career Committee, chaired by Tyler Spano, that the Society be more intentional in including early-career scientists in MSA Lecture programs. A survey of the 94 past and current lecturers shows that 20% have been within 8 years of their PhD year at the time of their lectureship, but there have been several periods of 4–6 years in which there were no early-career lecturers. The majority of lecturers have been mid-career scientists.

In addition, there is a framework for the organization of student chapters—a new initiative led by Adrian Castro.

Publications. Council approved several proposals by the new Publications Committee, chaired by Carol Frost, including of *American Mineralogist's* prohibition on posting preprints for non-open access papers and revision of text about acceptable use of AI in writing and reviewing papers.

I welcome comments and questions on any of these topics or other issues related to MSA's mission, programs, and operations.

Donna Whitney
2024 MSA President

NOTES FROM CHANTILLY

- MSA Elections:** The MSA 2024 elections are now underway for Officers and Councilors who will begin their terms in 2025. All MSA Members are eligible to vote, using their MSA login information (email as username and member ID as password). The link to vote is on the home page of the MSA website at www.msaweb.org. The deadline to vote is midnight EDT on July 31, 2024.

DID YOU KNOW?

MSA has a new Early Career Committee, Chaired by Dr. Tyler Spano. The Committee's charge is to review MSA's existing programs to see how they can meet the needs of early career members, as well as make suggestions for new initiatives. If you have any suggestions to offer this committee, please send an email to Ann Benbow in the MSA Business Office at abenbow@minsocam.org.

2024 STUDENT RESEARCH GRANTEES

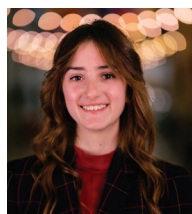
Each year, MSA solicits proposals from its student members to support their research. Three \$5,000 grants are awarded: two from the Mineralogy/Petrology Fund, and one from the Edward D. Kraus Crystallographic Fund. As voted by Council in 2023, MSA now also awards an additional grant of \$2,000 for undergraduate research. We are delighted to announce the 2024 recipients for the research grants in mineralogy and petrology from MSA's Mineralogy/Petrology Research Fund. They are:



Rachael J. M. Baxter, University of Otago, New Zealand – “Constructing a liquid barometer to investigate final depths of alkaline basalt storage in intraplate volcanic systems” – graduate award;



Emma Burkett, University of New Hampshire, USA – “Breaking volcanic codes: Unlocking Augustine's secrets with pyroxene and plagioclase diffusion timescales” – graduate award; and



Constance Sauve, University of Utah, USA – “Exploring the fate of pyroxenite in a heterogeneous mantle along an adiabatic path” – undergraduate award.

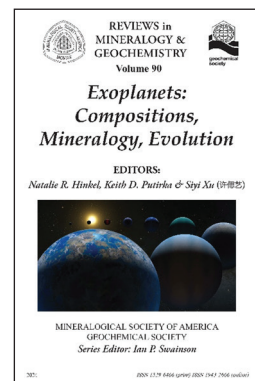
The 2024 recipient for the research grant in crystallography from the Edward H. Kraus Crystallographic Research Fund is:



Leah Shteymann, Arizona State University, USA – “Determining the nature of the zircon-reidite phase transition” – graduate award.

EXOPLANETS

MSA is pleased to announce the publication of *Reviews in Mineralogy & Geochemistry* Volume 90: *Exoplanets: Compositions, Mineralogy, Evolution*. Volume editors are Natalie R. Hinkel, Keith D. Putirka, and Siyi Xu. 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. While there, you can also





International Association of GeoChemistry

www.iagc-society.org

THE 3rd IAGC INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE

The 3rd IAGC International Conference will be held in Cagliari, Italy on June 16–21, 2025. This meeting will include the 18th Water-Rock Interaction Working Group Meeting (WRI-18), the 15th Applied Isotope Geochemistry Working Group Meeting (AIG-15), Urban Geochemistry sessions, and a 20th anniversary celebration of *Elements Magazine*. Visit <https://sites.unica.it/wri-18/> to learn more!



Members of the conference organization committee touring the conference venue.

The planning has commenced! Members of the organizing committee for IAGC-3 (WRI-18 and AIG-15) convened on June 19–21 to discuss the conference program, sessions, mid-conference field trips, and post-conference field trips. During the visit, the committee toured the

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view the list of MSA's other publications. This volume will be accompanied by a Short Course at the Goldschmidt Conference in Chicago, IL, USA this summer.

UPCOMING MEETINGS

2024 Geological Society of America Annual Conference

This conference will be from September 22–25, 2024 in Anaheim, CA. MSA will have its Awards Luncheon there on Tuesday, September 24, followed by the Awards Lectures and Presidential Address that same afternoon. There will also be a joint reception with the Geological Institute of America Tuesday evening. Abstract deadline is June 18. For more information, visit: <https://community.geosociety.org/gsa2024/home>.



2024 Society of Economic Geologists (SEG) Conference

The SEG is holding an international meeting on the theme of Sustainable Mineral Exploration and Development from September 27–30, 2024. The conference will be held at Windhoek, Namibia. For more information, go to: <https://www.segweb.org/SEG-2024/SEG-Conference/SEG-2024/Home.aspx>.

Fourth European Mineralogical Conference

This conference will be at Trinity College Dublin from August 18–23, 2024. For more information, visit <https://emc-2024.org/>.

2024 Goldschmidt Conference

This year, the Goldschmidt Conference is in Chicago, Illinois, USA from August 18–23. It is organized by the Geochemical Society and the European Association of Geochemistry. For more information, go to <https://conf.goldschmidt.info/goldschmidt/2024/meetingapp.cgi>.



A view of Cagliari.

University of Cagliari, the primary venue for the conference activities, the Montevecchio Mine, one of the planned mid-conference field trips, and the Museo Archeologico di Cagliari.



Montevecchio Mine.

IAGC 2024 PHD STUDENT RESEARCH GRANTS SPONSORED BY ELSEVIER



Jaydee Edwards is a PhD candidate in the Department of Earth and Environmental Science at the University of Pennsylvania (USA). She graduated from John Brown University (USA) with a bachelor of science in chemistry in 2020. After graduation, she made the leap to Earth and environmental science and began studying emerging contaminants and pollutants, particularly, tire- and road-wear particles (TRWPs). Her dissertation research focuses on utilizing instrumentation like SEM-EDX, XRD, ICP-OES/MS, and LC/GC-MS for the comprehensive characterization of environmentally collected TRWPs, the road dust matrix of the TRWPs, and storm-water runoff in Philadelphia. Through improving TRWP characterization (both mineralogically and chemically), she hopes this research will provide a better understanding of the transport and fate of TRWPs throughout our environment.

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