



## Société Française de Minéralogie et de Cristallographie

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### SFMC MERIT AWARD PRIZE-GIVING CEREMONY AND LAUREATE SCHOLARSHIP FOR THE EMC<sup>2</sup> – DUBLIN – AUGUST 2024

#### Isabelle Daniel receives the SFMC Merit Award



I. Daniel receiving the Merit Award from N. Bolfan-Casanova.

During the European Mineralogical Conference in Dublin, 18–23 August, Isabelle Daniel, professor at the University Claude Bernard in Lyon, received the SFMC Merit Award. She is best known for her contribution to the modelling of fluid-mineral interactions in hydrothermalism and subduction using high-pressure, high-temperature experiments. Isabelle has developed various types of in-situ spectroscopy techniques using both in-house and synchrotron facilities. She has carried

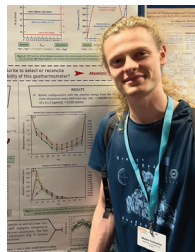
out outstanding work on volatilization reactions involving serpentine and carbonate minerals, the partitioning and fractionation of various elements in C-O-H-Cl fluid systems, and the reactivity of organic compounds at high pressure. The latter work has paved the way for the study of interactions between geochemical and biochemical processes under extreme *P-T* conditions, and has inspired numerous studies linked to the fundamental question of the origin of life. In addition to these scientific achievements, Isabelle has successfully trained several students who have gone on to become brilliant scientists, and has impressed many collaborators with her ability to transform and inspire new avenues of research.

#### The French Society of Mineralogy and Crystallography committee attributes 2 scholarships to:



**Bence Horanyi** (Institut des Sciences de la Terre – Orléans). He presented his study about the partitioning of lithium between granitic minerals and melts.

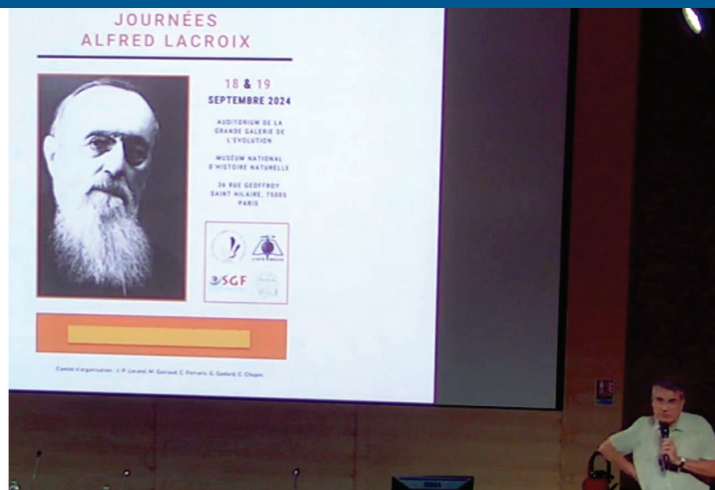
**Matéo François** (ISTeP, Sorbonne Université). He presented his study entitled Atomistic modelling of Tschermak and di-trioctahedral substitutions in chlorite.



### ALFRED LACROIX DAYS – 18–19 SEPTEMBER 2024 AT MUSEUM NATIONAL D'HISTOIRE NATURELLE – SORBONNE UNIVERSITÉ PARIS

#### Sorbonne Université Mineral Collection

The aim of the two-day event was to recall the career and scientific work of France's most prolific mineralogist. More than 60 participants from a wide range of backgrounds—researchers, lecturers, collection curators, collectors, amateurs, volunteers from national or regional collections, science historians, and doctoral students attended the meeting. This diversity represented the spirit of Alfred Lacroix's work. The 27 papers were all presented orally, which facilitated exchanges between all the participants during the free time at the end of the sessions on the second day. They were illustrated by stories, testimonies, written memories, or photographs, which made them easier to understand.



J.-P. Lorand opening the Alfred Lacroix Days.

The program comprised six sessions. The first (“Alfred Lacroix, the illustrious scholar”) presented an overview of his scientific life and responsibilities, including those at the Académie des Sciences, the central role played by his wife Catherine (née Fouqué), reminiscences from witnesses and the state of Alfred Lacroix's photographic holdings at the museum. Session 2 (Alfred Lacroix, the museum, the collections) highlighted his role in the organization of the mineralogy laboratory as a world-renowned research and training center, and his major preoccupation with the museum's collections (mineralogy, meteorites, rocks), as well as those outside the MNHN. This session provided an opportunity to discuss his inventory of the mineralogical resources of France and its former overseas territories. Session 3 was organized to include new advances in mineralogy concerning his discoveries (villiamite), or going beyond the boundaries of mineralogy that he had imagined (role of fougérite in mineral membranes). Session 4 dealt with his fieldwork as a geologist and then volcanologist. It retraced the greatest event of his career, namely his study of the deadly eruption of Montagne Pelée in Martinique in 1902, and more generally his exploration of active volcanoes (e.g., Réunion). The progress he made in petrography was reviewed in session 5 entitled “Alfred Lacroix, Petrologist or Petrographer?” This session provided an opportunity to take a critical look at his approach and the advances he made in the experimental reproduction of rocks, as well as the obstacles and difficulties he encountered in the scientific context of his time. Finally, session 6 recalled the role played by the many volunteers in his mineralogical explorations, particularly on the island of Madagascar.

For the first time (and probably the only time in the history of this distinction), the Haüy-Lacroix Prize medal, awarded this year to Chloé Truong for her PhD work, was presented at a scientific event dedicated to whom inspired the prize.

A visit to the laboratory and its rock collection on the evening of 18 September was the highlight of the two-day event.



C. Truong receiving her prize from H. Bureau.

**Jean-Pierre Lorand, Michel Guiraud, Cristiano Ferraris, Gaston Godard, and Christian Chopin**  
Organising committee