

Association of Applied Geochemists

www.appliedgeochemists.org

FROM THE PRESIDENT



Paul Morris

Like many professional organisations, AAG members rate their journal and scientific meetings as significant motivators for joining, because both offer the opportunity to keep in touch with like-minded colleagues and to keep abreast of the latest science (publications and oral/poster presentations). The AAG is fortunate in that its members receive not only its flagship journal (Geochemistry: Exploration, Environment, Analysis) but also its quarterly publication EXPLORE (in addition to *Elements*) as part of their annual subscription fee. The latest two offerings of GEEA (volume

10, numbers 1 and 2), released in February and May this year, illustrate the scope of today's applied geochemistry. The volumes feature a series of overview papers drawn from the Exploration 07 meeting in Toronto. They cover advances in exploration geochemistry and analysis in the last decade, likely future directions, contemporary approaches to dealing with large geochemical datasets, and the efficacy of sampledigestion processes. These papers, and other more deposit-focussed offerings in issue 10(2), reflect the change in the membership of AAG

following the inclusion of applied geochemists working in the environmental field. This evolution is also reflected in AAG's name change a few years ago, from the Association of Exploration Geochemistry (AEG) to its present designation.

For its thematic issues, GEEA also draws on presentations made at AAG's biennial International Applied Geochemistry Symposium (IAGS), which will be next held in Rovaniemi (Finland) in August 2011 (www.iags2011. fi). As the meeting has already attracted confirmed trade exhibitors and a sponsor, it's clear there is a high level of interest even 12 months in advance.

Perhaps of more restricted circulation but of great interest to AAG members is EXPLORE, which offers the opportunity for rapid publication (within weeks of submission) of short papers of topical interest; these papers often expose different points of view. An example is in the upcoming September issue, in which the fundamental problem of how many samples should be collected in a geochemical survey is debated by a veteran in the field, Bob Garrett, and a relative newcomer, Cliff Stanley. EXPLORE is also ideal for publishing articles on new and occasionally 'out there' approaches to exploration and analysis, and is also a place for exchange of ideas. Free copies of EXPLORE can be downloaded from AAG's website (www.appliedgeochemists.org).

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