

Société Française de Minéralogie et de Cristallographie

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FROM THE PRESIDENT

With my two vice-presidents, Guy Libourel and Javier Escartin, and the support of a renewed Council composed mainly of young scientists, it is a true pleasure and great honour for me to be the president of the SFMC for the term 2012-2013. I am convinced that, in France and in Europe, these two years will be known in the future as the beginning of the "renaissance" of the idea that minerals are key products for the development of our civil societies, as occurred in the past during the Stone, Bronze and Copper ages. A milestone for this new age happened in February 2012, when the European Commission identified nonenergy, non-agricultural raw materials as one of the three societal and economic challenges for the future, along with health and agriculture. This is a response to the ever-growing pressure on industry's access to critical elements, like the rare earths. Minerals and materials of natural or artificial origin are thus at the heart of the scientific and technical issues raised by the global management of our raw-materials resources. The issues involve extracting, recycling and substitution processes, and they require consideration of the whole chain of environmental impacts and the necessity to reinforce, and rebuild in some cases, research, education, training centres and networks. This renewal coincides with the emergence of nanomaterials, which, because of their novel properties, may help to reduce material consumption; but they also bring many disturbing questions about their impacts on the environment and human health. So it is an exciting time for mineralogical societies in general and the French community in particular to be involved in these two crucial issues. We must work on maintaining bridges between academic research on one hand and industry and the public on the other.

I am convinced, as were SFMC past-presidents Anne Marie Karpoff and Patrick Cordier before me, that societal and economic questioning will provide our community with many opportunities to increase the visibility, attractiveness and notoriety of our discipline worldwide.

Bruno Goffé, SFMC President

SFMC ELECTION RESULTS FOR 2010–2012

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WELCOMING NEW COUNCIL MEMBERS FOR 2012-2014



Sylvain Bernard

Bruno Goffé, CNRS, senior scientist at CEREGE Aix-Marseille, was the head of the Earth sciences division at the National Earth and Astronomy Institute (INSU) from 2006 to 2011. He is a mineralogist, petrologist and geologist specialized in mountain building, metasediments, experimental mineralogy and materials science. He has supervised 30 PhD and 50 master's students and is the author or co-author of 150 peer-reviewed publications and 17 patent publications.

Alain Cheilletz is a full professor at the École Nationale Supérieure de Géologie de Nancy, Lorraine University. As an economic geologist, he has worked on tungsten, copper, lead-zinc and gold deposits around the world. He is the co-holder of three international patents devoted to determining the geographic origin of emeralds and was an associate editor of Mineralium Deposita (2001-2005).

Sylvain Bernard is a CNRS research scientist at the Muséum National d'Histoire Naturelle (Paris). During his PhD in 2008 at the Laboratoire de Géologie de l'ENS, he documented the preservation of traces of life in rocks that had experienced intense metamorphic conditions. His scientific goals can be synthesized in a single question: How do biomolecules (and biominerals) evolve during fossilization processes?

Javier Escartin is a CNRS senior scientist at the Institut de Physique du Globe de Paris and adjunct scientist at Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution. His main areas of interest are the formation and evolution of the oceanic lithosphere and the use of experimental rock mechanics to understand the rheology and mode of deformation of alteration products (e.g. serpentinites) in the oceanic environment.

Mathieu Roskosz is an assistant professor at Lille I University. He is an experimentalist in the field of mineral physics and chemistry, with applications in astrophysical and magmatic environments. Recently, he has been applying an experimental approach to the study of isotopic fractionation and equilibration processes.

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