



SGA

News

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Submitting manuscripts to international journals – suggestions from the editors of Mineralium Deposita

Larry Meinert (1) and Bernd Lehmann (2)

(1) Department of Geology, Clark Science Center, Smith College, Northampton, MA 01063, USA, e-mail: Lmeinert@email.smith.edu

(2) Institute of Mineralogy and Mineral Resources, technical University of Clausthal, Adolph-Roemer Str. 2A, 38678 Clausthal-Zellerfeld, Germany, e-mail: lehmann@min.tu-clausthal.de

Introduction

There is increasing interest, and in some cases pressure, to publish scientific papers in top-tier international journals. For first-time authors from all countries the process of manuscript submittal, review, revision, and ultimately, acceptance or rejection, can seem mysterious and intimidating. As editors of Mineralium Deposita we are concerned both with ensuring good science and encouraging submission of quality manuscripts. Therefore, we outline here what is needed for a good manuscript that will likely survive the peer review process and that will produce a widely read and admired contribution to science. We will particularly focus on the problems facing post-docs and graduate students without extensive publication experience, researchers who are not fluent in English, and scientists who may not have access to the most modern analytical equipment.

Factors that increase the likelihood of favorable reviews and timely publication

Literature survey implied that the Outo

1) A clear statement of the problem – this is different than describing what was done,

but rather focuses on why it was done and why it is important. Do not assume that the reader will know why your study is important. If the subject is an ore deposit then grade, tonnage, and development status are necessary to understand the deposit's significance.

2) Shorter is almost always better. It is a common tendency to include data, observations, and illustrations simply because they exist rather than because they are essential to the story being told. This is particularly true for first publications resulting from Ph.D. studies. A useful guideline is "if in doubt, leave out".

3) Organization is the key to telling a successful story. It may sound simple but an outline or flow chart of ideas needs to proceed logically from the statement of the problem through what was done to conclusions that are supported by the data. If the reviewers cannot clearly identify and follow these three steps, they are unlikely to recommend the paper for publication.

4) Critical review and revision are essential for a quality publication. The best known authors do not have a magical gift, they revise, revise, revise. Keep in mind that it is almost impossible to be adequately critical of one's own work. A good reviewer needs to be able to view your work from

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From the President of SGA

Hartwig Frimmel

Hartwig.Frimmel@mail.uni-wuerzburg.de

As this is the last time for me to write in this column, it seems appropriate to reflect back on the last two years. Without doubt it has been a highly successful period for SGA. Not only buoyed up by the on-going boom in the mineral resources industry but also by the hard work of a great team of councillors and regional vice-presidents, SGA has continued to grow as a leading international, professional society. SGA has more members representing a wider range of countries than ever before. It was actively involved in a series of activities. These include the 25th and 26th UNESCO-SEG-SGA Latin American Course of Metallogeny, held in Antofagasta in June 2006 and a year later in Mexico City, the Conference on the Geology of the Middle East in Al-Ain (United Arab Emirates) in March 2006, the SGA Gold Short Course in Munich in June 2006, and the Fermor Meeting in London in September 2006. The absolute highlight of 2007 was, of course, the 9th Biennial SGA Meeting in Dublin. The Dublin Meeting was a huge success in all respects (see separate report on the meeting in this issue). The number of registered delegates even surpassed the previous record achieved at the Beijing Meeting in 2005, in spite of a time clash with the Goldschmidt Conference held at the same time in Cologne. Apart from the high scientific standing of the various contributions, it was particularly encouraging to see a large number of students participating. This would not have been possible without the generous sponsorship received from industry. At times when graduates in the field of economic geology fall into the category "scarce skill", it makes sense to generate opportunities to bring together students, young graduates and industry. The Dublin Meeting turned out to provide exactly that opportunity.

Another milestone for SGA this year has been the introduction of its most prestigious award, the SGA-Newmont Gold Medal. It is never easy to select a candidate for such an award, particularly when facing some outstanding nominations. As with all important decisions, the outcome was based on a vote by Council – and we are extremely pleased to have Zdenek Johan as the first recipient of this highest recognition SGA offers. While celebrating the achievements of our senior colleagues, it is as much a



responsibility and pleasure to reward our younger colleagues for their achievements, and we congratulate the first recipient of the newly founded SGA-Barrick Young Scientist Award, Gilles Levresse, as well as the recipient of the Best Paper Award, Ross McGowan.

For most members, one of the most valuable benefits of SGA membership is the free subscription to *Mineralium Deposita*. Thanks to you, the authors, and thanks to the hard work by the editorial team, we can proudly state that *Mineralium Deposita* remains, according to the ISI ranking, the top international journal in the field of mineral deposit research. In this regard Springer has been a very reliable partner in the production of our flagship journal, which also happens to be SGA's main source of income. This year our contract with Springer expired and had to be re-negotiated, which presented an opportunity to re-assess the ways by which we serve you, the member. Taking cognisance of changing needs amongst professionals, SGA entered a new contract with Springer, valid for the next ten years, which makes possible not only more secure medium-term planning but also to offer you a wider variety of membership choices at highly competitive rates. From 2008 members can choose between a traditional regular membership, which entails free subscription to *Mineralium Deposita* hard copies and free electronic

SGA news

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EDITOR

Massimo Chiaradia
Department of Mineralogy
University of Geneva
Geneva
SWITZERLAND

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Dr. Massimo Chiaradia
Department of Mineralogy
University of Geneva
Rue des Maraîchers 13
CH-1205 Geneva
Fax: +41 22 379 32 10
e-mail: editor-sga-news@e-sga.org

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Looking into the future, some predictions

are fairly safe to make. SGA is gearing up for another successful Biennial Meeting, to be held in Townsville, Australia, in 2009. The preparations for it have already taken off as you can see in a separate article in this issue. To ensure timely planning, interested parties are invited to submit proposals for the 11th Biennial SGA Meeting to be held in 2011 to the SGA secretary before the end of this year. There is, however, another clear message from the crystal ball. Notwithstanding the new agreement with Springer, our Society will have to find additional ways of generating funds if it wants to embark on new initiatives. The new membership fee structure to be implemented from 2008 is not designed to make a profit but to ensure that SGA can continue to provide the services you have become accustomed to also in the future. This is not enough, however, for SGA to maintain and manifest its position as a leading international learned society. Although SGA may be proud of its achievements in the past, there is no time for resting on whatever laurels. SGA's membership is dominated by relatively senior people. In order to remain a vital society of relevance, SGA will have to grow particularly amongst the more junior professionals. The

times for such growth could not be better with an insatiable hunger of industry for young geoscientists and a decrease in the geologically orientated training offered by universities. This widening gap between the training of geoscientists and the demands of industry opens up an opportunity for a society, such as SGA, to step in. In a meeting with representatives from industry, held at the fringes of the Dublin Conference, SGA was given a clear signal that industry would like our Society to move into exactly this direction, i.e. to provide activities, such as field workshops, short courses, etc., that will supplement the formal training our more junior colleagues have received or are currently receiving. This is a great challenge and the success of SGA will be measured by the extent to which it will be able to meet this challenge.

Finally, let me conclude with thanking the entire Council and the Local Organizing Committee of the Dublin Meeting for their many contributions during my term as president. It has been a great experience to work with a team of dedicated individuals who are prepared to selflessly put SGA's interests first (other work-related commitments permitting of course).

The 9th Biennial SGA Meeting, Dublin, Ireland, 20–23 August 2007: Digging Deeper

Gerry Stanley (1) and Hartwig Frimmel (2)

(1) Geological Survey of Ireland, Dublin, Ireland, Gerry.Stanley@gsi.ie

(2) University of Wuerzburg, Wuerzburg, Germany, hartwig.frimmel@uni-wuerzburg.de

Since the first SGA meeting of this kind was held in Nancy in 1991, SGA Biennial Meetings have become a tradition and a trademark of our Society. Without interruption, every two years SGA organized international conferences that, without any doubt, have been major highlights on the conference calendar of anybody interested in mineral deposit research. Initially, these meetings were held at various places in Europe. In 2005, reflecting the increasing internationalisation of SGA, the Biennial Meeting was held for the first time outside Europe in Beijing. That meeting was a huge success, attracting a larger number of delegates than any preceding SGA Meeting, and many thought it would be difficult to beat that.



This year, the SGA Biennial Meeting returned to Europe, more specifically to Dublin. The local host was the Irish Association for Economic Geology (IAEG), Ireland's most influential geological association. The theme of the meeting was "Digging Deeper". Apart from the obvious interpretation, with a need to dig deeper

in order to find new ore bodies at some localities, the theme was meant more in a metaphorical sense in terms of a need for a deeper understanding of mineral deposits and exploration techniques. With a minerals industry that is still booming and unprecedented exploration efforts with regard to a number of mineral resources, this theme

proofed to be highly topical and attracted a significant sector from the mining and exploration industry as well as representatives from academic and government institutions from 59 different countries.

Importantly enough, the Dublin meeting was also an SGA contribution to International Year of the Planet Earth (IYPE).

When the SGA Council decided to give the Irish proposal for staging this event the thumbs-up, it did so for a variety of reasons beyond the attraction to the average geologist of a certain dark-brownish liquid that flows generously at most street corners on the green island. One of them was the past experience by the IAEG in organizing conferences – an important aspect that paid off very well indeed. Ireland is one of the European countries that managed to attract the attention of the minerals industry. The Irish minerals industry is currently experiencing a substantial profitability. As pointed out by Tony Killeen T.D., Minister of State at the Department of Communications, Energy and Natural Resources, in his speech at the state reception in Dublin Castle, “geoscience-based industry already contributes more than €2 billion each year to the Irish economy”.

The meeting was held in the inspiring environment of Trinity College in the heart of Dublin. With 605 fully registered delegates and 16 exhibitors, the Dublin Meeting became not only the biggest SGA event staged so far but also the largest geological conference ever held in Ireland. The top ten countries represented at the meeting were as most influential geological association. The theme of the meeting was “Digging Deeper”. Apart from the obvious interpretation, with a need to dig deeper in order to find new ore bodies at some localities, the theme was meant more in a metaphorical sense in terms of a need for a deeper understanding of mineral deposits and exploration techniques. With a minerals industry that is still booming and unprecedented exploration efforts with regard to a number of mineral resources, this theme proofed to be highly topical and attracted a significant sector from the mining and exploration industry as well as representatives from academic and government institutions from 59 different countries.

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Contributions to 23 thematic sessions were presented over four days in four parallel oral sessions and two poster sessions. Topics covered by the various sessions ranged from rather general themes, such as “Ore Deposits Through Space and Time” to very specific aspects like “Resource Estimation – Classification” or “Felsic Intrusion-Related Mineral Deposits”. Particularly strong interest attracted sessions on gold and uranium deposits, those associated with basic and ultrabasic rocks as well as the session entitled “From Mineral Systems to Predictive Mineral Discovery”. There were also special sponsored by the Society for Economic Geology (“Compressional tectonics, expanding resources: Exploration advances in the Tethyan Belt”); the Irish Association for Economic geology (“Carbonate hosted zinc-lead deposits”), the North Atlantic Minerals Symposium (featuring mineral deposits in the North Atlantic region), and IGCP (“Sea-floor Systems” IGCP502).

The results of all the latest research presented at the meeting can be found in two-volumes of peer-reviewed conference proceedings, totalling 1633 pages, edited painstakingly by Colin Andrew and a team of 46 session conveners and published by the IAEG. The technical sessions were supplemented by eight short courses, attended by some 192 participants, on the weekend before the conference. These sought-after short courses covered “Orogenic Lode Gold

Digging Deeper



Deposits”, “Granite-related Gold Deposits”, “Sediment-hosted Base Metal Deposits”, “Sediment-hosted Copper Deposits”, “Isotopes in Exploration”, “Exploration for Skarn Deposits”, “Applied Structural Geology for Economic Geologists”, and “Advances in 3D Geological Modelling”. We thank the short course presenters David Groves, Tim Baker, Jamie Wilkinson, Ross Large, Steve Roberts, Georges Beaudoin, David Cooke, Adrian Boyce, Quentin Crowley, Larry Meinert, Cam McCuaig, and Paul Hodkiewicz for their time and effort.

One of the highlights of the meeting took place right at the beginning when, following the Opening Ceremony, two new awards were presented. The first recipient of the most prestigious new SGA-Newmont Gold Medal for outstanding lifetime achievement in the fields of mineral deposit research and/or economic geology is Zdenek Johan, who grew up in Czechoslovakia and spent most of his professional career at the BRGM in Orleans. The award, consisting of an artistically shaped, one troy ounce gold coin, was handed over by the SGA president and Steve Enders from Newmont Mining Corporation. Jan Pasava presented the citation (see separate article in this issue on this event). The first winner of the SGA-Barrick Young Scientist Award is Gilles Levresse (Mexico). This award replaces the previous SGA-Young Scientist Award. Furthermore, the Best Paper Award (for best paper in Mineralium Deposita in the preceding two years) went to Ross McGowan for an article, co-authored by S. Roberts and A.J. Boyce, entitled “Origin of the Nchanga copper-cobalt deposits of

the *Zambian Copperbelt*", which appeared in *Mineralium Deposita*, v. 40, p. 617-638. Stephen Roberts accepted the award in the absence of Ross McGowan. We congratulate all awardees to their achievements and thank Newmont and Barrick for their generous sponsorship.

The enormous success of this meeting would not have been possible without the hard work by the local organizing committee and many volunteers. Special thanks go to the team that helped the chairman of the local organizing committee (Gerry Stanley), which included Colin Andrew, who put together the technical programme, Eibhlin Doyle (treasurer), John Pyne (deputy chairman), Ed Slowey (conference sponsorship), Stephen Harney for co-ordinating the poster display, Kerr Anderson for co-ordinating the field trip programme, Wayne Cox (marketing), Sandy Archibald, Catherine Ault, John Graham and the staff of Conference Partners. Individuals outside the local organising committee, who made particularly important contributions, include David Leach, Gregor Borg, Jan Pasava, Anna Vymazalová, Jorge Relvas, Bernd Lehmann, Richard Goldfarb, Georges Beaudoin, Fernando Tornos, Richard Herrington, David Groves, John Moore, Sergei Diakov, Roric Smith, Frank Bierlein, Carmen Holmgren, and Sabine Lange.

The meeting received much appreciated sponsorship from both government and industry. The largest contribution came from the Irish Department of Communications, Energy and Natural Resources, which is the parent organisation for the Geological Survey of Ireland and the Exploration and Mining Division (the minerals industry regulator). Major support was received also from the Geological Survey of Northern Ireland, the Geological Survey of Newfoundland and Labrador, and 13 companies. Gold sponsors were Cambridge Mineral Resources PLC, New Boliden Tara Mines Limited and Ormonde Mining plc; our silver sponsors were Aurum Mining PLC, Connemara Mining, the CSA Group, Lundin Mining and Tournigan Gold Corp; with additional sponsorship from Conroy Diamonds and Gold, Fáilte Ireland, Glencar mining PLC, Thabex Exploration Ltd. and The Lisheen Mine.

Particularly gratifying was the success in raising again, after a similarly successful drive in Beijing in 2005, a substantial amount of sponsorship for students. The SGA Student Committee, SGA Council and the Local Organizing Committee extend their sincere appreciation to each of the

sponsors for their generous commitment to the student programme in Dublin. Thirteen companies and the Australian SGE GSA kindly contributed funds that supported graduate student participation in the conference. In addition, two Australian research organizations, pmd*CRG and CODES, joined the student sponsorship programme and directly funded students presenting posters or talks. The corporate contributions supported 54 students from 21 countries that include: Argentina (1), Australia (16), Belgium (1), Brazil (1), Bulgaria (1), Canada (4), China (3), Egypt (1), Germany (4), Greece (1), Italy (1), Macedonia (1), Portugal (1), Russia (3), South Africa (1), Spain (5), Switzerland (1), UK (3), USA (2), Uzbekistan (3), Turkey (1). A total of almost 90 graduate students attended the meeting and their active participation as authors of both oral and poster presentations formed an important contribution to the scientific success of the conference.

A social event "Students & Industry" was held in The Pavilion Bar, Trinity College, where students were able to interact with representatives of the corporate sponsors and discuss their future plans in the field of economic geology. More than 100 people participated in the event. In order to reward excellence in the student's scientific work, the Best Oral and Poster Presentations were selected by a Conference Student Committee (Richard Goldfarb, Bernd Lehman, Jorge Relvas and Anna Vymazalová). Based on scientific merit and the quality of the student's presentations, the best student oral presentation and student poster were awarded to the following graduate students. The award for Best Oral Presentation went to Joaquin Perona (Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona) for a talk on "Origin of diapiro-related Zn-Pb deposits in the Basque-Cantabrian Basin (Northern Spain)". The poster on "New data on mineral composition of ores, zonality and age of cobalt deposits in

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Altai-Sayan Orogenic Area" by Irina Tretjakova (Novosibirsk State University) was selected as Best Student Poster.

If the technical side of the meeting wasn't active enough, a busy social programme made sure the delegates went to bed tired. The social side of the programme started

off with the ice-breaker or welcome reception in the Dining Hall of Trinity College. Although the organisers did advise that geologists were a thirsty lot they did ma-



Colin Andrew and Gerry Stanley (from right), main masterminds behind the meeting, welcome new delegates at the reception desk.



Minister of State Mr. Tony Killeen (centre) along with from left, Sandy Archibald (President, IAEG), Gerry Stanley (Chairman, Local Organising Committee), Hartwig Frimmel (President, SGA) and Peadar McArdle (Director, Geological Survey of Ireland) at the State Reception in Dublin Castle.



Delegates in the Burke Theatre.



Delegates enjoying a coffee break in the exhibition and poster area of the conference.



Pre-dinner drinks for the Gala Dinner in the Atrium adjoining the Dining Hall.



Waving goodbye during the after dinner entertainment – led by Noel White.

nage to request that additional Guinness be provided. The authors of this report tried manfully to welcome delegates but were no match for the chattering classes. The balmy evening (the Irish summer occurred on this day) meant that the party spilled over into the aptly named Parliament Square. The music for the evening was provided by Celtic Notes and the very young really enjoyed them and joined in the singing and dancing. The following evening (Monday) all delegates were the guests of the Minister of State, Mr. Tony Killeen, at the Department of Communication, Energy and Natural Resources in the sumptuous surroundings of Dublin Castle. Then we were back to party time with an evening entitled Irish Night (Tuesday evening). This gave us the excuse to visit the Old Jameson's Distillery in Smithfield in the heart of Dublin. First the delegates were shown a short film on the history of Jameson's followed by a tour of the Old Distillery and a demonstration of the art of whiskey making. A Whiskey Challenge followed where all had to drink whiskey – three Irish (Jameson's, Power's and Paddy), a Scotch (Johnnie Walker Black Label) and a bourbon (Jack Daniel's). Jameson, Johnnie Walker Black Label and Jack Daniels are the biggest selling Irish, Scotch and American whiskeys, respectively. When a poll was taken of the revellers the clear winner – by a country mile – was Jameson's. After a delightful meal of 'traditional' Irish food followed some great entertainment with singing, badhran (Irish drum) and fiddle playing, singing, story telling and dancing. The audience got into the mood of things and were soon participating like true natives. Not a drop was spilled all night. The final social event of the conference was the Gala Dinner and for

this people were back to moderately good behaviour. The venue for the dinner was once again the Dining Hall at Trinity. After a pre-dinner drink in the Atrium the delegates were ushered into the splendidly decorated Dining Hall where they were treated to an excellent meal. After dinner, there was a short presentation ceremony where Colin, Kerr and Gerry received a gift for their hard work in organising the conference on a completely voluntary basis. The after dinner entertainment featured the Drawing Room Opera Company. Now let us state that when organising the entertainment and we decided on "A Night at the Opera" it was not one with which we were entirely confident. But we need not have worried – it was a tremendous success and a great night was had by all. For the accompanying delegates whose interests went beyond geology, a range of entertaining tours exploring Dublin and its surroundings during the technical sessions rounded off an excellently organized social programme.

All of the seven planned pre- and post-conference field trips with destinations all across Europe were carried out successfully, most of them fully booked. Some 129 delegates participated in these field-based activities. Already prior to the conference did John Kelly lead a group of 17 enthusiastic geologists to the centre of Irish mining, the lead-zinc district in the Irish Midlands, where Europe's largest zinc producers at Navan, Lisheen, and Galmoy were visited. The field trip offered a great opportunity to discuss the enigmatic genetic position of this Irish-type within the larger class of carbonate-hosted Pb-Zn deposits. In another pre-conference field trip, Richard Herrington and Bill Sheppard led 15 delegates to the historic Cu mine at Parys Mountain in

northern Wales, allegedly the world's largest Cu mine in the late 18th century, and to Avoca in southeastern Ireland. Felsic volcanic sequences in the Snowdonia National Park were also on the programme.

A range of exciting field trips were conducted after the conference. A group of 20 people, under the leadership of Fernando Tornos, visited the legendary Iberian pyrite belt that hosts many large VHMS deposits. Neves Corvo, Aljustrel, Aguas Teñidas, La Zarza and the Rio Tinto area were visited as well as the Ossa Morena Zone, which hosts many mineral deposits and occurrences, with the magmatic Ni-Cu and IOCG being of particular importance. There the Agua Blanca Ni-Cu mine and the Cala magnetite mine were visited. Some 29 geologists participated in a field trip to the world class Kupferschiefer Copper and Krakow-Silesia Zinc-Lead districts. David Leach (USGS), Adam Piestrzynski and Maria Sass-Gustkiewicz (AGH University of Science and Technology) and Stanislaw Mikulski and Slawomir Oszczepalski (Polish Geological Institute) led the trip. The group learned from classic examples of Kupferschiefer mineralization in the Polkowice-Sieroszowice and Rudna underground mines together with visits to surface exposures and cores of the regional Kupferschiefer mineralization. In the Krakow-Silesia Zinc-Lead district, contrasting styles of MVT mineralization were observed in the Pomorzany and Trzebieńka mines. Before departing the trip, a visit was made to the World Heritage Wieliczka salt mine in Krakow.

A field trip to the northern part of the Fennoscandian Shield, led by Juhani Ojala Pär Weihed from the Lulea University of Technology and Pasi Eilu from the Geological Survey of Finland, afforded a group



Field trip participants on the Irish zinc – lead trip outside New Boliden's Tara Mines visitor centre at Navan in Co. Meath.

of 23 participants the opportunity to visit some world-class deposits, such as the Aitik Cu-Au-Ag mine, the Kemi Cr mine and the Kirunavaara Fe mine, in one of the most mineralized Palaeoproterozoic regions of the world. A detailed excursion guidebook can be downloaded from SGA's homepage (go to "Publications"). Not far from the conference location at Trinity College is the Archeology and History section of the National Museum, which hosts a splendid collection of Bronze age gold artefacts. The source of that gold has remained a mystery as Ireland is not known as a country that is particularly well endowed with gold deposits. This perception might change. Only a few months ago, Ireland's first gold

mine came into operation at Cavanacaw in Northern Ireland, which was the destination of a further field trip, led by Garth Earls (Geological Survey of Northern Ireland). A group of 20 geologists had a chance to see this Dalradian-hosted orogenic gold deposit as well as the nearby Curraghinalt gold prospect, which promises to turn into a mine in the foreseeable future. Last but not least, Gerry Stanley from the Geological Survey of Ireland conducted a trip to old mine sites in Ireland where he showed the various approaches that are being undertaken to rehabilitate, identify geohazards and risks. Places visited include Glendalough, Avoca, Gortdrum and Silvermines.

All in all the Dublin Meeting turned out to be a most educational, inspiring, and entertaining experience, simply a huge success. We would like to take the opportunity to thank all the speakers, field trip leaders and short course leaders, the delegates and the SGA Membership – go raibh maith agaibh go leir (thank you all very much). While it will be a formidable task for organizing committees of up-coming SGA Biennial Meetings to meet the high standard now set, we have all the confidence that our colleagues from Australia will live up to this challenge. See you in Townsville in 2009!

Some of the messages of congratulations for the Meeting organization

What a great event Dublin was! I enjoyed it immensely as did everyone else I spoke to. Terrific job.

Doug Kirwin, Thailand

Let me thank you as all the other helpers for the greatest-ever SGA meeting I attended. The science was really good, the turnout great, social events magnificent, with the opera in the Great Hall the top! Cheers and congratulations for a really well-done huge job.

Chris Heinrich, Zurich

A giant thanks to you....truly a fantastic meeting, and in great surroundings, in a great city.

Kudos. Jan Peter, Canada

I thoroughly enjoyed the SGA conference last week. The venue and organisation were excellent.

Peter Scott, UK

Thanks for this and for having me contribute. I thoroughly enjoyed the meeting and hope we can entertain the participants at Townsville 2009 by matching the liveliness of some of the debate I saw in Dublin!

Patrick Williams, Australia

Firstly congratulations to you and the organizing committee for a brilliant and very wide ranging conference.

Julian Barnes, Canada

I would like to thank you and all the organising committee for such a splendid conference. I have been involved with several conferences and know all the work that goes into such an event. In particular we thought that the social functions were superb, somehow the Irish seem to have a party-organising capacity that the rest of the world just can't quite aspire to.

Judith Kinnaird, South Africa

SGA N-Ireland Gold and Wales and Avoca (SE Ireland) VMS fieldtrips: a student perspective

The Gold Deposits of Northern Ireland SGA Fieldtrip, August 2007

There has been much interest in Northern Ireland gold in hope of stimulating economic growth and potentially sourcing the gold used in the manufacture of Bronze Age Irish gold artifacts. It is likely that the gold used in these artifacts was largely alluvial in origin or traded from a foreign nation, however on the 23rd and 24th of August 2007 Dr. David Lentz of the University of New Brunswick, Dr. Kay Thorne of the New Brunswick Department of Natural Resources, and I (David Shinkle an MSc candidate at UNB) participated on "The Gold Deposits of Northern Ireland SGA Fieldtrip" where we visited several deposits

that could potentially have contributed gold towards the construction of these pieces of Irish history. The fieldtrip was lead by Dr. Garth Earls of the Geological Survey of Northern Ireland who planned our initial stop for August 23rd when we visited the countryside surrounding Omagh, Northern Ireland where we looked at some interesting sulfide-bearing felsic volcanic rocks belonging to the Cashel Rock formation of the Tyrone Igneous Complex. The following day we where so fortunate as to have visited two different gold deposits: first the Cavanacaw open pit which came into production in 2007, followed by Curraghinalt underground operation that has been being developed since the 1980's and

1990's. Our visit to Cavanacaw consisted of a visit to the core shack where we saw some very attractive drill core of the quartz vein-hosted gold-bearing sulfides found in the deposit, followed by full access to the open pit itself where we were allowed to collect as many samples as we desired (see left of photo below). After several hours at Cavanacaw our group drove to the Tournigan Gold Corp core shack where we saw some excellent drill core of the gold-bearing sulfides present in the quartz veins found in the Curraghinalt underground operation. This was followed by a visit to the Curraghinalt operation where we were given a guided tour of the underground workings conducted to date, as well as given permis-



sion to collect samples of massive sulfide that contained up to 300 grams per tonne gold (see right of photo below). Including Dr. Earls there was a total of 17 people who participated on this amazing opportunity to see some very interesting lode gold deposits in Northern Ireland.

David Andrew Shinkle
University of New Brunswick
Canada

Northern Wales and Southeastern Ireland VMS fieldtrip

Ryan Toole (MSc. Candidate) and I (Angela Page) students from the University of New Brunswick as well as other students from the UNB Ore Research and Exploration Group have been systematically studying volcanogenic massive sulphide (VMS) deposits along the Appalachian Orogen and now the British Caledonides in search of similarities for own research. Both, Ryan and I are studying the Boomerang VMS deposit in central Newfoundland discovered by Messina Minerals in 2004.

Along with our supervisor Dr. David Lentz, Dr. Steve McCutcheon from NB DNR-Minerals and UNB Adjunct Professor and 12 other participants from across North

American and Europe, we were guided through the volcanic sequences of the historical mines known as Cae Coch, Snowdon, and Parys Mountain of northern Wales, and Avoca located in south-eastern Ireland and were engaged in lively discussions both on and off the outcrops. On this specific trip we were exposed to several different types of mineralization from replacement sulphides to bedded sulphides, as well as stringer sulphides rich in copper which helped to give new insights to be incorporated into our own projects.

As students it cannot be overemphasized enough the importance of hands-on experience, after this experience my passion for geology has grown exponentially. Every student should have the opportunity to get out and see the world and see first-hand world class geology and interact with world class geologists. Experiences like this play a vital role in broaden cultural knowledge and ultimately will help determine where I see myself in the fu-

ture. I encourage students to learn and get involved with organizations like the SGA and many other geological associations to help broaden their own experiences.

The trip would not have been successful without the expertise and organization of Dr. Richard Herrington (Museum of Natural History, London) our official field trip leader, Dr. Bill Sheppard (Consultant), and Dr Peadar McArdle from the Irish geological survey. A special thanks goes out to Dr. David Lentz for giving both Ryan and I this amazing opportunity as he so frequently does with all of his students.

Angela Page
University of New Brunswick
Canada



Photo of the Parys Mountain open pit mine, courtesy Ryan Toole.



uOttawa



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SGA Conference 2009, Townsville, Australia

Patrick Williams (1), Nick Oliver (2), and Rowena Duckworth (3)

(1) Director, (2) W.C. Lacy Professor of Economic Geology, (3) Manager; EGRU, School of Earth and Environmental Sciences, James Cook University, Townsville 4811, Australia

SGA and the Economic Geology Research Unit (EGRU¹) at James Cook University are delighted to invite all their members and others interested in economic geology to participate in the 2009 conference to be held in the tropical city of Townsville in northern Queensland, Australia.

Background, Theme and Philosophy of the 2009 Conference

Australia is a major player in international mining with significant production of most

of the widely-traded mineral commodities and world leadership in several of these. Business has been booming in recent years supported by increased commodity prices. Unusually amongst developed countries, the Australian scientific community has benefited from targeted government funding for minerals-related research over the last two decades which has supported the development of several large and vibrant groups of economic geology researchers in universities and government organisations. One reflection of this was the large num-

ber of researchers based in Australia who, despite the large travelling distance, attended the 9th Biennial Meeting in Dublin. This combination of economic strength and academic depth provide an excellent foundation for a successful 2009 meeting. Although it will be convened by James Cook University in Townsville, the 2009 meeting will be a collaborative effort involving economic geologists from many organisations around Australia and New Zealand. The well known centres at CODES (University of Tasmania, Hobart) and CET (University

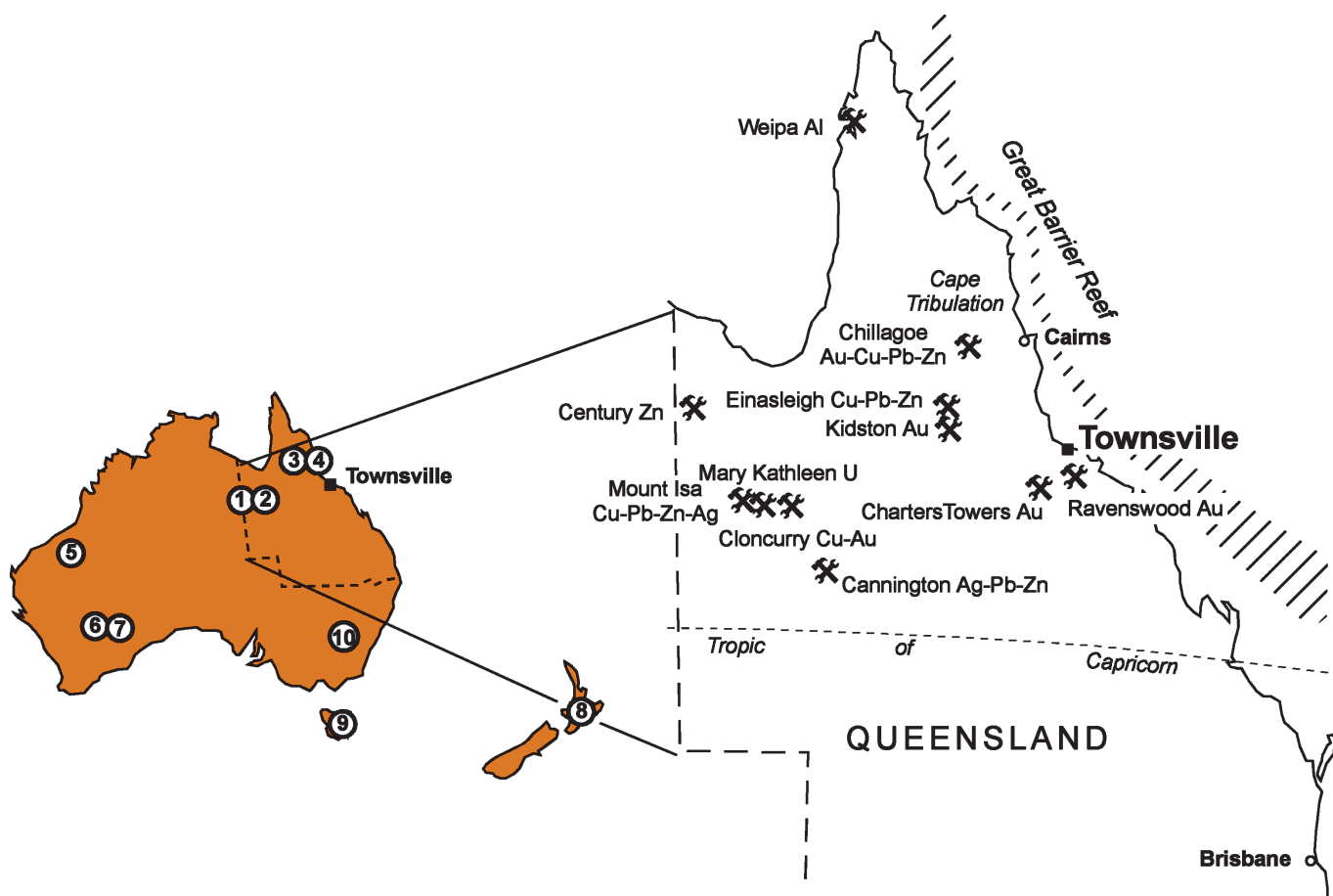


Figure 1: Location of Townsville, home of the 10th Biennial SGA meeting in northern Queensland, Australia. Some of the more important mineral deposits in the region are shown along with proposed fieldtrip locations in Australia and New Zealand. 1. Base metal deposits of the Mount Isa region; 2. IOCG and Broken Hill-type deposits of the Cloncurry district; 3. North Queensland gold and base metal deposits; 4. Environmental management of tropical North Queensland mine sites; 5. Iron ore deposits of the Hamersley district; 6. Archaean nickel deposits of Western Australia; 7. Archaean gold deposits of Western Australia; 8. Epithermal gold deposits and active hot springs in North Island, New Zealand; 9. Volcanology, alteration and VHMS deposits: A Tasmanian Perspective; 10. Porphyry and epithermal systems of New South Wales.

¹EGRU was set up in 1982 as an interactive resource base interfacing academia and industry. The Unit is funded through industry and government membership subscriptions and housed in the School of Earth and Environmental Sciences at James Cook University in Townsville. Its principal function is to facilitate knowledge transfer in the field of economic geology.

of Western Australia, Perth) will both be strongly represented in the planning process and delivery of the conference program and field trips. The conference theme will emphasise innovative science associated with the extractive minerals industry echoing the Queensland Government's major investment in its current "Smart State" research and development program. EGRU will be the conference manager having gained experience in such roles with a series of successful national and international conferences over the last two decades. Given excellent sponsorship potential and a cost structure that is now largely known, EGRU and the SGA are confident that this conference will deliver excellent value to its registrants as well as providing the means to invest strongly in the participation of students and potentially in that of others with limited means who might otherwise not be able to attend. There is also a firm intention that the conference will make a positive contribution to SGA funds which will ultimately be used to help the Society develop its future business.

Location and Timing

Townsville is located on Australia's tropical northeastern coastline close to the the famous Great Barrier Reef (Fig. 1). It provides an exceptional conference location, particularly between the months of May and September when the climate is ideal for visitors. Townsville is a small city of ca 165,000 inhabitants that exemplifies Australia's reputation for informality and friendliness towards visitors. It is an exceptionally safe city. The surrounding North Queensland region is one of the world's

most sought after tourist destinations (see <http://www.tropicalaustralia.com.au/>) and many international conference delegates inevitably chose to combine holidays with their visits. The city has close links with world class mining activities in northern, central and northwestern Queensland. It is well served with hotel accommodation of all grades and has many restaurants offering varied international cuisine (see <http://www.townsvilleholidays.info/>). This is all available at prices which will seem very reasonable to seasoned international travellers who are used to the costs associated with visits to the larger cities of Europe and the Americas. The weather in August is typically dry, sunny and mild to warm with mean temperature minima and maxima of 15 and 27° C. The average total rainfall in August is 16 mm and mean daily sunshine hours are 9.0. International travellers connect to Townsville using regular flights from Cairns, Brisbane and Sydney. Internal flight times from Cairns and Brisbane take less than two hours and Townsville airport is only 5-6 km from the conference venue and most hotels and served by the domestic carriers Jetstar, Qantas and Virgin Blue. The conference will be held in the Jupiters Hotel and the Townsville Entertainment and Convention Centre complex (Fig. 2) which is spectacularly located on the Pacific waterfront and marina, close to all city centre amenities. The main program will be held in the four days commencing Monday August 17th 2009 and the many potential delegates who also like to participate in the annual Goldschmidt geochemistry conferences can be reassured that the 2009 Goldschmidt conference will be held in early July.

Program

The program is currently under development but will include the normal components of an SGA conference including:

- Technical Sessions
- Poster Sessions
- Exhibition
- Short Courses and Workshops
- Field Trips
- Social Program
- Accompanying Persons Program

The Society of Economic Geologists will cosponsor the conference and plans to cooperate with its involvement in the following daily structure.

Monday 17th August

SGA plenary sessions – invited talks by researchers on geoscientific topics

Tuesday 18th August

SEG sponsored session with a morning of general interest plenary technical contributions and more specialist papers in the afternoon scheduled simultaneously with specialist SGA science sessions.

Wednesday 19th and Thursday 20th August

SGA simultaneous technical sessions. Poster sessions and an exhibition will be held continuously throughout the conference in the purpose-designed areas of the Townsville Entertainment and Convention Centre. Working themes for the SGA technical sessions currently include:

(A) Processes

1. The lithospheric setting of giant ore deposits
2. Magmatic ores and their petrogenetic/tectonic setting



Figure 2: The conference venue on Townsville's Pacific breakwater offers excellent facilities in a spectacular setting. The adjoining Jupiter's Hotel (left) and Townsville Entertainment and Convention Centre (right) will host the conference sessions, poster displays and exhibition.

3. Ores at the magmatic-hydrothermal interface
4. Evaluation of hydrothermal processes at the depositional site
5. Dating ore deposits: geological and geochronological problems
6. Supergene enrichment of mineral deposits and secondary ore deposits

(B) Specific Problems

7. Golden controversies: classification of epigenetic gold deposits
8. Timing and genesis of sediment-hosted Cu, Cu-Zn and Pb-Zn deposits
9. Understanding the porphyry-epithermal transition
10. The origin of enriched iron and manganese ore deposits
11. The nature and origin of uranium deposits
12. Genesis of iron oxide-copper-gold deposits

(C) New and Frontier Areas

13. Applied mineralogy
14. Petrophysics
15. Conceptual targeting and prospectivity/endowment analysis
16. Mining and the environment: issues and solutions
17. Numerical simulations of hydrothermal systems

Field Trips

The conference will provide opportunities or delegates to visitors several of the fa-

mous significant mineral provinces in Australia and New Zealand (e.g. Figs. 1 and 3). The provisional list of planned field trips and organising groups at the time of going to press includes:

1. Base metal deposits of the Mount Isa region (EGRU-JCU)
2. IOCG and Broken Hill-type deposits of the Cloncurry district (EGRU-JCU)
3. North Queensland gold and base metal deposits (EGRU-JCU)
4. Environmental management of tropical North Queensland mine sites (EGRU-JCU)
5. Iron ore deposits of the Hamersley district (CET-UWA)
6. Archaean nickel deposits of the Yilgarn Craton, Western Australia (CET-UWA)
7. Archaean gold deposits of the Yilgarn Craton Western Australia (CET-UWA)
8. Epithermal gold deposits and active hot springs in New Zealand (Univ. Auckland)
9. Volcanology, alteration and VHMS deposits: A Tasmanian Perspective (CODES)
10. Porphyry and epithermal systems of New South Wales (CODES)
11. Ore deposits of Papua New Guinea (SEG/UPNG)

Further expressions of interest are currently being sought from organisations who would be prepared to co-ordinate additional field trips including Cu-Au-U deposits of the Gawler Craton, Broken Hill (NSW) and the Northern Territory U-(PGE-Au) province.

Accompanying Persons Program

Townsville lies in a region of rich cultural heritage and outstanding natural beauty that offers no shortage of interest for travellers of all descriptions. Within easy driving distances of the city, visitors can explore world heritage rain forest, enjoy some of the world's most spectacular beaches, view native Australian wild life in its own habitats, and experience historical sites dating from the early European settlement of the region (e.g. Fig. 4). All this as well as Australia's singlemost important tourist attraction, namely the Great Barrier Reef. A series of half-day and full day excursions will be arranged for accompanying persons and a charter trip to the Reef is being planned for delegates and their guests to be offered as a grand finale on the Friday of the conference week.

Further Information

Please contact the convenors Patrick. Williams@jcu.edu.au and Nick.Oliver@jcu.edu.au (or SGA2009@jcu.edu.au) for further information, suggestions or offers of field trips or short courses, and sponsorship enquiries. Full conference information will be posted on the web at <http://www.ees.jcu.edu.au/SGA2009>.



Figure 3: View taken from the hotel lobby at Jupiter's of its poolside entertainment area with Cleveland Bay and Magnetic Island in the background. This area is used for outdoor functions such as the conference welcome reception.



Figure 4: Conference fieldtrips will visit classic locations in Australia and New Zealand. EGRU and other participating groups have extensive experience leading trips to minerals provinces such as Mount Isa Block (illustrated). The city of Mount Isa and the Mount Isa mine complex. Readily accessible from Townsville this is one of the world's most famous mining locations that has had a seminal role in the evolution of ore genetic theory and associated controversies.



Figure 5: Field party near the old Mary Kathleen uranium deposit east of Mount Isa.



Figure 6: Participants and accompanying persons in the 2009 SGA meeting will have the opportunity to experience the exceptional scenery and wild life of northern Queensland. Sunset on Mission Beach north of Townsville which boasts 11 km of palm fringed sand.



Figure 7: Some of the world's oldest rain forest plunges to the Pacific Ocean (left) and is inhabited by the endangered flightless cassowary (right).

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The SGA Council offers a limited number of free subscriptions to Mineralium Deposita to INDIVIDUALS in an economically challenged situation. The grant period is for 2 years. Please send a letter of justification for the need and specify how the journal will be used. The written request including contact details of two SGA members supporting this request should be sent to the SGA Executive Secretary, Czech Geological Survey, Klárov 131/3, 118 21 Praha 1, Czech Republic.

News of the Society

News of the Council

Report of the President – (H. Frimmel)

H. Frimmel reported on various activities since the last Council meeting (April 27, 2007), including his signature of the new 10 years contract with Springer and preparation for the 9th SGA Biennial Meeting.

Report of the Treasurer (D. Leach)

The report presented by D. Leach presented preliminary financial data for the 2007 budget. Council greatly appreciated leadership of D. Leach and the help of R. Goldfarb in coordinating activities of the Corporate Sponsorship Committee and thanked all members of the Committee who helped secure corporate funds for student participation in the Dublin meeting.

Report of the Chief Editors, MD (B. Lehmann, L. Meinert)

The report was presented by J. Pašava. MD retains its leading position among economic geology journals with an ISI impact factor of 1.66. Council approved the report and greatly appreciated efforts of MD editors and editorial board.

Report of the Chief Editor, SGA website (G. Beaudoin)

G. Beaudoin presented the report covering website statistics and upgrade of the membership module. He also suggested that SGA ask the authors of the short course notes in Dublin to allow secure pdf files to be attached to SGA website which can be downloaded by SGA members. Council highly appreciated G. Beaudoin's effort and approved the report with great thanks.

Reports of regional VPs

F. Bierlein (Regional VP for Australia/Oceania), R. Herrington (Regional VP for Europe) and G. Beaudoin (Regional VP for North America) provided updates on their activities. The Executive Secretary was also in frequent touch with C. Holmgren (Regional VP in South America). Council was pleased by the progress on the organization of student field workshop in Southern Spain, which was very visibly under the SGA flag that was led by R. Herrington. Council welcomed R. Herrington's suggestion to promote SGA at the next MSDS Meeting in January 2008. Council highly appreciated efforts of reporting Regional VP's and approved all reports with great thanks.

Status of the preparation of the 10th SGA Biennial Meeting (P. Williams, D. Groves)

P. Williams and D. Groves reported on the preparation of the SGA 10th Biennial Meeting, which will be held in August 2009 in Townsville, Australia. An invitation to attend the SGA 10th Biennial Meeting in Australia was presented at the Closing Ceremony and at the EGRU booth in Dublin.

Ideas and proposals for the 11th SGA Biennial Meetings in 2011 – Europe or South America?

F. Tornos presented brief comments on the possible organization of the 11th SGA Biennial Meeting in South America. After discussion

Council suggested to accept the best bid for 2011 meeting rather than strictly following past Council decision favoring regular changing European and non-European venues.

Status of activities of the Student's grant committee (A. Vymazalova, J. Relvas)

The SGA Student Committee distributed grants to 37 students from 17 countries. In addition, 16 Australian students were supported directly from pmd*CRC and CODES.

Past activities

- UNESCO-SEG-SGA XXVI Latin American Course on Metallogeny (June 25-July 7, 2007 Mexico City, Mexico) – M. Chiaradia

Future activities

- SGA presence at the 2008 IGC (Oslo, Norway)
- SGA session on mineral deposits in black shales – J. Pašava and H. Frimmel.
- Large ore provinces of Central Asia, convened by Ginayat R. Bekzhanov, Bernd Lehmann and Dmitry Pusharovsky (Moscow, Russia).
- Ni-Cu-PGE sulphide deposits, convened by Heikki Papunen and Anthony Naldrett.
- Uranium deposits, convened by Michel Cuney, Claude Caillat and Olli Äikäs.
- A joint meeting with the GAC and MAC in 2008 (May 26–28, 2008 Quebec City, Canada)- SEG-GSSA 2008 Meeting (July 5–9, 2008, Johannesburg) – SGA will have a free booth there and run a 2-days short course on diamonds – SGA activities coordinated by J. Moore and H. Frimmel.
- UNESCO-SEG-SGA XXVI Latin American Course on Metallogeny (2008, Bolivia) – F. Tornos.
- XIII Latin-American Geological Congress with XIV Peruvian Geological Congress (September 29–October 3, 2008 Lima, Peru).

General Assembly, 21st August 2007, Dublin

H. Frimmel (SGA President) delivered the SGA activity report that covered the period from the previous SGA General Assembly (August 19, 2005, Beijing, China) to date.

David Leach (SGA Treasurer) presented the Financial Report for the fiscal year of 2006.

Jan Pašava summarized major past and future SGA activities. He also informed about the status of the preparation for the 10th SGA Biennial Meeting, which will be held in Townsville, Australia between August 17 and 20, 2009. More details on this meeting will soon be available at www.ees.jcu.edu.au/SGA2009.

David Groves (Chair of the Nominating Committee) presented a list of candidates for the SGA officers for the 2007 ballot. Beginning this year, electronic voting will be possible through the SGA website. Critical comments were raised by Prof. S. Speczik (Polish Geological Institute) who was not satisfied with the geographic representation of SGA Council (too many officers from Australia and USA and almost no people from smaller and/or the former communist countries). This issue should be considered by the next Nominating Committee. In this context it was pointed out that nominations can and should be provided by all SGA members.

SGA COUNCIL 2007

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Europe	R. Herrington (U.K.)

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LIST OF NEW SGA MEMBERS (MAY 4, 2006–NOVEMBER 1, 2006)

22 Regular Members and 3 Student Members applied for membership from April 24, 2007 to August 10, 2007

REGULAR MEMBERS

Mr. Kim BISCHOFF 7 Perrona Gardens Mullaloo WA 6027 AUSTRALIA
 Dr. Gregory CORBETT Post Office Box 282 Willoughby NSW 2068 AUSTRALIA
 Mr. Gregory JONES CBH Resources PO Box 1967 North Sydney, NSW 2059 AUSTRALIA
 Mr. Stafford McKNIGHT School of Science and Engineering University of Ballarat PO Box 663, Ballarat, Vic 3353 AUSTRALIA
 Dr. Djovka-Fonkwe MERLINE LAVRE Queen's University Dept. of Geological Sciences Kingston, Ontario, K7L 3N6 CANADA
 Mr. Cyril ORSSICH PO Box 5505 Squamish, BC, V8B OC2 CANADA
 Mr. David QUIROZ La Paz 406, Puerto Varas CHILE
 Mr. William PULIDO Calle 74S #81F-07 Barrio San Jose de Mariland Bogota COLOMBIA
 Mr. Elmer CALCINA BEDOYA Calle Sn Roman Mz Cote 14B Urb San Juan de Dios, J. Hunter, Arequipa PERU
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 Mr. Maribel VILLANUEVA Tiburcio Av. Caminos del Inca Mz A – Lt 16 Villa Municipal – Chorrillos – Lima PERU
 Mr. Hyun Koo LEE Dept. of Geology & Earth Environmental Sciences College of Natural Sciences, Chungnam National University 220 Gungdong, Yuseong-gu, Daejeon 305-764 SOUTH KOREA
 Mr. Bong Chul YOO Dept. of Geology & Earth Environmental Sciences College of Natural Sciences, Chungnam National University 220 Gungdong, Yuseong-gu, Daejeon 305-764 SOUTH KOREA
 Mr. Paul LUSTY British Geological Survey Kingsley Dunham Centre Keyworth, Nottingham NG12 5GG UK
 Dr. Fernando BARRA Dept. of Geosciences, University of Arizona Gould-Simpson Building 77, 1040 E 4th St. Tucson, AZ 85721 USA
 Dr. Victor A. VALENCIA University of Arizona Dept. of Geosciences Tucson AZ 85721 USA

STUDENT MEMBERS

Miss Dimitrina DIMITROVA 24 Acad. Georgi Bonchev Str. 1113 Sofia BULGARIA
 Miss Cristina BANCORA Av. Universidad 1953 Unidad Copilco Universidad Ed 17 Dpto 904 Del. Coyoacan 04310, Mexico DF MEXICO
 Miss Shianny VASQUEZ CARDENA Av. Carlos Villaran 790 Urb. Santa Catalina – Lima PERU

APPLICATIONS to SGA for meeting sponsorship must be submitted to Jan Pasava, SGA Executive Secretary, on appropriate forms available at the SGA home page on Internet: www.e-sga.org

Other requests will be not considered.

**Your suggestions and ideas
for any topic of interest to SGA
are welcome!**

They can be addressed to any Council member or to

Dr. Jan Pasava
SGA Executive Secretary

Czech Geological Survey
Klárov 131/3
CZ-118 21 Prague 1
Czech Republic

Tel.: +420 2 5108 5506
Fax: +420 2 518 18 748
e-mail: pasava@cgu.cz

>>> **page 1** *Submitting manuscripts to international journals – suggestions from the editors of Mineralium Deposita*

a distance and provide a fair but rigorous critique. It is essential to have potential problems identified early by an informal reviewer and fixed prior to submission to a journal.

5) Presentation and language are important. Don't destroy your chances with sloppy illustrations, poorly organized tables, or obvious grammatical mistakes. If a reviewer cannot understand the English, they will not follow the science. Some authors add an English-speaking scientist to the list of co-authors even though that person did not provide substantial revision or may not even have read the paper. This is not a solution and may make the problem worse if the reviewers encounter grammatical problems that should have been caught by the English-speaking co-author. If English is not your native language it is necessary to get assistance with revision of your paper prior to submission.

Recommendation: At international meetings, such as the SGA meeting in Beijing, seek out other scientists in your field. Explain what you are working on and emphasize why it is important. Even extraordinarily busy scientists such as former Mineralium Deposita editor, Rich Goldfarb, and Economic Geology 100th Anniversary Volume editor, Jeff Hedenquist, are renown for helping young, rising scientists. In most cases, several rounds of critique and revision are necessary before submission to an international journal.

6) Even though some papers emphasize cutting edge analytical techniques, there will always be a need for good field descriptions of important ore deposits. A well-drafted geologic map (with metric scale, legend, and latitude/longitude markings) based upon detailed field mapping is a fundamental contribution to the scientific literature and, combined with clear descriptions of relevant rock units and alteration mineralogy, is the foundation of a publishable paper, even without exotic fluid inclusion or isotopic analyses. Conversely, precise analytical data without appropriate geologic context most likely will not receive favorable reviews.

Factors that decrease the likelihood of favorable reviews and may prevent publication

1) Submitting similar or identical manuscripts to multiple journals is not ethical and may even result in rejection of all manuscripts, even if a single one might have been publishable on its own. The scientific world is now very interconnected, and this is becoming increasingly true as things become more electronic. Most reviewers are chosen because of their subject expertise relative to a particular paper and the leading experts in their field tend to see most of the papers submitted regarding that subject. Even for papers submitted to very different journals, perhaps even on different continents or in different languages, it is likely that at least one of the reviewers will be the same or at least know some of the other reviewers. When duplicate papers are discovered this can be cause for rejection. It also ruins the authors' reputations such that subsequent submittals may be viewed with caution.

2) Splitting a single integrated study into multiple papers may seem like a good way of increasing the number of publishable papers but actually causes several problems including slowing down the publication process, increasing the workload of the best reviewers, and decreasing the chances of publication for some or all of the individual papers because they are missing essential information that has been split off into the other papers. This process has several informal names such as "shingling", "least publishable units", and "salami tactics" (named after the slicing of a sausage into thin slices) but in most cases is viewed by editors and reviewers as a negative factor when considering a paper for publication. Papers with integrated data from many sources (Geology, Geochemistry, etc.) are the best papers.

3) There is an increasing tendency to study districts or ore deposit types when the individual deposits have not yet been described in the literature. This "cart before the horse" syndrome may be driven by the desire to publish on "big" or "new" subjects but, as described in point 6 above, detailed field studies of individual deposits

are an essential building block of economic geology. Particularly in under-explored countries, there is a critical need for careful study of individual deposits. Sweeping syntheses of mineral belts or deposit types may have less lasting value if the fundamental field studies of the constituent deposits have not been done and published.

It may be helpful to know that most journal editors and reviewers wish to encourage good science and young scientists, especially from countries like China with vast potential, but only limited English-language descriptions of important ore deposits. If you have carefully followed the points above, it is likely that your paper will make it to the stage of formal review. After you receive the reviews and the editor's suggestions for revision there still is a large amount of work remaining. With few exceptions, the revision process requires a major rewriting and perhaps even rethinking of important points. In many cases there will be additional review of the resubmitted manuscript. To provide some statistical insight into this process, about a quarter of submitted manuscripts to Mineralium Deposita are rejected outright because they are seriously deficient in some aspect of the points listed above. Another quarter are rejected after the review process because of identified major problems. Approximately half of submitted manuscripts receive favorable reviews that result in suggestions for major to minor revision. Of these about 75% are revised adequately and are eventually published (some require multiple rounds of review and revision).

In conclusion, the peer review process is designed to identify well-written papers that are based upon solid science. Almost all require multiple rounds of critical review and revision to become as good as they can be. By paying attention to the points outlined above for planning and writing papers, authors can maximize their potential for success.



News from the SGA Student Chapter – Prague

Jirí Sláma (Prague)

In the late Spring 2006 the SGA Student Chapter in Prague organised four-days fieldtrip to Jeseníky Mts. and Zlaté Hory ore district. During May 25 and 28 altogether 11 participants lead by Jiří Sláma and Alexandr Martaus visited the most famous geological, mineralogical and mining sites of the easternmost part of the Bohemian Massif (Silesicum).

First two days were dedicated to the southern part of Silesicum in the close surrounding of the Šumperk town. The very first stop was the occasionally operated open pit mine near Bludov by Šumperk with occurrence of calc-silicate rocks known locally as “Bludovite”. Bludovite formed as a result of the contact metamorphism between the granites of the Šumperk massif and limestones of its Early Paleozoic sedimentary cover. It consists mostly of

calcite, diopside, wollastonite (20–50%), garnet (15–25%) and vesuvianite. Thanks to the high content of wollastonite, the rock is exploited as a raw material used in the smelting industry. Another three localities near Petrov nad Desnou (NE from Šumperk) represent metamorphic succession of classic barrovian type developed in the metapelitic rocks of the Červenohorské sedlo Group. Metamorphic zones can be easily recognized according to the first occurrence of index mineral in the rocks – we have visited sites with the finds of staurolite (Petrovský vrch) and garnet of almandine composition (Annenský pramen). Interesting was the “Holubáč” locality famous for abundance of Cr-muscovite (fuchsite) making up green-coloured schists with garnet, staurolite and kyanite. Another trip headed toward the biggest deposit of talc in the

Czech Republic near Sobotín. Ultrabasic rocks of the Devonian age were metamorphosed during the Variscan orogeny and gave rise to several bodies of talc schists, which were exploited and the talc was used as a lining in the blast furnaces during the boom of smelting industry in Sobotín area in 19th century. The locality is well known for occurrence of nice specimens of actinolite, talc, magnetite, dolomite, apatite and other minerals.

The next day we wandered a bit in the forest to see the mineralogically richest pegmatite in the Hrubý Jeseník area – Scheibengraben. It represent typical beryl-columbite pegmatite with well-developed zonality from marginal plain pegmatite to the albite central part with Be, Nb and Ta minerals. The pegmatite was mined for feldspar and occasionally also for beryl and

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muscovite. Besides the common pegmatite minerals there are also present rare specimens as aquamarine, euclase, bertrandite, bavenite, milarite, tantalite, microlite and many others. On the way back, there is a locality "Hofberg" with the occurrence of Mn-rich calc-silicate rocks. They were probably mined in the medieval times. They represent metamorphosed equivalents of Mn-rich BIF deposits of the Neoproterozoic age. Typical is the prevalence of Mn-garnet spessartite and locally bands of magnetite. After a short afternoon break filled by the visit of the unique water pumped storage plant "Dlouhé Stráně" we headed toward the Zlaté Hory ore district that is located in the NE part of Silesicum.

The Zlaté Hory ore district is famous for the mining of precious metals from early medieval to the recent times. The very first mentions about the gold panning date as far back as to 11th century. First stop was the introductory excursion into the mining open-air museum in the "Valley of the lost adits" with life-size models of medieval stamp-mill. In the Olešnice creek we could try the gold panning. Afterwards we got an opportunity to visit former active underground mine exploiting Zn, Pb, Cu (+/- Ag, Au) where we were given a short presentation about the underground situation, the ore reserves and history of the mining field. After brief excursion around the mine property we stopped at small waste dump with the material from Au-enriched zone of the Zlaté Hory-West underground area. Some of us were successful and were leaving with

specimens of native gold in the quartz matrix. Close to the mine there is a big crater arose by recent collapse of underground mine "Žebračka". The Cu-exploiting mine was operated from 1965, huge cubature of the low-mineralised ore was mined leaving large unfilled chambers behind in the underground. Instabilities of the hanging wall cause unexpected collapses in the mined area from time to time. The crater is ca. 50 m deep.

After the visit of the museum of mining in the Zlaté Hory town we went to the locality Zlatý Chlum near Jeseník, which is known as a minor deposit of Au mined from 12. to 19. century. Mineralogy of the deposit is quite varied with occurrence of rare Au-Ag-Bi-Te minerals (tetradymite,

hedleyite, pilsenite, petzite, maldonite and others). On the old waste dumps there was an opportunity to collect nice specimens of almandine crystals in micaschists of the Vrbno Group.

The last stop was an old abandoned open-pit mine "Výcpávkův lom" near Vápenná. Locality is famous for the occurrence of Ca-silicate minerals growing at the contact between the granitic rocks of the Variscan Žulová massif and smaller bodies of limestones (marbles) of Paleozoic age. The zonality at the contact is developed from the wollastonite zone at the contact with granite to diopside and garnet zone farther from the granite. The size of the crystals of the Ca-Fe garnet (hessonite) can commonly reach 10 cm.



Figure 1: View on mine collapse.



Figure 2: Students from SGA Chapter - Prague at Dlouhe Strane plant, Czech Republic.

>>> FORTHCOMING EVENTS <<<

* marks a new entry

2007

November 27-29

6TH FENNOSCANDIAN EXPLORATION AND MINING CONFERENCE - FEM 2007, Rovaniemi, Finland - Contact address: e-mail riitta.muhojoki@lapinliitto.fi; website: www.lapinliitto.fi/fem2007

December 10-14

AMERICAN GEOPHYSICAL UNION (AGU) FALL MEETING 2007, San Francisco, CA, USA - Contact address: AGU Meetings Department, 2000 Florida Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20009, USA; phone: +1-202-462-6900; fax: +1-202-328-0566; e-mail: meetinginfo@agu.org; website: www.agu.org/meetings

2008

*January 1-3

THE FIRST INTERNATIONAL FORUM AND EXHIBITION ON ECONOMICS OF MINERAL RESOURCES IN THE ARAB COUNTRIES PROCESSING, Manufacturing and Exporting, Cairo, Egypt. E-mail conreg@arabmines.org, http://www.arabmines.org

*February 16-23

QUANTITATIVE METHODS FOR MINERAL EXPLORATION, University of Ottawa, Ottawa Canada. E-mail: icsr@uottawa.ca

*February 23-25

THE 2ND IASME/WSEAS INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON GEOLOGY AND SEISMOLOGY (GES '08). Cambridge, UK. http://www.wseas.us/conferences/2008/cambridge/ges/

*February 24-28

CIM/ICM MEMO: Maintenance Engineering / Mine Operators' Conference and Exhibition: Working Together Towards 2020. Val-d'Or, Quebec, Canada. http://www.cim.org/memo2008/

*March 2-5

PDAC 2008 International Convention, Trade Show & Investors Exchange - Mining Investment Show. Toronto, Ontario, Canada. http://www.pdac.ca

March 2-8

18TH CARIBBEAN GEOLOGICAL CONFERENCE, Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic - Contact address: http://www.sodogeo.org

*March 30 - April 2

19TH INDUSTRIAL MINERALS INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS & EXHIBITION. Athens, Greece. E-mail enquiries@indmin.com, www.indmin.com

*April 6-10

SAGEEP, Symposium on the Application of Geophysics to Engineering and Environmental Problems. Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, USA. http://www.eegs.org/sageep/index.html

*April 13-18

EUROPEAN GEOSCIENCES UNION (EGU) GENERAL ASSEMBLY 2008. Vienna, Austria. http://www.copernicus.org/EGU/EGU.html

*May 4-7

CIM Conference and Exhibition 2008. Edmonton, Alberta, Canada. www.cim.org/edmonton2008

*May 12-16

THE 6TH INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON ISOTOPES. Seoul, Korea. http://6ici.ri.or.kr/index.asp

May 26-28

GAC/MAC, Geological Association of Canada / Mineralogical Association of Canada, Annual Meeting, Quebec City, QB, Canada - Contact address: http://www.quebec2008.net/

*June 16-18

INTERNATIONAL TECHNICAL CONFERENCE ON PRACTICAL ASPECTS OF DEEP RADIOACTIVE WASTE DISPOSAL: Underground Disposal Unit Design & Emplacement Processes For a Deep Geological Repository Operational & Safety Considerations. Prague, Czech Republic. http://www.esdred.info

*June 29 - July 4

GORDON CONFERENCE ON GEOCHEMISTRY ON MINERAL DEPOSITS. Il Ciocco, Italy. www.grc.org/conferences.aspx?id=0000113, www.grc.org/sites.aspx?id=10&tab=0

July 5-9

SEG-GSSA 2008 incorporating GeoForum 2008: Resurgence on Economic Geology and the Minerals Industry in Africa: Joint Conference of The Geological Society of South Africa (GSSA) and Society of Economic Geologists (SEG). Misty Hills, Johannesburg, South Africa. E-mail info@seg-gssa2008.org, www.seg-gssa2008.org

July 13-18

18TH GOLDSCHMIDT 2008: From Sea to Sky. Vancouver, BC, Canada. http://www.goldschmidt2008.org

*July 20-25

AUSTRALIAN EARTH SCIENCES CONVENTION 2008. Perth, Australia. http://www.gsa.org.au/events/calendar.html

*August 6-8

III INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON MINING INNOVATION-MININ 2008. Santiago, Chile. http://www.minin2008.com

August 5-14

33RD INTERNATIONAL GEOLOGICAL CONGRESS (IGC 2008): The Nordic Countries, Geoscience World Congress 2008, Oslo, Norway - Contact address: A. Solheim; e-mail: as@ngi.no; websites: www.ngu.no, www.33igc.org

*August 18-22

GEOCHEMISTRY OF THE EARTH'S SURFACE 8: Joint Meeting of the IAGC, MinSoc and the Natural History Museum. London, UK. http://www.minersoc.org/GES8.htm

August 18-24

IAVCEI 2008 General Assembly, Reykjavik, Iceland. E-mail armh@hi.is, http://www.iavcei.org/IAVCEI08_GA_ICELAND_CIRCULAR1.pdf

*September 8-10

9th INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS FOR APPLIED MINERALOGY. Brisbane, Australia. http://www.icam2008.com/home/asp

*September 8-14

MAGADAN GOLD FORUM: International Convention on "Gold of the North Pacific Rim". Magadan, Russia. http://gold-forum.neisri.ru

*September 14-18

URANIUM MINING AND HYDROGEOLOGY V. Freiberg, Germany. http://www.geot-freiberg.de/umh/index.htm

*September 14-20

ANNUAL MEETING, ASSOCIATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL & ENGINEERING GEOLOGISTS (AEG). New Orleans, Louisiana, USA. http://www.aegweb.org/i4a/pages/index.cfm?pageid=3312

*September 21-25

AIPG Annual Meeting and 3rd International Professional Geology Conference (American Association of Petroleum Geologists, American Institute of Professional Geologists). Flagstaff, Arizona, USA. William J. Siok, CPG, Executive Director AIPG, E-mail wsiok@aipg.org, http://www.aipg.org

September 23-28

THE XXIV INTERNATIONAL MINERAL PROCESSING CONGRESS (IMPC 2008).

Beijing, China - Contact address: e-mail: impc2008@impc2008.org; website: <http://www.impc2008.org/english/welcom.htm>

October 5-8

GEOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF AMERICA 120TH ANNUAL MEETING, Houston, TX, USA - Contact address: GSA Meetings Department, P.O. Box 9140, Boulder, CO 80301-9140, USA; phone: +1 303 447 2020; fax: +1 303 447 0648; e-mail: meetings@geosociety.org; website: <http://www.geosociety.org/meetings/index.htm>

*November 9-14

Society of Exploration Geophysicists (SEG) International Exposition, 78th Annual Meeting, Las Vegas, Nevada, USA. E-mail meetings@seg.org, <http://www.seg.org/>

*December 1-5

EIGHTH INTERNATIONAL GEOSTATISTICS CONGRESS - GEOSTATS 2008. Santiago, Chile. E-mail info@geostats2008.com, <http://www.geostats2008.com>

December 15- 19

AMERICAN GEOPHYSICAL UNION FALL MEETING, San Francisco, CA, USA - Contact address: E. Terry, AGU Meetings Department, 2000 Florida Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20009 USA; phone: +1 202 777 7335; fax: +1 202 328 0566; e-mail: meetinginfo@agu.org; website: <http://www.agu.org/meetings>

2009

*May 24-27

GEOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION OF CANADA AND THE MINERALOGICAL ASSOCIATION OF CANADA (Joint Meeting), (GAC-MAC). Toronto, Canada. <http://www.halifax2005.ca/>

*August 17-20

10TH BIENNIAL SGA MEETING. Townsville, Australia. <http://www.e-sga.org/>, www.ees.jcu.edu.au/SGA2009

*August - September

7TH INTERNATIONAL MINING GEOLOGY CONFERENCE 2009. Queenstown, New Zealand. The AusIMM Events Department, Phone +61 3 9662 3166, Fax +61 3 9662 3662, E-mail concerance@ausimm.com.au, www.ausimm.com

*August 30 – September 4

18TH INTERNATIONAL MASS SPECTROMETRY CONFERENCE. Bremen, Germany. <http://www.imsc-bremen-2009.de/>

*September 3-7

AN INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON THE CAMBRIAN EXPLOSION. Banff, Alberta, Canada. <http://www.geology.utoronto.ca/facultycaron/Walcott2009.htm>

*October 5-9

INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM ON THE GEOLOGY OF THE BLACK SEA REGION II. Ankara, Turkey. E-mail uiab@mta.gov.tr, Phone-Fax +90-312-287 91 93, <http://www.mta.gov.tr/>

October 18-21

GEOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF AMERICA, 121ST ANNUAL MEETING, Portland, Oregon, USA - Contact address: GSA Meetings Dept., P.O. Box 9140, Boulder, CO 80301-9140, USA; phone: +1 303 447 2020; fax: +1 303 447 1133; e-mail: meetings@geosociety.org; website: <http://www.geosociety.org/meetings/index.htm>

October 25-30

SOCIETY OF EXPLORATION GEOPHYSICISTS (SEG) INTERNATIONAL EXPOSITION & 79TH ANNUAL MEETING, Houston, Texas, USA - Contact address: e-mail: meetings@seg.org

2010

GEOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION OF CANADA AND THE MINERALOGICAL ASSOCIATION OF CANADA (Joint Meeting), (GAC-MAC): GeoCanada 2010, Calgary, Canada - Contact address: website: <http://www.halifax2005.ca/>

*August 22-27

20th GENERAL MEETING OF THE INTERNATIONAL MINERALOGICAL ASSOCIATION. Budapest, Hungary. http://www.univie.ac.at/Mineralogie/IMA_2010/

October 31-November 3

GEOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF AMERICA: 122ND ANNUAL MEETING, Denver, Colorado, USA - Contact address: GSA Meetings Department, P.O. Box 9140, Boulder, CO 80301-9140, USA; phone: +1 303 447 2020; fax: +1 303 447 0648; e-mail: meetings@geosociety.org; website: <http://www.geosociety.org/meetings/index.htm>

2011

*May 25-27

GAC/MAC Annual Meeting. Ottawa, Canada. <http://www.gac.ca/ANNMEET/annmeet.html>

*September 18-23

SOCIETY OF EXPLORATION GEOPHYSICISTS (SEG) International Exhibition and 81st Annual Meeting, San Antonio, Texas, USA. <http://www.seg.org/meetings/>, E-mail meetings@seg.org

*October 9-12

GEOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF AMERICA: 123rd Annual Meeting. Minneapolis, Minnesota, USA. GSA Meetings Department, P.O. Box 9140, Boulder, CO 80301-9140, USA. Phone +1 303 447 2020, Fax: +1 303 447 0648, E-mail meetings@geosociety.org, <http://www.geosociety.org/meetings/index.htm>

SGA SESSION AT THE 33rd IGC (August 2008 Oslo, Norway) CALL FOR ABSTRACTS

Symposium on "Black shale hosted Ore deposits associated with black shales: from their origin to their Environmental impacts", convened by Jan Pašava (Prague, Czech Republic, pasava@cgu.cz) and Hartwig Frimmel (Wuerzburg, Germany, Hartwig.Frimmel@mail.uni-wuerzburg.de) – SGA organized session

Black shale formations occur in different geological environments throughout the geological record. Black shales are of interest in exploration since they host numerous types of ore deposits such as base metals (copper, lead zinc ± barite), noble metals (gold and platinum group elements), uranium, molybdenum, nickel, manganese, vanadium, mercury, antimony, tin, phosphorus and others. Previously, some of the deposits were sub-economic, containing large amounts of low-grade mineralized black shale, but with the recent development of ore processing methods like bioleaching, many of these low-grade prospects became economically profitable. Both scientific results into the genesis and environmental issues related to mining and processing of black shale-hosted ores will be a major focus of this session. More info on abstract submission is available at www.33igc.org

Report on the XXVI Curso Latinoamericano de Metalogenia UNESCO-SEG-SGA Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México (UNAM), Instituto de Geofísica, Ciudad de México (México), 25 June–7 July 2007

Massimo Chiaradia, International coordinator of the 2007 edition

Department of Mineralogy, University of Geneva, Rue des Maraichers 13, 1205 Geneva, Switzerland, e-mail: Massimo.Chiaradia@terre.unige.ch

The 2007 edition of the UNESCO-SEG-SGA Metallogeny course was held in Mexico City from 26 June to 7 July. For the first time since its establishment, the course was hosted by a Central Latin American country, at the prestigious Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México (UNAM), recently proclaimed by UNESCO as cultural patrimony of the humanity. The course attracted 75 participants from 8 countries of Latin America (Chile, Argentina, Mexico, Peru, Brazil, Cuba, Ecuador, Colombia) from both the industry and the academy (Figure 1), thus becoming the largest ever edition of this course for number of participants. Of the 75 participants 17 were granted a scholarship thanks to the generous support of KFPE, SGA, SEG and UNESCO. The fellowship awardees gave a 15 minutes presentation about their current works and/or research, the quality of which was very good.

Following the well established philosophy of this course, fellowships were attributed to young graduates who have recently started to work in the mining industry or geological surveys (10 awardees) or who are finishing Masters or undertaking PhD studies (7 awardees) (Figure 1). Among the full paying participants the great majority consisted of representatives of the mining or geothermal industry (50 versus only 8 people from a pure academic environment: Figure 1). This shows that the course raises the interest of mining companies who are sending their geologists to the course for formational purposes.

As usual the Course was split into two parts: a theory part, which ran between 25 and 30 June, and a field part, which ran from 1 to 7 July. The theory part of the course was based on lectures given, both in Spanish and in English, by several

international and Mexican instructors (Figure 2). The main theme of this year was “Active and fossil hydrothermal systems and associated mineralization” and featured instructors, expert in this field, coming from New Zealand (S. Simmons and P. Browne) who gave general introduction lectures about the geochemistry of the fluids and the mineralogy involved in active and fossil hydrothermal systems. M. Chiaradia (Geneva, Switzerland) gave a general introduction on the geodynamic setting and the chemistry of the magmas associated with these hydrothermal systems, whereas L. Fontboté (Geneva, Switzerland), V. Valencia and C. Canet presented general features of various types of fossil mineralization associated with hydrothermal systems, including carbonate-hosted cordilleran type deposits, iron oxide-copper gold deposits (IOCG), porphyry copper deposits and massive sul-

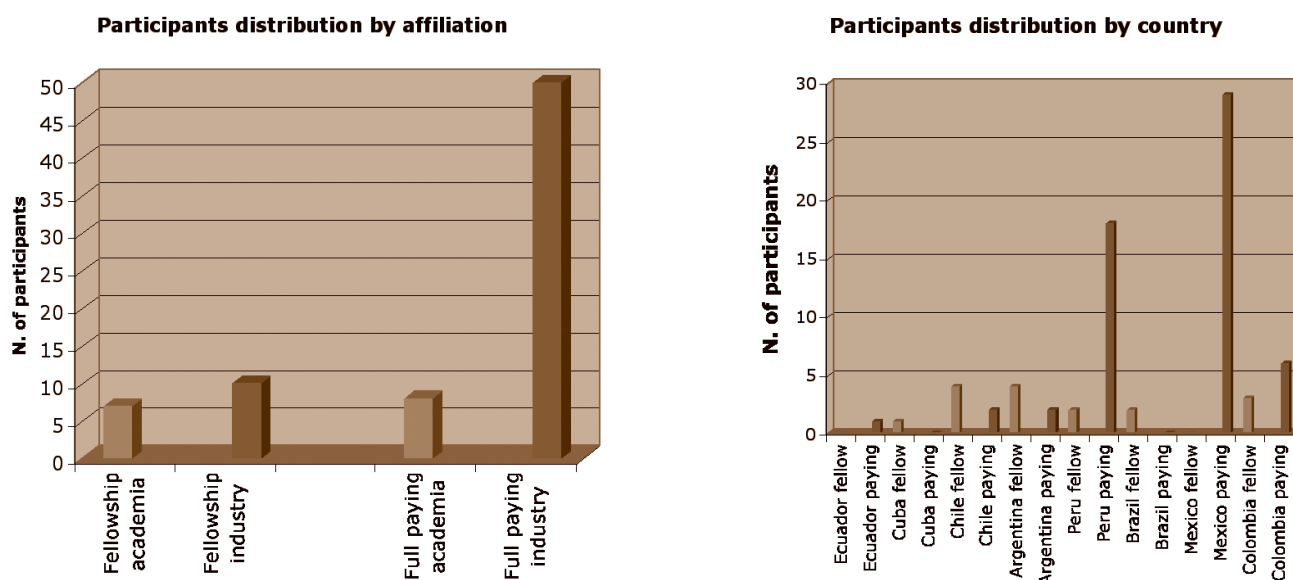


Figure 1: left: frequency histogram of the participants' distribution by affiliation to the industry or academia; right: frequency histogram of the participants' distribution by affiliation to country.

fide deposits. Various Mexican instructors (including A. Camprubí and E. González-Partida) presented general geological and metallogenic features of Mexico as well as description of various mineral deposits, also as part of preparation to the field trip. A lecture on remote sensing, given by R.-M. Prol-ledesma, and its applications to ore deposit exploration was also part of the menu. This year edition featured for the first time in the history of this course workshops in which the participants could become acquainted with laboratory tools useful for the study of hydrothermal systems. There were workshops on fluid inclusions and on geochemical modeling using thermodynamic softwares.

The field trip started on Sunday 1 July with a journey of about 350 km to the northwest of Mexico City to visit the Ag and Au mining district of Guanajuato (Figure 3). Guanajuato is a world-class mining district with estimates of historical production ranging up to 1,500 million ounces of silver and 7 million ounces of gold. The three principal mines (Valenciana, Cata and Rayas) are owned by Great Panther and occupy the heart of the 25 kilometre long Veta Madre (Mother Lode) structure that controls the majority of the silver-gold mineralization in the Guanajuato District (Silver Users Association, Washington Report, 2005). Silver was discovered in the area in 1548 and historic production for the district is estimated at 1.12 billion ounces of silver and 5.63 million ounces of gold. Low sulfidation epithermal silver-gold mineralization is found in quartz veins and large stockwork bodies within the Veta Madre structure,

which can reach widths of 30 metres or more and locally exceed 100 metres in length. The mineralization is accompanied by spectacular boiling textures expressed by very large bladed calcite crystals (Figure 4). In some parts of the deposit, copper mineralization occurs in sufficient quantities to be recovered as a byproduct. During the visit to the mining district of Guanajuato we had an introductory lecture about the geology of the district, we visited the Museum of Mineralogy with a collection of some of the most beautiful mineral samples from the mining district (in particular the spectacular samples of a variety of adularia, called valencianite from the Valenciana mine, and bladed calcite), we could study the mineralization textures and alteration on outcrops, and entered a mine tunnel used for exploitation of a mineralized vein (Figure 5).

From Guanajuato we moved a few hundreds of kilometers southward to visit the active geothermal field of Los Azufres (Figure 3), one of several Pleistocene silicic volcanic centres with active geothermal systems in the Mexican Volcanic Belt. With an electricity production of 98 MW, it represents the second most important geothermal field in Mexico (Torres-Alvarado, 2000). Two main geologic units can be recognized at Los Azufres: (1) a silicic sequence of rhyodacites, rhyolites and dacites with ages between 1.0 and 0.15 m.y. and a thickness up to 1000 m (Dobson and Mahood, 1985); (2) a 2700 m thick interstratification of lava flows and pyroclastic rocks, of andesitic to basaltic composition, with ages between 18 and 1 m.y., forming the local basement. This unit provides the main aquifer with

fluid flow through fractures and faults, sometimes reaching the surface. Three different fault systems, which confer secondary permeability to the geological units, can be distinguished in the field (Torres-Alvarado, 2000): NE-SW, E-W and N-S. The E-W system is the most important one for geothermal fluid circulation. Geothermal manifestations (fumaroles, solfataras, and mud-pits), geophysical anomalies and important energy production zones are related to this fault system. Hydrothermal alteration has affected most rocks in the geothermal field to varying extent. The most important alteration assemblages with increasing depth are: argillitization/silicification, zeolite/calcite formation, sericitization/chloritization, and chloritization/epidotization (Torres-Alvarado, 2000).

During the visit to Los Azufres we received introductory explanations about the geothermal plant as well as the geology of the system and then we visited different working geothermal plants and some surface manifestation of the geothermal system (Figure 6).

The last visit was to the Au-skarn deposit of Nukay. The Nukay district (property of Luismin) is hosted by upper Cretaceous carbonate platform rocks of the northern Sierra Madre del Sur of central Guerrero state. Mineralization is centered on two early Tertiary granodioritic stocks that are part of a NW-trending porphyry belt (~65-62 Ma) that extends across central Guerrero and is associated with variable but regionally persistent Au-Cu mineralization (Jones, 2003). Mineralization at Nukay lies along the margins of two porphyritic granodio-



Figure 2: International and local instructors of the 2007 edition of the course. From left to right: L. Fontboté (Geneva, Switzerland), S. Simmons (Auckland, New Zealand), V. Valencia (Tucson, USA), P. Browne (Auckland, New Zealand), A. Camprubí (Mexico City, Mexico), M. Chiaradia (Geneva, Switzerland).



Figure 3: Sites visited during the field trip.

rite-tonalite intrusions, termed the 'West' and 'East' stocks. Field evidence and $^{40}\text{Ar}/^{39}\text{Ar}$ ages indicate that the East stock was emplaced first (~64.99-64.67 Ma) (Jones, 2003). The West stock was subsequently emplaced as a relatively simple steep-sided pluton (~64.17-63.39 Ma). Gold mineralization occurs both in Fe-Au skarns developed along the margins of the stocks and disseminated within the hydrothermal potassic (orthoclase, scapolite, antigorite) alteration area of the intrusives (Levresse et al., 2004). The mineralization consists of pervasive botryoidal and massive hematite with disseminated gold (De la Garza et al. 1996). During the visit we were first instructed about the geology of the district and later we examined mineralized drill-cores, geological maps and we visited the open pit actively mined (Figure 7). On Saturday 7 July we made return to Mexico City.

Overall the course was a great success, both for the high number of participants (the highest so far for this course) and the vivid interest that the participants showed both during the theoretical part of the course and in the field. This was also a great opportunity to advertise SGA in Latin America and 15 participants applied for membership in this occasion.

The 2008 edition of the course will take place in Bolivia and I would like to wish it a successful outcome as it was the case for this Mexico edition.

References

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Figure 4: Spectacular bladed calcite from the Guanajuato district.



Figure 5: A group of participants to the field trip about to enter a tunnel of a mine in the Guanajuato district.



Figure 6: Some of the participants under a torrential rain, standing before a fumarole of the Los Azufres geothermal field.



Figure 7: Open pit of the Nukay Fe-Au-skarn mine.

Zdenek Johan first recipient of the SGA-NEWMONT Gold Medal

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I am honoured to present this citation of Dr. Zdenek JOHAN – the first recipient of the SGA-NEWMONT GOLD MEDAL I have known him more than 20 years. Dr. Johan graduated from Charles University, defending a thesis on the “Mineralogy and metallogeny of the Černý Důl deposit, Giant Mountains” (1957). He received his Ph.D. with the dissertation “Mineralogical and physical-chemical study of the binary Cu-As system” (1965).

Since that time he has authored and/or co-authored more than 200 papers on various research topics that were published in various scientific journals including *Nature*, *American Mineralogist*, *Lithos*, *Geochimica et Cosmochimica Acta*, *Canadian Mineralogist*, *Mineralogy and Petrology* and others.

Dr. Johan has long been an icon in the world of mineral sciences, and more specifically of the mineralogy and origin of ore deposits, and has been regarded as such for several decades. He was involved in the description of as many as 33 new mineral species. The *Atlas of Ore Minerals*, co-authored with Pickot remains a classic reference work nothing better yet produced even on internet. His research interests have taken him beyond the minerals themselves to the environments in which they form, es-

pecially ophiolite complexes, layered intrusions, and Uralian-Alaskan intrusions. He changed our understanding of the geological processes that form platinum group elements and chromium deposits in mafic and ultramafic rocks of various settings. Beside his own research he supervised 28 research theses that were successfully defended.

Zdenek Johan's leading role was recognized in B.R.G.M. (Orléans), where he continued his career after the occupation of Czechoslovakia in 1968. He became the director of the B.R.G.M.-CNRS group “Fundamental and applied metallogeny” and was later director of the CNRS “Centre de recherches sur la synthèse et la chimie des minéraux” for 12 years. After his return to B.R.G.M. he served as research director and inspector general until 2000.

His research results led several national geological societies and international organizations to use his expertise, his open and friendly nature and readiness to co-operate (amongst others IUGS, International Mineralogical Association, UNESCO, IAGOD.) He served as President of the Society for Geology Applied to Mineral Deposits from 1995 to 1996.

Dr. Johan's contributions to science and society have been recognized by many organizations as evidenced by his corresponding membership of both the French and Austrian Academies of Science, his membership

of the Russian Academy of Sciences, his receipt of 7 medals for distinguished work in science and his receipt of an honorary doctorate from Carleton University. He also became a Rider in the French National Order of Merit and Rider in the French National Order of “Palmes Académiques”. His full and happy integration into French life has been accentuated by acting in the role of mayor in Isdes (Loiret), where he lives with his wife Vera.

Many of us have been fortunate to be able to enjoy Dr. Johan's scientific results and his friendly temperament. Anyone who has heard him play piano and sing is not surprised that in his youth he had to choose between a career as a singer and a mineralogist. It is to the good fortune of the earth science community that he chose the latter.

On behalf of SGA I would like to congratulate Dr. Johan to this success and wish him many more achievements in the geosciences, and good luck in his private life.

Dublin, August 20th, 2007

Prepared and presented by:
Dr. Jan Pašava
SGA Executive Secretary



Dr. Zdenek Johan, the first recipient of the SGA-NEWMONT Gold Medal (in the middle) with SGA President - H. Frimmel (left) and Newmont Representative - S. Enders (right). Photo by G. Beaudoin



Dr. Zdenek Johan, the first recipient of the SGA-NEWMONT Gold Medal (in the middle) with SGA Executive Secretary - J. Pasava (right) and Newmont Representative - S. Enders (left). Photo by G. Beaudoin

The new SGA website

Georges Beaudoin, SGA regional vice-president North America and Chief Editor SGA website

Université Laval, Québec, Canada, georges.beaudoin@ggl.ulaval.ca



The screenshot shows the homepage of the Society for Geology Applied to Mineral Deposits (SGA) website. The header features the SGA logo and the text "SOCIETY FOR GEOLOGY APPLIED TO MINERAL DEPOSITS". Below the header is a navigation bar with links: About, Publications, Membership, Awards, Meetings, Useful Links, Site Map, and Contact Us. The main content area is titled "Welcome to the SGA" and includes a "You are here" breadcrumb trail: [About](#) / [About the SGA](#). The text describes the SGA as an international scientific society promoting mineral deposits geology, with a worldwide membership of approximately 700. It mentions its publication, *Mineralium Deposita*, and its biennial scientific meetings. A list of objectives is provided, followed by the founding information: founded in 1965 in Heidelberg and incorporated in Switzerland in 1971. A sidebar on the right contains sections for "Publications", "Newsletter" (with a thumbnail of the SGA News newsletter), and "Mineralium Deposita" (with a thumbnail of the journal cover).

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The Society for Geology Applied to Mineral Deposits (SGA) is an international scientific society that promotes the science of mineral deposits geology. Its worldwide membership of approximately 700 is composed of researchers, professionals and students from university, industry and government interested in economic geology, mineral resources, industrial minerals and environmental aspects related to mineral deposits. Its publication, *Mineralium Deposita*, is recognized as a premier international scientific journal on mineral deposits geology. The SGA organizes biennial scientific meetings and publishes the proceedings. The objectives of the SGA are:

- To advance the application of scientific knowledge in the study and the development of mineral resources and their environment,
- To promote the profession of geology in science and industry,
- To cultivate personal contacts for mutually beneficial relationships,
- To protect and improve professional and ethical standards among its members.

The SGA was founded in 1965 in Heidelberg and incorporated in Switzerland in 1971. [Read more about the SGA history.](#)

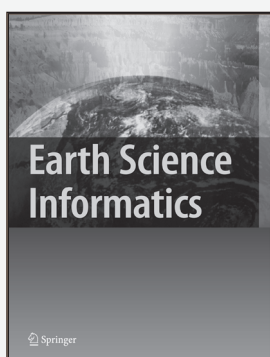
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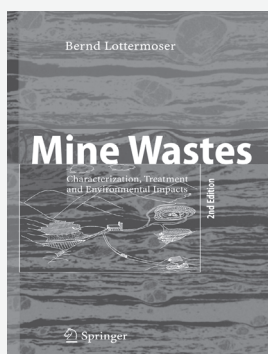
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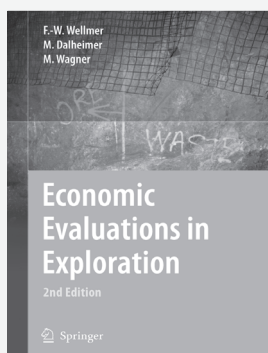
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