Happy Birthday!!

SGA is 40 years old! In response to a rapid rise in the significance of economic geology in the 1960s, our society was founded by a group of leaders in this field in Europe. Thus it provided a welcome counterpart to the North America-based Society of Economic Geologists (SEG) on the old continent. Since then SGA has progressed to a leading, global, professional society with a membership in almost 80 countries, a success that was only possible thanks to the volunteering work of many dedicated international scientists.

The highest scientific quality of the SGA journal, increasing quality of SGA Newsletter, improving organization of SGA standalone biennial meetings, attractive student package, promotion of SGA through sponsorship of various international scientific meetings, introduction of Society awards and keeping membership fees at a reasonable level – all these aspects helped to make membership in SGA very attractive.

2005 is not only special for our society’s 40th anniversary but it will also see the 8th SGA Biennial Meeting, which will be, for the first time, held outside of Europe – in Beijing (China). Preliminary numbers of submitted abstracts (about 430) have already shown a strong interest in this meeting, which promises to provide an excellent platform from which to attract many new members in this, both for mining and exploration, important region.

Purpose of SGA

The Society for Geology Applied to Mineral Deposits (SGA) is an international scientific society of scientists interested in economic geology, mineral resources, industrial minerals and environmental aspects related to mineral deposits. The objectives on which the Society is based 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, and
❑ to protect and improve professional and ethical standards among its members.

Objectives of SGA

The objectives of the Society are to be advanced through:
A commitment from SGA to students

David Leach, SGA President

When SGA was deliberating holding a Biennial meeting in Beijing, many concerns were expressed about the potential impact of travel expenses on student participation. SGA recognized that a critical measure of the success of the Beijing meeting would be the extent of student participation. Following the Athens meeting, Pat Williams (James Cook University) sent a letter to me with many thoughtful concerns about declining student enrollments in university geoscience programs and involvement in professional conferences. It became abundantly evident that SGA Council must put forth a strong effort to ensure that the Beijing meeting would be accessible to as many students as possible.

I am pleased to say that this goal will be achieved, thanks to a number of corporate sponsors that have graciously provided funds to support students presenting talks and posters. These students are eligible to receive some financial support for travel and fees for registration and participation in field trips and workshops. As soon as the list of corporate donor is finalized, we will gratefully acknowledge their generosity. Considerable credit goes to the Beijing Student Advisory Committee led by Jorge Relvas, Caisheng Zhao, Rongfen Zheng, and our new Student Representative on SGA Council, Anna Vymazalova, for their efforts to assist students attending the Beijing meeting. Much of the success of making all of this happen goes to several SGA members whom have worked with corporations and the Beijing organizing committee. We thank Richard Goldfarb, Frank Bierlein, Georges Beaudoin, Gregor Borg, Richard Herrington, Doug Kirwin, Jingwen Mao, Hartwig Frimmel, Jan Pasava, Peter Herzig, Sabina Lange, and Craig Hart for their efforts. I look forward to seeing you in Beijing in August 2005.

SEG and IAGOD congratulate SGA for its 40th Anniversary!

SEG wishes SGA all the best on its 40th Anniversary

Murray Hitzmann, SEG President

IAGOD takes this opportunity to thank SGA for the excellent collaboration it has enjoyed over the years, and looks forward to many exciting joint SGA-IAGOD events in the future

Nigel Cook, IAGOD Secretary General
LIST OF NEW SGA MEMBERS (AUGUST 17, 2004-APRIL 19, 2005)

43 Regular Members, 42 Student Members and 2 Senior Members applied for membership from August 17, 2004 to April 19, 2005

REGULAR MEMBERS

Ms. Ana María CASÉ, López y Planes 229 Zapala 8340 Neuquén ARGENTINA
Mr. Pedro RUIZ, Rivadavia 902 Godoy Cruz 5501 Mendoza ARGENTINA
Mr. Christopher BELL, School of Earth Science, James Cook University, Douglas QLD 4811 AUSTRALIA
Dr. Stephen BERESFORD, School of Geosciences, Monash University, PO Box 28E, Clayton, Victoria 3800 AUSTRALIA
Mr. Robert J. BURKE, 11 Langer Court Fairview Park 5126 AUSTRALIA
Mr. Kingsley BURLONSO, PO Box 37134 Winnellie NT 0821 AUSTRALIA
Dr. Peter COLLINS, 21 Fain St Applecross W.A. 6153 AUSTRALIA
Dr. Charlie DAVIDES, 126 Franklin Rd Cherrybrook 2126 AUSTRALIA
Mr. John HAMMOND, 18 Darlington Rd Darlington AUSTRALIA
Dr. Anthony HARRIS, Centre for Ore Deposit Research University of Tasmania, Private Bag 79, Hobart, Tasmania AUSTRALIA
Mr. Jim LUDERS, Mining Employment Services PO Box 422, Curtin Act 2605 AUSTRALIA
Dr. Matthew PAINTER, 27 Chadwick St, Hilton WA 6163 AUSTRALIA
Mr. Craig PARRY, 1 Research Avenue, Bundoora, Victoria, 3083 AUSTRALIA
Dr. Andreas SCHMIDT MÜLLER, School of Earth & Environmental Science The Uni of Adelaide, Adelaide S.A. 5005 AUSTRALIA
Mr. Roger THOMSON, Image Resources NL PO Box 644, West Perth, WA 6872 AUSTRALIA
Mr. Thomas WAYNE, Spilsbury/ Teck Cominco Australia Pty Ltd PO Box 1677, West Perth WA 6872 AUSTRALIA
Prof. Manuel SINTUBIN, Geodynamics & Geofluids Research Group, Katholieke Universiteit Leuven, Redingenstraat 16, B-3000 Leuven BELGIUM
Mr. C. Tucker BARRIE, 29 Euclid Avenue, Ottawa Ontario K1S 2W2 CANADA
Mr. Stephen COOK, S-3341 Mary Anne Cres. Victoria, B.C. CANADA
Mr. Mathieu GUAY, Mines Richmont Inc 110 av Principale Rouyn-Noranda (Qc) CANADA
Mr. K.Brock RIEDELL, BHP Billiton 2300-1111 West Georgia Street, Vancouver, BC V6E 4M3 CANADA
Ms. Trista DANIEL, Departamento de Ciencias Geologicas Universidad Catolica del Norte Av. Angamos 0610, Antofagasta CHILE
Dr. Raymond JANNAS, Malaga 50, Piso 5 Las Condes, Santiago, CHILE
Dr. Stephen MATTHEWS, Pomaire 3136, Macul, Santiago, CHILE
Mr. Ken NAKAYAMA, JGMEC Santiago Office Calle Evaristo Lillo 112, Piso 9 Las Condes, Santiago CHILE
Dr. Juhanh OJALA, PO Box 77, 96 101 Rovaniemi, FINLAND
Prof. Osmo-Tapani RAMO, Geology Dept., University of Helsinki, PO Box 64, FIN-00014 FINLAND
Dr. Svetlana TESSALINA, Lab. De Geochimie et Cosmochimie, IPGP Tour 14-24, 3e et. 4 pl Jussieu 75005 Paris FRANCE
Dr. Akalemwa Frederick KAMONA, P.O. Box 97464 Windhoek 9000 NAMIBIA
Dr. Hugo DE BOORDER, Institute of Earth Sciences, PO Box 80.021, 3508 TA Utrecht NETHERLANDS
Mr. Eliseo APAZA, Emp. Minera los Quenvales S.A. Miguel Grau 411 A #3 Cayma, Arequipa PERU

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 2 518 17 390
Fax: +420 2 518 18 748
e-mail: pasava@cgu.cz

Applications to SGA for meeting sponsorship must be submitted to Jan Pasava, SGA Executive Secretary, on appropriate forms available at the SGA homepage on Internet: www.e-sga.org
STUDENT MEMBERS

Mr. Paul CROMIE, P.O. Box 48, Sandy Bay, 1006, Tasmania AUSTRALIA
Mr. Rob DUNCAN, School of Geosciences, Monash University, PO Box 28E, Clayton, Victoria 3800 AUSTRALIA
Miss. Joanna HODGE, School of Earth & Geographical Sciences, UWA, 35 STIRLING HWY, CRAWLEY 6009, AUSTRALIA
Mr. Rodney MAIER, CODES, University of Tasmania, PO Box 252-79, Hobart 7001, Tasmania, AUSTRALIA
Mr. Zoran SEAT, CGM, UWA 35 Stirlins Hwy, Crawly 6009, WA AUSTRALIA
Mr. Greg SWAIN, University of Adelaide, Dept. geology and geophysics, Adelaide SA 5005 AUSTRALIA
Mr. Nicolas KAGAMBEGA, 11 BP 132 CMS Ouagadongon 11 BURKINA FASO
Mr. Daniel LAYTON-MATTHEWS, 22 Russell St, Dept of Geology, Toronto, Ontario, M5S 5B1 CANADA
Ms. Sabine VETTER, 2 Bailey Drive E3B 5A3 Fredericton, NB CANADA
Miss Aneta STASTNÁ, Ostrá 139 289 22 okres Lysá nad Labem CZECH REPUBLIC
Mr. Jakub TRUBAC, Konopiste 11 256 01 Benesov u Prahy, CZECH REPUBLIC
Mr. Farhad MOHAMMAD TORAB, Institute of Mineralogy and Mineral Resources, Technical University of Clausthal, 38678 Clausthal-Zellerfeld GERMANY
Mr. André SCHWARZER, Mansfeld Str. 11, D-06108 Halle (Saale) GERMANY
Mr. J. Gregory SHELLNUTT, Dept of Earth Science, Room 309 James Lee Building, University of Hong Kong, HONG KONG
Mr. Dibya Jyoti BARAL, c/o Dr. Rp Singh, Dept of Civil Engg IIT Kanpur, Kanpur 208016 INDIA
Mr. Lucas Donny SETUADJI, Lab. Economic Geology, Dept Earth Res. Eng, Kyushu Univ 6-10-1 Hakozaki Higashi-Ku, Fukuoka 812-8581 JAPAN
Ms. Jasmi Hafiz ABDUL AZIZ, Geology Department, Science Faculty, University of Malaya, 50603 Kuala Lumpur MALAYSIA
Ms. Danna FALCONE, Geology Department, University of Otago, P.O. Box 56 Dunedin NEW ZEALAND
Mr. Dickson MENDANO, P.O. Box 7452 BOROKO, NCD PAPUA NEW GUINEA
Mr. Carlos ROSA, Quinta da Pedra Branca, 1685-891 Famos PORTUGAL
Mr. Patrick ACKON, Dept. of Earth Sciences University of Westland Cape PBx 17, Bellville SOUTH AFRICA
Mr. Segun Ajayi AKINYEMI, Dept of Earth Sciences, University of Western Cape, Private Bag X17, Bellville 7535 SOUTH AFRICA
Mr. John Paul HUNT, PO Box 1244 Highlands North 2037, Johannesburg SOUTH AFRICA
Mr. Alberto LOBO-GUERRERO, Private Bag 3, Economic geology research institute, University of Witwatersrand, Witwatersrand 2050 SOUTH AFRICA
Ms. Vusani MAKHADO, P.O. Box 318, Vhufuli 0971, SOUTH AFRICA
Ms. Unathi MSHUMI, B107 Cecil Esau Residence, P/Bag x20, UWC, Bellville 7535 SOUTH AFRICA
Ms. Langa NONTYATYAMBO, 20 Camellia Crescent, Vredenberg, Bellville, Cape Town, 7535 SOUTH AFRICA
Ms. Jing Jing XU, 35 Binneman street, Oakdale, Bellville, 7530 SOUTH AFRICA
Ms. Jin YANG, 35 Binneman street, Oakdale, Bellville, 7530 SOUTH AFRICA
Ms. Chinyere Pauline NWOKOLO, CM de la Termica 16 5-C 29 004 Malaga SPAIN
Miss Louisa GROVES, 2 treton Street, Beeston, Nottingham, NG93FD UK
Mr. Daniel James SMITH, Geology department, Leicester University, University Rd, Leicester, LE1 7RH UK
Miss Helen THOMAS, School of Earth, Atmospheric and Environmental Sciences, University of Manchester, Oxford Road, Manchester, M13 9PL UK
Mr. Ion WOODHEAD, 1913 19-th Street, Unit 108, Golden, Colorado 80401 USA
Mr. Ramon AQUIRRE, 144 Oak St. Apt 2N, Binghamton, NY 13902 USA
Mr. Umakatari ARIOPOV, Tashkent Mukhtor st., Kibray, house 1, flat 11 UZBEKISTAN
Miss. Leyla SHARAFUTDINOV A, Tashkent TTZ-2 House 3, flat 43 UZBEKISTAN
Mr. John PORTER, Department of Geological Sciences, MS/172, Reno, NV 89557-0180 USA
Mr. Simasiku SIMASIKU, Department of Geology, School of Mines University of Zambia 01 Lusaka ZAMBIA

SENIOR MEMBERS

Mr. Paul ASKINS 214 York St Subiaco 6008, WA AUSTRALIA
Dr. Jaime A. ARIAS, Los Militares 6655, Las Condes, Santiago CHILE

SPONSORED MEMBERSHIP 2004-2005

Dr. Maria Florencia MARQUEZ-ZAVALIA, Janagla Crayct C.C. 330 5500 Mendoza ARGENTINA
Mr. Abel KABORE, 01 BP 2219 Ouaga 01 BURKINA FASO
Ms. Veronica Ebot MANGA, P.O. Box 272 Limbe CAMEROON

STUDENT MEMBERS – BEST STUDENT PRESENTATION (2004 FREE SGA MEMBERSHIP)

Mr. Marco Antonio RUBIO RAMOS, Flor Silvestre #22, Col San Pedro Martin Del Tialpan, Mexico D.F., CD 14630 MEXICO
Miss Veronica HERRERA, Angamos No 0610 Antofagasta CHILE
News of the Society

News of the Council

Report of the President (D. Leach)
D. Leach reported on the period from the last Council Meeting (August 2004). Council highly appreciated his efforts on coordination and active participation in the fund raising campaign for the upcoming Beijing meeting, which proved to be a great success. D. Leach thanked all officers who were actively involved in this business. With respect to the 8th SGA Biennial Meeting, D. Leach also took a lead on important issues as preparation of a protocol for reviewing abstracts, distribution of funds to students and professionals, recognition of corporate donors at the meeting and others. Council approved the report with great thanks.

Report of the Executive Secretary (J. Pasava)
SGA has 741 paying members in almost 80 countries with the majority of membership coming from Europe (48%), North America (24%) and Australia/Oceania (13%). Beijing meeting will thus be a great opportunity to increase SGA membership in Asia (presently only 5% of members). Jan Pasava also reported on the meeting with Executive officers of the Society for Resource Geology during his recent visit to Tokyo (March 2005). Council welcomed that Prof. Watanabe will participate in the next SGA Council meeting (Beijing 2005) to discuss possible future collaboration between the two Societies.

Report of the Chief Editors, MD (B. Lehmann, L. Meinert)
MD continues to be the top-ranking journal in its class. Council congratulated the Chief Editors for their outstanding stewardship of MD.

Reports of Regional VPs
Updates on activities were received from RVPs for Africa, Australia/Oceania, Europe, Middle East and North America. Very successful activities related to the promotion of SGA in Australia/Oceania region were published by F. Bierlein and in SA by F. Tornos in the SGA News no. 18. It is important to note that F. Bierlein recently moved to the University of Western Australia, Perth – new email address: fbierlein@isrc.uwa.edu.au. Based on a SA initiative J. Cabello was able to provide a list of 32 research workers who confirmed their interest in joining an initiative to cultivate research opportunities between geologists in SA and research centers in Europe. Council highly appreciated efforts of all regional VP’s.

Report of the Nominating Committee
Subsequent to the Council Meeting held in Salamanca on 22./23. April 2005 it has been noticed that the procedures followed for the nomination of candidates for each office to be filled diverted from the constitution, which clearly spells out how and when the Nominating Committee is to be established. This was a result of the current president serving a term of three years, as approved by Council and the General Assembly, instead of two. Consequently, the president’s filling the position of Chairman of the Nominating Committee for 2005 and the Vice-President serving on the same committee was unconstitutional. To rectify this situation, a new Nominating Committee is constituted in line with the constitution and by-laws, consisting of H. Papanen and R. Goldfarb representing senior and regular members, respectively, and the Vice-President H. Frimmel. All Council members are invited to provide the Chairman of the Nominating Committee (Hartwig.Frimmel@mail.uni-wuerzburg.de) with suggestions for future officers if they are not already considered in a list of potential candidates distributed during the Council meeting.

B. Lehmann presented a list of 4 articles proposed for the award. After a broad discussion Council approved the following paper:
The award consists of a citation, certificate, EUR 1500 and travel expenses for the first author associated with the receipt of the award.

Candidates for the SGA Young Scientist Award
J. Pasava presented nominations for the award. After a broad discussion Council approved Dr. Alexandre Raphael CABRAL (Brazilian scientist) to be the second recipient of this SGA prestigious award. It consists of a citation, certificate, EUR 1500 and travel expenses to the place of Biennial Meeting for the presentation.

8th SGA Biennial Meeting – Beijing, China
To date 424 abstracts were received. At the moment, all accepted abstracts are being edited by Jingwen Mao and F. Bierlein. Council highly appreciated efforts of the OC and all those Council members who have been actively involved in the preparation of the meeting.

9th SGA Biennial Meeting (August 2005 Beijing)
The date and venue of the General Assembly will be announced in the Third Circular. Council approved the following programme:
1 - Report of the President (covering period from the last SGA Biennial meeting)
2 - Report of the Treasurer (covering period from the last SGA Biennial meeting + outlook for 2006)
3 - Presentation of the list of SGA officers for ballot in 2005
4 – Various

SGA-SEG-IAGD contribution towards IUGS/UN activities (IYPE) – J. Pasava and D. Leach
J. Pasava informed Council about participation in the IYPE meeting at the 32nd IGC in Florence (August 2004). At the meeting of IUGS Executive Committee with Affiliated Organizations, he confirmed continuing SGA full support and readiness to launch already prepared proposal for a joint project with IAGD and SEG. D. Leach informed...
the promotion of the science of mineral deposit geology,
- the publication of the Society’s Journal “Mineralium Deposita” and other periodicals and monographs as Council may consider expedient,
- personal contact of its members in order to exchange knowledge and experience,
- organization of Society biennial meetings, co-organization of international scientific meetings, field trips and workshops (for these events, SGA members have reduced registration fees),
- recognition of the highest-level scientific papers in Mineralium Deposita and the significant contribution of young scientists to the profession of economic geology,
- cooperation with other scientific Societies, especially with IAGOD and SEG,
- sponsorship of international symposia, field trips, etc.

History of SGA

In the mid-1960s economic geology was a fast growing discipline and there was a need for increased international cooperation and scientific exchange, by meetings, publications and joint activities. Prof. A. Bernard (France) who became the first Secretary of the Society described the origin of the Society in the first issue of Mineralium Deposita: “The nucleus of a Society of Geology Applied to Mineral Deposits (S.G.A.) was formed about a first working group which met at Heidelberg in June 1965, in the form of a Provisional Executive Committee. Within a few months the Statutes were designed, contact was establised with the Society of Economic Geologists in view of a close cooperation, providing a similar scope for the two Societies. Also a periodical MINERALIUM DEPOSITA, was selected and its distribution promoted; also as a means to make known the creation of the new Society, its objectives, its function, and its structure (Bernard 1967)“.

The Provisional Executive Committee of the Society consisted of the following members:

G. L. Krol – President
P. Ramdohr – Honorary President
A. Maucher – Vice-President
A. Bernard – Secretary
J. Ottemann – Treasurer

In November 1965, at the invitation of Prof. Krol, a larger group met with representatives of the long-established Society of Economic Geologists - SEG (Hutchinson 1986) - to discuss future cooperation between the two organizations. The new Society was scheduled to be formally established at the International Geological Congress in 1968 in Prague, but when the Congress was interrupted by invasion of Soviet troops, the constituent assembly had to be postponed. This was held the following year, on May 26 in Vichy, France and the Society was legally incorporated in Switzerland in 1971 with its statutes in English, French and German (Saupé 1987).

Organization and Membership

The Society is run by an Executive Committee – President, Vice-President, Executive Secretary, Treasurer, Promotion Manager (position established in 1998 – a member of Executive Committee since 2001), Chief Editors of Mineralium Deposita and Chief Editor of SGA News (position established in 1995 – a member of Executive Committee since 2001) - assisted by five Regional Vice-Presidents (North America, South America, Asia, Australia/Oceania, Southern Africa) and up to 14 councilors. Since 2004 two new voting positions - Regional Vice-President for Europe and Regional Vice-Presidecent for Middle East and one non-voting position of Student Representative on Council were approved by Council. In 2004 SGA Council also formalized the role of past SGA Presidents and decided that only one Past-President becomes a SGA Council Member (not a member of Executive Committee) with voting position for a limited period of time (subject of rotation with SGA elections). The President and the Executive Director of SEG and the Executive Secretary of IAGOD and Membership Secretary of IAGOD are ex-officio members of the SGA Council and a reciprocal arrangement applies to the SGA officers. The list of past SGA officers covering the period from 1986 to date is summarized in Table 1.

In 1998 the SGA Council launched the process of updating and improving the Society Statutes. Professor Eugen F. Stumpfl reviewed the old articles and suggested changes, which were discussed in two council meetings in 1999 and finally accepted at the Cracow council meeting in March 2000. The new constitutional changes were approved by SGA members and are effective from January 1, 2001. The updated SGA Constitution is available at the Society website (http://www.e-sga.org).

The Society offers five types of membership: regular member – 65 EUR, student member – 10 EUR, senior member – 45 EUR, corporate member (specific for industry) – 200 EUR, and honorary member, and is open to all persons interested in economic geology, mineral resources, industrial minerals and environmental aspects related to mineral deposits. The membership includes a free annual subscription to Mineralium Deposita (8 issues annually) and SGA News (2 issues annually). Corporate members receive 3 free copies of both Mineralium Deposita and SGA News. All inquiries about membership should be directed to: Jan Pasava, SGA Executive Secretary, Czech Geological Survey, Klárov 131/3, 118 21 Praha 1, Czech Republic; fax: +420-2-51818748, email: pasava@cgu.cz.

SGA welcomes new members, including those who would be willing to take part in the development of the Society through active work in the SGA management structure.

In 1966 SGA reported over 500 members of which more than 200 were from outside Europe (Bernard 1966). In 1987, SGA had about 400 members in over 50 countries. The Society has been growing quickly, especially since 1995 (405 members), 1996 (434 members), 1997 (473 members), 1998 (638), 1999 (652), 2000 (644), 2001 (628) to 741 members in about 77 countries in 2004 (Fig. 1). It is clear from Fig. 2 that almost half of our membership comes from Europe but due to, for example, several North American, initiatives organized by D. Leach, R. Goldfarb, S. Scott and others, SGA was successful in increasing significantly its membership in that part of the world. Australian membership has been also growing due to dedicated work of our past and present Regional Vice-Presidents (R. Hill and F. Bierlein). A good sign for SGA is that since 2002 we have been able to attract more students who would then usually become regular members and the Society is keen to develop a more attractive membership package for prosperous corporate membership. With 85% of total SGA membership in Europe, North America and Australia we want to continue our promotion strategy in these regions and work towards increasing our membership in Asia, Africa, Middle East and South America.
MINERALIUM DEPOSITA – Number one among international mineral deposit journals – free for members!

Among the original goals of the Society, the first to be achieved was the publication of its quarterly scientific journal Mineralium Deposita, issued by Springer-Verlag. The journal presents papers on all aspects of the geology of mineral deposits. It includes new observations on metallic and non-metallic minerals and mineral deposits, experimental and applied inorganic, organic and isotope geochemistry, as well as genetic and environmental aspects of mineral deposits. It has become an essential part of any reputable earth science library, and is standard reading for earth scientist interested in mineral deposits. Mineralium Deposita publishes both regular and special issues.

For fast publishing, the journal offers Mineralium Deposita Letters, whereby manuscripts are published within three months, normally within the next issue after manuscript acceptance. Regular papers are typically published within four months after acceptance and usually six to nine months after manuscript submission. The journal offers free color plates for SGA members if sufficiently justified and approved by the editors.

The first issue of Mineralium Depo-
sita was published in May 1966 and the first Chief-editor of the journal was G.C. Amstutz. Over the years, the Society journal developed into the premier international mineral deposit journal, with 8 issues and 1000 printed pages per year. An important event in the history of Mineralium Deposita occurred in 1996 when SGA Council approved a proposal by D. Rickard – Chief Editor of MD - for opening a second Mineralium Deposita Editorial Office in Denver, Colorado (USA) for the North American region. R. Goldfarb became the editor responsible for this office. Presently, B. Lehmann (Germany) and L. Meinert (USA) serve as Chief Editors of Mineralium Deposita.

The Science Impact Factor of Mineralium Deposita has continuously increased: 0.630 (1997), 0.977 (1998), 0.989 (1999), 1.303 (2000), 1.190 (2001), 1.390 (2002) 1.969 (2003), and the journal is confirmed to be number one amongst Mineral Deposits Journals worldwide!

Since 2002 a limited number of free subscriptions of Mineralium Deposita are granted to institutions and, under special circumstances, to individuals in an economically challenged situation. The grant period is for two years. The informal written request for a free subscription should be addressed to the Executive Secretary (Jan Pasava, SGA Executive Secretary, Czech Geological Survey, Klárov 131/3, 118 21 Praha 1, Czech Republic, fax: +420-2-51818748, email: pasava@cgu.cz), outlining the need for the free subscription and how the journal will be used. This letter must include the recommendations of two current members.

**SGA NEWS AND WEBSITE (www.e-sga.org)**

The SGA Council decided during its meeting in Prague (August 1995) to launch a Society newsletter and website. The objective of SGA News and the website was to serve the SGA goal, support and promote the application of scientific knowledge to the study of the development of mineral resources, geomaterials, and environmental aspects related to mineral deposits by improving communication among SGA members. The Ore Deposit Group at the University of Geneva, Switzerland (especially L. Fontboté and M. Chiaradia) agreed to take over editorship of SGA News. The first issue of SGA News was published in June 1996 and since that time 18 issues of SGA News (usually 2 per year) have been published and distributed to all SGA members. Electronic versions of SGA News are also available at the Society website. Latest negotiations with Springer-Verlag resulted in the offer to help redesign the layout and to secure the printing of SGA News in Germany starting in 2004. All inquiries regarding SGA News should be directed to M. Chiaradia, Editor, SGA News, Département de Minéralogie, Université de Geneve, Rue des Maraichers 13, CH-1205 Geneva, Switzerland, email: Massimo.Chiaradia@terre.unige.ch

The SGA homepage is maintained by B. Lehmann, Institute of Mining and Mineral Resources, Technical University of Clausthal, 38678 Clausthal-Zellerfeld, Germany, email: lehmann@tu-clausthal.de It offers basic information about the Society, covering its origin, goals, membership, info on SGA Young Scientist Award, Mineralium Deposita, International Meetings, Council, Constitution, and SGA-News. It also has useful links for members to follow up queries regarding membership, payment of fees, delivery of Mineralium Deposita, and others. The original address http://www.min.tu-clausthal.de/sga.html was changed to a simpler http://www.e-sga.org. In 2004 Council approved a proposal by G. Beaudoin, H. Frimmel and F. Tornos for the future modifications of the SGA website, which is underway.

**RECENT AND FORTHCOMING CONGRESSES AND MEETINGS**

In 1989, M. Pagel proposed to organize Society Biennial Meetings. The 25th Anniversary Conference of SGA, which was organized by M. Pagel (SGA Executive Secretary 1991-1998) and held in Nancy, France, in 1991, became the start of a meanwhile highly successful tradition of SGA Biennial Meetings held/to be held at the following places: 2nd SGA Biennial Meeting (Granada, Spain 1993), 3rd SGA Biennial Meeting (Prague, Czech Republic 1995), 4th SGA Biennial Meeting (Turku, Finland 1997), 5th SGA Biennial - IAGOD Meeting (London, U.K. 1999), 6th SGA Biennial – SEG Meeting (Cracow, Poland 2001), 7th SGA Biennial Meeting (Athens, Greece 2003), 8th SGA Biennial Meeting will be held in Beijing, China in August 2005 (for more information see http://www.sga2005.com)

The 9th SGA Biennial Meeting will be organized in Dublin, Ireland in 2007. These meetings typically attract from 300 to 500 participants. Although most of these meetings have been co-organized by or included participation of other societies (for example, the International Association on the Genesis of Ore Deposits (IAGOD), Society for Economic Geologists (SEG), and/or suitable local organizations), SGA has been the principal organizer. Additionally, SGA co-organizes or co-sponsors economic geology meetings and educational courses with other geological and educational organizations – e.g., UNESCO, SEG, IAGOD (e.g., GEOCHIM Postgraduate course with UNESCO and the Czech Geological Survey from 2003, and Metallogeny courses in South America with SEG and UNESCO from 2004). SGA also takes an active part in the organization of technical programs of International Geological Congresses. The Society has organized and co-sponsored a number of mineral deposit sessions.

Examples of recent SGA-sponsored meetings include:

- 6th Metallogeny Short Course (October 4-8, 1999, Brest, France),
- 31st IGC (August 6-17, 2000, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil),
- Prospectors & Development Association of Canada (March 14-17, 2001, Toronto, Canada),
- A special GEODE/SGA symposium, “The timing and location of major ore deposits in an evolving orogen” at the EUG XI. April 8-12, 2001, Strasbourg, France,
- 2001 A Hydrothermal Odyssey (May 17-19, Townsville, Queensland, Australia, organized by the Economic Geology Research Unit (EGRU) and the James Cook University School of Earth Sciences),
- 4th International Archaean Symposium (September 24-28, 2001, Perth, Australia),
- XVI ECROFI Meeting (May 2-4, 2001 Porto, Portugal),
- 4th International Archaean Symposium (September 24-28, 2001, Perth, Australia),
- 11th IAGOD Symposium (July 22-27, 2002 Windhoek, Namibia),
- Uranium Deposits: From Their Origin To Their Environmental Impacts (September 24-26, 2002 Prague, Czech Republic),
- GAC-MAC-SEG joint annual meeting
events include the following:

- The 12th IAGOD Quadrennial Symposium (August 19-21, 2003 Cardiff, UK)
- GEOCHIM/UNESCO/SGA 2003 – Post-graduate training course in geochemical exploration methods and their environmental applications (September 1-15, 2003 Prague and Dolni Rozinka, Czech Republic),
- 4th Fennoscandian Exploration and Mining (FEM) – December 3-5, 2003 Rovaniemi, Finland,
- CRC Science Meeting, Barrosa Valley SA (June 1-3, 2004),
- 2004 MORE-SGEG Conference (July 6-8, 2004),
- UNESCO-SEG Latinoamerican Course in Metallogeny (August 17-28, 2004, Mendoza, Argentina),
- 32nd IGC (August 20-28, 2004 Florence, Italy) – several Symposia co-sponsored, SGA Council Meeting,
- GEOCHIM/UNESCO/SGA 2004 – Post-graduate training course in geochemical exploration methods and their environmental applications (September 6-20, 2004, Prague and Dolni Rozinka, Czech Republic),
- SEG 2004 (September 27-October 10, 2004 Perth, Australia) – SGA run its own module at this conference (R. Goldfarb et al.) and exhibit,
- IAVCEI Meeting (November 14-19, 2004, Santiago, Chile),
- GOLDSCHMIDT 2005 (May 20-24, 2005 Moscow, USA) – SGA run a special session on “Ore deposits in their temporal and orogenic framework – new concepts and perspectives” (H Stein et al.) and exhibit.

Future SGA co-organized or sponsored events include the following:

- The 20th World Mining Congress (November 7-11, 2005, Tehran, Iran) – SGA will deliver a keynote lecturer and will run exhibit,
- GEOCHIM/UNESCO/SGA 2005 – Post-graduate training course in geochemical exploration methods and their environmental applications (September 5-19, 2004, Prague and Dolni Rozinka, Czech Republic),
- The 12th IAGOD Quadrennial Symposium (August 21-24, 2006, Moscow, Russia) – SGA will run a special session on “Mineral deposits associated with black shales” and exhibit,
- A joint meeting with the GAC and MAC in 2008 (May, Quebec City, Canada) - SGA will run a special session and exhibit.

SOCIETY MAJOR SCIENTIFIC PUBLICATIONS

Except from Mineralium Deposita - the premier journal amongst mineral deposits journals worldwide, the Society publishes on a regular basis hard cover proceedings from the SGA Biennial Meetings. Thoroughly reviewed four page-extended abstracts have been published in one or two hard cover volumes:


In 2004 the SGA Council decided that future proceedings volumes are published by Springer Verlag. Many conference field guidebooks accompanying Biennial Meetings and a Short Course Volume no. 1 were also published.

SGA AND THE INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF PLANET EARTH

SGA is fully aware of how important it is to raise the awareness of politicians, decision makers, the media and the general public to the rich contributions made to society by geosciences. These include their relevance to the everyday lives of people, not least in respect to educational systems, government legislation and civil regulation.

In 2003, SGA Executive Secretary proposed and SGA Council approved that SGA should take a visible role in raising public awareness, possibly together with other Societies (SEG, IAGOD). A meeting of SGA, SEG and IAGOD representatives in Greece (August 2003, Athens), resulted in setting up a committee that will work on a detailed proposal to promote earth sciences during the IYPE (2005-2007). A joint meeting between world-leading mineral deposit societies (SGA, IAGOD and SEG) in London (November, 2003) resulted in the preparation and subsequent submission of a grant application to ICSU (through IUGS) for the production of an educational DVD movie “Promoting Responsible Mineral Resource Management for the Planet Earth” in recognition of the International Year of the Planet Earth. This application was, however, rejected.

The SGA Executive Secretary took part in the IYPE meeting at the 32nd IGC in Florence (August 2004). He also reassured IUGS Executive Committee that SGA continues its full support and readiness to launch the already prepared proposal for a joint project with IAGOD and SEG in Florence (meeting of IUGS Executive Committee with affiliated organizations). In December 2004 a revised joint SGA-IAGOD-SEG proposal was re-submitted to IUGS grant competition and in January 2005 to ICSU grant competition through IUGS.

SGA Council also decided to announce the 8th SGA Biennial Meeting (August 18-21, 2005 Beijing, China) as a contribution to IYPE (a logo of IYPE was placed at prominent sites of conference materials).

SGA AWARDS

Recognizing the highest scientific level papers in Mineralium Deposita and the significant contribution of young scientists to the
profession of economic geology through SGA awards is a further important goal.

The SGA Award for the best paper in Mineralium Deposita

The award is presented every two years at the Society Biennial Meetings and consists of a citation, certificate, EUR 1500 and travel expenses for the first author associated with the receipt of the award. To date, the following papers were awarded:


The fourth award will be presented at the 8th SGA Biennial Meeting (August 2005, Beijing, China).

The SGA Young Scientist Award

The award is offered biannually to a young scientist who has contributed significantly to the understanding of mineral deposits. It consists of a citation, certificate, EUR 1500 and travel expenses to the place