



Mineralogical Society of America

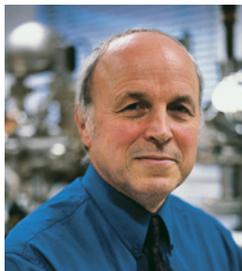


web

www.minsocam.org

PRESIDENT'S LETTER

Onwards and Upwards



David Vaughan

At this stage in my role as your president, I am conscious of how little time is left for me to influence the directions taken by our Society. As my Letter title implies, I hope and believe that we are making progress and that our trajectory is 'upwards', although there are times when a more appropriate phrase might be 'soldiering on'. I am reminded that Churchill used to sign off his wartime telephone exchanges with President Roosevelt by saying 'KBO' – letters best left untranslated in a respectable magazine such as this one. In previous Letters, I have spoken about

both ongoing developments and new initiatives that we are taking in the MSA. So let me briefly update you.

First, I should like to tell you that the first of our new events, to which we have given the name 'workshops', has been programmed to coincide with the MSA's involvement in the 2014 GSA Annual Meeting in Vancouver. This will be on the 'hot topic' of "Deep Carbon through Deep Time" and is made possible by the generosity of former MSA President Bob Hazen, who has been the driving force behind organising this event. It will be held Saturday, October 18, from 8 am to 5 pm. Full details will be available shortly.

Second, the respective presidents and executive directors of MSA and of two British learned societies, namely the Mineralogical Society of Great Britain and Ireland and the Geological Society of London (UK equivalent of GSA), have now signed memoranda of understanding. The objectives of these documents are to foster understanding and collaboration between MSA and these two internationally respected British organisations. In the coming weeks, we will be exploring how best to improve the exchange of information among our societies and how to encourage joint meetings, joint publications and other forms of outreach. Our societies face similar challenges in the rapidly changing world of publishing and of organising meetings and events.

Third, thanks to sterling efforts on the part of MSA webmaster Gordon Nord and Executive Director Alex Speer, the MSA website has a new look. We believe that the new website is appropriate to the needs of both MSA members and the public and is a fitting 'shop window' for our internationally important organisation.

The subject of our flagship publication, *American Mineralogist*, was the focus of my last Letter so I will not say more on that topic. Possible new publications addressing the archiving of large bodies of data and the development of software for the 'mining' of large data sets are likely to feature as important activities for the future. More immediately, the appointment of Jodi Rosso as the new executive editor of *Elements* magazine is excellent news for the future of this most successful of publications.

David J. Vaughan (david.vaughan@manchester.ac.uk)
2014 MSA President

NOTES FROM CHANTILLY

- Balloting for the 2014 election of MSA officers and councilors is underway. The slate of candidates is as follows. President: Steven B. Shirey, Carnegie Institution of Washington; vice president (one to be selected): Carol D. Frost, University of Wyoming and Rebecca A. Lange, University of Michigan; treasurer: Howard W. Day, University of California–Davis; councilors (two to be selected): Barry R. Bickmore, Brigham Young University; Abby Kavner, University of California–Los Angeles; Matthew J. Kohn, Boise State University; and Donna L. Whitney, University of Minnesota. Andrea Koziol continues in office as secretary. Continuing councilors are Isabelle Daniel, Kirsten P. Nicolaysen, Edward S. Grew, and Wendy Panero.

MSA members should have received voting instructions sent to their current e-mail addresses. Those who do not wish to vote online can request a paper ballot from the MSA business office. As always, the voting deadline is August 1.

- MSA will have a booth at the GSA meeting in Vancouver, BC, Canada, on 19–22 October 2014. During that week, MSA will hold its Awards Lunch; the MSA Presidential Address; the Joint Reception for the MSA, GS, and GSA's MGPV (Mineralogy, Geochemistry, Petrology, and Volcanology) Division; its Annual Business Meeting; its Council Meeting; and breakfasts for the past presidents and associate editors. Exhibits will be open Sunday (2–7 pm), Monday and Tuesday (9 am–6:30 pm), and Wednesday (9 am–2 pm).

The MSA Awards Lunch will be Tuesday, 21 October. The Roebling Medal will be presented to Bernard J. Wood and the MSA Award to Fang-Zhen Teng. The 2013–2014 MSA Distinguished Lecturers will also be recognized: Linda T. Elkins-Tanton, Nita Sahai, and Richard Wirth. The MSA Awards lectures, annual business meeting, and presidential address will be held on Tuesday, 21 October, at the Convention Center. This is also where Bernard J. Wood will give the Roebling lecture; Fang-Zhen Teng will give the MSA Award lecture; and David Vaughan will give his MSA presidential address. The MSA/GS/MGPV Joint Reception will follow at 5:45 pm–7:30 pm.

Topical sessions have been proposed for the two MSA Award recipients: T118 "Frontiers in Non-Traditional Stable Isotopes: In Honor of Fang-Zhen Teng, Recipient of the 2014 MSA Award" was submitted to GSA by Roberta L. Rudnick of the University of Maryland, with coorganizers William F. McDonough and Nicolas Dauphas, and T183 "Theory and Experiment in Petrology and Geochemistry: A Session in Honor of Bernard J. Wood, 2014 Roebling Medalist" was submitted to GSA by Jon Blundy and Andrew Matzen.

- The 2015 Dana Medal will be presented to Marc Hirschmann at the AGU Fall Meeting, San Francisco, California, USA, on 15–19 December 2014. There will be a special session, proposed in his honor by David Kohlstedt, during which he will give the Dana Lecture. The medal presentation will be made during the VGP-MSA Joint Reception.

J. Alex Speer (jaspeer@minsocam.org)
MSA Executive Director

VOTE

2014 MSA ELECTIONS

IN MEMORIAM

JAMES A. FERRAILOLO – Member, 1982

50- AND 25-YEAR MSA MEMBERS

The following individuals will reach 50 or 25 years of continuous membership in the Mineralogical Society of America during 2014. Their long support of the Society is appreciated and is recognized by this list and by 25- or 50-year pins mailed in early January. If you should be on this list and are not, or have not received your pin, please contact the MSA business office.

50-Year Members

Harvey E. Belkin
Richard S. Braithwaite
John B. Callen
William A. Crawford
M. Charles Gilbert
John E. Grover
Richard B. Hatheway
Paul B. Moore
Dennis Radcliffe
John Rucklidge

25-Year Members

John P. Brodholt
Richard M. Conrey

Masaki Enami
James Farquhar
Tanya Furman
Patrick J. Jenks
Gi-Young Jeong
Masayuki Kawasaki
Hans Keppler
Marguerite J. Kingston
John H. Lake
Andrew J. Locock
Craig S. Schwandt
Adejarido Francisco da Silva Filho
Piet H. M. Thijssen
Lance Tuckruskye
Pier Francesco Zanazzi

MINERALOGICAL SOCIETY OF AMERICA UNDERGRADUATE PRIZE FOR OUTSTANDING STUDENTS

The Society welcomes the following exceptional students to the program's honor roll and wishes to thank the sponsors for enabling the Mineralogical Society of America to recognize them. MSA's Undergraduate Prize (MSA-UP) is for students who have shown an outstanding interest and ability in mineralogy, petrology, crystallography, and geochemistry. Each student is presented a certificate at an awards ceremony at his or her university or college and receives an MSA student membership, which includes a subscription to *Elements*, and a Reviews in Mineralogy or Monograph volume chosen by the sponsor, student, or both.

Past MSA-UP awardees are listed on the MSA website, as well as instructions on how MSA members can nominate their students for the award.

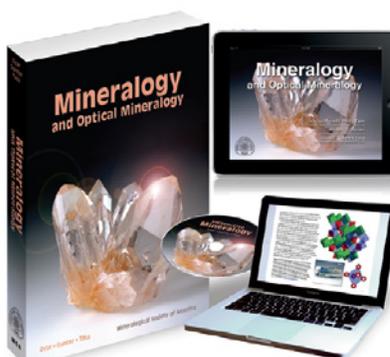
- Eloise C. Andry, Williams College, sponsored by Prof. Reinhard Wobus
- Keri Belcher, University of Texas at Austin, sponsored by Dr. Jung-Fu Lin
- Samantha Blanchett, Smith College, sponsored by Dr. John Brady
- Travis C. Dawson, University of Vermont, sponsored by Dr. John Hughes
- Anthony M. Frushour, Appalachian State University, sponsored by Dr. Sarah Carmichael
- Brian James Gallagher, University of Oklahoma, sponsored by Dr. David London
- William Junkin, University of Maryland, sponsored by Dr. Sarah Penniston-Dorland
- Alicia Koshman, University of British Columbia, sponsored by Dr. James Scoates
- Madeline Lewis, Indiana University, sponsored by Prof. David Bish
- Michael Ream, University of Maryland, sponsored by Dr. Sarah Penniston-Dorland
- Heather J. Saburova, George Mason University, sponsored by Dr. Giuseppina Mattiotti

2014–2015 MSA DISTINGUISHED LECTURERS

The Mineralogical Society of America is pleased to announce its Distinguished Lecturers and their lecture titles for 2014–2015:

- **Betheny Ehlmann**, Department of Geological and Planetary Science, California Institute for Technology, and the Jet Propulsion Laboratory, Pasadena, California, USA, who will offer lectures entitled "Aqueous Environments during Mars' First Billion Years: Mineralogic Clues from Orbiting Infrared Spectrometers" and "Roving Mars with Curiosity: Geochemistry and Mineralogy at Gale Crater."
- **Colleen Hansel**, Department of Marine Chemistry and Geochemistry, Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution, Woods Hole, Massachusetts, USA, who will offer lectures entitled "Making and Breaking Minerals: Microbes as Single-Cell Geochemists" and "Microbial and Geochemical Synergy in the Biomineralization of Manganese."
- **Lutz Nasdala**, Institute of Mineralogy and Crystallography, University of Vienna, Vienna, Austria, who will speak on the subjects "Micro-Spectroscopy: New Opportunities to Explore Non-Destructively Minerals and Their Internal Textures" and "Natural Radiation Damage in Minerals: What Can We Learn?"

The schedule of the Lecturers' tours will be posted on the MSA website (www.minsocam.org). Check to see if they will be at a location near you. MSA expresses its appreciation to these individuals for undertaking such a service to our science.



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for iPad
and Mac!

Now you and your students can choose this dynamic mineralogy textbook either as a printed book with DVD-ROM or as an exciting new digital series of chapters available on iBooks for the iPad and Mac.

Mineralogy and Optical Mineralogy by Melinda Darby Dyar and Mickey E. Gunter is specifically designed to take full advantage of digital media technology to empower students and teachers of mineralogy. Using color photographs, illustrations, movies, 3D models that can be rotated, interactive diagrams, and review questions, this series makes a challenging subject approachable. Each chapter in the digital series is available separately, allowing instructors to pick and choose only those chapters needed for their specific course.

Go to the **Mineralogical Society of America** website at www.minsocam.org for more information about the textbook, or to purchase the **printed version**, as well as find a link to purchase the individual chapters in the **digital version**.

The "**Mineral Database**" app is also available on the App Store.