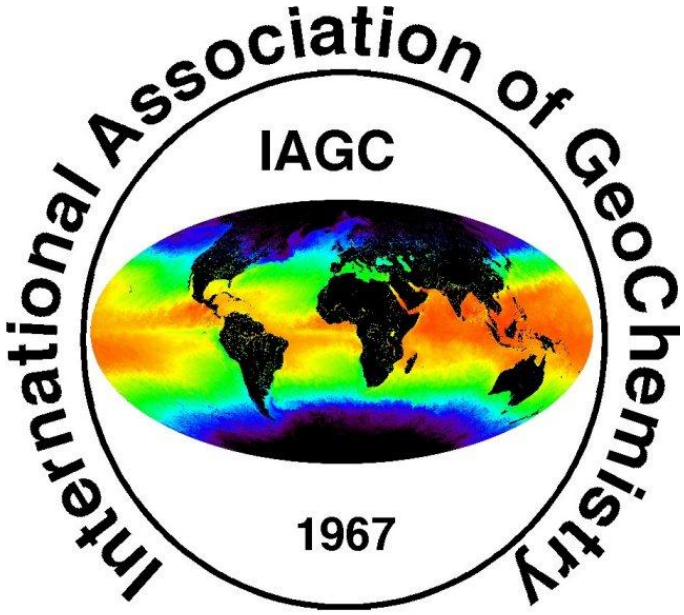
Newsletter

of the

International Association of GeoChemistry

Number 55, September 2011



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- - NEWS FLASH - -

AIG-9 COMING SOON

The **International Symposium on Applied Isotope Geochemistry** (AIG-9) will be held in Tarragona, Spain, from 19-23 September 2011.

See page 3 below for details.

There will be an official IAGC Business Meeting during the AIG-9 symposium in Tarragona. It is scheduled for Wednesday after the AIG9 field trip. All members are welcome to attend.

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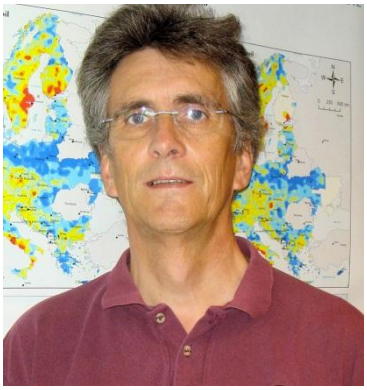
IT'S TIME FOR NOMINATIONS

It's that time of year again. Now is the time for members to submit nominations for the next IAGC Vice President, Council Members, and the 2012 Awards.

See pages 3-4 below for instructions on how to submit nominations.

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FROM THE PRESIDENT



IAGC members:

I am writing these lines shortly before the next IAGC business meeting in Tarragona. I hope that many Officers, Council, and Members will be able to participate in that meeting: important decisions for the future of the IAGC have to be taken. You will all remember the difficult situation the IAGC was in just a year ago before I was able to sign the new contract with Elsevier. As an association, we have an unusually low membership fee because our members were never forced to take out a subscription to our journal *Applied Geochemistry*. At present, most of your yearly membership fee actually goes toward your *Elements* subscription. The fact that most of the members have access to *Applied Geochemistry* via their libraries resulted in the situation that less than a quarter of our members opted for a personal subscription to *Applied Geochemistry*, and this has further declined now that the print version is no longer available to our members. This could almost create the impression that our members are not interested in their own journal, which I know is not true. However, for Elsevier over 400 subscriptions from members would cover the yearly royalties that IAGC receives.

Throughout its history, IAGC has tried to be a rather generous organization: we have co-financed many meetings, mostly of our

diverse Working Groups, but we have supported other conferences, financed student grants and prizes, and we have sponsored travel to working group meetings to just name a few. Unfortunately, during the last few years IAGC has had to become a bit more restrictive in its activities. Part of the discussion in Tarragona will be how to best spend our Association funds. The main income that financed all these activities has not been your annual dues but rather the royalties we receive from Elsevier for *Applied Geochemistry*. Thus, the hard line that Elsevier took in last year's contract renewal negotiations was a life-threatening event for the IAGC as we know it.

Fortunately, we received a new contract that was more or less similar to the old conditions for another three years. However, we must be aware that the new contract came with conditions and especially our Editor of *Applied Geochemistry*, Ron Fuge, has to work hard to fulfill these conditions. We clearly need to use these three years to build a more secure financial position for the future of our organization. As a first step your Officers want to establish an ad-hoc committee to guide our future in the event Elsevier does not renew our contract two years from now. The options must be discussed now about how IAGC can be prepared. We could, for example, try to merge with another society (some will remember the discussions about a merger with the AAG that have been going on for a long time), but such things do not happen overnight. The Association leadership considers that the Working Groups with their conferences are one of the strengths of the IAGC. Thus, we would like to bind the Working Groups closer to the Association. I personally feel that we certainly need a closer link and better discussions between the IAGC Officers and the Working Group Leaders. So, in Tarragona, we will thus discuss bringing the Working Group Leaders automatically on the IAGC Council.

Last but not least: this is the time of the year for nominations to be submitted for the IAGC awards. Next year is one of the years where all awards will be bestowed. This requires good and hopefully many nominations of worthy candidates from you, the members. You may be under the impression that your suggestion does not count because there will be so many nominations anyway. However, the years I was chairing the Awards Committee, we had problems year after year in getting a sufficient number of nominations of good candidates. The nomination procedure as such is straightforward and easy, it does not require much work. The nomination process is described later in this Newsletter and additional information is available on the updated IAGC web site (www.iagc-society.org/).

Clemens Reimann, Trondheim
President

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ASSOCIATION NEWS

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GSA to HONOR B.LYONS

IAGC member and current Treasurer W. Berry Lyons has been selected to receive the Geological Society of America Israel Cook Russell Award for 2011. This award by the GSA Limnology Division recognizes major contributions to the field of limnogeology. The award will be presented during the GSA Annual Meeting scheduled for 9-12 October-2011 in Minneapolis, MN.

Congratulations Berry !

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CALL FOR 2012 AWARD NOMINATIONS

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MAKE AN AWARD NOMINATION AND DO IT NOW !!!

The nomination period for the 2012 IAGC awards has opened. Nominations for one or more awards can be made by any dues-paid IAGC member. Collective nominations for the Vernadsky Medal are encouraged. All nomination must be submitted to the to the Secretary (tdbullen@usgs.gov) by e-mail no later than Friday 2 December 2011. A complete description of each award, instructions for nominations, and previous winners can be found on the IAGC web site (www.iagc-society.org) under "Awards."

- THE VERNADSKY MEDAL

Awarded for a distinguished record of scientific accomplishment in geochemistry over the course of a career.

- THE EBLEMEN AWARD

Awarded to a geochemist of particular merit and outstanding promise less than 35 years old.

- THE DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD

Awarded as deserving recipient is identified to recognize outstanding service by an IAGC member to the Association or to the geochemical community that greatly exceeds the normal expectations of voluntary service.

- IAGC FELLOW

A special tribute bestowed annually to IAGC Members who have made significant contributions to the field or sub-field of geochemistry over the course of some extended period of years.

CERTIFICATE OF RECOGNITION

- Awarded (i) for a particular scientific accomplishment in any area of geochemistry, (ii) to recognize excellence in teaching or public service over an extended period of time, and (iii) to an IAGC member for meritorious service to the Association or the international geochemistry community.

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Vernadsky Medal & Ebelmen Award

A nomination for the Vernadsky Medal and Ebelmen Award shall consist of a submission of not more than 2 pages in length that (i) profiles the nominee, (ii) provides relevant career information, (iii) and includes a short list of important scientific accomplishments and the most publications of the nominee.

Distinguished Service Award

Nominations for the Distinguished Service Award shall consist of a submission not more than ½ page in length that describes why the nominee is deserving of the award. This nomination should also contain the suggested citation text.

IAGC Fellow

Nominations for the honor of IAGC Fellow shall consist of a submission not more than half page in length that describes why the nominee is deserving of the award. This nomination should also contain the citation text.

Certificate of Recognition

Nominations for a Certificate of Recognition shall consist of a single short paragraph that explains why the nominee is deserving of IAGC recognition in one or more of the three categories: (i) outstanding scientific accomplishment in a particular area of geochemistry, (ii) excellence in teaching or public service, and (iii) for meritorious service to the Association or the international scientific community. This nomination should also contain the suggested citation text.

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MEETINGS IN 2011

AIG-9

The next IAGC-sponsored **International Symposium on Applied Isotope Geochemistry** (AIG-9) will be held in **Tarragona Spain,** from 19-23 September 2011. The venue for the meeting will be the city of Tarragona, which is located on the Mediterranean, in the heart of the Costa Daurada (less than 100 kilometres away from Barcelona). Tarragona has many monuments that survive from the ancient Roman era, including the archaeological complex of Tarraco, one of UNESCO's World Heritage Sites. Following previous AIG conferences, the organizers (Dr. Albert Soler and colleagues are planning to have the accommodation, conference sessions, and lunch in the same venue - Hotel Imperial Tarraco, and to hold a mid-conference field trip. Further information about the meeting, including the on-line registration, can be found on the conference website:
http://congress.cimne.com/AIG-9/frontal/invitation.asp

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GEOMED 2011

The **4th International Conference on Medical Geology** (GeoMed2011) will be held 20-25 September 2011 in **Bari, Italy**. This meeting is being organised by Prof Saverio Fiore, Institute of Methodologies for Environmental Analysis - CNR (National Research Council), Italy. Organisation of the meeting is progressing excellently and the web-site and advertising for the conference are already up and running. Web site: http://www.geomed2011.it/ The sessions proposed include topics of mutual interest to IAGC as well as IMGA:

- Air, Soil & Water Pollution & Quality
- Minerals & Environment
- Environmental Toxicology & Epidemiology
- Biominerals & Biomaterials
- Risk Assessment & Communication in Medical Geology

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MEETINGS IN 2012

BIOGEOMON-7

The tradition of triennial meetings to discuss the subject of ecosystem behavior, termed ***GEOMON*** for **geo**logical **mon**itoring, will continue in 2012 in **Northport, Maine** (USA). Under the leadership of Professors Ivan Fernandez and Stephen Norton from the University of Maine, a broad diversity of international contributing scientists will gather for **BIOGEOMON-7** from 16-21 July 2012.

The format of the meeting includes three days of formal scientific sessions, with a typical day comprising a conference plenary speaker followed by four concurrent sessions, each introduced by a Session Plenary Speaker. Contributed oral papers extend until late afternoon, with planned breaks, and time to view posters contributed by graduate students and their mentors.

Themes for the sessions are drawn from past conferences, with some modification, including one or two new themes developed by the organizational committees for that conference. A one-day field trip to research and cultural sites occurs in the middle of the conference. Thus the content of the meetings slowly evolves as the science and venue changes.

Each conference publishes an abstract compilation for all presentations (oral & poster), and a sub-set of presentations are developed into manuscripts, peer-reviewed, and published in high profile international journals.

Further details about BIOGEOMON-7 will be provided in the Spring 2012 edition of the Newsletter. Stay tuned.

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34TH IGC

The Second Circular of the **34th International Geological Congress**, scheduled to be held in Brisbane, (Australia) from 5-10 August 2012, has been released and is posted on the IGC website at: http://www.34igc.org/. The 2nd Circular has all IGC-34 information including:

- A full list of symposia and topics to be presented at the congress
- The call for abstracts and the on-line abstract submission system.
- Super Early Bird registration fee offer - the lowest cost registration fee available for the 34th IGC.
- GeoHost Scheme involving the Training Workshop Program (TWP) and the Funded Delegate Program (FDP).
- A revised list of all pre and post Congress tour offerings.

A pdf of the 2nd Circular can be downloaded at: http://www.34igc.org/FileLibrary/34igc_second_circular_v9.pdf.

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REGISTRATION PROTOCOLS FOR IAGC-SPONSORED MEETINGS

Three years ago, in an attempt to bolster membership, Council changed the IAGC Statutes & Bylaws to implement a 2-tier registration fee structure for all IAGC-sponsored symposia and conferences. This new procedure has been implemented and now pertains to all Working Group meetings.

The way that this works is that there is a registration fee for IAGC Members and a second fee for non-Members that is higher by the cost of the IAGC annual dues, but comes with an IAGC membership for the year after the meeting. This is detailed below for the information of all Members. Conversations with other societies that employ this procedure suggests that between 25-33% of the new members acquired in this way find value in the membership and become long-term members of the society.

A set of business protocols for this process have been developed by the IAGC Business Office. This information is available from the Business Office Manager Chris Gardner (IAGeoChemistry@gmail.com).

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A MESSAGE FROM THE BUSINESS OFFICE

As Business Office Manager, one of my main goals is to improve communication and information sharing between the organization and our members, between our members, and within working groups. We have come a long way in a short time thanks to our new website (www.iagc-society.org), *Facebook* page (thanks to

Gwen Macpherson) and *LinkedIn* group (thanks to Nancy Hinman). If you're not yet a member of our *Facebook* and *LinkedIn* groups, simply search for "International Association of Geochemistry" on each site to join the conversation.

To better disseminate news about IAGC events and other events of interest to our members, I have added an "Event Calendar" to the website. To view this interactive feature, just click the "Event Calendar" button at www.iagc-society.org. Please email me items for this calendar that you think will be of interest to our members at IAGeoChemistry@gmail.com. Any item of interest to our geochemical community is appropriate.

I am also planning to implement some improved communication tools for our working groups. If there is interest, I will start an area of the website that is 'private' for each working group where they can share photos and files, and have discussions in a forum setting. Please contact me via email if you would like me to implement this for your working group.

Finally, I will start sending out membership renewal notices for 2012 in mid-November. Make sure you renew before January 2012 to ensure you don't miss any issues of *Elements*!

-Chris Gardner

There are now about 140 IAGC *Facebook* and *LinkedIn* members.

Are you one?

If not, you have missed the job advertisements, technical discussions and book announcements on the IAGC *LinkedIn* site

Check it out!

SPECIAL FEATURE

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THE 9TH INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM ON THE GEOCHEMISTY OF THE EARTH'S SURFACE (GES-9)

The Geochemistry of the Earth's Surface working group of IAGC held the Ninth International Symposium on Geochemistry of the Earth's Surface (GES-9) at the University of Colorado at Boulder on June 3-7, 2011. Conference participation was 126 registrants including 39 students and post-docs, of whom 12 were from outside the US. Altogether, 17 countries were represented (US, India, China, Switzerland, UK, Greece, France, Germany, Canada, Belgium, Sweden, Czech Republic, Iceland, Bulgaria, Norway, the Netherlands, and Australia).



The GES-9 registration crew.

These triennial meetings are designed to bring together top scientists, students and early-career scientists in a setting that fosters communication and participation. Several aspects of GES-9 contributed to achieving these goals. First, the modest size (126 participants) was sufficient to provide a wide array of expertise, yet small enough for plenary sessions.



CU student Abby Langdon talks at a stop on the Boulder Creek Critical Zone Observatory field tour during the International Critical Zone Student Symposium, held just prior to GES-9.

Talks were limited to a relatively small number of invited speakers, selected for their communication skills and leadership in their fields. Posters were up for several days of unhurried sessions.



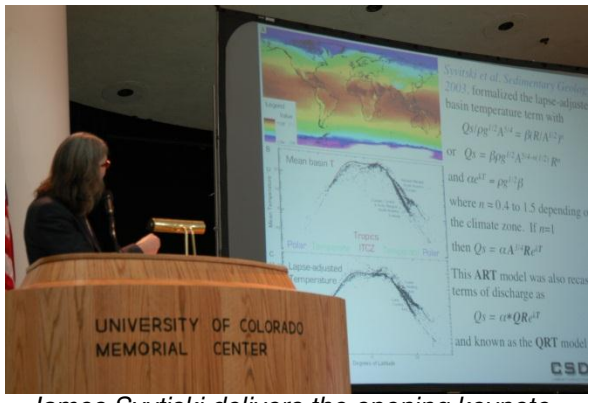
Mike Velbel, Stephano Bernasconi, James Syvitski, and Jason Price (clockwise from left) during the GES-9 Welcome Reception.

A pre-meeting for students and post-docs provided opportunities for these participants to network and form a peer group before the meeting began. Time for social interaction with colleagues was also built into the meeting by including the banquet in the registration fee, and with by leaving one half-day free for optional field trips in the beautiful landscapes of the Rockies or self-guided activities.



Sue Brantleyn and Nils Hovius during a break.

Technical sessions were organized around the central theme of 'Geochemical Landscapes in the Anthropocene' and emphasized the role of human perturbations to geochemical systems.



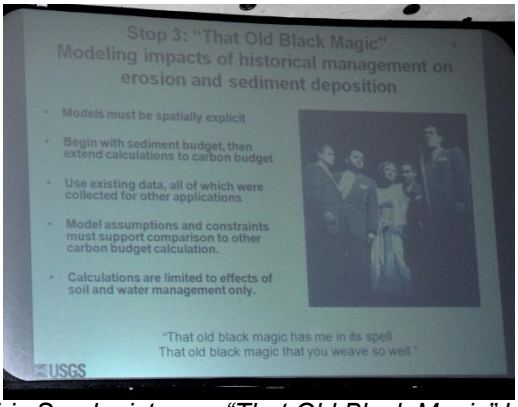
James Svytiski delivers the opening keynote lecture.

In the first talk, James Syvitski highlighted the influence of humans on river sediment loads, both through enhanced fluxes due to forestry and agriculture, and through sediment retention in reservoirs. Human perturbations reverberated throughout the meeting, from impacts on silica fluxes (J.-D. Meunier), to phosphate supplies (H. Sverdrup), to tipping points in soil resources (N. Nikolaidis), and ocean acidification (F. Mackenzie and B. Hönisch).

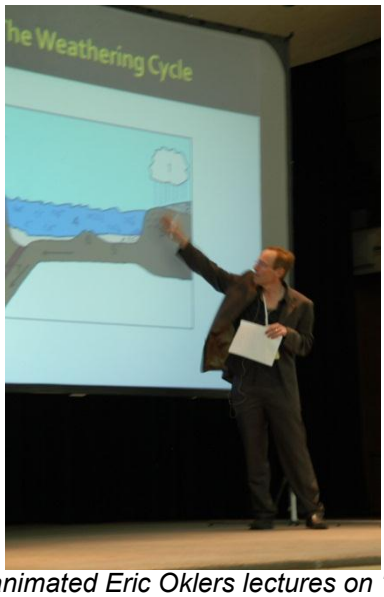
Eric Sundquist deserves special mention for his presentation on sediment and carbon budgets, in which he drew inspiration from the Glenn Miller Ballroom venue for GES-9. Noting the large photograph of Glenn Miller and oversized reproduction of Miller's Song

sheet music on the walls flanking the stage, Sundquist accompanied his talk with Glenn Miller tunes, using song titles to head each section of his talk. Participants lilted out of the meeting that afternoon, ready to enjoy the conference banquet. Dancing that evening started with Glenn Miller tunes before forging on to more modern fare.





Eric Sundquist uses "That Old Black Magic" by Glenn Miller to illustrate a discussion of models of erosion and sedimentation.



An animated Eric Oklers lectures on 'The Weathering Cycle'

Bob Berner's long-standing contributions to the field of geochemistry and to the life of the GES working group were recognized with a special session in his honour on Global Geochemical Cycles, and the gift of a bottle of Colorado wine from GES-9 Secretary General Suzanne Anderson. Bob is the longest-serving president of the GES Working Group (1990-1996 and 2002-2006), during which time he helped coordinate meetings at Pennsylvania State University (1993), Ilkley, UK (1996), and Aix-en-Provence (2005).



Bob Berner receives Colorado wine gift from GES-9 Program Chair Suzanne Anderson and GES Chair SIggi Gislason.



Bob Berner, on left, asks a question. Fred Mackenzie and Betty Berner are to the right of Bob; Marty Goldhaber sits behind.

Bob gave a short talk on the second day of the meeting, reviewing the history of the GES Symposia, and paying homage to the seminal contributions of French chemist J.J. Ebelman (1814-1852). Illness prevented

Bob from attending GES-8 in 2008; his participation in GES-9 along with his wife Betty Berner was therefore especially appreciated. (It was great to see both of them join the crowd on the dance floor at the banquet).



Nikolaos Nikolaidis talks with Sue Brantley, Vala Ragnarsdottir, Steve Banwart and Jerome Gaillardet (clockwise from right) during a break.

A pre-meeting International Critical Zone Student Symposium was held on June 1-2, 2011 at INSTAAR on the University of Colorado campus. This event, sponsored by the U.S. National Science Foundation and the European Commission SoilTrEC program, brought together 26 students and post-docs. The group toured the Boulder Creek Critical Zone Observatory on June 1, and gave oral presentations among themselves on June 2. One participant probably echoed sentiments of all the participants that "it was nice to have that set of familiar faces going into the conference".

A team of judges from the Scientific Program Committee selected two students to receive the IAGC Faure Award for the best research presentation posters at GES-9. Recipients were **Beth Herndon** (Penn State U), for her poster on "Movement of manganese contamination through the Critical Zone" and **Lisa Mayhew** (U Colorado) for her poster "The effect of methanogenesis on the geochemistry of low-temperaturewater-Fe^0-basalt reactions". The judges noted that many of the student presentations were award-worthy, and commended them for their work.



Western Michigan University student Michele Barger walks Alexis Templeton through her poster.



Betty and Bob Berner, Fred and Judith Mackenzie and from left to right at the conference banquet.

No good meeting can be complete without a good party. DJ-fueled dancing at the conference banquet, held in an outdoor pavilion next to Boulder Creek, was the excuse for a good time, as some of the photographs convey. Secretary General Suzanne Anderson received a note from CU's Conference Services after the business of the meeting was wrapped up, that they would never forget the GES-9 conga line. (We have no photos of that event, since everyone was in the line!).



A line dance during the GES-9 banquet.



Mike Velbel and Suzanne Anderson.

The student network, established at the International Critical Zone Student Symposium, were undaunted by the 10 pm end to the party imposed by the hotel, and went out for more dancing late into the night.



Alex Blum, Suzanne Anderson, Alexis Templeton, Steve Banwart, Vala Ragnarsdottir, Harold Sverdrup, Jerome Gaillardet, Sue Brantley, François Chabaux, Stefano Bernasconi, Sigurdur Gislason, and Ann Maest.

Abstracts from previous GES meetings have been published in a variety of outlets. For the first time in the 25-year history of GES, the abstracts and extended abstracts were published in the official journal of the IAGC, *Applied Geochemistry*. The special issue of Volume 26 containing 111 abstracts was printed in time for distribution to meeting participants, and is now available on-line. A committee (Suzanne Anderson, Steven Banwart, Liane Bening, Stefano Bernasconi, David Clow, Jérôme Gaillardet, Sigurdur Gíslason, Marty Goldhaber, Vala Ragnarsdottir, Eve-Lyn Hinckley and Alexis Templeton) reviewed abstracts. Ron Fuge, editor of *Applied Geochemistry*, worked assiduously to keep the abstract volume on track.



The 2011 GES Leadership (clockwise from left to right): Steve Banwart, Suzanne Andersom, Jérôme Gaillardet, Siggi Gislason, and Martin Hodson.

At the GES Working Group business meeting, held on the final day of the meeting, Steve Banwart was named the next president of the working group. Jérôme Gaillardet will be the Secretary General of GES-10, to be held in France in 2014. A strong showing of scientists from China at GES-9 led to the idea of holding a GES meeting in China in the future. Keep an eye on IAGC websites and newsletters for these developments.

GES-9 received support from IAGC, the US Army Research Office Terrestrial Sciences Program, the National Science Foundation, and the University of Colorado. We thank these sponsors for their support and also thank Suzanne Anderson, Jérôme Gaillardet, and Russell Harmon for the photographs contained in this report.

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WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Hector Alegria
Suzanne Anderson
Carleton Bern
Ross Campbell
Merideth Fitzpatrick
Bronwen Forsyth
Shaun Frape

Merhawi Gebreegziabher
Thomas Gloaguen
Bradley Goodfellow
Tadeusz Magiera
Nagamitsu Maie
Neus Otero
Petar Papic
Samuel Pierce
Carla Porcher
Kimberly Prestbo
Luc Rock
Gabriela Roman Ross
Sherry Schiff
Pedram Sohrabi
Albert Soler-Gil
Michael Stenhouse
Arne Stenseth
Laura Triplett
Jeremy Vaughan
William Walker
Christopher Wolf
Nadia Yavorskaya
Pegah Zare

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RECENT GEOCHEM PUBS

This issue of the IAGC Newsletter continues the new initiative begun in the last issue to list recent journal publications by IAGC Members. Given the vast array of journals in which our members' geochemistry papers appear, it is hoped that this initiative will provide a service to the Associations members, particularly those in developing countries.

This IAGC Geochemistry Reference List works as follows. Members send the reference citation for each new publication, as it appears in press, to the IAGC Business Office (iageochemistry@gmail.com). These submissions will be compiled and used to select the list of papers published in the next Newsletter, as well as in a comprehensive file available on the website. This limited initiative could be expanded into a general listing of significant recent papers across the spectrum of geochemistry by both members and non-members, if a volunteer member were to step forward to prepare this more expansive publication list.

The formatting of the listings is presented as received, but for the future it is requested that citations be provided in the *Applied Geochemistry* format.

Please let us know what you think about this and any ideas you might have for its improvement as a member service. And, most importantly, this service is for each and every IAGC Member, so please make it a success by contributing.

The listing below includes all publications sent to the Business Office in response to the request for recent (2011) publications. We are also contacting subgroups of the membership individually for all publications since 2009. Once all members have been contacted, the comprehensive list will be made available on the website.

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IAGC Executive Officers

PRESIDENT
Clemens Reimann
Dept. of Geochemistry
Norwegian Geological Survey
Trondheim N-7491 NORWAY
Email: clemens.reimann@ngu.no

VICE-PRESIDENT
Richard Wanty
US Geological Survey
MS 964d
Denver Federal Center
Denver, CO 80225 USA
Email: rwanty@usgs.gov

PAST-PRESIDENT
Russell S. Harmon
Department of Marine, Earth and Atmospheric Sciences
North Carolina State University
Box 8208
Raleigh NC 27695 USA
Email: rsharmon@unity.ncsu.edu

TREASURER
W. Berry Lyons
Department of Geological Sciences
The Ohio State University
Columbus, OH 43210-1398, USA
Email: lyons.142@osu.edu

SECRETARY
Thomas D. Bullen
Water Resources Division
U.S. Geological Survey MS 420
345 Middlefield Road
Menlo Park, CA 94025 USA
Email: tdbullen@usgs.gov

JOURNAL EDITOR
Ron Fuge
Institute of Geography and Earth Sciences University of Wales
Aberystwyth
Ceredigion, SY23 3DB UK
Email: rrf@aber.ac.uk

* * * * *

IAGC Council Members

Rona J. Donahoe
Department of Geological Sciences
The University of Alabama
Tuscaloosa, AL 35487-0338 USA
Email: rdonahoe@geo.ua.edu

Nancy Hinman
Department of Geology
32 Campus Dr., MC 1296
University of Montana
Missoula, MT 59812-1296 USA
Email: nancy.hinman@umontana.edu

Harue Masuda
Department of Geosciences,
Osaka City University
Sumiyoshi-ku, Osaka 558-8585
JAPAN
Email: harue@sci.osaka-cu.ac.jp

Zhonghe Pang
Institute of Geology & Geophysics
Chinese Academy of Sciences
P.O.Box 9825, Beijing 100029
CHINA
Email: z.pang@mail.iggcas.ac.cn

Ian Cartwright
School of Geosciences
Monash University
Clayton Vic. 3800 AUSTRALIA
Email: ian.cartwright@monash.edu

Janet Herman
Department of Environmental Sciences
University of Virginia
Charlottesville, VA 22904-4123 USA
Email: jherman@virginia.edu

Martine Savard
NRC/GSC
490 de la Couronne
Quebec G1K 9A9
CANADA
Email: msavard@nrcan.gc.ca

Thomas Kretzschmar
Geology Department- CICESE
Carretera Tijuana-Ensenada No 3918
Ensenada, BC, CP 22860 MEXICO
-or-
PO Box 434843
San Diego CA 92143-4843 USA
Email: tkretzsc@cicese.mx

Philippe Negrel
BRGM
3 Avenue Claude Guillemin,
45060 Orléans
Cedex 2 FRANCE
Email: p.negrel@brgm.fr

Teodóra Szőcs
Geological Institute of Hungary
Stefania ut 14
PO Box H-1442 Budapest,
Pf 106 Hungary
Email: szocst@mafi.hu

* * * * *

Working Group Leaders

APPLIED ISOTOPE GEOCHEMISTRY
Martine Savard
NRC/GSC
490 de la Couronne
Quebec G1K 9A9
CANADA
E-mail: msavard@nrcan.gc.ca

BIOGEOCHEMISTRY
Martin Novak
Deptartemnt of Geochemistry
Czech Geological Survey
Prague 1 CZ-118 21 CZECH REPUBLIC
Email: martin.novak@geology.cz

GEOCHEMISTRY OF THE EARTH'S SURFACE
Sigurdur Reynir Gislason
Institute of Earth Sciences
University of Iceland
Askja, Sturlugata 7 101
Reykjavík ICELAND
Email: sigrg@raunvis.hi.is

GLOBAL GEOCHEMICAL BASELINES
David B. Smith
U.S. Geological Survey
Denver Federal Center
Box 25046, MS 973
Denver, CO 80225 USA
Email: dsmith@usgs.gov

WATER-ROCK INTERACTION
Halldór Ármannsson
ÍSOR, Iceland Geological Survey
Grensásvegur 9 108
Reykjavík ICELAND
Email: halldor.armannsson@isor.is

* * * * *

BUSINESS OFFICE MANAGER
Chris Gardner
275 Mendenhall Laboratory
125 South Oval Mall
Columbus, OH 43210 USA
Email: iageochemistry@gmail.com

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