



## 2017 GS AWARDS

**V.M. Goldschmidt Medal**

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ROY KALTSCHMIDT

**Jill Banfield**, a professor in the Department of Earth and Planetary Science at the University of California, Berkeley (USA) will receive the 2017 V. M. Goldschmidt Award from the Geochemical Society (GS) this summer. The Goldschmidt Award recognizes major achievements in geochemistry or cosmochemistry consisting of either a single outstanding contribution or a series of publications that have had great influence on the field. Prof. Banfield studies the structure, metabolic potential, and functioning of natural microbial communities in sediments, soil, water, biofilms, and animals. She develops and

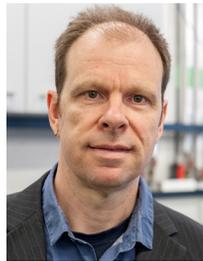
applies new methods in molecular geomicrobiology and microbial ecology. She also studies nanoparticle formation and the behavior of nanoparticles and clay minerals in the natural environment (nanogeoscience).

Victor Moritz Goldschmidt (1888–1947) was a chemist considered to be the founder of modern geochemistry and crystal chemistry. He developed the Goldschmidt Classification of elements and worked for many years at the University of Oslo (Norway). The society has presented a medal in his honor since 1972.

**F.W. Clarke Medal**

**Francis M. McCubbin**, astromaterials curator at the Astromaterials Research and Exploration Science Division of NASA's Johnson Space Center in Houston (Texas, USA) will receive the 2017 F. W. Clarke Award this summer. The Clarke Award recognizes an early career scientist for a single outstanding contribution to geochemistry or cosmochemistry published either as a single paper or as a series of papers on a single topic. Dr. McCubbin is recognized for his work on water in apatite, which has changed our understanding of volatiles in the moon.

Frank Wigglesworth Clarke (1847–1931) was a chemist who determined the composition of the Earth's crust. He taught chemistry and physics at the University of Cincinnati (USA) and served in the U.S. Geological Survey for many years. He also collaborated with the Smithsonian Institution (Washington DC, USA) on atomic weight research. The society established the award in his name in 1972.

**C.C. Patterson Medal**

**Kai-Uwe Hinrichs**, Professor of Organic Geochemistry in the Department of Geosciences/MARUM, University of Bremen (Germany), will receive the 2017 Clair C. Patterson Award this summer. The Patterson Award recognizes an innovative breakthrough of fundamental significance in environmental geochemistry, particularly in service of society, consisting of either a single outstanding contribution or a short series of papers published within the last decade. Prof. Dr. Hinrichs is recognized for his work on the

interactions between microbial life and the carbon cycle on a range of spatial, temporal, and molecular scales.

Clair C. Patterson (1922–1995) developed the uranium–lead dating method. Using lead and uranium isotopic data from the Canyon Diablo meteorite, he calculated an age for the Earth of 4.55 billion years. This figure was far more accurate than those that existed at the time and it has remained unchanged for over 50 years. Patterson also made enormous contributions to the understanding of lead's role as an environmental contaminant and its subsequent elimination from many products.

**Alfred Treibs Medal**

**Katherine H. Freeman**, Evan Pugh University Professor in the Department of Geosciences at Pennsylvania State University (USA), will receive the 2017 Alfred Treibs Award. Presented by the Geochemical Society's Organic Geochemistry Division, the award is given for major achievements, over a period of years, in organic geochemistry. Prof. Freeman uses molecular biomarkers to understand past life processes on Earth on timescales from the Archean to the present. Her work has led to a new understanding of the

history of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere and to the history of photosynthesis in the oceans and on land.

Alfred Treibs (1899–1983) was a chemist who is often recognized as the “father” of organic geochemistry. He worked for 50 years at the Technical University of Munich (Germany), where he conducted groundbreaking research on porphyrins. He published about 140 papers and mentored dozens of students. The Alfred Treibs Award was created in 1979 to honor his contributions to the field. Each fall, the Organic Geochemistry Division calls for nominations from the community for the Treibs Award.

**Goldschmidt 2020: Honolulu, Hawai'i**

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The Geochemical Society and the European Association of Geochemistry are excited to announce that the 2020 Goldschmidt Conference® will take place 21–26 June 2020 at the Hawai'i Convention Center in Honolulu (Hawai'i, USA). The beautiful state of Hawai'i will provide a warm welcome in every sense to delegates from around the world.

After the 2017 conference, to be held 13–18 August in Paris (France), the full calendar of future Goldschmidt Conferences is as follows:

- Goldschmidt 2018: Boston, Massachusetts (USA) 12–17 August 2018
- Goldschmidt 2019: Barcelona (Spain) 18–23 August 2019
- Goldschmidt 2020: Honolulu, Hawai'i (USA) 21–26 June 2020