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PRESIDENT'S LETTER



George Harlow

What has the MSA Council been up to?

The second Mineralogical Society of America (MSA) Council meeting of 2017 was held 19–20 May 2017, so I am reporting here on some of the more interesting activities afoot. First, the meeting stretched over two days because we decided that some issues, such as the future of MSA and its forthcoming centennial celebration in 2019, needed more time for discussion and brainstorming than a one-day meeting would

allow. Planning for a centennial celebration event moves forward under the leadership of Peter Heaney, who has announced his activities and an invitation to participate in planning through the MSA-talk list-server. An event in June 2019, probably in Washington DC will be a feature, but sessions at IMA2018, Goldschmidt2018, GSA2018 and perhaps elsewhere are planned to focus on the next 100 years of the MSA, including the status of our sciences and their relevance to society. Contributions of ideas, effort, and support are encouraged for our centennial and related celebrations.

The main activities of MSA continue to be publishing and outreach, the latter via the highly regarded lecture program, student grants, Mineralogy-4-Kids, and a few other resources. To keep the outreach programs healthy and growing, we need to maintain funding and engagement. Thus, council is seeking ways to support these valuable programs more substantially, particularly with targeted sponsorships, stronger endowments, or new ones. This requires searching for benefactors and supporters who can enhance annual giving or who can provide legacies. We are working on expanding the Benefactors Committee, a small group of people who will engage with corporations, members, and mineral collectors and dealers. Clearly, this connects with a Capital Campaign organized around the Centennial Celebration. We encourage members to continue their generous support of the MSA and to communicate your ideas on how the MSA can be made financially stronger.

Another concern has been the representation of the MSA at meetings, because we do not sponsor our own meetings. MSA participates in both Geological Society of America (GSA) meetings and international Goldschmidt conferences through cosponsorship of sessions and social receptions. However, members may have forgotten that when volunteering a session to these meetings, they can suggest MSA as a cosponsor and connect members to the sessions. We will be reassembling a Meetings Committee to assist in organizing sessions with an MSA flavor and identifying volunteered sessions that are appropriate for MSA cosponsorship. From time-to-time the MSA has been represented with a booth at regional GSA meetings, which are strongly attended by students. We believe these meetings are an excellent venue to identify MSA to students and promote membership. We will be setting up a program to provide materials from the MSA Office for representatives to set up a table to be advocates for the society at these regional meetings. Expenses of manning the booth and the attendees' registration will be reimbursed. Details are in development, but we hope this will be an attractive opportunity for MSA membership and as a means of encouraging students to attend these meetings.

I hope this letter gives you some sense of what MSA Council has been concerned with lately, things that go beyond the normal responsibilities of the separate organizing committees, approving budgets, reviewing ongoing activities, and the other traditional activities.

George Harlow
2017 MSA President

NOTES FROM CHANTILLY

- At its meeting in May, MSA Council voted no increase in 2018 dues for regular and student members (remaining at \$80 and \$20, respectively). All members will have access to the electronic versions of both the *American Mineralogist* and *Elements*. Sustaining memberships will remain at \$150 + regular dues.
- Member subscription rates to the print version of the 2018 *American Mineralogist* will increase. The US member print subscription price will be \$125 (currently \$120), and foreign member print subscription price will be \$135 (currently \$130). The US institutional subscription price (paper and electronic) will increase to \$1,100 (up from \$1,075), and foreign institutional subscription will be raised to \$1,125 (up from \$1,100). Institutional electronic-only subscription will increase to \$1,000 (up from \$975). These prices represent increases of 2.5%–4.0%. Included in the institutional subscription would be all current-year (2018) print issues of *American Mineralogist*, *Reviews in Mineralogy and Geochemistry* (RiMG) series, *Elements*, as well as access to the electronic versions of these publications on the MSA website starting with volume 1, number 1. The GeoScienceWorld institutional subscriber prices for archival print copies of *American Mineralogist* and the RiMG series are \$200 and \$135, respectively. The year 2018 will be the second year that MSA will offer institutional subscriptions to print + electronic [\$315 (US) and \$335 (non-US)] or electronic-only (\$275) versions of the RiMG series.
- MSA 2018 membership renewals will start in September 2017, with membership renewal notices sent electronically, followed by several electronic reminders before a paper copy is sent to those who do not renew online by the end of October 2017.
- Members and Fellows who are in the senior, honorary, and life categories are sent renewal notices. They need not pay dues, but are sent notices as the best way to prompt an update of membership information, particularly mail and e-mail addresses.
- If you subscribe to other journals through MSA – *Gems & Gemology*, *Journal of Petrology*, *Mineral News*, *Physics and Chemistry of Minerals*, *Mineralogy and Petrology*, or *Rocks & Minerals* – please renew early: MSA needs to forward your renewal to those publishers before your subscription expires.
- At the GSA Meeting in Seattle (Washington, USA) held 22–25 (Sunday to Wednesday) October 2017, MSA will have its Awards Lunch; its MSA Presidential Address; its Joint Reception among MSA, the Geochemical Society, and the GSA's Mineralogy, Geochemistry, Petrology, and Volcanology Division; its Annual Business Meeting, as well as the Council Meeting; and there will be breakfasts for the Past Presidents and Associate Editors. The exhibit hall will be open Sunday (2–7 p.m.), Monday–Tuesday (10 a.m.–6:30 p.m.), and Wednesday (10 a.m.–2 p.m.).
- The MSA Awards Lunch is Tuesday, 24 October 2017 at which the Roebling Medal will be presented to **Edward M. Stolper** (California Institute of Technology, USA); the Dana Medal to **Thomas W. Sisson** (U.S. Geological Survey, Menlo Park, California); the MSA Award to **Dustin Trail** (University of Rochester, New York, USA); and the Distinguished Public Service Medal to **David W. Mogk** (Montana State University, USA). The 2016–2017 MSA Distinguished Lecturers will also be recognized: **John M. Cottle**, **Cin-Ty A. Lee**, and **Daniela Rubatto**.
- The MSA Awards Lectures, Annual Business Meeting, and Presidential Address session is Tuesday, 24 October 2017 at the Washington State Convention Center. At 3:00 p.m., Edward M. Stolper will present,

“Roebing Lecture: The Effects of Solid–Solid Phase Equilibria and Partial Melting on the Oxygen Fugacity of the Upper Mantle.” At 3:30 p.m., Thomas W. Sisson will present, “Dana Medal Lecture: Magma Generation in the Quaternary Cascades.” At 4:00 p.m., Dustin Trail will present, “MSA Award Lecture: An Accessory Mineral and Experimental Perspective on the Evolution of the Crust.” At 4:30 p.m., George Harlow will give his MSA Presidential Address. The MSA/GS/MGPV Joint Reception will round off the day at 5:45 p.m.–7:30 p.m.

Topical sessions have been proposed for awardees:

- T159. “Teasing New Information out of (Old) Zircon: In Honor of Dustin Trail, 2017 MSA Recipient.” Conveners are Stephen J. Mojzsis, E. Bruce Watson, Calvin F. Miller, and T. Mark Harrison.
- T161. “Petrology Across the Inner Solar System: In Honor of Roebing Medalist Ed Stolper.” Conveners are Paul D. Asimow, Harry Y. McSween (Jr).

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MSA CONTRIBUTORS AND BENEFACTORS

Many members contribute to MSA by including a contribution with their annual dues and/or by responding to special appeals. Depending on the wishes of the member, the money is deposited with the principal of the MSA Endowment, MSA Outreach, MSA Mineralogy/Petrology, J. B. Thompson, Edward H. Kraus Crystallographic Research, Bloss, or General Operating Funds. The income of these funds is used to support MSA's research grants in crystallography, mineralogy, and petrology; publishing of the *American Mineralogist*; the MSA Undergraduate Prizes; the Mineralogical Society of America Award; the Distinguished Public Service Award; the Dana Medal; the Roebing Medal; the website; and the lectureship program. If you have not done so previously, you may wish to consider contributing at the next opportunity. Here, we want to extend our gratitude to the individuals and organizations that have made contributions to MSA between 1 July 2016 and 30 June 2017. These contributors are listed on the MSA website and can be found by selecting “Contributions to MSA” on the MSA home page (<http://www.minsocam.org/>), under “About MSA”.

SHORT COURSE ON PETROCHRONOLOGY

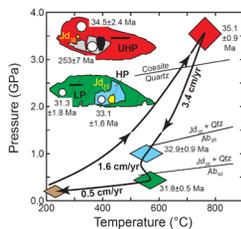
ORGANIZERS: Matthew Kohn (Boise State University, USA);
Martin Engi (University of Bern, Switzerland); Pierre Lanari
(University of Bern).

DATES: 20–21 October 2017

LOCATION: Washington State Convention
Center (WSCC), Seattle (USA).

Petrochronology uses geochemistry, textures, thermodynamics, and various types of modeling to integrate the ages of individual minerals in a petrogenetic context. Examples include the use of crystal domain–specific trace-element patterns or thermometers in minerals such as zircon, garnet, and feldspar to link an age to an overall P – T – t path or the evolution of a magma or metamorphic rock. The course will review petrochronologic methods, both conceptual and analytical, and illustrate how accessory and major minerals may be used to understand igneous and metamorphic processes.

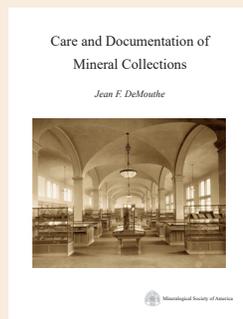
Description and links to online registration at <http://seattle2017.petrochronology.org> or contact Mineralogical Society of America, 3635 Concorde Pkwy Ste 500, Chantilly, VA 20151-1110 USA phone: +1 (703) 652-9950 fax: +1 (703) 652-9951.



NEW TITLE

Care and Documentation of Mineral Collections

Jean F. DeMouthe, i-vi+ 94 pages. ISBN 978-0-939950-99-7



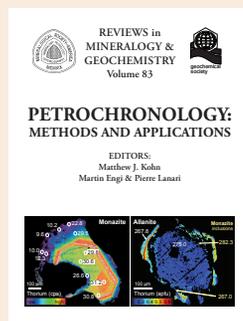
This work is an attempt to provide information and guidance on all aspects of caring for and documenting mineral collections. It is aimed at professionals and amateurs alike and is dedicated to everyone who shares a love of minerals and those who care for and about collections. Topics include: Collection Organization, Documentation Ancillary Collections, Preventive Conservation, Collection Organization, Storage, Hazards, Safety, and Risks, Administrative Policies, Private Collections, and Bibliography and Resources

Description and ordering online at www.minsocam.org or contact Mineralogical Society of America, 3635 Concorde Pkwy Ste 500, Chantilly, VA 20151-1110 USA phone: +1 (703) 652-9950 fax: +1 (703) 652-9951 e-mail: business@minsocam.org. Cost is \$30 (\$22.50 members MSA, GS, CMS).

NEW TITLE: REVIEWS IN MINERALOGY AND GEOCHEMISTRY

Volume 83: Petrochronology: Methods and Applications

Matthew J. Kohn, Martin Engi, and Pierre Lanari, editors.
i-xvi+ 580 pages. ISBN 978-0-939950-05-8



What is “petrochronology”? Petrochronology is the study of rock samples that links time (i.e. ages or duration) with specific rock-forming processes and their physical conditions. A single date is virtually useless in understanding the history of magma crystallization or metamorphic pressure–temperature evolution. Petrologists and geochronologists strive to understand rock-forming processes and the time and the rates at which they occur by integrating numerous ages into the petrologic evolution of a rock. *Petrochronology: Methods and Applications* (v83 in the RiMG series) covers phase relations and reaction sequences in petrochronology; local bulk composition effects on metamorphic mineral assemblages; diffusion; petrochronology by electron microprobe, laser-ablation inductively coupled plasma mass spectrometry, secondary ionization mass spectrometry analysis, and thermal ionization mass spectrometry techniques; specific examples of petrochronology using zircon, baddeleyite, monazite, allanite, xenotime, apatite, titanite, rutile, and garnet; and the chronometry and geospeedometry of magmatic processes using chemical diffusion in olivine, plagioclase and pyroxenes.

Description and ordering online at www.minsocam.org or contact Mineralogical Society of America, 3635 Concorde Pkwy Ste 500, Chantilly, VA 20151-1110 USA phone: +1 (703) 652-9950 fax: +1 (703) 652-9951 e-mail: business@minsocam.org. Cost is \$50 (\$37.50 members MSA, GS, CMS).