



Mineralogical Society of America



web

www.minsocam.org

PRESIDENT'S LETTER



Michael Brown

Time and Money

We all contribute our time in service at our places of employment—colleges and universities, museums, government laboratories and industry—through various assignments and volunteer activities not directly related to our principal workload. In addition, we contribute our time in support of the discipline via editorships; reviews of manuscripts and evaluations of proposals for funding; and we support learned societies via volunteer activities

that range from convening sessions at scientific meetings, to assignments, to committees, to developing short courses, to contributing to education and outreach activities. The Mineralogical Society of America is no exception: we rely on a small body of professional staff and a large army of volunteers. We have a bottom-up structure: committees provide recommendations and advice on awards, finance, and various other activities. Each committee reports to MSA Council twice per year and council acts, as necessary, on committee recommendations. As MSA Vice-President last year, my responsibilities included Committees and Publications. That is to say, I had oversight of where the rubber hits the road for MSA. For my first letter as MSA President my task was clear, to acknowledge and thank our professional and volunteer workforce.

Our seven dedicated professional staff in the Business and Editorial Offices provides the necessary continuity for our success as a society. However, I wonder if you can guess how many volunteers we rely on at MSA to make the wheels go around? No? I had no idea either until last year, but it is several hundred each year, all taken from our membership of just over 2,200. There are eleven Officers and Councilors, and over 100 members serving on about 20 committees. Our flagship publication is the *American Mineralogist*, edited by Keith Putirka and Ian Swainson, with help from three Special Editors, a board of 75 Associate Editors, and the professional staff in the Editorial Office. The editors rely on 500–600 reviewers per year to assist them in maintaining a high standard for the journal. In addition, there are members involved as editors and contributors for MSA's other publications—*Reviews in Mineralogy & Geochemistry*, the *Handbook of Mineralogy* and *MSA Monographs*—and as liaisons to other societies and organizations, on the committee planning our Centennial in 2019, maintaining MSA's web presence, and as our representatives involved with *Elements* magazine.

As a society, we offer a variety of programs, from visiting lecturers to short courses, both of which are extremely successful; we also offer research grants to education and outreach activities. As with many learned societies, our dues cover only a small portion of the cost of what we do. We rely on philanthropy—both corporate and individual—to support the research grants and our various programs. It is a particular pleasure to acknowledge that more than 500 of you have supported MSA with donations to the various funds in the past year and for many years before.

But we can do more! Each of us can volunteer to serve MSA, and we can all contribute to the many worthwhile programs that are sponsored by MSA. As we approach our second century as a learned society, let us ensure that our influence expands, our impact in the scientific community grows, and our ability to attract and support young scientists increases.

To all our professional staff and members, I say, "Thank you". It is you who have made the MSA what it is today. And it is our collective responsibility to grow MSA and enhance our activities for future generations. Come and join with me in achieving this goal.

Michael Brown, 2018 MSA President

NOTES FROM CHANTILLY

- MSA Council decided on the 2018 award recipients at its Fall Council Meeting in Seattle (Washington, USA). The Roebing Medal is awarded to **E. Bruce Watson** of Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute (New York, USA); the Dana Medal to **Joerg Hermann** of the Australian National University in Canberra (Australia); the MSA Award to **Laura Nielsen Lammers** of the University of California, Berkeley (California USA). Fellows newly elected for 2018 are Ethan Baxter, Linda Elkins-Tanton, Katherine Kelley, Richard Ketcham, Jennifer Kung, Chi Ma, Klaus Mezger, Daniela Rubatto, Virginia Sisson, Sergio Speziale, and Alexis Templeton.
- The 2018 MSA–GS short course is, High Temperature Gas–Solid and Gas–Melt Reactions in Earth and Planetary Processes, 10–12 August 2018 (before the Goldschmidt Conference), Boston University, Boston, MA (USA). The Convenors are Penelope L. King and Richard Henley, Australian National University. Description and registration at http://www.minsocam.org/msa/SC/#open_sc.
- All 2016 and 2017 MSA members have been contacted by mail, electronically, or both, about renewing their membership for 2018. If you have not renewed your MSA membership, please do so. If you have not received a notice by the time you read this, please contact the MSA Business Office. You can also renew online anytime.

J. Alex Speer, MSA Executive Director
jaspeer@minsocam.org

2018 CALENDAR



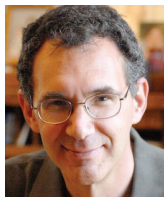
The 2018 sixteen-month calendar showcases tourmaline. Photographs and text are by Jeff Scovil; published by Lithographie, LLC, in cooperation with MSA. It is available from MSA at <http://www.minsocam.org/>.

IN MEMORIAM

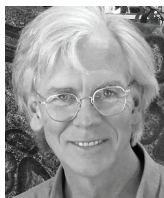
- LAWRENCE A. TAYLOR – MSA member since 1969
 JOHN A. TOSSELL – MSA member since 1989
 SAMUEL B. TREVES – MSA member since 1972
 JAMES F. HURLBUT – MSA member since 1977
 JOHN R. HOLLOWAY – MSA member since 1967
 T. KURTIS KYSER – MSA member since 1987

2017 MSA AWARDEES

At its Annual Meeting, the Mineralogical Society of America presented its main awards.



The Roebling Medal to **Edward M. Stolper**, California Institute of Technology (Pasadena California, USA) in recognition of his work on upper mantle and crustal processes on the Earth, Mars and in meteorite parent bodies. Dr. Stolper developed the sandwich technique, which enables phase relations in the melting regions of the upper mantle to be properly understood. This was a simple idea that showed his fundamental grasp of phase equilibria and thermodynamics. Stolper developed quantitative models for the solution of water and other volatiles in silicate melts. His model of melting on asteroid Vesta has guided most succeeding work on the origins and evolution of eucrites. With Marc Hirschmann, he introduced the idea that partial melts of recycled crust are components of mid-ocean ridge basalt (MORB). His experiments test his models or hypotheses, which are based in fundamental chemistry and physics. His work is fundamental to our understanding of petrologic processes, and he has changed the way petrologic experiments are done.



The Dana Medal is awarded to **Thomas W. Sisson**, US Geological Survey (Menlo Park, California, USA) in recognition of his research contributions, published works, and his role as a synthesizer and advocate for linking volcanic with magmatic processes and field with laboratory studies. Specifically, Sisson is recognized for his high-temperature, high-pressure experimental and geochemical studies aimed at addressing: (1) how magmas formed by the melting of diverse source rocks; (2) the depths at which magmas are stored as they migrate through the crust; (3) how volatiles affect magma ascent rates, initiation of volcanic eruptions and eruption styles. His geologic mapping has led to well constrained geochronologic, experimental, and geochemical studies of melt generation and transport in arcs and interpretive histories and hazards assessment of volcanic eruptions.



The MSA Award to **Dustin Trail**, University of Rochester (New York, USA) is in recognition of his contributions to our understanding of early Earth environments and its suitability for life through his path-breaking development of new geochemical tools applied to Earth's oldest materials. His main interest involves study of the chemical and isotopic composition of accessory minerals in the crust through laboratory experiments and measurements of natural samples, with emphasis on the early Earth. His research interests include the environment(s) of early Earth, the conditions suitable for the origin of life, the redox state and evolution of magmas and fluids in the crust, and exploring how traditional and non-traditional isotope measurements in accessory minerals can be 'translated' to physical and chemical processes.



The Distinguished Public Service Medal is awarded to **David W. Mogk**, Montana State University (USA) in recognition of developing and supporting pedagogical growth in the geosciences. Dr. Mogk has conceived, funded, organized, co-led, and supported On the Cutting Edge Geoscience Faculty Professional Development Workshops for a variety of geoscience disciplines. These workshops have brought together educators from a wide variety of backgrounds and

positions to learn and share pedagogical experiences, strategies, and tools. Mogk has been a key player in the building and development of the mineralogy, petrology, and geochemistry portions of the Science Education Resource Center (SERC). This site offers a collection of teaching ideas, activities, documents, diagrams, and advice that have been tried and reviewed by other teachers. He has been proactive and insistent on both getting teachers to share their pedagogical ideas and products and also in reminding the mineralogy community of the resources available at SERC.

AWARD NOMINATIONS

Nominations Sought for 2019 Awards

Nominations must be received by 1 June 2018

The **Roebling Medal** (2019) is MSA's highest award and is given for eminence as represented by outstanding published original research in mineralogy.

The **Dana Medal** (2019) recognizes continued outstanding scientific contributions through original research in the mineralogical sciences by an individual in the middle of their career.

Mineralogical Society of America Award (2019) is given for outstanding published contribution(s) prior to 35th birthday or within 7 years of the PhD.

The **Distinguished Public Service Medal** (2019) is presented to an individual who has provided outstanding contributions to public policy and awareness about mineralogical topics through science.

Society Fellowship is the recognition of a member's significant scientific contributions. Nomination is undertaken by one member, with two members acting as cosponsors. Form required, contact committee chair or MSA home page.

Submission requirements and procedures are on MSA's home page: <http://www.minsocam.org/>

RESEARCH GRANTS

The Mineralogical Society of America
2018 Grants for

RESEARCH IN CRYSTALLOGRAPHY

*from the Edward H. Kraus Crystallographic Research Fund
with contributions from MSA membership and friends*

STUDENT RESEARCH IN MINERALOGY AND PETROLOGY

from an endowment created by MSA members



Selection is based on the qualifications of the applicant; the quality, innovativeness, and scientific significance of the proposed research; and the likelihood of success of the project. There will be up to three US\$5,000 grants, with the restriction that the money be used in support of research.

Application instructions and online submission are available on the MSA website, <http://www.minsocam.org>. Completed applications must be submitted by 1 March 2018.