Japan Association of Mineralogical Sciences

http://jams.la.coocan.jp

FROM THE PRESIDENT

"**Gem sparkles deep**". This phrase is a quote from the old Japanese poem *Man'yōshū* (the sparkling gemstone is a jadeitite jade) and is used for the preface of a special issue of the *Journal of Mineralogical and Petrological Sciences* (*JMPS*; v112n5, October 2017) entitled "Jadeite and Jadeitite". This issue was published by the Japan Association of Mineralogical Sciences (JAMS) and had as Guest Editors, T. Tsujimori, H. Miyajima and R. Miyawaki. This special issue of *JMPS* was planned after the designation of jadeite and jadeitite as the national stone of Japan by JAMS in October 2016 (see *Elements*, v13, p51). The eleven papers in the *JMPS* special issue cover the fields of mineralogy, petrology, geochemistry, geochronology, mineral physics, and planetary science from different perspectives, all of which are available online at https://www.jstage.jst.go.jp/browse/jmps. The contents are also shown in the society news of *Elements* (v13, p. 712). An article in Japanese on the designation of the national stone of Japan was published by Tsuchiyama et al. (2017) [*Japanese Magazine of Mineralogical and Petrological Sciences*, v46, pp. 108-115].

In other news, JAMS transformed from a private association into a general incorporated association in October 2016, with 2017 being practically the first year for JAMS as the general incorporated association. Although JAMS obtained legal compliance for the transformation through 1) improved reliability in both its academic and societal functions, 2) legal stability through clarification of responsibilities, and 3) holding of properties, we have experienced some practical inflexibility in steering the association due to the need to observe laws that govern a general incorporated association. We have overcome most of these problems, such as by introducing a television conferencing system, and take aim at steady-state steering of JAMS as we move forward.

As a topic in my own research field, the Japanese spacecraft *Hayabusa2* is smoothly sailing towards its target asteroid of 162173 Ryugu; it should arrive at Ryugu in the middle of 2018. Samples of this C-type asteroid, which are expected to correspond to a type of carbonaceous chondrite or related material, will be returned to Earth around the end of 2020.

The science team of the *Hayabusa2* Project are currently rehearsing both remote sensing and sampling procedures. The sub-team leaders of the Initial Analysis Team for the *Hayabusa2* returned samples have been selected, and some of them are JAMS members. The sub-teams consist of experts in (1) chemistry (elements and isotopes), (2) the petrology and mineralogy of coarse grains (mm-sized grains), (3) the petrology and mineralogy of fine grains (<100 µm-sized grains), (4) volatiles, (5) macromolecular organics (insoluble organic matter), and (6) molecules (soluble organic matter).

Our annual meeting for 2018 will be held 19–21 September 2018 at Yamagata University. Some members of JAMS will also be conveners of the international sessions of the Japan Geoscience Union Meeting 2018, held at Makuhari, Chiba, in May.

Japan Association of Mineralogical Sciences
President
Prof. Akira Tsuchiyama

INVITATION TO THE JAPAN GEOSCIENCE UNION MEETING 2018 (MAY 20–24)

The Japan Geoscience Union (JpGU) meeting for 2018 will be held at Makuhari Messe, Chiba (Japan) and will host many joint sessions with our partner unions, the American Geophysical Union (AGU), the European Geosciences Union (EGU) and the Asia Oceania Geosciences Society (AOGS). Our meeting is bilingual in English and Japanese. Detailed information is available at http://www.jpgu.org/meeting_e2018.

JOURNAL OF MINERALOGICAL AND PETROLOGICAL SCIENCES

Vol. 112, No. 6, December, 2017

Articles

Enriched mid–ocean ridge basalt–type geochemistry of basalts and gabbros from the Nikoro Group, Tokoro Belt, Hokkaido, Japan – Toru YAMASAKI, Futoshi NANAYAMA

Pressure–induced crystallization of biogenic hydrous amorphous silica – Atsushi KYONO, Miho YOKOOJI, Takashi CHIBA, Tomoya TAMURA, Akihiro TUJI

Measuring apparent dose rate factors using beta and gamma rays, and alpha efficiency for precise thermoluminescence dating of calcite – Manabu OGATA, Noriko HASEBE, Naoki FUJII and Minoru YAMAKAWA

Morphological stability of hydrous liquid droplets at grain boundaries of eclogite minerals in the deep upper mantle – Kyoko N. MATSUKAGE, Mika HASHIMOTO, Yu NISHIHARA

Letters

Protoenstatite in $MgSiO_3$ samples prepared by conventional solid-state reaction – Masami KANZAKI, Xianyu XUE