



Newsletter of the Mineralogy, Geochemistry, Petrology, and Volcanology Division

Volume 1, Number 1
February 2010

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Introduction

Welcome to the first newsletter of the Mineralogy, Geochemistry, Petrology, and Volcanology (MGPV) Division! Aside from their websites, newsletters are GSA Division leaders' primary means of communicating information to their members.

The MGPV Division plans to publish two newsletters per year. The first after GSA's and Division's Annual Meeting and before any elections, deadlines for abstracts, and nominations. A second newsletter is

issued a month or so before the Annual Meeting. Newsletters will contain Division news, calls for award nominations and meeting abstracts, announcements of upcoming meetings, ballot and officer candidate information, meeting news, award acceptances, and other important news and information.

If you are a member that has email access, a notice will be sent by GSA alerting you that a new issue has been posted on the website. Those members who do not have internet access will receive the newsletter in paper form through the US mail sent by GSA. Issues of the newsletter, both present and future, will be available for retrieval in electronic Portable Document Format (pdf) on the Division's website. The MGPV Division leaders welcome your feedback, and invite members to submit letters, news items, announcements, or short articles for the newsletter.

Message from the Chair

On October 21, 2009 the GSA council gave its approval for the organization of a new Division for mineralogy, geochemistry, volcanology, and petrology. The Division will serve to promote these disciplines by sponsoring theme sessions, conferences, and symposia, working closely with interested Associated Societies, and serving as the voice of mineralogy, geochemistry, volcanology, and petrology within GSA.

The response from the MGPV community has been overwhelming. At press time, the new division has over 750 members and is growing every day.

The division differs slightly in makeup from other GSA Divisions in that GSA Associated Societies are represented in the Division's governance as what is termed "Adhering Societies of the Division". To date the Mineralogical Society of America (MSA), the Geochemical Society (GS), The Clay Minerals Society (CMS), the Mineralogical Society of Great Britain & Ireland (MSGBI), and the Mineralogical Association of Canada (MAC) are participating; invitations are outstanding or planned for other societies. We look forward to working closely with the Associated Societies and are certain that this new arrangement will benefit everyone involved and, especially our disciplines.

A provisional Management Board has been set up and will be organizing Division elections in the coming year. The provisional officers for this year – assigned to get the division up and running – are Cathy Busby, Russ Harmon, Alex Speer, and yours truly. We also have representatives from MSA (Wendy Bohrson), GS (Marty Goldhaber), CMDS (Paul Schroeder), MSGBI (Kevin Murphy), and MAC (David A. Fowle) on board. I would like to thank Alex Speer in particular for his hard work on the nuts and bolts of getting this Division organized and off the ground (not to mention for doing the lion's share of the work on this newsletter). Thanks Alex, also, for keeping us on the straight and narrow.

We have set for ourselves the ambitious goal of organizing or co-sponsoring (with Associated Societies) at least 20 theme sessions for the Denver meeting in 2010. Russ Harmon will be coordinating this effort, and as you will see in his report elsewhere in this issue, the goal has been met.

Our new Division will also be sponsoring a career achievement award this year and annually thereafter. We seek to honor a scientist who has made distinguished contributions to the MGPV disciplines, with a particular emphasis on multidisciplinary, field based contributions. The details for nominating an individual for this award are given in this newsletter and will also be published in *GSA Today*. Thanks to Cathy Busby for putting this together on an unreasonably compressed schedule.

Finally, MGPV will be co-sponsoring a reception at GSA with the Mineralogical Society of America and the Geochemical Society. This will be our coming out party and symbolic of the close relationship between the MGPV division and the Associated Societies. I look forward to seeing all of you in Denver this fall.

James S. Beard, Chair (2010)

Call for Award Nominations for the MGPV Division Distinguished Geologic Career Award

The Division announces an award to an individual who, throughout his/her career, has made distinguished contributions in one or more of the following fields of research: mineralogy, geochemistry, petrology, volcanology, with emphasis on multidisciplinary, field-based contributions.

A single award will be given first in 2010 and annually thereafter. Nominees need not be citizens or residents of the United States, and membership in the Geological Society of America is not required. The award will not be given posthumously. This award has been established by the 2009-2010 provisional Management Board of the new Division.

Nomination Procedure: Nominations will be from the Division membership, and should consist of:

- (1) A 1-2 page letter (with name and address of nominator) summarizing the Nominee's most important accomplishments in geologic approaches to mineralogy, geochemistry, petrology, and/or volcanology. Special attention should be paid to describing how the Nominee's published work demonstrates field-based multidisciplinary geologic accomplishments of a ground-breaking nature.
- (2) Curriculum Vita of the nominee.
- (3) A list of four other names of division members who have agreed to support the nomination.
- (4) Nominations should be forwarded to the Division Secretary-Treasurer, J. Alex Speer at: jaspeer@minsocam.org

The dossiers of nominees who did not receive the award in any given year will be retained and considered for two succeeding years; thus, nominations are active for a total of three years. Updated information for carry-over candidates may be sent to the Division Secretary-Treasurer during the call for nominations.

Award Committee: The MGPV Management Board consists of nine people, each of whom will appoint one person to serve on the MGPV Division Distinguished Geologic Career Award Committee for one year. The Division Chair will select from that list to appoint the chair of the Award Committee for that year. The nine members of the Award Committee will participate in a Borda count* election. If more than 10 applications are received, the Borda count will be done once to limit the list to six candidates; a second Borda count will follow to determine the final ranking.

The following year's committee will be informed of the rank-ordered list but are not obligated to elect anyone from it. The Management Board will normally approve the first-ranked candidate, but reserves the right to move down the list if deemed appropriate.

The Award will consist of a wall plaque and a \$1,000 cash award. The Award will be presented at the Division reception at the 2010 Annual Meeting of the Geological Society of America, with a brief (10 minute) citation from the nominator, followed by a brief (5 minute) acceptance speech by the awardee.

Timetable: Because the Division was just established, the timetable is short. This year, nominations are due on May 1, 2010, and the Award Committee will make its recommendation by May 30, 2010. In following years, the deadline for nominations will be on March 1, and the Award Committee will forward its rank-ordered list to the Division Management Board by April 15. A division must notify GSA of any divisional awards by August 1 of each year for production of any award and inclusion in GSA's Hall of Fame.

* in case you are wondering, the Borda Count is a preferential voting scheme wherein nominee rankings are converted into points. Each nominee gets 1 point for each last place vote received, 2 points for each next-to-last point vote, etc., up to N points for each first place vote, where N is the number of nominees. Because numerical scores may be very similar for the top 5-8 nominees, for large groups (over 10), we allow for a first ranking, and then a second ranking of the top 6.

MGPV at Denver GSA 2010

A big push was made to ensure that the Division would have a strong presence at this GSA Annual Meeting in Denver. This resulted in MGPV sponsorship of the topical sessions listed below. Now do your part and submit an abstract to the session of your choice. And then make sure your abstract is placed where you want it! Division officers are part of the committee that decides into which sessions abstracts are placed. If you want GSA to consider if your abstract should be grouped with other talks on similar MGPV topics, please be sure to check the box for the MGPV Division (if a submission to a Topical Session), one of the Adhering Societies (CMS, GS, MAC, MSA, MSGBI), and include mineralogy, geochemistry, petrology, and/or volcanology as keywords. This will assure that someone in the Division sees your abstract and has an opportunity to comment on where it is placed in the program.

- Accessory minerals as monitors of magmatic processes: New ideas, applications, and pitfalls
- Advances in the geology, geochemistry, geochronology, isotope geochemistry, geophysics, structural geology and tectonics of central Colorado
- Advances in the geology, geochemistry, geochronology, isotope geochemistry, geophysics, structural geology and tectonics of central Colorado
- Controls on and consequences of continental rifting
- Coupling of deformation and chemical processes in the Earth
- Frontiers in experimental petrology: A session in honor of Robert C. Newton, 2010 MSA Roebling Medalist
- Frontiers in geochemistry: Kinetics and thermodynamics of chemical reactions in earth environments through integrated field, experimental and theoretical studies
- Frontiers in metamorphic petrology: integrating mass transport, heat transport, reaction kinetics, and tectonics with mineral equilibria
- Garnet and its use in unraveling metamorphic and tectonic processes
- Geochemical behavior and reactivity of nanostructures in natural systems
- Geochemical and isotopic evolution of sedimentary and crystalline formation brines
- Geochemistry and mineralogy of fossils
- Geochemistry of geologic sequestration of CO₂: understanding gas-water-mineral interactions over wide temporal and spatial ranges

- High-pressure and high-temperature metamorphism: P-T-t paths and tectonics
- Impact cratering: from the lab to the field, from the Earth to the planets
- Improvements in geochronology and time scale calibration
- Integrated approaches to modeling geochemical, hydrological, and ecological processes in watersheds
- Magmatic and tectonic history of southwestern Alaska
- Neutral mine drainage: Release, transport and attenuation of metals and trace elements in circumneutral mining environments
- Proterozoic Crustal Evolution of Southern Laurentia: Tectonic Settings, Petrology, Geochemistry, and Geochronology
- Pyrogenic black carbon, or biochar, in soils and sediments, its characterization and fate, its effects on the carbon cycle and carbon sequestration, and its effects on soil properties.
- Rifting, magmatism and sedimentation: processes and responses in continental lithospheric breakup
- Sources, transport, and fate of trace and toxic elements in the environment
- Tectonic controls on volcanism: geologic perspectives
- Transformative science in the Himalaya and Tibet: Insight from geophysical, geochemical, and geologic studies
- Vapors, brines, sulfides and mines: Understanding metal mobility in magma-hydrothermal systems and their supergene successors
- Volcanic and landscape evolution of the Jemez Mountains volcanic field

MGPV Membership and Finances

Membership: There were 763 Division members as of 02/02/2010. Please remember to renew your Division membership at GSA annual membership renewals time, and encourage your colleagues to join. If a GSA member has already renewed, they can, at any time, join the Division by filling out a form. Go to specialty divisions and then to "join a division <<http://www.geosociety.org/members/joindiv.htm>>. Return the form to GSA or contact GSA Sales and Service; send them your member ID, name, credit card information, and the name of the Division. (It is clearly easier to join a Division at renewal time!) Division dues are: Student, Recent Grad, or K-12 Teacher - \$5, Professional Member or Fellow - \$10. We have received overwhelming support from the community for this effort. Please help us sustain a strong start by joining, asking others to join, and volunteering.

Finances: GSA reports that the MGPV Division has a balance of \$4,183 as of 12/31/2009. Considering that as yet there have been no expenses, the Division's finances could be said to be healthy.

MGPV Committees and Appointments

Division members help with the important tasks of the Division by serving on committees and in appointed posts. The MGPV Division will need to appoint two committees for the immediate future. You might be asked to serve on one of them.

The **Awards Committee** encourages and evaluates nominations for the MGPV Division Distinguished Geologic Career Award. The MGPV Management Board consists of six people, each of whom will appoint one person to serve on committee for one year. The Chair of the Division will appoint one committee member as the chair. As noted in the piece on the award, for this year nominations are due on May 1, 2010, and the Award Committee will make its recommendation by May 30, 2010. To do so the committee will need to be in place by May 1.

The **Nominating Committee** of the division reports to the Management Board a list of candidates to run for office the following year. In normal years, there are only one or two offices requiring nominations - candidates annually for second vice-chair and every two years for secretary-treasurer. The upcoming election is atypical because the MGPV Division has just started. The officers of the current Management Board are provisional. They were selected at the organizational meeting until officers can be elected through the usual election process. The 2010 Nominating Committee will need to put forward candidates for offices of Chair, a First Vice-chair, a Second Vice-chair, and a Secretary-Treasurer. There is an office of Past Chair, but we will need to wait until there is a past chair that was elected to fill it. In future years, the Nominating Committee can also propose individuals for GSA Fellowship and Division Members-at-Large on GSA-wide committees.

Nomination of a candidate to become a Division officer also may be made to the Division Secretary-Treasurer by any four voting affiliates of the division in good standing who also verify that the candidate is qualified and willing to serve in that office. This candidate's name will be forwarded to the chair of the Nominations Committee in time for inclusion in their report to the Management Board.

When approved by the Management Board, the nominations become the election slate. The ballot includes a brief profile of each candidate, in addition to a statement of the candidates' prior service to the relevant communities. The Secretary-Treasurer of the Division must submit the slate and biographies to the GSA Executive Director. GSA prepares and distributes the ballot to the voting members of the Division. The ballot also has space for write-in nominees.

Voting takes place during August, and officers will be inducted at the annual business meeting in the fall (northern hemisphere). For this to happen, the committee needs to be in place by April 1 and the slate submitted to GSA by July 1.

The **Program Committee** is a standing committee. It plans and arranges for the technical sessions and symposia of the division at the Annual and Sectional Meetings of the Geological Society of America, and other external meetings as may be directed by the management board. Because of early meeting deadlines, the task for the 2010 meeting was handled by members of the provisional Management Board.

The Division will need a MGPV **Newsletter Editor** and MGPV **Webmaster**. If you feel you could tackle either of these tasks, or know of someone who would, we would like to hear from you.

MGPV Elections

The MGPV Management Board changes yearly after the Division Annual Business Meeting. Elections are held over 30 days annually during the summer (northern hemisphere), for the position of Second Vice Chair and biennially for the position of Secretary-Treasurer. The positions of Past Chair, Chair, and First Vice-Chair are filled in succession by the individual from the preceding office. For members who have given GSA their e-mail addresses, voting is online. The message notifying you that voting is open will contain the necessary USERID and password for you to do so. Members who do not have internet access will receive a paper ballot through the US mail from GSA.

The upcoming election is atypical because the MGPV Division has just started. There will be an election for office of Chair, a First Vice-chair, a Second Vice-chair, and Secretary-Treasurer. The officers of the current Management Board are provisional, selected at the organizational meeting until an election could be held among all members.

The election will also be the time when members are asked to approve any Bylaw changes. The election of Division officers only requires that the Secretary-Treasurer notify GSA of the results. Any Bylaws changes must be submitted for GSA Council approval a month before a GSA Council meeting (for 2010 March 15 and September 30). There will be at least one Bylaws change. "MPVG" was always intended as a placeholder name for our new division. However, the Management Board has decided that the "four letter" division name is probably the best option after all, so we would like to make it permanent, with one small change. Because of the close ties between MSA, GS, and several other affiliate societies, we have decided that the name should reflect the two original GSA affiliates in order of seniority. We would like to make our permanent name the "Mineralogy, Geochemistry, Petrology, and Volcanology Division", or "MGPV" for short.

Announcements from Adhering Associated Societies

- **Goldschmidt 2010**, June 13–18, Knoxville, TN <<http://www.goldschmidt2010.org>>. Abstract and registration/campus accommodation forms are now live on the conference website. Abstract deadline is February 21. Last date for early registration is April 16th, 2010. There are **student travel grants** for those whose abstracts are accepted, details on the Geochemical Society website <<http://www.geochemsoc.org/>>. There are over 170 sessions divided into 22 themes and keynote speakers listed on the website, as well as various field trips and workshops planned for before, during and after the conference.

- Every three years, the Water Rock Interaction Working Group of the International Association of GeoChemistry (IAGC) meets for a week of science and collegiality in a different area of the world. For **2010 Water-Rock Interaction XIII Symposium** is August 16-20, 2010 in Guanajuato, Mexico. Technical

sessions are listed at <<http://wri13.cicese.mx/index.php?page=sessions>>. The deadline for submission of extended abstracts is February 28, 2010. Additional information and instructions for abstract submission and registration is available on the conference website: <<http://wri13.cicese.mx/>>.

- The CMS, the Clay Science Society of Japan, and the Spanish Clay Society will hold a **Trilateral Meeting** on June 6-11, 2010, in Madrid and Seville, Spain. Abstract deadline is February 15. See <<http://www.sea-arcillas.es/2010TMC/>> for field trip, workshop, and symposia topics. The Clay Minerals Society (CMS) invites applications for its **2010 CMS student research and travel grants**. Several grants of up to \$3,000 are made annually. The application deadline is February 15, 2010. More information and online application on the CMS website, <<http://www.clays.org>>.

- The Mineralogical Society of America (MSA) invites applications for the **2011 MSA Grant for Research in Crystallography** and for the **2011 MSA Student Research In Mineralogy and Petrology**. There are three research grant awards of \$5,000. Students, including graduate and undergraduate students, are encouraged to apply. Application deadline is June 1, 2010. Awardees need not be MSA members; MGPV student members are invited to apply. More information and online application on the MSA website, <<http://www.minsocam.org>>.

- The Mineralogical Society of Great Britain & Ireland (MSGBI) offers **travel/research bursaries** directly and through its constituent special interest groups (Applied Mineralogy, Clay Minerals, Volcanic and Magmatic Studies, Metamorphic Studies, Geochemistry, Environmental Mineralogy Group, Mineral Physics). Visit <www.minersoc.org>. MSGBI also offers free membership to students for one year. This includes a subscription to *Elements* and is open to applicants from all countries. Details at <<http://www.minersoc.org>>.

- The conference on **Frontiers in Environmental Geoscience** to be held in Aberystwyth, Wales, June 21-23, 2011. This meeting will be the Annual Meeting of the Mineralogical Society of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, and aims to cover a number of 'hot topics' that will be of interest to those working in mineralogy, environmental mineralogy, waste management and contamination clean-up. Technical sessions are planned in the following areas:

- Mine drainage: geochemistry and mineralogy.
- Tracking contaminant transport from geological media through the food chain to humans.
- Urban geochemistry and mineralogy: impacts on water, air and health.
- Toxicity and environmental behaviour of man-made materials.
- Applied mineralogy in the critical zone: metal reactions at mineral surfaces
- Integration of computational and experimental environmental mineralogy
- Environmental clay mineralogy and technology
- Geochemistry of platinum-group minerals

More information about the conference, fieldtrips, travel and registration as they emerge is at <<http://www.minersoc.org/pages/meetings/frontiers-2011/frontiers-2011.html>>, or contact the convenor, Dr. Nick Pearce, (mailto:njp@aber.ac.uk>njp@aber.ac.uk).

- **Penrose Conference: Origin and Uplift of the Sierra Nevada, California**, August 16-20, 2010, Bridgeport, CA. Convened by Cathy J. Busby, University of California, Santa Barbara, CA, USA and Keith D. Putirka, California State University, Fresno, CA, USA. More information at <<http://www.geosociety.org/penrose/10california.htm>>

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