



# International Mineralogical Association

[www.ima-mineralogy.org](http://www.ima-mineralogy.org)

## CHANGES IN IMA COUNCIL

Founded in 1958, the International Mineralogical Association is the world's largest organization promoting mineralogy. Its membership comprises 39 national mineralogical societies or groups. Individuals are associated with IMA and take part in IMA decision making through these national societies. IMA itself is affiliated with the International Union of Geological Sciences (IUGS).

The IMA supports the activities of 11 commissions and working groups, which are involved in a wide range of subjects. Examples are the Commission on New Minerals and Mineral Nomenclature, the Commission on Ore Mineralogy, the Working Group on Environmental Mineralogy and Geochemistry, and the Commission on Museums. The commissions and working groups are active in organising meetings and sessions at various conferences worldwide, including at the quadrennial IMA conference to be held in Budapest, Hungary, in August 2010. In addition to the scientific presentations, one or two business meetings will be held at the Budapest conference. This meeting will be an ideal opportunity for members to express what they would like IMA to do and to become involved in IMA activities. Delegates from each member society attend the business meetings. This year a number of changes to the Constitution and By-laws of the Association will be proposed by Council. Various new members of Council will be elected. Maryse Ohnenstetter, IMA general secretary, will stand down in Budapest after nine years of excellent work on behalf of IMA (doesn't time fly when you are having fun, Maryse?). Ian Parsons will finally come to the end of his term of office – as vice president, president and past president (I calculate that as 12 years!). Three Council members – Kari Kojonen (Finland), Marcello Mellini (Italy) and Nikolai Yushkin (Russia) – have also come to the end of their eight-year terms of office, and we thank them very much for their work. President Takamitsu Yamanaka finishes his four-year term (thank you very much Takamitsu) and becomes past president, and vice president Ekkehart Tillmanns takes over as president. Several commission and working group officers will also be due for election/re-election this year.

So Budapest, August 2010, will be the opportunity for new people with new ideas to join the IMA Council. According to IMA statutes, Council must nominate new councillors ten weeks before the business meeting in Budapest. The IMA has rules that ensure a good geographical representation on Council, and this restricts election of members residing in Austria, Canada, China and Germany to some of the Council positions. Anywhere else in the world is fine. If you are a member of one of IMA's member societies, are enthusiastic about IMA and think you could contribute to IMA management, you are welcome to contact President Takamitsu Yamanaka (t.yamanaka@kce.biglobe.ne.jp), Vice President Ekkehart Tillmanns (ekkehart.tillmanns@univie.ac.at), General Secretary Maryse Ohnenstetter (mohnen@crpg.cnrs-nancy.fr), Treasurer Bob Downs (downs@geo.arizona.edu) or Communication Officer Frances Wall (f.wall@exeter.ac.uk).

For more information visit [www.ima-mineralogy.org](http://www.ima-mineralogy.org).

## NEW MEMBERS JOIN IMA MEDAL COMMITTEE

We welcome Monika Koch-Mueller (Potsdam, Germany) and Kazushige Tomeoka (Kobe, Japan) as new members of the IMA Medal Committee. They replace Masaki Akaogi and Catherine McCammon, who have reached the end of their terms of office. The Medal Committee chairman is now Walter Maresch (walter.maresch@rub.de), who has taken over this year from fellow councillor Marcello Mellini. The IMA expresses

its sincere thanks to the outgoing chairman and committee members. The continuing committee members are Christian Chopin, Barb Dutrow, Herta Effenberger, Roberta Oberti, Igor Pekov and Mark Welch. Last, as reported in last December's *Elements*, Frank Hawthorne is the latest winner of the IMA Medal and will receive his award at IMA2010 in Budapest.

**Frances Wall**

IMA Communication Officer

## RECORD-BREAKING IMA CONFERENCE



IMA2010, "Bonds and Bridges", the quadrennial conference of the International Mineralogical Association, looks set to break all previous records and become the largest-ever IMA general meeting. Over 1600 abstracts have been received for 80 sessions organised into 14 themes. The conference will be held on 21–27 August in the historic city of Budapest, Hungary. Registered participants are from 74 countries, including 22 Asian and 11 African countries. This excellent geographic coverage, which reflects IMA's wish for a wide international participation, is in part the result of grants given by the conference to help attendance. Grant awardees range from students and young scientists to 'not-so-young' (retired) scientists who will add their experience to the conference discussions. If you would like to come and join in, registration is still open, and day rates are available if you can only attend part of the conference. Details can be found on the website [www.ima2010.hu](http://www.ima2010.hu).

## ATTEND THE ELEMENTS PLENARY LECTURES!

Sunday, August 22	Eva Valsami-Jones	Phosphates and global sustainability
August 23	Rod Ewing	"Back-end" of the nuclear fuel cycle: Role of mineralogy in the safe management of radioactive waste
August 24	Nigel Kelly	Zircon – More than just a chronometer
August 25	Mihály Pósfai	Biomineral attractions: Magnets in organisms
August 26	Nita Sahai	Mechanisms of cellular and biomacromolecular interactions with minerals in humans and animals
August 27	Glenn Waychunas	Mineralogy and geochemistry at lower dimensionality: Mineral-water interfaces and nanoparticles



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## IMA MEDAL – CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

Frank C. Hawthorne, recipient of the 2010 IMA Medal, was honoured during the 20<sup>th</sup> General Meeting of the IMA in Budapest, Hungary. Frank follows Charles Prewwitt as the second distinguished scientist to be internationally acclaimed in this way.

The IMA Medal is awarded every two years for excellence in mineralogical research and is considered as one of the pre-eminent awards in this discipline. The recipient is chosen for scientific eminence as represented primarily by scientific publications of outstanding original research in mineralogy. The medal represents a lifetime achievement award. Service to mineralogy, teaching, and administrative accomplishment are not primary considerations for the award.

As chairman of the IMA Medal Committee, I am sending out a call for nominations for the IMA Medal for 2012, which should reach me before the deadline of April 1, 2011. Details of the nomination procedure and the requirements for the nomination package are given on the IMA website at [www.ima-mineralogy.org/](http://www.ima-mineralogy.org/). The salient points are as follows:

- Mineralogy is broadly defined and the candidate need not qualify as a mineralogist. Rather, his or her published record should be related to the mineralogical sciences and should make some outstanding contribution to them. Several disciplines are equally suitable for the award: mineralogy, geochemistry, petrology, crystallography, and applied mineralogy.
- The award is made without regard to nationality.
- Membership in a mineralogical society is not a prerequisite to receive the award.
- Nominators, either a member of a mineralogical society or group or a national representative of a mineralogical society or group, must submit complete nomination packages by **April 1, 2011**, to the Chair of the IMA Medal Committee.
- The recipient of the IMA Medal will present a lecture on a topic related to the award at an international meeting. The lecture will be published in an international journal of mineralogy.

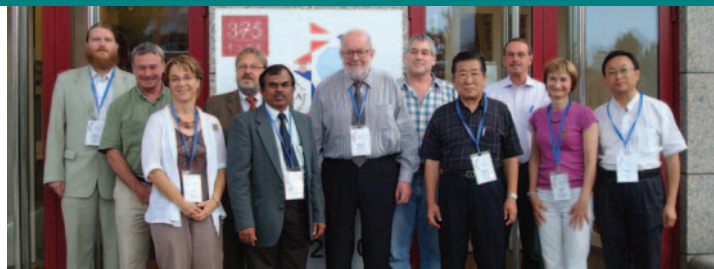
This is a great honour! Let's identify and nominate those colleagues who have led the way in the mineralogical sciences!

**Walter V. Maresch**

Chair, IMA Medal Committee

E-mail: [walter.maresch@rub.de](mailto:walter.maresch@rub.de)

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The new IMA Council, after their first meeting in Budapest, 27 August 2010: Sergey Krivovichev and Joel Grice (Council members); Sabine Verryn (2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President, chair of the Organizing Committee for IMA 2014 South Africa); Richard Göd (Secretary); C. Srikantappa (Council member); Ekkehart Tillmanns (President); Bob Downs (Treasurer); Takamitsu Yamanaka (Retiring President); Walter Maresch (1<sup>st</sup> Vice President); Frances Wall (Communication Officer); Anhuai Lu (Council member). Not pictured: Patrick Cordier (Council member). Contact details for all new Council members can be found at: [www.ima-mineralogy.org/](http://www.ima-mineralogy.org/).

## IMA BUSINESS MEETINGS HELD AT IMA 2010

Two formal IMA business meetings, three Council meetings and many business meetings of commissions and working groups were held during the IMA 2010 General Meeting in Budapest, Hungary. At the first business meeting, President Takamitsu Yamanaka thanked the Organizing Committee and all helpers for such an excellent conference; with 1700 delegates it was the largest IMA conference so far. The organization was headed by Tamás Weiszbürg from Hungary (Chairman of the International Organizing Committee), Ekkehart Tillmanns from Austria (General Chairman and Chairman of the Scientific Programme Committee) and Dana Pop from Romania (Secretary General), together with many colleagues from central Europe.

Delegates approved the IMA officers' reports and voted in the new Council for terms of office varying between two and four years. They also voted to approve some important revisions to the IMA constitution (SEE NEW RULES BELOW) and discussed and voted on the venues for future meetings. IMA will encourage commissions and working groups to propose sessions at the Goldschmidt Conference in Prague next year, and Council will meet during this conference. The following year, the business meeting, which delegates from all member societies may attend, will be at the first European Mineralogical Conference; this meeting will be held at Johann Wolfgang Goethe-University, Frankfurt, Germany, on 9–13 September 2012 (SEE [HTTP://EMC2012.UNI-FRANKFURT.DE](http://EMC2012.UNI-FRANKFURT.DE)). The next IMA General Meeting will be in South Africa in 2014. The theme will be 'delving deeper', and the conference will feature much applied mineralogy and field trips to famous mining areas, as well as the usual wide array of topics, ranging from historical mineralogy to environmental science.

Outgoing President Takamitsu Yamanaka thanked all the other outgoing officers and Council members, and in particular he highlighted the long and invaluable service to IMA by retiring Secretary, Maryse Ohnenstetter. Council presented Maryse with a bowl made from precious Pannonian serpentine (chlorite to be mineralogically correct) from Bernstein, Burgenland, Austria. Another long-serving member of IMA Council who finally 'escaped' at the Budapest conference is Ian Parsons, who served 12 years, including terms as Vice President, President and Past President (READ HIS ACCOUNT OF IMA 2010 ON PAGE 344).

## New Rules

The presidential term of office has been reduced from four to two years. Thus the plan is to elect a future president at each biennial business meeting. This person will serve as 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President for two years, President for two years and then Retiring President for two years. Presidents need not be the chair of an IMA conference, as has recently been the custom, and this should also give more flexibility in finding really good people to lead IMA. The chairperson of the Organizing Committee of the forthcoming General Meeting will be the 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President, to ensure good communications with Council and recognize their contribution to IMA activities.

**Frances Wall**, IMA Communication Officer, [f.wall@exeter.ac.uk](mailto:f.wall@exeter.ac.uk)





## Swiss Society of Mineralogy and Petrology

<http://ssmp.scnatweb.ch>

### IMA COMMISSION ON MUSEUMS: LOOKING TOWARDS THE FUTURE

Mineralogy museums, which are becoming more and more attractive to a broad public, have common rules and aims to preserve scientific and systematic mineralogy. The mission of the IMA Commission on Museums (CM), which counts national representatives from 37 countries, all members of IMA, is to foster recognition of mineral science collections as essential scientific, educational and cultural resources; promote support for growth, maintenance and use of collections and exhibits; and finally advance museum practice through cooperation in the development, review and dissemination of information. The CM keeps the catalogue of type minerals, in close contact with the IMA Commission on New Minerals, Nomenclature and Classification. The CM meets officially every two years, at the IMA General Meeting and at the International Conference on Mineralogy and Museums. During the IMA General Meeting in Budapest, CM held a session on the history of mineralogy, 'Mineral Museums and Historical Mineralogy', which was well attended. The next conference is MM 7 in 2012, to be held in Freiberg, Germany.

In addition, members meet several times a year at the world's largest mineral shows, such as in Tucson (Arizona, USA) in February and München (Germany) in November. This gives an opportunity for curators to meet with university mineralogists and others with related interests. In 2001 a group of mineral museum curators meeting at the Munich Show established a European branch of the Commission.

A catalogue of type mineral specimens – a complete listing of type minerals and their depositories – is now currently available on the Internet ([www.smmp.net/IMA-CM](http://www.smmp.net/IMA-CM)). The Commission on Museums welcomes participation from anyone interested in the preservation and attractive display of the Earth's treasures.

**Lydie Touret**, Chair  
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### NO-NAME MINERALS!

At an open meeting of the Commission on New Minerals, Nomenclature and Classification (CNMNC) held at the recent, highly successful IMA meeting in Budapest, Hungary, Dorian Smith reviewed the official IMA unnamed mineral codes and their usage. There are now more than 1600 entries on the **Valid list** and nearly 1850 on the **Invalid list**. These lists, which are on the CNMNC website (<http://pubsites.uws.edu.au/ima-cnmc>) in pdf format, can be searched using the facilities built into the freely available Adobe Reader© software. Unnamed minerals on both lists are arranged first by year of publication, next (the Valid list) by a trivial (i.e. unique) number within that year, and then (both lists) by alphabetically ordered codes.

Authors submitting new minerals to the IMA (CNMNC) for approval must now indicate that they have checked these lists to see whether the new mineral has been previously reported with an "Unnamed" status. Authors reporting new unnamed minerals should, wherever possible, use the format indicated by Smith and Nickel (2007)<sup>1</sup>. Such new unnamed minerals will be added to the lists most quickly if authors themselves draw the reports to the attention of the Sub-Committee on Unnamed Minerals. An e-mail giving their interim code and the reference for the publication can be sent to [Dorian.Smith@ualberta.ca](mailto:Dorian.Smith@ualberta.ca). Anyone interested in working on this IMA CNMNC sub-committee should contact either Peter Williams ([P.Williams@uws.edu.au](mailto:P.Williams@uws.edu.au)), Stuart Mills ([smills@eos.ubc.ca](mailto:smills@eos.ubc.ca)) or Dorian Smith.

**Dorian Smith**

<sup>1</sup> Smith DGW, Nickel EH (2007) A system of codification for unnamed minerals: report of the subcommittee for unnamed minerals of the IMA Commission on New Minerals, Nomenclature and Classification. *Canadian Mineralogist* 45: 983-990

### TEACHING EARTH SCIENCES IN THE FIELD



Students, their supervisors, and field guides discussing phenomena along the contact between a mafic dyke and its granodioritic host at Onion Valley, California.

Doctoral students and their supervisors from Swiss universities studied plutonic rocks and their contact metamorphic aureoles in the Sierra Nevada and Quaternary volcanic rocks in the southern Cascades, California, in September 2010. The field school was led by geologists from the USGS (Thomas W. Sisson) and MIT (Tim Grove and Christy Till) and was attended by eighteen doctoral students and their supervisors from the Swiss universities of Lausanne, Geneva, Fribourg and ETH Zürich, most of them members of the Swiss Society of Mineralogy and Petrology. Exchanges between the students and these leading scientists were beneficial to all. Long discussions were held on the outcrops and during the evenings on fundamental issues of magmatism, batholith formation and metamorphism.

Field schools are an integral part of Earth science education at the PhD level in Switzerland, enhancing scientific exchange on orogenic processes. In the California field school, the participating students were an interdisciplinary group whose PhD topics included numerical modeling, magmatic and metamorphic petrology, and isotope geoscience. The school was part of the doctoral program "4D Adamello", which is supported by the Swiss National Science Foundation and the rectorates of the Swiss universities and includes nine PhD projects. Other attending PhD candidates are working on related projects in Europe and South America. This and other doctoral programs and schools at Swiss universities have identified field workshops as a powerful and efficient tool for teaching forefront science to doctoral candidates. Future field schools on magmatism will be held at Quaternary volcanoes in Chile, in Miocene magmatic rocks and their country rocks in Patagonia, and in ultrahigh-grade metamorphic rocks and Tertiary intrusions in the Alps.

For further information, visit [www.unil.ch/img/page72459\\_en.html](http://www.unil.ch/img/page72459_en.html) (4D Adamello; Doctoral School ProDoc) and <http://mineral.cuso.ch> (Doctoral Program in Mineral Sciences).

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