

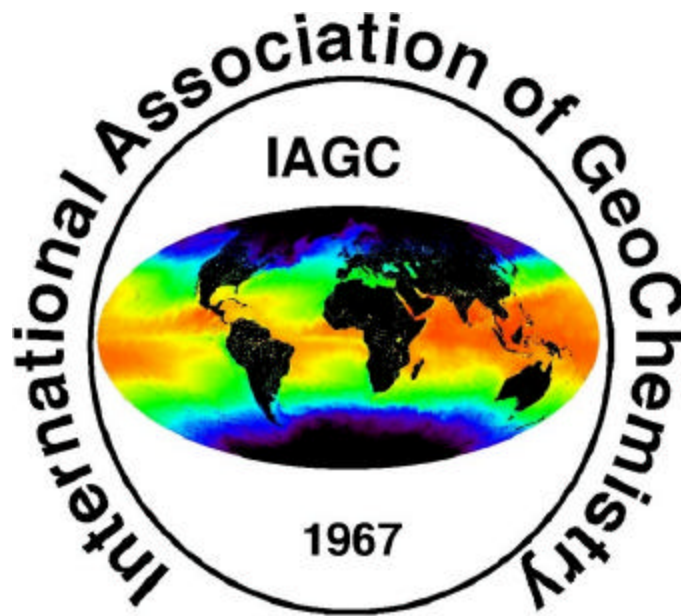
# **Newsletter**

**of the**

**International Association of GeoChemistry**

**Number 45, December 2006**

**Mel Gascoyne, Newsletter Editor**



## **NEWS FROM THE ASSOCIATION**

- **Raising IAGC's profile**
- **40<sup>th</sup> Anniverary plans**
- **New issues of Elements**
- **Upcoming meetings**

## **ASSOCIATION NEWS**

### **IAGC-Sponsored Meetings**

Two major conferences have been supported by IAGC this summer: the 16<sup>th</sup> Annual Goldschmidt Conference was held in Melbourne, Australia, on August 28 to September 1, and the 7<sup>th</sup> International Symposium on Environmental Geochemistry (ISEG-7) on September 25-27. The IAGC booth was present at both and about 30 new members were signed up at each meeting. The IAGC was also well-represented at the Annual Meeting of the Geological Society of America in Philadelphia from October 22-25. More details can be found on page 4 later in this issue.

### **Business Meeting at the GSA**

A meeting of the IAGC was held in conjunction with the Geological Society of America Annual Meeting, from 5.00 to 7.00 pm on Saturday 21 October 2006 in Congress Room B, Loews Hotel, Philadelphia, PA. Insufficient officers were present to make a quorum so the meeting defaulted to a business meeting. The President, John Ludden, has resigned from his post in the IAGC due to added work responsibilities and Russell Harmon (Vice-President) has taken over the Presidential duties as mandated in the Statutes. Council will be asked to approve this transition and that of Russ's nominated successor, Clemens Reimann. If approved, both officers would serve until 2008 when new elections would be held. A summary of topics discussed is featured on page 4 of this Newsletter.

### **Call for Nominations for IAGC awards**

The International Association of GeoChemistry invites nominations for the Vernadsky Medal and the Ebelmen Awards, and for Certificates of Recognition. The Vernadsky Medal is awarded for a distinguished record of achievement in academic or applied geochemistry, or both, over the course of a career. It is the highest distinction of the Association. The Ebelmen Award is given to a geochemist of particular merit and outstanding promise and less than 35 years old at the time of nomination. This award consists of a framed certificate and a cash prize of \$1500 (US). Nominations of young scientists from developing countries are particularly encouraged.

A Certificate of Recognition, (the Hitchon Award) may be awarded by the IAGC to any scientist for outstanding accomplishment in any area of Geochemistry or for excellence in teaching or public service. It may also be given to an IAGC member for meritorious service to the Association or the international scientific community. It consists of a framed certificate and carries no cash prize. These awards will be bestowed for the first time in a ceremony that will take place at the 2007 Goldschmidt Conference in Cologne, Germany. Nominations should be directed to the IAGC business office before 31st January. They can be made by any IAGC member in good standing.

A nomination for the Vernadsky Medal and Ebelmen Award must consist of a letter of nomination, a curriculum vitae and list of scientific publications of the nominee, and letters of support. For the Vernadsky Medal nomination at least four letters of support are required, and for the Ebelmen award at least three. In either case two letters must come from IAGC members in good standing, and not more than two may be from persons residing in the same country. For a nomination for a Certificate of Merit, a letter from an IAGC member in good standing suffices. We are looking forward to receiving inspiring nominations!

## IAGC 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

Plans continue to be formulated to celebrate IAGC's 40<sup>th</sup> birthday next year at the University of Cologne, Germany, on Saturday 18 August 2007, immediately prior to the 2007 Goldschmidt Conference. Recent developments are summarised in the report on the business meeting in this issue

The contributions from the symposium will be published in a special issue of *Applied Geochemistry* – the official IAGC journal, dedicated to IAGC co-founder Professor Al Levinson, who passed away in December 2005.

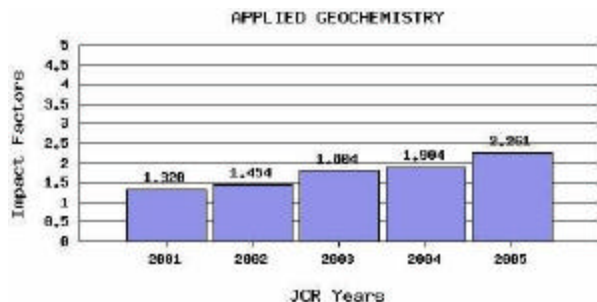
The IAGC will host an anniversary reception in the evening to honour Past Presidents and other important figures in IAGC's history. The recipients of the inaugural set of IAGC Awards – the Vernadsky Medal, the Ebelman Medal, and the Hitchon Award – will be formally presented during the Goldschmidt Conference at the joint society awards ceremony. Certificates of Merit awards to recognize special service to IAGC will be presented at the anniversary celebration.

The Chair of the Organizing Committee for the IAGC 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration & Symposium is Jochen Hoefs. Any IAGC members wishing to join the committee or otherwise volunteer to assist with the organization and implementation of the event should contact Prof. Dr. Hoefs by e-mail (jhoefs@gwdg.de).

More details can be found on page 8.

## Applied Geochemistry

The Association's journal is doing well (see the latest data on impact factors below). On average, 21 manuscripts are received a month. A special issue on mercury will be published shortly. Others include issues on halogens, watershed-scale geochemistry, and acid rain.



By comparison to other geochemical journals:

Geochimica et Cosmochimica Acta  
was 3.811 NOW 3.897

Icarus  
was 3.074 NOW 3.244

Atmospheric Environment  
was 2.562 NOW 2.724

Journal of Aerosol Science  
was 1.861 NOW 2.477

**Applied Geochemistry**  
**was 1.904 NOW 2.261**

Organic Geochemistry  
WAS 1.896 NOW 2.079

Journal of Hydrology  
WAS 1.481 NOW 1.745

## Have you Googled us lately?

The profile of the IAGC on its website has improved this year. Now, the site appears on page 1 of a Google search on the letters "iagc". This is markedly better than page 5 (!)

## Notes from the Council Meeting at GSA (recorded by Mel Gascoyne)

1. Membership so far this year is about 400, an improvement from last year's 350. This includes Life Members (8), Gratis Members (10) and Honorary members (3). About 90 members (in 2003) that did not renew for either 2004 or 2005 have been cut off this fall.
2. The IAGC booth was set up at Goldschmidt in Melbourne and at ISEG in Beijing and staffed by Mel and Sim Gascoyne. Various 'goodies' were offered to attract potential members: candies, a free lanyard-type key ring and retainer strap embossed with the IAGC name, and the opportunity to win membership and one year's subscription to AG. Thirty new members were signed up at Goldschmidt and 27 at ISEG. Most new members were from Australia and China, respectively. The low number at Goldschmidt is in part due to the fact that many delegates were already members of one of the other societies and also, the Goldschmidt registration fee included automatic membership of the Geochemical Society. For ISEG, currency exchange was a problem, because many delegates wanted to join IAGC (principally to receive Elements) but few had US dollars. We could not easily change their 160 Yuan equivalent to dollars because of currency controls in China.
3. Despite these problems we were able to get 57 new members at the meetings and significantly raised our profile with delegates of both meetings. At ISEG, we were the only exhibit and were nicely positioned between the posters and the meeting rooms.
4. I recommend that at most future meetings convened by one of our working groups, we

ask the organisers to raise the registration fee by \$20 for all those who are not paid-up members of IAGC. This way, we would enlist many new members automatically into IAGC, for at least one year. Upcoming meetings where this should be feasible are AIG-7 in South Africa (10-14<sup>th</sup> Sept 2007) and WRI-12 in China (July 31–Aug.5, 2007). We should nevertheless maintain a booth at these meetings to show our commitment, provide information, and persuade the new members to take the next step and subscribe to AG.

5. All members are now in the IAGC's electronic database and only a few have requested postal mailing. This has been an enormous saving for IAGC since sending out Newsletters required envelopes, address labels, photocopying and mailing costs. The only such expenses now incurred are from following up on members who do not renew. However, the shift to electronic transmission is not without its own troubles – mass mailing of letters and newsletters such as this is considered as a SPAM creation and messages often do not make it through cyber space to your computer
6. A few past members have been dealt with that have reported missing AG issues. Elsevier continues to send the Business Office a package of 5 sets of each new issue and these have been sent to the members, where needed. Excess copies are used as prizes in IAGC draws at conferences (see below).
7. At the 2005 GSA, in Salt Lake City, and again, in Philadelphia, draw prizes were offered to delegates in the shape of a set of past issues of AG for 2003, 2004 or 2005. Except for the weight of them in my luggage in going to meetings, these are a good advertisement and they also serve to reduce my stocks of back issues that Elsevier continues to send to me free of charge.

### "Elements" and Newsletters

8. Newsletter 43 was produced and sent out. fall 2005 and Newsletter 44 was sent out in spring this year. Contributions from IAGC officers and members are welcome. It was agreed at the Denver council meeting in November, 2005, that the NL should continue to give details about the Association's activities (such as these) as well as provide a summary of these activities to be published in Elements.

9. Six sets of contributions to Elements (February, April, June, August, October & December 2006) have been assembled by the Business Office to meet deadlines for Elements issues set by the Managing Editor. As you may be aware from my e-mails, I urgently need contributions of relevant news of IAGC's activities for upcoming issues. Next year will be IAGC's 40<sup>th</sup> birthday and there should be lots about this in the next two Newsletters but I need text and photographs from you (currently I am asking for information on conferences (past and upcoming), Working Group activities, items of policy, minutes of meetings, and photos or figures to illustrate an entry).

### Financial

10. As noted last year, some time has been spent in dealing with problems such as members arranging payment to Elsevier for Gratis and Honorary subscriptions, chasing up unpaid or late-paying dues and AG subscriptions, as well as dealing with the Elsevier problems as described in item 3. The problem of payments that were made out to the IAGC (not Elsevier) has been largely solved: it seems that Elsevier is able to cash cheques that are made out to IAGC (and should have been made out to Elsevier) – the power of a big organisation, I suppose !!
11. The profile of the IAGC on its website has improved this year. Now, the site appears on page 1 of a Google search on the letters "iagc". This is markedly better than page 5.
12. The cost of putting on IAGC booth displays at Goldschmidt (Australia) and ISEG (China) runs into thousands of dollars, not only because the cost of renting a booth is high (~\$2500) but travel and accommodation costs add considerably to this sum. From a purely fiscal standpoint, the costs of the trips far outweigh the revenue produced by 57 membership sales (in the case of the Goldschmidt and ISEG meetings). Nevertheless, the exposure given to the IAGC was significant and immeasurable. An alternative for reducing the costs is to staff the booth with IAGC members or (preferably) officers who are attending the conference and have their travel costs paid by their

institutions. This requires time sharing by several members who are willing and do not have presentations to watch or give. It also requires shipping and pick-up of the large tube containing the banners and stands, and an extra package containing the freebies, Velcro pads, tape, membership forms, information handouts, display copies of Elements, AG issues and Newsletters. With a built-in IAGC membership as part of the conference fee, a booth would still need setting up and continuous staffing to provide information to members but there will be no need to sell memberships (only subscriptions).

### Other activities

13. As noted last year, three IAGC banners have been made for use at conferences. One is an acrylic poster, a second is on cloth and a third is a vertical ('Roman Legion type) banner. They are available for use at any IAGC-sponsored or supporting meeting and should be returned to the Business Office after use.
14. A new leaflet on the IAGC has been produced (on green paper). Members organizing meetings should contact the Business Office to obtain leaflets for their registered delegates.

### **Applied Geochemistry – Are you missing any issues?**

There have been very few reports of lack of receipt of *Applied Geochemistry* issues for 2004 or 2005. If you are missing any issues, contact the Business Office with your needs. The Business Office is willing to mail out missing issues of volumes 17, 18, 19 & 20 to fill in the gaps of members' collections, free of charge! Let us know if you are missing an issue.

Note that we cannot replace large numbers of missing issues - members should contact the Business Office separately to arrange this (iagc@granite.mb.ca)

## Elements

This year has seen the production of bimonthly issues of Elements and the last issue, on the nuclear fuel cycle is just being delivered. Pierrette Tremblay, the Executive Editor, would love to hear if you have any comments or words of praise! ([Pierrette\\_tremblay@inrs-ete.quebec.ca](mailto:Pierrette_tremblay@inrs-ete.quebec.ca))

Commencing with the June 2006 issue of *Elements*, only those who had paid up for dues for 2006 received the issue. If you have not renewed your IAGC membership for 2006, please contact the Business Office to see if copies of 2006 issues are still available (I receive a few 'spare' copies of each printing to deal with delinquents!). However, because the print run of an issue is close to the membership demand for all participating societies, it will be difficult to get back-issues after the year has passed.

## 2007 Activities

The first set of IAGC awards was planned to be made at the 2006 Goldschmidt Conference in Australia. However, due to a limited response for nominations and the short notice required to meet the requirements, the Executive decided to postpone the awards until 2007 and hold the ceremony to coincide with the Goldschmidt conference (see section on page 1).

Other upcoming meetings and events in 2007 include:

1. WRI-12 (International Symposium in Water-Rock Interaction) to be held in Kunming, China, July 31 - August 5, 2007. Abstracts are due in December 2006. Details at <http://www.wri12.org>
2. AIG-7 (7<sup>th</sup> Symposium on Applied Isotope Geochemistry) to be held in Stellenbosch, South Africa, 10-14 September, 2007. Details are at <http://academic.sun.ac.za/geology/AIG7/registration.htm>.
3. Goldschmidt 2007 will take place from 19-24th August 2007 at Cologne in Germany. Details are at [www.goldschmidt2007.org](http://www.goldschmidt2007.org)
4. 11<sup>th</sup> Int. Conf. on Environmental Remediation and Radioactive Waste Management, 2-6 Sept. 2007, at Bruges, Belgium. Details are at [www.ICEMConf.com](http://www.ICEMConf.com)
5. GES-8 (8<sup>th</sup> Symposium Geochemistry of the Earth's Surface) will be held from 18-22 August 2008, at the Natural History Museum, London, UK. Preliminary details are at [m.e.hodson@reading.ac.uk](mailto:m.e.hodson@reading.ac.uk)
6. ISEB 2007 (18<sup>th</sup> Int. Symp. on Environmental Biogeochemistry) to be held from Nov. 11-16, 2007, in Taupo, New Zealand. Details are at [www.isebiogeochemistry.com](http://www.isebiogeochemistry.com)

### How to Contact Us:

**To join or renew your IAGC membership, subscribe to or track down errant issues of *Applied Geochemistry*, or to send in comments, etc., contact: IAGC Business Office, Box 501, Pinawa, Manitoba R0E 1L0, Canada. Or check out our website at [www.iagc.ca](http://www.iagc.ca)**



# AIG7

## 7th International Symposium on Applied Isotope Geochemistry

International Association of GeoChemistry

**10th - 14th September, 2007**

**STELLENBOSCH, *South Africa***

**[www.sun.ac.za/geology/aig7.htm](http://www.sun.ac.za/geology/aig7.htm)**

The 7th AIG meeting will be held in the beautiful historic Cape Dutch town of Stellenbosch in the heart of the South African wine district.

Full details of the conference program and scope as well as information on the post-conference field trip to Namibia, registration fees and important dates can be found on the conference website.

Email the conference organisers on [aig7@sun.ac.za](mailto:aig7@sun.ac.za) for more information

## IAGC to Celebrate its 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary in 2007

The IAGC was officially founded in May 1967 during the First International Symposium on Geochemistry & Cosmochemistry under the leadership of Prof. Earl Ingerson. Since that time, and guided by its 10 sets of officers and council members (see table below), the Association has grown over the last 40 years into one of the premier international geochemical associations - primarily through the activities of its Working Groups, the regular sponsorship of scientific symposia, meetings and conference technical sessions, its Ingerson International Lecturer series, and publication of the highly-regarded journal *Applied Geochemistry*.

For the first 36 years of its existence, IAGC was known as the International Association of Geochemistry and Cosmochemistry. Following a petition to the membership and Council vote in July 2004, a new set of Statutes was adopted for IAGC which changed the society name to the International Association of GeoChemistry. The original concept of national state members and General Assembly voting procedure was abolished in favor of one in which a 7-member Executive Committee (President, Vice-President, Immediate Past President, Secretary, Treasurer, Journal Editor, and Business Office Manager), was responsible for the day-to-day operation of the Association and an elected 10-member Council of no more than two Council members per country responsible for supervising the activities of the Executive Committee and conducting the longer-term business and achieving the objectives of the Association.

IAGC is committed to excellence in the geochemical sciences and promotes the application of geochemistry across the entire spectrum of the earth and environmental sciences. This is accomplished through fostering the use of the tools and techniques of chemistry to advance the understanding of the earth and its component systems for the benefit of mankind and modern society; contributing to advancement in geochemical research throughout the world, including both fundamental geochemical research aimed at understanding the global earth system and applied geochemical research that addresses problems of particular relevance to the welfare of mankind and society; and promoting international and education cooperation in geochemistry through a variety of outreach activities. The current IAGC Officers and Council Members are listed in the last column of the table below.



	67-72	72-76	76-80	80-84	84-88
<b>P</b>	E. Ingerson USA	LH Ahrens RSA	G. Wetherill USA	VL Barsukov USSR	MH Grunenfelder CH
<b>VP</b>	LH Ahrens RSA	WV Scherbina USSR	J Goni FR	MH Grunenfelder CH	H Wanke FRG
<b>VP</b>	AI Tugenov USSR	KH Wedepohl FRG	Z. Pascal CZ	B Hitchon CAN	-
<b>S</b>	K Sugawara JAP	K Keil USA	GM Anderson CAN	S Deutsch BEL	B. Hitchon CAN
<b>T</b>	JF Lovering AUSTR	JF Lovering AUSTR	RA Binns AUSTR	E Angino USA	E Angino USA
<b>CM</b>	B Cambel CZ	GM Brown UK	G Bardossy HUN	I Barnes USA	I Barnes USA
<b>CM</b>	AGW Cameron USA	M Ferrara FR	DS Coombs NZ	UG Cordani BRA	M. Carpezza IT
<b>CM</b>	M Fornaseri IT	J Gom FR	A Erlanck RSA	H Greenwood CAN	K. Kigoshi JAP
<b>CM</b>	KS Heier NOR	D Lal IND	M Frey CH	LN Kogarko USSR	LN Kogarko USSR
<b>CM</b>	M. Roubault FR	DM Shaw CAN	WS Fyfe CAN	A Masuda JAP	D Lal IND
<b>CM</b>	RC Sinha IND	A Sugawara JAP	KS Heier NOR	Y Tardy FR	S Moorbath UK
<b>CM</b>	AE Vincent UK	E. S-Kardoss HUN	I Kushihiro JAP	SR Taylor AUSTR	F. Mnra CZ
<b>CM</b>	KH Wedepohl FRG	NB Vassoevich USSR	ID Ryabchikov USSR	H Wänke FRG	H. Sorensen DEN

	88-92	92-96	96-00	00-04	04-06
<b>P</b>	H. Wänke FRG	H. Sakai JAP	G. Faure USA	E. Galimov RUS	J. Ludden/R. Harmon FR USA
<b>VP</b>	H. Sakai JAP	G. Faure USA	E. Galimov USSR	J. Ludden FR	R. Harmon/ C. Reimann USA NOR
<b>S</b>	B. Hitchon CAN	M. Gascoyne CAN	M. Gascoyne CAN	M. Gascoyne CAN	A. Demeny HUN
<b>T</b>	E. Angino USA	E. Angino/D. Long USA	D. Long USA	D. Long USA	G. Faure USA
<b>CM</b>	A. Erlank RSA	H Wänke FRG	J. Gurney RSA	J. Gurney RSA	J. Kramers CH
<b>CM</b>	C. Gomes	S. Gregorian USSR	R. Harmon UK	R. Harmon UK	B. Lyons USA
<b>CM</b>	S. Gregorian USSR	R. Harmon UK	J. Hoefs FRG	J. Hoefs FRG	S. Frape CAN
<b>CM</b>	D. Lal IND	P. Jakes CZ	P. Jakes CZ	M. Javoy FR	J. Gray USA
<b>CM</b>	S. Moorbath UK	M. McCulloch AUSTR	G. Kurat AUST	G. Kurat AUST	M. Novack CZR
<b>CM</b>	E. Mnra CZ	E. Neumann NOR	M. Javoy FR	N. Sobolev RUS	A. Parker UK
<b>CM</b>	E. Neumann NOR	J. O'Neil USA	M. McCulloch AUSTR	K. Subbarao JAP	A. Herczeg AUSTR
<b>CM</b>	J. O'Neil USA	M. Ozima JAP	N. Sobolev USSR	Y. Zheng CHI	N. Clauer FR
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<b>CM</b>	T. Seward NZ	T. Seward NZ	Y. Zheng CHI	J. Kramers CH	K. Notsu JAP

To officially acknowledge this anniversary, IAGC will hold a special 1-day celebration from 1.00 - 7:30pm on Saturday 18 August at the University of Cologne, immediately prior to the commencement of the 17<sup>th</sup> Annual Goldschmidt Conference. The draft agenda for the celebration event, which is being organized by Jochen Hoefs of Göttingen University, is as follows:

- 1pm            Welcome – IAGC Vice President  
                 Introduction of Distinguished Guests – IAGC President  
                 Historical Overview of IAGC, 1967-2007
- 2pm            Perspectives on Geochemistry 1967-2007: Short 5-10 min historical vignettes from distinguished guests  
                 Perspectives on the IAGC journal *Applied Geochemistry*
- 3pm            Lecture #1: Mike Edmunds – University of Oxford  
                 Break  
                 International Lecture #2: Balz Kamber, Laurentian University
- 4:15            Announcement of IAGC Awards:
- 4:30            ‘Keynote’ Address: Stephen Moorbath, Oxford University
- 5:00-8:30pm   Reception at University Mensa

All IAGC members are invited to participate in this anniversary celebration event and to stay on for the 17<sup>th</sup> Goldschmidt Conference.

Russell Harmon  
Interim President

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