aipea

Association Internationale pour l'Étude des Argiles
International Association for the Study of Clays
Internationale Vereinigung zum Studium der Tone
Межлунаролная ассоциация по изучению глин

Newsletter N°44 **April 2012**

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AFFILIATED SOCIETIES:

- Algerian Clay Group (ACG)
- Australian Clay Minerals Society (ACMS)
- Belgian Clay Group
- (British & Irish) Clay Minerals Group
- Clay Science Society of Japan
- Croatian Clay Group
- Czech National Clay Group
- Dutch Clay Group
- French Clay Group (GFA)
- German-Austrian-Swiss Clay Group (DTTG)
- Greek Committee of Clay Science and Technology
- Hungarian Clay Group
- Israel Society of Clay Research
- Italian Association for the Study of Clays (AISA)
- Nordic Society for Clay Research
- (North American) Clay Minerals Society (CMS)
- Polish Clay Group
- Portuguese Clay Group (APA)
- Romanian Group for the Study of Clays and Clay Minerals
- Russian Clay Group
- Slovak Clay Group
- Spanish Clay Society (SEA)
- Turkish National Committee of Clay Sciences
- Ukrainian Clay Group

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1. 2011 PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Welcome to the AIPEA Newsletter for 2012. AIPEA is an umbrella organisation for the world's national clay societies. It organizes the International Clay Conference (ICC), which occurs every four years, and strives to encourage and support young researchers. In order to maintain a continued presence in the careers of young researchers, AIPEA actively participates in the EUROCLAY Conference which takes place in between the International Clay Conferences. The most recent EUROCLAY meeting was jointly organized by the Turkish National Committee on Clay Science and the European Clay Groups Association (ECGA) and took place in Antalya, Turkey, from 26th June to 1st July, 2011. The conference theme, 'Clay Science at the Crossroads of Civilisation', was very popular and attracted over 350 oral presentations and posters addressing the conference topics of geology of clays, mineralogy of clays, methods of clay research, properties of clays and clay minerals, modification/interaction of clay minerals, applications, nanoclays and nanoscience and non-clay fine grained materials.

During the previous EUROCLAY meeting, held in Aveiro in 2007, AIPEA inaugurated a programme of student awards. These cash awards were distributed at the Aveiro meeting and at the last ICC, in Castellenata Marina in Italy, back in 2009. The standard of competition at the EUROCLAY Conference in Antalya was extremely high and this made the judging especially difficult but very rewarding at the same time. After much deliberation the worthy winners were:

- **Yohei Ishida** (Tokyo Metropolitan University, Japan) took first place for the presentation of his paper, "Visible light-harvesting ability of cationic dyes assembly on an anionic clay surface: the effect of adsorption conditions."
- **Laure Delavernhe** (Institut des Materiaux Jean Rouxel, France) was runner up with the paper "Relationship between macroscopic water affinity of kaolinites and their surface properties."

The winners in the poster presentation category were:

- **Natalia Matskova** (Lomonosov Moscow State University, Russia) took first place for her poster entitled "Characteristic of palygorskite clays from Dahkovskoe industrial deposit (Moscow region, Russia).
- **Mazen Ziadeh** (University of Bayreuth, Germany) received the runner-up award for his poster entitled 'A facile approach for producing high aspect ratio fluorhectorite nanoplatelets by utilizing a stirred media mill.

AIPEA will hold its next meeting in Rio de Janeiro in Brazil July 7 -11 2013. This is being organized jointly with the Brazilian Clay Group, a member of the Brazilian Geochemical Society (Sociedade Brasileira de Geoquímica), with the very welcome involvement of Petroleo Brasileiro S.A., Petrobras. Rio will provide an excellent backdrop for another great opportunity for mineralogists, soil scientists, physicists, geochemists, engineers, chemists,

materials scientists and other specialists to debate their findings, share ideas and transfer knowledge.

With the 15th ICC now on the horizon it is a good time to visit the AIPEA website (www.aipea.org) and refresh your knowledge regarding the different awards and start to plan your approach to bidding for them. Council is particularly keen that the student travel awards, that AIPEA provides every four years to ensure the best young scientists are able to attend the International Clay Conference, is well publicized among the student community to prevent a last minute panic.

Photo 1: Winner **Yohei Ishida** from the Tokyo Metropolitan University (Japan) during the EUROCLAY Wine Party with Prof. R.A. Schoonheydt (photo courtesy of Yohei Ishida).

Photo 2: Winner **Laure Delavernhe** from the *Institut des Materiaux Jean Rouxel* (France) during the EUROCLAY Closing Ceremony with AIPEA President Christopher Breen (photo courtesy of Christopher Breen).

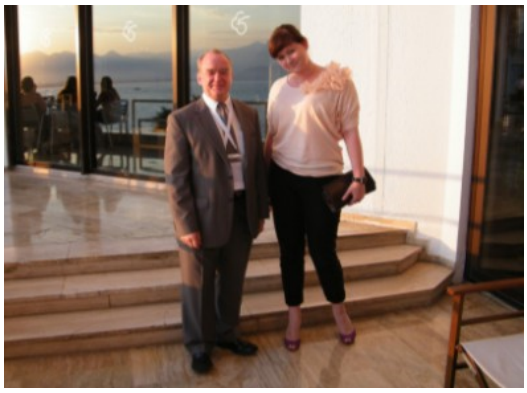

Photo 3: Winner **Natalia Matskova** from the Lomonosov Moscow State University (Russia) after the EUROCLAY Closing Ceremony with AIPEA President Christopher Breen (photo courtesy of Christopher Breen).

Photo 4: **Mazen Ziadeh** from the University of Bayreuth (Germany) during the EUROCLAY Closing Ceremony with AIPEA President Christopher Breen (photo courtesy of Christopher Breen).

Finally, for those of you with an interest in history or simply find yourself with some time to kill at an airport or such like may I recommend leafing through the previous AIPEA Newsletters, right back to 1967, which are now available and searchable on the AIPEA website (www.aipea.org).

With best wishes

By Christopher Breen
March / 2012

Elected during the 14th International Clay Conference at Castellaneta Marina (Italy), in June 2009, the AIPEA Officers and Councillors for 2009-2013 are as follows.

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3. AIPEA WEBSITE

The AIPEA Website at http://www.aipea.org as well as at http://aipea.org became the most important means of communication for the international community dedicated to Clay and Clay Minerals since its creation in 2007, because it provides extensive information about many aspects of clay sciences. Therefore it is an important tool which helps AIPEA fulfill its main purposes.

AIPEA Website includes several permanent sections, such as: mission, purposes, organization, statutes and by-laws, membership, council, publications, newsletter, committees, affiliated societies (name of the person who is responsible for contact with AIPEA), awards and medals (list of winners), historical overview; and links to several national clay societies websites and to the International Union of Geological Sciences (IUGS), which AIPEA is affiliated to.

During 2011, many relevant technical activities around the world have been announced through the AIPEA Website. They have been disclosed in a dynamic way intended to easy communication among the international community of clay scientists. It has been continuously updated by AIPEA Webmaster, Dr. Saverio Fiore, and offers now a long list of events (conferences, courses, projects, etc.) for 2012 and the following years in a complementary page (http://www.aipea.org/conferences.html).

We recommend that all AIPEA members and sympathizers undertake a systematic perusal of its contents in order to become updated with the many opportunities that are available around the world. We also ask you to check whether your national clay group is listed and if it is not – then encourage those in charge to make contact and to publicize their activities on the AIPEA Website.

By now, I would like to call your attention to the section concerning the AIPEA Newsletter. It traditionally reports the many yearly activities related to Clays and Clay Minerals all around the world. Therefore, the AIPEA Newsletter works as a kind of memory of all the activities that took place along of the years and can be referred to whenever needed. So it is important to make it always available to the international clay community.

The first edition of the AIPEA Newsletter was delivered in 1967 by normal mail. Afterwards, its periodicity was not very regular but many editions were available until 2004, when a pause took place. Since 2008, the AIPEA Newsletter is yearly disclosed at our website, in two digital formats. AIPEA Newsletter is also regularly sent by e-mail to AIPEA Members and representatives of AIPEA affiliated clay societies to be shared with their individual members. Of course, its distribution by the website and by e-mails is much convenient, making it promptly available to the international clay community in a non expensive way.

In the latest edition, we invited those who might still have old volumes of the AIPEA Newsletter, preferably since its creation, to share them with the international clay community. We would like to make available at our website the whole set of newsletters in digital format.

Thanks to Prof. Dr. Stephen Guggenheim, who inherited Prof. S. W. Bailey collections of AIPEA Newsletters back to 1967, we are now able to disclose the major part of this important collection. Fortunately, Stevie was able to send the volumes to Dr. Saverio Fiore, who scanned them in a searchable way. By now they are available at the website and a few specimens are missing or incomplete. We kindly invite those who might complete the gaps to contact us.

There is a general sense that the AIPEA Website should include the records of historical decisions, documents, the composition of old committees, distinguished clay scientists, etc. at its website. The perusal of old AIPEA Newsletters will propitiate recovering most of this past but the cooperation of those who have historical documents or photos will be warmly acknowledged.

Finally, all AIPEA members are encouraged to check the information currently available at our website and provide additional contributions. If errors are noticed, please inform us immediately so that we can make the proper corrections. Please remain in contact with us by sending news of relevant activities and events to the AIPEA webmaster Dr. Saverio Fiore (saverio.fiore@cnr.it) and/or to the AIPEA Secretary-General Dr. Daisy Barbosa Alves (daisy@cenpes.petrobras.com.br).

4. TREASURER'S REPORT (JAN.–DEC. 2011)

AIPEA continues to be in good shape financially thanks to the generous and on-going support of the larger clay societies. We have received support from The Clay Minerals Society (North America) (CMS), the Clay Science Society of Japan (CSSJ), the German-Austrian-Swiss Clay Group (DTTG), the *Associazione Italiana per Lo Studio delle Argile* (AISA), and *La Sociedad Española de Arcillas* (S.E.A.). We are pleased to welcome back the Australian Clay Minerals Society (ACMS) as supporters of AIPEA and to welcome the newest AIPEA society member, the Slovak Clay Group. Dues paid to AIPEA, on behalf of their regular and student members, continue to help support us with regard to AIPEA Bradley, Fellows, and Gold Medal Awards, student fund for travel grants to the ICC meeting and meeting awards for poster and oral presentations (for both ICC and Euroclay).

For 2011, there was a net income of $2612.99 USD (Profit & Loss Statement). Gross profit was $4449.99 USD and expenses were $1837.00 USD. Expenses included support of the magazine The Elements, shipping items to the AIPEA President from the USA, Euroclay Awards (best poster and best oral presentations), professional fees for accounting, and bank service charges.

Our total equity, including investments, is $77,641.28 USD (Balance Sheet).

By Jeanne Percival
March / 2012

9:32 PM
2012-02-15
Accrual Basis

AIPEA
Profit & Loss
January through December 2011

	Jan - Dec 11
Ordinary Income/Expense	
Income	
Investment Income	312.24
Program Income	
Membership Dues	4,137.75
Total Program Income	4,137.75
Total Income	4,449.99
Gross Profit	4,449.99
Expense	
Advertising Expenses	600.00
Awards and Grants	
Cash Awards and Grants	480.02
Total Awards and Grants	480.02
Bank Charges & Interest	73.50
Operations	
Postage, Mailing Service	633.11
Total Operations	633.11
Professional Fees	
Accounting Fees	50.00
Total Professional Fees	50.00
Reconciliation Discrepancies	0.37
Total Expense	1,837.00
Net Ordinary Income	2,612.99
Net Income	**2,612.99**

9:28 PM

2012-02-15

Accrual Basis

AIPEA
Balance Sheet
As of 31 December 2011

		31 Dec 11
ASSETS		
Current Assets		
Chequing/Savings		
Petty Cash		127.89
Scotiabank Current Acct.		18,302.24
Scotiabank Savings		16,691.77
Total Chequing/Savings		35,121.90
Accounts Receivable		
Pledges Receivable		33.59
Total Accounts Receivable		33.59
Other Current Assets		
Non Redeemable GIC		
Scotiabank		
GIC-1	7,046.85	
GIC-2	35,438.94	
Total Scotiabank	42,485.79	
Total Non Redeemable GIC		42,485.79
Total Other Current Assets		42,485.79
Total Current Assets		77,641.28
TOTAL ASSETS		**77,641.28**
LIABILITIES & EQUITY		
Equity		
Unrestricted Net Assets		75,028.29
Net Income		2,612.99
Total Equity		77,641.28
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY		**77,641.28**

5. INTERNATIONAL UNION OF GEOLOGICAL SCIENCES ANNUAL REPORT

REPORTING FORM FOR IUGS AFFILIATED ORGANIZATIONS 2011

1. Country/region:
AIPEA is an umbrella organisation for the world's national clay societies which have 24 affiliated societies / groups from around the world: Algerian Clay Group, Australian Clay Minerals Society, Belgian Clay Group, (British & Irish) Clay Minerals Group, Clay Science Society of Japan, Croatian Clay Group, Czech National Clay Group, Dutch Clay Group, French Clay Group, German-Austrian-Swiss Clay Group, Greek Committee of Clay Science and Technology, Hungarian Clay Group. Israel Society of Clay Research, ,Italian Association for the Study of Clays, Nordic Society for Clay Research, (North American) Clay Minerals Society, Polish Clay Group, Portuguese Clay Group, Romanian Group for the Study of Clays and Clay Minerals, Russian Clay Group, Slovak Clay Group, Spanish Clay Society, Turkish National Committee of Clay Sciences and Ukrainian Clay Group.

2. Name of IUGS Affiliated Organization:
AIPEA, Association Internationale pour l'Etude des Argiles

3. Status of the organization: Independent or?
AIPEA is financially independent and receives income from subscriptions to the International Clay Conferences, from individual members and affiliated societies.

4. Names of people in the Leadership/Committee positions?
President: Prof. Christopher BREEN
Vice-president: Prof. Kiyoshi OKADA
Secretary-General: Dr. Daisy BARBOSA ALVES
Treasurer: Dr. Jeanne B. PERCIVAL

5. Name, address and e-mail of person preparing the report.
Prof. Christopher BREEN, President
Head of Polymers, Nanocomposites and Modelling,
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Sheffield Hallam University
Sheffield S1 1WB
United Kingdom
E-mail: c.breen@shu.ac.uk

6. Number of meetings of the organization during the year:
AIPEA organizes an International Clay Conference every four years.

7. What are the major issues of the current leadership committee?
AIPEA's efforts in 2011 were directed towards attracting new clay societies to become affiliated to AIPEA and to give support to national clay societies in the organization of

local events.

8. **Major accomplishments of the organization (or the geological communities):**
AIPEA is continuing to develop and further improve its website as a source of information and support for the worldwide clay community (www.aipea.org). AIPEA also produces an annual Newsletter which circulated among its members via e-mail and also made accessible via the AIPEA Website. An AIPEA Ordinary Meeting took place in Antalya (Turkey) during EUROCLAY 2011 and awarded prizes to four distinguished students for their excellence in the presenting their research.

9. **Major activities (international symposium, workshop, outreach activities, hosting international/national meetings..):**
AIPEA's main activity is the International Clay Conference which takes place every four years. It has published the first monograph in the AIPEA Educational Series. This series will not be restricted to paper based texts but will encompass other formats as and when appropriate.

10. **Recent geo-hazards such as earthquake, volcanic eruptions, etc.?**
Not applicable.

11. **Known activities of other geology-related academic organization(s) in each country (Geological Society, Geophysical/Geological Union, etc.):**
AIPEA Newsletter collated the activities undertaken by the 24 AIPEA affiliated societies around the world.

12. **Any specific activity/achievement that you would report on in Episodes and/or in the IUGS website (or in your website with a link on the IUGS one)?**
AIPEA will hold its next International Clay Conference (15th Edition) in Rio de Janeiro (Brazil, during July 7th to 11th 2013. Its announcement is at www.aipea.org.
We would like to advertise the publication of the 1st. monographs of AIPEA Educational Series entitled Interstratified Clay Minerals: Origin, Characterization and Geochemical Significance - edited by Saverio Fiore, Javier Cuadros and F. Javier Huertas. The price of the volume (ISBN: 978-88-7522-097-6) is €30.00 (international shipping included). To order a copy, please go to the AIPEA website (www.aipea.org).

13. **Direct relation with IUGS, executive members in the IUGS council?**
/Are there people who are organizing or chairing task force meetings or any other IUGS activities?
Prof. Chun-Hyu Zhou was organizing a symposium “29.6-Clays and clay minerals: geology, properties and uses” associated to the theme 29: “Surficial Processes and Landscape Evolution” which however did not receive enough application and was withdrawed from the final program.

14. **Approximate number of people who intend to participate in IUGS-IGC meeting every 4 years.**

No information.

15. Suggestions for improvement of IUGS activities:
None.

16. Comments:
None.

Prepared by:
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January 31st, 2011
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FIRST CIRCULAR

The *Brazilian Clay Group* of the *Brazilian Geochemical Society*, on behalf of *AIPEA, Association Internationale pour L'Etude des Argiles*, invites you to attend the 15th International Clay Conference – XV ICC, in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.

CONTACT: www.15icc.org | info@15icc.org

RIO DE JANEIRO, BRAZIL

Centrally located at the south-eastern coast of Brazil, linked to all major airports of the world through direct international flights, Rio de Janeiro has a modern, high standard lifestyle, outstanding hotels and conference centres, enhanced by beautiful surroundings.

WEATHER

In July the city of Rio de Janeiro enjoys very pleasant weather with average temperatures in the mid 20's centigrade.

WHO SHOULD ATTEND:

Scientists and technologists involved in all aspects of clays and clay minerals, including:
Geology • Petroleum Geology and Engineering • Mineralogy and Geochemistry of Clay Minerals • Ceramics • Catalysts • Polymers and Nanocomposites • Soil and Crop Science • Environmental Technology • Medical Care and Health • Astronomy • Meteoritics and Compared Planetology • Physics and Chemistry of Surfaces • Origin of Life • Analytical Techniques • Climate and Climatic Changes • Materials Science and Technology.

ACTIVITIES:

- Keynote lectures by distinguished scientists
- Both oral presentations and separate poster sessions
- ASYS (AIPEA School for Young Scientists)
- Field trips
- Short courses

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IMPORTANT DATES

Open now → Proposal of topics for sessions and symposia
Aug-Dec 2012 → Preparation and submission of abstracts

ORGANIZED BY: aipea ASSOCIATION INTERNATIONALE POUR L'ETUDE DES ARGILES; GRUPO BRASILEIRO DE ARGILAS

SPONSORED BY: Diamond; BR PETROBRAS

7. NATIONAL AND REGIONAL CLAY GROUPS

This section gathers all the reports sent by the AIPEA affiliated societies up to April 2012. It represents an effort to coordinate communication between all the national clay society members and the individual members of AIPEA. The extensive coverage that it offers was planned so that all of those interested in clay matters could have easy access to updated available information. The aim is for it to constitute a key vehicle for communicating the activities of our member societies.

AIPEA would also like to expand its activities to countries without formal clay societies/groups. This initiative aims to convey information not easily available otherwise to the international communities and to encourage the formation of national clay societies in those countries where such societies have not yet been officially created.

The number of collaborators this year is higher than in last year edition. Part of this was achieved by reports provided by 'Liaison-officers' from countries where clay scientists are actives and have developed national clay societies / groups but are not yet affiliated to AIPEA. Some reports included many photos and we had to make a selection of them in order to keep the size of this edition easy to be distributed by digital means.

Together, AIPEA Website and AIPEA Newsletter are the principal tools that enable the fulfillment of the association main purpose which is the worldwide promotion of clay research and technology through international cooperation in clay research and technology. Therefore, we encourage all affiliated societies to publish their reports each year and we are very grateful to those who answered our call for cooperation.

Daisy Barbosa Alves
AIPEA Secretary-General

ALGERIA
ALGERIAN CLAY GROUP

The Algerian Clay Group (ACG) was founded in 2002 in Boumerdès (Algeria). It works as a section within the Algerian Chemical Society. Its main activity is presenting research results in international and national conferences.

Scientists from ACG participate in national research programs, initiated by General Directorates for Scientific Research and Technological Development (DG-RSDT), through 34 NRPs (National Research Programmes).

The Algerian scientific community organized seminars and workshops directed to topics about some clays applications, such as:

- Clay minerals characterization (Geology and deposition conditions)

- Clays in the oil industry
- Clays in catalysis
- Clays in environment

Having organized the Third Maghrebian Symposium on Clays, held in M'Hamed Bougherra University (Algeria) from 23 to 25th November 2009 (SMAIII: *3ème Symposium Maghrebian sur les Argiles*), a group of scientists from the Algerian Clay Group participated in the 4th Maghrebian Symposium on Clays (SMA IV), organized by the Tunisian Clay Group (TCG) from 21 to 23th March 2012, at Hammamet, Tunisia.

Work Plan for 2012:

Our primary objectives for the next year are to:

- Organize collaboration between Maghrebian Clay Groups and Mediterranean Clay Groups
- Contribute in the organization of the 5th Maghrebian Chemical Engineering Congress initiated by the Algerian Chemical Engineers Group (Groupe Algérien de Génie des Procédés) which is planned to be held in Algiers (November, 2012) http://www.andru.gov.dz/COMAGEP5.htm
- Contribute in the project of building factories for exploiting Algerian bentonite (more than 11 Million Tons of proven reserves) for several uses: drilling fluid additives, vegetal oil treatment, and civil engineering. This project will be carried out by the Algerian Bentonite Society (Bental/ENOF).

Our purpose is trying to establish a strong collaboration between academic and industrial researchers.

By Mohamed Khodja
April / 2012

AUSTRALIA
AUSTRALIAN CLAY MINERALS SOCIETY

2012 marks the 50th year of the Australian Clay Minerals Society (ACMS). Although mooted somewhat earlier, the Society officially came into existence with its' first Conference held in Melbourne in 1962 under the Presidency of George Walker. The Conference was attended by over fifty eminent Australian clay scientists. A photograph of the delegates at the first ACMS Conference and a brief history of the Society can be viewed on the Society's web site: http://www.clays.org.au – navigate to "The Society" and then "History of the Society".

Since 1962 the ACMS has promoted the study of clays in a variety of ways, most importantly by its' biennial Conference. The most recent ACMS Conference (ACMS22) was held in Mildura in February this year. The Conference was organised in conjunction with the

Australian Regolith Geologists Association which made for a fascinating and diverse meeting. Papers from the conference are available on the Society's website: http://www.clays.org.au – navigate to "Our Latest Conference". One of the most pleasing aspects of the conference was the large number of students who not only attended but gave high quality presentations.

Mildura is a rural city situated on the Murray River; one of Australia's major rivers. A twilight cruise on the tranquil Murray River waters provided an idyllic venue for the Conference dinner. Mildura is located in close proximity to the source of one of the highest-quality bentonites produced in Australia; namely the Arumpo Bentonite mine. A visit to the mine was one of the highlights of what some would say was the best field trip of all ACMS conferences. Another unforgettable highlight of the field trip was a visit to Lake Mungo. Lake Mungo is where the remains of Mungo Man, the oldest known human remains in Australia, were discovered. The discovery of Mungo Man doubled the known period of human inhabitation of Australia, pushing the date back around 20,000 years. The field trip was very fortunate to be lead by Prof Jim Bowler, one of the discoverers of Mungo Man and the foremost authority on the geology of the Lake Mungo region. Consequently delegates were treated to a fascinating introduction to both the geology and the anthropology of the Murray River Basin.

The Society's next conference, ACMS23, is planned for Western Australia in 2014. We hope to welcome many overseas delegates.

Further details of the Australian Clay Minerals Society including current office bearers and reports from past conferences can be found on the society web site: http://www.clays.org.au.

By Peter Self
March / 2012

BELGIUM
BELGIAN CLAY GROUP

Report not available.

BRAZIL
BRAZILIAN CLAY GROUP

The Brazilian Clay Group (GBA) is a branch of the Brazilian Geochemical Society. During 2011, the Brazilian clay scientists had several opportunities to take part in events which took place along all Brazil. We highlight some.

1) The annual meeting of the Brazilian Ceramic Society (ABCeram) was held from 29th May to 01st June 2011 at Porto de Galinhas (Pernambuco). The **55th Brazilian Congress on**

Ceramics gathered 453 participants from 20 Brazilian states and representatives from Argentina, Colombia, Italy and Portugal who had a good opportunity to share experiences and expertise in a relaxing and enjoyable atmosphere. There were 490 technical papers for oral and poster presentations, 12 conferences, 3 roundtables, 3 short courses (introduction to ceramics nanomaterials, ceramics and glass fracture analyses, and patents) and 2 workshops. For 2013, the annual meeting of the ABCeram will take place in Curitiba (Paraná) from 03 to 06th June.

2) The biannual meeting of the Brazilian Geochemical Society (SBGq) took place from 9 to 14th October 2011 at Gramado (Rio Grande do Sul). The **13th Brazilian Geochemical Congress** (13CBGq) was held together with the **III Symposium on Geochemistry of the Mercosul Countries**. Together, these events had about 680 participants from Brazil, Argentina, Uruguay, Spain, Chile, USA, and France. Two field excursions have been made available.

Around 500 papers were presented on 14 workshops linked to main themes: •Environmental Geochemistry; •Lithogeochemistry; •Hydrogeochemistry; •Isotope; •Analytical Geochemistry; •Geochemistry of clay; •Geochemistry of Mineral Deposits; •Experimental Geochemistry; •Organic Geochemistry; •Geochemistry of weathering and Lateralization; •Geochemical Prospecting; •Glaciochemical and Atmospheric Chemistry; •Biogeochemistry; and •Medical Geology and Geochemistry.

Plenary conferences were presented by the following invited speakers:

- Geochemistry of Clays - Dr. Alain Meunier - University of Poitiers (France);
- Stable Isotope Geochemistry - Dr. Christophe Renac - University Saint-Etienne (France);
- The pre-salt - Dr. Edison José Milani - Petrobras (Brazil);
- Glaciochemistry - Dr. Jefferson C. Simões - Polar and Climate Center - UFRGS (Brazil);
- Environmental Geochemistry - Dr. Nelly Manay - Universidad de La Republica (Uruguay);
- Environmental Geochemistry - Dr. Marta I. Litter - Comision National Atomic Energy Agency (Argentina);
- Organic Geochemistry - Dr. Carlos Bandeira de Mello - Petrobras (Brazil);
- Geochemical Balance of the Upper Mantle and Silicatic Earth - Dr. William F. McDonough - Geology Department of the University of Maryland (USA);
- Spectroscopic Methods (IR and NMR) Applied to studies of clay minerals - Dr. José María Serratosa Marquéz - CSIC (Spain); and
- Supergenic Alteration and Weathering - Dr. Adolpho José Melfi - USP-SP (Brazil).

The following short courses were given:

- New Applications and Advances in X-ray Diffraction;
- Quality Assurance in Analytical Geochemistry;
- Fundamentals and Applications of Cu and Zn Isotopes in Environmental Geology;

- Interpretation of Geochemical Prospecting Data with the Aid of Statistics;
- Techniques and Practices in Electronic WDS;
- Exploration Geochemistry - Organic and Inorganic (Petroleum and Minerals);
- Hydrogeochemical Modeling: Environmental Applications;
- Environmental Geochemical Indicators: Practice and Perspectives; and
- The Role of Organic Geochemistry in Petroleum Systems Studies - Focus Exploration.

Both the 13th Brazilian Geochemical Congress and the III Symposium on Geochemistry of the Mercosul Countries brought many opportunities for discussion on Clays and Clay Minerals and their various applications.

For 2013, the Brazilian Geochemical Congress & Latin American Symposium on Geochemical Mapping will take place in Diamantina (Minas Gerais) from 13-18th October.

3) The **Workshop on Geochemistry of Clays and Clay Minerals**, organized by Dr. Andre Sampaio Mexias from the Federal University of Rio Grande do Sul during the 13th Brazilian Geochemical Congress, was probably the main activity of the Brazilian clay scientist community. It was followed by a prolific discussion led by Dr. Sylvia Maria Couto dos Anjos (chairperson of 15ICC) and Dr. Reiner Neumann (Secretary of 15ICC) about the many activities planned for the conference which will take place in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, during 2013. See the first circular in this Newsletter.

By Daisy Barbosa Alves
April / 2012

CHINA
CHINESE CLAY MINERALS GROUP

A Chinese Clay Minerals Group (AMSC) successfully organized and held the International Workshop on Industrial Minerals (IWIM2011) with a thematic topic on Technological Innovations and Product Developments on 2nd-6th, November, 2011, in Hangzhou, China. The workshop on Industrial Minerals, particularly on clay minerals, showcased advanced technological strengths, product innovations and perspective commercialization. Attendees consisted of scientists, experts, technologists and managers at home and abroad. Clay scientists from China and overseas were invited to give a series of lectures on novel approaches to making environmentally friendly clay minerals-based materials for catalysts, solar cells, biofuels, and functional nanomaterials and additives, and so forth. Recent advances show that deep insight into the composition, texture and structure, and the impurities on clay minerals will offer many new opportunities to them.

Photo 5: Participants of the International Workshop on Industrial Minerals (IWIM2011) in Hangzhou, China [photo courtesy of Chun-Hui (Clayton) Zhou].

Photo 6: IWIM2011 organizing team [photo courtesy of Chun-Hui (Clayton) Zhou].

Photo 7: Scientists interaction with Chinese Clay Industries during IWIM2011 [photo courtesy of Chun-Hui (Clayton) Zhou].

By Chun Hui Zhou
April / 2012

CROATIA
CROATIAN CLAY GROUP

The Croatian Clay Group was founded in 1999 in Zagreb. It is active as a section within the Croatian Geological Society. The Group has 36 members, whose scientific and professional activity within the fields of mineralogy, geology, petroleum engineering, chemistry technology, geotechnics or civil engineering is completely or partially connected with clays, i.e. clay and related minerals.

In 2011, the group assembled only once and scientific lecture on 'alteration products in epithermal Pb-Zn-Ag Crnac, Rogozna ore deposit' was presented. Members of the group participated in the EUROCLAY 2011 Meeting in Antalya, Turkey.

For 2012, an electoral meeting of the Group is scheduled. Group members plan to participate actively in the 6th Mid-European Clay Conference (MECC2010), the joint conference of the national clay groups of Mid-European countries, which will be held in Průhonice, Czech Republic. Other activities will include organization of lectures covering topics of clays.

List of the Croatian Clay Group Officers (elected in 2008):

President: Darko Tibljaš
Faculty of Science, University of Zagreb
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Secretary: Marta Mileusnić
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By Darko Tibljaš
March / 2012

CZECH REPUBLIC

CZECH NATIONAL CLAY GROUP

The Czech National Clay Group (CNCG) published three numbers (45–47) of the "Informátor" bulletin in Czech language with information about clay science in the Czech Republic. Contributions in Informátor 47 were reviewed. ISSN numbers of Informátor: ISSN of printed version: 1802-2480; ISSN of internet pdf version: 1802-2499.

In 2011, traditional spring and autumn seminars were organized.

The **Spring Meeting** was organized in Ostrava as a section of the NanoOstrava conference on 28th April. Three lectures were presented:

- Jan Drahokoupil: X-ray diffraction study of MFI zeolite membrane.
- Petr Praus: Zinc sulphide and cadmium sulphide nanoparticles for photoreduction of carbon dioxide and photodecomposition of phenol.
- Vlastimil Matějka: Clay minerals as substrate of photoactive nanoparticles.

The **Autumn Meeting** was organized on 30th November, at the Institute of Rock Structure and Mechanics of the Academy of Sciences of the Czech Republic. Two lectures were presented:

- Jiří K. Novák: Pozzolana materials of Jamaica for the renewal of cement industry and concrete admixtures.
- Lenka Lisá: Clay minerals in relation to anthropogenic influenced-sediments.

In 2011, we organized the 19th Clay Conference of CNCG in Bystřice nad Pernštejnem with a very exclusive excursion to an uranium mine where we went down the 1025 m deep shaft, to a chemical finishing plant of uranium and walked inside the water dam "Vír".

Plenary lectures presented during the Conference:

- Peter Komadel: Influence of melting clays on acids, possibilities of laboratory experiment comparison.
- Josef Lazárek: Uranium mining in the Rožná deposit with relation to neighboring villages and perspective of future utilization.
- Iveta Štyriaková: Biological-chemical removal of fine-grained iron and clay minerals from non-ore materials.
- Ivan Kraus: Slovakian viniculture from the geology point of view.
- Barbora Doušová: Influence of structure and surface bonded iron for sorption properties of selected clays.
- Petr Duchek: Applications of montmorillonite in composite biodegradable materials.

On 16th March, 2012 a special seminar in honor of Prof. Jiří Konta was organized at Charles University, Faculty of Natural Sciences.

We are preparing the 6th MECC to be hold in Pruhonice (September 4 – 9th, 2012) at the Floret Congress centre. Please see www.mecc2012.org.

Contemporary board of CNCG:

Chairman:	M. Pospíšil
Vice-Chairman and Treasurer:	M. Šťastný
Members:	J. Konta
	S. Jarková
	K. Melka
	M. Holý
	P. Hájek
Zeolite Subgroup Representative:	D. Koloušek

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For further and detailed information, we recommend to visit our webpage at www.czechclaygroup.cz

By Miroslav Pospíšil
April /2012

NETHERLANDS
DUTCH CLAY GROUP

Report not available.

FRANCE
FRENCH CLAY GROUP

Report not available.

GERMANY-AUSTRIA-SWITZERLAND
GERMAN-AUSTRIAN-SWISS CLAY GROUP (DTTG)

2011, was a rather quiet year for the DTTG. Traditionally, DTTG does not held a national meeting in the year of the EUROCLAY. Instead, members are encouraged to participate in the EUROCLAY.

At the Euroclay 2011, the DTTG-prize for the best student oral presentation was given to Yohei Ishida (Tokyo Metropolitan University) for his work about 'visible light-harvesting ability of cationic dyes assembly on an anionic clay surface'.

Heike Kaden (KIT Karlsruhe) gained the 2nd price of the student presentation awards at the CMS annual meeting 2011 held in Lake Tahoe, Nevada (USA), for her work about 'moisture detection in clays with dielectric spectroscopy'.

The international DTTG-Workshop "Qualitative and quantitative analysis of clays and clay minerals" is organized every two years. The 4th workshop took place from Feb 14th to 18th 2011 in Zurich (Switzerland) with participants from DTTG-countries but also from Norway and France. The next workshop is scheduled for Feb 25th to Mar 1st 2013 at the KIT in Karlsruhe (Germany) and will be organised by Katja Emmerich and Annett Steudel (contact: annett.steudel@kit.edu).

Since 2008, the DTTG is a member of the MECC groups and held its annual meetings within the MECC. At the 5th MECC meeting 2010 in Budapest, the following DTTG committee was elected:

President:	Helge Stanjek, RWTH Aachen
Treasurer:	Reiner Dohrmann, LBEG/BGR Hannover
Secretary:	Michael Ploetze, ETH Zurich
Advisory Board:	S. Dultz, University of Hannover
	K. Emmerich, KIT Karlsruhe Institute of Technology
	R. Kleeberg, TU Bergakademie Freiberg
	F. Ottner, University of Natural Resources and Applied Life Sciences, Vienna
	M. Schellhorn, Stephan Schmidt KG, Dornburg
	L. Warr, University Greifswald

At the 6th MECC meeting 2012 in Pruhonice (near Prague) a new DTTG committee will be elected. The DTTG was founded on March 28th 1972. In 2012, the DTTG will celebrate its 40 year anniversary at this meeting.

For further updated information: http://www.dttg.ethz.ch or contact Michael Ploetze, ETH Zurich, e-mail: www_dttg@web.ethz.ch.

By Michael Ploetze
March / 2012

GREECE
GREEK COMMITTEE OF CLAY SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY CLAY GROUP

Report not available.

HUNGARY
HUNGARY CLAY GROUP

Report not available.

ISRAEL
ISRAELI SOCIETY FOR CLAY RESEARCH

The Annual Meeting of the Israeli Society for Clay Research took place on October 6th, 2011 at The Tel-Hai College. Approximately 35 members attended the meeting. Ten talks were given in two main sessions: mechanism and employment of clays. The meeting was followed by a tour (led by Dr Amir Sandler) of the geological park near Keriyat Shmona.

On April 17th 2012, a scholarship awarding ceremony in the name of the late Professor Arieh Singer will take place at The Robert H. Smith Faculty of Agri., Food and Environ. of The Hebrew University of Jerusalem, Rehovot. A M.Sc. student will receive the awards from the family on her research in the field of clays and soils.

A website of The Israel Society for Clay Research was designed and should be on the web soon.

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Hoping we all have a fruitful clay year,

By Yael Mishael
April / 2012

ITALY
ITALIAN ASSOCIATION FOR THE STUDY OF CLAYS

2011 ACTIVITIES:
The Italian Clay Group (Associazione Italiana per lo Studio delle Argille – AISA onlus) focused last year international activities on the organization of **Geomed2011** which took place in Bari (Italy) from 20 to 25th September 2011 under the coordination of Dr. Saverio Fiore.

Final registration numbered 283 researchers from 50 different countries. There was a perfect representation among male and female participants but few students. The final number of abstracts was 269. These contributions were collected in the Book of Abstracts edited by Claudia Belviso, Saverio Fiore, & Maria Luigia Giannossi (ISBN978-88-7522-041-9), published by Digilabs (Italy).

Daily scientific activities started with a contribution of plenary interest: José A. Centeno (Armed Force Institute of Pathology, Washington, USA), Hiroshi Yasuda (National Institute of Radiological Sciences, Chiba, Japan), Linda Williams (Arizona State University, Tempe, USA), and Chien-Jen Chen (Genomics Researcher Center, Taipei-Taiwan, China) were the distinguished speakers.

We want to outline that two prizes were assigned by the AISA onlus during the Conference for the best oral and poster presentations to Laura Ruhland (PhD candidate in the Earth and Ocean Sciences division of the Nicholas School of the Environment at Duke, USA) and Ktso Nghargbu (young researcher on Geo-medical Resources, currently pioneering Medical Geology research in Nigeria).

It is also a great pleasure to share with you that Dr. Saverio Fiore (AISA *liaison officer*) was awarded with the Lifetime Recognition Service to the International Medical Geology Association (IMGA) during GEOMED 2011 for his remarkable and outstanding contributions to the development of medical geology worldwide and Dr. Maria Luigia Giannossi (AISA secretary) was awarded as Young Researcher on Medical Geology for her research contributions in understanding biomineralisation processes in Medical Geology studies.

AISA also organized the general assembly and the **Clay Day 2011** which took place in Bari (Italy) on the 16th of March, and was devoted to the industrial use of clayey materials in order to start a debate on the possible actions to be taken to share the scientific results with the productive field.

At the end of 2011, the AISA members were 83, among whom 67 ordinary, 5 juniors and 2 Institutions. There are also 9 life members and 2 honorary members.

WORK PLAN FOR 2012:
The **Clay Day 2012** (22th February 2012), a one-day thematic meeting, organized to give an opportunity for new members to join the group. It was devoted to "Research activities on clay and clay minerals".

Awards and grants 2013: the Italian Association for the Study of Clays (AISA) is announcing the "Giovanni Novelli" prize for 2013. The competition is reserved to young scientists (≤ 35) distinguished by their researches on smectites and their application, as a priority, or else on the industrial use of other clay minerals.

The awarding prize is bound to participate in the 15th International Clay Conference in Rio de Janeiro next June 2013 with an oral contribution or poster.

The prize includes registration to the 15th ICC and travel and accommodation expenses for a total of € 1.000,00. The winner will receive a one-year membership to AISA onlus (including AIPEA).

All interested people may send their application from 2012 until February 28, 2013. All information is available on our website www.aisaonlus.it.

10th Course AISA onlus: We are working to prepare the next course on various characterization tools to investigate clays and clay minerals. More information will be available on our website.

List of executive members of AISA onlus:

President:	Aldo MIRABELLA (Previously, Istituto Sper. le Studio e Difesa del Suolo, Firenze)
Vice President:	Vito SUMMA (Istituto di Metodologie per l'Analisi Ambientale, CNR, Tito Scalo, Potenza)
Secretary:	Maria Luigia GIANNOSSI (Istituto di Metodologie per l'Analisi Ambientale, CNR, Tito Scalo, Potenza)
Treasurer:	Rocco LAVIANO (Dip. Geomineralogico, Univ. Bari)
Councillors:	Piergiulio CAPPELLETTI (Dip. Scienze della Terra, Univ. Napoli - FEDERICO II)
	Enzo GALLORI (Dip. Astronomia e Scienze Spaziali, Univ. Firenze)
	Mauro PALLARA (Dip. Geomineralogico, Univ. Bari)
	Massimo SETTI (Dip. Scienze della Terra, Univ. Pavia)
	Cristina SILIGARDI (Dip. Ingegneria dei Materiali e dell'Ambiente, Univ. Modena e Reggio Emilia)
Liaison Officer:	Saverio FIORE (Istituto di Metodologie per l'Analisi Ambientale, CNR, Tito Scalo, Potenza)

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By Maria Luigia Giannossi
March / 2012

JAPAN
CLAY SCIENCE SOCIETY OF JAPAN

1. Committee
The following officers were elected for the fiscal year 2011 and 2012.

President:	Prof. A. Inoue, Chiba University
Vice presidents:	Prof. E. Narita, Iwate University
	Dr. H. Yamada, National Institute of Materials Science
Secretary:	Dr. T. Hatta, Japan International Research Center for Agricultural Sciences
Principal Editors:	Dr. Y. Shinohara, National Institute of Occupational Safety and Health (Nendo Kagaku)
	Dr. S. Uehara, Kyushu University (Clay Science)

2. The 55th Annual Meeting
The 55th annual meeting of the Clay Science Society of Japan (CSSJ) was held at Kagoshima University from 14 to 16th, September 2011. It was principally organized by Prof. M. Kawano. A total of 129 papers including 66 posters were presented. The program also included plenary lecture by Prof. K. Oki, Kagoshima University, and invited lectures (T. Kasama, Technical University of Denmark; H. Naganawa, Japan Atomic Energy Agency; H. Oya, University of Kitakyushu; and H. Hata, Shiseido) and a symposium entitled "Resources and material in soil sciences".

3. Awards
The society presented awards to the following members at the occasion of the annual meeting:

- Clay Science Society of Japan Award was made to H. Yamada, National Institute of Materials Science.
- Encouraging Young Scientist Award was made to H. Ito, Kunimine Industry Co. Ltd., and A. Hayashi, Kobe Pharmaceutical University.
- Technical Award was made to T. Ushirouchi, Showa KDE, Co. Ltd.

4. Publication
Clay Science Society of Japan publishes four issues of Nendo Kagaku (Journal of the CSSJ in Japanese), and three issues of Clay Science every year. In the fiscal year 2011, Vol. 50, No. 1, 2 and 3 for Nendo Kagaku, and Vol.15, No.1, 2 and 3 for Clay Science were published.

For further updated information: http://www.cssj2.org/index_e.html or contact Tsutomu Sato, Hokkaido University, e-mail: tomsato@eng.hokudai.ac.jp.

Tsutomu Sato
May / 2012

NORDIC COUNTRIES
NORDIC SOCIETY FOR CLAY RESEARCH

Report not available.

POLAND
POLISH CLAY GROUP

Report not available.

PORTUGAL
PORTUGUESE CLAY GROUP

Report not available.

ROMANIA
ROMANIAN GROUP FOR THE STUDY OF CLAYS AND CLAY MINERALS

Report not available.

RUSSIA
RUSSIAN CLAY GROUP / COMMUNITY

Clay minerals in Russia have always attracted the attention of scientists. The USSR Committee on Clays was established in 1957 at the meeting "The investigation and application of clay" in Lvov. The bureau of this committee included well-known scientists: E.K. Lazarenko, corresponding member of USSR Academy of Sciences, Drs. I.I. Ginzburg, V.P. Petrov and M.F. Vikulova. The Clay Committee supported conferences and meetings, journal publishing, collections of articles and monographs on methods of clay minerals investigation, as well as geological and application aspects.

The Russian Clay Group (RCG), related to the European Clay Group Association ECGA (http://www.issp.serpukhov.su/clay/index) was founded in 1994. Since then, Dr. Tatiana Alekseeva has been the RCG Secretary. The basic purposes of RCG are to contribute to increasing knowledge on clays and clay minerals, to organize national and international conferences on the subject, and training courses for students and professionals, etc.

After a long break, caused by the economic and political transformations in the Soviet Union and Russia in the 1980s and 1990s, the first conference on "Clays and Clay Minerals - CCM" was organized in 2004 in Voronezh by the Lithological Committee and Voronezh State University. About 100 participants from Russia and the former USSR took part in this conference. The next CCM in Russia was supported by RCG and held in 2006 in Pushchino (Moscow region) at the Institute of Physicochemical and Biological Problems of Soil Science, Russian Academy of Sciences. The chairman was Prof. Dr. Victor A. Drits and the secretary was Dr. Tatiana V. Alekseeva. The conference was dedicated to the 85th anniversary of Dr Boris Zvyagin – one of the leaders in structural mineralogy, crystallography and electron diffraction. Participants from Russia, Ukraine, Poland, France, United Kingdom, USA and Denmark have made oral and poster presentations on the most leading branches of clay minerals study. Among the contributors were Dr. Victor A. Drits (Russia), Dr. Boris A. Sakharov (Russia), Dr. Jan Srodon (Poland), Dr M.J. Wilson (UK), Dr. D.K. McCarty (USA) and many other famous clay scientists.

In 2002, the "Industrial Minerals" Association was established (http://minpro.ru/eng.htm). The goals of this association include studying clay minerals as an industrial raw material and assistance in the development and sale of raw clays. With the help of this association, printed materials were published, and conferences and exhibitions were organized. Since 2009, the association has been supporting the organization of clay meetings in Russia.

•The first Joint Conference on "**Clays, Clay Minerals and Layered Materials - CMLM2009**" was hosted in Zvenigorod in 2009 with the assistance of the RCG, Institute of Ore Geology, Petrography, Mineralogy and Geochemistry, Russian Academy of Science. It was sponsored by the following companies: Soliste (now E-Globaledge), Bruker, Sinus Theta, Lafarge-Cement, Nanomax, and "Industrial Minerals" Association.

The subject of this conference included not only clay minerals, but also layered materials, which are promising for applications in nanotechnology, which uses methods and approaches similar to those for the study of clay minerals. The scientific committee consisted of representatives from several countries. Acad. Nikolay. S. Bortnikov was the chairman, Prof. Sergey V. Krivovichev was the co-chair; and: Dr. Victoria V. Krupskaya was the secretary.

It had been the first time that a clay conference in Russia attracted so many participants from all over the world. The number of abstracts submitted was 210. A total of 130 scientists attended the conference, including participants from Russia, Azerbaidzhan, Canada, Czech Republic, Denmark, Egypt, France, Hungary, Germany, Iceland, Iran, Japan, Latvia, Pakistan, Portugal, Poland, Serbia, Slovakia, Spain, Tadzhikistan, Turkey, the Netherlands, UK, the Ukraine, USA, and Uzbekistan. The plenary lectures were given by: Sergey Krivovichev

(Russia), Viktor A. Drits (Russia), Jan Srodon (Poland), Peter Komadel (Slovakia), Frank C. Hawthorne (Canada), Tamás G. Weiszburg (Hungary), Makoto Ogawa (Japan). The keynote lectures were presented by: Boris A. Sakharov (Russia), Holger Lindgreen (Denmark), Bella B. Zviagina (Russia), Andrey G. Kalinichev (USA), Sofia Lessovaia (Russia), Georgios D. Chryssikos (Greece), Aleksandr Ya. Khavkin (Russia), and Dennis D. Eberl (USA).

On the basis of the ideological and material support of the European Association of Geoscientists and Engineers (http://www.eage.org), the workshop "Investigation of clay minerals for the developing of oil and gas geology" was held for the first time in Russia. Its main purpose was to show the real possibilities of the clay science for solution of problems in industry. Representatives of oil and gas companies attended the workshop. Presentations were made by Holger Lindgreen (Denmark), Aleksandr Ya.Khavkin (Russia), Dennis D. Eberl (USA), and Natalia N. Bogdanovich.

With the support of the International Union of Crystallography, the organizing committee was able to sponsor the participation of 10 young scientists and to award financial prizes and certificates of merit for the best young scientists' oral presentations (I. Ozkan, Turkey) and two posters (M. Malimbaeva, Russia and I. Luze (Vircava), Latvia).

The proceedings of the conference are available at http://www.econf.info/CMLM2009. At the closing session of the conference CMLM2009 it has been decided to hold annual meetings in Russian for Russian scientists, and an international conference with English as official language every three years.

After the meeting, there was a tour to the deposit of palygorskite-bentonite clay in Serpukhov with the financial support of the "Keramzite" company.

- The first Russian workshop "**Clays, Clay Minerals and Layered Materials**" was held on 12-13th May, 2011 at the Institute of Geology of Ore Deposits, Petrography, Mineralogy, and Geochemistry, Russian Academy of Sciences with financial support from the Russian Mineralogical Society and the companies E-Globaledge, Rigaku Co, Bruker, Bentonite, PanAlytical (Russia) and Simas. This meeting was devoted to the 90th anniversary of Boris B. Zvyagin (1921-2002), outstanding Soviet and Russian scientist, internationally recognized leader in mineralogy and crystallography of layered minerals. Conference materials are available at www.minsoc.ru/FilesBase/RUCLAY2011abstr.pdf. The chairmen of the meeting were Academician Nikolay S. Bortnikov (Director of IGEM RAS) and Dr. Tatiana V. Alekseeva (RCG Secretary); workshop secretary, Dr. Victoria V. Krupskaya. The scientific committee consisted of representatives from different regions, institutions and universities. The meeting was attended by over 100 participants from all over the Russian Federation: Moscow, St. Petersburg, Khabarovsk, Ekaterinburg, Rostov, Yaroslavl, Mirniy, Saratov, Voronezh, Novosibirsk, etc. Plenary lectures on key topics of the meeting were delivered by Boris A. Sakharov, Vladimir N. Kholodov, Victor I. Osipov and Tatiana A. Sokolova.

According to the results of the poster session, prizes and diplomas from the "Bentonite" company were awarded to: M.S. Chernov - 1st prize; T.V. Tatiachenko and A. L. Salyn - 2nd prizes; and A.A. Krylov, O. E. Koval'chuk, and B. A. Bogatirev - 3rd prizes.

An important event that took place at the closing ceremony of this meeting was the first RCG open meeting, which presented to the scientific community the goals and objectives of the group, plans for the next few years and a project to reorganize the group.

The preliminary RCG council was elected at the opening of the meeting, including: academician V.I. Osipov, Prof., Dr. V.A. Drits, Dr. B.A. Sakharov, Dr. L.M. Sitdikova, Dr. V.V. Krupskaya, Dr. S.N. Lessovaia, Prof., Dr. S.V. Krivovichev, Prof. Dr. V.N. Sokolov, and Dr. T.V. Alekseeva as scientific RCG secretary. At the next meeting during the 2nd Russian workshop "Clay-2012" the council, as well as chair and vice-chair of the Russian Clay Group will be elected.

•The next meeting "**Clay-2012**" will be held on June 5-8th in Pushchino, Institute of Physicochemical and Biological Problems in Soil Science. The chairmen of this meeting are Victor Osipov and V. N. Kudeyarov, and the secretary is T. V. Alekseeva (http://agora.guru.ru/clay_ru_2012).

•On October 20th 2011, a **Clay Commission** (CC) was created as a branch of the Russian Mineralogical Society (http://www.minsoc.ru/commissions.php - in Russian, and www.ruclay.com - in Russian and English, currently in development). The Committee chair is Victoria V. Krupskaya; the honorary chairman is Victor A. Drits; and the secretary is Tatiana S. Zaitseva. The purposes of this commission are extending and deepening of the knowledge of mineralogy and crystal chemistry of clay minerals among Russian scientists; as well as stimulating research in the study of clay minerals; the spreading of information about scientific advances including methodological approaches, organization of national scientific meetings, international conferences, schools, courses, publication of scientific papers etc.; promotion of scientific development of Russian young scientists and specialists; and creating an atmosphere to enhance the continuity of scientific schools. This commission plans to collaborate with other committees and research groups of the Russian Mineralogical Society, Russian Clay Group and other Clay Groups.

The first event of this commission was "The First Russian Clay School (Argilla Studium-2012)" which was organized at the Institute of Geology of Ore Deposits, Petrography, Mineralogy, and Geochemistry (IGEM RAS), February 5-11th, 2012. The school has collected about 65 full-time participants from various research institutes and universities, as well as industrial organizations, which was a pleasant surprise for the organizers (Dr. Boris A. Sakharov and Dr. Victoria V. Krupskaya). The main topic was "application of X-ray diffraction in clay minerals investigation". The school program consisted of two parts. The theoretical part included lectures on the peculiarities of the structure of clay minerals (dispersed micas and illites, mixed-layer illite-smectite), principles and methods of X-ray diffraction of mixed-layer clay minerals, localization of clay minerals in the reservoir rocks of oil and gas, isotope geochemistry, as well as application of quantitative analysis for clayey

rocks. Practical classes on special softwares and Rigaku XRD equipment were held at the Research University of Technology (MISA) in the demo lab of the E Globaledge Company and IGEM RAS. The school program was of great interest to the participants. The clay commission will organize regular "Russian clay schools" and seminars on specific methods of clay minerals investigation every year for a wide range of participants from the scientific institutes, universities and industrial companies, including lectures on structural features of clay minerals, designed for participants who are just beginning to deal with clay minerals. The subject of the next School ("Argilla Studium-2013") is going to be "Using spectroscopic methods for the study of clay minerals". Recognizing the need to expand and deepen knowledge on X-ray diffraction, the clay commission is planning to organize several workshops on quantitative analysis of clayey rocks, as well as on using XRD modeling for the interpretation of the composition of mixed-layer clay minerals. The next meeting is due in June 2012. All information about meetings, seminars, schools and other activities of clay commission of RMS will be announced on our website (www.ruclay.com).

Photo 8: Dr. Jan Srodon, former president of ECGA, giving an interview to the local TV. Left – Lyudmila Wilson as the translator (photo courtesy of the authors).

Photo 9: Participants of the field trip to the Dashkovskiy 'curier' of smectite - palygorskite - deposit (photo courtesy of the authors).

Photo 10: Participants of the conference on "Clays, Clay Minerals and Layered materials – CMLM2009", in Zvenigorod.

Photo 11: Members of the scientific committee and young participants of the First Russian Workshop "Clays-2011" (photo courtesy of the authors).

Photo 12 Participants of the First Russian Clay School ("Argilla Studium-2012") (photo courtesy of the authors).

By Tatiana V. Alekseeva and
Victoria V. Krupskaya
April / 2012

SLOVAKIA
SLOVAK CLAY GROUP

The main activities of the Slovak Clay Group in 2011 were:

1) Two SCG meetings:

- The spring meeting on 31. 5. 2011 has been devoted to discussion of activities in 2010 and plans for 2011. Dr. M. Kopani from the Institute of Pathological Anatomy, Faculty of Medicine, Comenius University in Bratislava presented the lecture: Iron oxides in human brain.
- The autumn meeting on 15. 12. 2011 with the lecture of professor. I. Kraus: Natural components of Slovak terroir and its importance for the viniculture.

2) The members of the SCG presented their contributions mainly on the folowing international conferences:

- EUROCLAY 2011 in Antalya, 26.6.-1.7.2011, 9 members, 10 contributions including invited lecture of P. Komadel: Chemical modifications of dioctahedral smectites. During the Council Meeting of the European Clay Groups Association (ECGA) P. Komadel was elected the ECGA president for 2011-2015.
- Four members presented 4 contributions to the 19th Clay Conference of the Czech National Clay Group, Bystřice pod Pernštejnem, Czech Republic, 28.-31.8.2011, including the invited lectures by P. Komadel: What affects the dissolution of clays in acids, possibilities for comparisons of laboratory experiments; and I. Kraus: Slovak viniculture and its terroir as seen by a geologist.
- Two members presented 2 contributions to the 48th Annual Meeting of the Clay Minerals Society in Lake Tahoe, NE, USA, 24-29.9.2011. P. Komadel will serve for a year as the Vice-President of the CMS.

SCG Council:

President:	Jana Madejová
Vice-president:	Peter Komadel
Secretary:	Iveta Štyriaková
Members:	Adrián Biroň
	Peter Uhlík

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By Jana Madejová
April / 2012

SPAIN
SPANISH CLAY SOCIETY

Activities of the Spanish Clay Society (SEA) in 2011

The SEA organized on 14th November a Scientific Meeting at the Research Center for Energy, Environment and Technology (CIEMAT) in Madrid. Fifty researchers, most of them SEA members, participated in the meeting. The sessions included the following Invited Lectures:

- Dr. Jacinto Alonso (UCLM). Manufacture of light aggregates for mining and industrial wastes.
- Dr. Valentín González (UAM): The nuclear energy and its management
- Dr. María Victoria Villar (CIEMAT): Compacted bentonite as a key for engineering barriers to insulation of nuclear wastes.

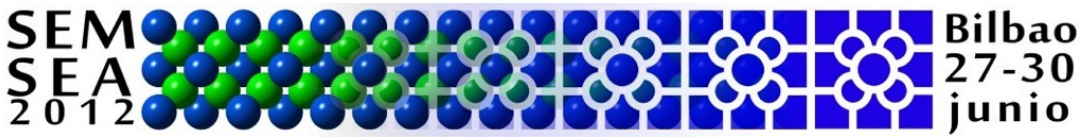
A poster session was scheduled in the evening and two young researchers were prized for their presentations. The General Assembly also took place during the Meeting.

Proposed activities of the Spanish Clay Society (SEA) for 2012

The SEA has scheduled two activities for 2012:

1- A four-day field trip at the beginning of June to the Bentonite Deposits located in Cabo de Gata (Almeria, SE Spain). The aim of this activity is to visit the bentonite clay deposits generated by hydrothermal alteration of Tertiary calc-alkaline volcanic rocks.

2- SEM-SEA 2012



SEM-SEA 2012 is the joint scientific meeting of the Spanish Clay Society (SEA) and the Spanish Mineralogical Society (SEM) to be held in Bilbao from June 27 to 30, 2012. This corresponds to the 22nd meeting of the SEA and 32nd meeting of the SEM.

The program for the SEM-SEA 2012 Meeting includes:

One-day workshop seminar on "Archaeometry and Cultural Heritage preservation: the contribution of Mineralogy and related sciences". The seminar will take place on June 27th and will be addressed by scientists of international prestige that will deliver seven master lectures. The aim of the seminar is to present and discuss new perspectives and ideas on these topics, particularly for young scientists.

Scientific Sessions. The scientific sessions will take place on June 28-29th featuring invited scientists who will deliver plenary lectures on topics of general interest. Oral and poster presentations from all fields in Clays, Mineralogy, Petrology and Geochemistry will be accepted for submission. Our main objective here is to organize high-quality scientific sessions that become a platform for debate, exchange of ideas and new scientific collaborations. The following invited lecturers are confirmed:

- Dr. Marius Vendrell (Universidad de Barcelona): La Mineralogía en los estudios sobre Patrimonio histórico.
- Dr. Nathalie Fagel (Université de Liège, Belgique): Mineralogy and isotopic geochemistry in clays as proxies for provenance and paleoclimatic signatures.
- Dr. Lawrence Warr (Ernst Moritz Arndt Universitaet Greifswald, Germany): Clay - bacteria interactions and the bioremediation of oil spills.
- Dr. Thierry Juteau (Prof. em. Université de Bretagne Occidentale, Brest, France): Current knowledge of the oceanic crust.

Geological excursions. Two field trips, to proceed in parallel, are organized for June 30th:

- Submarine volcanic outcrops in the Upper Cretaceous of the Basque Cantabrian Basin (Bizkaia area).
- The Carranza Valley and its Geological Heritage. This excursion will include a visit to karstic caves with helictites (Pozalagua), the banded dolomites of Ranero and an old underground Zn-Pb-F-mine (Matienzo).

The General Assembly of the SEA will take place during the meeting.

Photo 13: SEM-SEA 2012 Congress will be held at the Auditorium of the University of the Basque Country (Spain) (photo courtesy of Bianca Bauluz Lázaro).

SEA Committee Members

Chair:	Mercedes Suárez Barrios
(2010-2014)	Facultad de Ciencias, Universidad de Salamanca
	Plaza de la Merced, s/n. 37008 Salamanca - Spain
	E-mail: msuarez@usal.es
Vice-chair:	F. Javier Huertas Puerta
(2010-2012)	Instituto Andaluz de Ciencias de la Tierra
	(CSIC - Universidad de Granada), Facultad de Ciencias

Avenida Fuentenueva 2, 18002 Granada - Spain
E-mail: javierhuertas@ugr.es
Secretary: Blanca Bauluz Lázaro
(2010-2014) Facultad de Ciencias. Universidad de Zaragoza
Pedro Cerbuna 12, 50009 Zaragoza – Spain
E-mail: bauluz@unizar.es
Treasurer: Jaime Cuevas Rodrígue
(2010-2014) Facultad de Ciencias, Universidad Autónoma de Madrid
Francisco Tomás y Valiente, 7, 28049 Madrid - Spain
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By Blanca Bauluz Lázaro
February / 2012

TUNISIA
TUNISIAN CLAY GROUP

The Tunisian Clay Group (TCG) and the Laboratory of Useful Material Valorization (LVMU) of the "National Center for Material Sciences, Borj Cedria Tunisia" organized the 4th Maghrebian Symposium on Clays Minerals, on March 21-23rd 2012, at the Alhambra Hotel Hammamet, Tunisia.

The program was composed of: 6 plenary conference, 32 oral presentations, and 56 posters on the following themes: clay geology, ceramics, geomedicine, clay adsorbing power, and methods of clay identification. Its main activity was a roundtable at the closure of the meeting, attended by the conference participants on March 23rd, 2012 at the Alhambra Hotel Hammamet.

The speakers were:

- Fakher Jamoussi (president of the TCG),
- Fernando T. Rocha (representative of the Portuguese Clay Group),
- Alberto Galindo Lopez (representative of the Spanish Clay Group),
- Michele Dondi (representative of the Italian Clay Group),
- Nouri Hatira (vice president of the TCG and Dean of the Faculty of Sciences Gabes),
- Jean Louis Robert (president of the French Clay Group),
- Eba Francois (representative of the Gabon Clay Group),
- Mhamed Jouirou (representative of ONM),
- Abdessalem Haj Amara (dean of the Faculty of Sciences Bizerte),
- Adel M'Nif (director of the laboratory of valorization of materials in the National Center for Materials Science Research),
- Latifa Bergaoui (professor, INSAT),
- Lella Bellaroui Setti (faculty of Oran in Algeria),

- Mounir Medhioub (TCG secretary general and research professor at the Faculty of Sciences of Sfax),
- Samir Baklouti (vice dean of the Faculty of Sciences of Sfax),
- Farhet Rhékhiss (Director of the Depart. of Geological Engineering at the ENIS),
- Hedi Ridha Chaftar (member of the TCG and engineer ONM),
- Samir Bouaziz (research professor at the ENIS),
- Emna Fakhfakh (teacher researcher CNRSM),
- Kamel Jeridi (TCG treasurer and research professor at CNRSM).

A summary of their talks is presented as follows:

Fakher Jamoussi opened the roundtable by thanking the attendees for their participation and contributions. He announced the upcoming organization of a Mediterranean Clay Symposium in Tunisia in the next two or three years in close collaboration with representatives of the clay groups of Algeria, Italy, Morocco, Portugal and Spain, but also opened to other Mediterranean and African clay groups.

Fernando Tavares Rocha showed his appreciation for the high scientific level and motivation of young researchers who ensure the continuation of scientific research in the field of clays. He also highlighted the high scientific level of the papers presented at the 4th Maghrebian Symposium. He congratulated the TCG members for their successful work in the organization of the meeting, a sign of the optimal headway of the TCG.

Alberto Lopez Galindo outlined the work in collaboration with the research team of Mr. Fakher Jamoussi. He emphasized that the direction of research is towards industrial applications and encouraged the new generation of researchers.

Michele Dondi said that, until now, there is not scientific cooperation with Tunisia and expressed interest in making such collaboration. At the occasion of his participation in the symposium, he was considering the possibilities of cooperation and confirmed that it is possible to build a Mediterranean Network to develop the field of clays and their applications according to a specific strategy.

Nouri Hatira, TCG vice-president, approached the association's role in creating a geologist – chemist interface. He stressed the importance of studying the economics, chemical processes and to focus on optimization through the introduction of GIS in the study of clays. He finally wished to define and select specific topics for future scientific events.

Jean Louis Robert, the French Clay Group president, was pleasantly upset by the quality of the organization. He pointed out that the organization based on a single room was very beneficial to track all communications. He stressed the importance of the mixing of generations. He suggested that in the future, the organization of such events will be achieved by several countries in the light of what is happening in Eastern Europe. He noted that the FCG is open to everyone, there are scholarships, and also that there is a European Masters on

clay open to everyone. Fakher Jamoussi announced that the FCG has donated 80 copies of a book on clays to be distributed to all relevant institutions.

François Eba said he had come to Tunisia to chart a course between the Maghreb and black Africa. He said that in November 2012 there will be a Symposium on African Clays at Brasaville and he was keen to invite all interested parties and the Tunisian Clay Group. He also proposed to develop linkages to promote research and industrial applications and also to achieve a kind of cooperation that will enhance research. Finally, he congratulated the organizers of the 4th Maghrebian Symposium.

Mhamed Jouirou, director of mining at the ONM, revealed his interest in research topics that will be much more oriented towards industry. He proposed deeper collaboration to select topics by taking into account profitability, feasibility and economic value of research.

Abdessalem Haj Amara, dean of the FSB, proposed that the TCG will spread linkages to institutions and other specialties (chemistry and physics) in order to better choose the research topics but also improve interdisciplinary projects. He also proposed that the next symposium should be organized with the collaboration of other institutions.

Adel M'Nif, director of the Laboratory of Valorization of Materials at the National Center for Materials Science Research, thanked all the organizers and participants. He showed his interest to move to a higher stage that is to say, the shift of some research to industrial projects.

Latifa Bergaoui questioned the role of the TCG as a bridge between research and industry. She stressed the effort to do this so that young people could develop their research and could find a job.

Belaroui Lella Setti, representative of the Algerian Clay Group, proposed the creation of the Mediterranean Clay Group and the organization of a MEDICLAY Symposium.

Mounir Medhioub thanked all those present who have contributed to the success of this symposium, he also welcomed its multidisciplinary character (geology, chemistry and physics). He showed his appreciation of the high level of the presentations. He questioned the lack of industrial participation at the 4th Maghrebian Symposium.

Samir Baklouti remarked his satisfaction with the organization and the quality of the presentations and called for the industry to be partner with researchers and to attend such events.

Farhet Rhékhiss proposed to expand the Mediterranean Symposium towards African Symposium.

Hédi Ridha Chaftar urged researchers to move towards industry and raise awareness by establishing channels of communication.

Samir Bouaziz emphasized the lack of industrials at the symposium. He stressed that presentations were primarily focused on the characterization of clays and suggested that in future events presentations should be more focused on direct applications of clays.

Emna Fakhfakh thanked the present and especially Mr. Rocha and Mr. Galindo.

Kamel Jeridi thanked the organizers and participants despite the circumstances that existed in Tunisia particularly. He also emphasized the importance of the relationship with the industry and focused on the industrial importance of scientific research on the resolution and the proposed solutions to manufacturers primarily to produce energy.

The roundtable finished around 14:00hs with a desire that the Tunisian Clay Group succeeds in organizing the Mediterranean Symposium on Clays in 2 or 3 years in Tunisia.

TCG Committee Members:

President:	Fakher Jamoussi
Vice-President:	Nouri Hatira
Secretary General:	Mondher Hachani
Secretary:	Mounir Medhioub
Treasurer:	Kamel Jeridi
Members:	Ridha Chaftar Hédi
	Emna Fakhfakh
	Randa Ben Abdallah
	Béchir Moussi

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Photo 14: Participants of the roundtable at the closure of the "4th Maghrebian Symposium on Clays Minerals" which took place on March 23rd, 2012 at the Alhambra Hotel Hammamet (photo courtesy of Fakher Jamoussi).

By Fakher Jamoussi
April / 2012

TURKEY
TURKISH NATIONAL COMMITTEE OF CLAY SCIENCES

See report about EUROCLAY 2011 in this Newsletter.

UKRAINE
UKRAINIAN CLAY GROUP

During the previous year (2011), the activity of the members of different groups of Ukraine included:

1. Phase, mineralogical and microelement compositions of Ukrainian bentonites (Nadel Ljudmila, Kosorukov Petr).

It was established that smectite contents (mass %) may be arranged according to the following row (Fig. 1):
Pyzhevske (90-95%)→ Neporotivske(80-95%)→Ilnycke(80-90%)→Tomashpilske (80-90)→Dashukovske (60-85%)→Grygorivske (65-75)→Gorbske (65-70)→Varvarivske (50-60).

For these smectites the rheological, and technological properties were studied and compared. The kinetics of their swelling processes in polar (H_2O) and non-polar (hexane, decane, benzene and toluene) solvents was investigated. The drilling muds for horizontal drilling on the basis of these bentonites were tested.

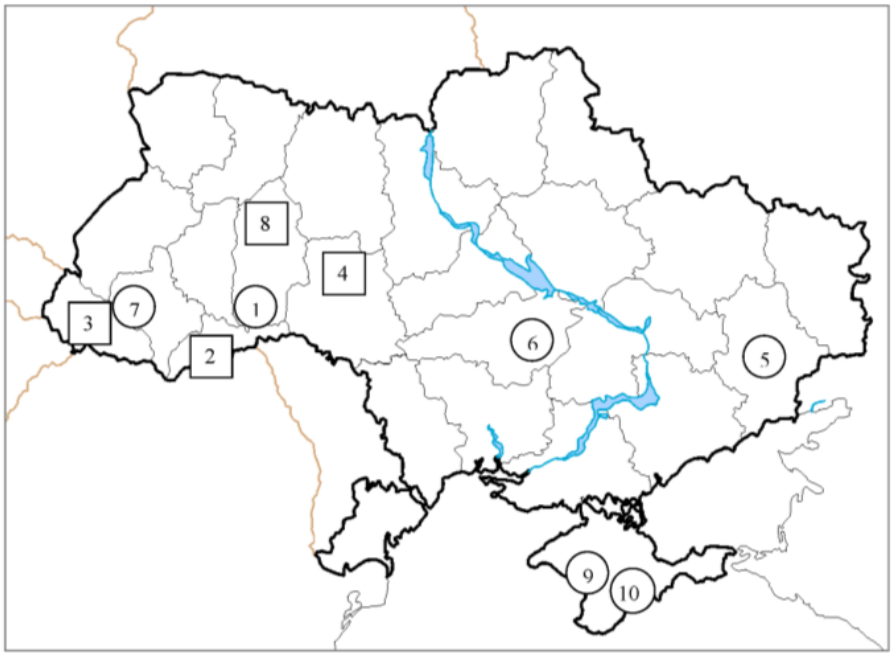

Figure 1: The studied bentonites from various Ukrainian deposits. □-new deposits, O-used deposits. Deposits (Area): 1. Pyzhevske (Hmel'nycka), 2. Neporotivske (Chernovycka), Ilnycke (Zakarpatska), 4. Tomashpilske (Vynnicka), 5. Grygorivske (Donecka), 6. Dashukovske (Cherkaska), 7. Gorbske (Zakarpatska), 8. Varvarivske (Hmelnycka), 9. Kudrynske (Simferopolska, Krym), 10. Kurcevske (Simferopolska, Krym).

2. Physico-chemical studies of Black Sea deep-sea sediments (Prokopenko Vitalii).
The Black Sea deep-sea sediments using different instrumental methods (X-ray diffraction and X-ray fluorescence, differential thermal analysis, IF spectroscopy, rheological tests, etc.) were studied. The analysis of peloids has shown that they conform to physico-chemical parameters required for medical pelotherapy systems. These peloids were recommended as a new type of low sulfide moderately mineralized muds.

3. Adsorption properties of clays (Zadvernyuk Halyna).
This investigation includes absorption of water and water solutions by intercalated clay-polymer nanocomposites, effect of polyacrylamide on rheological and sorption properties of modified bentonites, the effect of oil and oil products on water absorption by montmorillonite, and the impact of oil and diesel oil on the water uptake by clays.

4. Organoclays in polymeric composited filled by multiwalled carbon nanotubes (Klepko Valerii, Mamunya Eugene);
The phase behavior, microstructure and percolation of poly(ethylene glycol) filled with multiwalled carbon nanotubes and organophilic montmorillonite were studied. The electrical

and mechanical properties of PP/MWCNT/OC nanocomposite with addition of organoclay were also investigated.

5. Hydrid systems: organo-clays+multiwalled carbon nanotubes+nematic liquid crystal (Shaydyuk Eugene, Bezrodna Tamara, Chashechnikova Irina, Nesprava Vera).
Microstructure, electrical conductivity, and rheological investigations were conducted for montmorillonite platelets in nematic liquid crystal (5CB). The effects of organoclays from different deposits and on the microstructure and electrical conductivity of hybrid liquid crystalline composites were also studied.

6. Impact of Laponite on the dispersion of carbon nanotubes in water (Maksym Loginov, PhD, Biocollodal Chemistry Institute, Kiev).
The ability of Laponite to stabilize aqueous suspensions of multiwalled carbon nanotubes (MWCNTs) was investigated with the help of analytical centrifugation, microscopic image analysis, and measurements of electrical conductivity of hybrid Laponite + MWCNT suspensions.

The scientific works were presented at different clay, nano- and colloid-related conferences, such as:

- European Clay Conference - EUROCLAY 2011, June 26th –July 01st, 2011, Antalya, Turkey;
- 10th International Congress for Applied Mineralogy (ICAM 2011), August 1–5th, 2011, Trondheim, Norway;
- Annual Ovcharenko Clay Seminar, 2011, Kiev, Ukraine;
- Filtech 2011, March 22 – 24th, 2011, Wiesbaden, Germany;
- NFN, Nanomaterials: Application & Properties '2011, September 27-30th, 2011, Alushta, Crimea, Ukraine;
- Planer-Smoluchowski Soft Matter Workshop on Liquid Crystal Colloids Emergent Phenomena and Functional Materials, October 5–7th, 2011, Lviv, Ukraine; and
- All-Ukrainian conference «Actual problems of chemistry and physics of surfaces». May 11-13th, 2011, Kiev, Ukraine.

Two PhD and one Dr. Science theses were successfully defended in 2011. The following institutes of the National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine were involved: Institute of BioColloid Chemistry, Institute of Environmental Geochemistry, Institute of Physics, and Institute of Macromolecular Chemistry.

List of representative publications:

- Lebovka, N. I. *et al*. Phase Behavior, Microstructure and Percolation of Poly(Ethylene Glycol) Filled by Multiwalled Carbon Nanotubes and Organophilic Montmorillonite. *Journal of Composite Materials*, 45(24): 2555–2566, 2011.
- Lebovka. N. *et al*. Microstructure and electrical conductivity of hybrid liquid crystalline composites including 5CB, carbon nanotubes and clay platelets. *Liquid Crystals*, 2012 (in press).

- Levchenko, V. *et a*l. Influence of organo-clay on electrical and mechanical properties of PP/MWCNT/OC nanocomposites. *European Polymer Journal*, 47 (7): 1351-1360, 2011.
- Loginov. M. *et al*. Laponite assisted dispersion of carbon nanotubes in water. *J. Colloid and Interface Science*, 365(1): 127-36, 2012.
- Loginov, M. *et al*. Compression-permeability characteristics of mineral sediments evaluated with analytical photocentrifuge. *Chemical Engineering Science*, 66(6): 1296-1305, 2011.
- Shaydyuk, Y. *et al*. Aggregation of clay platelets in nematic liquid crystal (5CB): microstructure, electrical conductivity and rheological investigations. *Liquid Crystals*, 38(2): 155–161, 2011.
- Zadvernyuk, H.P. *et al*. Absorption of Water and Water Solutions by Intercalated Nanocomposites Clay-Polymer. *Mineralogical Journal* (Ukraine), 33(3): C.50–54, 2011.
- Zadvernyukm H.P. Effect of Oil and Oil Products on Water Absorption by Montmorillonite. *Mineralogical Journal* (Ukraine), 33(4): C.45–48, 2011.

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By Nikolai Lebovka
March / 2012

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
THE CLAY MINERALS SOCIETY (NORTH AMERICA) - CMS

The Clay Minerals Society's (CMS) 48th Annual Meeting was held in Lake Tahoe in Stateline, Nevada from 24 – 29th September 2011. The theme of the meeting was appropriately called "Lake Tahoe Clays". The chair of the meeting was Sam Traina. Dr. Sridhar Komarneni, Professor, Pennsylvania State University, received the highest award of The CMS, the Bailey Award. His lecture was entitled "Synthetic and modified clays and clay nanocomposites: Multifunctional materials". Dr. Douglas K. McCarty, Chevron ETC, received the Marion L. And Chrystie M. Jackson Mid-Career Clay Science Award and presented a lecture entitled "Illite-smectite: Three and one dimensional characteristics". The Pioneer Clay Science Award was presented to Dr. Glenn Waychunas, Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory, who gave a lecture entitled "Structural studies of mineral-water interfaces over 25 years: The development of molecular geochemistry". The CMS Brindley Lecture/Award was not presented this year.

There were a total of 72 presentations (including award/lecture presentations, oral presentations, posters, and plenary lectures). The oral sessions were divided into the following areas:

- Crystal chemistry of clays (9)
- General session (15)
- Soil clays (8)
- Clays in unconventional reservoirs (5)
- Atomistic modelling of clays: Multidisciplinary applications (8)
- Environmental clay mineralogy (7)

There were a total of 17 posters.

The pre-meeting field trip visited Mono Lake and Mammoth Mountain, whereas the post-meeting trip visited northern Nevada and examined the Fallon, Nevada, Na bentonite deposit, the Lovelock, Nevada, Ca bentonite deposit, and a dickite/kaolinite deposit.

The latest CMS Workshop volumes are available for purchase (member prices are discounted from the listed price, list price shown). Order forms and other information may be obtained at http://cms.clays.org/publications.html.

Recent Workshop volumes are:

- Volume 17, Clays *of Yellowstone National Park*, CMS Workshop Lectures, $30 (Paul Schroeder, ed.), 94 p.
- Volume 16, *Carbon stabilization by clays in the environment: Process and characterization methods*, CMS Workshop Lectures, $30 (David A. Laird and J. Cervini-Silva, eds.), 135 pp.
- Volume 15, *Clay-based Polymer Nano-composites*, CMS Workshop Lectures, $30 (Kathleen A. Carrado and Faiza Bergaya, eds.), 278 pp.

- Volume 14, *Methods for Study of Microbe-Mineral Interactions* (2006), CMS Workshop Lectures, $30 (Patricia A. Maurice and Leslie A. Warren, eds.), 166 pp.
- Volume 13, *The Application of Vibrational Spectroscopy to Clay Minerals and Layered Double Hydroxides* (2005), CMS Workshop Lectures, $26 (J. T. Kloprogge, ed.), 285 pp.
- Volume 12, *Molecular Modelling of Clays and Mineral Surfaces* (2003), CMS Workshop Lectures, $26 (J. D. Kubicki and W. F. Bleam, eds.), 229 pp.
- Volume 11, *Teaching Clay Science* (2002) CMS Workshop Lectures, $26.00 (A. Rule and S. Guggenheim, eds.), 223 pp.

The Clay Minerals Society publishes a Clay Glossary, and this is located on the CMS website.

The 49th Annual Meeting of The Clay Minerals Society will be held 7-11 July 2012 in Golden, Colorado at the Colorado School of Mines. See the CMS website at: http://www.clays.org/

Photo 15: Vice-President David Laird (right) presenting President Paul Schroeder with the Presidential Plate (photo courtesy of Mary Gray).

Photo 16: Field trip, Nevada (photo courtesy of Mary Gray).

By Steve Guggenheim
January / 2012

UNITED KINGDOM
CLAY MINERALS GROUP OF THE MINERALOGICAL SOCIETY (GB and Ireland)

1.Meetings in 2011
The Group was involved in three meetings in 2011:

- **Frontiers in Diagenesis Meeting**, Univ. of Cambridge, September 2011:
  This Meeting was organised by Chris Jeans and Nick Tosca. It attracted a total of 25 oral presentations (including the George Brown Lecture given by Dr. Javier Cuadros) and 14 poster presentations given over two very full days. Registered attendees of the meeting included students, postdoctoral researchers, lecturers and industry researchers, with the latter largely representing the oil and gas industry. Industrial representation included attendees from BP, Shell, Exxon Mobil, Statoil, ConocoPhilips, Petrobras as well as independently run commercial firms specializing in mineralogical analyses. Academic representation was diverse however and although British Universities dominated the participants, European representation was also strong, with academic attendees from Denmark, Poland, Germany, Spain, France and Italy. The meeting was also attended by academics from China, Russia and the USA.

  The range of topics covered centred largely on diagenetic mineralization associated with grain coating processes with a minor focus on understanding how these chemical and mineralogical changes translate into changes in reservoir physical properties. There was additional focus on Cretaceous chalk of the North Sea and diagenetic reactions recorded in deep time, specifically in the Proterozoic.

- **British Sedimentological Research Group Meeting**, London, December 2011:
  The Group took responsibility for 2 lecture sessions in this meeting (entitled - The answer lies in the shale). Keynote speakers were Kevin Taylor (Manchester) and Paul Nadeau. The sessions had about 150-200 delegates and the feedback from all (both academic and industrial) was very positive.

- **EUROCLAY**, Antalya, June 2011
  The Group identified and supported the George Brown lecture given by Hendrik Heinz (U Akron). It was entitled: 'Clay minerals for nanocomposites and biotechnology: surface modification, dynamics, and responses to stimuli'.

2.Bid For EUROCLAY 2015
Steve Hillier and a small group put together a bid on behalf of the Group to host EUROCLAY 2015 in Edinburgh. The bid was successful and a Management Group is already working hard to lay the foundations for an excellent meeting. We would like to acknowledge the help of Selahattin Kadir and Asuman Turkmenoglu in sharing their experiences of the meeting in 2011 in Antalya (Turkey).

3.Committee:

Chairman:	John Adams (john@treviles.com)
Secretary:	Simon Kemp (sjk@bgs.ac.uk)
Treasurer:	David Wray (david.wray@greenwich.co.uk)
Members:	Chris Breen
	Chris Greenwell
	Steve Hillier
	Chris Jeans
	Caroline Kirk
	Harry Shaw
	Nick Tosca
	Craig Williams
	Jeff Wilson

John Adams
February / 2012

One of the principal aims of AIPEA is to stimulate and excite excellent young clay scientists. Under ideal circumstances, this is achieved by face to face interaction between these young scientists and more established clay scientists at the International Clay Conferences (ICC) that, as you all know, take place every four years.

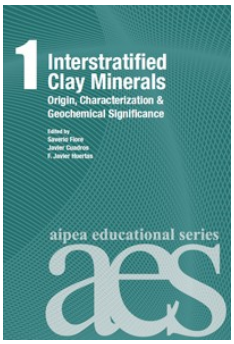
One of the activities associated with the last International Clay Conference, held in Castellaneta Marina (Italy) in June 2009, was the inaugural AIPEA School for Young Scientists (ASYS). This short course, entitled *Interstratified Clay Minerals: Origin, Characterization and Geochemical Significance* was two days long, and delivered in a workshop format.

Unfortunately, it is not always possible for every young clay scientist to attend the International Clay Conference or the associated ASYS workshops. Consequently, AIPEA is delighted to introduce and welcome a new initiative - the **AIPEA Educational Series (AES)**. The first contribution to this occasional series is the collection of the lectures presented at the ASYS 2009 held on 13-14th June at the University of Bari (Italy), just before the 14th ICC.

The book, edited by Saverio Fiore, Javier Cuadros and F. Javier Huertas, is an overview and update on the main issues related to interstratified clay minerals, with a clear educational scope. It is accessible to students, providing both the basics and the latest information on the topics listed and including key literature references. It should be clearly stated that the volume is not intended to address the controversial issues that inhabit the world of mixed-layer clay minerals but seeks to collate the ideas and knowledge that expert scientists offered to those, young and not so young, who participated in the ASYS 2009.

The volume consists of the following chapters:

1. **Introduction to Mixed-Layer Clay Minerals** (J. Cuadros, S. Fiore and F.J. Huertas)
2. **Crystal-Chemistry of Mixed-Layer Clays** (J. Cuadros)
3. **Identification and Characterization of Mixed-Layer Clay Minerals by means of XRD of Oriented Clay Mounts** (A. Plançon)
4. **Formation Mechanisms of Mixed-Layer Clay Minerals** (A. Meunier)
5. **Identification and Characterization with Microscopic Methods** (F. Nieto and X. Arroyo)
6. **Identification and Characterization of Interstratified Clay Minerals with Spectroscopic and other Classical Methods** (P. Komadel and J. Madejová)
7. **Interstratified Clay Minerals in the Weathering Environment** (R.E. Ferrell, Jr., P. Aparicio and J. Forsman)
8. **Evolution of Mixed-Layer Clay Minerals in Prograde Alteration Systems** (Jan Srodon)



The price of the volume (ISBN: 978-88-7522-097-6) is €30.00 (international shipping included). To order a copy, please go to the AIPEA website (www.aipea.org).

AIPEA Council strongly supports this new venture and its members are enthusiastic about new additions to the series. However, it is important to note that we do not envisage that the Educational Series will be limited to the printed form; CD-ROM, DVD and a host of other formats will be employed in order to deliver the content in the most appropriate manner.

Christopher Breen, AIPEA President
Saverio Fiore, Chair, 14th ICC, 2009

9. NOMENCLATURE COMMITTEE - 2010-2012

Report of the AIPEA Nomenclature Committee for AIPEA Newsletter.

Committee members include: S. Guggenheim (Chair), F. Bergaya, M.F. Brigatti, E. Galan, V. Drits, M.L.L. Formoso, T. Kogure, H. Stanjek, *ex officio*: J. Adams, J. Stucki.

From January, 2010 until recently, the Nomenclature Committee has been discussing (1) abbreviations of clay and clay mineral terms to be used in journals and (2) specific terms that need clarification in clay science.

1. The Committee has endorsed the use of the abbreviations given in Whitney and Evans (2010). However, authors and editors are advised to define each abbreviation within every figure or the caption of every figure in which the abbreviation is used and to define any abbreviation at the first time it is used in the body of a manuscript and in an abstract (if it is used in the abstract). The rationale for this usage is that figures and abstracts are often separated from the manuscript and each must stand alone; abbreviations should be clear and unambiguous to the reader. Abbreviations should generally not be used in a title (if an abbreviation is used in a title, then it should be defined in the title). The abbreviations of Whitney and Evans do not include single-letter abbreviations, which makes the use of these abbreviations in discussing layers in interstratified sequences cumbersome. Therefore, the Committee recommends that single-letter abbreviations are acceptable to describe interstratifications, which are special cases involving stacking and not just a mixture of mineral phases. Interstratifications were not considered by Whitney and Evans. Thus, for example, illite is abbreviated as “Ilt” and smectite as “Sme”, but as a sequence we may use I-S (preferred) or I/S, ISIS, ISII, etc. Of course, the first occurrence of the sequence in an abstract, the body of a manuscript, or figure requires that “I” and “S” are defined.

Additional clay-related abbreviations, not included in the list by Whitney and Evans, include the following: nacrite (Ncr) and halloysite (Hly). Because the abbreviation for phlogopite (Phl) and phengite (Ph) are similar, editors/authors may consider “Phn” as an alternative for phengite.

2. The following terms were defined and will be included in the clay Glossary on the CMS website in April, 2012 (terms referenced are in the Glossary)

delamination Delamination is a term used to describe a layer-separation process between the planar faces of adjacent layers of a particle. Delamination describes a process whereby intercalation occurs with the introduction of guest material and the stacking of layers remains. This term differs from exfoliation. Exfoliation implies that the orientation between the layers of the host structure is lost, and that interlayer cohesive forces are overcome. Where delamination or exfoliation cannot be distinguished, use “intercalation” or “delamination/exfoliation” to describe the process. See intercalation, exfoliation, 1:1 layers, 2:1 layers. (From AIPEA Nomenclature Committee, 2011, unpublished)

exfoliation a) In clay science, exfoliation involves a degree of separation of the layers of a host structure where units, either individual layers or stacking of several layers, are isotropically dispersed (freely oriented and independent) in a solvent or polymer matrix (Bergaya et al., 2011). This may be achieved by intercalation, by mechanical means, or by other methods. Where delamination or exfoliation cannot be distinguished, use "intercalation" or "delamination/exfoliation" to describe the process. See intercalation, delamination, 1:1 layer, 2:1 layer. (From AIPEA Nomenclature Committee, 2011, unpublished) b) a process of physical weathering where large granitic plutons break into onion-like sheets along joints that lie parallel to the exposed surface.

intercalation Intercalation is a general term to describe the movement of atoms, ions or molecules into a layered host structure, often a swelling clay mineral. This process can be reversible or non-reversible. The host-structure layers are essentially unchanged with the inserted material going between the layers. The layers must remain semi-contiguous via stacking. Intercalation commonly involves cation exchange or solvation reactions. Intercalation may involve, for example, H2O molecules or surfactants of single planes (monolayers) to paraffin-type layers between the layers of the host phase. The resulting structure is an "intercalated structure". See delamination, exfoliation. (From AIPEA Nomenclature Committee, 2011, unpublished)

Respectfully submitted,

S. Guggenheim, Chair, AIPEA Nomenclature Committee
27th January 2012

References:

Bergaya, F., Jaber, M., and Lambert, J.F. (2011) Clays and clay minerals. In: *Rubber Clay Nanocomposites: Science, Technology and Applications*, Galimberti, M. (Ed), 3-44, Wiley.

Whitney, D. L. and Evans, B.W. (2010) Abbreviations for names of rock-forming minerals. *American Mineralogist*, 95, 185-187.

10. EUROCLAY 2011

The EUROCLAY2011 Conference was held on June 26th-July 01st 2011 at the Dedeman Antalya Hotel & Convention Center in the city of Antalya which is located at the Mediterranean coast of Turkey. This location was selected because it is one of the most attractive touristic cities of Turkey with many natural beauties in its surroundings, numerous historical sites including the old city of Antalya and many archaeological remains of ancient civilisations. In addition, the area offered an attractive geological setting, with the city located on ornamental travertine bedrock with magnificent wave cut cliffs on the beach, eroded to form karstic landforms combined with attractive *terra rossa* clay.

Approximately 350 delegates from 44 countries, including Algeria, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Brazil, Cameroon, Canada, China, Croatia, Czech Republic, Denmark, Egypt, Estonia, France, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Hungary, India, Indonesia, Iran, Iraq, Italy, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Latvia, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Russia, Serbia, Singapore, Slovakia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Taiwan, Thailand, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom, and United States of America, participated in EUROCLAY2011. During this Conference the George Brown lecture by Hendrik Heinz, 18 invited lectures, 171 oral and 178 poster contributions were presented, all of which are published in the abstract book. The conference also played host to the Frey-Kübler Symposium on ”Diagenesis and very low grade metamorphism, the Cemil Cangir Symposium on “Soil micromorphology” and a pre-conference workshop on “XRD methods of identification of clay minerals in diagenetic and very low grade metamorphic rocks by using computer-based programs”. Meeting activities also included a post-conference one day Technical and Touristic Excursion around Antalya and a post-conference four day excursion to Cappadocia.

During this Conference the meetings of the ECGA Council, CM Editorial Board, and the AIPEA Council were hosted. The ECGA Council elected the new President, Peter Komadel from Slovakia, who appointed Reiner Dohrmann from Germany as ECGA Secretary. The ECGA Council decided that the next EUROCLAY Conference in 2015 will be held in Edinburgh, UK.

Many students and young researchers under the age of 35 years from different countries were supported by grants obtained from the Scientific and Technological Research Council of Turkey (TUBITAK) with sponsors covering their travel and accommodation. These awarded students were also exempt from the registration fee. Student awards were presented during the closing ceremony for the best oral and poster presentations by the AIPEA, the Polish Clay Group and the DTTG.

Contributions submitted and presented as oral and poster presentations during the conference will be published as thematic special issues in the following peer reviewed journals:

- Clay Minerals – selected papers on the topics of nanoclays, nanoscience, modification and applications,

- Turkish Journal of Earth Sciences – two issues (a and b) are planned – selected papers on the topics of geology, mineralogy/and related applications, and the Cemil Cangir Symposium, and
- The Swiss Journal of Geosciences – selected papers on the topics of the Frey-Kübler Symposium.

As part of EUROCLAY 2011, the following social events were organised: A conference reception cocktail, an opening cocktail at the Antalya Archaeological museum, a wine party and Gala dinner at the Dedeman Hotel, some half day Technical and Touristic Excursions around Antalya, and an evening performance of Tchaikovsky's "Swan Lake" by the Ankara State Opera and Ballet at the Aspendos Antic Theatre (Antalya). During the Gala Dinner, the Middle East Technical University Student Dance Group performed an interesting program.

The ZED Management & Consultancy organized registration, accommodation, trips, and the entire technical infrastructure of the Conference halls. They also managed the EUROCLAY conference website (www.euroclay2011.org). This allowed the organising committee to have more time for the preparation of the scientific aspects of the Conference.

The sponsors provided important financial support for EUROCLAY 2011, permitting invitation of lecturers and contributions to student travel expenses, accommodation and registration fees. The two half-day technical-touristic excursions around Antalya were therefore free for all attending participants.

Photo 17: Dr. Celso Gomes (left), ECGA Past-President, and Dr. Selahattin Kadir (right) secretary of the EUROCLAY2011 during the Wine Party in Antalya, Turkey (photo courtesy of the authors).

Photo 18: Dr. Asuman Gunal Turkmenoglu (President of the EUROCLAY2011), and the participants of the field trip to Cappadocia (photo courtesy of the authors).

Photo 19: Dr. Selahattin Kadir (up), secretary of the EUROCLAY2011, and some participants of the Gala Dinner (photo courtesy of the authors).

Photo 20: Group of participants of the EUROCLAY during the visit to Aspendos Theater (photo courtesy of the authors).

Photo 21: Beautiful view of the Wine Party close to the sea (photo courtesy of the authors).

By: Asuman Gunal Turkmenoglu (President)
and Selahattin Kadir (Secretary)
March / 2012

11. OBITUARY

Dr. Pérsio de Souza Santos, professor of the Polytechnic School of the University of São Paulo (Poli-USP), passed away January 1st 2012 due to a heart attack at age 83. Pioneer in Brazilian clay research, Dr. Souza Santos contributed to the progress of the ceramic industry in Brazil, forming several generations of qualified researchers in the field.

Photo 22: Prof. Dr. Persio de Souza Santos (photo from FAPESP Newsletter January 2012).

Born on March 1st 1928 in Rio Claro, São Paulo state, Dr. Souza Santos graduated in Chemical Engineering from the Poli-USP in 1951, entering soon afterwards the Butantan Institute. He received a master's degree in biophysics from the University of Pittsburgh (USA) in 1956, and a PhD and professorship, respectively in 1959 and 1961, from the Poli-USP. His post-doctorate was at the State University of New Jersey (USA) in 1992, with which he continued to work for many years, besides other institutions as English China Clays (UK), and the University of Salta (Argentina).

In 1956, he served as chairman of the Ceramic Section of the Institute of Technological Researches (IPT), which had as one of its objectives to identify and to evaluate the quality of Brazilian non-metallic ores as, among others, clays, feldspars, talcs, calcites and zirconites, for uses as raw materials for the ceramic and chemical industries.

Starting from 1962, he became professor of Industrial Chemistry in the Departments of Chemical Engineering and of Materials and Metallurgical Engineering at Poli-USP. As a professor, he advised 24 master and 23 PhD theses on Brazilian raw minerals. He published more than 300 scientific papers in national and international magazines.

Some results of his research on Brazilian clays and other non-metallic raw materials at the IPT and Poli-USP are described in his books written in Portuguese, such as: "Science and technology of clays: application to the Brazilian clays" – 3 volumes (Ciência e tecnologia de argilas: aplicação às argilas brasileiras - Published by Edgard Blücher, 1992), and "Technology of Clays applied to Brazilian clays" – 2 volumes – Published by Edgard Blücher, 1975 and 1989).

From 1968 to 1977, he was also chairman of the Commission of Technology of The National Council for Scientific and Technological Development (CNPq), an agency linked to the Brazilian Ministry of Science and Technology (MCT), dedicated to the promotion of scientific and technological research and the formation of human resources for research in the country.

He served as president of the Brazilian Association of Ceramic (ABC) twice between the years of 1970 and 1980, afterwards becoming its emeritus counselor; and vice -president of Materials Section of the Brazilian Society of Electron Microscopy (SBME).

He was member of the Brazilian Academy of Sciences (ABC) and of the Brazilian Society for the Progress of the Science (SBPC). He was titular member of the Academy of Sciences of São Paulo State. He received the "Heinrich Rheinboldt" prize offered by the Union of the Chemists of São Paulo State, in 1975; the "Francisco of Salles V. of Azevedo" prize, offered by the Brazilian Association of Ceramic (ABC), in 1979; he was awarded prizes from both the SBPC, in 1976, and the Technological Institute of Pernambuco, in 1997, for his great scientific contribution.

As prominent clay scientist, he was head of the Brazilian Clay Group founded at 1999.

Dr. Souza Santos was an active member of AIPEA since 1972; abundant record of his cooperation with this association can be found at its Newsletters. As AIPEA liaison-officer representing Brazil, he became a frequent contributor to AIPEA Newsletter but he was engaged as well in several technical and scientific activities, and he served as councillor at the AIPEA Council for the period of 1985-1989.

He is survived by his wife Dr. Helena de Souza Santos; two children Pérsio de Souza Santos Filho, professor of the Institute of Biosciences of USP, and Fábio Lopes de Souza Santos, professor of the Department of Architecture and Urbanization of the School of Engineering of São Carlos of USP; and three grandchildren.

2012

FIRST RUSSIAN CLAY SCHOOL

February 05-11th, 2012, Moscow, Russia
Organized by: Institute of Ore Geology, Petrography, Mineralogy and Geochemistry (IGEM RAS), Russian Mineral Socierty, Commission on Clay Minerals, Commission on physical methods
Chairs: Dr. Boris Sakharov, Dr. Victoria Krupskaya
Contact Person: Victoria Krupskaya
Phone: + 7 499 2308296
Fax: + 7 495 9511587
E-mail: krupskaya@ruclay.com
Internet: www.ruclay.com

8TH ZSIGMONDY KOLLOQUIUM

March 05-07th, 2012, Campus Lichtwiese, Darmstadt, Germany
Organized by: German Colloid Society
Contact: Dr. Valentina Marcon
Work Petersenstr. 32
64287 Darmstadt - Germany
Phone: + 49 6151 16 3990 Fax: + 49 6151 16 72022
E-Mail: marcon@csi.tu-darmstadt.de
Internet: http://www.csi.tu-darmstadt.de/news/events/zsigmondy_kolloquium/home_19.de.jsp

4th MAGHREBIAN SYMPOSIUM ON CLAYS MINERALS – SMA-IV

March 21-23rd, Hammamet, Tunisia
Organized by: Tunisian Clay Group
Conference Offices: Pr. Fakher Jamoussi
Technopôle de Borj Cédria
BP 273, 8020 Soliman, Tunisie
Phone: + 00 216 24 326 536 Fax: + 00 216 70 325 802
E-Mail: tunisianclaygroup@yahoo.fr and fakher.jamoussi@certe.mrt.tn
Internet: www.tcg.tn

10ème COLLOQUE DU GROUPE FRANÇAIS DES ARGILES

May 14-16th, 2012, Limoges, France
Contact: Emmanuel Joussein
Faculté des Sciences et Techniques
123 Avenue Albert Thomas
87060 Limoges cedex

Phone: + 05-55 45 74 23
E-Mail: emmanuel.joussein@unilim.fr
Internet: http://www.unilim.fr/gfalimoges2012

10TH CMCEE - 10TH INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM ON CERAMIC MATERIALS AND COMPONENTS FOR ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENTAL APPLICATIONS
May 20-24th, 2012, Dresden and Munich, Germany
Organized by: Prof. Dr. Alexander Michaelis (chair), Dr. Mrityunjay Singh and Prof. Dr. Tatsuki Ohji
Fraunhofer Institute for Ceramic Technologies and Systems IKTS
Winterbergstrasse 28
01277 Dresden, Germany
E-Mail: info@cmcee12.de
Internet: http://www.cmcee12.de/contact.html

56º BRAZILIAN CONGRESS ON CERAMICS & 1ST LATIN AMERICAN CONGRESS ON CERAMICS
June, 3-6th, 2012, Curitiba, Brazil
Contact: Raquel Tieko Matsuda Miyakoda
Samara Pereira da Silva
E-Mail: abcadm@abceram.org.br
Internet: http://www.metallum.com.br/56cbc/evento.php

11TH INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM ON LANDSLIDES AND ENGINEERED SLOPES & 2nd NORTH AMERICAN SYMPOSIUM ON LANDSLIDES
June, 2-8th, 2012, Banff, Alberta, Canada
Contact: Corey Froese, P.Geol. (Chair)
E-mail: chair@isl-nasl2012.ca or Corey.Froese@ercb.ca
Conference Manager: Wayne Gibson, P.Eng.
c/o Gibson Group Association Management
8828 Pigott Rd
Richmond BC V7A 2C4
Phone: + 604 241 1297 Fax:+ 604 241 1399
E-Mail: info@isl-nasl2012.ca
Internet: www.ISL-NASL2012.ca

7TH INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE INTERFACES AGAINST POLLUTION - IAP2012
June 11 to 14th, 2012, Nancy, France
Organized by: Jérôme F.L. DUVAL (Chairman)
Fabien THOMAS and Laurent J. MICHOT (Co-Chairmen)

E-Mail: information@iap2012.fr
Internet: http://www.iap2012.fr

GOLDSCHMIDT 2012
June 24-29th, Montreal, Canada
Contact: Goldschmidt 2012
PO Box 9140
Boulder, CO 80301-9140 USA
Phone / Fax: + 1 303 357 1090
E-Mail: info@vmgoldschmidt.org
Internet: http://www.goldschmidt2012.org/

SEM-SEA 2012 – JOINT 32ND MEETING OF THE SEM AND THE 22ND MEETING OF THE SEA SOCIETIES
June 27-30th, 2012, Bilbao, Spain
Organized by: the Spanish Mineralogical Society (SEM) and the Spanish Clay Society (SEA)
Contacts: Jose_Miguel Herrero (josemiguel.herrero@ehu.es), Javier Arostegi (javier.arostegi@ehu.es), and Pedro P. Gil (pedro.gil@ehu.es)
Departamento de Mineralogía y Petrología
Universidad del Pais Vasco UPV/EHU
Sarriena s/n 48940 Leioa (Spain)
Phones: + 34 946 012 642, + 34 946 012 643 and + 34 946 012 556
E-Mail: semsea2012@gmail.com
Obs.: An International Seminar on "Archaeometry and Cultural Heritage: the contribution of Mineralogy" will be held on 27th June 2012

4TH INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS OF ECSSS - EUROSOIL 2012
July 2-6th, 2012, Fiera del Levante, Bari, Italy
Contact: Prof. Nicola Senesi (President)
University of Bari "Aldo Moro"
Dipartimento di Biologia e Chimica Agro-Forestale ed Ambientale
Via Amendola, 165/A - 70126 Bari - Italy
Phone: + 39 080 544 2853 Fax: + 39 080 544 2850
E-Mail: senesi@agr.uniba.it
Internet: http://www.eurosoil2012.eu/

49TH CMS ANNUAL MEETING
July 7-12th, 2012, Golden, Colorado, USA
Contact: Manika Prasad
Phones: + 303 273 3457 or + 303 279 5563 Fax: + 303 277 8683
E-mails: mprasad@mines.edu or space@mines.edu or cms@clays.org

Internet: http://www.csmspace.com/events/cms/venue.html

4TH INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS ON CERAMICS – ICC4
July, 15-19th, 2012, Sheraton Chicago Hotel & Towers, Chicago, IL, USA
Contacts: Dr. Katherine T. Faber (President)
Northwestern University
McCormick School of Engineering and Applied Science
Phone: + 240 646 7054 Fax: + 240 396 5637
E-Mail: k-faber@northwestern.edu
Internet: www.ceramics.org/

ANNUAL MEETING OF THE AMERICAN CRYSTALLOGRAPHIC ASSOCIATION – ACA2012
July, 28th.- August 1st, 2012, Boston, MA,USA
Contacts: American Crystallographic Association
PO Box 96 Ellicott Station
Buffalo, NY 14205-0096
Phone: + 716 898 8693 Fax: + 716 898 8695
E-Mail: aca@hwi.buffalo.edu
Internet: www.amercrystalassn.org

34TH INTERNATIONAL GEOLOGICAL CONGRESS
August 5-10th, 2012, Brisbane, Australia
Organized by: Neil Williams (President)
Postal address:
34th IGC
PO Box 177
Red Hill QLD 4059
Australia
Phone: + 61 7 3368 2644 Fax: + 61 7 3369 3731
E-Mail: info@34igc.org
Internet: www.34igc.org

27TH. EUROPEAN CRYSTALLOGRAPHIC MEETING
August, 6-11th, 2012, Bergen, Norway
Contact: chairman Prof. Dr. Karl Wilhelm Törnroos (karl.tornroos@uib.no)
Co-chairman Prof Dr. Carl Henrik Görbitz (c.h.gorbitz@kjemi.uio.no)
E-Mail: mail@kongress.no
Internet: http://ecm27.ecanews.org/ or http://www.kongress.no/kontakt/

EUROPEAN MINERALOGICAL CONFERENCE –EMC2012
September 2-6th, at the Johann Wolfgang Goeth-UUniversity, Frankfurt, Germany
Contact information: Gerhard Brey, Heidi Höfer, Sabine Seitz
Altenhöferallee 1
D-60438 Frankfurt am Main
Germany
Phone: + 49 69 798 40 123 Fax: + 49 69 798 40 2121
E-Mail: info-emc2012@uni-frankfurt.de
Internet: http://emc2012.uni-frankfurt.de

6TH MID-EUROPEAN CLAY CONFERENCE (MECC)
September 4–9th, 2012, at Floret Congress Centre, Průhonice, Prague, Czech Republic
Organized by: Czech National Clay Group on behalf of the Clay Groups of Croatia, Germany-Austria-Switzerland, Hungary, Poland and Slovakia
Contact: Miroslav Pospisil (Chairman)
Phone: + 420 221 911 245
E-Mail: pospisil@karlov.mff.cuni.cz
Internet: www.mecc2012.org and www.czechclaygroup.cz

2ND ASIAN CLAY – "CLAY: FROM NATURAL ENVIRONMENTS FOR INDUSTRIAL APPLICATION"
September 6-9th, 2012, Ewha Womans University Campus, Seoul, Korea
Internet: http://wwwsoc.nii.ac.jp/cssj2/index_e.html

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON COMPETITIVE MATERIALS AND TECHNOLOGY PROCESSES - ic-cmtp2
October 8-12th, 2012, Miskolc – Lillafured, Hungary
Organized by: University of Szeged
Contact: Ph.D, Dr.Eng.Sc. Dr.Habil Laszlo A. Gömze (Chairman)
Phone: +36 30 746 27 14 Fax: +36 46 565 103
E-Mail: femgomze@uni-miskolc.hu
Internet http: http://ic-cmtp2.eu

CLAYS IN NATURAL AND ENGINEERED BARRIERS FOR RADIOACTIVE WASTE CONFINEMENT
October 22-25th, 2012, Montpellier, France
Contact General Secretariat
Catherine BERGDOLL
Andra / Meeting Montpellier 2012
Parc de la Croix Blanche
1-7 rue Jean Monnet

92298 Châtenay-Malabry cedex
FRANCE
Fax: +33 1 46 11 84 10
E-Mail: secretariat.montpellier2012@andra.fr
Internet: http://www.montpellier2012.com/

IV INTERNATIONAL WORKSHOP ON LAYERED MATERIALS
November 26-28th, 2012, Campinas, São Paulo, Brazil
Contacts: Dr. Chiara Bisio and Prof. H. O. Pastore
University of Campinas, State of São Paulo (Brazil)
E-Mail: 4iwlm@iqm.unicamp.br
Internet: http://www.iwlm2012.iqm.unicamp.br

SYMPOSIUM ON AFRICAN CLAYS
November 2012, Brasaville
Contact: Eba Francois - representative of the Gabon Clay Group

2013

15TH INTERNATIONAL CLAY CONFERENCE (15ICC)
July, 7-11th, 2013, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil
Organized by: Brazilian Clay Group (GBA) on behalf of the Association Internationale pour l'Étude des Argiles (AIPEA)
Contact: Dr. Reiner Neumann, Representative of 15th ICC
CETEM - Centre for Mineral Technology
Avenida Pedro Calmon, 900 - Ilha da Cidade Universitaria
21941-908 - Rio de Janeiro RJ
Brazil
E-Mail: rneumann@cetem.gov.br
Internet: Under construction

17TH INTERNATIONAL ZEOLITE CONFERENCE
July 7-12th, 2013, Moscow, Russia
Organized by: International Zeolite Association (IZA) & Russian National Zeolite Association (RNZA)
Internet: http://www.izc17.com/

EUROFILLERS 2013
August, 25-29th, 2013, Bratislava, Slovakia
Organized by: Mária Omastová

Ivan Chodák
Polymer Institute SAS
Dúbravská cesta 9
845 41 Bratislava, Slovakia
E-Mail: eurofillers2013@savba.sk
Internet: www.eurofillers2013.sav.sk

21ST GENERAL MEETING OF THE INTERNATIONAL MINERALOGICAL ASSOCIATION - IMA 2013
August or September, 2013, Gauteng, South Africa
Contact: Scatterlings Conference & Events
Carolyn Ackermann (www.soafrica.com and caro@soafrica.com)
Phone: +27 11 463 5085 Fax: +27 11 463 3265
E-Mail: info@ima2014.co.za
Internet: http://www.ima2014.co.za/

50TH CMS ANNUAL MEETING
October 6-10th, 2013, Urbana, Illinois, USA

XIV BRAZILIAN GEOCHEMICAL CONGRESS & LATIN AMERICAN SYMPOSIUM ON GEOCHEMICAL MAPPING
October 13-18, 2013, Diamantina, Minas Gerais, Brazil
Contact: Eduardo Paim Viglio
Internet: http://www.sbgq.org.br/

2014

7TH MID-EUROPEAN CLAY CONFERENCE - MECC2014
Dresden, Germany

23RD. CONGRESS AND GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE INTERNATIONAL UNION OF CRYSTALLOGRAPHY
August, 5-12, 2014, Quebec, Canada
Internet: http://iucr2014.org

MEDITERRANEAN CLAY SYMPOSIUM
?, 2014?, Tunisia

2015

EUROCLAY 2015
?, Edimburgh, UK

13. AIPEA MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION FORM

Becoming member of AIPEA is recommended to everybody interested in Clays and Clay Minerals. At the moment, the main mean of communication among all members of this association is its website (www.aipea.org). There, all information is concentrated and made available to all AIPEA members, such as updated information from many events that are being organized around the world besides other information that might be of general interest.

The rules of acceptance of new members are defined in the AIPEA Statutes and By-Laws (http://www.aipea.org/statute.html), as follows:

Statutes:
"II. MEMBERSHIP
3. a) AIPEA may accept as members individuals (individual members, who may also be life members), institutions and companies (corporate members), and nationa1 or regiona1 societies (Affiliated Societies) with an interest in clay research or technology.
b) Application for individual or corporate membership shall be made in writing to the ... Treasurer and be accompanied by the appropriate membership fee. Applications from Societies wishing to become Affiliated shall be made to the Secretary General in writing giving relevant information on field of interest, number of members, etc.: if approved by Council (which shall not be required to give any reason for non-approval) the Society shall become Affiliated on payment of the appropriate membership fee.
c) Membership will be for the period for which the membership fee is paid. If it is one year's dues the member will be in good standing for one year. If the membership fee is not paid, the membership may be cancelled unless there are extenuating circumstances which will be determined by the Council..."

***By-Laws**:*
"Individuals 65 years of age and older who have been individual members for 12 years or more shall automatically become Life Members on notification to the Treasurer. A Life Member must verify his membership every 4 years coinciding with the year of the International Clay Conference..."

To facilitate the admission of new members, AIPEA made available the Membership Application Form at its web page http://www.aipea.org/downloads/aipea_membership_application_form.pdf. Those interested in being part of this organization should fill it out, print, sign and mail it, accompanied by the appropriate membership fee (as international money order), to the AIPEA Treasurer:

Dr. Jeanne B. Percival (jperciva@nrcan.gc.ca)
c/o Geological Survey of Canada
601 Booth Street
Ottawa, Ontario, CANADA K1A0E8

a i p e a

Association Internationale pour l'Etude des Argiles

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION FORM

Family Name _____ Given Name _____

Title _____ Phone _____ Fax _____

Institution _____

Mailing Address _____

Email _____

Type of membership ---------- Amount of dues ---------- for ------ years

Your Society _____

If you are an individual member of an affiliated Society, give the name of the Society

Date _____ Signature _____

CHANGE OF ADDRESS NOTICE

Family Name _____ Given Name _____

New Institution _____

New Mailing Address _____

New Phone _____ New Fax _____

New email _____

Date Effective _____

Please mail dues as an international money order to the AIPEA Treasurer
Dr. Jeanne B. Percival (jperciva@nrcan.gc.ca)
c/o Geological Survey of Canada
601 Booth Street - Ottawa, Ontario, CANADA K1A0E8

Fees: $30.00USD/4-year individually; $15.00USD/4-year student or retiree; $100.00USD/4-year corporate sponsor. Note: Sponsoring Societies pay dues on behalf of their members. To send electronically, please contact Treasurer by email.