President’s Report

Dear fellow clay scientists,

2017 promises to be a fruitful year for the Clay World. From 17 to 21 July the AIPEA meeting, the XVI International Clay Conference (ICC), will take place in Granada (Spain). The organizers are spending a lot of time and imagination in the preparation of the conference that is expected to be really a great event. At this time, more than 600 abstracts have been submitted and the chairperson, Dr. Alberto Lopez Galindo, is quite sure that there will be more than 800 contributions. Many of these contributions have been presented by students and, therefore, a high level competition is expected for the Student Best Speaker & Poster Awards. You already know that the AIPEA conferences are an excellent occasion to contribute and share ideas and knowledge on clay minerals and other micro and nano-minerals. There will also be several social activities planned in the wonderful scenario of Granada and Andalusia. You shouldn’t miss such a wonderful opportunity! Join us!

The announcements of the awards that AIPEA traditionally assigns during the ICCs (AIPEA Medal, Bradley Award, AIPEA Fellows, Student Travel Funds) were made through the AIPEA list-serv but they were also posted on the AIPEA website (www.aipea.org) and are included in this newsletter. In spite of the fact that many AIPEA members are worldwide acknowledged scientists, there was submitted only a nomination for the AIPEA Medal. I am quite sure that many of us missed the deadlines and a great opportunity to propose and support the nomination of outstanding colleagues. We should pay more attention to AIPEA activities.

AIPEA welcomes two new affiliated societies: The Clay Minerals Society of India (CMSI) and the Chinese Association for the Study of Clays (CASC). Unfortunately, the proposal sent by the Haiti, Queensland University (UQ), was not considered mature enough to meet the standard of AIPEA affiliated societies and was overruled with

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**FEES:** $30.00 USD/4-year individually; $15.00 USD/4-year student (students must prove their status through an official document provided by their university) or retiree; $100.00 USD/4-year corporate sponsor.

*student/retiree - professional - corporate

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**2016’s President’s Report**

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**AIPEA Officers and Council**

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**AIPEA Website and Membership**

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**AIPEA Educational Series (AES)**

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**Treasurer’s Report (Jan.-Dec. 2016)**

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**International Union of Geological Sciences Annual Report**

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**News from 16 ICC on July 17-21, 2017, Granada (Spain)**

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**8th Mid-European Clay Conference (Košice, Slovakia)**

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**3rd Asian Clay Conference (Guangzhou, China)**

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**News from National and Regional Clay Groups**

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**Obituary: Udo Schwertmann (1927-2016)**

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**Obituary: Jiri Konta - (1922-2017)**

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**Recent and Upcoming Meetings**

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**AIPEA Membership Application Form**

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**Editor**

Dr. Daisy Barbosa Alves

Secretary-General

PETROBRAS Research Centre

Rua Horacio Macedo n. 950

Cidade Universitaria

Ilha do Fundao, Rio de Janeiro (RJ),

CEP: 21941-9156, Brazil

Phone: +55 21 2162 6438

E-mail: secretary@aipea.org

**ISSN: 2421-0757** (online)

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**Graphic layout by Digilabs (IT)
AIPEA Membership Application Form

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 www.aipea.org/membership.html. Those interested in being part of this organization should fill it out and mail it to the AIPEA Treasurer, who will send information of how to pay the annual fee:

Dr. Jeanne B. Percival
c/o Geological Survey of Canada
601 Booth Street
Ottawa, Ontario, CANADA K1A0E8
Email: jeanne.percival@canada.ca

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 (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 national or regional 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…”

Martine van der Voort
 presidents@aipea.org

Society for Clay Research (CSR)

Clay Science Society-Turkey

Tunisian Clay Group (TCG)

Spanish Clay Society (SEA)

Slovak Clay Group

Russian Clay Group

Portuguese Clay Group (APA)

Polish Clay Group (PCG)

Minerals Society (CMS)


Polish Clay Group (PCG)

Portuguese Clay Group (APA)

Russian Clay Group

Slovak Clay Group

Spanish Clay Society (SEA)

Tunisian Clay Group (TCG)

Clay Science Society-Turkey

Ukrainian Clay Group

AFFILIATED SOCIETIES

• Algerian Clay Group (ACG)
• Australian Clay Minerals Society (ACMS)
• Chinese Association for the Study of Clays (CASC)
• Clay Minerals Group of the Mineralogical Society (GB and Ireland)
• Clay Science Society of India (CSSI)
• Clay Science Society of Japan (CSSJ)
• Croatian Clay Group
• Czech National Clay Group (CNCG)
• French Clay Group (GFA)
• German-Austrian-Swiss Clay Group (DTTG)
• Korean Clay Science Society
• Hungarian Clay Group (HCG)
• Israel Association for Clay Research
• Italian Association for the Study of Clays (AISA)
• North American The Clay Minerals Society (CMS)
• Polish Clay Group (PCG)
• Portuguese Clay Group (APA)
• Russian Clay Group
• Slovak Clay Group
• Spanish Clay Society (SEA)
• Tunisian Clay Group (TCG)
• Clay Science Society-Turkey
• Ukrainian Clay Group

suggestion to expand its activities in that country. AIPEA Council also approved the request of ECGA, the European Clay Group Association, to be affiliated society.

There are now 23 Affiliated Societies or groups from worldwide. Our plan for the 2017 is to encourage the formation of new national and regional clay groups and the affiliation of existing active clay groups, expanding AIPEA activities to countries without formal clay societies/groups. The new candidates should fill the form available at the AIPEA website (www.aipea.org) and send their application to secretary@aipea.org, preferably before the ICCs, when the AIPEA Council gathers for deliberating these requests.

It is important to share with clay scientists around the world all information available on past and future activities, projects and events. In this regard, it is desirable that all AIPEA Affiliated Societies do better effort for continuously updating their websites. I also encourage all national society representatives to respond promptly to our Secretary-General’s requests for information which will be published at AIPEA Newsletter. Please take some time to check if your society/group has effectively sent report to AIPEA. If not, I would like to encourage you to contact your representative and reinforce the importance of doing this small gesture of international cooperation. I also hope that a greater percentage of our affiliated societies can contribute to our next Newsletter.

AIPEA is continuing to publish reports on the Society’s life on Elements. Our affiliation to this very important magazine is a powerful means to communicate with the mineralogical and geochemical community. Please let Dr. Barbosa Alves or me know if you have information that deserves the attention of the scientific societies. We can include it on our six month report on this Journal.

AIPEA also continues to be an affiliated society to the International Union of Geological Sciences (IUGS) and provides information for the IUSG bulletin, another excellent way to communicate with the scientific societies all around the world and to integrate AIPEA into international geological activities.

Hope to see you all in Granada,

By Saverio Fiore
February / 2017
The AIPEA Council has been elected during the 15th International Clay Conference at Rio de Janeiro (Brazil), in July 2013. The Officers and Councillors who will work for AIPEA during 2013-2017 are as follows:

**AIPEA Executive Officers for 2013-2017**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Contact Information</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>President</td>
<td>Dr. Saverio FIORE</td>
<td>c/o Department of Earth &amp; Geoenvironmental Sciences</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vice-President</td>
<td>Prof. Joseph W. STUCKI</td>
<td>Geological Survey of Canada</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Past President</td>
<td>Prof. Christopher BREEN</td>
<td>Sheffield Hallam University</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Secretary-General</td>
<td>Dr. Daisy Barbosa ALVES</td>
<td>Petroleo Brasileiro S.A.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Treasurer</td>
<td>Dr. Jeanne B. PERCIVAL</td>
<td>Geological Survey of Canada</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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**AIPEA Council Members for 2013-2017**

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<tr>
<th>Position</th>
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</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Councillor</td>
<td>Dr. F. Javier HUERTAS</td>
<td>Estación Experimental del Zaidin, CSIC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Councillor</td>
<td>Dr. Balwant SINGH</td>
<td>Faculty of Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**AIPEA OFFICERS AND COUNCIL**
Prof. Helge STANJEK (Councillor, 2nd term) Institute of Mineralogy and Economic Geology - RWTH
Wuellnerstr. 2, D-52056 Aachen - Germany
E-mail: helge.stanjek@chim.rwth-aachen.de
Dr. Georgios CHRISTIDIS (Councillor, 1st term) Dept. Mineral Resources Engineering Technical University of Crete 73100 Chania - Greece Phone: +30 2810 27622 Fax: +30 38210 37888 E-mail: christid@cmed.ruc.gr
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Prof. Makoto OGAWA (Councillor, 1st term) Department of Earth and Environmental Sciences Russian Academy of Science 119017, Staromonetnii per., 35 - Russian Federation Tel: +7 (495) 230 82 96, +7 (926) 819 63 98 Fax: +7 (499) 230 82 96, +7 (926) 819 63 98 E-mail: makoto.ogawa@visotec.ac.th

Representative of the 16th ICC
Dr. Alberto LOPEZ GALINDO Institucio Andaluza de Ciencias de la Tierra, Director CSIC - Universidad de Granada Av. de las Palmeras - 18100 Armilla (Granada) - Spain Phone: +34 958 230 000 ext. 190212 Fax: +34 958 552620 E-mail: alberto@ugr.es

Committees
Teaching Committee, Chair
Dr. Sabine PETIT FRE3114 CNRS HydASA, Université de Poitiers 40 Avenue du Recteur Pineau - F-86022 Poitiers - France Phone: +33 (0)549 453 756 Fax: +33 (0)549 454 241 E-mail: sabine.petit@univ-poitiers.fr

Nomenclature Committee, Chair
Prof. Stephen GUGGENHEIM University of Illinois at Chicago Department of Earth and Environmental Sciences 845 West Taylor Street, M/C 186 Chicago Illinois 60607-7859 - U.S.A. Phone: +1 312 996 3263 Fax: +1 312 413 2279 E-mail: xtal@uic.edu
Hazardous Minerals Committee, Chair
Dr. Saverio FIORE Head of the Microminerals, Health & Environment Research Group Institute of Methodologies for Environmental Analysis National Research Council of Italy c/o Department of Earth & Geoenvironmental Sciences Via Orabona. 4 - 70125 Bari - Italy Phone: +39 080 544 2618 Fax: +39 080 544 2591 E-mail: saverio.fiore@cnr.it

16th INTERNATIONAL CLAY CONFERENCE – ICC 2017 July, 17-21st, 2017, Granada, Spain Chair: Alberto LOPEZ GALINDO (alberto@ugr.es) E-mail: chair@16icc.org or secretariat@16icc.org Internet: https://www.16icc.org/

GOLDSCHMIDT 2017 August, 13-18th, 2017, Paris, France Phone: +44 1223 852663. Email: helpdesk@goldschmidt.info Internet: goldschmidt.info/2017

WORKSHOP ON LAYERED MATERIALS September 1st-5th 2017, Castle Hotel, Třešt, Czech Republic Organizer: Jiří Čejka, J. Heyrovský Institute of Physical Chemistry, Academy of Sciences of the Czech Republic, Department of Catalysis E-mail: jiri.cejka@jh-inst.cas.cz Internet: http://www.jh-inst.cas.cz/workshop2017/

7th CLAY CONFERENCE ON CLAYS IN NATURAL AND ENGINEERED BARRIERS FOR RADIOACTIVE WASTE CONFINEMENT September, 24-27th, Davos, Switzerland Organizers: National Cooperative for the Disposal of Radioactive Waste (NAGRA) Phone: +41 61 686 77 77 Fax: +41 61 686 77 88 Email: secretariat.clayconference@congrex.com and sonja.mccullough@nagra.ch Internet: www.clayconference2017.com

17th NATIONAL CLAY SYMPOSIUM OF THE CLAY SCIENCE SOCIETY-TURKEY October, 4-7th, 2017, Muğla city, Turkey Organizer: Clay Science Society-Turkey

2nd INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON CALCINED CLAYS FOR SUSTAINABLE CONCRETE December, 5-7th, 2017, Habana, Cuba Contact: Dayran Roacho Francisco Universidad central de las Villas CIDEM Carrerena Camajuani km 5 40382 Santa Clara - Cuba Phone: +53 42 205872 Internet: www.lc3.ch/conference-2/


2018
EUROPEAN MICROBEAM ANALYSIS SOCIETY (EMAS) 2018 Workshop End-June 2018, Bristol, UK

3rd INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON ATMOSPHERIC DUST - DUST 2018 Bari, Italy, June 2018.
Recent and Upcoming Meetings

2017

41st INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE AND EXPO ON ADVANCED CERAMICS AND COMPOSITES
January 22–27th, 2017, Daytona Beach (FL), USA
Organizer: The American Ceramic Society
600 N. Cleveland Ave., Suite 210
Westerville, Ohio 43082
Phone: 866-721-3322 or 240-646-7054
Fax: 240-396-5637
E-Mail: customerservice@ceramics.org
Internet: http://ceramics.org/icacc2017

20th ANNUAL CONVENTION AND THE NATIONAL CONFERENCE ON HARNESSEING CLAY SCIENCE FOR HUMAN WELFARE
February, 17-18th, Nagpur, Maharashtra, India
Secretary: Dr. P. Chandran
Head Div. of Soil Resource Studies
ICAR-NBSS & LUP, Nagpur 440 033
Maharashtra – India
E-mail: pchandran1960@yahoo.co.in
E-mail: orgsecmsi2017@gmail.com

1st ATLAS GEOREsources INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS – 1st AGIC
March 20-22, 2017, Hammamet, Tunisia
EMail: agic2017@gmail.com
Internet: www.cert.ee.tr

3rd WORKSHOP ON APPLIED CLAYS (3RAA)
April 27-29th, 2017, Sao Paulo (SP), Brazil
Chair: Dr. Vera Regina Leopoldo Constantino
Chemistry Institute of the State University of Sao Paulo (USP)
E-Mail: vrlconst@iq.usp.br

54th ANNUAL MEETING OF THE CMS
June 5-8th, 2017, Edmonton, Alberta, Canada
Organizers: Northern Alberta Institute of Technology and The Clay Minerals Society
Internet: http://www.cms2017.com

2nd INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON APPLIED MINERALOGY & ADVANCED MATERIALS and 13th INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON APPLIED MINERALOGY–AMAM-ICAM 2017
June 5-9th, Castellaneta Marina, Taranto, Italy
Chair: Saverio Fiore
Correspondence: AMAM-ICAM 2017
c/o Dept. Geoenvironmental & Earth Sciences
University Aldo Moro – Bari
Via Otranto 4, 70125 Bari – Italy
Phone: +39 080 544 2618 (Chair); +39 0971 42 7224 (Secretary); +39 080 544 2614 (Treasurer)
E-mail: info@amam-icam2017.org
Internet: www.amam-icam2017.org

AIPEA Website

The AIPEA Website at http://www.aipea.org continues to be the most important means of communication for the international community dedicated to clays and clay minerals since its creation in 2007, because it provides extensive information about many aspects of AIPEA and the clay sciences. Therefore it is an important tool to help AIPEA fulfills its main purposes.

AIPEA website was created to provide dynamic and continuous announcement of activities directly related to clay sciences. General information about the organization of AIPEA can also be easily found, such as: mission, purposes, organization, statutes and by-laws, membership, council, publications, newsletters, 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 (NCS) websites as well as to that one from the International Union of Geological Sciences (IUGS), which AIPEA is affiliated to. It also discloses permanently all volumes of the AIPEA Newsletter in a searchable way (a few specimens are missing or incomplete and we expect to have contribution to fill in these gaps). Please inform us if errors are noticed so that we can make the proper corrections.

Recently, AIPEA president has received an important message from Dr. Bruno Lanson, president of French Clay Group (GFA), providing evidences for facts related to the early history of CIPEA. Bruno has found a mail exchange from 1979 among Helene Suquet, Simone Caillere, and A. Breezeuma, who was the AIPEA secretary at the time, about the name of the first president of CIPEA. Accordingly, the first president of CIPEA was Dr. Hénin (1948-1950), followed by Prof. J. Orcel (1950-1952) and finally by Prof. R. Grim. Thus this letter corrects the wrong information published in the end of this newsletter.

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Back to our theme… Many relevant technical activities around the world are continuously being announced through the website, updated by the AIPEA Webmaster, Dr. Saverio Fiore. It offers a long list of events (conferences, courses, projects, etc.) for 2017 and following years in a complementary page (http://www.aipea.org/conferences.html). This list can also be found in the traditional way, at http://www.aipea.org/membership.html.

AIPEA website discloses also a link for the payment of the AIPEA annual fee by credit card or PayPal account. Regular members are encouraged to pay quadrennial fees (equivalent to 4-years) in order to benefit for reduced fees to participate in events organized by AIPEA, such as International Clay Conferences (or those endorsed by AIPEA), and to be included in the AIPEA member-list, receiving continuous news from the international clay community. This facility can be found at http://www.aipea.org/membership.html.
AIPEA fees for individual members who do not belong to any AIPEA Affiliated Society are:
- Full professional: $30.00 USD (per 4-years).
- Student or retiree: $15.00 USD (per 4-years).

AIPEA fees for corporate sponsors are: 100.00 USD (per 4-years).

New candidates to become AIPEA Individual Members should download the membership application form at http://www.aipea.org/membership.html and make the payment using the mentioned specific link. After filling the form in, please send it both to the AIPEA Treasurer (jeanne.percival@canada.ca) and President (president@aipea.org). Please notice that students must prove their status through an official document provided by their university.

Members of AIPEA Affiliated Societies are also AIPEA members, as their dues are paid by their national or regional clay groups / societies. However to benefit from the same advantages as those of AIPEA individual members, these groups / societies must provide yearly the corresponding payment. Please check with your society/group if the annual payment to AIPEA has been made.

Applications from National or Regional Clay Societies / Groups wishing to become affiliated to AIPEA shall be made to the secretary-general by addressing the e-mail secretary@aipea.org. The candidates must download the “Affiliation Form for National Clay Groups” at http://www.aipea.org/membership.html and furnish the requested relevant information. The proposal will be submitted to the AIPEA Council and, if approved, the Society shall become affiliated on payment of the appropriate membership fee. The fees are $3.75 USD/year per full member and $2.50 USD/year for each student.

We encourage all AIPEA members and sympathizers to undertake a systematic perusal of the contents of the AIPEA website in order to become updated with the many opportunities that are available around the world. Several technical events related to clays and clay materials and their applications take place continuously all around the world. Please remain in contact with us by sending news of relevant activities and events to the AIPEA Webmaster (webmaster@aipea.org) and to the AIPEA Secretary-General Dr. Daisy Barbosa Alves (secretary@aipea.org).

If you are interested in AIPEA announcements, publications, technical events, and especially of clay mineral science in your country. Extremely important for his professional life were the invitations for universities and institutions in Moscow (I. I. Ginzburg), Urbana in Illinois (R. E. Grim) and as Visiting Professor to the Pennsylvania State University (G. W. Brindley) during 1961-1965. His and Professor’s B. Hejman „Rock-Forming Minerals“ (1953) were one of the most important text-books for Czech students of geology, as well as Konta’s “Clay Minerals of Czechoslovakia”. In his professional beginning, Jiri Konta invented an easy method of the rapid identification of clay minerals by means of absorption of various liquids, imbibometry, which presented in the 10th Jubilee Conference of American Clay Minerals Society in Austin, Texas in 1961. The magazine Applied Clay Science was founded on the proposal of Professor Konta in the 7th Conference of AIPEA in Italy in 1981, and, in 1995, he published there the English version of his monography „Clay and Man: Clay Raw Materials in the Service of Man“. The other international projects, performed or coordinated by him, were e.g.: Phyllosilicates in rivers, Sea muds, etc. On the topic of sea clay minerals, he collaborated with the University of Hamburg. As President of AIPEA, he was acting in 1985-1989, after being elected in Denver, USA. In the home field, he was head of a staff (10-15 people) of collaborators, diploma students, RNDr. and PhD. students. He organized many Czech Conferences on Clay Mineralogy and Petrology, the ICC and EUROCLAY conferences in Czechoslovakia, he founded Czech Society for Investigation and Application of Clays, where he was President and later Honorary President. Apart from his main dedications, he was also keen in the study of Czech tektites, moldavites. Excellent friend of all his students and numerous friends, he presented on the occasion of his 90-ties a book of memories called “To hear one’s own heart”. Not only his friends but all the world of clay scientists has lost a perfect and devoted guy and gentle man.

Jiri Jiranek
jirijiranekrndr@seznam.cz
He was a notorious speaker, invited to give lectures in many technical events, in several countries. From 1966 to 1978, he served as Secretary-General of the AIPEA, i.e., for five periods. For twelve years, he has carried the main burden of AIPEA administration in a time without internet, e-mails and other facilities which are available today.

AIPEA would like to express its gratitude to Dr. Udo Schwertmann by his constant cooperation and joint the international community in this plain tribute, sending sincere condolences to his family.

By Daisy Barbosa Alves
November / 2016

Sources:
4. Magnesian clay deposits: Mineralogy and origin  
   (Manuel Pozo and Emilio Galán)
5. Madrid Basin (Spain): a natural lab for the formation  
   and evolution of magnesian clay minerals  
   (Manuel Pozo and José Pedro Calvo)
6. Geochemical pathways to Mg-silicate formation  
   (Nicholas Tosa)
7. Properties and applications of magnesian clays  
   (Julio Santarín)

This book, not in the sale, was financed by Associazione  
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**Interstratified Clay Minerals**

**Origin, Characterization & Geochemical Significance**

AIPEA Educational Series - Publication No.1

Editors: Saverio Fiore, Javier Cuadros & F. Javier Huertas

Lectures held at:

1. AIPEA School for Young Scientists  
   University of Bari, Italy, June 12-13, 2009
   Digilabs Pub., Bari, Italy - pp. 175  
   ISSN: 2283-687X

Hard copy sold out (copies printed on demand: € 40.00,  
international shipping included)

E-copy free of charge - mail info@aipea.org

The book is an overview and update on the main issues  
related to interstratified (or mixed-layer) clay minerals,  
with a clear educational scope. It is accessible to students,  
providing the basics and the latest information on the several  

Contents

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 Mineral-
   als  
   (A. Meunier)
5. Identification and Characterization with Microscopic  
   Methods  
   (P. Nieto and X. Arroyo)
6. Identification and Characterization of Interstrati-
   fied 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)
   Alteration Systems  
   (Jan Srodon).

Saverio Fiore
December / 2016

Obituary:

UDO SCHWERTMANN (1927-2016)

World renowned soil scientist, Dr. Udo Schwertmann passed away on January 20th, 2016 at the age of 88, in his house at Freising-Weihenstephan, Germany. According to the sources mentioned at the end of this report, he was born on 1927, November 27th in Stade, Germany. He studied horticulture and chemistry in Hannover. He obtained his Ph.D. in 1959 and his habilitation in 1961, both in soil science, also in Hannover. In 1964 he became a full professor and head of the Institute of Soil Science at the Technical University of Berlin. In 1969, he moved to Freising-Weihenstephan, as head of the newly founded Institute of Soil Science at the Technical University of Munich (TUM). He held this position until his retirement in 1995. Afterwards he still carried on with several research projects until his death.

Udo Schwertmann developed important internationally recognized work in virtually all fields of soil science: from atomic to mineral and to landscape scales. His scientific achievements include numerous researches on the occurrence, formation, identification, and properties of iron oxides in soils; as well as on soil clay mineralogy, soil erosion, phosphorus in soil, cation adsorption, and soil acidity. He first described the structure, formation, and properties of the mineral “Schwertmannite”, named after him by the International Mineralogical Association (IMA). During his long and productive career, Udo Schwertmann has published more than 250 research papers, numerous book chapters and several monographs. His 1964 publication on the extraction of poorly crystalline iron oxide minerals from soils with oxalate is the reference for investigating these minerals in soil science laboratories around the world. “The Iron Oxides”, together with R. Cornell is still the seminal book on this topic.

As a notorious scientific leader, Udo Schwertmann served on the editorial board of several soil science and clay mineralogy journals. He was a former editor of Zeitschrift für Pflanzenernährung und Bodenkunde and had been a member of the editorial boards of Clay Minerals, of Clays and Clay Minerals, of Advances in Soil Science, and of Geochemistry.

Udo Schwertmann received several scientific awards and honorary memberships of learned societies in and outside Germany, as for instance:

- Fellow of the American Society of Agronomy (1981);
- Fellow of the Soil Science Society of America (1981);
- Member of the “Akademie der Naturforscher” Leopoldina zu Halle, the oldest German Academy of Science since 1987;
- “Pioneer Lecturer in Clay Science” by the Clay Mineral Society (CMS) in 1992;
- Honorary doctorate from the Christian-Albrechts-Uni-
   versität zu Kiel in Germany, in 1995;
- CMS Distinguished Member in 1997;
- Honorary member of the German Soil Science Socie-
   ty since 1997; and
- Awarded the Philippe-Duchaufour-medal of the Euro-
   pean Geophysical Union in 2005 “for outstanding re-
   search in the field of fundamental and applied soil  
   science, with special emphasis on his contributions to  
   soil mineralogy and genesis”.

Udo Schwertmann participated in advisory boards of several technical societies. He was a member of the first council of the “Deutsche Ton-und Tonnmineralgruppe (DTTG)” founded in 1972 in Kiel, Germany. He was vice-president of the German Soil Science Society, and member of the International Society of Soil Science (now IUSS) since 1964 and chairman of its Commission VII. Udo Schwertmann’s name is included in the Association International pour l’Étude des Argiles (AIPEA) directory list of members from 1982. A special issue of the old AIPEA Newsletter editions shows that he was a very active AIPEA member, cooperating in internal committees and in the organization of meetings and/or guiding fieldtrips.
rested in sedimentary research. Presentations were given by 11 early career researchers and, a keynote speaker (Dr Nick Tosca, Oxford), and Dr Chris Jeans (Cambridge). There were also 8 posters displayed.

CMG-Sponsored Activities
The CMG also sponsored sessions and speakers at the Geological Society’s Geomechanical & Petrophysical Properties of Mudrocks Meeting, London (Nov 2015), the British Sedimentological Research Group’s AGM, Keele (December 2015) and at the MECC, Slovakia (July 2016).

The CMG has undertaken a survey to ascertain how members are interacting with the CMG and to establish how the CMG can better meet its community’s needs.

The CMG now has its own Twitter feed: @CMG_min-soc.

George Brown Lectures
The 17th annual George Brown Lecture was delivered at the Mid-European Clay Conference (MECC) in Kosice, Slovakia in July by Prof Lynda B. Williams from Arizona State University, USA. The lecture had the title ‘Geomimicry: Harnessing the antibacterial action of clays’.

CMG-Future Activities
The venue for the 2017 annual RIP meeting has yet to be agreed but offers have been made by University College London, Manchester and Oxford Universities. Additionally, the CMG will also support sessions at a cross-special interest group meeting on Redox Active Minerals, to be hosted in Manchester in July 2107. Speakers will also be sponsored at the BSRG AGM (Cambridge, December 2016) and the 16th International Clay Conference, Granada, Spain in July 2017.

By Chris Greenwell and Simon Kemp
December / 2016
This book:  
- provides updates on the diverse and expanding applications of natural mineral nanotubes (including halloysite, sepiolite, and palygorskite) in various industries, and polymer nanocomposites for medical, health and environmental applications
- provides a comprehensive review of the modification and intercalation of different natural mineral nanotubes
- reviews recent studies of the mechanical properties of halloysite nanotubes
- provides an up-to-date background on the structure, identification, and nomenclature of various natural mineral nanotubes, including halloysite, palygorskite, sepiolite, chrysotile, and erionite 
- gives comprehensive global information on the mineralogy, geology, and occurrence of natural mineral nanotubes
- discusses the current understanding of the health risks of natural mineral nanotubes and also carbon nanotubes

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Introduction
Part 1: The Major Nanotubular Minerals and Their Structures
  Chapter 1: Phyllosilicates Used as Nanotube Substrates in Engineered Materials: Structures, Chemistries, and Textures
  Stephen Guggenheim
  Part 2: The Identification and Nomenclature of Natural Mineral Nanotubes (Historical Perspectives)
  G. Jock Churchman
  Chapter 3: The Identification and Nomenclature of Sepiolite and Palygorskite (A Historical Perspective)
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  Emilio Galán and Patricia Aparicio
  Chapter 5: The Identification and Nomenclature of Natural Nanomaterials (Historical Perspectives)
  Emilio Galán and Patricia Aparicio

The Reynolds Cup competition, named after Bob Reynolds for his pioneering work in quantitative clay mineralogy and his great contributions to clay science, was established in 2000 by Douglas McCarty and Jan Sirodot of Chevron and Dennis Eberl of the United States Geological Survey (USGS) and later adopted by the CMS. The 2016 Reynolds Cup first place winners are Gilles Mertens & Rieko Adriaens, QMINERAL & KU Leuven / ONDRAF-NIRAS in Heverlee, Belgium. Second place went to Mark Raven & Peter Self from CSIRO RO Land and Water, Adelaide, Australia, and third place went to Stephen Hillier, Helen Pendlowski, Ian Phillips & Nia Gray from The James Hutton Institute in Aberdeen, Scotland.

The Clay Minerals Society Source Clay project began in 1969, when Robert W. Rex proposed a “Reference Clay Mineral” bank to be under the auspices of the Society. Thus the Clay Minerals Society set up the Source Clays Project. The Society’s Source Clays Repository offers two series of materials, the Source Clays and the Special Clays. The Source Clays are derived from large, reasonably homogenized stocks. The samples have been carefully selected from the source deposits by professionals to minimize in situ variations.

The Society is also pleased to announce that Volumes 20 and 21 of the CMS Workshop Lectures Series have been published. Volume 20 is entitled Surface Modifications of Clays and Nanocomposites (edited by G.W. Beall), and volume 21 is Filling the Gaps - From Microscopic Pore Structures to Transport Properties in Shales (edited by T. Schäfer, R. Dohrmann and H.C. Greenwell).

This book will also be useful for those companies or researchers that will be focusing on the design of materials and composites for sustainability.

These are all available through The Clay Minerals Society website (www.clay.org).

The 2017 annual meeting (http://www.cms2017.com) will take place June 5-8, in Edmonton, Alberta Canada and will be hosted by The Northern Alberta Institute of Technology, a leading Canadian polytechnic, delivering education in science, technology and the environment; business; health; and trades. There will be field trips to Ft. McMurray (Oil sands), the Drumheller region with preservation of dinosaur fossils in clays, and a lime and clays canoe trip through the valley.

By Warren Huff
November / 2016

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

1. Committee: Chairman: Chris Greenwell (chris.greenwell@durham.ac.uk)
Secretary: Simon Kemp (sjk@bgs.ac.uk)
Treasurer: Francis Clegg (f.clegg@sha.ac.uk)
Board Members: Steve Hillier, Chris Jeann, Helen Pendlowski, Neal Skipper, Kevin Taylor, David Wray, Craig Williams

Meetings in 2015/16
The 2016 Research in Progress meeting was held on the 13th September in Manchester on one of the wettest days the city had ever experienced. There was a good attendance with 45 registrations, in particular from those inte-
The geographical distribution of CMS membership is illustrated in the following diagram.

88 (2016).

Correspondence address:
Prof. Nikolai Lebovka
Head of Department Physical Chemistry of Disperse Mineral Institute of BioColloid Chemistry
Kiev, Ukraine
E-Mail: lebovka@gmail.com
Internet: https://sites.google.com/site/olebovka/

By Nikolai Lebovka
January / 2017

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

The 2016 Clay Minerals Society Meeting was held at the Georgia Tech Hotel and Conference Center in Atlanta, Georgia and was hosted by Crawford Elliott, Prakash Malia, Robert Pruett, Yuanzhi Tang, and Paul Schroeder. The CMS Council is pleased to report that the Vice-President elect for the coming year is Douglas McCarty and the newly elected members of Council are Carolyn Olson, Youjun Deng, Javier Cervini-Silva, and Shane Butler. The current members of the Executive Committee are Jan Srodon (President), Prakash B. Malia (Past President), Warren D. Huff (Secretary), Paul A. Schroeder (Treasurer) and Joseph W. Stucki (Editor-in-Chief).

The Society is pleased to announce a redesigned website at http://clays.org/cms. It is now suitable for mobile devices.

The Society has appointed an ad hoc committee to consider the possibility of merging its journal, Clays and Clay Minerals, with the European journal, Clay Minerals. This committee has had several rounds of discussions and has reached consensus on several points. They are currently reviewing the final details of their deliberations.

Dr. Sridhar Komarneni, Distinguished Professor of Clay Mineralogy at Penn State was awarded the George W. Brindley Clay Science Lecture Award for his new ideas and innovative contributions related to clays. Dr. Komarneni also has shown creative excellence in the design and synthesis of novel clays, which are expected to have a tremendous impact on environmental quality and clean drinking water worldwide through filtration as well as soil remediation. He has developed several novel synthetic clays and investigated the kinetics, equilibria and thermodynamics of ion exchange in clay and other minerals with publications in Science and Nature, which received world-wide publicity in news media such as NY Times, Wall Street Journal, London Financial Times etc. These novel clays are useful in drinking water filters for elimination of toxic metals. They are also useful for separation of radioactive Ra-226, Sr-90 and Cs-137 from contaminated sites and waste waters at many locations including Hanford, Washington and Fukushima, Japan. Ra-226, a carcinogen is a naturally occurring radioactive nuclide which contaminates drinking and other water supplies worldwide.

Chapter 4: The Identification and Nomenclature of Chrysotile (A Historical Perspective) Saverio Fiore and F. Javier Huertas

Chapter 5: The Mineralogy, Geology and Occurrence of Natural Mineral Nanotubes

Chapter 6: The Mineralogy, Geology and Main Occurrences of Sepiolite and Playgorskite Clays Emílio Galán and Manuel Pozo

Chapter 7: The Mineralogy, Geology and Main Occurrences of Chrysotile Saverio Fiore and F. Javier Huertas

Chapter 8: Applications of Natural Mineral Nanotubes in Nanocomposites

Chapter 9: Polymer Nanocomposites Reinforced by Halloysite Nanotubes: A Review Vahdat Vahedi and Porzia Pasbakhsh

Chapter 10: Biopolymer Composites of Natural Mineral Nanotubes and Their Applications

Chapter 11: Bionanocomposites of Sepiolite and Playgorskite and Their Medical Issues Eduardo Ruiz-Hitzky, Margarita Darder, Francisco M. Fernández, Berndt Wicklein, Ata C. S. Alcântara, and Pi lar Aranda

Chapter 12: Biopolymer Nanocomposites: Poly Lactic Acid/Halloysite Nanotube Composites Ranjika T De Silva, Porzia Pasbakhsh, and Kheng Lim Goh

Chapter 13: Halloysite-Poly(lactic-co-glycolic acid) Nanocomposites for Biomedical Applications Mingxian Liu, Peng Ao, Qi Peng, Binghong Luo, and Changren Zhou

Chapter 14: Current Research on Chitosan-Halloysite Composites Kavitha Govindasamy, Porzia Pasbakhsh and KL Goh

Chapter 15: Functionalization and Compatibilization of Halloysite Nanotubes Vahdat Vahedi and Porzia Pasbakhsh

Chapter 16: Modification of Sepiolite and Playgorskite Nanotubes and Their Applications Gustave Kerne Dedzo and Christian Detellier

Chapter 17: Organophosphates Prepared From Quarternary Ammonium Compounds and Their Environmental Uses Binoy Sarkar and Ravi Naidu

Chapter 18: Surface Modification of Halloysite Nanotubes: Role of External Hydroxyl Groups Vahdat Vahedi, Porzia Pasbakhsh, and Siang-Pao Chai

Chapter 19: Halloysite Tubule Nanoreactors in Industrial and Agricultural Applications Ehsad Abdullayev and Urdu Lwv

Chapter 20: Some Further Industrial, Environmental and Biomedical Applications of Halloysite Nanotubes B. Locouvet and C. Bailly

Chapter 21: Nanotubular Minerals as Templates and Nanoreactors Gustave Kerne Dedzo and Christian Detellier

Chapter 22: Medical and Health Applications of Natural Mineral Nanotubes and Their Health Problems

Chapter 23: Medical and Health Applications of Natural Mineral Nanotubes César Vissers, Carla Aguzzo, and Pilar Cerete

Chapter 24: The Anti-Inflammatory Properties of Different Naturally-Occurring Halloysites Javier Clara Silva, Antonio Nieto-Camacho, and María Teresa Ramírez-Apán

Chapter 25: Health Effects of Carbon Nanotubes and Some Comparisons with Natural Mineral Nanotubes Marie-Claude Jaurand

Chapter 26: Current Research in and Application of Natural Mineral Nanotubes G. Jock Churchman and Porzia Pasbakhsh

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Email: info@appleacademicpress.com / www.appleacademicpress.com
498 pages with index. - February 2015.
Since 2014, the Clay and Clay Minerals International Community has been benefitted by dynamic announcements and warnings through the two AIPEA lists. They are intended to make available quickly information on all areas of clay sciences.

The first AIPEA listserver (members@aipea.org) contains the e-mail address of all AIPEA members and from those of its Affiliated Societies / Groups. These e-mails are yearly updated. All members are automatically included in the AIPEA Members-list.

If you are a member of any AIPEA affiliated society and are not receiving messages, please check whether your NGC has sent an updated list of e-mails to the AIPEA webmaster. If your National Group is not yet associated to AIPEA, please encourage those in charge to make contact with the AIPEA President (president@aipea.org) or Secretary (secretary@aipea.org) for information. Alternatively, please also check the SPAM box of the browser you usually use to check e-mails and see if AIPEA messages have been misdirected to it.

Besides, AIPEA organized as well a "talk list" (talks@aipea.org) for people interested in Clay Science 'latu sensu', but who are not yet engaged in NGCs or AIPEA. Those interested in participating in the AIPEA talk listserver should send a message to talks.subscribe@aipea.org. Subscription to the list is completely free and you may remove your name from the list at any time just by sending a message to talks.unsubscribe@aipea.org.

We take this opportunity to remind all AIPEA members about the importance of paying their membership fee on time. Since 2015, payment of the AIPEA annual fee can be done via credit card or PayPal using a link added to the AIPEA website (http://www.aipea.org/membership). If it is one year's dues, the member will be in good standing for one year. However we encourage everybody to pay for the period of 4-years, which will make easier the participation in all AIPEA activities for longer period. According to the AIPEA statute and by-laws, if the membership fee is not paid, the membership may be cancelled and excluded from the AIPEA Member-List.

Daisy Barbosa Alves
December / 2016

Besides, if you want to share with AIPEA members information about any topic related to clay and clay minerals please send a synthetic message (preferably without attachments) to the AIPEA webmaster (webmaster@aipea.org) and/or to the AIPEA Secretary-General Dr. Daisy Barbosa Alves (secretary@aipea.org).

References:
5 Kovzun, I. G. et al. in (eds. Fesenko, O. & Yatsenko, L.) 233–244 (Springer, Switzerland, 2016).
Republic of Turkey, Ministry of Culture and Tourism, Kale—as Kale Maden and Çanakkale Ceramic—as Turkish Ceramic... Biopolymers and biotechnological admixtures for eco-efficient construction materials. Development of bioen-

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Activities Planned for 2017

In 2017 The Clay Science Society of Turkey will organi-

ize the next biannual national clay symposium, The 17th

National Clay Symposium. It will take place during 4-7

October 2017 at Muğla, Turkey in collaboration with

the Geological Engineering Department of Muğla Sıtkı

Koçman University.

Muğla is an ancient Greek city in south-western Turkey.

Now, it is the center of the district with the same name,

as well as of the Muğla Province, which stretches along Tur-

key’s Aegean coast. Muğla is the administrative capital of

a province that incorporates internationally well-known

and popular tourist resorts such as Bodrum, Marmaris

and Fethiye and also the smaller resort of Sarıgerme.

Muğla Sıtkı Koçman University (http://mu.edu.tr) was

established in 1992 as a state university. Over the past 20

years, the university has grown to include 18 faculties, 4

graduate schools, 5 schools, 13 vocational schools, and

35 research and application centers. Today, Muğla Sıtkı

Koçman University encompasses a two-million square

meter campus surrounded by a spectacular mountain

view and smaller university sites and schools across the

province. Currently, the university services over 41,805

students and employs over 1,300 full-time academic sta-

Koçman University.

At end of 2016, AIPEA received a petition from the

Queensland University (QU) of Haiti

liaison. Dr. Saverio Fiore, AIPEA president, has of-

ficially communicated this decision to Dr. S.K. Singh,

CASC president, and mailed him the AIPEA Memoran-

dum #1/2017 with its formal acceptance as new AIPEA A

liation.

Therefore we

nie, for their challenging cooperation

tor-in-Chief Faiza Bergaya and the CM Principle Editor

Georgios E. Christidis, for their

acceding to Prof. Hongping He, CASC president, and mailed

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excursions.

duration of the MCM2016, the activity of the members of clay

groups of Ukraine includes different directions.

- Adsorption of dye on hybrid nanoparticles. The kinet-

ics of adsorption and parameters of equilibrium adsorp-

tion of methylene blue on hybrid laponite + multi-wall-

carbon nanotube particles in aqueous suspensions have been
determined.

- Magnetic clay sorbent for the removal of dyes from

aqueous solutions. Clay particles were magnetized by

magnetite. The magnetic modification of saponite al-

lowed obtaining mesoporous sorbents with good sorp-

tion and magnetic properties. The detected adsorption capac-

ity of magnetically sorbents for all types of dyes (anionic,

cationic and nonionic) was 1.5–2.5 times bigger than that

for native saponite.

- Production of highly efficient soil substrates for growth

of plants and recreation anthropogenic lands. The studies of

colloidal-chemical interactions of sludge bio-gels with heavy

metals was done and innovative biotechnological techniques

treatment of sludge wastes were developed.

- Peloids on basis of ferrous clay minerals. Processes of

metamorphism in iron-oxide-silicate rocks, their micro-

biological, nanochemical and nanostructural transfor-

mations. It was demonstrated, that bottom sediments

(peloids) of the Black Sea supergenic deposit, limans and

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chemical and biocolloid characteristics. Their application in

medicine, balneology, in agriculture and for environ-

mental protection was studied. The works on biochemical

investigations of peloids with nanoaditives was done at

the in Institute of Biocolloid Chemistry in cooperation

with Ukrainian Research Institute of Medical Rehabilita-

tion and Balneology

• Combined micro-flotation of fine minerals. The effec-

tiveness of the combined micro-flotation was theoreti-

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form of air in water micro-dispersion. The method was

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efficient construction materials. Development of bioen-

UKRAINE

UKRAINIAN CLAY GROUP

The activity of Ukrainian Clay Group was initiated in 1949 in the Institute of Inorganic Chemistry of the Na-

tional Academy of Sciences of Ukraine by academician Fedor Ovcharenko, famous for his studies of disperse sys-

tems, clays, colloids and surface phenomena. During the

previous year (2016), the activity of the members of clay
groups of Ukraine includes different directions.

- Adsorption of dye on hybrid nanoparticles. The kinet-

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experimentally tested micro-flotation of fine minerals.

• Biopolymers and biotechnological admixtures for eco-

efficient construction materials. Development of bioen-
Financial statements show that AIPEA is being well supported by our affiliated societies. The PayPal system initiated last year by our president, Dr. Saverio Fiore, is making life much easier for AIPEA as well as individuals. I encourage members to nominate their colleagues for the AIPEA awards (Gold Medals, Fellows, Bradley) as the funds we receive are meant to support these awardees. In addition, travel grants for students are made possible by this continued support. We are currently reviewing the dossiers and abstracts of students who have applied for a travel grant.

We contributed to Elements Magazine which ensures that we have access to promoting AIPEA to the larger mineralogical community.

National Clay Groups
Dues notices were sent to the supporting societies late in the year and so far we have received funds from two societies but expect the remaining societies to transfer funds this month. New for 2017 will be to integrate funds from our newly affiliated societies. We want to welcome them to AIPEA and hope that their members will participate in the upcoming ICC.

Individual Membership
AIPEA welcomes 16 new individual members including undergraduate and graduate students from around the world. We look forward to meeting them at the next ICC. Dues notices for the members who joined or renewed at the last ICC in Rio will be sent out shortly.

Website Support
The website is supported by AIPEA. We continue to acknowledge the enormous contributions of Dr. Saverio Fiore and the Italian Clay Group for keeping it up to date.

Financial Statement
The Balance Sheet and Profits & Loss statements are provided for 2016. Elements Magazine support is under “Books etc.”

By Jeanne Percival
January / 2017

and daily visits to the 500 year old Ottoman castle that is located in the center of Çeşme and Alaçatı, one of the beautiful vacation sites of the Turkish Aegean along with shopping and tasting Turkish coffee.

During the opening ceremony the welcome speeches were given by Zehra Semra Karaağaç, Asuman G. Türkmenoğlu, Hüseyin Alan (CGET) and Jean-Louis Robert as president of the ECGA.

There were four plenary lectures:
- Clay/Water Interfacial Models (Kaolinite, Micas, Montmorillonite) to Reproduce Contact Angles and Organic Adsorption, by Hendrik Heinz, University of Colorado-Boulder, USA.
- Purification of greywater by a moving bed reactor followed by a filter including a granulated micelle-clay composite, by Shlomo Nir, The Hebrew University of Jerusalem, Israel.
- Holocene clay sedimentation in the eastern Mediterranean Sea, by Mustafa Ergin, Ankara University, Turkey.
- Imogolite and imogolite-like tubular nanocrystals. Formation mechanism, properties and applications, by Antoine Illl, Laboratoire Interdisciplinaire sur l’Organisation Nanométrique et Supramoléculaire, NIMBE, CEA Saclay, CNRS, Université Paris-Saclay, France.

The main themes of the Meeting spreaded widely in two parallel sessions during the oral presentations, as follows:
THM.1 Geology and Geochemistry of Clays, Applications in Geosciences
THM.2 Clayes of the Mediterranean Basin: Origin, Resources and Industrial Applications
THM.3 Mineralogy and Petrography of Clays and Clay Minerals
THM.4 Physicochemical Properties of Clays
THM.5 Industrial and Engineering Applications of Clays
THM.6 Clayes in Modern and Ancient Ceramics
THM.7 Clays and Health
THM.8 Soil Clays and Agricultural Applications
THM.9 Nanoclays and Nanocomposites: Synthesis and Applications

The poster presentations on the same themes took place during the three days of the Meeting. In addition to the four Plenary Lectures, a total of sixty seven presentations entailed forty four oral and twenty three poster presentations that were given by the participating clay scientists from France, Iran, Israel, Pakistan, Poland, USA and Turkey.

Besides the scientific and social achievements of the MCM2016, yet another significant outcome of the Meeting was the decision given by the council members to organize the 6th MCM (MCM2019) in the leadership of the French Clay Group jointly with EUROCLAY 2019 in Paris during 1-5 July 2019. This decision was announced by Jean-Louis Robert during the Closing Ceremony of the MCM2016.

The local Organizing Committee of MCM2016 highly appreciates the invaluable contributions of the International Organizing and the Scientific Committee members, the Plenary Lecturers, and the participants who attended and presented their latest scientific research results. AIPEA and ECGA Presidents Saverio Fiore and Jean-Louis Robert, respectively, are highly acknowledged for encouraging the organizational activities and providing their support for the realization of the 5th Mediterranean Clay Meeting in Turkey.
International Union of Geological Sciences
Annual Report

REPORTING FORM FOR IUGS AFFILIATED ORGANIZATIONS 2016

Name of Affiliated Organization:
Association Internationale pour l'Etude des Argiles – AIPEA

Overall objectives:
AIPEA is an umbrella organisation for the world's national clay societies. The aim of AIPEA is to promote international co-operation in clay research and technology. To fulfill this purpose its activities shall include the organization of:

• Meetings - such as International Clay Conferences; Field excursions;
• Visits to centers of clay research and technology;
• Publication of issues on clay research and technology; and
• Publication of a periodical Newsletter to inform members of activities concerning clay researches.

Relate goals to overall IUGS scientific objectives: Organize and/or collaborate in the organization of conferences of clay worldwide interest;
Stimulation of excellency in young clay scientists;
Rewarding active clay scientists with a brilliant career in clay research;
Publication of a periodical Newsletter to inform members of activities concerning clay researches.

Interaction with other International organizations and projects:

2-2 Organization of scientific excursion:
The TCG has organized scientific excursion for the students of the University of Tunis El Manar on May 3rd, 2016 to the brick factory of Grombalia. The TCG has also organized scientific excursion for the students of the University of Sfax (Tunisia) in the context of the valorization of Clays, Quartz Sand and Carbonates organized in November 4-5th, 2016. Visit of Enfidha Cement Plant and carry of Clay.

First Atlas Georesources International Congress AGIC 2017:
The Laboratory of Georesources (LGR) of the CERTE & The Tunisian Clay Group (TCG) organize the First Atlas Georesources International Congress AGIC 2017, which will be held in Hammamet, Tunisia (March 20-22nd, 2017). For more detail contact: tunisianclaygroup@yahoo.fr and www.certe.rnrt.tn

For further information, please contact:
Prof. Fakher Jamoussi (President of the Tunisian Clay Group) Centre de Recherches et des Technologies des Eaux, Technopôle de Borj Cédria BP 273, 8020, Soliman Tunisia E-Mail: tunisianclaygroup@yahoo.fr website: www.tcg.tn

By Fakher Jamoussi December / 2016

TURKEY
CLAY SCIENCE SOCIETY-TURKEY

During the last General Assembly Meeting which took place on February 27, 2016 in Ankara, the Executive Committee Members of the Clay Science Society of Turkey, elected for the term 2016-2017, will be as follows:

President: Asuman Günlük Türkmenoğlu
E-mail: t.asuman@gmail.com

Vice-President: Sih Ali Sayın
E-mail: sasayin@gmail.com

Secretary General: Haluk Akgun
E-mail: hakgun@mst.edu.tr

Treasurer: Zehra Semra Karaşak
E-mail: karaşak@ankara.edu.tr

Committee Members: Ismail Aydin Aras
E-mail: aras5549@yahoo.com

Hüseyin Yalçın
E-mail: yalçın@cumburuyet.edu.tr

Prof. Dr. Selahattin Kadı, E-mail: skadir@ogu.edu.tr

Activities in 2016
After a ten years break in the organization of the Mediterranean Clay Meetings, our Society, in cooperation with Chamber of Geological Engineers of Turkey (CGET) hosted the 5th Mediterranean Clay Meeting (MCM2016) on September 25-29th, 2016. The event took place in the Ilıca resort district of the town of Çeşme, near Izmir, a metropolitan city in the western extremity of Anatolia and the third most populous city in Turkey, after Istanbul and Ankara. The scientific program included technical sessions in the form of oral and poster presentations, enriched by invited speakers. The pre-workshop entitled ‘Hydrothermal Systems: Clay Genesis and Ore Mineralization’ was organized by Selahattin Kadı, in collabora-
tion with Hüseyin Yalçın and Cahit Helvacı. The social program included welcome party, gala dinner, Hydrothermal Systems: Clay Genesis and Ore Mineralization’ was organized by Selahattin Kadı, in collabora-
tion with Hüseyin Yalçın and Cahit Helvacı. The social program included welcome party, gala dinner

Visit to the Enfidha Cement Plant and carry, on May 4, 2016 (photo courtesy of Fakher Jamoussi).

Visit of the brick factory of Grombalia, on November 4-5, 2016 (photo courtesy of Fakher Jamoussi).
AIPEA has three committees working on key themes of clay international interest: Nomenclature, Teaching, and Hazardous Minerals.

AIPEA co-operates in international programs for excellence in Clay Science, such as the International Master in Advanced Clay Science – IMACS, jointly delivered by: the University of Poitiers (France); the Technical University of Crete (Chania - Greece); the University of Aveiro (Portugal); the University of Ottawa (Canada), and the Federal University of Rio Grande do Sul (Porto Alegre – Brazil).

Chief products:
The International Clay Conference (ICC), which takes place every four years, is the AIPEA main activity. The 16th edition of this event will take place in Granada (Spain), from July 7-11th, 2017.

Besides, AIPEA continues to 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 is also made accessible via the AIPEA Website.

AIPEA has published two monographs of the book series AIPEA Educational Series (AES; ISSN: 2283-687): Interstratified clay minerals. Origin, characterization & geochemical significance; Magnesian clays: Characterization, origin and applications.

Electronic copy of the 1st AES volume, 2nd edition, is available for free download. Information can be found at www.aipea.org.

Chief accomplishments of 2016 and plans for 2017:
AIPEA is being organized to adapt itself for the use of new media with the purpose of keeping better communication with clay scientists all over the world. Two AIPEA listservs are currently been used. AIPEA will continue to produce its Annual Newsletter in digital format (e-ISSN: 2421-0757), available at the Association website.

Specify how any IUGS Allocation for 2016 was used:
AIPEA is financially independent and receives income from individual members and affiliated societies and from registrations to the International Clay Conferences.

Budget request with justification for 2017 (only applicable to low income groups):
None.

Does your website have a link to IUGS?
Yes.

Name, address and e-mail of person preparing this report:
Dr. Daisy BARBOSA ALVES, Secretary-General Petroleo Brasileiro S.A. - Research Center (CENPES) Rua Horacio Macedo 950, Ciadce Universitaria Ilha do Fundao - Rio de Janeiro - RJ CEP: 21941-915 - Brazil

By Daisy Barbosa Alves
December / 2016

grants/). The closing date for receiving the manuscripts will be March 1st, 2017. Candidates must submit an electronic copy, preferably a pdf file, of approximately 4000 words, in English, on a topic relevant to one of the sessions of the Meeting. The paper should be written in a format acceptable for international journals. Assessment will be on scientific content only and the winner will be expected to present his/her paper at the Meeting.

The award consists of an honorarium of 1,000 Euros to contribute to the recipient to cover her/his expenses with registration fee to the Meeting, travel and hotel expenses for attending the XVI International Clay Conference, and a certificate. The award will not be made if it is considered that candidates did not reach the required standard. Person eligible for the award must be under 35 years of age on the closing date for submission. No restriction is placed on the sex or nationality of the candidate.

This Award is incompatible with any other prize for the same paper. Therefore, the candidate must declare that the content of the manuscript is original and has not been submitted and, in case of winning, will not be submitted, as candidate to any other prize.

The selection committee shall consist of the President of AIPEA (Chair), three members nominated by SEA, and the President of SEA, who will act as secretary.

The Jose Maria Serratosa Award Application Form is available at http://www.16icc.org/awards-grants/ and should be completed and returned to SEA secretary (secretaria@sea-arcillas.eu) with each entry to arrive before the official closing date. The candidates must note that the deadline will be strictly observed. The paper must be in the hands of the selection committee at least three months before the Conference. The winning paper could be submitted for publication in a clay mineralogy journal.

We hope to see you in Granada!

By Patricia Aparicio
January / 2017

TUNISIA
TUNISIAN CLAY GROUP

1. Committee:
The elective general assembly of the Tunisian Clay Group (TCG) was held on May 28th, 2016 and elected the following new Executive Committee: President: Fakher Jamoussi

Vice-President: Nouri Hatira
Secretary General: Mondher Hschni
Treasurer: Béchir Moussi
Members: Hedi Ridha Chaftar
Samir Baklouti
Ali Tlili
Emna Fakhfakh
Imen Khulti
Khalil Lazza

2-1 Participation to congress and symposium:
Some members of the TCG participated during 2016 to the following congress and symposium with presentation of several communications.

- Workshop Resources & Innovative Geology. Montpellier, France, 4-7 April 2016.

Participation to the Workshop Ressources & Innovatives Geology. Montpellier, April 4-7, 2016 (photo courtesy of Fakher Jamoussi).
During the SEA Annual General Meeting some members of its Council were elected: Dr. Fernando Nieto (Vice President), and as member of the Council were elected Drs. Xabier Arroyo, Jaime Cuervas, Ana María Fernández Díaz and Africa Yebra Rodríguez.

2. Activities of the Spanish Clay Society for 2017

The XVI International Clay Conference 2017 “Clays from the ocean to the space” will be held in Granada (16-21 July, 2017) organized by the Spanish Clay Society and coordinated by Dr. Alberto López-Galindo. The website of this meeting is www.16icc.org.

The online abstract submission is open and closes on 15 February 2017. We invite you to submit an abstract on the following topics:

I. Mineralogy
MI-01. Out of this world! – Clays as decoders of extraterrestrial environments
MI-02. Advanced structural characterization of clays
MI-03. Clay mineral reaction progress in very low-grade temperature petrologic studies
MI-04. Diversity of chlorites
MI-05. Alkali activation of clays and geopolymers

II. Geology and geochemistry
GG-01. Clays in faults and fractures
GG-02. Effects of clays in the mineral processing value chain
GG-03. Role of clay minerals in the quest for mineral resources
GG-04. Clay minerals in sediments: palaeoenvironment, geodynamic evolution and sedimentary basins

III. Environment and soils
ES-01. Mineral-life interaction
ES-02. Environmental applications of clay minerals
ES-03. From soils to shallow groundwater: The Influence of clays on the Critical Zone

IV. Interaction between clays and organic molecules and organisms
OM-01. Clay/Polymer Nanocomposites: From Flame Retardants to Tissue Engineering
OM-02. Drug delivery systems based on layered materials
OM-03. Clay-based bionanocomposites: a meeting point of life and the mineral world
OM-04. Clays in health care
OM-05. Computational modeling of clay minerals and related materials
OM-06. Biogeochemical processes at the microbe/clay interface and their synergy with radionuclide/organic interactions

V. Ceramics, zeolites
CZ-01. Clays for ceramics
CZ-02. Waste valorization in clay ceramics
CZ-03. Environmental uses of natural zeolites and clayey diatomite

VI. Nanomaterials and clay technology
NT-01. Natural and synthetic layer materials for Green Chemistry
NT-02. Clay nanomaterials for polymer degradation and stabilization
NT-03. Synthetic clay minerals and derivatives: Synthesis, Features and Applications
NT-04. Clays in biomaterial design and regenerative medicine
NT-05. Calcined clays for sustainable supplementary cementitious materials
NT-06. Clays, organoclayns and nanocomposites in water treatment
NT-07. Clay minerals in solution systems: from aqeous to non-aqueous
NT-08. Properties and applications of natural and synthetic nanotubes (halloysite, imogolite) and of fibrous clay minerals
NT-09. Self-organization from clay particles: from nano to macro
NT-10. Recent advances in applications of industrial clays
NT-11. Material’s challenges for clay scientist
NT-12. Photo- and optical functionalities of clay-based hybrid materials
NT-13. Clay mineral colloids for liquid crystals and soft materials
NT-14. CO2 or methane capture by clays

VII. Miscellaneous
MISC-01. LDHs: from design and characterization to applications
MISC-02. Clay-water interaction
MISC-03. Clay applications in the oil industry
MISC-04. General session

The length of abstract should not exceed ONE full page. Abstracts will be published in Scientific Abstracts Research (ISSN: 2464-9147).

3. Call for Jose Maria Serratosa Award

The SEA calls for the JOSE MARIA SERRATOSA AWARD and offers financial assistance to the winner to attend the XVI International Clay Conference to be held in Granada (Spain) (see http://www.16icc.org/awards-

The XVI International Clay Conference (16 ICC), which takes place every four years, will be held in Granada, Spain, from 17 to 21 of July 2017. Information is available at www.16icc.org. The logo for the Conference brings together the environments in which clay minerals are found: “Clays, from oceans to space”.

The Conference Venue is the Science Park (Parque de las Ciencias), an interactive museum over 70.000 m² in size. Located a few minutes on foot from the historic city center of Granada, it has one of the most varied offers of cultural and scientific leisure in Europe, and includes an Auditorium, 5 modern and well equipped halls, extensive space for installation of posters, meeting rooms, and broad areas for meetings and exchanges among participants. Besides the restaurant inside the Conference Venue, there are many other restaurants and bars in the surrounding area.

The Conference is planned to cover five days (four days for the forty sessions and one day for fieldtrips). The length of abstract should not exceed ONE full page. Abstracts will be published in Scientific Abstracts Research (ISSN: 2464-9147). Moreover, a special volume in Applied Clay Science is being prepared.

The online abstract submission is opened since November 1st and closes on February 15 2017. We invite you to submit an abstract on the following topics:

I. Mineralogy
MI-01. Out of this world! – Clays as decoders of extraterrestrial environments
MI-02. Advanced structural characterization of clays
MI-03. Clay mineral reaction progress in very low-grade temperature petrologic studies
MI-04. Diversity of chlorites
MI-05. Alkali activation of clays and geopolymers

II. Geology and geochemistry
GG-01. Clays in faults and fractures
GG-02. Effects of clays in the mineral processing value chain
GG-03. Role of clay minerals in the quest for mineral resources

The conference news is available online at www.16icc.org.
GG-04. Clay minerals in sediments: palaeoenvironment, geodynamic evolution and sedimentary basins

III. Environment and soils
ES-01. Mineral-life interaction
ES-02. Environmental applications of clay minerals
ES-03. From soils to shallow groundwater: the influence of clays on the critical zone
ES-04. Clay barriers performance in the long-term isolation of waste: thermal, hydro-mechanical and chemical interactions

IV. Interaction between clays and organic molecules and organisms
OM-01. Clay/polymer nanocomposites: from flame retardants to tissue engineering
OM-02. Drug delivery systems based on layered materials
OM-03. Clay-based bionanocomposites: a meeting point of life and the mineral world
OM-04. Clays in health care
OM-05. Computational modeling of clay minerals and related materials
OM-06. Biogeochemical processes at the microbe/clay interface and their synergy with radionuclide/organic interactions

V. Ceramics, zeolites
CZ-01. Clays for ceramics
CZ-02. Waste valorization in clay ceramics
CZ-03. Environmental uses of natural zeolites and clayey diatomite

VI. Nanomaterials and clay technology
NT-01. Natural and synthetic layer materials for green chemistry
NT-02. Clay nanomaterials for polymer degradation and stabilization
NT-03. Synthetic clay minerals and derivatives: synthesis, features and applications
NT-04. Clays in biomaterial design and regenerative medicine
NT-05. Calcined clays for sustainable supplementary cementitious materials
NT-06. Clays, organoclays and nanocomposites in water treatment
NT-07. Clay minerals in solution systems: from aqueous to non-aqueous
NT-08. Properties and applications of natural and synthetic nanotubes (halloysite, imogolite) and of fibrous clay minerals
NT-09. Self-organization from clay particles: from nano to macro
NT-10. Recent advances in applications of industrial clays

NT-11. Material’s challenges for clay scientist
NT-12. Photo- and optical functionalities of clay-based hybrid materials
NT-13. Clay mineral colloids for liquid crystals and soft materials
NT-14. CO₂ or methane capture by clays

VII. Miscellaneous
MSC-01. LDHs: from design and characterization to applications
MSC-02. Clay-water interaction
MSC-03. Clay applications in the oil industry
MSC-04. General session

Three fieldtrips are being arranged (19 July):
- Bentonite deposits of the Cabo de Gata (Almeria): volcanism and alterations. Dr. F. Javier Huertas (Andalusian Institute of Earth Sciences, CSIC-UGR).
- Guadix Basin: A giant clay store in central Betics. Dr. César Viseras Alarcón (Stratigraphy and Palaeontology Dept, University of Granada).
- Active tectonics and clay-rich sediments in western Sierra Nevada. Dr. Juan Ignacio Soto Hermoso (Andalusian Institute of Earth Sciences, CSIC-UGR).

The AIPEA School for Young Scientist (ASYS) will be held on July 15-16th 2017 under the supervision of Dr. Claro Ignacio Sainz Díaz (Andalusian Institute of Earth Sciences, CSIC-UGR), with the subject: "Computational modelling in clay mineralogy".

Publication
A special issue of Applied Clay Science (ACS) is being arranged for the International Clay Conference. All participants are kindly invited to submit their paper during the 16ICC:

All selected papers, recommended by a scientific committee, will be considered for publication in ACS and will be further reviewed as regular papers. Topics are those included in this conference: http://www.16icc.org/sections

About the city of Granada:
There are few cities in the world with a history as far-reaching, as diverse, and so well reflected in its streets and monuments. As capital of the last Muslim kingdom of the Iberian Peninsula, the city chosen by the Catholic Monarchs to be their final resting place and the temporary residence of the Emperor Carlos V, Granada has enriched its cultural heritage throughout the years, and has become one of the most attractive and magnificent cities in Spain. Its community of museums, imposing monuments, and districts full of local color means that

RUSSIA
RUSSIAN CLAY GROUP

By Victoria Krupskaya
January / 2017

SLOVAKIA
SLOVAK CLAY GROUP
Please see report about MECC 2016 held in Košice (Slovakia) in this newsletter.

SPAIN
SPANISH CLAY SOCIETY
1. Activities of the Spanish Clay Society (SEA-Sociedad Española de Arcillas) in 2016
The SEA organized its XXIV Scientific Meeting in the Universidad Autónoma de Madrid on September 5-7th, 2016, with contributions from 95 participants. The Organising Committee was formed by SEA members, coordinated by Dr. Manuel Pozo. The Conference program included:

Plenary lectures:
Chemical behavior of clay materials under repository conditions in the French context: lessons learned and residual uncertainties for HLW repository implementation - by Dr. Nicolas Michau (Agence Nationale pour la Gestion des Déchets Radioactifs, ANDRA, France).
Arcillas: De su papel en el suelo a su aplicación medioambiental (Clays: From their role in soils to their environmental application) - by Dr. M. Carmen Hermosín (Instituto de Recursos Naturales y Agrobiología de Sevilla, Spain).

Scientific session of oral and poster presentations
Field trips:
Role of clays in treatment of hazardous wastes: Hazardous waste disposal at San Fernando de Henares (Madrid).
Influence of clays in the formation of paleontological traps: Cerro Batallones (Madrid).

Ceramic industry and the use of clays in paleoenvironmental reconstructions in La Sagra area (Toledo).

Awards:
The winner of the Award to Iniciation to Research for Master Students was Elisa Laita Florián from the University of Zaragoza for the Final Project of Master Degree entitled “Transformaciones minerales durante los procesos de coacción de arcillas aluminicas y su relación con propiedades físicas de interés” (Minerals transformations during firing process of aluminic clays and their relations with physical properties of interest), directed by Prof. Blanca Bauluz.
The winners of the Young Researchers’ Award offered by the SEA were José Manuel Moreno Martín (Universidad de Castilla La Mancha) and Daniel González Santamaría (Universidad Autónoma de Madrid).
The winners of the III Scientific Photographic Awards offered by SEA were M. Victoria Villar Galicia and Xabier Arroyo Rey.

Bentonite 18 year at 100ºC, 1st. award to Scientific Photography to M. Victoria Villar Galicia (photo courtesy of Patricia Aparicio).

Deconstructed chlorite, 2nd award to Scientific Photography to Xabier Arroyo Rey (photo courtesy of Patricia Aparicio).
The International Advisory Board Committee for Asian Clay Society including Korean Clay Science Society was established during “The 3rd Asian Clay Conference 2016”, which was held from November 18th to 20th in 2016 at Guangzhou, China. Prof. Jinwook Kim and Prof. Jae-Min Oh attended the meeting to initiate the “Board Meeting of Asian Clay Society” and discussed activities of Asian Clay Society.

For further updated information: please access to the following link, http://www.korclay.org or contact with Prof. Jinwook Kim, Yonsei University, e-mail: jinwook@yonsei.ac.kr

By Jin-Ho Choy
December / 2016

POLAND
POLISH CLAY GROUP

The report of the Polish Clay Group in 2016.

The Polish Clay Group (PCG) is a branch of the Mineralogical Society of Poland. The PCG consists 41 members. The president of the Polish Clay Group of the 2016 – 17 term of office is Czesław August (Ph.D., Wroclaw University), vice-president - Sylwia Kowalska (Ph.D., Oil and Gas Institute, Cracow).

In 2016 the members of the Polish Clay Group took part in the 8th Mid-European Clay Conference in Kosice (Slovakia). Five lectures as well as 13 posters were presented by Polish delegation. Three Polish participants were also conveniers of the thematic sessions. The Polish Clay Group has organized the 20th Annual Symposium Clays and Clay Minerals. The symposium was held in Cracow on 2nd December 2016. During the Symposium 4 lectures was presented on:
- crystal chemistry of smectites,
- photo-induced activity of nanoparticle,
- a new spectroscopic method in research of smectites and
- mineralogy of glauconite from soil.

During the accompanying meeting of the members of the Polish Clay Group, memories of late professor Leszek Stoch († 20 January 2015) honorary member of Mineralogical Society of Poland were recalled. The group discussed also problems related to the organization of the 10th Mid-European Clay Conference (MECC2020) in Poland.

The participants of the Symposium noted with pleasure the nomination of professor Jan Stodoła for the position of the new president of The Clay Minerals Society and of Artur Dziewoński on the member of Standing Committee for Publications of the CMS for 2016-17.

By Czesław August
December / 2016

PORTUGAL
PORTUGUESE CLAY GROUP

Activities of the Portuguese Clay Group (APA) during 2016

APA members were mainly involved during 2016 in the:
- presentation of research results at international and national conferences;
- participation on the organization of some Conferences and Meetings;
- participation on IMACS;
- participation on short courses; and
- participation on research programs.

Several members presented a total of 47 oral and poster presentations on several international conferences, such as MECC 2016 (Kosice, Slovakia), DUST 2016 (Bari, Italy), Goldschmidt 2016 (Yokohama, Japan), Water-Rock Interaction WRI-15 (Évora, Portugal), 35th International Geological Congress (IGC - Cape Town, South Africa), XII Congress of Geochemistry of Portuguese speaking Countries (CGeoChPLP - Fortaleza, Brazil), III Congress of Geology of Portuguese speaking Countries (CoGePiLp - Praia, Cape Verde), and ELAAGFA (Maputo, Mozambique).

Some members participated on the organization of international conferences, such as IGC, WRI-15, CGeoChPLP and CoGePiLp; others were conveners/chairpersons of sessions (Goldschmidt, MECC, WRI, DUST, ELAAGFA).

APA (or APA members) cooperated on the organization of short courses on geotechnical properties, medical geology, XRD/XRF and SEM as well as on the Aveiro University participation on the Erasmus-Mundus IMACS master.

Among the several research programs in which APA members participated, the following are of paramount importance: MINATURA (H2020), GEOSULF (ERA-MIN), EIP on Raw Materials.

By Fernando Rocha
January / 2017

it is impossible to take in everything that Granada has to offer in just one day.

How to reach Granada:
Granada is located in the heart of Andalusia (Spain), at the foot of the Sierra Nevada and quite close to the Mediterranean Sea. It is easily accessible by plane, bus, train or road (see web page for details).

Hotel accommodation:
From hotels with more services to simple and comfortable rooms, Granada has numerous and varied accommodation adapted to all needs (more than 200 hotels and hostels, more than 13,000 hotel rooms). Many hotels are located within easy walking distance of the venue location. The Organizing Committee is not responsible for accommodations. Nevertheless, we recommend the following possibilities:

a) Hotels (Viajes El Corte Inglés)

b) Universitary Residences (to be booked before May 31st, 2017):

Carmen de la Victoria
Colegio Mayor Isabel la Católica
Corrala de Santiago

Dates to remember:
1 November 2016 Abstracts submission opens
15 February 2017 Abstracts submission closes
15 March 2017 Abstract acceptance notification
15 March 2017 Definite list of sessions
1 April 2017 End of Early registration
17 July 2017 ASYS starts
17 July 2017 16 ICC opening ceremony

Organizers:
Spanish Clay Society (SEA) on behalf of AIPEA.
Contact: chair@16icc.org and/or secretariat@16icc.org

We hope to see you in Granada!

Alberto López Galindo
January / 2017

Panoramic view of the Science Park (Parque de las Ciencias), the 16 ICC Venue, at Granada (Spain) (photo courtesy of Alberto López Galindo).
The 8th Mid-European Clay Conference (http://www.mecc2016.sav.sk/) was held on 4-8 July 2016 in the Yasmin hotel in Košice, the second largest city of Slovakia, close to several clay and zeolite deposits and to the delightful Tokaj wine region.

The conference was organized by the Slovak Clay Group, on behalf of the clay groups of Croatia, Czech Republic, Germany-Austria-Switzerland, Hungary and Poland. The first joint meeting of clay groups from East- and Mid-European countries called "Mid-European Clay Conference" (MECC) took place in September 2001 in Stará Lesná (Slovakia), followed by the conferences in Miskolc (Hungary, 2004), Opatija (Croatia, 2006), Zakopane (Poland, 2008), Budapest (Hungary, 2010), Průhonice (Czech Republic, 2012) and Dresden (Germany, 2014). The main objective of these internationally recognized conferences is to bring together researchers, students and industrial partners and to discuss various aspects related to clays, zeolites and other layered materials.

The conference attended 170 participants, 40 of which were students. The delegates came from 29 countries from all over the world. A total of 70 lectures (14 students) including four plenary lectures and 14 posters were presented. The program included a plenary lecture by Prof. Masahiro Yoshimura (Taiwan), 5 invited lectures and 8 oral presentations. The symposium was entitled, "Clay minerals and materials: from nature to industries".
1. Committee

Korean Clay Science Society (KCSS) was held at Ewha Womans University, Seoul, Korea.

The following officers were elected for the fiscal year 2016:
President: Prof. J. H. Choy, Ewha Womans University
Vice presidents: Prof. Byungse Jun, Kyungnam University
Prof. Hyen Goo Cho, Kyunggi University
Prof. Jinwook Kim, Yonsei University
Board members: Prof. E. S. Kim, Kyungki University
Prof. Jae-Min Oh, Yonsei University

2. Annual Meetings

(1) 8th Annual Meeting

The 8th annual meeting of the Korean Clay Science Society (KCSS) was held at Ewha Womans University, Seoul in May 25, 2016. It was organized by KCSS committee and sponsored by Ewha Womans University, Center for Intelligent Nano-Bio materials (CINBM), and Global B&M. Total 33 papers including 11 oral presentations and 22 posters were presented. The program included a keynote lecture by Prof. Ajayain Vinu (Australia), 7 invited lectures and 3 oral presentations.

Plenary lectures

Chris Breen (UK): Clay hydrogels and composites - potential medical and commercial applications
Eduardo Ruiz-Hirsky (Spain): Ecological advanced applications of clay minerals
Sabine Petit (France): Relevance of clay synthesis for environmental studies - Gerhard-Lagaly-Award 2016 of DTTG, for recognized outstanding mid-career researcher in clay science

Keynote talks

Pierre Barre (France): Clay minerals and organic carbon persistence in soils
Chris Greenwell (UK): Simulating the clay mineral-bri ne-organic interface: implications for understanding enhanced oil recovery
Guillaume Habert (Switzerland): Tuning clay properties for new development in sustainable building materials
Corina Ionescu (Romania): Studying ancient ceramics: interplay between mineralogy, physics, chemistry and geology
Joe Michalki (UK): Clay minerals on Mars: Global scale mineralogy and geologic context
Patrik Sellin (Sweden): Bentonite in waste repositories – a new application

Technical sessions with the conveners

Theoretical methods and structure of clay minerals, M. Pospíšil (Czech Republic), F. Ferrage (France)
Analytical tools and methods for characterization of clays, M. Janek (Slovakia), Z. Rozyniec (Poland)
Modifications and synthesis of clays, J. Matusik (Poland), J. Brendlé (France)
Organoclays and nanocomposites, J. Kristóf (Hungary), F. Clegg (UK)
Clays in medicine, biological systems and the environment, R.M. Torres Sánchez (Argentina), C. Viseras Ibrosa (Spain)
Application and treatment of clays and other industrial minerals, S. Kaufhold (Germany), P. Aranda (Spain)
Clays in sedimentary-metamorphic systems, B. Rauczik (Hungary), D. Tiffels (Croatia), M. Skiba (Poland)
Clays in hydrothermal and ore-forming processes, P. Uhlík (Slovakia), J. Cudrons (UK)
Zeolites, layered and porous materials, D. Koloušek (Czech Republic), F. Kovanda (Czech Republic)
Archaeological ceramics – from clays to vessels, F. Kristály (Hungary), F. Rocha (Portugal)

All abstracts were evaluated by the conveners and are summarized in a Book of abstracts, still available at [http://www.mecc2016.sav.sk/](http://www.mecc2016.sav.sk/)

Field-trips

Industrial Mineral Deposits and Hydrothermal Alteration via Slovakia, 5 and 4 July 2016, leaders: P. Uhlík and P. Kódéra;
Industrial minerals and Tokaj wine – products hosted by East Slovakia volcanic rocks, 6 July 2016, leaders: P. Uhlík and P. Bačo.

During the conference the 40 student contributions were evaluated and three best oral and poster contributions were awarded during the closing ceremony. The best oral contributions were presented by P. Boháč (Slovakia), A. Kuligiewicz (Poland) and F. Schnetzer (Germany). Poster awards went to A. Táborosi (Hungary), J. Škoda (Czech Republic) and to A. Trubuca-Boginska (Latvia), J. Dietel (Germany) was awarded with DTTG Karl Jasmund Prize for young scientist.

For accompanying persons, four half-day trips were offered to the beautiful surrounding of the Košice city. The most important sights of Košice downtown were presented to participants during a half-day guided tour. All delegates also enjoyed the Conference Dinner in the Yasmin hotel.

In addition, the MECC and DTTG board meetings took place. The MECC representatives accepted the offer of the Croatian Clay Group to organize the next, 9th MECC in 2018 in Zagreb.

We want to express our gratitude to all colleagues for contributing to the organization of the 8th MECC, to our sponsors for the generous support, and to all participants for coming.

By Jana Madejová and Helena Páliková
January / 2017

Clays in building materials and geotechnics, M. Plötze (Switzerland), I. Janotka (Slovakia).
2. The 60th Annual Meeting
The 60th Annual Meeting of the Clay Science Society of Japan was held at Kyushu University from 15 to 17, September 2016. It was principally organized by Prof. S. Wada, of Kyushu University. A total of 95 papers including 35 posters were presented. The program also included a symposium entitled “Past and future of Clay Sciences” with following invited speakers:

T. Nakato (Kyushu Institute of Technology): Liquid crystallinity and extraneous control of clay colloids
N. Miyamoto (Fukuoka Institute of Technology): Synthesis of novel clay/polymer composite using clay colloids with liquid crystallinity
T. Ebina (National Institute of Advanced Industrial Science and Technology): Designing of clay composites nibbling brilliant organic and inorganic properties
M. Suzuki (National Institute of Advanced Industrial Science and Technology): Development of energy-saving clay adsorbent recyclable at low temperature
K. Kuroda (Waseda University): Role of silicates for the development of novel materials
T. Kogure (The University of Tokyo): Structure of clay minerals - Known and unknown sights over the past 20 years
M. Najo (Tohoku University): Role of clays and inorganic materials for soils, fertilizer, and agriculture and forestry
T. Sato (Hokkaido University): Reconsideration of Clay sphere: past, present and future
A. Yamagishi (Toho University): separation technology of optical isomer by clay column – motivation, progression and present status

3. Awards
The society presented awards to the following members at the occasion of the annual meeting.
Clay Science Society of Japan Award was given to A. Yamazaki, Waseda University.
Young Scientist Award was given to Y. Miyoshi, National Institute of Advanced Industrial Science and Technology.
Best Technological Award was given to Kunitime Industy Co., Ltd.
Best Paper Awards were given to J. T. Kloprogge and B. J. Wood (Clay Science, 19, 39-44) and to Y. Date et al. (Clay Science, 19, 85-90).
Young Student Awards were given to the following students:
- H. Ishibashi (Kanazawa Institute of Technology)
- N. Kudo (Tokyo Metropolitan University)
- K. Muramatsu (Waseda University)
- S. Suzuki (Tokyo Metropolitan University)
- H. Nishina (Tokyo Metropolitan University)

4. Publication
Clay Science Society of Japan publishes three issues of Nendo Kagaku (Journal of the Clay Science Society of Japan in Japanese), and four issues of Clay Science every year.

• H. Ishibashi (Kanazawa Institute of Technology)
• N. Kudo (Tokyo Metropolitan University)
• K. Muramatsu (Waseda University)
• S. Suzuki (Tokyo Metropolitan University)
• H. Nishina (Tokyo Metropolitan University)
mineralogists, physicists, geochemists, engineers, volcanologists, chemists and for many other specialists to share ideas and knowledge on the boundless world of the atmospheric particles. The conference was based on, but not limited to, the following topics:

- impact on health & environment
- instrumentation & measurements
- modelling & field studies
- transport & deposition
- the universe of atmospheric dust

The 45 scientific sessions were focused on sampling methods, analytical techniques, effects of anthropogenic or natural dust on health and the environment.

Next edition of DUST will be held on June 2018.

Dr. Laura Scrano, member of the AISA Board of Directors, has organized, in collaboration with GRIFA - Italian Research Group on Pesticides and Environment and SCI - Italian Chemical Society, the Summer school - Natural minerals and synthetic surrogates for the environment and health safeguard: Medicine, veterinary, agriculture and ecological issues, that was held in Bari, 20-22 June, at the Department of Earth and GeoEnvironmental Sciences, University “Aldo Moro”. The topics of the 5 planned Sessions were, respectively: Basic information, Environmental applications, Biotech applications, Medical applications and Innovative and future perspectives.

At the end of the year, the AISA members were 59, 48 ordinary, 9 juniors and 2 Societies. In addition to this, there were also 5 life members and 2 honorary foreign members.

2. Work Plan For 2017

Some members of the AISA are organizing the next edition of AMAM, that will be held on June 2017 in conjunction with the 13th International Congress of Applied Mineralogy. Information can be found at www.amam-icam2017.org website.

3. List of executive members of AISA onlus:

President: Aldo MIRABELLA (Previously, Ist. Sper.le Studio e Difesa del Suolo, Firenze)
Vice-President and Secretary: Vito SUMMA (Ist. Metodologie per l’Analisi Ambientale, IMMA-CNR, Tito Scalo, Potsenza)
Treasurer: Rocco LAVIANO (Dip. Scienze della Terra e Geosistemati, Univ. Bari)
Counsellors: Luca ALDEGA (Dip. Scienze della Terra, Univ. Roma Sapienza)
Piergiorgio CAPPELLETTI (Dip. Scienze della Terra, dell’Ambiente e delle Risorse, Univ. Napoli - Federico II)
Mauro PALLARA (Dip. Scienze della Terra e Geosistemati, Univ. Bari)
Laura CRANO (Dip. delle Culture Europee e del Mediterraneo, DICEM, Univ. Basilicata, Matera)
Massimo SETTI (Dip. Scienze della Terra, Univ. Pavia)
Cristina SILIGARDI (Dip. Ingegneria “Enzo Ferrari”, Univ. Modena e Reggio Emilia)
Chiara ZANELLI (Ist. Scienza Tecnologia dei Materiali Ceramici – ISTEC-CNIR, Faenza)
Liaison-Officer: Michele DONDI (Ist. Scienza Tecnologia dei Materiali Ceramici – ISTEC-CNIR, Faenza)

4. Administrative address:

AISA – onlus, c/o Dipartimento di Scienze della Terra e Geosistemati, Via Orabona, 4, 70125 Bari – Italy

By Aldo Mirabella
December / 2016

JAPAN

CLAY SCIENCE SOCIETY OF JAPAN

1. Committee

The following officers were elected for the fiscal year 2016 and 2017:

President: Prof. T. Hatta, Chiba Institute of Science
Vice presidents: Dr. H. Chino, Obayashi Cooperation
Prof. T. Kogure, The University of Tokyo
Secretary General: Prof. M. Kawano, Kagoshima University

Principal Editors: Dr. T. Hibino, National Institute of Advanced Industrial Science and Technology (Nendo Kagaku)
Dr. T. Ebina, National Institute of Advanced Industrial Science and Technology (Clay Science)

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By Aldo Mirabella
December / 2016

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Dr. T. Ebina, National Institute of Advanced Industrial Science and Technology (Clay Science)

The 3rd Asian Clay Conference has been held successfully from November 17th to 20th 2016 in Guangzhou, China. The conference was hosted by Guangzhou Institute of Geochemistry, Chinese Academy of Sciences (GIGCAS), co-organized by Southwest University of Science and Technology, Chinese Society for Mineralogy, Petrology and Geochemistry, National Natural Science Foundation of China, and Guangzhou Association for Science & Technology.

The intention of this conference is to promote international and interdisciplinary exchange of information, to foster collaboration among researchers, and to stimulate growth and advances in the research of clays and clay minerals. There were more than 260 attendees from 14 countries including China, Japan, South Korea, India, Philippines, Thailand, Mongolia, United States of America, Australia, France, Italy, Russia, and Latvia.

Prof. Ian Mackinnon from Queensland University of Technology hosted the opening ceremony. Prof. Yigang Xu, the President of Guangzhou Institute of Geochemistry, Chinese Academy of Sciences (GIGCAS), made an opening speech on the ceremony. Presented plenary lectures on the conference:

- Prof. Saverio Fiore (the President of AIPEA),
- Prof. Faiza Bergaya (the Editor-in-Chief of Applied Clay Science),
- Prof. Jin-Ho Choy (the Chair of the 2nd Asian Clay Conference),
- Prof. Joseph W. Stucki (the Editor-in-Chief of Clays and Clay Minerals),
- Prof. Sabine Petit (Université de Poitiers), and
- Prof. Hongping He (the Deputy President of GIGCAS and Chair of the conference).

The slogan of the conference was "Small Size, Big Science". Recent advances in the research of clay science were displayed on this conference. 155 abstracts of research works covering topics on earth sciences, environmental sciences, clay-based materials, and so on were accepted. Seven sessions were included in this conference:

1. Clays in earth science;
2. Clays and environments;
3. Clay-based functional materials;
4. Clays, nanoparticles and health;
5. Clay and micro-organisms;
6. Molecular simulation and characterization techniques; and
7. General session.

More than 100 oral presentations and 64 posters were exhibited on these sessions. 10 excellent oral presenters and 6 excellent poster presenters were awarded at the closing ceremony.

By Meng Chen and Hongping He
November / 2016
INDIA
CLAY MINERALS SOCIETY OF INDIA
The Annual Convention and National Symposium by The Clay Minerals Society of India will be held at Nagpur on February 17-18, 2017.
Organizer: Dr. P. Chandran (secretary)  
Head Div. of Soil Resource Studies  
ICAR-NBSS & LUP, Nagpur 440 033  
Maharashtra – India  
E-mail: pchandran1960@yahoo.co.in  
or gsocmi2017@gmail.com  
Internet: www.theclaymineralsocietyofindia.co.in/events
By Samar C. Datta  
December / 2016

ITALY
ITALIAN ASSOCIATION FOR THE STUDY OF CLAYS – AISA
1. Activities of 2016:
The activities of AISA members concern the presentation of research results at international and national conferences and the participation to national and international research programs.
During the annual general Assembly and the Clay Day 2016, the AISA members exchanged their scientific experiences. This year the two events were held in Modena at the Department of Engineering “Enzo Ferrari” of the University of Modena and Reggio Emilia. The Clay day was organized and coordinated by Prof. Cristina Siligardi. The following presentations were given:
“Geopolymeric materials for stone restoration: features and applications”, by Dr. Elena Soragni;  
“Porosity in geopolymers based on metakaolin”, by Dr. Valentina Medri;  
“Geopolymers based on metakaolin for inertization of hazardous waste”, by Prof. Isabella Lancellotti;  
“Materials activated in alkaline environment by kaolinitic clays of volcanic origin” by Dr. Roberta Occhipinti;  
“Thermal conductivity properties and possibilities of shaping of geopolymers” by Prof. Marcello Romagnoli.
The subjects of the presentations were very interesting and clay scientists had the opportunity to interact with researchers applying clays in the field of material science.  
The Second International Conference on Atmospheric Dust (DUST-2016) was organized by the Italian Association for the Study of Clay (AISA), in cooperation with the Institute of Methodologies for Environmental Analysis of the National Research Council of Italy (IMAA-CNRR). Chair of the Conference was Dr. Saviero Fiore (IMAA-CNRR). DUST 2016 offered a unique opportunity for

ISRAEL
ISRAEL SOCIETY FOR CLAY RESEARCH
Israel Society For Clay Research consists of approximately 40 members. Our members are active in international activities around the world. For example, Prof. Shlomo Nir presented his recent studies in the 5th Mediterranean Clay Meeting (MCM2016) that took take place in Izmir-Çeşme, Turkey, in September 25-29th, 2016. Prof. Shlomo Shoval and Prof. Giorsa Rywo participated at the 8th Mid European Clay Conference – MECC’16 in Košice, Slovakia. Several researchers from our society (e.g. Dr. Mikhail Borisover, Prof. Yael G. Mishaal) are very active in soil sciences societies and meetings around the world.
Several studies of some Society members focus on environmental aspects, for example: Prof. Nir published and presented recent studies on the application of micelle-clay composites for “grey water” purification and biocidal activity. Dr. Ahmed Nasser and Prof. (emer.) Uri Mingelgrin demonstrated in the past the efficiency of Al- and Cu-montmorillonite as catalysts in the mechaenochemical breakdown of various organic pollutants such as imazaquin and PAHs, and recently demonstrated that effective degradation of carbamazepine. Prof. Rywo delivered a short course on Environmental Applications of Clays, Organoclays and Nanocomposites to students of the International Master Degree in Clay Sciences Program (IMACS), Poitiers (France) in February-March 2016. Collaboration on the issue is ongoing: the course will be delivered again by remote learning, and two students of the program are expected to perform an internship in Israel for 5 months during 2017.

We are planning the next annual meeting of The Israel Society for Clay Research, that will take place during Fall 2017. The location will be determined during the next weeks.

For more information contact:  
Giorsa Rywo, Tel Hai College & MIGAL Research Institute, Upper Galilee, Israel. Tel: 972-4-6953553  
Email: rywo@telhai.ac.il  
We wish you all a happy and fruitful year.

By Giorsa Rywo  
December / 2016

AWARDEES OF EXCELLENT ORAL AND POSTER PRESENTATIONS (PHOTO COURTESY OF MENG CHEN)

GROUP PHOTO (PHOTO COURTESY OF HONGPING HE)
This session of the AIPEA Newsletter brings together the reports about the many activities developed by its Affiliated Societies/Groups up to December 2016. It represents an effort to coordinate communication among all National (Regional) Clay Group (NCG) members and the individual members of AIPEA. It aims to become a key vehicle for communication of all clay scientists.

As pointed out in other part of this newsletter, AIPEA Council has approved the affiliation of The Clay Minerals Society of India (CSMI) and of The Chinese Association for the Study of Clays (CASC). Therefore, AIPEA gathers by now twenty-three affiliated societies around the world in activity.

For this issue, AIPEA Newsletter has received reports and/or announcements from almost every AIPEA affiliated societies/groups. We are very grateful to all our collaborators for accomplishment of this important task.

The readers will notice that the content of each report is particular of each society, bringing together their national flavor. Some original 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 accessed by digital means. All has been done with much care and interest. So we wish you a pleasant reading.

Daisy Barbosa Alves
AIPEA Secretary-General

ALGERIA
ALGERIAN CLAY GROUP

I am very delighted and highly honoured to have the opportunity to represent the Algerian Clays Group (ACG) established on June 2002, and disclose our activities that we have undertaken throughout the period between 2015 and 2016, to the Association International pour l’Étude des Argiles” (AIPEA). Besides, we provide you details of our project plans for the year 2017.

1. Main activities

1.1 National activity and Cooperation during the year 2016:
Algerian university and national industries collaboration
Scientific research and students supervision (Engineers, Master and PhD) in the field of:
1. Characterization of Clay minerals (Geology and deposition conditions).
2. Problems during drilling (shale stability).
3. Catalysts and adsorbents from clays.
4. Clays Problems in oil reservoir.
5. Preparation of organoclays and their applications.
7. Clays in Pharmaceuticals and cosmetics application.
8. Clays and building projects.
Participation of our groups including Algerian Clay Group members, Algerian Chemical Engineering Group (GAGEP: Groupe Algérien de Génie des Procédés) and National Oil Group Sonatrach in some national and international meetings and workshops on the clays characterization, treatment and industrial valorization Took part in scientific activities and research programs.

1.2 International Activity and Cooperation during the year 2016:
Programmes and projects involved between Algerian and European universities, research laboratories and others scientific research organisations: ERANETMED, Tassili,

National and Regional Clay Groups

some results and conclusions
• Mázik, J.: Results of the VSP survey in the BAF-2 borehole
• Korgai, F. et al.: Multipacker system in the borehole BAF-2
• Dankó, Gy. et al.: In-situ stress measurements in the borehole BAF-2
• Földessy, J. et al.: Water chemistry of BAF-2, BAF-1, -1A boreholes
• Földing, G. et al.: Tectonic stability study with exploration trench in the vicinity of the Boda Claystone Formation (Preliminary results of the geological logging of B-3 exploration trench)
• Csurgo, G. et al.: BCF hydrogeological reambulation 2015 – BCF exploration, surface exploration phase I, stage 2

3.4 24-26 August: Natural Resources in North Hungary (Annual meeting and expo of the Hungarian Geological Society, Sárospatak)
• Hágen, A.: Sedimentation of Pleistocene sand and loess, revealed by the Karmáts loess section
• Viczian, I.: What was the so-called “Tokaj earth”?
• Bujdós, É. et al.: Results of the passive seismic monitoring system of the Boda Claystone Formation
• Gártner, D. et al.: Core geophysical results of the deep drillcores BAF-2, BAF-1 and BAF-1A

4. Relevant Hungarian PhD deficiencies in 2016:
• Mátéh, Zoltán. (Eötvös Loránd University, Budapest): Results of mineralogical, petrological and geological investigation of the Boda Claystone Formation, 3rd March
• Horváth, Adrien (University of West Hungary, Sopron): Investigation of urban and peri-urban soils in the area of Sopron and Somogybath, 7th July
• Sárközi, Edit (Szent István University, Gödöllő): The effect of heavy metal stress in soil-plant systems – from clays to vessels) had Hungarian convenors (János Kristóf, Béla Rauszky, Ferenc Kristály, resp.), too. The (at least partly) Hungary-related contributions:
• Balzó, R. et al. (poster): Influence of clay and iron mineralogy on copper sorption by meadow soils
• Buzerthy, D. et al. (oral): Trivalent cations modified bentonites against eutrophication
• Farkas, J.M. (poster): The effects of short-time interaction of potassium- and sodium chloride with Na-montmorillonite and illite-smectite mixed-layer clay minerals
• Kovács, E.M. et al. (oral): Surface species of lanthanum ion on montmorillonite
• Kovács, I. Vérs (poster): Argillite alteration of Permian granite intrusion (Vélcse Mts., Hungary) by Tiassic and Paleogene hydrothermal fluids
• Kovács Kis, V. et al. (poster): Nanostructural changes in montmorillonite upon cyclic wetting-and-drying: An electron diffraction study
• Kristály, É. et al. (oral): Experiments on the mineralogical composition of low carbonate bearing common clays in the 500-800°C interval
• Kristóf, J. et al. (oral): Nanokoaottesville/halloysites as potential photocatalysts
• Lakatos, A. (oral): Heat transfer investigations carried out on brick based wall.
• Mészáros, É. et al. (poster): Low-grade, medium pressure regional metamorphism of the pelitic succession in the Horváthertelend Unit: microstructural and thermobarnonometric evidences (NW foreland of the Mecsek Mts., Hungary)
• Németh, T. et al. (oral): Change of the metal sorption properties of clay minerals due to laboratory and natural pedopedogenic alterations
• Raczask, B. et al. (poster): Very low-grade metamorphism of the Cisuralian basement formations (Korpád Sandstone, Györi Rhyolite) near Kelebia, Békés-Co dru Unit, Hungary
• Róza, P. et al. (oral): Archaeometric study on Turkish ceramic water pipe from Rudas Bath, Budapest, Hungary
• Schimek, E. et al. (poster): The origin of industrial fluorine emission of a Hungarian brick factory
• Sipos, P. et al. (poster): Effect of iron oxo-hydroxide removal on the metals’ partition at particle level following their sorption in soil
• Szlágé, R. K. et al. (oral): Quantum Mechanical Engineering of Exfoliated Kaolinite
• Táborosi, A. et al. (poster, winner of the poster session award: Development of molecular cluster models for nano-kaolinite from crystalline structures

Erzsébet Tóth
December / 2016

5. International activity: MECC 2016, 8th Mid-European Clay Conference, 4-8 July, Košice, Slovakia
Hungary, as a traditional organiser country delegated 15 researchers to this 195-participant meeting. Three sections (Organoclay and nanocomposites; Clays in sedi-
2. Activities proposed for 2017
In the first semester of 2017, we plan to organize a national day for the reorganization of the Algerian Clay Group and the election of a new office.

In the second semester of 2017, we plan to organize an international day on clay and shale gas problems, in which the experts of AIPEA will contribute and participate.

3. Algerian Clay Group Council:
President: Mr. A. Bengueddache, (Oran, University)
Vice Presidents: Mrs. H. Chemani, (Houmedi University)
Mr. B. Touahri, (Bental ENOF Algiers)
Mr. M. Belkadi, (Sonatrach Central Research Director)
General Secretary: Mr. M. Khodja, (Sonatrach, Central Research Directorate)
Assistant General Secretary: Mr. A. Bakhti, (Mostaganem University)
Mrs. F. Kaouah (USTHB University, Algiers)
Treasurer: Mr. B. Boualem, (USTHB University, Algiers)
Assistant Treasurer: Mr. B. Adjahi, (Faienciere Algerienne, Algiers)
Mr. K. Kherjdijj, (Sonatrach/ Exploration Division Bournemard)

4. Further information:
Dr. Mohamed Khodja
Algerian Clay Group, General Secretary
Sonatrach/Direction Centrale Recherche et Développement

By Mohamed Khodja
December / 2016

AUSTRALIA
AUSTRALIAN CLAY MINERALS SOCIETY
Report not available.

BRAZIL
BRAZILIAN CLAY GROUP
The Brazilian Clay Group (GBA), a branch of the Brazilian Geochemical Society (SBGc), began its activities around 2009, gathering clay scientists interested in clays and clay minerals.

1. Technical Meetings
During 2016, Brazilian clay scientists presented the results of their researches in three main national events, as follows:

1a. The 2nd Workshop on Applied Clays (Z2AA) took place at Rio de Janeiro (RJ) from March 31st to April 1st 2016 (http://www.cetem.goi.br/ii-simposio-argila-aplicadas). The chairs were Dr. L.C. Bertolino (CETEM) and Dr. S.B.C. Pergher (Federal University of Rio Grande do Norte). The program included 14 invited lectures, 25 papers (poster) and 1 round-table. The invited lectures were:
- Clays and petroleum - S.M.G. Anjos (in Portuguese).
- Researches of clay minerals in Brazil - D.B. Alves (in Portuguese).
- Clays, clay minerals and why one Brazilian Society of Clays - R.S. Angelica (in Portuguese).
- Clay-based polymer nanocomposites - M.C.G. Rocha (in Portuguese).
- The importance of the characterization of lateritic clays in the mineral processing - E. Mano (in Portuguese).
- Bionanocomposite for application in environmental remediation and biomedicine - A. Alcantara (in Portuguese).
- Preparation and characterization of polyoxynitrite / polyoxynitrate-based magnetic nanocomposite - A. Midda (in Portuguese).
- Geological aspects and potential uses of clays from the NE of the Amazonas state - R.H.C. Lima (in Portuguese).

The proceedings of this event can be found at http://www.cetem.goi.br/images/eventos/2016/ii_uaa/anais_uii_uaa.pdf The list of papers follows (in Portuguese):
- Bernardo, M.P. et al. Controlled release of phosphate intercalated into layered double hydroxides.
- Campos, V.M.J.S. et al. Mineralogical identification and purification of kaolinite from Equador (RN) and Science of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences.
- Németh, T.; Soil Mineralogy Section of the Hungarian Soil Science Society.
- Töth, E.: The university lecturer.
- Csáząr, G.: The man – as only a few people knew him.

2.4- 3rd October (Budapest): Quo vadius Clay Mineralogy? – round-table discussion on the occasion of two meetings (MECC2016, JTACC-V4 – 2017)
The meeting had a round-table discussion in the first part, dealing with the role the Hungarian Clay Group plays in the international clay science. The regional MECC 2016 (July 4-8th, 2016, Košice, Slovakia, https://mecc2016.sav.sk/) offered an overview of the regional clay science results and the possibility to evaluate the role of the HCG in it. The MECC2016 meeting had 195 participants, and among them 15 Hungarian delegates. Out of the 12 sessions, 3 had Hungarian convenors, too.

Another meeting relevant to the clay science will be the 1st Journal of Thermal Analysis and Calorimetry Conference & 6th V4 (joint Czech-Hungarian-Polish-Slovak) Thermoanalytical Conference (JTACC-V4) on June 6-9, 2017, in Budapest, Hungary; http://jacc.v4.ac.kagness.com/. It was introduced by János Kristóf. The Hungarian Clay Group decided to contribute to the organisation of the clay-related sessions. Therefore, the broadest sense thermoanalytical meeting welcomes contributions from the relevant fields of clay science.

The round table was followed by two presentations:
- Viczián, I.: Clay minerals in the Kaba meteorite. Review of previous results and preliminary results of a thin section study.

2.5- 17-18 November (Miskolc): 3rd Workshop of Earth Sciences Related Higher Education Institutions (organised jointly with the HGS MGB; HGS Education and Training Section; Higher Education Working Committee, Committee on Geochemistry, Mineralogy and Petrology of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences; Institut of Mineralogy and Geology, Miskolc University) The yearly meeting helps networking and collaboration of earth-sciences related higher-education institutions and introduces each time a certain institute, this time the Institute of Mineralogy and Geology of the Miskolc University, with special focus on education issues and research projects.

3. Clay-related presentations at other meetings in Hungary, in 2016
Papers dealing with clay minerals, were presented also in several other organisations, in other sections of Hungarian Geological Society (HGS) and in various branches of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences (HAS). The meetings were held not only in Budapest but in other places too (in the following report these locations and organisations are specially indicated). The following meetings and presentations related to clay problems were held:

- Németh, T. et al.: The transformation of clay minerals under atmospheric conditions: the effect of wetting and drying
- Kovács-Kis et al.: Electron diffraction studies on montmorillonite

3.2- 19 April (Sziged, organised by the Alifeld Regional Section of HGS): Calcareous marl meeting
The one-day meeting was devoted to the formation conditions, sedimentimetry, potential hydrocarbon source rock and reservoir role of the marl member of the Endrillé Formation, representing the start of Pannonian transgression.

3.3- 23 June (Pecs, organised by the Péc Regional Section of HAS; with a complete proceedings volume, in Hungarian with English abstract):
New results of the Boda Claystone Formation (BCF) research
- Tüngel, Gy et al.: Geological investigation of the Boda Claystone Formation
- Márthí, Z.: Depositional environment of the Boda Claystone Formation (BCF)
- Halmai, Á. et al.: The Depth of Colors – Quantitative Analysis of Drilling Cores
- Majonos, Gy. et al.: The attempted integrated interpretation of the structure of Mecsek Mts. and its surroundings in the light of our geological knowledge
- Vágó, Z. et al.: Drilling activity in the Boda Claystone Formation
- Konrád, Gy. et al.: Geological results of the boreholes BAF-1, 1A and 2
- Somosi, G. et al.: Rock mass classification and rock mechanical laboratory investigations in BAF-2 borehole
- Fedor, E. et al.: Results of mineralogical, petrological, geochemical and petrophysical laboratory measurements carried out on samples of BAF-2 and BAF-1, 1A drillholes
- Bernáth, Gy. et al.: Well logging of BAF project 2014:
1. Election of the board
The board of the Clay Mineralogy Section, affiliated to the Hungarian Geological Society (HGS) (in the following, for simplicity, the Hungarian Clay Group) worked for its second year in the three-year term 2015–2018. New Honorary Member of the Committee, due to the death of Géza Szendrei in 2015, has not been elected. The board consists of the following:

President: Erzsébet Tóth (Eötvös Museum of Natural History, Faculty of Sciences, Eötvös Loránd University, Budapest)
Secretary: Ferenc Kristóf (Department of Mineralogy and Petrography, Institute of Mineralogy and Geology, Faculty of Earth Science and Engineering, University of Miskolc)

Members of the Committee: Izabella M. Farkas (MOL Plc., Group E&P Production Management, Applied Materials, Technologies & Laboratories, Geoscience Thematic Unit, Budapest); Viktoriá Kovács-Kis (Thin Film Physics Group, Centre for Energy Research, Hungarian Academy of Sciences - HAS, Budapest); János Kristóf (Department of Analytical Chemistry, University of Pannonia, Veszprém, Hungary); Tibor Németh (Department of Mineralogy, Eötvös Loránd University, Budapest; Institute for Geological and Geochemical Research, Research Centre for Astronomy and Earth Sciences, HAS, Budapest); Béla Rausick (Department of Mineralogy, Geochemistry and Petrology, Faculty of Science and Informatics, University of Szeged, Szeged); Péter Sipos (Institute for Geological and Geochemical Research, Research Centre for Astronomy and Earth Sciences, HAS, Budapest); István Vécsei (Department of Mineralogy and Geology, Debrecen University, Debrecen)

Honorary President of the Committee: Ernő Némecz (HAS Veszprémi Budapest)

In 2016, the Hungarian Clay Group had 5 meetings.

2.1- 11th January (Budapest) (organised jointly with the Mineralogical-Geochemo-Branch of the Hungarian Geological Society, abbreviated as HGS MGB in the following):
Conference review of 2016 and overview of the coming conferences in 2017. The conferences with clay mineralogical relevance were as follows:
• Szakmány, Gy.: 13th European Meeting on Ancient Ceramics (EMAC), September 24-26th, 2015, Athens, Greece.
• Gergely, E. Euroclay 2015, July 5–10th, Edinburgh, Scotland.

Among the forthcoming meetings, the 8th Mid-European Clay-Conference (MECC2016, see below) was introduced by E. Tóth.

2.2- 15th February (Budapest): Clay mineralogy workshop to promote the participation of young scientists and students at the MECC2016 conference
The new initiative aimed at helping young researchers to finalise their abstracts for the conference by reviewing the current state of their research by the more experienced Hungarian clay scientists. The reviewed papers:
• Koczka, I.: Clay mineralogical study of the metabasalts at the Százszina headwaters.
• Kovács, I.: Hydrothermal clay alterations in the Velence Mountains.
• Schimek, É.: The geologic origin of industrial fluorine emission of a brick factory.

The results of Kovács and Schimek have finally been presented at MECC2016 (see below).

2.3- 21st March (Budapest): Géza Szendrei (1942-2015) memorial meeting (organised jointly with the HGS MGB; Sub-Committee on Environmental Geochemistry, Committee on Geochemistry, Mineralogy and Petrology of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences; Soil Mineralogy Section of the Hungarian Soil Science Society; Institute for Soil Sciences and Agricultural Chemistry, Centre for Agricultural Research of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences; Hungarian Natural History Museum):
• Papp, G.: Scientific career in a biographic frame.
• Tóth, T.: Activity in soil science – as seen by a colleague.
• Vécsei, L.: Scientific achievements.

Science organisation:
• Vető, I., Gondi, E.: Sub-Committee on Environmental Junco do Serido (PB), with emphasis in the relationship between iron ion (III) and the whiteness index.
• Cavalcanti, G.R.S. et al. Influence of the interlamellar ion in the adsorption of tiabendazole in bentonite.
• Costa, R.B. et al. Biomineralisation: study of reduction of the organic matter in ceramic raw material.
• Fontana, E. et al. Hydrothermal and tardi-magmatic clay minerals alteration of volcanic rocks in the Seival Cu-mineralization - Camaqua Basin - Brazil.
• Franca, D.B. et al. Interlacement of 1,8-octidiamine in H-magadite through different routes.
• Maruyama, G.S. et al. Layered double hydroxides for making nanocarbons.
• Nascimento, J.V.A. et al. Preparation of natural and synthetic pillared clays using aluminium polyhydroxides: both commercial and prepared in the laboratory.
• Oliveira, A.S. et al. Bionanocomposites systems based in montmorillonite and biopolymers for olanzapine controlled release.
• Oliveira, K.C.B.F. et al. Washing, stabilization and characterization processes of the palygorskite clay from Piauí State.
• Oliveira, L.H. et al. Regional bentonite as a tiabendazole release system.
• Oliveira, L.S. et al. Interaction between piperazine and bentonites.
• Oliveira, E.S. et al. Interaction of polar and non-polar solvents with bentonite in a microwave reactor.
• Passos, F.A.C.M. et al. Synthesis and characterization of sodalite and cancrinite from kaolin (RN/PB).
• Pereira, W.L. et al. Mineralogical, structural and chemical analyses of clay minerals from the Alter do Chao Formation in the Amazonas.
• Plotger, F. et al. Mechanical characterization of pectine / vermiculite bionanocomposites produced by continuous casting.
• Santana, M.V. et al. Synthesis and characterization of attapulgite nanocomposites / metallic nanoparticles for biotechnological applications.
• Rodrigues, P.V. et al. Mineralogical characterization and purification of the palygorskite from the Guadalupe Region (PI), seeking industrial applications.
• Santos, F.R. et al. Adsorption of rhodamine B and of methyl orange dyes in calcined bentonite.
• Sakai, Y.Y. et al. Intercalation of berberine in clays: evaluation of experimental parameters.
• Santos, J.P. et al. Application of vermiculite clay mineral to removal of Pl(II) ions by sorption process.
• Serra, R. et al. Identification of the clay minerals of the Tremembé Formation, Taubate Basin.
• Silva, L.D.S. et al. Application of the Prado Kaolin (BA) in the production of nanocomposites.
• Simoes, K.M.A. et al. Technological characterization and purification of a palygorskite from Piauí for application as adsorbent of heavy metal effluents.

In 2017, the 3rd Workshop on Applied Clays (3RAA) will take place at Sao Paulo (SP), probably from 27th to 29th April. The chair of this event will be Dr. Vera Regina Leopoldo Constantino [vrlconst@iq.usp.br], from Chemistry Institute of University State of Sao Paulo.

1b. The 60th Brazilian Congress on Ceramics, organized by the Brazilian Society of Ceramics (ABceram) took place at Aguas de Lindoia (SP), from May 15th to 18th, 2016 (http://www.abceram.org.br). There were 325 participants from 21 Brazilian states, besides participants from other countries (Spain, Italy, Portugal, Slovenia and USA). A fair was organized with the 6 companies which sponsored the event.

The program included 289 technical papers (38 orals and 251 posters), 11 conferences, 6 plenary lectures, 3 round tables, 2 short-courses and one workshop.

The following papers based on clay topics have been presented:
• Barcelos, J.L. et al. Makin fib-light-weight concrete by substitution of part of the large aggregates by expanded clay.
• Baruel, A.F. et al. Organophosphatization of bentonite clay through a phosphorus salt (in Portuguese).
• Boshchi, A.O. et al. Effect of the starting raw material in the performance of geopolymers (in Portuguese).
• Britto, E.M. et al. Assessment of chemical and technological properties of the clays from the middle-north region of Brazil as potential for application in formulations for the production of red ceramics pressed roof tiles (in Portuguese).
• Christoforetti, S.R. et al. Facies, composition and technology of the Corumbatai Formation, Permian of the Paraná Basin and its application in the ceramic industry of northeastern of the Sao Paulo State, Brazil (in Portuguese).
• Correia, S.L. et al. Preparation and characterization of geopolymer cements from precursors of different
metakaolinite sources (in Portuguese)
• Ferreira, G.C. et al. Impacts of the small clay mining and industry potter in the Ribeirão Jacutinga Sub-Basin (SP) in a seasonal study (in Portuguese).
• Francisco, M.A.C.O. et al. Physical-mechanical characterization of kaolin from the Espírito Santo State, seeking industrial application (in Portuguese).
• Lima, E.G. et al. Use of natural polycationic clay (Verde Dura) in the removal of the reactive yellow dye in finite bath system (in Portuguese).
• Lima, J.S.T. et al. Study of the potentiality of the residue from the exploration and purification of kaolin in the production of metakaolin for use as partial substitute of cement in concrete (in Portuguese).
• Menezes, J.N. et al. Assessment of porosity and absorption of water of the ceramic mass for porcelain stoneware as a function of the addition of kaolin residue incorporation (in Portuguese).
• Oliveira, H.A. et al. Removal of Cr (VI) from aqueous solutions using clay of the Calumbi Formation, N. Sra. do Socorro, Sergipe State, Brazil (in English).
• Pereira, R.T. et al. Studying the effect of chemical, mineralogical and size characteristics of a red ceramic mass in the loss of brick production (in Portuguese).
• Rodrigues, M.G.F. et al. Kinetic study of the adsorption of the heavy metal cadmium using the natural Bragel clay as adsorbent (in Portuguese).
• Sales, J.C. et al. Clays for manufacturing red ceramic in northeastern Brazil (in Portuguese).
• Silva, D.L. Study of the correlation between the sorption of surfactant in organophilic clays and their rheology in oil-base fluid (in Portuguese).
• Varela, M.L. et al. Assessment of microstructural evolution of ceramic mass for porcelain stoneware as a function of the addition of kaolin residue incorporation (in Portuguese).

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

The 2016 DTTG activities started with the organization of a 2-day workshop “Rietveld analysis with BGMM”, held on March 1st and 2nd at the Freiberg Technical University, The workshop was fully booked and 24 participants exercised the use of the BGMM and PROFEX software in XRD analysis. This year the focus was put on the optimization of instrumental settings and on the new features of the PROFEX graphical user interface, presented by Reinhard Kleeberg (Freiberg) and Nicola Doebelin (Bernach, Switzerland), respectively. Despite this subject was not exclusively related to clay science, a number of PhD students and scientists working in our field also participated and learned about these methods.

The importance and power of the XRD analysis in clay science was once more demonstrated in the 9th Reynolds Cup in Quantitative Mineral Analysis, organized by the Clay Minerals Society and supported by the DTTG. The results were presented at the 53rd Annual Meeting of the CMS in Atlanta/Georgia at June 5-8. Within the standing of the 69 participants, the eleven teams from the DTTG performed extremely well. So, eight of the German-Swiss-Austrian laboratories have been placed within the best thirteen ranks. Namely, the places 4 and 5 went to the Freiberg University and BGR Hannover teams, and also the winners, Rikke Adriains and Gilles Mertens from Leuven/Belgium, are members of our society. The second and third place went to Mark Raven and Peter Self (CSIRO Australia), and to the team of Steve Hillier from the Hurton Institute, Scotland, respectively. Congratulations to the winners, and thank to all participants for their efforts in improving the quality of our analytical methods!

A number of members of the DTTG participated at the CMS meeting in Atlanta, as mentioned above. There will be a separate report in this newsletter, presented by the CMS. From the DTTG perspective it should be mentioned that Xiaoh-Wang from Freiberg University received a CMS Student Travel Grant and was also awarded for the best student oral presentation of her talk. “Rietveld refinement of selected structural parameters of dioctahedral smectites”. Our members Michael Plötzke, Reiner Dohmann, and Georg Grathoff worked hard as conveners and contributed actively to the scientific success of this conference.

The 2016 DTTG business meeting and elections were held at July 7th at the 8th Mid-European Clay Conference in Kosice, Slovakia. According to the bylaws of the society, the group elected a new council. The new secretary and incoming president is now Dr. Matthias Schellhorn. My great honor was to take over the presidency from Dr. Katja Emmerich, as her term has ended this year. The DTTG assembly cordially thanked Katja Emmerich for her great and successful leadership.

In the frame of the scientific program of the MECC the DTTG also presented the Gerhard Lagaly Award to Dr. Sabine Peti (University of Poitiers), recognizing her scientific work and her efforts in education in the field of clay science. Dr. Jan Dietel (BGR Hannover) was awarded with the Karl Jasmund Award for his PhD thesis ”Mineralogical and chemical properties of thermally treated and ground illicitic clays as precursor materials for geopolymer binders”. The DTTG is grateful to the organizers of the MECC for integrating our awards in this great and well organized conference. A special report on this meeting is available in this issue.

As ongoing activity, the DTTG is currently preparing the 7th International Workshop ”Qualitative and Quantitative Analysis of Clays and Clay Minerals”, to be held 20.-24.02.2017 at Greifswald University and organized by Georg Grathoff and Laurence Warr. The workshop is already fully booked, and we expect to have interesting talks, exercises, and scientific discussions.

By Reinhard Kleeberg
December / 2016
Euroclay 2019 a successful and unforgettable event. Our next “rendez-vous” with possible contributors and attendees will take place in Granada next July during the ICC meeting. See a lot of you there!

1. French Clay Group 14th annual meeting – Poitiers, May 18-20
The Annual Meeting of the GFA was organized in Poitiers by Eric Ferrage and the faculty members from the HydRA-SA group of the IC2MP. This year, our annual meeting gathered more than 110 persons (that is about the number of members of the French Clay Group!), with ~60 contributions (both oral and poster in similar proportions) dealing with a variety of lamellar compounds going from phyllosilicates to layered double hydroxides, cementitious CSH phases, lamellar oxides, and tubular oxides. Plenary lectures were given by Alain Baronneau (on CSH high-resolution imaging), Isabelle Baronneau-Gentner (on the fine-tuning of porous material hydrophilicity-hydrophobicity), and Pierre Delage (on the impact of water content in smectites on their mechanical properties).

Ample room was made also to student presentations, three of these student presentations being singled out for their quality (Ailbhe Le Floch for their posters on “Dye-LDH hybrids and their use in photocatalysis” and “Sorption of dyes on LDH”, and Maxime Lainé for his oral presentation on the “Impact of irradiation on swelling clays”).

2. MECC 2016 meeting – Košice (Slovakia), July 4-8
A group of ~12 French participants attended this year’s MECC meeting, bringing our contribution to these increasingly attractive meetings organize every other year between Euroclay and ICC meetings. Former active and efficient secretary of the GFA for many years, Sabine Petit (IC2MP, Poitiers), was awarded the Gerhard Laflamme medal. The French Clay Group is Poitiers-based formation. The fifth graduation ceremony of the IMACS took place in Poitiers (France), on September 13-14th. Congratulations to the 2016 IMACS graduate students.

The fifth graduation ceremony was the last of this international Master Program in its Erasmus Mundus form. Over the last five years, this program has seen the graduation of ~60 international Master students from a variety of countries from all 6 continents (in addition to ~40 French trainees). An important part of the international students have undertaken a Ph.D. thesis throughout the clay world (Belgium, Brazil, Canada, Denmark, France, Germany, Italy, Norway, UK, USA,…). We strongly believe that this unique clay-oriented Master was a fantastic opportunity for students to obtain a solid formation on techniques allowing the characterization of clays, the determination of their reactive properties, the optimization of their synthesis, but also insights in their different domains of application. I am sure all current advisors of these Ph.D. students would agree with me on the quality of the initial formation provided through this program.

Although EC funding was cut, the future of this program remains international with a strong support from associated universities from Brazil (U. Federal Rio Grande do Sul), Greece (Techn. U. Crete), and Portugal (U. Aveiro), but also from all over France. This Poitiers-based formation has been initiated indeed through the French Clay Group and remains strongly supported with a sustained involvement of its members – and of foreign teachers – from various universities teaching classes in their respective areas of expertise.

4. Miscellaneous.
The GFA supported also other actions such as the 4th French-Speaking Seminar on Geopolymer which was organized at the Ceramics European Center (CEC) in Limoges on June 16th and 17th, just after the 1st Seminar of the European Geopolymer Network organized at the same place on June 15th. Members of the GFA were involved also in the organization of the International Workshop on Advanced Ceramics held on September 26-28th, in Limoges and more especially in that of the sessions devoted to bio- and eco-materials.

By Bruno Lanson
December / 2016

2. Publications
Some Brazilian journals/reviews have published papers on researches with clay and clay minerals which can be retrieved for free at www.scielo.br

Cerâmica

(on-line version ISSN 1678-4553 - www.scielo.br/cer)


Journal of the Brazilian Chemical Society (On-line version ISSN 1678-4799 - www.scielo.br):


Materials Research (on-line version ISSN 1980-5373 - www.scielo.br):

By Daisy Barbosa Alves

3- Invitation

We would like to invite all clay scientists to participate both in 3rd Workshop on Applied Clays (3RAC) that will take place at Sao Paulo (SP) on April 27-29th and in the 61st Brazilian Congress on Ceramics (61CBC) that will take place at Gramado (RS) on June 04-07th, 2017.

By Daisy Barbosa Alves

Closing ceremony of conference in Košice as a host of next MECC 2018. According to the 2016 plan of activities, the CCG was updated and improved its website.

Preparation of MECC 2018 included:

- Establishing the Organizing Committee of this conference;
- select the hotel where it will be held;
- definition of the conference fieldtrips;
- preparation of conference workshop.

Due to increased activities of its members, the CCG was not adequately active regarding to planned lectures in this year.

Plans for 2017:

- Future lectures would be in accordance to fieldtrips on MECC 2018.
- Participation at conferences related to clays (16th ICC 2017, Granada, Spain).
- Preparation for MECC 2018, Zagreb (Croatia).

By Anira Grinej and Nikolina Ilijanic

December / 2016

CZECH REPUBLIC

CZECH NATIONAL CLAY GROUP

The Czech National Clay Group (CNCG) published two numbers (57–58) of the “Informátor” bulletin in Czech language with information about clay science in the Czech Republic and in the world. ISSN of printed version is 1802-2480; ISSN of internet pdf version is 1802-2499.

Informátor published information about seminars together with abstracts of lectures, overview of published books and interesting papers and summary of previous conferences. We are announcing upcoming conferences in the next years.

We organized two seminars:

The spring meeting was organized in Prague on May 12. Program of the seminar:

Dimitrios Papoulis (University of Patras, Greece): Clay-based nanocomposites possibilities and limitations.

Konstantinos Nikolakopoulos (University of Patras, Greece): Unmanned aerial vehicles for geological and geoarchaeological applications.

The autumn meeting was organized in Prague on November 24.

Program of the seminar:

Martin Šťastný (Institute of Geology AS CR, v. v. i., Prague). Josef Dudek (Elementary Art School Prague Prague 10): Has been the secret of Lotisice cups revealed?

Martin Šťastný, Miroslav Coubal (Institute of Geology AS CR, v. v. i., Prague): Tectonic clays and clay minerals Pavel Hájek (Techfloor): Techfloor products presentation


Members of CNCG participated at the Mid European Clay Conference in Košice and Ph.D. student Jakub Škoda obtained the best poster presentation award.

In the year 2017 we will plan to organize spring and autumn seminars and together with zeolite group one day conference meeting during September at the University of Chemistry and Technology, Prague.

Contemporary board of CNCG in 2017:

Chairman: Miroslav Pospíšil
Vice-chairman: Martin Šťastný
Treasurer: Petr Kravík
Board members: Soňa Jarková
Pavel Hájek
Martin Holý
Petr Praus
Representative of zeolite subgroup: David Koloušek

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For other information about CNCG, we recommend you to visit our pages: www.czechclaygroup.cz

By Miroslav Pospíšil

December / 2016

FRANCE

FRENCH CLAY GROUP

2016 was again an active and successful year for the French Clay Group (GAF). Following the ECGA choice of Paris to host the next Euroclay meeting in 2019, a local organizing committee, chaired by Jean Louis Robert, has been set up. This committee is working hard to make this