



# The Geochemical News

Biannual Newsletter of the Geochemical Society

Number 71

July 1987

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## Meetings and Symposia

1987

- Jul 20-24 Meteoritical Society Annual Meeting, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, England. D.W. Collinson, School of Physics, The University, Newcastle-upon-Tyne NE1 7RU, UK. Tel. 091-232-8511.
- 23-25 2nd Symposium on South Atlantic Evolution. Rio de Janeiro. Dimas Dimas-Brito, Ilha de Fondaio, Quadra 7, Rio de Janeiro 21.910, Brazil.
- 27-28 Tectonic Setting of Layered Intrusives. Pretoria, S Africa. Secretary, Indaba Organizing Committee, Dept of Geology, University of Pretoria, S Africa.
- 27-Aug 7: Long-term Stability of the Earth System. University Park, PA. Eric J. Barron, Earth Systems Science Center, 537 Deike Building, University Park, PA 16802.
- 28-30 Groundwater Monitoring and Sampling (short course). Lakewood, CO. Theresa Smoot, ASTM, 1916 Race Street, Philadelphia, PA 19103. 215-299-5413.
- Aug 3- 7 International Symposium on Erosion and Sedimentation in the Pacific Rim. Corvallis, OR. Conference Coordinator, 1987 Corvallis Symposium, College of Forestry, Oregon State University, Corvallis, OR 97331. 503-754-2004.
- Aug 3-13 5th Magmatic Sulphide Field Conference. Zimbabwe. A. Martin, Geol. Soc. of Zimbabwe, P.O. Box 8427, Causeway, Harare, Zimbabwe.
- 3-14 32nd Annual Short Course on Modern Industrial Spectroscopy. Tempe, AZ. Jacob Fuchs, Dept of Chemistry, Arizona State University, Tempe, AZ 85287. 602-965-4496 or 3461.
- 9-22 Intl Union of Geodesy and Geophysics. Vancouver, BC. Venue West Ltd., 801-750 Jervis Street, Vancouver, BC, Canada V6E 2A9. 604-681-5226.
- 11-12 Database Techniques (short course). Tulsa, OK. Petroleum Abstracts, University of Tulsa, 600 S College Ave., Tulsa OK 74104. 918-592-6000.
- 17-21 Gordon Conference on Inorganic Geochemistry. Andover, NH. Alexander Cruickshank, Gordon Research Center, University of Rhode Island, Kingston, RI 02881-0801. 401-783-4011.
- 20-22 X-ray Powder Diffractometry (International Union of Crystallography). Perth, W Australia. E.H. Nickel, Div. of Minerals and Geochemistry, CSIRO, Private Bag PO, Wembley, Western Australia 6014.
- 20-23 SEPM 4th Annual Midyear Meeting. Austin, TX. SEPM, Box 4756, Tulsa, OK 74159. 918-743-9765.

# Meetings and Symposia (continued)

1987

- Aug 20-30 XVI Pacific Science Congress. Seoul, Korea. Choon Ho Park, XVI Pacific Science Congress, KPO Box 1008, Seoul 110, Korea. Tel. (2) 733-4478; Telex ILSKOR 23881.
- 25-27 Time-variable Phenomena in the Jovian System (short course). Flagstaff, AZ. William A. Baum, Lowell Observatory, Mars Hill Road, Flagstaff, AZ 86001. 602-774-3358.
- 26-28 Hazardous Materials Management. St Louis, MO. Pete Wilkins, HAZTECH International, 6143 S Willow Drive, Suite 100, Denver, CO 80111. 303-850-9119.
- Sep 6-10 Proterozoic Geochemistry. Beijing, China. Sun Dazhong, Tianjin Inst. of Geology and Mineral Resources, CAGS 4, 8th Road, Dazhigu, Tianjin, 300170, China.
- 6-11 Atmospheric Studies by Optical Methods. Granada, Spain. J.J.-Lopez-Moreno, Instituto de Astrofisica de Andalucía, Box 2144, 18080 Granada, Spain.
- 7-10 3rd International Symposium on Observation of the Continental Crust through Drilling. Mora and Orsa, Sweden. Deep Drilling in Crystalline Bedrock, c/o Stockholm Convention Bureau, Box 6911, S-10239 Stockholm, Sweden.
- 10-27 Evolution of Metamorphic Belts. Dublin, Ireland. J.S. Daly, Dept of Geology, University College, Belfield, Dublin 4, Ireland.
- 11-27 Paleoenvironmental Interpretation of Paleosols (Penrose Conference). Warm Springs Indian Reservation, Oregon. Greg J. Retsallack, Dept of Geology, University of Oregon, Eugene, OR 97403.
- 14-16 Origin of Granites. Edinburgh, UK. Meetings Secretary, Royal Society of Edinburgh, 22-24 George Street, Edinburgh EH2 2PQ, UK.
- 14-17 Cordilleran Metamorphic Core Complexes (Penrose Conference). Elko, Nevada. Arthur W. Snoke, Dept of Geology and Geophysics, University of Wyoming, Laramie, WY 82071. 307-766-5457.
- 14-18 Circumpacific Phanerozoic Granites. Tucuman, Argentina. S. Kay, Dept of Geological Sciences, Cornell University, Ithaca, NY 14853. 607-255-3461.
- 15-17 Groundwater Flow and Radionuclide Transport Modeling. San Francisco, CA. DOE and Atomic Energy of Canada Ltd., Battelle OWTD, 7000 S Adams Street, Willowbrook, IL 60521. 312-655-8609.
- 19-22 Geotech '87. (Microcomputer applications in Earth Science.) Denver, CO. Stephen A. Krajewski, 9525 W 77th Drive, Arvada, CO 80005.
- 19-27 Atmospheric Transport of Natural and Contaminant Substances. Ferry Reach, Bermuda. Scientific Affairs Div., Ref. 1987-1, NATO, B-1110, Brussels, Belgium.
- 20-25 2nd Spanish Geochemical Congress. Soria, Spain. The Secretary, 2º Congreso de Geoquímica de España, C/ Santa Feliciano 14, 1º Centro, 28010 Madrid, Spain.
- Sep 21-25 Natural Glasses. Prague, Czechoslovakia. V. Bouska, Faculty of Science, Charles University, Albertov 6, 128 43 Praha 2, Czechoslovakia.
- 22-Oct 1: Field Trip to Volcanic Rocks of the Eifel Region and Lahn-Dill Area, West Germany. Roger Suthren, Geology Dept, Oxford Polytechnic, Headington, Oxford OX3 0BP, UK. Tel. 0865-819608.
- 23-25 Sedimentology and Diagenesis of Organic-rich Sediments. Sheffield, UK. Joe McQuaker, Dept of Geology, University of Sheffield, Sheffield S3 7HE, UK.
- 22-Oct 2: Exposed Cross-sections through the Continental Crust (Penrose Conference). Killarney, Ontario. David M. Fountain, Dept of Geology and Geophysics, University of Wyoming, Laramie, WY 82071. 307-766-6299.
- 26-30 9th International Symposium on Contamination Control. Los Angeles, CA. Janet A. Ehmann, Institute of Environmental Sciences, 940 E Northwest Highway, Mount Prospect, IL 60056. 312-255-1561.
- 27-Oct 1: International Conference on Geophysical and Geochemical Exploration for Minerals and Groundwater. Toronto, Ontario. Exploration '87, c/o 222 Snidercroft Road, Concord, Ontario L4K 1B5, Canada. 416-669-2280; Telex 06-964570.
- 27-Oct 2: 5th International Flint Symposium. Bordeaux, France. Michel Lenoir, Institut du Quaternaire, Bâtiment de Géologie, Avenue des Facultés, Université de Bordeaux I, 33405 Talence Cedex, France.
- 28-Oct 1: Ocean-Climate Interaction. Oxford, UK. Scientific Affairs Div., Ref. 1987-1, NATO, B-1110 Brussels, Belgium.
- Oct 3-24 Precambrian of China (field meeting). China. Michael E. Lehan, Citizen Ambassador Program, Dwight D. Eisenhower Building, Spokane, WA 99202.
- 6- 8 Ore Deposits. Rolla, MO. Geza Kisvarsanyi, Dept of Geology and Geophysics, University of Missouri, Rolla, MO 65401. 314-341-4663.
- 6- 9 Orogeny, Magmatism and Metallogeny in Europe. Dubrovnik, Yugoslavia. European Center for Peace and Development, Meeting of European Geological Societies, Sava Center, Box 5, 11070 Beograd, Yugoslavia.
- 8-10 Geothermal Connection. Elko, Nevada. Kaye E. Thompson, 700 Festival Way, Elko, NE 89801. 800-523-5317.
- 11-14 Geothermal Resources Council, Sparks, NE. Geothermal Resources Council, Box 1350, Davis, CA 95617. 916-758-2360.
- 12-16 Mathematical Models in Geology. Pribram, Czechoslovakia. V. Nemek, Geindustria, Geologicka 2, 152 00 Praha 5-Barrandov, Czechoslovakia. Tel.42-2/590228.
- 13-14 Database Techniques (short course). Philadelphia, PA. Petroleum Abstracts, University of Tulsa, 600 S College Avenue, Tulsa, OK 74104. 918-592-6000.

## Meetings and Symposia (continued)

1987

- Oct 26-29 Groundwater Modeling without Advanced Mathematics (short course). Columbus, OH. National Water Well Association, Box 16737, Columbus, OH 43216.
- 25-29 Geochemical Society Annual Meeting. Phoenix, AZ. Includes GS Presidential Address, Luncheon and Awards Ceremony, OGD Symposium on Origins of Methane in the Earth, GS Symposium on Cenozoic Potassium-rich Igneous Rocks of the Colorado Plateau and Surrounding Regions, and technical sessions for unsolicited papers. Details in *The Geochemical News* No. 72, Fall 1987, or from Meetings Dept., GSA, P.O. Box 9140, Boulder, CO 80301; 303-447-2020.
- 26-29 GSA Annual Meeting, Phoenix, AZ. Details in *GSA News and Information* Vol. 9 No. 8, August 1987, or from GSA Meetings Dept., P.O. Box 9140, Boulder, CO 80301; 303-447-2020.
- 28-30 Midwest Groundwater Conference. Madison, WI. Jim Krohelski, USGS, 6417 Normandy Lane, Madison, WI 53719-1133. 608-276-3850.
- 30-Nov 2: 1st Brazilian Geochemical Congress. Porto Alegre, Brazil. 1st Brazilian Geochemical Congress, Rua Banco da Provincia 105, 90650 Porto Alegre, R.G. do Sul, Brazil. Tel. 0512-33-7311. Telex 051-1062 CPRM.
- 30-Nov 3: Perovskites. Bisbee, AZ (AGU Chapman Conference). AGU, 2000 Florida Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20009. 202-462-6903.
- 31 Shear Zones and Metamorphism. Southampton, UK. J.R. Andrews, Geology Dept, University of Southampton, Southampton SO9 5NH, UK.
- Nov 18 Literature of Earth Science. London, UK. Marketing and Public Relations Section, Science Reference and Information Service, 25 Southampton Building, London WC2 1AW. Tel. 01-323-7473.
- 23-26 South American Cogeodata. Ouro Preto, Minas Gerais, Brazil. Hubert Roeser, Dept of Geology, Federal University of Ouro Preto, Box 50, 35400 Ouro Preto, MG, Brazil. 031-551-1637. Telex 031-2954-UFOP BR.
- 24-27 Inorganic Sources of Hydrocarbons. London, UK. A.H. Bath, British Geological Survey, Keyworth, Notts NG12 5GG, UK.
- 29-Dec 5: Waste Management. Hong Kong. Gloria Greene, Professional Development Dept, American Society of Mechanical Engineers, 345 East 47th Street, New York, NY 10017. 212-705-7398.
- Dec 14-15 Geological Society Annual Meeting. Newcastle-upon-Tyne, UK. D.A.C. Manning, Dept of Geology, The University, Newcastle-upon-Tyne NE1 7RU. Tel. 091-232-8511 ext. 3106.
- 14-18 Iberian Geochemistry. Aveiro, Portugal. M.S. Pinto, Departamento de Geociencias, Universidade de Aveiro, 3800 Aveiro, Portugal.
- 1988
- Mar 6-16 West Indies Explosive Volcanism (short course). Guadeloupe and Martinique. Michel P. Semet, Institut de Physique du Globe, 4 Place Jussieux, 75252 Paris Cédex 05. Tel. 1 46 34 1 0 23; Telex 202810 VOLSISM.
- 17-18 Mineral Diagenesis. Cambridge, UK. C.V. Jeans, Dept of Applied Biology, Pembroke Street, Cambridge CB2 3DX, UK.
- 20-23 AAPG Annual Meeting. Houston, TX. AAPG, Box 979, Tulsa, OK 74101. 918-584-2555.
- May 11-13 V.M. Goldschmidt Conference on Geochemistry (Geochemical Society). Baltimore, MD. Goldschmidt Conference Coordinator, 410 Keller Building, University Park, PA 16802.
- 16-20 AGU Spring Meeting, Baltimore, MD. Anne E. Singer, AGU, 2000 Florida Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20009. 202-462-6903.
- 22-25 Geological Association of Canada-Mineralogical Association of Canada-Canadian Society of Petroleum Geologists Joint Annual Meeting. St. John's, Newfoundland. John Fleming, Newfoundland Department of Mines and Energy, P.O. Box 4750, St John's, Newfoundland A1C 5T7, Canada.
- 29-Jun 3: World Conference on Water Resources. Ottawa, Ontario. Secretariat, 6th World Congress on Water Resources, University of Ottawa, Ottawa K1N 6N5, Canada. 613-231-3902.
- Jul 6- 8 Symposium on Seismic Probing of the Continents and their Margins. Canberra, Australia. Jim Leven, Bureau of Mineral Resources, P.O. Box 378, Canberra, ACT 2601, Australia. Tel. (062) 499111; Telex AA 62109.
- Oct 30-Nov 3: Geochemical Society Annual Meeting. Denver, CO. GSA Meetings Dept., P.O. Box 9140, Boulder, CO 80301. 303-447-2020.
- 31-Nov 3: GSA Annual Meeting, Denver, CO. GSA Meetings Dept, P.O. Box 9140, Boulder, CO 80301. 303-447-2020.

### The V.M. Goldschmidt Conference

The V.M. Goldschmidt Conference, marking the centennial year of V.M. Goldschmidt's birth, will be held from Wednesday May 11th to Friday May 13 1988 at the Hunt Valley Inn, 25 km north of downtown Baltimore. It is sponsored by the Geochemical Society, the European Association of Geochemistry, the International Association of Geochemistry and Cosmochemistry, the Mineralogical Society of America and the Association of Exploration Geochemists. The Society of Environmental Geochemistry and Health is a participating society. The Conference will focus on the chemical aspects of the earth and planetary sciences. Deadline for contributed abstracts is December 18 1987. Further information may be obtained from William Curley, 410 Keller Building, The Pennsylvania State University, University Park, PA 16802.

## OGD News

### Best Paper Award

The Best Paper Award Committee, consisting of Zvi Sofer (Chairman), R.M. Carlson and M. Lewan nominated the following paper for the Organic Geochemistry Division's Best Paper Award in 1987: M.J. Whiticar, E. Faber and M. Schoell - Biogenic methane formation in marine and freshwater environments: CO<sub>2</sub> reduction vs acetate fermentation - isotopic evidence. *Geochim. Cosmochim Acta* 50, 693-709 (1986). In its citation, the Committee wrote: "In this paper the authors have looked at the carbon and hydrogen isotopic composition of over 300 biogenic methane samples. They have demonstrated that isotopes can clearly distinguish biogenic methane formed by CO<sub>2</sub> reduction from biogenic methane formed by acetate fermentation. They have also delineated the environments in which the two different processes are dominant. The paper represents a major contribution to our understanding of the origin of isotopic variability in biogenic methane, . . . and will help distinguish biogenic from thermogenic gases. The Committee feels that to date this is the most comprehensive paper on the subject and (that it) well deserves this Award."

### OGD Symposium at the Annual Meeting of the Geochemical Society

This year's OGD Symposium will be entitled "Origins of Methane in the Earth." Approximately 20 papers have been invited and accepted for the Symposium. The range of topics spreads from studies on hydrothermal methane and gas from Precambrian country rocks to papers that deal with the origin of methane in recent sediments, so the diverse origins of methane will be very adequately documented. The Symposium should interest not only organic geochemists but all who are involved in studies and discussions of crustal processes and degassing of the earth's crust, so we hope to attract a diverse group of geoscientists. The date is October 25, 1987, in Phoenix, Arizona. So mark your calendar!

### Change of OGD Bylaws

As you may have read in GCA, the OGD Executive Committee under the chairmanship of Bob Gagosian has recommended certain changes in the Bylaws of the Organic Geochemistry Division. The most important of these are:

1. The election of the OGD Chairman for a two-year (instead of a one-year) term;
2. The award of the Treibs Medal only every other year instead of every year.

These are quite dramatic changes which will affect the Division's future substantially. I want to solicit the members' opinion on these two issues so that I can convey it to the OGD Executive Committee in Phoenix in October this year. Please write to M. Schoell, Chevron Oil Field Research Company, P.O. Box 466, La Habra, CA 90633.0446.

### Secretary

Susan Palmer has asked to be relieved of her duties as Secretary of OGD. Jean Whelan, Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution, Woods Hole, MA 02543, has been kind enough to assume the Secretary's position in her place.

M. SCHOELL  
OGD Chairman

### Bruce Doe named Assistant Director at USGS

Bruce R. Doe has been appointed Assistant Director for Research of the US Geological Survey at its National Center in Reston, Virginia. He succeeds Bruce B. Hanshaw, who has become Secretary General of the International Geological Congress. A B.S. from the University of Minnesota (1954) and M.S. from Missouri School of Mines (1956), Doe obtained the Ph.D. degree from Caltech in 1960. He was a postdoctoral fellow at the Geophysical Laboratory, Carnegie Institution of Washington, in 1960 and 1961, then joined the USGS as a research geologist helping to organize the new Branch of Isotope Geology, of which he became Chief in 1976. He was President of the Geochemical Society in 1982, and in 1983 received the Interior Department's Meritorious Service Award. Immediately prior to taking up his new position, he was Assistant Chief Geologist for the Eastern Region.

### Karl Julius Emil Krejci-Graf, 1898-1986

Karl Krejci-Graf was born in Gmünd, Austria on April 15, 1898. He did his undergraduate studies in Vienna, and afterwards took the Ph.D. degree at Berlin University. There followed three decades of travel and adventure in Sweden, Romania, China, Germany and Portugal, as well as in his native Austria. The work was practical, embracing everything from ores to oilfields, but it afforded opportunities for research that a less enquiring mind might have missed, and Krejci-Graf became a familiar and respected name in several different earth-science disciplines. The responsibilities that fell on him, and the self-reliance he cultivated to meet them, would later stamp Krejci-Graf as a teacher who encouraged his students to go and see for themselves whenever possible, instead of relying on hearsay. In 1953 he was appointed Professor and Director of the Geological Institute at the Johann Wolfgang Goethe University in Frankfurt-am-Main, where for the next ten years he was a member of the Natural Sciences Faculty, serving as Dean in 1957-1958. From his retirement in 1963 up to his death last August 8th, he remained closely attached to the Institute.

Krejci-Graf was a great observer, never blinded by current theories and beliefs. His research and teaching embraced an unusually broad range of topics, including oil geology, geochemistry, paleontology and regional and global geology. The importance of his work was recognized by numerous awards including the Karl Engler Medal and the Stille Medal, as well as an honorary doctorate from Leoben. He may have been the last great generalist.

### Chemical Abstracts

8,382 abstracts were published in Section 53 (Mineralogical and Geological Chemistry) in 1986, continuing a declining trend since 1983 (10,183). Approximately 50% of the abstracts are published in the same year as the original article; most of the remainder are of articles published in the preceding year. The USSR and the USA continue to dominate the abstracted literature, with shares of roughly 30% and 20% respectively.

MICHAEL FLEISCHER

### Contemporaries

The Chinese Journal of Geochemistry is now available in English, four issues per year in a single volume. Subscription is \$176, subject to fluctuation. Further information from VNU Science Press, P.O. Box 2093, 3500 GB Utrecht, The Netherlands.

The Geological Magazine is available to members of the Geochemical Society for \$65 per year of 6 issues, \$33 to student members, a substantial reduction from the regular rate of \$173. The Geological Magazine covers the whole field of earth sciences and welcomes papers that, provided they are of scientific merit, are controversial. Enquiries to Harry Florentine, Cambridge University Press, 32 East 57th Street, New York, NY 10022.

#### The Foundation for Field Research

Financial support for researchers is available from the Foundation for Field Research for projects that can be appropriately funded and assisted by volunteer teams in the field. Details from Thomas J. Banks, Treasurer, Foundation for Field Research, 787 South Grade Road, Alpine, CA 92001-0380. Tel. 619-445-9264.

#### Wisconsin Geological and Natural History Survey Publications

Geoscience Wisconsin Vol. 11 deals with the Precambrian petroleum potential of the mid-continent trend, and its companion volume, Field Trip Guide Book 13, illustrates the essential features of Keweenawan sedimentary basin evolution. The two together are available for \$14.75 post free from MAPS Office, Wisconsin Geological and Natural History Survey, 3817 Mineral Point Road, Madison, WI 53705. Tel. 608-262-1705.

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#### Computer Software

FIESTA, a software package developed in France at BRGM, is a user-friendly tool for modeling surface geochemical data. It has been specifically designed by geochemists for geochemists who want to use a wide variety of statistical techniques to define, separate and model background and anomalous data, and who want to quickly generate "presentation-quality" reports, graphs and maps to illustrate data distributions. FIESTA runs on IBM AT and 100% compatible microcomputers, and on a variety of 32-bit computers such as Vax Mini, as well as on mainframe computers. The sole distributor in North America is GEOMATH, 165 S Union Blvd, Suite 410, Lakewood, CO 80228. Tel. 303-980-8625.

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The Geochemical News is printed and distributed for the Geochemical Society by the Department of Geological Sciences, Wright State University, Dayton, OH 45435. Tel. 513-873-3442 or 3455.

Special Publication Series

The Special Publication Series is off to a good start with the Yoder Volume (see advertisement on p. 6). With further volumes in view, the Executive Council directed at its 1987 Spring Meeting that the following constitutional amendment be placed before the Membership, with the object of creating the office of Special Publication Series Editor rather than continue with the ad hoc arrangement under which the first volume was produced:

Proposed Amendment to the Constitution of the Geochemical Society

Article III, Paragraph 1 currently reads: The officers of the Society shall be a President, a Vice-President, a Secretary, an International Secretary, a Treasurer and an Executive Editor. The President and the Vice-President are to be elected biennially by a plurality of those voting. The Secretary, the International Secretary, the Treasurer and the Executive Editor are to be elected on the basis of a plurality of votes cast to serve terms of three years; the Secretary, the International Secretary and the Treasurer shall be eligible for election to not more than one consecutive term of three years. The Executive Editor shall be eligible for election to more than one consecutive additional term.

The amended version reads: The officers of the Society shall be a President, a Vice-President, a Secretary, an International Secretary, a Treasurer, an Executive Editor and a Special Publication Series Editor. The President and the Vice-President are to be elected biennially by a plurality of those voting. The Secretary, the International Secretary, the Treasurer, the Executive Editor and the Special Publication Series Editor are to be elected on the basis of a plurality of votes cast to serve terms of three years; the Secretary, the International Secretary and the Treasurer shall be eligible for election to not more than one additional consecutive term of three years. The Executive Editor and the Special Publication Series Editor shall be eligible for election to more than one consecutive additional term.

The Membership is asked to vote on the proposed amendment by marking the ballot at the foot of this page and tearing it off and mailing it to the Secretary, Bryan Gregor, Department of Geological Sciences, Wright State University, Dayton, Ohio 45435, USA. Do not write your name on the ballot itself, but write it on the envelope you use for mailing. Ballots will be counted on August 31 1987 and the results communicated to Council at its 1987 Fall Meeting next October.

Tear off here

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B A L L O T

Please signify approval or disapproval of the above proposed Amendment by placing a cross in the appropriate box. Then tear off this ballot form and mail it to the Secretary at the address given above after writing your name on the envelope you use. Ballots received after 31 August 1987 will not be counted.

Proposed Amendment to Article III  
Paragraph 1 of the Constitution of  
the Geochemical Society

APPROVE

DISAPPROVE