

EAG Council Meeting

24th November, 2009

Oxford, England

Unless otherwise recorded, all decisions were made by consensus.

Abbreviations:

EAG - European Association for Geochemistry

GS - Geochemical Society

Attending:

Christa Gopel, Bernard Bourdon, Eric Oelkers, Martin Novak, Chris Ballentine, Bernie Wood, Paul Beattie, Marika Seletti

Apologies:

Steve Banwart, Liane Benning, Michael Walter, Andreas Kappler, François Chabaux, Bernard Wehrli

AGENDA ITEMS WITH ACTIONS AND DECISIONS

1) Welcome

2) Minutes from Davos, June 2009

a) EAG Social event at EGU

Council approves expenditure of up to 2000 euros.

Action: BB will contact Andreas Kappler and/or François Chabaux about negotiating this and being present at the event.

Action: EO will contact Steve Sparks and GS about presenting VGP section at EGU

b) Post doctoral student experiences for website

Action: MS will solicit council to recommend students for web interviews. MS will draft interview questions to be approved by CG and will contact students (the names of students will be recommended by officers).

3) Treasurer's report

EAG Council approves the treasurer's report.

Council approves expenditure of up to 3000 Euros per year for an accountant to audit EAG finances.

Council approves opening an account in Czech Kroner up to 100% the cost of the Conference Center.

4) EAG Business Office and website report

Council approves finding a new host for EAG website

Action: MS will contact PB about changing the host.

Action: MS will solicit council members for lecture notes to be posted on website in different languages. The notes will be presented as is without scientific oversight.

Action: EO and BB will send their lecture notes to MS.

5) Committee Reports

A. Publication Committee Report

A significant expansion in the role of the Publication committee was envisaged to take care of new publications. For this reason the Publications Committee should be expanded to form an active committee.

Action: TE to expand the publications committee

Action: Publications Committee to suggest special issues for *Chemical Geology*.

B. Program Committee Report

Action: Officers will read Andreas's proposal for short course organization and discuss during the next phone conference

C. Nominations Committee Report

Action: BB will ask François Chabaux to be the new Chair of the Nominations Committee and put Hans Keppeler on the committee.

Action: EO will contact Janet Hering, Christina Faccina, Dan Frost, and Friedhelm von Blanckenburg about becoming new council members. They will replace Lara Duro, Mike Walters and Bernard Wehrli.

D. Communications Report

Action: MS will forward names of new councilors to Liane Benning to see if there is anyone that she feels she would like to work with on the communications committee.

Action: EO will discuss responsibilities of the communications committee with Liane.

6) MOU with the Geochemical Society

EAG welcomes that the MOU accepts that all aspects (including financial aspects) of Goldschmidt conferences in odd numbered years are solely the responsibility of the EAG.

The GS is wary of suggestions of international activity by EAG:

Action: EO and BB to suggest revised wording along the lines of 'The GS will develop an international strategy, the EAG will provide support as requested'.

Joint Memberships: this proposal makes sense for both societies. Lists of EAG members should be held in the EAG office. It was proposed that the EAG offer a

lower class of membership to those attending Goldschmidt conferences, which would not provide them rights to receive Elements, so there would be no additional cost to EAG

Action: EO to explore what class of 'associate' or 'non-contributing' membership might be made available to delegates within Elements' regulations.

7) Updates on EAG statutes

Action: EO will amend bylaws to appoint two Goldschmidt Officers at any given time. These officers should serve for four years overlapping for two. The Goldschmidt officers should be the organizer of the most recent and the next European Goldschmidt Conferences. Thus CB would serve 2007 – 2011, Bernard Marty to serve 2009 – 2013.

8) Goldschmidt 2010

Action: MS to prepare booth and presence at Goldschmidt 2010. The booth ideally to be staffed from Sunday to Thursday.

Action: EO to notify the Goldschmidt 2010 organizers of the EAG medalists not later than 1 March 2010.

Action: MS will send Paul suggestions for Plenary speakers including François Minster, Keith O'Nions, and Ulrike Lohmann

9) The Gast Lectureship

Action: Eric will examine the following people as potential candidates: Falco Langenhorst, John Loyd, Gideon Henderson, Jerome Chapplaz, Ross Rickaby

10) Goldschmidt 2011

Action: Goldschmidt Committee will progress on science following meeting on December 3rd.

Action: The Goldschmidt Committee will put "targeting DMG to organize sessions" on agenda for December meeting in Prague.

Action: Goldschmidt Committee will contact DMG, MSA and EMU to invite them to organize short courses before and after the conference to draw more people to the conference.

Action: Martin will produce a list of potential venues for short courses by January.

11) Goldschmidt 2013

Council approves Florence as venue for conference providing details are satisfactorily resolved concerning availability of accommodations and services as well as rooms for talks/sessions.

Council approves date of July 22nd to July 29th for conference.

12) Goldschmidt 2015

Council confirms that on odd years Goldschmidt Conference will remain in Europe.

Action: PB will propose a set of venue options by next council meeting in Knoxville

13) New Innovation Awards

The following medals were agreed:

2010 Stumm Medal Low-Temperature Geochemistry

2011 Ringwood Medal High-Temperature Geochemistry

2012 Darwin Medal Biogeochemistry

Action: FC to contact Sue Kesson to obtain image of Ringwood for medal. The Darwin image to be obtained from Natural History Museum.

14) Audit Committee

CG reported that the EAG must have an Audit Committee. It was agreed that this should comprise Jérôme Gaillardet and the accountant appointed by CG.

Action: CG to approach the above.

15) New Initiatives

A. Meeting series

The EAG should approve meeting series. These should be kept cheap, for example 1-2 teachers, ~3 days, ≤30 participants and targeted at graduate students early in their courses. 10 of these students could be funded by EAG with a grant of ≤€10k per course. Logistical support could be provided by the EAG office.

Action: Andreas Kappler's course to be approved.

Action: MS: Advertise for further short courses on EAG website and in newsletter.

B. Brussel's Intern

This post could be set as a 2-3 year appointment for a recent graduate student and be attached to an appropriate MEP or the EU Commissioner for Science and Research.

Action: EO to contact Claude Allègre to seek advice on how to maximize impact

Action: BW to contact David Cameron to ask whom to contact in the EU

Action: BB to contact Swiss organization providing information about EU funding

C. Other options

EAG should seek ways to raise its profile in the community.

EAG should organize small focused meetings, either setting its own meetings or sponsoring existing ones (eg Water-Rock Interactions might be in search of new sponsors). A condition of sponsorship could be that attendees be – or become – EAG members. CB reported a scheme run by Schlumberger where matching funds would be provided for small meetings. These could be used to leverage EAG funds.

Action: CB to explore Schlumberger scheme

Action: MS and EO to produce an application form for meeting sponsorship that could be posted on the EAG website.

EAG should fund a 'Distinguished Lecturer' to tour EU institutions. This would be a mid career honour and might provide travel but not local expenses. This might cost €10k p.a.

Action: Distinguished Lecturers could be selected/appointed.