

# Newsletter

of the

# International Association of GeoChemistry

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## IAGC 2023 Highlights

The year of 2023 was a big year for the IAGC! The Association started off the year with a new President, François Chabaux, Vice President, Elisa Sacchi, and Business Office Manager, Devin Smith. Michael Kersten stepped down as the Executive Editor of *Applied Geochemistry* after 10 years of service and co-Editor-in-Chief, Zimeng Wang, became the sole Executive Editor. The IAGC also announced and presented a series of awards this year. Recipients of the 2023 Harmon Distinguished Service Award, Kharaka Award, and IAGC Fellow were profiled in the [July 2023 Newsletter](#). The IAGC awarded six PhD Student Research Grants to support geochemical research. Over the summer, the Association presented 2020 - 2023 awards in-person to 11 recipients at the Goldschmidt Conference and the 2<sup>nd</sup> IAGC International Conference (WRI-17/AIG-14). The 2<sup>nd</sup> IAGC International Conference meeting was held in Sendai, Japan in August. Geochemists from the WRI and AIG communities gathered in-person to share their research during a five-day meeting that included exciting field trips and engagement in Japanese culture.

As always, the IAGC's growth and impact would not be possible without the dedication of our members. Thank you for your continuing to support the IAGC!

## New IAGC Membership Opportunities

The IAGC has new professional and student 5-year memberships for the cost of 4 years! This is a great opportunity to continue your IAGC membership without having to worry about annual renewals at a lower cost!

### Professional

One year - \$40 USD

Auto recurring payments - \$40 USD

Discounted five year (NEW!) – \$160 USD

### Student

One year - \$15 USD

Auto recurring payments - \$15 USD

Discounted five year (NEW!) – \$60 USD

### Low- and middle-income country

One year - \$15 USD

One year – FREE

The IAGC strives to provide free memberships to scientists from low- and middle-income countries. Please contact the IAGC Business Office if you are a geochemist from a low- or middle-income country requesting support for IAGC membership fees.

## Support for geochemists in low- and middle-income countries

During renewal, IAGC members have been giving generously to support our new initiatives to support geochemists from low- and middle-income countries. As of the time of this writing, **150 memberships available**. Share this broadly so we can get more scientists from these countries involved in our society!

## The 2<sup>nd</sup> IAGC International Conference (IAGC-2)

### WRI-17 and AIG-14

From August 17-22, 2023, the 2<sup>nd</sup> IAGC International Conference took place in Sendai, Japan. The joint 17<sup>th</sup> Water Rock Interaction (WRI-17) and 14<sup>th</sup> Applied Isotope Geochemistry (AIG-14) meeting featured 27 oral sessions with accompanying poster presentations and cultural events over the course of four days. A mid-conference break included field trips to three locations in northeast Japan that provided conference participants with an opportunity to experience the beauty of Japanese nature and culture. The international community that traveled to participate in WRI-17/AIG-14 fostered a great opportunity for networking. Conference attendees were enthusiastic and eager to participate in structured and casual scientific discussions. For many, this was one of their first in-person conferences since the Covid-19 pandemic.



The 2<sup>nd</sup> International Association of Geochemistry (IAGC) Conference  
Water-Rock Interaction **WRI-17**  
Applied Isotope Geochemistry **AIG-14**  
in SENDAI 2023

Professor Noriyoshi Tsuchiya served as the Secretary General for IAGC-2 (WRI-17/AIG-14) and worked with a WRI-17 Local Organizing Committee to host the conference. The following Co-hosts made this conference possible: Graduate School of Environmental Studies, Tohoku University, The Geochemical Society of Japan, Japan Association of Mineralogical Sciences, The Geothermal Research Society of Japan, The Mining and Materials Processing Institute of Japan Geological Society of Japan, The Japanese Association for Petroleum Technology, The Society of Resource Geology.

The conference was structured with talks in the mornings and early afternoons, followed by a poster session that featured posters from students and professionals. There was always an interesting presentation to attend with parallel WRI and AIG sessions running throughout the day! Presentations ranged from a wide variety of geochemical topics and conveners facilitated interesting question and answer sessions after each presenter. If conference attendees needed a short break from the scientific discussion they could participate in a series of cultural activities in the Exhibition and Poster Hall.

The conference began with on Thursday, August 16th, with an icebreaker where old and new colleagues had the opportunity to connect. The next morning all participants were invited to join an opening ceremony, after which sessions titled *Isotope Biogeochemistry*, *Advances in analytical techniques for the study of water-rock interaction*, and *Environmental Risk Management, water quality and human health issues* ran side-by-side. Following a traditional bento box lunch, Yuan Mei (CSIRO, Australia) presented the 2022 Jin Jingfu Memorial Lecture titled *Insights into Metal Transport in Ore-Forming Processes through Molecular Simulations*. Attendees took a midday break to make origami before joining afternoon talks and the poster session that featured poster presentations from six different geochemical topics.



Conference attendees making origami

Saturday sessions ranged from topics of radioactive waste disposal to aqueous processes on asteroids, Mars, and ice satellites. Martine Savard (Geological Survey of Canada) gave the 2022 Ingerson International Lecture titled *The N Cycle and Contentious  $\delta^{15}N$  Series in Trees – Sensitive Responses to N Emissions* to an engaged audience. Conference attendees had the opportunity to partake in another cultural activity and learned to make their own chopsticks before viewing another round of poster presentations on Saturday afternoon.

On Sunday, conference participants travelled beyond Sendai for the mid-conference trips. Tours were organized to three locations, (1) Matsushima-Ishinomaki, (2) Mount Zao, and (3) Chusonji temple-Geibikei gorge.



(1) Matsushima-Ishinomaki



(2) Mount Zao





(3) Chusonji temple-Geibikei gorge

Sunday concluded with the Conference Official Dinner that highlighted multiple Japanese art forms. During the Official Dinner the IAGC was able to present the following awards:

**Vernadsky Medal (2020)** – [Yousif Kharaka](#)

**Ebelmen Award (2020)** – [Zimeng Wang](#)

**IAGC Fellow Award (2021)** – [Yanxin Wang](#)

**Harmon Distinguished Service Award (2022)** – [Neus Otero](#)

**Ingerson Lecturer (2022)** – [Matine Savard](#)

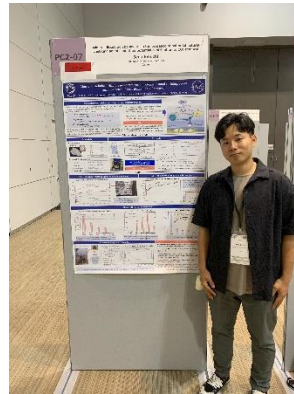
**Jim Jingfu Lecturer (2022)** – [Yuan Mei](#)

It was a great experience to celebrate geochemists who have contributed to the field of geochemistry through their science and their service! Congratulations to all awardees!

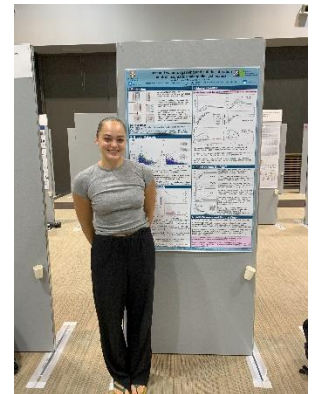
Monday sessions included topics pertaining to the geochemistry of natural waters, isotope geology, and fluid-rock interactions. Posters from eleven new sessions were displayed, and participants had the opportunity to chat with presenters during the poster hour.

Tuesday, August 22<sup>nd</sup>, was the last day of the 2<sup>nd</sup> IAGC International conference. Oral sessions included sessions titled *Environmental & Isotope forensics*, *Sub- and Supercritical Geothermal Energy* and more! Conference

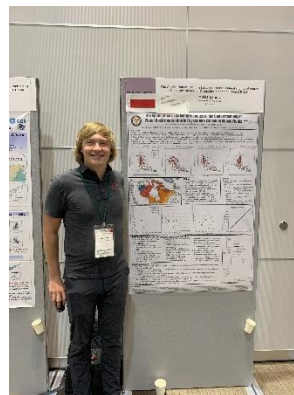
attendees had the chance to learn calligraphy in addition to attending presentations and viewing posters. The Conference ended with a General Assembly and Closing Ceremony. Three students were awarded 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place for the Faure Award for the best student poster. Congratulations to Sena Kikuchi, Olivia Rhiannon Hogg, and Myles Schulz!



Sena Kikuchi  
1<sup>st</sup> Place Faure Award



Olivia Rhiannon Hogg  
2<sup>nd</sup> Place Faure Award



Myles Schulz  
3<sup>rd</sup> Place Faure Award

Looking back on IAGC-2 (WRI-17/AIG-14), the conference was a great success! Everyone enjoyed the opportunity to share their science and connect with Japanese culture.

[Visit the IAGC Website to view more pictures](#)

## IAGC-3

### WRI-18, AIG-15, and Urban Geochemistry

The 3<sup>rd</sup> IAGC International Conference, IAGC-3, will be held in Cagliari, Italy from 17-22 June, 2025! The IAGC is excited to introduce Dr. Giovanni De Giudici, who will serve as the Secretary General for the meeting.

Giovanni is a mineralogist, a member of the Society of Mineralogy and Petrology, a member of the Geological Society, a member of the IAGC and a chairman of the



IMA's Biominerals-and-the-Environment Working Group. He works on 1) the environmental impacts of mining and on sustainable mining practices, 2) biominerals and the environment, 3) innovative techniques in environmental mineralogy. Specifically, Giovanni researches the mechanisms and products of contaminant and pollutant cycling in mine wastes, ground and surface water, the development of remediation and management schemes for mine wastes, biomineralization processes, and sustainable technologies for mining metals and critical raw materials. He spent five years as a visiting researcher in France and joined the Earth Science Department of the University of Cagliari on 2002.

The 3<sup>rd</sup> IAGC International Conference will be a joint meeting of Water-Rock Interaction (WRI-18), Applied Isotope Geochemistry (AIG-15), and Urban Geochemistry groups. More information will be available in early 2024.

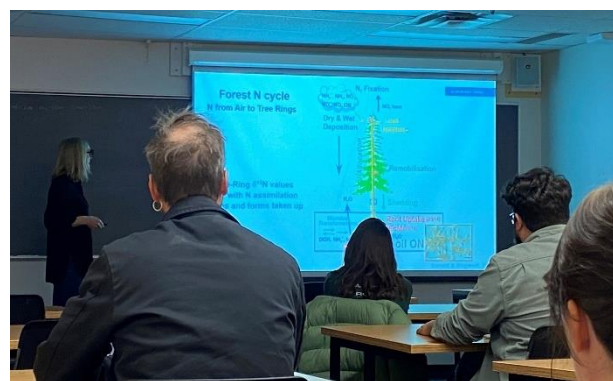
## Ingerson Lecture

Dr. Martine M. Savard (Geological Survey of Canada) was awarded the 2022 [Ingerson International Lecture](#) and presented her lecture titled *The N Cycle and Contentious  $\delta^{15}\text{N}$  Series in Trees – Sensitive Responses to N Emissions* in August at the 2<sup>nd</sup> IAGC International Conference in Sendai, Japan and in November at the University of Quebec in Montreal, Canada. Learn more about Dr. Savard's work in the IAGC [July, 2022 Newsletter](#) and through her [research profile](#).

The Ingerson Lecture award provides accomplished geochemists the opportunity to share their research with the IAGC community and beyond!



IAGC-2, Sendai, Japan

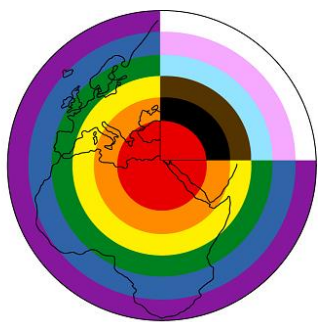


University of Quebec in Montreal, Canada

## Rainbow Geosciences

Rainbow Geosciences is a pioneering initiative to raise awareness of affective, sexual and gender diversity for all people working in Geosciences led by different Spanish universities and research centers that now pretends to expand around the world thanks to the help of international associations such as IAGC. For the very first time, a survey (aimed at people belonging to the LGBTQIA+ group) will allow to collect information about their personal experiences and to detect problems of integration or discrimination at their workplace.

On the other hand, those who wish to participate can present their thoughts and become role models in Geosciences to inspire young generations willing to study or research in this field.



Rainbow Geosciences

Click [HERE](#) to learn more about the initiative and please share the [SURVEY LINK](#) among colleagues.

## 2023 Applied Geochemistry Excellence in Review Awards

Since the founding of [Applied Geochemistry](#) in 1986, many outstanding reviewers have helped shape our Society's journal and our success as a Society. We are indebted to those contributions and would like to highlight the reviewers who deserve extra recognition. The editorial board of *Applied Geochemistry* launched our annual [Excellence in Review Award](#) to recognize the dedicated community of expert reviewers inside and out of our organization. Each awardee

receives a digital certificate and a complimentary 2-year membership in the IAGC. We offer a big THANK YOU to all of our awardees and congratulations!

[Alexandra Hakala](#)

National Energy Technology Laboratory, USA

[Charles Cravotta](#)

US Geological Survey, USA

[Daniel Bain](#)

University of Pittsburgh, USA

[Dexian Zhang](#)

Central South University, China

[George Miron](#)

Paul Scherrer Institute, Switzerland

[Gregory Lefevre](#)

CRNS, France

[Harue Masuda](#)

Osaka City University, Japan

[Henrik Drake](#)

Linnaeus University, Sweden

[Hongbing Tan](#)

Hohai University, China

[Hui Qian](#)

Chang'an University, China

[Iñaki Vadillo](#)

University of Malaga, Spain

[Jun Zhong](#)

Tianjin University, China

[Maurizio Barbieri](#)

Sapienza University of Rome, Italy

[Mengchang He](#)

Beijing Normal University, China

[Neil Sturchio](#)

University of Delaware, USA

[Qiaohui Fan](#)

Northwest Institute of Eco-Environment and Resources, China

[Susanna Maanoja](#)

Tampere University, Finland

[Wenjing Liu](#)

Institute of Geology and Geophysics, China

[Yao Du](#)

China University of Geoscience, China

[Yi Jiao](#)

University of Copenhagen, Denmark



## Association News

### 2024 IAGC Awards – Final Call for Nominations

**IAGC Award Nominations for 2024 will be accepted until December 31, 2023!** We strongly encourage members to nominate peers and colleagues who make significant contributions to the advancement of geochemistry for one or more of the numerous IAGC awards. You may nominate colleagues for the following awards, using the [Award Nomination Cover Sheet](#). Please send your nomination to one of the IAGC Nomination Committee Members and copy the IAGC Business Office on your email ([BusinessOffice@IAGC-Society.org](mailto:BusinessOffice@IAGC-Society.org)).

Orfan Shouakar-Stash  
[orfan@uwaterloo.ca](mailto:orfan@uwaterloo.ca)

Sophie Opfergelt  
[sophie.opfergelt@uclouvain.be](mailto:sophie.opfergelt@uclouvain.be)

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Noriyoshi Tsuchiya  
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### IAGC Awards List

**[The Vernadsky Medal](#)** - awarded for a distinguished record of scientific accomplishment in geochemistry over the course of a career.

**[Ebelmen Award](#)** – bestowed to a geochemist of particular merit and outstanding promise less than 35 years old at the time of nomination.

**[The Harmon Distinguished Service Award](#)** - bestowed to a deserving candidate to recognize outstanding service by an IAGC member to the Association or to the geochemical community that greatly exceeds the normal expectations of voluntary service.

**[The Kharaka Award](#)** - bestowed to two deserving scientists (which may include senior graduate students) from developing countries. The award consists of a framed certificate plus an IAGC membership and *Applied Geochemistry* subscription for a term of three years.

**[Jin Jingfu Lecturer](#)** – bestowed to an early career geochemist who has contributed a single geochemical research topic through one or a series of publications resulting in a measurable impact in her or his discipline. The lecture is to be presented at an IAGC International Conference.

**[IAGC Fellow](#)** - bestowed to a scientist who has made significant contributions to the field of geochemistry.

### Charitable Giving

We are thankful to the following members for their generous donations during the second half of 2023 to support memberships and student research grants for geochemists from low- and middle-income countries:

Klaus Neumann  
Gabriel Lopez  
David Janecky  
Rona McGill  
Alan Fryar  
Bronwen Wang  
Adeniyi Adewumi  
Berry Lyons  
Orfan Shouakar-Stash

Alan Shiller  
Ajay Kumar  
Balaram Sahoo  
David Turner  
Suzanne Anderson  
Michael Hochella  
Chamindra Vithana  
Dirk Kirste  
Robert Perkins  
Eric Hall

Donate now through the IAGC web site  
(<https://www.iagc-society.org/donate>)

*IAGC is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization and donations to the Society are tax-deductible in the U.S. (EIN: 48-0943367).*

### **Renew Your Membership for 2024!**

Don't forget to renew your IAGC membership for 2024 by January so you don't miss any issues of *Elements* magazine! Our annual membership is \$40 for professionals and \$15 for students and geochemists from low- and middle-income countries and includes a hard copy subscription to *Elements* magazine as well as online access. Also be sure to check out our new discounted 5-year membership deals! Membership also rewards you with lower cost registration rates at IAGC-sponsored working group conferences. Online access to our journal, *Applied Geochemistry*, is also available.

[View IAGC Profile](#)



## IAGC Executive Officers

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University of Strasbourg  
FRANCE

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University of Pavia  
ITALY

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University of Barcelona  
SPAIN

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The Ohio State University  
USA

**SECRETARY (2014-2023)**  
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Fudan University  
CHINA

**BUSINESS OFFICE MANAGER**  
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School of Earth Sciences  
The Ohio State University  
USA  
Email: [BusinessOffice@IAGC-Society.org](mailto:BusinessOffice@IAGC-Society.org)

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RUSSIA

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The University of Sheffield  
UNITED KINGDOM

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ARGENTINA

Huaming Guo  
China University of Geosciences  
CHINA

Dirk Kirste  
Simon Fraser University  
CANADA

Romain Millot  
(Applied Isotope Geochemistry)  
French Geological Survey (BRGM)  
FRANCE

Rim Trabelsi  
University of Sfax  
TUNISIA

Elisabeth Widom  
Miami University  
USA

Pierpaolo Zuddas  
(Water-Rock Interaction)  
Sorbonne University  
FRANCE

## Other Working Group Chairs (non-council)

David B. Smith  
(Global Geochemical Baselines)  
U.S. Geological Survey  
USA

David Long  
(Urban Geochemistry)  
Michigan State University  
USA

Ron Fuge  
(Environmental Geochemistry Chair)  
Aberystwyth University  
UNITED KINGDOM

Olle Selinus  
(Environmental Geochemistry Chair)  
Linneaus University  
SWEDEN  
[olle.selinus@gmail.com](mailto:olle.selinus@gmail.com)