

May 2003

VGP Section Newsletter #12

Dear Colleagues,

Here is the May issue of the AGU Volcanology, Geochemistry and Petrology Section newsletter. All issues are archived at <http://vgp.AGU.org>, where you can also find plenty of other VGP-related information. Please submit comments or suggestions for future issues to fagents@hawaii.edu.

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(1) FALL MEETING SPECIAL SESSION PROPOSALS

Planning for the 2003 Fall meeting begins in the spring. We need YOUR help in organizing interesting and timely special sessions for the VGP section. As Chair of the Fall Meeting committee I want to urge you to consider contributing a proposal for a special session, either at the Section, Inter-Section or Union level. You may submit your suggestions to the AGU via your section representative (i.e., me). The deadline for proposals is May 20.

Marc Hirschmann

VGP Secretary and Fall Meeting Chair

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(2) REPORT FROM JOINT AGU-EGS-EUG SPRING MEETING, NICE, 2003

As most of you are aware, AGU, for the first time, met jointly with its equivalent European societies for this year's spring meeting in Nice, France. This meeting was historic not only for AGU's participation but also because it was the first joint meeting of the EUG (European Union of Geoscientists, equivalent to GSA in the US) and EGS (the European Geophysical Society, an AGU counterpart). In fact, these two societies have now merged to form EGU, the European Geophysical Union. The EGU has a similar structure to AGU; Don Dingwell (former VGP secretary) is president of their VGP section. As far as I am aware, EGU will meet annually in April in Nice - I urge VGP members to keep this meeting in mind as a chance to both interact with European colleagues and enjoy the French Riviera!

This year's meeting was predictably large, with a meeting attendance of > 10,000. This number was a bit overwhelming, particularly given the somewhat cramped meeting space and the security required for entrance to the building (an amusing note: by the end of the first day of the meeting I noticed that the security guards had collected an entire box of Swiss army knives, all carefully labeled and held at the exit to be returned to their rightful owners!). However, as a result of the large attendance the meeting program was packed with exciting oral and poster sessions. VGP also hosted our traditional Daly lecture, this year given by Claude Jaupart Physical Controls on Volcanic Eruptions: Challenges for the Future . Claude gave an informative and stimulating lecture on two important aspects of physical volcanology: (1) fragmentation and degassing efficiency as related to the stability of

convective columns and (2) the effect of edifice growth and destruction on the evolution of upper crustal magma storage regions.

Kathy Cashman
VGP Section President

(3) AGU SPRING MEETING 2004

This will be a joint assembly of AGU and the Canadian Geophysical Union (CGU) in Montreal, Canada during the second half of May [17-21 May 2004 (Monday-Friday)]. Since the driving force for planning the program will be on the Canadian side, it's not too early to send me a heads-up about possible sessions and convenors [you may go direct once information about 2004 is posted on the CGU home page (<http://www.cgu-ugc.ca/>)].

Mike Brown
VGP Spring Meeting Chair

(4) CALL FOR MACELWANE MEDAL NOMINATIONS

Your help is requested to recognize outstanding VGP scientists. This medal recognizes significant contributions to the geophysical sciences by an outstanding young scientist (less than 36 years of age in the year the award is given). Macelwane, the thirteenth president of AGU (1953-1956), was renowned not just for his contributions to geophysics but also for his deep interest in teaching and encouraging young scientists.

As many as three medals may (but need not) be given annually and up to five medals may be given annually under exceptional circumstances on the unanimous vote of the selection committee.

Two VGP nominees, John Eiler and Michael Manga, received the Macelwane Award in 2002.

You must know of outstanding young VGP scientists deserving of this career-enhancing award.

Please send your recommendation with a brief summary of why you think this person is deserving of the award to the committee at the address below. Although final nominations are not due until Oct 15, it takes time to prepare a successful application (which includes letters of support).

Thanks for your help in this important effort.

Michael Garcia (mogarcia@hawaii.edu)
for the VGP Macelwane Award Committee

(5) CALL FOR BOWEN AWARD NOMINATIONS

We wish to solicit nominations for the Norman L. Bowen Award, which are due on October 1, 2003. The award is given annually for outstanding contributions to volcanology, geochemistry or petrology. The contribution may be: (1) a single outstanding paper published in any journal; (2) a series of papers which, taken together, constitute an outstanding contribution; or (3) any other contribution that the Selection Committee considers worthy. Special consideration is given to nominees who have not previously received a medal.

The nomination file should include: (1) a nominating letter from a colleague, (2) a CV for the

candidate, (3) a list of publications for the candidate, (4) three letters of recommendation (no more or less) from colleagues that are neither from the candidate's current institution nor from the candidate's Ph.D. institution. Nominations should be sent to Rebecca Lange, 2534 C.C. Little Bldg, Dept. of Geological Sciences, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI 48109-1063.

(6) CALL FOR NOMINATIONS FOR AGU FELLOWS FROM THE VGP SECTION

Award of AGU Fellowship is an important recognition of scientific accomplishment within the AGU and to the outside world. It is also a sign of vitality of a section within the AGU. There have been times when the VGP section was underrepresented in the Fellowship awards, although in the most recent years we have done quite well. The only way to continue to do justice to both our section and its most accomplished members is to present strong nominations to the VGP Fellows Committee. In particular, the nominations and supporting letters should be as specific as possible about the most important scientific accomplishments of your candidate. For nomination instructions, see <http://www.agu.org/inside/fellnom.html>. For a list of all VGP fellows, see http://vgp.agu.org/fellow_award.html. The deadline for nominations is October 1, 2003. Nominations should be sent directly to AGU; nominations meeting AGU guidelines will be forwarded to the Section Fellows Committees.

Nobu Shimizu
VGP Fellows Committee Chair