



**American Geophysical Union**

**Volcanology, Geochemistry, and Petrology Section Newsletter  
December 2017**

Dear Colleagues,

Here is the December issue of the AGU Volcanology, Geochemistry and Petrology Section newsletter. Please visit the VGP website (<http://www.agu.org/sections/VGP/>) for additional news and information. Comments and suggestions may be sent [Joanna S Denton](mailto:Joanna.S.Denton) to ([jdenton@lanl.gov](mailto:jdenton@lanl.gov)).

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## **(1) MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT**

Greetings all VGP-ers and Friends,

I apologize for two mistakes I made in my last VGP letter. First, I wish to congratulate Professor Dr. Yan Lavalée on being awarded a 2017 James B. Macelwane Medal. Professor Lavalée is Chair of Volcanology and Magmatic Processes in the Department of Earth, Ocean and Ecological Sciences, Member of the Liverpool Earth Observatory (LEO), and Member of the Institute for Risk and Uncertainty. Last year he was elected Chair of Physical Sciences and Engineering of the Young Academy of Europe (YAE).

Second, I wish to congratulate Dr. Bruno V E Faria on being awarded the Africa Award for Research Excellence in Earth or Ocean Sciences. Dr. Faria is the Director of the Geophysics Department of the INMG (National Institute of Meteorology and Geophysics) of the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission.

We stand proud with all of our VGP honorees this year

- Bowen Award and Lecture: Craig Manning, Bernard Marty
- Hisashi Kuno Award: Matthew Steele-MacInnis and James Watkins
- Daly Lecture: Catherine Chauvel
- Hess Medal: Roberta Rudnick
- Macelwane Medal: Yan Lavallée
- Africa Award – Earth/Ocean Science: Bruno V E Faria

- Fellows: Marc Chaussidon, Matthew Kohn, Klaus Mezger, Robert Stern and Youxue Zhang

I will make this as brief as possible, so here is a quick guide to what I will cover:

- Bowen and Daly lectures
- A plea for the VGP reception
- Fall AGU 2018 - it's our Centennial Celebration
- EGU and JpGU meetings
- Spring nominations for Union Awards and Fellowship and for VGP Awards

Fall AGU 2018 - it is our [Centennial Celebration](#). Next year is the 100th anniversary of AGU and to mark the event we will have lots of activities and public outreach efforts. Please join in on the effort and tell the public about your science. Future VGP letters will announce the activities and make calls for suggestions and action.

Our fellow scientific societies are having their annual meetings in the upcoming Spring. First it is the [EGU General Assembly 2018 Assemble](#). Their abstract submission deadline is 10 Jan 2018, 13:00 CET. Next is the JpGU, the [Japan Geoscience Union Meeting](#), their abstract submission deadline is Feb 19, 2018.

Finally, whilst talking with colleagues, consider whom in your community is deserving of nomination for Union Awards and Fellowship and for VGP Awards. Shortly after my post-doc I began nominating, and in some cases helping others to nominate, my fellow scientists for awards and recognition. Any scientist in our community can do these efforts. So if you know someone who deserves recognition, go for it.

I wish you all a great meeting, safe travels, happy holidays, and a peaceful and successful 2018.

Sincerely,  
Bill McDonough

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### **Message from the Past President**

AGU elections will take place in 2018. Following the tradition, the past-president chairs the nominations committee that will identify two candidates for each position for VGP: vice-president and secretaries (VP and G). If you'd like to suggest potential names for the coming election then please contact [Catherine Chauvel](#).

### **IAVCEI Submarine Commission activities**

The newly created IAVCEI Commission on Submarine Volcanism led by [Rebecca Carey](#) is encouraging new members to join their group. In order to present the depth and breadth of resources for their community and be public-educator-friendly at the same time they have

initiated a [VHub Group](#) for the scientific community on Submarine Volcanism. For those of you not aware, VHub is an online resource for collaboration in volcanology research and risk mitigation. VHub provides easy mechanisms for sharing tools to model volcanic processes and analyze volcano data, to share resources such as teaching materials and workshops, and to communicate with other members of the volcanology community and with members of the educational and stakeholder communities. Volcanologists can use VHub to collaborate with people around the world and currently has about two-dozen collaborating research groups and partner observatories. The Commission leaders (Rebecca Carey, Steffen Kutterolf, Evi Nomikou, Mike Perfit, Adam Soule) are appealing for resources to be sent to them to add to their VHub portal. Resources such as the following would be appreciated:

- CODES for submarine research (e.g., bathymetry surveys, map creation etc)
- Workflows for submarine research
- Guides for marine operations (e.g., mission planning, coring etc)
- Sample preparation guidelines for FTIR wafers, SIMS mounts etc.
- Information about how marine-technology works (e.g., sensors on Sentry, MaPRs etc,)
- Photo albums of seafloor features for comment by the community.
- Links to geochemical templates etc.
- Photo galleries of recent voyages and ancient volcanic terrains/textures.
- Educational resources about submarine volcanoes, submarine science, technology
- Links to where educators can go to access teaching materials (e.g., Schmidt Ocean Institute)
- PDFs, powerpoints, videos about general topics associated with submarine volcanology
- List of upcoming voyages and social media ways in which to be involved/observe etc.

### **Voices in Volcanology - Utilizing Facebook for Outreach**

Social media has become a powerful means of getting information quickly, not only for communities, but for traditional media. False information spreads like wildfire, especially during a volcanic crisis; when regular earthquake swarms occur (e.g. Yellowstone, Teide), or when new research is published. Volcanic activity creates the perfect scenario for scaremongering and for the dramatization of events.

A growing number of scientists are on Twitter, but a great majority only use Facebook. Therefore, there is a communication gap in this international online community. Through the public page: Voices of Volcanology, I hope to build a reliable source of information from the volcanology community. A space for us to share correct and factual information; promote credible information sources and other official social media groups; address misinformation; assist observatories by sharing their reports; share our own research and who we are, and also interact with the public on Facebook to help instill trust in the scientists working in our field. Voices of Volcanology is also a place for volcanologists to interact, network, and to engage in science communication. Importantly, the page is not a place for people to make their own volcano forecasts or to undermine anyone in any way. It is a place where all of us in the broader volcanology community can show a united front by working together.

All volcanology-related professionals are welcome, including petrology, geology, geochemistry, geophysics, social science, archaeology, emergency management, hazards, energy & mineral resources, etc. I invite you all to join the community, even if you don't want to post publicly. I am open to comments and suggestions for the page, and I am happy to share information for you, if you do not comfortable to do so yourself.

### **Book advert - Older than Dirt**

Ex-college roommates Don Brown, an illustrator and book author, and Mike Perfit, Professor at the University of Florida, have teamed up to write and illustrate a graphic children's book on the geologic history of Earth. "Older than Dirt: A Wild but True History of Earth", recently been published by Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, is a factual but often funny look at the evolution and

processes that formed Earth. A groundhog, accompanied by an earthworm, serve as the teacher and student on this grand tour of our planet's geologic history. Appropriate for 10-12 year olds, it can be enjoyed by all ages. Some of the artwork is going to appear as one of 15 displays at the Fall 2017 AGU meeting in the Art and Science Community exhibit.

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### **Newly-launched open access journal - Volcanica**

"Free to discover" is the credo of the newly-launched diamond open access journal Volcanica, which is devoted to making scientific research in volcanology free to publish for researchers and free to read for everyone. Volcanica is a broad-scope online journal promoting research into all aspects of social, physical, and applied volcanology, including physical phenomena and the impact of volcanoes on society, health, and the environment throughout history.

Volcanica is now [accepting submissions](#), in the form of original research articles, short communications, and Reports. For more information, check our website where you can learn more about the journal policies and author guidelines, and follow us on [Twitter](#).

A community-driven initiative, Volcanica has been developed on the principle that knowledge should be easily and freely available to anyone and everyone. Our team of dedicated volunteers are seeking to remove barriers to submission and access in the scholarly community and beyond, by removing article processing charges and subscription fees, in partnership with Presses universitaires de Strasbourg [Strasbourg University Press]. We encourage readers to subscribe (for free) to our publishing notification service, which will allow them to receive email updates when new issues are published.

For press and outreach, contact [outreach@jvolcanica.org](mailto:outreach@jvolcanica.org). To find out about joining the Volcanica team, contact our [Search Committee](#). For all other queries, contact [farquharson@jvolcanica.org](mailto:farquharson@jvolcanica.org).