

International Mineralogical Association Commission on Museums

Minutes from the CM Commission Business Meeting, Kobe, 25th July 2006.

This meeting was held during the IMA International Conference in Kobe, Japan on 25th July 2006 at 3.30 pm at the Kobe International Conference Centre.

8 Commission members or their representatives attended:

Lydie Touret (Chairperson) (France), Kay Schürmann (Germany), Dermot Henry (Secretary) (Australia), Dana Pop (Romania), Erzsebet Toth (Hungary, in lieu of Gabor Papp), George Harlow (USA, in lieu of Anthony Kampf), Michiaki Bunno (Japan) & Milan Novack (Czech Republic, in lieu of Jan Cempirek).

Observers: Brian Jackson (Scotland), Ritsuro Miyawaki (Japan), Gian Carlo Parodi (France)

Lydie Touret (Chairperson) welcomed people to the meeting and thanked Ritsuro Miyawaki for organising the Mineralogical and Geological Museum session at the IMA. Participants agreed that the lecture session was of a high standard.

Election of New Secretary

Kay Schürmann (Germany) notified the Commission at the M&M5 meeting, held in Paris in Sept 2004, that he would step down as Secretary of the Commission at this IMA meeting in Kobe. Lydie Touret thanked Kay for his contributions to the Commission since his election as Secretary at M&M3 Budapest in 1996. Dermot Henry (Australia) was elected Secretary. Kay Schürmann kindly offered to take minutes at the annual meeting of curators held at the Munich show.

National Representatives:

Milan Novak (Czech Republic) announced that he had been replaced as National Representative by Jan Cempirek (Moravian Museum, Czech Republic).

M&M6 Mineralogy and Museums conference in 2008.

Lydie Touret circulated two proposals to host M&M6. The proposals were from Jeanna Polyarnaya (Director of Mining Museum) at the Saint Petersburg State Mining Institute in Russia and James Hurlbut (Research Associate, Denver Museum of Nature and Science) on behalf of the Colorado School of Mines, USA.

It was agreed that both were attractive offers, however, the eligible National Representatives voted for the Colorado School of Mines to host M&M6. Lydie Touret will notify the School of Mines and offer assistance to their organising committee. Lydie will also write to the Saint Petersburg State Mining Museum to thank them for their submission.

M&M6 will be held from Sept 7th to 9th, 2008 at the Green Centre Facility, at the Colorado School of Mines campus in Golden Colorado. Field trips will be planned to run prior to the meeting and the Denver Gem and Mineral Show will open on the 11th Sept.

For the M&M6 Commission meeting it is hope that there will proposals to host M&M7 in 2012. This will enable the host country to have greater lead time to organise the conference.

Data Standards & Sharing database information

At the IMA Kobe conference *Mineralogical and Geological Museums* session, sponsored by the Commission on Museums, George Harlow presented a lecture *Toward mineral database standards for World-Wide-Web utilization*. George raised the issues of lack of data standards for mineralogy databases, the need for a common set of definitions, the pressure to share information and link databases via the WWW and the need to determine how much data we share. These issues were discussed at the Business meeting and it was agreed this was a topic the Commission should investigate. George Harlow and Dermot Henry will put together a discussion paper for circulation which looks at the issue surrounding the development of standards and data interchange protocols. There are some models within the biological sciences for exchanging data from a wide range of databases that can be examined.

George Harlow also mentioned that there may be funding available to assist museums link databases.

Future meeting

Lydie Touret discussed business for the meeting to be held on 27 July 2006 at Kobe.

Meeting closed at 4.30 pm

International Mineralogical Association Commission on Museums

Minutes from the CM Commission Business Meeting, Kobe, 27th July 2006.

The meeting was held during the IMA International Conference in Kobe, Japan on 27th July 2006 at 3.30 pm at the Kobe International Conference Centre.

8 Commission members or their representatives attended:

Lydie Touret (Chairperson) (France), Kay Schürmann (Germany), Dermot Henry (Secretary) (Australia), Dana Pop (Romania), Erzsebet Toth (Hungary, in lieu of Gabor Papp); George Harlow (USA, in lieu of Anthony Kampf), Ritsuro Miyawaki (Japan) in lieu of Michiaki Bunno)

Observers: Brian Jackson (Scotland), Bill Birch (Australia) & Gian Carlo Parodi (France).

Lydie Touret welcomed people to the meeting and summarized the discussions of the previous meeting.

Catalogue of Type minerals (CTMS)

Lydie Touret tabled a report by Nicholas Meisser, (Chairman of the CM-subcommission on CTMS).

The reported listed the following:

1. Alterations of the CTMS during the past two years.

H. A. Stalder (Natural History Museum Bern, Switzerland), former chairman of the CTMS subcommission, has continued to update the Catalogue. Recent additions or corrections include Greenland, USA, Italy, Switzerland, Germany, Russia and South America. Tony Stalder also compiled a crystallographic addendum for the 14 polysomes of hogbomite-, nigerite-, and taffeite-groups. This addendum was mailed to Mr. Alexander Hölzel to improve the MDAT-Lite 5.0 database.

2. New Information on type mineral specimens

Germany: Dr Jochen Schlüter (Hamburg Museum) has developed a website for the catalogue of type minerals deposited in German mineralogical institutions (<http://www.rrz.uni-hamburg.de/mpi/typkatalog/index.html>). Some corrections and improvements concerning type specimens from Germany were also included in the MDAT database.

Switzerland: A catalogue of type specimens deposited in the Museum of Basel (29) and the Lausanne Museum (121) was produced in 2004–5. These will be available shortly as PDF files on the respective Museum websites.

3. Book on Mineral Species discovered in Switzerland (and species named after Swiss)

Dr Philippe Roth (Zurich) has been working on this book for a number of years. A PDF version of the book has been forwarded to Nicolas Meisser for corrections and suggestions. The book also includes exhaustive historical research on the type locality for tremolite.

Data Standards & Sharing database information

There was some further discussion on the need for data standards and the production of data for the WWW. As discussed at the previous meeting George Harlow and Dermot Henry will develop a discussion paper and examine the way databases are linked and data exported to the web by the biological sciences. It was agreed that countries that do not have National Representatives such as Luxembourg should be kept informed by the Commission and through the SMMP group. Similarly if National Representatives are not circulating information please contact Dermot Henry (Secretary) directly (dhenry@museum.vic.gov.au) and he will add you to the mailing list.

Meeting closed at 4 pm.