



Minutes for the SMMP meeting in Munich, Germany
Friday October 26, 4pm
Messe München, East Entrance (Hall B6 Lounge)

1. Call to Order
2. Introductions
3. IMA-CM report
4. SMMP representation at shows
5. Next SMMP meeting in Tucson and social gathering
6. Announcements

1. Call to order

Call to order at 4pm.

2. Introductions

All participants introduce themselves and wrote their name and institution down: 30 participants, including 7 non-SMMP members. 2 board members present (EG & MR)
For name abbreviation, see list of attendees at the end.

EG: quick presentation of SMMP (community, purpose and the use of the list-server).

3. IMA-CM report

MR: IMA-CM met during the IMA meeting in Melbourne in August 2018. A new IMA-CM board was constituted: Mike Rumsey (NMNH London) Chair, Stuart Mills (NMNH Melbourne) Vice-Chair, Kim Tait (ROM, Canada) Secretary. The board has been approved by a majority of votes from the members.

MR: The new board is working with the National Representatives to better define and communicate the goals of IMA-CM, which will work in parallel with SMMP. The vision is that the IMA-CM will be an international, academic 'voice' acting towards the preservation, collaboration and appropriate use (primarily research), of scientific and/or historic collections containing mineralogical samples. From a practical perspective, it is the responsibility of each country's National Representative, to identify those collections, or portions of collections and report back to the Commission what their state is. Thereby identifying things like; if an important collection is under threat, or if a large global initiative and funding opportunity would be more effective through international collaboration.

MR: The next M&M meeting will be in Sofia, Bulgaria, July 5 to 7, 2020, as the IMA and IMA-CM have accepted the Bulgarian proposal. First circulars with requests for papers and fieldwork itineraries are likely to appear next year, but get thinking about your input – It is the ONLY

formal gathering that mineral museum professionals have for their work and it only happens every 4 years.

4. SMMP representation at shows

EG: report of the **Denver Curators' tours** (report from the Denver minutes).

EG: update on the **Tucson SMMP case**, with "Wulfenite" for topic of 2019. SMMP members will be asked to contribute to the choice of the theme and to the exhibit with the SMMP case. The audience was asked to select specimen(s) for the SMMP case, if they were already bringing specimens to Tucson. **FP:** mentioned that we could have an SMMP case that would not only be scientific but also good looking. Several attendees noted that it is always the same problem with the Tucson show: it was not possible to bring minerals in the conditions offered by the Tucson show (lack of loan request letter, of insurance, of shipment, mixed occupancy case, general lack of clarity or inconsistency of process between different museums and the TGMS etc.). **EG:** reported that many of these aspects were still being discussed with the TGMS show exhibits chairperson Peter Megaw.

EG: discussions with other TGMS officials were in progress to try and secure free attendance for SMMP members at the Main Show.

(After the meeting, Jolyon Ralph from Mindat offered to have a virtual SMMP case hosted on the Mindat website – no problem of bringing samples across borders!. This possibility needs to be discussed within the board before we can discuss it further.)

EG: Curators' tours in Munich. This year, only a few SMMP members who were staff at exhibiting museums (London, Vienna, Luxembourg, Milan) were asked to bring specimens. The final request was very "last minute" from the show organizers, leaving little time for preparing or sharing information about each-others objects or the coordination and promotion of any tours with the organizers. **MR:** also noted that the set-up was later than usual and longer, (1.5 - 2 days) for all the exhibitors - thereby leaving no time to arrange tours 'ad-hoc' either.

VH: Vera Hammer (Vienna) offered to give a tour of the collections she brought to the exhibition to curators on Saturday Oct. 27 at 11am, and would open it to the public.

Action done: a letter was sent on behalf of the SMMP to show organizer Christoph Keilmann, thanking him for providing the room and drinks and reporting on the curators' experience of this year's show and offering their help (educational content of the exhibit and curators' tours) for the next shows.

Curators who exhibited at the Special Exhibit at the Munich show (**FP, VH, MR, SP**) this year had a **request for the SMMP:** to ask the show organizers to better plan for the loan (and much more in advance than this year). The most important request is to **ask the show organizers to have display cases only with museum specimens, and not to mix them with private collectors**, for obvious reasons of security and handling. The curators complained that sometimes they had no control over who was opening their display cases and touching their specimens, and that it was not acceptable.

CF noted that the educational content of the Special Exhibit was often incorrect or particularly confusing. Posters presenting “Elements” contained a lot of mistakes and inaccurate information. CF suggested that it would be good for curators to review the educational content, especially and necessarily when it was related to museum specimens. MR: speaking as an exhibitor this year, confirmed that none of the exhibitors were contacted for advice beyond providing thoughts/opinions on the overall theme. But that other parts of the exhibition process had improved, notably the methodology of producing the labels.

5. Next SMMP meeting in Tucson

EG: announced the next SMMP in Tucson: Thursday February 14, 2018 at 4pm. Agenda TBD, **public program** at 5pm: “Making research mineral collections relevant in the 21st century” by Kim Tait., hopefully with better, larger announcement by TGMS (included in the booklet, in the event list, and announced by microphone).

EG announced that there will be a **social night during the Tucson show**, most likely before the main show (Feb 11 or 12, 2019). It will give newcomers to the group and to those who feel Tucson is so hectic some face time to get to know people in a less formal environment. It will also give the chance to exchange about our institutions, our professional tasks and duties and any other subjects that need to be discussed. Details will be forthcoming.

Possible day: Monday 11 or Tuesday 12, February 2019. Time: 6pm

Possible place: La Posada Hotel, 5900 N Oracle Rd, Tucson, AZ 85704, USA.

6. Announcement

EG: **Next MSA meeting in Washington DC on June 20-21, 2019** at Carnegie Institution with an evening reception at the Smithsonian National Museum of Natural History. A session on “Museum Mineral collections – the Next 100 years”.

EG: new position that will be advertised soon: mid-level career curator position at the Smithsonian Institution, department of mineral sciences (opening also to non-American citizens).

FP: asked that he might need soon a **letter of support from the SMMP** for the reopening of the mineral gallery at the Milan Museum. MR: note this might come from the IMA-CM & SMMP

VH: reported that a **new gemstones exhibit will be opening at the Vienna Museum** soon.

V.M.-C. reported a **new exhibit at the Florence Museum** on life-like wax anatomical models 18th century that will require 450 days of work!

End of the meeting: 5pm

List of attendees at the SMMP meeting, Munich 2018
(in grey, not SMMP members)

Initials	LAST NAME	First name	Institution	COUNTRY
V.H.	HAMMER	Vera	Natural History Museum, Vienna	AUSTRIA
J.-C.B.	BOULLIARD	Jean-Claude	Collection de minéraux de la Sorbonne	FRANCE
C.F.	FERRARIS	Cristiano	MNHN, Paris	FRANCE
E.G.	GAILLOU	Eloïse	Musée de Minéralogie MINES ParisTech	FRANCE
F.V.	VIGOUROUX	François	Musée des Confluences, Lyon	FRANCE
G.-C.P.	PARODI	Gian Carlo	Muséum National d'Histoire Naturelle	FRANCE
S.H.-P.	SCHERTL	Hans-Peter	Institut für Geologie, Mineralogie und Geophysik, Bochum	GERMANY
S.H.-A.	HERTING-AGTHE	Susanne	Technische Universität Berlin	GERMANY
B.K.-H.	KREHER-HARTMANN	Birgit	University of Jena	GERMANY
F.P.	PEZZOTTA	Federico	Museo Di Storia Naturale	ITALY
A.G.	GUASTONI	Alessandro	Museum of Mineralogy, University of Padova	ITALY
V. M.-C	MOGGI CECCHI	Vanni	Natural History Museum, Florence	ITALY
S.M.	PHILIPPO	Simon	MNHN Luxembourg	LUXEMBOURG
H.F.	FRIIS	Henrik	Natural History Museum, Oslo	NORWAY
D.B.	BELAKOVSKIY	Dmitriy	Fersman Mineralogical Museum, Moscow	RUSSIA
J.K.	KJELLMAN	Johan	Uppsala University, Museum of Evolution	SWEDEN
N.H.	HERMENAU	Natalya	Gübelin Gem Lab	SWITZERLAND
N.M.	MEISSER	Nicolas	Musée cantonal de Géologie, Lausanne	SWITZERLAND
J.R.	RALPH	Jolyon	www.mindat.org	N/A
R.W.	WALCOTT	Rachel	National Museums Collection Centre, Edinburgh	UK
P.D.	DAVIDSON	Peter	National Museums of Scotland	UK
R.H.	HANSEN	Robin	NHM, London	UK
M.R.	RUMSEY	Mike	NHM, London	UK
M.K.	KALIWODA	Melanie	Mineralogical State Collection, Munich	GERMANY
C.H.	HÜHNE	Cathrin	State MNH, Braunschweig	GERMANY
G.P.	PRATESI	Giovanni	Università degli Studi, Florence	ITALY
C.G.	GIUSEPPE	Cultrone	Department of Mineralogy and Petrology, University of Granada	SPAIN
D.H.	HOLTSTAM	Dan	Swedish Natural History Museum, Stockholm	SWEDEN

Initials	LAST NAME	First name	Institution	COUNTRY
A.K.	KARLSSON	Andreas	Swedish Natural History Museum, Stockholm	SWEDEN
J.K.	LANGHOF	Jörgen	Swedish Natural History Museum, Stockholm	SWEDEN