



**Minutes for the SMMP meeting in Munich, Germany**  
**Friday October 25, 2019, 4pm**  
**Messe München, East Entrance (Hall B6 Lounge)**

1. Call to Order
2. Introduction
3. IMA-CM Business
  - 3.1 Short report by chairman Mike Rumsey
  - 3.2 Next M&M9 in Bulgaria, 2020
  - 3.3 Next IMA meeting in France, 2022 (Lyon, 17-22, 2022)
4. SMAM and Denver reports
5. Museum's involvement at European shows: setting up the exhibits
6. Next SMMP meeting in Tucson (Wednesday 12 or Thursday February 13, 2020)
  - 6.1 General meeting on Wednesday 12 or Thursday 13. Tbc.
  - 6.2 Public program on Thursday 13, 2020: Aaron Celestian "Augmenting museum experiences with digital outreach and education".
  - 6.3 SMMP case (display case at the TGMS and virtual case on Mindat)
7. Other business
  - 7.1. Museum group on google: [mineralmuseums@googlegroups.com](mailto:mineralmuseums@googlegroups.com)
  - 7.2. Host website changed: <http://www.agiweb.org/smmp/>
8. Announcements

### **1. Call to order**

Call to order at 4pm. After the IMA-CM meeting, a small number of SMMP members arrived by accident for the IMA-CM meeting and stayed for the duration – apologies for the confusion.

### **2. Introductions**

All participants introduced themselves and wrote their name and institution down on the attendance register: See list of attendees at the end and Abbreviations

### **3. IMA-CM Business**

**MR:** IMA-CM has a new website [www.ima-cm.org](http://www.ima-cm.org), which is in the process of being updated with current information, additionally the group has a yearly timetable of informal meetings and reporting that it will now run to, at the short meeting prior to the SMMP meeting there were about 7 National representatives present and the priorities were identified as getting type data online and making it more accurate, additionally an expectation/guideline document would be drafted relating to the care of types and their responsible study alongside their preservation.

**MR:** THE M&M9 conference was promoted and the second circular was published. This is the call for papers for the conference, potential attendees and speakers were encouraged to think of ideas for presentations and any questions regarding the conference should be directed to the Organisers – The

Bulgarian Mineralogical Society. The topics for each session were read out for the benefit of everyone interested in participating.

EG: made a short announcement about the next 4 yearly IMA meeting, to be held in Lyon, France in 2022 (12-22)

#### 4. SMAM and Denver Reports

*(see specific minutes for these events)*

#### 5. Exhibit Set-up at European shows

EG: A few small updates from the preceding days were given relating to the organization of Munich 2019 in reference to the comments made by the SMMP in 2018.

It was noted that there were far fewer museums involved in the exhibit this year. Because of this there had been not enough interest to start the curator tours program for the event.

Some of the challenges from the year before had been noted by Munich organization committee, who were making some progress, notably with regards to mixed case composition and the suggestions to put museums in the same place so that they can manage their installation better. Harvard Museum – one of the big exhibitors this year was happy with the arrangements.

MR noted that also in response to last year with the text panel errors, flagged by SMMP, some progress was made, with the NHM in London being contacted very last minute to check some of the text relating to the meteorite exhibit.

EG: Gave an overview of some related concerns that had arisen from SMAM exhibition set up too, key messages/discussions were:

The same request from the SMMP to the organisers to stop or at least limit mixed case composition for displays was made, the organisers indicated that they would attempt to do this, but the small exhibition area and the need to provide themes, while including as many exhibitors as possible made this extremely difficult.

An additional request to ensure that only the curators from the institution that owned the samples were allowed to move them was also made, (or at least ask permission first)

It was raised by some SMMP members as to why the set-up for SMAM was done so early before the show (the set up is mostly over 2 days before the show opens, and begins the week-end before). Making formal attendance by museums difficult as it was less likely to be signed off to stay for 10 days while the show only lasts 4.

Some comments in response from around the room:

RAP: Noted that there will always be conflict between a display theme and the SMMP's desire to get educational information over

GCP: Indicated that Curators can always say no to the exhibition requests.

JK: Small Museums often never hear about the themes so they don't have the opportunity to suggest that they could significantly contribute.

RAP: It would be useful for us all to have a list of which museums were exhibiting at different venues for the benefit of knowledge exchange/experience regarding some of these challenges.

**ACTION: SMMP BOARD To circulate Themes of exhibit to all members as soon as someone on the board hears about it – Members then empowered to follow up with exhibit organisers themselves if keen to contribute.**

#### 6. SMMP in Tucson

**EG:** Announced a number of items relating to the SMMP at Tucson:

- The informal meeting at Tucson for the SMMP would be on Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> and again it would be at La Posada Hotel, (La Posada Hotel, 5900 N Oracle Rd, Tucson, AZ 85704, USA.) where there is a critical number of curators staying to facilitate an easy meeting and a good venue space.
- The SMMP public program was also announced that it would relate to the augmenting of museum experience by using digital technology
  - Note this has now been updated – “Aaron Celestian (LANHM): Augmenting museum Experiences with Digital Outreach and Education”
- The TGMS exhibit theme was announced “World Class Minerals” and an E-mail received by **MR** from the organisers was read out that explained the freedom that museums have if they find the theme difficult to access

Some responses from the floor in regards to SMMP involvement at Tucson:

**JR:** Indicated he was happy to help facilitate the SMMP virtual show case again via interaction with Mindat.

**EG, MR and RAP (Board):** Thanked **JR** and noted that this will be particularly useful this year with such a difficult theme “World Class Minerals” and indicated to watch this space regarding choice of SMMP virtual case theme and a form to help upload all the required information with ease.

**JR:** noted that the virtual displays will be present on line for perpetuity, so the ‘exhibit’ had much more longevity and potential outreach than the physical Tucson exhibit.

**EG:** it was noted that a joint SMMP case at Tucson, set up by one or two SMMP curators - was at odds with the requests to ensure the show organizers strived towards single occupancy cases and curator/owner supervision only. It was felt that this was mitigated somewhat by the fact that employed curators were those responsible for setting up the SMMP case.

**MR:** suggested getting one of the small Tucson cases and placing a tablet/photoframe in there that would scroll around all the virtual SMMP uploads, so that they had a physical presence at the show. **JR** indicated that technologically this was easy.

**ACTION: SMMP BOARD/JR to ask TGMS if a tablet/photo frame set up would be possible during the TGMS show**

## 7. Other Business

**EG:** Asked members if anyone was having problems with the new SMMP Google groups method of communicating – and if they were to get in touch so that it could be fixed, generally it seemed the transition was going well – apart from occasionally people replying ‘to all’ rather than just one individual.

**EG:** Mentioned the importance of remembering Jean Demouth and that the SMMP would be doing this through sponsorship of two cases at Tucson. Very briefly, for those that don’t know, Jean was a key figure in forming the SMMP as well as one of the founders of SPNCH and for 3 decades she organized the joint SMMP case at the Tucson and Denver shows. In total the SMMP requires \$1000 to set up this sponsorship, please look towards contributing to this if you so wish, or find those who want to, it can be done by paypal on the SMMP website.

**EG:** wanted to publicly thank Leslie Moclock, for her contributions to the Educational element of the SMMP involvement at Denver through running the tours

Some responses to the call for updates from the floor:

**FP:** Gave some further information about the new galleries at Milan, which were scheduled for opening in January, but would perhaps more likely be ready to go in spring 2020 – They will contain about 500 spectacular specimens and 530m<sup>2</sup> of display space focused on the scientific aspect of minerals and those related to life, those that people will come across in their day to day activities. It was envisaged that about 1/3 would be rotational to keep the gallery fresh.

**RAP:** asked if the gallery would also be selling minerals or if it was purely an exhibit gallery, FP confirmed that it was a museum exhibit and did not relate to trade.

**HF:** Announced that the geology galleries in Oslo, Norway were undergoing a complete revamp – and that would be ongoing between 2020 and 2023. 7 Specific galleries with different themes were being selected and discussed and 2 would be mineralogical. It's an exciting development and of particular note will include a complete cavity of calcite, relocated from a Norwegian mine and would have a mineral evolution based approach to some of the exhibits.

**CM:** Announced that here was at the meeting representing Greece and working for the mineral museum in Lavrion – a small museum with several hundred specimens on this globally important locality. The Museum is planning an upgrade and has double the number of specimens in its collection. It has received the OK to build a new Mineral Museum in the next 5 years, it's a not for profit organization, so watch this space. Aligned with this there will also be a new Lavrion book coming to production soon.

**RW:** Announced that the National Museum of Scotland had an opening for a new Earth Systems Analyst (now closed and filled Jan 2019) and reminded members to look for the conferences that were upcoming from SPNHC and ICOMM, as well as smaller events in the UK organized by the Geological Curators Group – a Group that has a lot in common with the SMMP.

**EA:** Announced a new book affiliated with the Canadian Museum of Nature on the Minerals from Mont St. Hilaire and suggested that members look it up and that it is "...really slick looking"

**SHA:** Announced that the position for the new curator in Berlin was still open and encouraged people to spread the word, a key pre-requisite being that the individual was required to be a German Speaker.

**VMC:** announced that there would be a remodeling and refreshing of the Florence Natural History Museum, which will last a few years – the new cases will be similar but space will be maximized to produce more thematic exhibitions – allowing for about 600-700 specimens on exhibition. He mentioned that as with the experience of many other institutions it would be challenging to balance the design aspirations with the scientific educational aspirations of the curators.

***End of the meeting: about 16:53pm***

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

<b>Initials</b>	<b>LAST NAME</b>	<b>First name</b>	<b>Institution</b>	<b>COUNTRY</b>
		Farida	Musée de Minéralogie MINES ParisTech	FRANCE
<b>RAP</b>	<b>ALONSO PEREZ</b>	Raquel	Harvard Mineralogical Museum	USA
<b>EA</b>	<b>ANDERSON</b>	Erika	Canadian Museum of Nature	CANADA
<b>C.F.</b>	<b>FERRARIS</b>	Cristiano	MNHN, Paris	FRANCE
<b>E.G.</b>	<b>GAILLOU</b>	Eloïse	Musée de Minéralogie MINES ParisTech	FRANCE
<b>F.V.</b>	<b>VIGOUROUX</b>	François	Musée des Confluences, Lyon	FRANCE
<b>G.-C.P</b>	<b>PARODI</b>	Gian Carlo	Muséum National d'Histoire Naturelle	FRANCE
<b>S.H.-P.</b>	<b>SCHERTL</b>	Hans-Peter	Institut für Geologie, Mineralogie und Geophysik, Bochum	GERMANY
<b>S.H.-A.</b>	<b>HERTING-AGTHE</b>	Susanne	Technische Universität Berlin	GERMANY
<b>B.K.-H.</b>	<b>KREHER- HARTMANN</b>	Birgit	University of Jena	GERMANY
<b>F.P.</b>	<b>PEZZOTTA</b>	Federico	Museo Di Storia Naturale	ITALY
?	?	?	(sitting next to Hans Peter - male)	RUSSIA ?
?	?	?	(sitting next to Federico – male?)	ITALY ?
?	<b>Maybe Ludmila?</b>	?	(? Sitting next to Francois)	Russia?
?	?	?	(next to perot Kim – female)	USA
?	<b>Maybe Vera?</b>	?	(Sitting next to Johan – female)	??
<b>V. M.- C</b>	<b>MOGGI CECCHI</b>	Vanni	Natural History Museum, Florence	ITALY
<b>S.M.</b>	<b>PHILIPPO</b>	Simon	MNHN Luxembourg	LUXEMBOURG
<b>H.F.</b>	<b>FRIIS</b>	Henrik	Natural History Museum, Oslo	NORWAY
<b>D.B.</b>	<b>BELAKOVSKIY</b>	Dmitriy	Fersman Mineralogical Museum, Moscow	RUSSIA
<b>J.K.</b>	<b>KJELLMAN</b>	Johan	Uppsala University, Museum of Evolution	SWEDEN
<b>N.M.</b>	<b>MEISSER</b>	Nicolas	Musee cantonal de Geologie, Lausanne	SWITZERLAND
<b>J.R.</b>	<b>RALPH</b>	Jolyon	www.mindat.org	N/A
<b>R.W.</b>	<b>WALCOTT</b>	Rachel	National Museums Collection Centre, Edinburgh	UK
<b>K.V.</b>	<b>VAGNER</b>	Kimberley	Perot Museum	USA
<b>R.H.</b>	<b>HANSEN</b>	Robin	NHM, London	UK
<b>M.R.</b>	<b>RUMSEY</b>	Mike	NHM, London	UK

<b>Initials</b>	<b>LAST NAME</b>	<b>First name</b>	<b>Institution</b>	<b>COUNTRY</b>
<b>M.K.</b>	<b>KALIWODA</b>	Melanie	Mineralogical State Collection, Munich	GERMANY
<b>C.K</b>	<b>MAVRIS</b>	CHRIS	Mineral Museum Lavrion	GREECE
<b>T.H</b>	<b>HUIZING</b>	TERRY	Cincinatti Museum	USA
<b>R.P</b>	<b>PAGANO</b>	REANTO	<b>Museo Di Storia Naturale</b>	ITALY
<b>P.L</b>	<b>LYCKBERG</b>	PETER	Private	LUXEMBOURG
<b>A.K.</b>	<b>KARLSSON</b>	Andreas	Swedish Natural History Museum, Stockholm	SWEDEN
<b>J.K.</b>	<b>LANGHOF</b>	Jörgen	Swedish Natural History Museum, Stockholm	SWEDEN