The Society for Geology Applied to Mineral Deposits (SGA)

<http://www.e-sga.org>

Purpose of SGA

The Society for Geology Applied to Mineral Deposits (SGA) is an international scientific society of scientists interested in economic geology, mineral resources, industrial minerals and environmental aspects related to mineral deposits. The objectives on which the Society is based are:

- to advance the application of scientific knowledge in the study and the development of mineral resources and their environment,
- to promote the profession of geology in science and industry,
- to cultivate personal contacts for mutually beneficial relationships and
- to protect and improve professional and ethical standards among its members.

Objectives of SGA

The objectives of the Society are to be advanced through:

- the promotion of the science of mineral deposit geology
- the publication of the Society's Journal "Mineralium Deposita" and other periodicals and monographs as Council may consider expedient,
- personal contact of its members in order to exchange knowledge and experience
- organization of Society biennial meetings, co-organization of international scientific meetings, field trips and workshops (for these events, SGA members have reduced registration fees),
- recognition of the highest-level scientific papers in Mineralium Deposita and the significant contribution of young scientists to the profession of economic geology
- cooperation with other scientific Societies, especially with IAGOD and SEG,
- sponsorship of international symposia, field trips etc.

History of SGA

In the mid-1960s economic geology was a fast growing discipline and there was a need for increased international cooperation and scientific exchange, by meetings, publications and joint activities. Thus, in June 1965, a small group of European economic geologists gathered in Heidelberg at the invitation of Professor G. C. Amstutz and decided to establish the Society for Geology Applied to Mineral Deposits (SGA) and to start a journal to be called Mineralium Deposita (Saupé, 1987). Dr. Gerardus L. Krol of the Netherlands was asked to be the first President of this Society, and Professor Paul Ramdohr (F. R. G.) was nominated as Honorary President. In November of the same year, at the invitation of Prof. Krol, a larger group met with representatives of the long-established Society of Economic geologists—SEG (Hutchinson 1986)—to discuss future cooperation between the two organizations. The new Society was scheduled to be formally established at the International Geological Congress in 1968 in Prague, but when the Congress was interrupted by invasion of Soviet troops, the constituent assembly had to be postponed. This was held the following year, on May 26 in Vichy, France and the Society was legally incorporated in Switzerland in 1971 with its statutes in English, French and German.

Organization and membership

The Society is run by an Executive Committee—President, Vice-President, Executive Secretary, Treasurer, Promotion Manager, Chief Editors of Mineralium Deposita and Chief Editor of SGA News—assisted by five Regional Vice-Presidents (North America, South America, Asia, Australia, South Africa) and up to 14 Councillors. Recently, two positions that will commence in 2004—Regional Vice-President for Europe and Regional Vice-President for Middle East—were approved by Council. The President and the Executive Director of SEG and the Executive Secretary of IAGOD and Membership Secretary of IAGOD are ex-officio members of the SGA Council and a reciprocal arrangement applies to the SGA officers. The list of past SGA officers covering the period from 1989 to date is summarized in Table 1.

Table 1 SGA officers serving in the period from 1989 to date.

	President	Vice-President	Executive Secretary	Treasurer	Chief Editor(s), MD	Chief Editor(s), SGA News
1989-1990	V. Koepfel (Switzerland)	A. Evans (U.K.)	M. Pagel (France)	R. Hoell (FRG)	D.D. Klemm and H.J. Schneider (FRG)	
1991-1992	F.M. Vokes (Norway)	J.C. Duchesne (Belgium)	M. Pagel (France)	R. Hoell (Germany)	I.R. Plimer (Australia)	
1993-1994	I.R. Plimer (Australia)	J.C. Touray (France)	M. Pagel (France)	R. Hoell (Germany)	D. Rickard (UK)	
1995-1996	Z. Johan (France)	B. Lehmann (Germany)	M. Pagel (France)	P. Herzig (Germany)	D. Rickard (UK)	L. Fontboté (Switzerland) and M. Chiaradia (Switzerland)
1997-1998	E.F. Stumpfl (Austria)	J. Pasava (Czech Rep.)	M. Pagel (France)	P. Herzig (Germany)	D. Rickard (UK) and R. Goldfarb (USA)	L. Fontboté (Switzerland) and M. Chiaradia (Switzerland)
1999-2001	H. Papunen (Finland)	B. Lehmann (Germany)	J. Pasava (Czech Rep.)	P. Herzig (Germany)	D. Rickard (UK) – replaced in 2000 by B. Lehmann (Germany) and R. Goldfarb (USA)	M. Chiaradia (Switzerland)
2002	P. Fenoll-Hach Ali (Spain)	D. Leach (USA)	J. Pasava (Czech Rep.)	P. Herzig (Germany)	B. Lehmann (Germany) and R. Goldfarb (USA)	M. Chiaradia (UK)
2003	D. Leach (USA)	P. Fenoll-Hach Ali (Spain)	J. Pasava (Czech Rep.)	P. Herzig (Germany)	B. Lehmann (Germany) and L. Meinert (USA)	M. Chiaradia (UK)

In 1998 the SGA Council launched the process of updating and improving the Society Statutes. Professor Eugen F. Stumpfl reviewed the old Articles and suggested changes which were discussed in two Council meetings in 1999 and finally accepted at the Cracow Council Meeting in March 2000. The new Constitutional changes were approved by SGA members and are effective from January 1, 2001. The updated SGA Constitution is available at the Society website.

The Society offers five types of membership: regular member—65 EUR, student member—10 EUR, senior member—45 EUR, corporate member—200 EUR and honorary member) and is open to all persons interested in economic geology, mineral resources, industrial minerals and environmental aspects related to mineral deposits. The membership includes a free annual subscription to Mineralium Deposita (8 issues annually) and the SGA News

(2 issues annually). Corporate members receive 3 free copies of both *Mineralium Deposita* and the SGA News. All inquiries about membership should be directed to: Dr. Jan Pasava, SGA Executive Secretary, Czech Geological Survey, Klárov 131/3, 118 21 Praha 1, Czech Republic, Fax: ++420-2-51818748, E-mail: pasava@cgu.cz

SGA welcomes new members, including those who would be willing to take part in the development of the Society through active work in SGA management structure.

In 1987, SGA had about 500 members in over 50 countries. The Society has been growing quickly, especially since 1995 from about 450 members to about 700 members in more than 70 countries in 2003.

Mineralium Deposita—Number One among international mineral deposit journals

Among the original goals of the Society, the first to be achieved was the publication of its quarterly scientific journal *Mineralium Deposita*, issued by Springer-Verlag. The journal publishes papers on all aspects of the geology of mineral deposits. It includes new observations on metallic and non-metallic minerals and mineral deposits, experimental and applied inorganic, organic and isotope geochemistry, as well as genetic and environmental aspects of mineral deposits. It is essential to Earth Science libraries, and is widely assumed to be read by every earth scientist interested in mineral deposits. *Mineralium Deposita* publishes both regular and special issues. For fast publishing, the journal offers *Mineralium Deposita Letters* where manuscripts are published within 3 months, normally within the next issue after manuscript acceptance. Regular papers are typically published within 4 months after acceptance and usually 6-9 months after manuscript submission. The journal offers free color plates for SGA members.

The first issue of *Mineralium Deposita* was published in May 1966. Over the years the Society journal developed into the premier international mineral deposit journal, with 8 issues and 1000 printed pages per year. An important event in the history of *Mineralium Deposita* occurred in 1996 when SGA Council approved a proposal by Dr. D. Rickard—Chief Editor of MD—for opening a second *Mineralium Deposita* Editorial Office in Denver, Colorado (USA) for the North American region. Dr. R. Goldfarb became the editor responsible for this office. Presently, Dr. B. Lehmann (Germany) and Dr. L. Meinert (USA) serve as Chief Editors of *Mineralium Deposita*.

The Science Impact Factor of *Mineralium Deposita* continuously increases from 0.630 in 1997 to 1.390 in 2002 and the journal became number one amongst Mineral Deposits Journals worldwide!

Since 2002 SGA Council decided to grant a limited number of free subscriptions of *Mineralium Deposita* to institutions and, under special circumstances, to individuals in an economically challenged situation. The grant period is for two years. The informal written request for a free subscription should be addressed to the Executive Secretary (Dr. Jan Pasava, SGA Executive Secretary, Czech Geological Survey, Klárov 131/3, 118 21 Praha 1, Czech Republic, Fax: ++420-2-51818748, E-mail: pasava@cgu.cz), outlining the need for the free subscription and how the journal will be used. This letter must include the recommendations of two current members. (See Society website for more details).

SGA News and website

SGA Council decided during its meeting in Prague (August 1995) to launch a Society newsletter and website. The objective of the SGA News and website was to serve the SGA goal, support and promote the application of scientific knowledge to the study of the development of mineral resources, geomaterials, and environmental aspects related to mineral deposits by improving communication among SGA members. The Ore Deposit Group at the University of Geneva, Switzerland (especially Prof. L. Fontboté and Dr. M. Chiaradia)

agreed to take over editorship of SGA News and the Society homepage. The first issue of SGA News was published in June 1996 and since that time 14 issues of SGA News (2 per year) have been published and distributed to all SGA members. Electronic versions of SGA News are also available at the Society website. Latest negotiations with Springer-Verlag resulted in the offer to help redesign the layout and to secure the printing of SGA News in Germany starting in 2004. All inquiries regarding SGA News should be directed to Dr. M. Chiaradia, Editor, SGA News, Centre for Geochemical Mass Spectrometry, School of Earth Sciences, The University of Leeds, Leeds LS2 9JT, U.K., E-mail: M.Chiaradia@earth.leeds.ac.uk

The SGA homepage is maintained by Prof. B. Lehmann, Institute of Mining and Mineral Resources, Technical University of Clausthal, 38678 Clausthal-Zellerfeld, Germany, E-mail: lehmann@tu-clausthal.de It offers basic information about the Society covering: its origin, goals, membership, info on SGA Young Scientist Award, *Mineralium Deposita*, International Meetings, Council, Constitution, and SGA-News. Useful links whom to contact in case of various problems and/or suggestions are also available.

Recent and forthcoming congresses and meetings

In 1989, Dr. M. Pagel proposed to organize Society Biennial Meetings. The 25th Anniversary Conference of SGA was organized by Dr. Pagel (SGA Executive Secretary 1991-1998) and held in Nancy, France in 1991; this meeting became the First Biennial Society Meeting. Since 1991, very successful SGA Biennial Meetings have been held in Granada, Spain (1993), Prague, Czech Republic (1995), Turku, Finland (1997), London, U.K. (1999—jointly with IAGOD), Cracow, Poland (2001) and Athens, Greece (2003). These meetings normally attract from 300 to 500 participants and hard cover volumes of extended abstracts resulted from all of these meetings. The next, 8th, SGA Biennial Meeting will be held in Beijing, China in 2005 (for more information see <http://www.sga2005.com>). The 9th SGA Biennial Meeting will be organized in Dublin, Ireland in 2007. These stand-alone SGA meetings may be co-organized or include participation with other societies (for example, the Society for Economic Geologists (SEG), International Association on the Genesis of Ore Deposits (IAGOD) and/or suitable local organizations), but SGA is the principal organizer. Additionally, SGA co-organizes economic geology meetings with other geological and educational organizations—e.g., SEG, IAGOD, UNESCO. SGA also takes an active part in the organization of technical programs of International Geological Congresses. The Society organizes and co-sponsors a number of mineral deposit sessions.

Examples of recent SGA-sponsored meetings include

- 6th Metallogeny Short Course (October 4-8, 1999 Brest, France)
- 31st IGC (August 6-17, 2000 Rio de Janeiro, Brazil)
- Prospectors & Development Association of Canada (March 14-17, 2001 Toronto, Canada)
- A special GEODE/SGA symposium, "The timing and location of major ore deposits in an evolving orogen" at the EUG XI. (April 8-12, 2001 Strasbourg, France)
- 2001 A Hydrothermal Odyssey (May 17-19, Townsville, Queensland, Australia, organized by the Economic Geology Research Unit (EGRU) and the James Cook University School of Earth Sciences)
- XVI ECROFI Meeting (May 2-4, 2001 Porto, Portugal)
- 4th International Archaeological Symposium (September 24-28, 2001 Perth, Australia)
- A joint SEG-SGA Global Exploration 2002, Integrated Methods for Discovery Conference (April 2002 Denver, Colorado, USA)
- 11th IAGOD Symposium (July 22-27, 2002 Windhoek, Namibia)
- Uranium Deposits: From Their Origin To Their Environmental Impacts (September 24-26, 2002 Prague, Czech Republic)
- GAC-MAC-SEG joint annual meeting (May 25-26, 2003 Vancouver, Canada)
- VI. National Geological Congress (June 2003 Lisboa, Portugal)

- World class mineral deposits and earth evolution (August 19-21, 2003 Cardiff, UK)
- GEOCHIM 2003 — Postgraduate training course in geochemical exploration methods and their environmental applications (September 1-15, 2003 Prague and Dolni Rozinka, Czech Republic)

Some of future SGA co-organized or sponsored events

- 4th Fennoscandian Exploration and Mining (FEM)—December 3-5, 2003 Rovaniemi, Finland—Esko Lotvonen (Ex. Director)
- 32nd IGC (Florence, August 20-28, 2004)—several Symposia co-sponsored, planned SGA Council Meeting
- SEG 2004 (Perth, Sept. 27-Oct. 10, 2004)—SGA will run its own module at this conference (R. Goldfarb et al.) and exhibit
- The 12th IAGOD Quadrennial Symposium (August 2006, St. Petersburg, Russia)—SGA will run its own module at this conference and possibly exhibit

SGA and the international year of planet earth

SGA is fully aware of how important it is to raise the awareness of politicians, decision makers, the media and the general public to the rich contributions made to society by the geosciences. These include their relevance to the everyday lives of people, not least in respect to educational systems, government legislation and civil regulation.

SGA Executive Secretary proposed and SGA Council approved that SGA should take a visible role in raising public awareness, possibly together with other Societies (SEG, IAGOD). A joint conference addressing one of the “big” topics — e.g., EARTH AND RESOURCES or joint educational courses might become an option. A meeting of SGA, SEG and IAGOD representatives resulted in setting up a committee that will work on a detailed proposal to promote earth sciences during the IYPE (2004-2007).

SGA awards

Recognizing the highest scientific level papers in *Mineralium Deposita* and the significant contribution of young scientists to the profession of economic geology through SGA awards is another important goal.

The SGA Award for the best paper in Mineralium Deposita

The award is presented every two years at the Society Biennial Meetings and consists of a citation, certificate, EUR 1500 and travel expenses for the first author associated with the receipt of the award. To date, the following papers were awarded:

1999: The 5th SGA Biennial Meeting (London, U.K.)

H.J.Stein, K. Sundblad, R.J. Markey, J.W.Morgan and G.Motuza, 1998, Re-Os ages for Archean molybdenite and pyrite, Kuittila-Kivisuo, Finland and Proterozoic molybdenite, Kabeliai, Lithuania: testing the chronometer in a metamorphic and metasomatic setting, published in *Mineralium Deposita* 33:329-345.

2001: The 6th SGA Biennial Meeting (Cracow, Poland)

F. Melcher, W. Grum, T. V. Thalhammer and O. Thalhammer, 1999, The giant chromite deposits at Kempirsai, Urals: constraints from trace element (PGE, REE) and isotope data, published in *Mineralium Deposita* 34: 250-272.

2003: The 7th SGA Biennial Meeting (Athens, Greece)

Relvas JMRS, Tassinari CCG, Munha J and Barriga FJAS (2001): Multiple sources for ore-forming fluids in the Neves Corvo VHMS deposit of the Iberian Pyrite Belt (Portugal): strontium, neodymium and lead isotope evidence, published in *Mineralium Deposita* 36: 416-427.

The SGA Young Scientist Award

The award is offered biannually to a young scientist who has contributed significantly to the understanding of mineral deposits. It consists of a citation, certificate, EUR 1500 and travel expenses to the place of Biennial Meeting for the presentation. The award is given for contributions to economic geology published before the author's 35th birthday. The recipient must be less than 37 years of age on January 1 of the year in which the award is presented. Any Society member in good standing may nominate candidates for the award. Details on when and how to nominate are available at the Society website at <http://www.e-sga.org>.

The SGA Young Scientist Award was presented for the first time at the 7th SGA Biennial Meeting to Dr. Noreen Mary Vielreicher from the Centre for Global Metallogeny, Department of Geology and Geophysics, University of Western Australia.

References

- Hutchinson, R. W. 1987, The Society of Economic Geologists. Episodes, vol. 9, 3, 166-168
 Saupé, F. 1987, The Society for Geology Applied to Mineral Deposits (SGA). Episodes, vol. 10, 2, 107-109

Dr. Jan Pasava

SGA Executive Secretary
 Czech Geological Survey
 Klárov 131/3
 118 21 Praha 1
 CZECH REPUBLIC
 Tel: +420-2-51817390
 Fax: +420-2-51818748
 E-mail: pasava@cgu.cz