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FIRST CIRCULAR

29th IAGS2020 EXPERIENCE CHILE

Facing the challenges of today using applied geochemistry

On behalf of the Organizing Committee, we are pleased to invite you to take part in the 29th International Applied Geochemistry Symposium which will be held in Viña del Mar, Chile, from November 8 to 13, 2020. The Symposium is sponsored by the Association of Applied Geochemists (AAG) in collaboration with the Sociedad Geológica de Chile (SGCh). It is organized by local representatives of both associations.

This is the second time that the International Applied Geochemistry Symposium will be held in Chile. The 20th IAGS was held in Santiago in 2001 and was very successful.

All information concerning the venue, program, accommodation and events can be found on the Symposium website:

www.iags2020.cl

Symposium Venue

The venue for IAGS2020 will be the historical Hotel O'Higgins, located in the City of Viña del Mar, which is also known as "The Garden City".

Viña del Mar is located 120 km northwest of the capital city of Chile, Santiago. It is a well-known tourist destination, famous for its beaches, the neighboring world heritage city of Valparaíso and abundant parks, as well as nearby famous vineyards in the Casablanca Valley to the east and the San Antonio Valley to the south.

Hotel O'Higgins is a landmark hotel in Viña del Mar that was built in 1931. This vintage art deco style building is full of history and is located in the central part of the city. While the style is classic, the hotel has recently been renovated.



Figure 1. The Symposium venue - Hotel O'Higgins.

Scientific Program

The Scientific Program will be composed of oral and poster presentations. These will be distributed over four days, from November 9-10 and 12-13.

Oral presentations will be divided into plenary and general technical sessions. The time allotted for plenary papers will be 40 minutes, and 20 minutes for papers in the technical sessions.

Poster presentations will be on-going throughout the Symposium, including networking sessions during the early evenings of the Monday, Tuesday and Thursday of the Symposium.

Proposed technical session themes

- Exploration geochemistry: present and future challenges.
- New field portable technologies: improving the analysis and turnaround times in exploration.
- Big data: squeezing multi-element geochemical data by means of data science and self-learning techniques.
- Geochemistry applied to mineral characterization for geological, geometallurgical and resource modeling.
- Environmental geochemistry: closing the gap for sustainable mining and development.
- Water and hydrogeochemistry: challenges in exploration, mining and sustainable development.
- Isotopic geochemistry: new uses in applied geochemistry.
- Geochemistry of the critical zone: linking geology to viticulture and wine.
- Analytical geochemistry technologies and quality assurance / quality control.

Workshops and Field Trips

Workshops

Pre-symposium workshops will be held from November 6 to 8. The following workshops are planned¹.

- Fundamentals of geochemical exploration methods
- Quality Control / Quality Assurance.
- Field portable geochemistry (XRF, LIBS): applications and limitations.
- Data science in geochemistry: from exploration to geometallurgy.
- Geology, mineralogy and geochemistry in viticulture.
- Geology and metallogenesis of Chile.

Field Trips

Post-symposium field trips will be offered from November 14 to 20. The following field trips are planned².

- Mineral deposits of northern Chile (5 days).
- Geological and metallogenic evolution of central Chile: The Andean transect (5 days).
- Geology and Vineyards of central Chile: Geochemistry of the critical zone (3 days).
- Polluted areas of central Chile: detecting the issues (2 days).

¹Workshops are subject to sufficient number of participants. Workshops being offered will be confirmed on 30 Apr 2020.

²Field trips are subject to sufficient number of participants. Field trips being offered and other information will be confirmed on 30 Apr 2020.

Social Program

The social program of the 29th International Applied Geochemistry Symposium will provide an opportunity to greet old friends and build new networks in a comfortable and friendly environment, and it will allow attendees to experience the unique Chilean culture and beautiful landscape of the Valparaíso Region.

Social activities

- **Ice breaker.** To be held after the opening ceremony on November 8 in the outdoor pool area of Hotel O'Higgins.*
- **Pub crawl.** Enjoy nightlife in downtown Viña del Mar. November 9.
- **Wines of Casablanca.** Enjoy a vineyard day tour, wine tasting, lunch and a taste of Chilean culture on a day tour to Estancia El Cuadro. November 11.
- **Symposium AAG Gala Dinner.** AAG traditional gala dinner by the coast. November 12.
- **Wine and beer.** During Poster sessions. Early evening wine and beer. Monday 9, Tuesday 10 and Thursday 12.*
- **Closing ceremony.** November 13.*

* Included with registration

Accompanying person activities³

- **November 9.** Colorful Valparaíso and Central Coast. Visit the historical city of Valparaíso and tour down the central coast.
- **November 10.** Vineyards of Casablanca and San Antonio valleys.
- **November 12.** Cajón del Maipo tour – into the Andes.
- **November 13.** Morning tour of the Viña del Mar Botanical Gardens and Viña del Mar museums.

Important Dates

The Local Organizing Committee of the 29th IAGS2020 has set the following important dates:

DESCRIPTION	DATE
On-line registration opens	June 1 st , 2019
Abstract submission begins	September 1 st , 2019
Deadline for abstract submission	March 31 st , 2020
Early bird registration	June 30 th , 2020
Abstract review and decisions	May 31 st , 2020
Pre-symposium workshop registration	April 30 th , 2020
Post-symposium field trip registration	April 30 th , 2020

³Note: Costs for these activities are not included in the registration fees. Pricing will be published in the second circular

Student Prizes

Prizes for student presentations will include the best oral paper (**the SGS-AAG prize**) and other oral (2nd and 3rd places) and poster presentations (1st, 2nd and 3rd). Sponsorship for various student prizes is available.

Registration

On-line registration for the Symposium will open in June 2019. Registration will be required prior to submitting abstracts or intention to attend the workshops and/or field trips.

Symposium Fees

There will be four categories of delegate fees for attendance at IAGS2020:

AAG or SGCh delegate:

- Registered member of the Association of Applied Geochemist (AAG); and/or
- Registered member of the Chilean Geological Society (SGCh).

Non member delegate:

- Symposium registered participant who is not a member of either AAG or SGCh.

Student⁴:

- A student from an undergraduate or graduate program at the time of registration.
- Accompanying person, such as a spouse or partner.



Table 1. Category, deadline and pricing of the Registration Fee for IAGS2020.

Category	Date	Registration Fee (\$US)
Early bird – AAG / SGCH deleg	Until June 30, 2020	620
Early bird – non delegate	Until June 30, 2020	740
Early bird – Student	Until June 30, 2020	280
Standard – AAG / SGCH delegate	After June 30, 2020	700
Standard – non delegate	After June 30, 2020	820
Standard – Student	After June 30, 2020	320
Accompanying Person	Until October 31, 2020	120

The fees for delegates include attendance at the opening, closing and all technical sessions, the welcome reception (ice breaker), coffee breaks, lunch, complimentary evening wine and beer, a symposium kit and electronic certificate of attendance.

The registration for accompanying persons includes attendance at the opening, closing and welcome reception (ice breaker).

The costs for Symposium AAG Gala Dinner, pre-symposium workshops, post-symposium field trips, social activities not specified above and the accompanying person activities are not included in the registration fee. These costs will be included in the second circular.

⁴Student rate subject to approval on provision of certification from institution (required).

Submission of Abstracts

Submission

The submission of an abstract can only be made through the online platform once the author has registered and completed his or her personal information. The abstract submissions will start on **September 1st 2019**. Deadline for the submission of abstracts is **March 31, 2020**.

Guidelines for submission of abstracts

Guidelines for submission of abstracts will be available soon on the IAGS2020 web page.

Accommodation

Viña del Mar hosts a number of attractive accommodation options. The Symposium venue is located close to the Municipality of Viña del Mar and there are various other accommodations, including many hotels of various categories, low cost hostels as well as ample offers for apartment rentals (e.g. Airbnb), all of which are in the near vicinity of Hotel O'Higgins. An attractive rate has been arranged with Hotel O'Higgins.

Passport and visa requirements

All overseas visitors are required to have a valid passport (with at least six months remaining) for the duration of stay in Chile. With the exception of delegates from visa-free countries, attendees are required to have the appropriate visa. In the simplest case, foreigners that enter the country with a valid passport will be granted a tourist visa which will last for 90 days. Depending on the nationality of the attendee, the tourist visa may attract a fee (e.g. Australia and Canada). For more information, it is recommended that the following website be reviewed: <https://chile.gob.cl/chile/blog/todos/tourist-visa>. It also contains a link to a spreadsheet regarding the tourist visa and any related cost which will depend on the nationality of the attendee.

Visas may also be obtained before departure from offices of the Chilean Embassy or Consulate in the attendee's home country.

Travel

Getting to Chile and Viña del Mar

All international flights to Chile arrive/depart to/from the International Airport "Arturo Merino Benitez" in Santiago, the capital of Chile. Attendees can easily obtain bus transport to Viña del Mar from Santiago's airport. The steps involve taking a bus called Centropuerto to the Pajaritos Metro Station. At the Pajaritos Metro Station, there is a bus station with continuous service to Viña del Mar. This bus ride from Pajaritos to Viña del Mar is approximately 1 hour and 30 minutes. The bus terminal in Viña del Mar is walking distance from Hotel O'Higgins.

Apart from buses, private taxis or shuttles are available at the airport in addition to rental cars from most major providers. From the Santiago Airport, the drive to Viña del Mar is approximately 1 hour and 30 minutes via Route 68.



Other Information

Language

Spanish is the official language of Chile, however English will be the official language of IAGS2020.

Currency, banks and credit cards

The unit of currency in Chile is the Chilean Peso (CLP).

Money exchange facilities are available on arrival to the Arturo Merino Benítez International Airport and also at banks. Additionally, currency exchange facilities can be found in all major cities of Chile.

All purchases in Chile are subject to a 19% tax. This is usually included in the published retail prices for all goods and services. In restaurants and bars, the usual service fee (tip) is 10% and it can occasionally be requested in cash.

Banks are open Monday through Friday from 9.00 am to 2.00 pm. Automatic teller machines (ATMs) are common and functional at all hours. They accept most foreign credit and debit cards which are authorized to be used in a foreign country (it is recommended to notify your bank before trip to Chile, so that credit and debit cards can be used without any restrictions in the country). In addition, most stores will accept foreign credit cards (Visa and Mastercard) provided that authorization has been granted by the visitor's foreign bank for use of that credit card in Chile.

Weather

The weather in Viña del Mar is a Mediterranean type with oceanic influence, foggy skies, warm summers and rainy winters. The climate in this area is influenced by the Humboldt ocean current, allowing for a mild climate with pleasant temperatures throughout the year, similar to Valparaíso. The average yearly temperature is 15 °C (59 F). In January (summer), minimum temperatures range between 14 °C (57 F) and 17 °C (63 F), and maximum temperatures range between 22 °C (72 F) and 25 °C (77 F); temperatures rarely exceed 30 °C (86 F). In July (winter), minimum temperatures range between 3 °C (37 F) and 8 °C (46 F), whereas the maximum temperature fluctuates between 11 °C (52 F) and 16 °C (61 F); the temperature rarely falls below 0 °C (32 F).

In November, the month of 29th IAGS2020, the average and minimum temperatures are 22 °C (71 F) and 15 °C (59 F) respectively.

Organization

The symposium will be organized by the Local Organizing Committee (LOC) and the Technical Committee (TC).

The LOC is constituted by:

President: Associate Professor Brian Townley, Universidad de Chile.

Vice President: Dr. Joseline Tapia, National Director of Geology, Universidad Santo Tomás.

Committee Members

- Dr. Pamela Castillo, Universidad de Chile
- Dr. Paula Ramírez, WSP
- MSc. Fernando López, GeoAV
- MSc. Sofía López, ICASS
- MSc. Germán Ojeda, Antofagasta Minerals
- MSc. Carolina Soto, WSP
- Dr. Peter Winterburn, Vale

The Technical Committee will be constituted by academic and industry representatives. These individuals will be listed in the Second Circular and call for abstracts.