Changes to the Editorial Board: meeting the challenges of a changing landscape in international science

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We are happy to report that the total number of initial manuscript submissions in 2009 will be more than 120, the highest ever recorded for *Mineralium Deposita* in a single year. This is positive news for the journal, particularly in the light of its most recent impact factor of 2.04 also being the highest it has ever achieved.

In part, the increasing submissions reflect the growing engagement of the developing world and the erosion of historical barriers, including linguistic ones, that previously inhibited many scientists from presenting their work to international journals. These trends are good not only for the journal and for science and the global community in general but also bring some challenges, not the least of which is an increasing workload for the Editorial Board. We have therefore been working to both increase the number and diversify the international representation of the Board membership.

Several new appointments occurred in 2009, namely Michel Cuney (Université Henri Poincaré, Nancy, France), Chusi Li (Indiana University, Bloomington, IN, USA), Christina Yan Wang (Chinese Academy of Science, Guangzhou, China), and Robert Perez Xavier (Universidade Estadual de Campinas, Brazil). Additional appoint-

ments anticipated for various times in 2010 include Michael Leshner (Laurentian University, Sudbury, ON, Canada), José Perello (Antofagasta Minerals, Santiago de Chile), and Thomas Wagner (ETH, Zürich, Switzerland).

On the other hand, we must note the departures from the Board of David Lentz and Peter Lightfoot who had completed full terms in 2009 as well as Paul Polito who had to resign from the Board when the requirements of the role came into conflict with the demands of extended work assignments at remote locations. We thank all these three for their excellent service to the journal and are pleased to note that David and Peter will continue to serve our community at large as new members of the Editorial Board of *Economic Geology*. Indeed, we gladly anticipate Peter's continued involvement with *Mineralium Deposita* as a guest editor working with Michael Leshner to develop a thematic set of papers based on contributions to the 11th International Platinum Symposium that will be held in Sudbury, ON, Canada in June 2010.

The Society for Geology Applied to Mineral Deposits (SGA) Council, Chief Editors, and Editorial Board are committed to progressively enhancing both the quality and the real world relevance of papers published in *Mineralium Deposita*. We are seeking to achieve this through the widest possible accessibility to the journal for those engaged in the study of mineral deposits around the world, and we hope that the new appointments to our Editorial Board will help facilitate this.

Based on a suggestion by David Groves during the recent SGA Biennial Meeting in Townsville, we will test in 2010 a new manuscript category under the heading of "Invited Paper". Such manuscripts may be high-profile reviews or new concepts of wide interest, and their submission will be individually requested by the Chief Editors. The first such paper will come out soon.

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