



minerals

Dear Colleagues,

As Editor-in-Chief of *Minerals*, I am pleased to announce the winners of the 2018 *Minerals* Travel Awards:

Travel Awards are granted to **Dr. Elizaveta Kovaleva**, Post-doctoral fellow in the Department of Geology, University of the Free State, Bloemfontein, South Africa and to **Dr. Indrani Mukherjee**, Post-doctoral fellow at the Centre of Excellence in Ore Deposits (CODES), University of Tasmania, Hobart, Australia.

2018 TRAVEL AWARDS WINNERS

Dr. Elizaveta Kovaleva's research involves the analysis of zircon microstructures in tectonic and impact-produced pseudotachylites, and suggests new criteria for distinguishing them. Until now, such criteria have been lacking, leading to potential misinterpretations of the origin of pseudotachylites, especially in the large impact structures, where both pre-impact tectonic and shock melts are present. Additionally, she suggests that deformation microstructures facilitate the understanding of zircon deformation history and its original provenance where the petrological context is lacking (e.g., alluvial zircon, zircon in breccia). The research is based on a combination of methods, including in situ EBSD and microprobe mapping, CL and BSE imaging, and Raman spectroscopy mapping. She is planning to present her work at the EGU General Assembly 2018 in Vienna, Austria.

Dr. Indrani Mukherjee's postdoctoral research focuses on understanding pyrite trace element distribution along a single black shale unit (Lower Arthur Creek Formation) across the Georgina Basin (~450 km) in northern Australia. Approximately 2000 pyrite LA-ICP-MS analyses have been undertaken in these organic matter-rich black shales. Her study focuses on the variation in pyrite chemistry with sedimentary facies across the basin and factors controlling these variations, including changes in redox conditions and micronutrient availability. Results provide a measure of how robust the pyrite LA-ICP-MS technique is as a proxy for paleo-redox of the atmosphere–ocean system through time, and its potential for understanding cycles of sedimentary ore deposition. This work will be presented at the Goldschmidt2018 conference, Boston, MA, USA.

The awards consist of 800 Swiss Francs each to attend academic conference during 2018.

Prof. Dr. Paul Sylvester
Editor-in-Chief



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