Commission on Mineral and Inorganic Structures (CIMS) of the IUCr

Report for the Year 2012

Members and consultants of CIMS discussed various issues via email. Other forms of communication were given by occasional other meetings or conferences, or by using the website. The latter is kindly maintained by M. Nespolo (http://www.crystallography.fr/cims/).

The Commission on Structural Crystallography, CSC, of IUCr and CIMS maintain their links. A. Beatty is representative of CSC in CIMS while P. Mercier represents CIMS in CSC.

P. Mercier continues to act as liaison officer of CIMS with IUCr Newsletter. He is also representative of CIMS in the Working Group of Database Users within IUCr.

Strong links exist between CIMS and the Special Interest Group 5 of the European Crystallographic Association (ECA - SIG5, http://sig5.ecanews.org/). At present, the secretary of SIG5 is O. Siidra, the Chairman S. Krivovichev and F. Hatert Vice-Chairman.

There are very good relationships between CIMS and the European Mineralogical Union (EMU, http://eurominunion.org/); R. Oberti (EMU past president since 2013) is member of CIMS for the period 2011 – 2014.

CIMS was involved in the following meetings held in 2012:
- The “third SMARTER Crystallography Workshop” was held in Versailles, France, on 10-13 September 2012 (http://www.smarter3.uvsq.fr). J. Rocha was one of the organizers (member of the Board Committee). Almost 100 people attended and 34 lectures were delivered.
- Italian two-day symposium celebrating “The Centennial of X-ray Diffraction (1912-2012)”, co-organized by the Accademia Nazionale dei Lincei, the Accademia delle Scienze di Torino and AIC (Rome, May 8-9, 2012). R. Oberti and G. Ferraris were members of the organizing committee. This symposium obtained the patronage of the ECA. More than 100 persons attended the lectures (delivered by outstanding scientists among which two Nobel laureates and one recipient of the Ewald prize), which focused on the history of crystallography and its revolutionary impact on many scientific disciplines. The lectures have been published in Rendiconti Lincei, 2013, vol. 24 (supplement n. 1); G. Ferraris acted as co-editor.
- Preparation of the “2013 Goldschmidt Conference” to be held in Florence (August 25-30). R. Oberti is co-chair of the theme “The cutting edge in mineralogy and mineral physics" and member of the organizing committee.
- CIMS has also been much involved in the preparation of the 2014 IUCr Montreal congress, suggesting Microsymposia, Workshops and Keynotes.

CIMS supported the application for financial funding by IUCr of the following meetings to be held in 2013:
- III International Conference Crystallogenesis and Mineralogy, September, 27-October, 1, 2013, Novosibirsk, Russian Federation.
- EMU school on “Minerals at Nanoscale”, June 3-6, 2013, Granada, Spain.
CIMS also gave (‘moral’) support to the following meeting to be held in 2013:
- Short Course “Uranium: Cradle to Grave” organised under the auspices of the Mineralogical Association of Canada, May 2013, Winnipeg, Canada
- ‘GEOLIFE-Geomaterials for environment, technology and human activities’ included in the theme ‘The cutting edge in mineralogy and mineral physics’ of the 2013 Goldschmidt Conference, 25 - 30 August, Florence, Italy.

Personal achievements:
- M. Nespolo is CIMS representative in the Advisory Committee of the 2014 Meeting of the International Mineralogical Association where CIMS is in charge of the “Mineralogical Crystallography sessions.
- O. Yakubovich became an officer of the European Crystallographic Association (ECA) Executive Committee for the period 2012-2015.

12 June 2013.
Prof. João Rocha
(Chair of CIMS)