

In an unusual and difficult year in which many activities of geologists were curtailed, it appears that submitting papers was not one of them. Lockdown around much of the globe gave many the chance to finish manuscripts as their field and laboratory activities were curtailed. The *JMG* received a record number of submissions this year, in fact a normal year's worth by August, which have kept out editorial team and many of you as reviewers quite busy. I would like to thank all our reviewers for their support of the Journal in undertaking reviewing duties under such circumstances and all our submitting authors for their patience with the editorial process.

After 15 years of service to the *JMG* as an editor, Donna Whitney has decided to step down from the role at the end of 2020. Donna became an editor in 2006 having served on the Editorial Review Board before this. The journal is greatly thankful for Donna's outstanding efforts as an editor over a great many years and we wish her all the best for the future.

Stepping into the role as an editor is Professor Clare Warren from the Open University in the UK. Clare completed her PhD at Oxford, UK, studying the high-*P* metamorphic rocks exposed beneath the Semail Ophiolite, Oman. She then won a Killam research fellowship to work on thermomechanical modelling of high-*P* rock exhumation at Dalhousie University, Canada followed by a NERC Research fellowship to investigate Ar/Ar systematics in high-*P* rocks at the Open University, UK. She was offered a permanent position at the Open University in 2014 and has recently been promoted to Professor of Metamorphic Geology. Clare applies a variety of geochemical analyses to constrain how and when deeply buried rocks record the timing of their burial and exhumation and uses those inferences to constrain burial, transformation and exhumation processes and mechanisms.

We also have some changes to the Editorial Review Board (ERB). Two of our longest serving members, Roger Powell and Frank Spear are stepping down from their positions on the ERB. Roger first joined the ERB in 1984 in volume 2 of the journal and served as an editor from 2001 to 2012 we wish Roger the best after 37 years of service to the journal. Frank has sat on the ERB for 28 years having joined in 1993 and is thanked for his very long service and support to the journal. Both Roger and Frank continue to actively publish and we look forward to their future contributions to the *JMG*. In addition, Mark Caddick is leaving the ERB after a number of years of service and is thanked for his contribution and support of the journal.

Joining the ERB will be Fred Gaidies from Carleton University, Eleanor Green from the University of Melbourne,

Richard Palin from the University of Oxford, Madhusoodhan Satish-Kumar from Niigata University, James Scott from Otago University and Daniel Viete from John Hopkins University.

Lastly it is my pleasure to announce the winners of the inaugural Mike Brown Annual Early Career JMG Research Paper Prize and Douglas Robinson JMG annual reviewer award.

Congratulations go to Freya George, currently a research fellow at John Hopkins University, for the Mike Brown Annual Early Career JMG Research Paper Prize for the publication: George, F.R. & Gaidies, F. 2020. *Simultaneous operation of opposing reaction mechanisms: The influence of matrix heterogeneity on post-kinematic garnet crystallization in an inverted metamorphic sequence.*

In the words of Bernardo Cesare (handling editor), "The research presents a comprehensive set of observations, acquired through a state-of-the-art multidisciplinary approach, on the 3D microstructural features, chemistry and compositional zoning of garnets in metapelites from an inverted Barrovian sequence in the Sikkim Himalaya. The excellent petrological characterization and careful observations, complemented by nice and self-explaining figures, are set in the context of other minerals, bulk rock composition and texture. The results are used to model the process of garnet growth at an extreme level of detail, allowing the discussion of the potential tectonic significance of post-kinematic porphyroblasts in strongly segregated matrices."

All the editors were greatly impressed by the detailed and multidisciplinary approach to understanding reaction mechanisms on a small scale and the way the paper elegantly addressed a range of ideas on porphyroblast growth via natural examples from the Himalaya using an impressive array of techniques.

The inaugural Douglas Robinson JMG annual reviewer award is awarded to Johann Diener from the University of Cape Town for his sustained major contribution as a reliable and insightful reviewer over more than a decade. Johann has long been one of the reviewing stalwarts of the journal over the last 14 years since he first reviewed a manuscript for the journal and currently holds the record for most reviews submitted since the electronic office was initiated. His reviews are always clear, balanced, thorough, and aim to improve manuscripts while letting few issues with data or logic get past him.

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