

MINUTES OF THE IMA - COMMISSION ON MUSEUMS AD HOC MEETING, MUNICH, OCTOBER 28, 2005

Our annual Ad Hoc Meeting during the Munich Fair was held together with the SMMP (Society of Mineral Museum Professionals) Europe members on Friday, October 28th, 2005, from 5:00 pm in room A51 (Hall A5).

The general topic was: "Discussions of actual themes of the national and international community of museums."

22 curators from 10 countries (Australia, Austria, France, Germany, Italy, Norway, Switzerland, Spain, UK, and USA) attended the meeting.

Lydie Touret (Paris/France) as Chairwoman of the CM and Peter Davidson (Edinburgh/Scotland) as European Representative of SMMP moderated the meeting.

- Lydie Touret reported on the activities of the CM in regard to the IMA Meeting planned for Kobe, Japan in 2006. The printed version of the 2nd announcement for the meeting was brought to the Munich Fair by Michiaki Bunno of Japan and handed out to the delegates. Terry Huizing (Cincinnati, USA) suggested that optional visits to the important mineral collections in Japan be added to the program. CM will mention this point by letter to the organizing committee.
- Concerning the location for M&M6 in 2008, letters have been sent to the 4 candidates by Lydie Touret. She reported that there has been no answer from Lisboa and no joint invitation has been received from the St. Petersburg Institutions. The invitation from Denver stands. As mentioned during the last business meeting at Paris 2004, a final decision will be made during the business meeting of the CM at Kobe 2006.
- Federico Pezzotta reported that the museum building at Milano, Italy has been undergoing renovation for 5 years, upgrading the exhibitions and building new laboratories for mineral preparation.
- The mineral collection of Padua, Italy is now headed by Alessandro Guastoni.
- The well-known mineral collection of the Université Pierre et Marie Curie (Jean-Claude Boulliard) at Paris/France is moving from "underground". In addition, there will be quite a struggle about the locations of the Paris museums as Amédée Djemat told us.
- Gerhard Niedermayr (Vienna, Austria) announced that he has acquired many small but exquisite mineral specimens for his exhibition.

- Brian Jackson (Edinburgh, Scotland, UK) reported that all galleries of the National Museum of Scotland will be renovated. Materials (40,000 mineral specimens) will be stored elsewhere in the north of Edinburgh during renovations. Some money has been announced for mineral specimens to be exhibited in the new galleries.
- Fred Steinar Nordrum (Kongsberg, Norway) reported that some old buildings from the Kongsberg Academy have been added to the museum complex.
- Penny Williamson (University of Wollongong, Australia) reported on changing museum politics in Australia, focusing on natural Australian aborigines at the expense of all other galleries. Minerals of Australia are displayed at the National Museum of Australia in Canberra in an incredible way.
- Mark Mauthner (Houston Museum of Natural Science, USA) reported on their just completed special gold exhibition.
- Nicolas Meisser (Lausanne, Switzerland) reported about new curator positions at Geneva and at the new regional collection at Sion (Wallis).
- Fenoll Hach-ali Purificación (Granada, Spain) mentioned the collection of polished sections of most minerals shown in the small museum.
- Federica Zaccarini spent two nice years at the University of Leoben, Austria and will be back to Granada for the next 3 years to install a new modern microprobe and a Raman spectroscope.
- The Museum of Módena, Italy has no curator position, so Giogio Garuti, together with two colleagues, has to taken over all museum work.

Submitted on November, 29th, 2005 by

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(Secretary of the CM)