

## Latin American UNESCO-SEG-SGA Course of Metallogeny in Quito

*Lluís Fontboté (SEG 1990 F) and Jeffrey Hedenquist (SEG 1986 F)*

After an 11-year absence, the itinerant Latin American UNESCO-SEG-SGA Course of Metallogeny returned to its birthplace, Quito, Ecuador, for its XXXII edition (May 19–26th, 2014). Sixty-seven participants from Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Ecuador, Japan, Mexico, and Peru were selected among more than 120 applicants. Half of them, mainly students and young professionals, were granted several types of fellowship support so they could attend.

The 2014 edition of the course focused on the metallogeny of the Northern Andes. International instructors M. Chiaradia and R. Spikings and local specialists C. Aguila, J. Barreno, J. Lema, I. Leiva, O. Poma, M. Ponce, F. Quijano, F. Salazar, and C. Vallejo gave topical presentations on significant advances over the last few years in the understanding of the regional geology and several ore deposits, some of which are at the project stage. L. Fontboté and J. Hedenquist complemented the program with lectures on fundamental topics on ore deposit genesis—in particular, concerning the porphyry-epithermal system.

The course included laboratory exercises on the recognition of typical ore and hydrothermal alteration textures and mineralogy. Freddy Quijano (Panamerican Silver), and representatives of INV Metals, Junefield Ecuador, and Salazar Resources provided excellent demonstration material. Other parallel workshops focused on the application of isotopic and geochronological methods to exploration. Highlights also included lively discussions around the many posters presented by the fellowship holders. Recipients of awards for the best posters were the following: Veronica Godinho Trevisan, Univ. Campinas, Brazil, “Intrusion-hosted gold-sulphide-quartz vein system on the Alta Floresta Gold Province, Amazon Craton, Brazil”; Camilo Andres Mogollón Uribe, EAFIT University, Medellín, Colombia, “Termocronología para la exhumación y erosión en Cerro Vetas (Distrito Minerlo de Titiribí, Colombia)”; and Gustavo de Melo Coelho, Univ. Campinas, Brazil, “U-Pb Geochronology of the giant IOCG deposit of Salobo, Carajas province Brazil.” Jesús Omar Arbildo Flores (UNI, Lima, Perú), Carlos Alberto Ballivián Justiano and U.N. La Plata, Argentina), Miguel Andrés Figueroa (U.N. Colombia, Bogotá), and Janet Sarapura (Tucumán, Argentina) received honorable mention for their posters.

Thirty-seven of the participants joined a useful and interesting field trip to visit the prospects of Loma Larga (HS Au, INV Metals), Gaby-Papa Grande (porphyry, Au-Cu, Guadalupe Mining Corporation y Gaby Panama Corporation), and El Domo (VHMS, Au-Zn, Salazar Resources).

An excellent venue at the Universidad Central de Ecuador (UCE) and enthusiastic organization by the staff of AIME, Quito, under the direction of its President, Daniel Philco, and the course organization committee with participation of UCE (Francisco Viteri), EPN (Bernardo Beate), UNESCO (Jorge Ellis), and several other professionals and mining company representatives contributed to the success of this year’s popular and long-running training course.

Additional information and the location of the next edition of the Latin American UNESCO-SEG-SGA Course of Metallogeny (or how to apply to host the course) may be found in the website [www.unige.ch/terre/latinometal](http://www.unige.ch/terre/latinometal). 65



Participants at the UNESCO-SEG-SGA course held in Quito, Ecuador, gather for a group photo.



Several mining companies provided typical ore and alteration samples and drill core for a lab that was very popular among meeting attendees.



Field trip participants pose for a photo near the El Domo VHMS deposit, Curipamba (Salazar Resources).