

**Report from the Frontiers in Mineral Sciences 2007 Meeting
In Fitzwilliam College and the Department of Earth Sciences
University of Cambridge
United Kingdom**

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The Frontiers in Mineral Sciences 2007 Meeting was held in Fitzwilliam College and the Department of Earth Sciences, University of Cambridge with 18 symposia and series of plenary lectures. All the talks and posters discussed the advances in research related to properties and behaviours of minerals.

I presented a talk in the session “Minerals in contaminated environments: characterization, stability, impact”. My talk was entitled “Partitioning of lead during the transformation of ferrihydrite to hematite and goethite”. During the talk I presented a part of my PhD project research. The aim of my project is to quantify the molecular level processes as well as the fate of adsorbed lead or (and) sulphate and (or) phosphate during the transformation of ferrihydrite to geologically stable oxides like hematite and (or) goethite. The ultimate goal is to quantify the rates and mechanisms of these processes.

The conference was an excellent chance for me to present my research as a second year PhD student and it also gave me the chance to discuss my research with other scientists. This helped me focus my ideas for my project and allowed me to learn many new things from the talks and posters presented at the conference.

I am very grateful to the Geochemistry Group for their financial support to help me attend the Frontiers in Mineral Sciences 2007 meeting.