Dear Professor Nakada,

I am pleased to nominate Dr. Michael Ort for Vice President of IAVCEI. My nomination is fully seconded by Micol Todesco (INGV, Italy), Magdalena Oryaëlle Chevrel (Clermont-Ferrand, France), Pierre-Simon Ross (INRS – Canada). Collectively we speak as an international group to the eminent suitability of Michael Ort for this high honour.

Michael is well-suited for this post on several grounds. He has a long and distinguished record of research in volcanology. His work in pyroclastic density currents is firmly based on classical field observations/experiments supported by various tools ranging from paleomagnetism to classical and modern petrology and geochemistry. His work is international with notable collaborations in South America (Argentina, Bolivia, Ecuador), Europe (Spain, Italy, Romania, Ireland), and New Zealand, among others. His career contributions include significant publications starting in 1993 and editorship of notable volcanological monographs. Of particular note is that Michael’s research has always been very community oriented and he has many formal and informal contributions that benefit our community. These include leading workshops for small groups of colleagues in developing countries and he regularly assists with publications and outreach materials.

Above all Michael has been an IAVCEI mainstay throughout his career and he has shown leadership in IAVCEI research communities for over two decades. He was a co-commissioner of the Commission on Explosive Volcanism (1997 to 2001) and has organised multiple IAVCEI affiliated International Maar Conferences. These contributions were recognized by his election to the IAVCEI Executive Committee for the past four years. As Vice President myself, I have first-hand knowledge of Michael’s commitment to IAVCEI. He was one of the primary supporters of our initiatives to be a more inclusive and welcoming society. This is most obviously manifested through his leadership in efforts to develop and nurture the Early-Career Network of IAVCEI and he co-promoted efforts to support colleagues and initiatives from less-privileged parts of the world though network building and more proactive sharing of IAVCEI resources. These efforts would be the cornerstone of his platform as the next Vice-President of IAVCEI.

Michael Ort is an excellent candidate for IAVCEI vice-president. His nominating team clearly reflects his international reputation and presence in volcanology. His election would mean continuity of a dedicated effort to make IAVCEI more inclusive, develop volcanological research throughout the world, and nurture the next generation of volcanologists. I, along with the seconders of this nomination, urge the community to give Michael Ort their strongest support as the next VP of IAVCEI.

Yours sincerely,

Vice-President IAVCEI
Dear IAVCEI Nominating Committee,

Shanaka de Silva is nominating me to stand for election for one of the two posts as vice president of IAVCEI. I accept his nomination with pleasure. I am currently on the IAVCEI executive committee and have focused my efforts on making IAVCEI a more inclusive organization for volcanologists in ALL countries and at ALL stages of their careers. I am running again, this time for vice president, in order to bring to fruition some of the efforts that others and I have made over the past four years. I will attach a short CV with some publications selected to give an idea of the types of topics on which I have worked.

I have been on the IAVCEI executive committee for the past four years. As the liaison to ECR-Net, I have worked to create more space and integration for the Early Career Researchers Network within IAVCEI. With several others on the committee, I am working to make IAVCEI more relevant and useful to volcanologists working in countries where funds to attend meetings are scarce. An initiative we are working on is to help link researchers with analytical needs to researchers with appropriate laboratory facilities. IAVCEI’s finances are very much improved over the past four years, largely through very careful work by the president and secretary-general, and I would like to use some of this money to help make IAVCEI more useful and relevant for volcanologists around the world, while maintaining a sufficient income stream and bank balance. That sounds like a politician, but I think it is something we can do now that we were not in the position to do four years ago.

I am a professor at Northern Arizona University, where I have worked since January 1991. Part of my position is to serve as a faculty coordinator for an international exchange program in which students complete two degrees, one in science and one in a language. I work with universities around the world to foster mobility of students and researchers. I was a Fulbright scholar in Romania (Univ. Bucharest, 1994) and Argentina (Univ. Buenos Aires, 2001) and a visiting researcher at the Alaska Volcano Observatory, Wairakei Research Centre, Trinity College Dublin, and Institute of Earth Sciences Jaume Almera CSIC (Barcelona). I speak English and Spanish well and am conversant in Italian. I have taught short courses in volcanology (in Spanish) in Argentina and Mexico.

I am interested in most things volcanic. My main research area is pyroclastic density currents and explosive eruptions. This includes ignimbrites and associated calderas as well as maars and scoria cones. Using field-based studies as the foundation, I apply quantitative and semi-quantitative methods such as rock- and paleo-magnetism, grain-size and grain-shape analysis, melt inclusion studies, and geochemistry to better understand the volcanic processes.

I was co-leader of the IAVCEI Commission on Explosive Volcanism, with Greg Valentine, from 1997 to 2001. I was on the scientific committees for the second, third, fifth and seventh International Maar
Conferences (in Hungary, Argentina, Mexico, and Spain, respectively). Aside from helping set up the scientific programs, I helped translate or proofread the publicity and co-led a field trip in Mexico.


Sincerely,

Michael Ort
Professor
Michael H. Ort
School of Earth and Sustainability
Northern Arizona University
Flagstaff, AZ  86011

Education
University of California, Santa Cruz; Earth Sciences, B.S., 1984.

Professional Experience
Assistant, Associate, Full Professor, Northern Arizona University, 1991 - present
Visiting Researcher, Trinity College Dublin, Ireland. 2000, 2017-18
Fulbright Scholar, Univ. Buenos Aires, Argentina, 2001; Univ. Bucharest, Romania, 1994

Some Significant Publications
Alfano, F., Ort, M.H., Pioli, L., Self, S., Hanson, S., Clarke, A.B., Ruggensack, K., Allison, C.M., Amos, R., in press, The sub-Plinian monogenetic basaltic eruption of Sunset Crater, Arizona, USA; Geol Soc America Bull, 14 p.
Ort, M.H., Di Muro, A., Michon, L., Bachèlery, P., 2016, Explosive eruptions from the interaction of magmatic and hydrothermal systems during flank extension: The Bellecombe Ashes of Piton de La Fournaise (La Réunion Island), Bull Volcanol, v. 78.
LETTER OF SUPPORT FOR THE NOMINATION OF MICHAEL ORT TO STAND FOR THE VICE-PRESIDENT OF IAVCEI

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January 10, 2018

Dear IAVCEI Nominating Committee,

This letter is to support Shanaka De Silva in the nomination of Michael Ort to stand for the election of vice-president of IAVCEI. I am writing this letter because Michael Ort is a recognized scientist worldwide. He has worked in many countries and I believe he understands the challenge of working with people from many different cultures and heritages. Michael Ort has also been very active in helping the Early Career Researcher Network within IAVCEI. As the current representative of the ECR-Net, I can say that he has been always very open to our initiatives and showed his support to our network and actions in various occasions.

For the first time, hopefully, a seat for an ECR will be filled at the IAVCEI executive committee. Having someone like Michael Ort to support her or him is essential. In a world where permanent positions become hard to obtain due to increase of population but also, in many countries, decrease of public finances, it is crucial that the IAVCEI shows the need for better connections with the next generation of volcanologists. I believe that Michael Ort is someone who faces the future by trusting the younger generation, being conscientious of the challenges we are facing. With Michael Ort in the vice-presidency, the ECR initiative will become more substantial.

Furthermore I know that Michael Ort is also part of an initiative to help researchers from countries where funds are scarce. This is also a very important task that IAVCEI needs to success: to offer the opportunity to volcanologists from all country to do better science but also to have the tools to prevent volcanic disasters.

That’s suffice to say that Michael Ort will be an excellent vice-president for IAVCEI and I strongly second his nomination.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Magdalena Oryaëlle Chevrel
Quebec City, Canada, January 10, 2019

TO: Prof. Setsuya Nakada, chair of the election committee, term 2019-2023
IAVCEI

ABOUT: Letter of support for Michael Ort as Vice-President

Dear Sir,

I’ve been a member of IAVCEI since ~2003 and an associate editor at our journal, Bull. Volc., since 2012.

Dr. Shanaka de Silva has nominated Michael Ort (Northern Arizona University, USA) for Vice-President of IAVCEI and I’d like to second that nomination.

Michael Ort was already on the Executive Committee for the 2015-2019 period. His goal was to make our association more inclusive and useful for volcanologists from all countries and at all stages of their career. He intends to continue these efforts as vice-president.

I’ve known Michael for over 10 years, and I know he’s an excellent field volcanologist and a productive scientist. He speaks several languages, is easygoing, and focused. I trust that he will be a great vice-president.

With kind regards,

Pierre-Simon Ross
Professor
rosso@ete.inrs.ca
Dear Prof. Nakada,

I’m writing to you to support the nomination of Michael Ort for the role of vice president of IAVCEI for the term 2019-2023, as proposed by Dr. Shanaka de Silva.

A first reason to propose Michael Ort is that he has a profound knowledge of IAVCEI: he served in the IAVCEI Executive Committee for the past four years, and before then he was co-leader of the IAVCEI Commission on Explosive Volcanism; he also was editor for a IAVCEI Special Publication and contributed to the organization and realization of various IAVCEI-sponsored workshops, field trips, and conferences. He has therefore a long-lasting knowledge of the Association, its structure and its functioning. He knows which are the strengths that he can harness to achieve his goals as vice president.

These goals are both important and timely, and this is a second reason to propose him. As the world population grows and the volcanic hazard increases, the severity of the challenges faced by our research community requires to make the best possible use of human and structural resources. This means granting the involvement of all valuable researchers, regardless of their country, age, or gender. An inclusive international association that allows an effective sharing of resources and facilities is not only fairer, but also more capable to generate valuable science.

I met Michael Ort in 1990, and since then I’ve always been struck by his unsatiable curiosity that spans throughout and well beyond volcanology. Frequent traveler as many volcanologists, he has always been an attentive and respectful visitor, capable of listening and eager to learn about the people and the cultures he meets. This approach granted him a wide and diverse network of contacts, co-workers, and good friends all around the world. His wide and multidisciplinary research reflects his open-minded character and his capacity to look at things from different points of views.

In other words, the third reason to propose Michael Ort is that he is a renown scientist who also has excellent soft-skills. The two things together will make him a great vice president.

With my best regards,

Micol Todesco
Researcher
micol.todesco@ingv.it