A Career in Thermodynamics

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Deeply honored by the symposium in my honor, I take this opportunity to present my science in the context of other scientific and societal events of the past five decades. In geochemistry I have utilized high-temperature oxide melt solution calorimetry to provide thermodynamic data and, more importantly, scientific insights into the microscopic sources of stability and metastability in spinels, high-pressure minerals, silicate glasses and melts, hydrous minerals and nanomaterials. However my most important “product” may be the many students, postdocs and colleagues who have influenced me and been influenced by my ideas. I have seen the societal reasons and patterns for doing science evolve. Despite tight budgets, geochemistry is now more exciting than ever, especially in the broader planetary context.