

**Meteoritical Society Council Meeting  
Invitees**

**Meteoritical Society Council Meeting  
Online Meeting – 9 am (EDT time) April 12th**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85965691621?pwd=cEEySGorSzZRaEZyRTFqTGovdnRSZz09>

**Past President Invitee**

Meenakshi Wadhwa

**Council Members Invitees**

Brigitte Zanda (Pres.)

Nancy Chabot (VP)

Tasha Dunn (Treas.)

Munir Humayun (Sec.)

Neyda Abreu

Henner Busemann

Sarah Crowther

Denton Ebel

Chris Herd

Kuljeet Kaur Marhas

Takashi Mikouchi

Lan-anh N. Nguyen

**Guests**

Philipp Heck (Chicago meeting)

Joe Boesenberg (Pellas-Ryder)

Arya Udry (Membership)

**Agenda**

- |                                       |       |
|---------------------------------------|-------|
| 1. Welcome                            | 09:00 |
| 2. President's report                 | 09:05 |
| 3. Chicago meeting review (Heck)      | 09:15 |
| 4. Pellas-Ryder Award (Boesenberg)    | 09:30 |
| 5. Treasurer's report                 | 09:45 |
| 6. Miscellaneous                      | 10:05 |
| 7. Membership Committee report        | 10:15 |
| 8. Secretary's report (Munir Humayun) | 10:35 |
| a. Committee reports                  |       |
| b. Review of activities               |       |
| 9. New Business                       | 10:55 |
| 10. Adjourn                           | 11:00 |

**1. Welcome**

At 9:02 a.m. (US EDT), the president, Brigitte Zanda, convened the meeting of the Council and welcomed all those attending.

*(Officers/Council present: all; guests: all)*

**2. President's Report**

Brigitte Zanda thanked former past-President Trevor Ireland and councilors: Corrigan, Rochette, Trieloff and Varela, who had rotated off the Council for their

service and welcomed the four new councilors: Busemann, Crowther, Ebel and Nguyen, to their first council meeting.

Zanda reported that all the committees are filled, with the exception of the newly constituted Impact Crater Committee. She mentioned the need to create a Nominations Committee to be in place for new officers' and councilors' election for 2022. The Audit Committee is going to recommend a new process for professional audits that would be conducted every few years by professional auditors hired by the MetSoc the cost of which has been estimated at \$20,000 per audit. The Membership Committee chaired by Arya Udry will examine how to increase the membership and increase outreach to non-academic groups interested in meteoritics. The goal is to improve participation from both academic and non-academic members interested in Meteoritics. The chair of the Endowment Committee has been added to the Membership Committee as an *ex officio* member to enable closer coordination between the two committees' activities on behalf of the membership. A change in bylaws will be presented to the next Council meeting to formalize this arrangement.

Two new ad hoc committees have been formed: The Website Committee [Mendy Ouzillou (chair), Philippe Claeys, Cari Corrigan, Steffanie Sillitoe-Kukas, Zoe Wilbur, Jans Carton (WebSanity), with the chairs of the Endowment (Allan Treiman) and Membership (Arya Udry) committees as *ex officio* members] is charged with improving the website including the addition of outreach and development of educational pages.

The Ethics Committee [Neyda Abreu (chair), Trevor Ireland, Natalia Artemieva] will establish procedures and guidelines for dealing with complaints brought to the society and would review such complaints and make recommendations to the Council. Zanda noted that the Meteoritical Society has a set of Position statements governing ethical behavior.

A decision to make these committees permanent in the future would require a change in the bylaws.

President Zanda discussed the situation with regards to annual meetings as impacted by the pandemic. Glasgow was rescheduled to 2022 and all other meetings moved back by a year, except the Chicago meeting. Philipp Heck will report at this meeting regarding arrangements for the 2021 meeting.

### **3. Chicago Annual Meeting 2021 (Heck)**

Philipp Heck reported on progress towards organizing the Chicago meeting. The pandemic has created tremendous uncertainty over the meeting, particularly concerns about attendance at an in-person meeting. The future of travel from EU and other countries to the US remains uncertain. The venue is the Hilton Hotel on Michigan Avenue. A contract had been signed prior to the pandemic but required a performance minimum revenue for the meeting and required that the hotel's AV

provider would be used. New negotiations resulted in the Hilton Hotel kindly waiving the minimum revenue and allowed the society to obtain an external AV provider. The hotel has arranged for physically distanced seating in meeting rooms, industry-leading cleaning procedures; safe food and beverage services; mandatory mask wearing on hotel premises and provides for a safe and healthy meeting experience.

The meeting is planned to be a hybrid meeting with an online participation option and an in-person option with registration rates that are set accordingly. Vendor proposals for the online portion are awaited. It is expected that there will be 40-400 attendees, the participation rate being a major uncertainty for the meeting organizers. Early registration deadline will be shortly after the abstract deadline, but registration would be available on-site.

The conference organizers, the hotel and the Meteoritical Society would require a waiver from responsibility in the event that an attendee became infected with Covid-19 as a result of attending the meeting.

Fred Ciesla is chairing the Program Committee for the Chicago meeting. Proposed abstract deadline is May 31, 2021.

Social events are still being deliberated and depend on in-person participation rate.

It was suggested that participants may be waiting to the absolute last minute before committing to register for the meeting and recommended moving the early registration deadline closer to the meeting date, past June 1, when NASA provides new guidance on travel for NASA scientists.

The importance of in-person attendance for students and early career scientists was recognized. Travel restrictions imposed by the US on other nations (including EU), if not lifted by August, would limit participation by non-US members of the society due to quarantine restrictions. MetSoc may be forced into a smaller domestic meeting. Vaccinations are likely to be required for travel purposes.

A concern was raised about holding a meeting from which non-US participants feel excluded. The high rates of vaccination in the US offered optimism but the spread of new strains of the virus could dampen any optimism.

Philipp Heck emphasized that lessons learned from LPSC would be implemented with all talks live-streamed and recorded for participants who could not attend. Poster sessions would be improved from the LPSC format. Council suggested improving the poster format so that tracking of attendance at posters and improving feedback and interaction would be developed.

It was suggested that pre-recorded talks be made an option for participants who cannot appear in person nor live-stream their talks and these would be shown by

the session chairs. That webcams could convey the social dimensions of the meeting by live-streaming the poster sessions and the atrium. Other suggestions included using GoPro and microbloggers to provide connection to the conference. LPI to notify the community regarding meeting preparations. Switching from in-person registration to virtual registration without penalty would be made easy.

Award ceremony will include both the 2020 and 2021 awardees.

Funding for student awards is higher this year given that no funds were expended on travel in 2020.

#### **4. Pellas-Ryder Award (Boesenberg)**

Joe Boesenberg presented the committee report. Of the six papers submitted for consideration, two did not fit the disciplinary guidelines for the award. The committee selected a paper by Jan Hellman, "Origin of volatile element depletion among carbonaceous chondrites" published in *Earth and Planetary Science Letters* (see attached report) for the 2021 Pellas-Ryder Award. The Council voted unanimously to approve the recommendation of the Pellas-Ryder committee. The president will notify the winner of the Pellas-Ryder Award.

Modifications to the bylaws will be submitted to a subsequent meeting for approval.

#### **5. Treasurer's Report**

Tasha Dunn presented the Treasurer's report. Taxes for FY 2020 have been filed. Membership numbers have improved. The downturn in the stock market during the early pandemic phase has since recovered. The Wells Fargo account will eventually be closed. All member payments enter the main Bank of America operating account via Stripe™ payments. Donations remain steady, mainly through membership renewals. Spending from the endowment account has been low due to the pandemic cancellations of the annual meeting. The full report is available via the Member Portal behind password protection.

A final report from the Sapporo meeting is still expected.

A motion to approve the FY 22 budget was unanimously passed by the Council.

#### **6. Miscellaneous**

There were no miscellaneous agenda items.

#### **7. Membership Committee**

Arya Udry presented the Membership Committee report. Udry reviewed nominations for this year's Service Award. There are a total of five nominations. In the past two years not a single female nomination has been received. She proposed more outreach to encourage nominations. Udry proposes a set of measures the committee is considering to increase membership (see full report). The committee is putting together a survey to be sent to the community to gain information on

what the society could do better and to assess gender and ethnicity in the community.

A discount rate for publication in MAPS was discussed. Incentives for early career scientists were proposed. A definition of “early career” will be explored by the Membership Committee with a recommendation to Council that could be voted on at the following meeting. A multi-tiered system for student, early career, regular and retired rates could accommodate members. Student rates could also be lowered. These options will be considered by the Membership Committee. If voted on in the summer, the new rates would be active for Fall renewals.

The Council thanked Udry and her committee for their hardwork.

## **8. Secretary’s Report**

(a) The secretary presented the reports from the Publications Committee, the Joint Publications Committee, the Endowment Committee,

The Council approved of the JPC’s efforts to increase gender and geographic representation.

Endowment Committee has extra funds for travel support for Goldschmidt 2021 and MetSoc 2021, since none were spent in 2020.

Recipients of EC funds will be requested to provide photos of the activities supported for the MetSoc website. Financial information should be placed in a separate paragraph that would not be made public.

The committee reports are appended.

## **9. New Business**

The Council proposed putting the minutes of the Council meetings behind the Membership portal. The Membership portal would need redesign that would be handled by the Website Committee.

## **10. Adjourn**

The meeting was adjourned at 11:09 am (US EDT).