

Meteoritical Society Council Meeting
Invitees
Meteoritical Society Council Meeting
ZOOM Online Meeting – 8 am (US EST time) Nov. 13th, 2019

Past President Invitee

Trevor Ireland

Council Members Invitees

Mini Wadhwa (Pres.)	Neyda Abreu
Brigitte Zanda (VP)	Chris Herd
Tasha Dunn (Treas.)	Takashi Mikouchi
Munir Humayun (Sec.)	Maria Eugenia Varela
Catherine Corrigan (and Elements)	

Council Members Regrets

Pierre Rochette	Kuljeet Kaur Marhas
Mario Trieloff	

Guests

Kat Miljkovic

Agenda

0.0 Welcome	08:00
1.0 President's report	08:10
2.0 Dates for the Perth Meeting/update (Miljkovic)	08:20
3.0 Secretary's report (Munir Humayun)	08:30
3.1 New schedule of reporting for Council meetings	
3.2 Newsletter update	
3.3 Review of Nominations Committee activities	
3.4 Review Medal Committees	
4.0 Treasurer's report (Tasha Dunn)	08:45
5.0 Proposal to create an Impact Crater Database by MetSoc (Reimold)	09:00
6.0 Barringer Award: Multiple awardees (Artemieva)	09:15
7.0 Need to encourage Annual Meeting Proposals for 2024	09:30
8.0 Need to encourage nominations for Jessberger Award 2020	09:40
9.0 New Business	09:50
10.0 Adjourn	10:00

0.0 Welcome

At 8:03 a.m., the President convened the meeting of the Council and welcomed all those attending.

(Officers/Council present: Mini Wadhwa, Trevor Ireland, Brigitte Zanda, Tasha Dunn, Munir Humayun, Cari Corrigan, Neyda Abreu, Chris Herd, Takashi Mikouchi, Mariu Varela)

1.0 President's report

Mini Wadhwa observed that the Sapporo meeting had been a success. She had been in contact with Shogo Tachibana and that a report from the Sapporo meeting should be forthcoming. She noted that the Jessberger Award Committee had been formed consisting of:

Mario Trieloff (chair)

Noriko Kita (vice chair)

Zita Martens (Leonard Medal Committee Liaison)

Sara Russell

Thomas Stephan

Mini noted that the first nominations for the Jessberger Award would be requested for the January 15, 2020 deadline.

On award committees in general, Mini inquired if the committees had set up rubrics for selection and for assuring diversity and inclusiveness, and emphasized the need to do so. Mini observed that Fellows and Nier committees have larger numbers of nominations and asked for rubrics to be set up.

Secretary will follow up with each medal committee chair to discuss rubrics and adoption of diversity and inclusiveness measures.

Council discussion observed that the number of nominations for MetSoc awards is rather small compared with AGU (for example) and so these were more informal than those of other societies. Council discussed a suggestion for a committee to encourage more nominations and review balance. Trevor Ireland discussed prior experience where this was handled informally by asking members to consider putting up deserving colleagues for awards and fellows, and advised against the creation of a formal committee to separate members of the Council from the nominations process.

Council discussed the influence of large numbers of supporting letters in deciding nominations for Fellows or Awards.

Motion: Aside from the Nominator's letter, the number of **supporting letters** for any society award or fellow nomination should be limited to **three** letters.

The motion passed unanimously.

Council discussed that any nominations that included more than three supporting letters would be returned to the nominator for downsizing. Council also proposed including this new motion in the MetSoc Newsletter.

2.0 Dates/Venue for the Perth Meeting/update (Kat Miljkovic)

Kat Miljkovic proposed three sets of dates for the 2022 Annual Meeting in Perth. Each of the dates was selected to avoid conflicts with other international meetings. It was noted that the Goldschmidt 2022 meeting in Chicago (July 10-15, 2022) would fall either the week before or the week after dates proposed for the MetSoc meeting. Teaching and school schedules were taken into account in setting these dates.

Takashi Mikouchi observed that the IMA meeting of Mineralogy and Space was scheduled for one of the set of dates selected. Accordingly, the dates chosen were for the week of **July 3-8, 2022**.

Motion: Approve dates for MetSoc 2022 Perth as July 3-8, 2022.

Motion passed unanimously.

Kat presented the proposed venue for the meeting to be the Perth Convention and Exhibition Centre (PCEC). She observed the need to lock in the dates by making a deposit for **AUD4,000**.

Tasha remarked that the society's meetings budget included funds for such deposits. Trevor suggested a bank draft to avoid GST being assessed on the transfer. Tasha and Kat will work on the best means to transfer funds.

Kat would contact Lydia Hallis to compare convention venue budgets, and prepare a draft budget to be circulated to the Council. She would also check to see if complete audiovisual equipment and support personnel were included in the venue proposal. Mini thanked Kat for her presentation.

3.0 Secretary's report

New schedule of reporting for Council meetings:

Following the Sapporo meeting of the Council, the President had requested the secretary to review required committee reporting schedules with a view to reducing the length of the meeting by having some committees report exclusively to the telecom meetings. The secretary outlined required committee reporting deadlines.

March 2020:

- (i) Endowment Committee reports on decisions from the January 15 deadline.
- (ii) *Joint Publications Committee reports on Geochimica et Cosmochimica Acta every three years in conjunction with the nomination of a new Executive Editor.*
- (iii) Meteorite Nomenclature Committee: no reporting deadline.

April 1, 2020:

The Following committees report by April 1, after the Spring telecon, with electronic votes.

1. Pellas-Ryder Award nomination requires Council vote by May 1.
2. Leonard Medal Committee: Fellows (even-numbered years) are reported to Council by April 1, 2020 and are voted on electronically.

July 2020 Annual Meeting:

The following committees are required to report to the Annual Meeting:

1. Leonard Committee: reporting on Leonard and Nier recommendations requires a Council vote before the annual Business meeting for each year.
2. Barringer Committee: Barringer award recommendation requires a Council vote before the annual Business meeting for each year.
3. Membership Committee: Service award recommendation requires a Council vote before the annual Business meeting for each year.
4. Jessberger Award Committee (new in 2020): Jessberger award recommendation requires a Council vote before the annual Business meeting for every other year.
5. *Publications Committee reviews the state of MaPS every four years in conjunction with the nomination of MaPS editor at the annual meeting [not for 2020].*

Late July 2020:

Endowment Committee reports on decisions from the July 15 deadline.

October 2020:

The McKay Award Committee reports by October 1, with electronic votes.

November 2020:

The Audit Committee will report to the Fall telecon.

Newsletter update: The newsletter is running behind schedule. A few items are expected this week, following which the newsletter will be forwarded to Wiley for publication.

Review of Nominations Committee activities: The Nominations Committee chaired by Rhonda Stroud is working on a new slate of Officers and Councilors for 2020. Expiring terms are for the Vice President, and four councilors.

Review Medal Committees: The secretary briefly discussed new appointments needed for the various medal and other committees. The President tasked the secretary to contact each committee chair for new chair and member suggestions to be forwarded to the President.

4.0 Treasurer's report (Tasha Dunn)

Tasha reported that she had prepared a detailed budget for the financial year ending June 2019 but was waiting for feedback from past treasurer Candace Kohl before presenting to

Council. She noted that all the endowment funds were doing well, and that the phishing attack in Spring 2019 had not prevented the society from continuing normal operations. She discussed migrating the society's finances to Quicken™ Money Management Software from its current Excel sheets. The Excel sheets require manual entry of all information and this proves cumbersome.

Mini suggested that Tasha explore various options for obtaining professional accounting help with handling the society's finances and acquisition of Quicken™ software and report back to the Spring 2020 telecon with required actions.

The Council approved the report unanimously.

5.0 Proposal to create an Impact Crater Database

A memo sent by Uwe Reimold to President Wadhwa requesting society support to create a permanent database for impact craters under the auspices of the society, similar to the MetBull and Meteorite Nomenclature Committee was considered. The Large Meteorite Impact (LMI) VI Conference held in Brasilia resolved to establish a Task Group and to begin communications with Council. John Spray, who is a member of the *Impact Crater Task Group*, currently maintains the database, for which a permanent site is sought.

A similar proposal had been brought to Council in 2014 by Jay Melosh and it was unclear what decisions had been made by past councils. The minutes of Council meetings in 2014 had the following:

From the minutes of the **March 2014 Council meeting**:

“Jay Melosh discussed the need for standardized methods for reporting and documenting meteorite craters. An informal group of people signed a letter expressing interest in the project with the idea that a new committee of the Meteoritical Society would maintain the records. Jay was asked to draft a bylaw and bring it to Casablanca.”

From the minutes of the **September 2014 Council meeting**:

“At the March meeting, Jay Melosh described the early stages of an initiative to build a data base for terrestrial craters. Additional discussion in the cratering community was planned. Further work is on hold pending discussion with John Spray.”

Council is supportive of the proposal. The proposers are invited to make a presentation to the Council at its Spring telecon particularly addressing how the Task Group would operate under the auspices of the society and whether the LPI would host the database. The proposers would also discuss the creation of a standing MetSoc committee and propose changes to the MetSoc Bylaws. Under Article 5.2 of the society's constitution “Any proposed amendment of the Bylaws shall be prepared in written form and circulated to the Council at least one month before a regular meeting”. A vote would be taken at the Spring telecon.

President Wadhwa will send a responding letter to Uwe Reimold informing him of these decisions.

6.0 Barringer Award: Multiple awardees

A memo sent by Natalia Artemieva on behalf of seven Barringer medalists requested a change to the bylaws of the Barringer Award and Medal as follows. The current bylaws state “*The Barringer Medal shall be awarded to an **individual** (either a member or a non-member) for outstanding work in the field of impact cratering, and/or work that has led to a better understanding of impact phenomena*”

that would be modified to “*The Barringer Medal shall be awarded to an **individual or a small (2-3) group of scientists** (either a member or a non-member) for outstanding work in the field of impact cratering, and/or work that has led to a better understanding of impact phenomena*”.

The memo included a response from Drew Barringer that stipulated four conditions to be satisfied should such a decision be reached. The memo also included contrarian points of view offered by five Barringer medalists. These objections principally centered on the fact that the Barringer medal is a life-time achievement award and is not given for a particular project or accomplishment, unlike the Nobel Prize that was used as a metaphor.

Council discussed the possibility of this change and decided to invite the proposers to:

- (i) make a presentation at the Council’s annual meeting in Glasgow,
- (ii) present their proposal at the Business meeting.

The presentation would be advertised in advance so that members interested in providing opinions on the change could appear to voice their support or concerns for the change.

Council would make a final vote on the recommendations to change or not change the bylaws during their Fall 2020 telecon.

Secretary will contact Natalia Artemieva with these decisions.

7.0 Need to encourage Annual Meeting Proposals for 2024

Council has entertained a number of proposals for the 2023 Annual Meeting that would be encouraged to re-propose for the 2024 meeting. Mini will reach out to proposers to encourage them to resubmit if possible for 2024 or 2025. Emphasis on a North American meeting remains for 2024. Potential candidates were discussed and council members or the president delegated to reach out to each of them to see whether they would be willing to propose again.

Elements will carry an announcement inviting proposals for new venues for the Annual Meeting in 2024.

8.0 Need to encourage nominations for Jessberger Award 2020

A broad announcement for the new Jessberger Award will be sent to the membership to encourage a large pool of diverse and inclusive applicants for the first nomination for this

award. The nomination deadline is January 15, 2020, and Council will select the nominee at the Annual Meeting in Glasgow. The nominee would be announced at the Business Meeting, and the award presented at the Awards Ceremony at the Chicago meeting.

9.0 New Business

Cari Corrigan asked the Council to respond to an article for *Elements* that needed to be screened for potential conflicts of interest. Council perceived that there was no significant conflict and signaled its approval. Chris Herd will provide comments to Cari to balance any overselling of the article's positions.

10.0 Adjourn.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:00 a.m.