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The Meteoritical Society Newsletter
(October 2004)

A report of the business carried out by the Society over the past year, edited by Ed Scott, Secretary.

PRESIDENT'S EDITORIAL — Gary Huss

2004 has been a busy and interesting year for the Meteoritical Society. We had a wonderful meeting in Rio de Janeiro, MAPS is now back on schedule after the transition to a new Editor, we are working to understand the new world of electronic publishing so that MAPS will continue to be a leading scientific journal, we are making progress at streamlining and improving the process for naming new meteorites, and we have initiated a new program to use Society resources to support new initiatives for the members and to support meteorite studies. I will review each of these topics below. At the end of this year, I will pass the torch to the new President, Herbert Palme. It has been my goal to leave the Society in better shape that when I became President. I hope that I have succeeded. My thanks to all of the members of the Society for the opportunity to serve as President. I wish our new President the best of luck an offer him my full support.

I would also like to take this opportunity to thank Ed Scott, who has served as the Secretary for the Society for the past 6 years. The Secretary is the heart and soul of the Society, keeping the records and reminding the President and Council of what needs to be done. Ed will turn over the reigns to Jeff Grossman next year. Welcome to Jeff and thanks to Ed for a job well done.

Annual Meeting.

The 66th Annual Meeting of the Meteoritical Society was held at the Sofitel Hotel in Rio de Janeiro on August 2-6, 2004. Although the attendance was not as high as at some previous meetings, those who did attend were treated to a beautiful city and meeting venue, wonderful weather permitting us to take advantage of the world-famous beaches, a meeting that was run with extraordinary efficiency, and a delightful banquet with a spectacular show by a Brazilian dance troop. There was some good science, too. Rosa Scorzelli and her organizing committee did an outstanding job and I thank them on behalf of the Society. As always, a highlight of the meeting was the presentation of the Society awards. The Leonard Medal was presented to Michael J. Drake "for his outstanding contributions to trace element behavior in experimental and terrestrial magmatic systems, planetary differentiation, and the petrogenesis of the Moon, HED meteorites, and asteroid 4 Vesta." The citation address was given by Hap McSween. The Barringer Medal was presented to Peter H. Schultz "for his theroretical and experimental studies of impact craters, which have helped to elucidate cratering processes on the Earth, Moon Mercury, Venus, and Mars." The citation address was given by David Crawford. The Nier Prize was presented to Scott R. Messenger "for his pioneering work applying ion microprobe techniques to the study of extraterrestrial materials, particularly to the measurement of the isotopic compositions of light elements in interplanetary dust." The citation address was given by Larry Nittler. Congratulations to all of the winners.

Journals

Meteoritics and Planetary Science: Under the leadership of Editor Tim Jull, the flagship journal of the Meteoritical Society has had a very good year (see Editor's report below). The transition to the new Editor is now complete and production of MAPS is back on schedule. The number of article submissions is up, and the number of pages published and the number of library subscriptions is up slightly.

Electronic publishing and the economics of publishing in the electronic age are still at the top of the agenda for Council and the MAPS office. It is clear that MAPS must eventually join some kind of journal aggregate to improve marketing to libraries and thereby dramatically increase the number of Institutional subscriptions. There are several different kinds of aggregates ranging from the big Elsevier Science Direct package to a recently formed non-profit group of geoscience journals called Geoscience World. We have had discussions with several different organizations, but so far we have not found a situation that is right for MAPS and the Society. The Society leadership will continue to study this issue through its Publications Committee, looking for the option that gives MAPS the best marketing while preserving editorial control and the financial base that allows its publication.

Geochimica et Cosmochimica Acta: Under the leadership of Editor Frank Podosek, GCA has been running smoothly. GCA is sponsored by both the Meteoritical and Geochemical Societies and is published by Elsevier. GCA is part of the Elsevier aggregate, Science Direct.

Both journals remind those who submit research papers and abstracts to make sure that any meteorite names have been approved by the Nomenclature Committee. A process is in place for rapid approval of the name of your meteorite by the Nomenclature Committee, if necessary. Thank you for your support of our two Society Journals.

Naming Meteorites

When I began my term as President, I made it a priority to improve and streamline the process for naming of meteorites. The number of meteorites being submitted to the Nomenclature Committee has increased from a few tens of meteorites per year in the 1980s to 1610 new meteorites in the last issue of the Bulletin. This increasing work load has required the Committee to evolve significantly over the last decade, and efforts to improve the system even more are still under way. A recent step to improve the efficiency of the system was to establish a system of associate editors for the Meteoritical Bulletin to spread out the work load generated by the thousands of meteorites that are submitted to the Committee each year. A web-based submission procedure has been put in place (and is now actually working), and a way to monitor the progress of your submissions is now available on the web. After a meeting on naming of meteorites at the Münster Meteoritical Society Meeting in 2003, a major effort has gone into rethinking and revising the rules for naming new meteorites. This work is coming to fruition, and I hope that the new version of the rules will better serve both those who find meteorites and the community of collectors and scientists who are the "end users" of the meteorites. The biggest remaining issue is the inability of the community of individuals who classify meteorites to keep up with the huge number of new meteorites that require classification. One possibility might be for an interested and dedicated amateur meteoriticist or retired scientist to open a business that for a fee would classify large numbers of meteorites for the collector community. Although most of us who classify chondrites rely on the electron probe to get the composition of olivine, it is possible to determine the composition using a thin section and petrographic microscope. This requires practice and one would probably have to demonstrate competency before the results would be accepted by the Nomenclature Committee, but there is an opportunity here for someone who likes to look at a lot of meteorites.

I would like to thank the Nomenclature Committee and its Chair, Jeff Grossman, for all of their hard work and dedication to their task. Jeff will be stepping down as Chair of the Nomenclature Committee to take over as Secretary of the Society. He passes the torch to Monica Grady, a long-time member of the Committee and former Editor of the Meteoritical Bulletin. Thank you Jeff and good luck to Monica. I also want to thank Sara Russell and her team for their hard work putting together the Meteoritical Bulletin. I am pleased that Sara will be staying on as Bulletin Editor.

Society Website

The current Meteoritical Society website (http://www.meteoriticalsociety.org) was inaugurated in January, 2003, under the guidance of webmaster Matt Genge. Matt has been working hard to make the website more user friendly and to implement the web interface with the Nomenclature Committee. The intent is to make the website the place to go for information on the Society, for Society services, for educational materials, and for other features of interest to Society members. If you have an idea of how to improve the website, please let Matt or the Council hear from you.

Membership

The membership of the Meteoritical Society has declined slowly since its peak in 2001, the year of the Rome meeting. That meeting generated a lot of new members because the registration fee was structured in such a way that non-members could save money by joining the Society. In 2003, the last year for which complete data are available, there were 878 paid members. It is important for the future of the Society and for its ability to provide value to the members that membership remains at a high level. Council is actively working on methods to increase membership and to improve the services provided to members. Please encourage your colleagues, students, and other potential members to join the Society.

New Initiatives

Because of the foresight of previous Councils, the Society has accumulated a substantial endowment. Last year I asked the membership and Council to think about ways that this endowment can be used to further the mission of the Society and to benefit the members. Council is considering several new initiatives and you should begin to see the results over the next couple of years. However, none has reached the stage where it is appropriate to announce them. If you have ideas about how the Society can use its resources to further educational programs, to support field programs, to support publications of interest to society members, or for other ways to benefit the broader community of people interested in meteorites, please convey your ideas to the Council.

Society Awards

Each year the Society solicits nominations for its awards, the Leonard Medal, the Barringer Award, and the Nier Prize. If you believe that someone should receive one of these awards, please put together a nomination and send it to the Chair of the appropriate Committee (see below) or to the Society Secretary. The Society also sponsors a joint award with the Geological Society of America to honor the best student paper of the year. This year the two Societies voted to change the name of the award to the Pellas-Ryder Best Student Paper Award. Paul Pellas was a long-time member of the Society a distinguished meteorite scientist at the Museum D'Histoire Naturelle in Paris. He is perhaps best known for his studies of ^{244}Pu fisson-track thermochronometry of chondrites, which led him to advocate a "shallot-shell" model for the structure of the H-chondrites parent body. Graham Ryder was a highly respected lunar scientist who provided authoritative constraints on the cataclysmic bombardment history of the early Moon and Earth. Please help to honor these distinguished scientists by nominating the best student papers of the year to receive this award.

NEXT COUNCIL

On January 1, 2005 a new Council will take over:
President: Herbert Palme
Past-President: Gary Huss
Vice President: Joe Goldstein
Secretary: Jeff Grossman
Treasurer: Kevin McKeegan
Councilors: Addi Bischoff, Marc Chaussidon, Guy Consolmagno, Henning Haack, Trevor Ireland, Noriko Kita, Jutta Zipfel, Michael Zolensky.

SOCIETY AWARDS AND HONORS

The Meteoritical Society has three awards that it presents annually. In addition the Society elects Fellows every two years, and jointly sponsors the Planetary Sciences Best Student Paper Award, which is now called the Pellas-Ryder Award, with the American Geological Society.

The Leonard Medal will be presented next year to Joseph I. Goldstein for his seminal contributions to metallographic research relating to meteorites and planetary evolution. The Leonard Medal honors outstanding contributions to the science of meteoritics and closely allied fields. It was established to honor the first President of the Society, Frederick C. Leonard.

The Barringer Medal and Award will be presented at the Annual Meeting in 2005 to Billy P. Glass for his outstanding studies of tektites and other impact glasses on the Earth and Moon, which have lead to great improvements in our understanding of impact processes. The Barringer Medal and Award recognize outstanding work in the field of impact cratering and/or work that has led to a better understanding of impact phenomena. The Barringer Medal and Award honor the memory of D. Moreau Barringer Sr. and his son D. Moreau Barringer Jr. and are sponsored by the Barringer Crater Company.

The Nier Prize, which recognizes outstanding research in meteoritics and closely allied fields by young scientists, will be presented next year to Nicolas Dauphas for his outstanding contributions to isotope geochemistry, particularly his studies of the molybdenum isotopic composition of primitive and differentiated meteorites. The award honors the memory of Alfred O. C. Nier, and is supported by an endowment given by Mrs. Ardis H. Nier. Recipients must be under 35 years old at the end of the calendar year in which the Council selects them.

In Rio de Janeiro, the Council elected the following new Fellows who have distinguished themselves in meteoritics and allied fields: Thomas J. Bernatowicz, Richard P. Binzel, Marc W. Caffee, Ralph Harvey, David A. Kring, Timothy J. McCoy, Joseph A. Nuth, Wolf Uwe Reimold, and Brigitte Zanda. Every two years, the Society can elect up to 1% of the membership to be Fellows.

The winner of the Pellas-Ryder Planetary Sciences Best Student Paper Award for 2003 is Shoichi Itoh for his paper, "Contemporaneous formation of chondrules and refractory inclusions in the early Solar System" by Shoichi Itoh and Hisayoshi Yurimoto published in Nature **423**, 728-731. The award committee found that "the paper represents a significant

scientific discovery that has inspired a lot of debate. The implications are profound. And, while the authors' conclusions - that formation of chondrules and CAIs overlapped in time and space - have not been universally accepted, they are having a high impact in terms of directing future research." The Pellas-Ryder Planetary Sciences Best Student Paper Award, which is jointly sponsored by the Meteoritical Society and the Planetary Division of Geological Society of America, is given to undergraduate or graduate students who are first authors of a planetary science paper published in peer-reviewed scientific journals. The prize includes a plaque, and a cash award of $500. Topics considered for this award include asteroids, comets, craters, interplanetary dust, interstellar medium, lunar samples, meteors, meteorites, natural satellites, planets, tektites, origin and history of the solar system. The first author must have been a registered student at a degree awarding institution when the paper was submitted. Papers published in 2004 will be considered for the award next year.

Award Committees

The members of the Barringer Medal Selection Committee this year were Boris Ivanov (chair), Uwe Reimold, Jay Melosh and Dieter Stöffler. Next year Uwe Reimold will chair the committee, Ivanov will be replaced by Bernd Milkereit.

The Leonard Medal Committee, which recommends awardees to the Council for the Leonard Medal and the Nier Prize and the Society Fellows, was chaired this year by Greg Herzog. The other members were Hiroko Nagahara, Marc Chaussidon, Tim Swindle, and Frank Podosek. Next year Hiroko Nagahara will be the new chair and Christian Koeberl and Elmar Jessberger will replace Herzog and Chaussidon, who resigned to join the Council.

The Committee for the Planetary Science Best Student Paper Award was chaired this year by Ulrich Ott. The other members representing the Meteoritical Society were Charles Hohenberg and Harold Connolly. Next year, the chair will be Michael Kelley and Ian Sanders will replace Ott.

Nominations

Members are strongly urged to nominate candidates for the Society's awards. Nominating letters for the Leonard, Barringer and Nier awards should include: (a) a biographical sketch of the candidate, (b) a summary and evaluation of the accomplishments of the candidate and the importance of the candidate's work, and (c) a list of publications covering the work to be considered for the award. One or more seconding letters in support of the nomination are required for the Leonard and Barringer Medals and strongly encouraged for the Nier Prize. Nominations for the Nier Prize should also include the candidate's birth date, and five reprints or copies of the relevant publications that have been peer-reviewed and accepted for publication. If the research was performed and published with a research advisor or with multiple authors, a statement must be included that describes the nominee's leading role in the research.

Nominations for the Pellas-Ryder Best Student Paper Award should include the name of the student, the full citation of the paper, the name and address of the University the student was attending at the time of the paper submittal, and a brief description of why this paper is among the best. It should also include information – preferably, in a separate letter from the advisor – that allows the Committee to weigh the student's contribution versus that of others involved in the work.

Nominations should be sent before January 15, 2005 (January 31, 2005 for the Pellas-Ryder best student paper award) to the Chair of the appropriate committee or to the Secretary. For the Leonard Medal and Nier Prize, contact Hiroko Nagahara, Department of Earth and Planetary Science, University of Tokyo, 7-3-1 Hongo, Tokyo 113-0033, Japan; email: hiroko@eps.s.u-tokyo.ac.jp. The chair of the Barringer Award Committee, Uwe Reimold, can be reached at School of Geosciences, University of the Witwatersrand, Johannesburg 2050, South Africa, email: reimold@geosciences.wits.ac.za. Nominations for the Best Student Paper Award should be sent to the chair, Michael Kelley, Department of Geology and Geography, Georgia Southern University, Statesboro, GA 30460-8149, USA; e-mail: mkelley@georgiasouthern.edu.

Fellows will be elected next in 2006. Nominations for Fellows should be sent before January 15, 2006 to the Secretary. Where possible, nominations should include a summary of the candidate's accomplishments (suggested length: ~150-200 words) together with a list of 5-10 of the candidate's most significant publications including titles.

Full details of the awards and nomination procedures are available at the Society website.

METEORITICS & PLANETARY SCIENCE

Editor's Report **A. J. Timothy Jull**

The Society's journal, Meteoritics and Planetary Science, has had another successful year of operation. I would like to summarize some of the highlights for the membership.

1. Costs.

We continue to see small incremental increases in costs. We estimate that the total operating costs for 2005 are estimated to be $331,300 of which about $230,000 will be paid by institutional subscriptions. The print budget is about $120,000 per year including mailing costs. The main increases in costs (of about 5% from last year) are due to a mandated state salary increase and large increases in the costs of benefits and other employee-related expenses. Similar increases in benefits costs are observed at other US academic institutions, mainly due to increases in health insurance and related benefits.

2. Subscription prices

At its meeting in March 2005, the Council set the institutional subscription price at $900 (US) and $950 (non-US) for 2005. This represents an increase of $70 from previous institutional rates, which were last raised in 2002. We added about 6 "new" institutional subscribers, most appear to be returning former subscribers from 2 years ago.

3. Abstract fees

Previously, abstracts were funded by a portion of the registration fee at the Society's annual meeting. At the Rio meeting, we collected the abstract fee for the Annual Meeting abstract volume. This was due to currency restrictions, but has proven most successful. We recovered the fees for 94% of the 220 abstracts. There were 12 non-paying abstracts & the fee was waived for 4. Organizers of the next 3 meetings and the Council have agreed to use this approach for future meetings. This will result in lower registration fees and more appropriate allocation of costs to those actually submitting the abstracts.

4. Journal Operations.

a. Acceptance rate of submitted papers: In the last year, we received 167 papers. We published 136 during the same time period. Our acceptance rate remains about 85%.

b. Number of pages: In 2004, the journal had 2123 pages including the 248-page supplement. In 2004, we anticipated a total of 2143 pages including a 272-page supplement.

5. Paper length control.

For some time, we have had a discussion with the Publications Committee and the Council about controlling the size of the journal. Obviously, expanding journal size brings many related costs. The average paper in MAPS is 15-17 pages. I have already discussed with the associate editors that we encourage authors to be more concise and limit exceptionally long contributions. We have also discussed with the Council the possibility of introducing page charges for exceptionally long papers. I will propose a specific fee to the next Council meeting, this charge would only apply to the excess number of pages over 15 pages per article. We expect the price would be about $50/page only for excess pages in papers over 15 pages in length.

6. Electronic MAPS.

a. Changes in the publishing market.

We have been trying to monitor changes in the library electronic-vs-print market. It is clear that there is some more movement to electronic-only subscriptions by some libraries. We will assess the electronic market over the next 2 years and monitor developments with the Publications Committee. Several publishers, profit and non-profit have approached the journal concerning aggregation of the electronic MAPS into a "bundle". One new approach called Geoscience World – underwritten by the Geological Society of America and other geological-based societies is a possible non-profit approach. However, my recommendation at this time and to the Council is to reassess this in about 1-2 years' time.

b. Electronic access.

I would like to remind all individual subscribers that they can activate electronic access to the journal from 2003. The details are given at meteoritics.org. Similarly, institutional library subscribers can activate electronic access. We also have a service where non-subscribers can access the abstracts and print articles (from 2003) for a fee.

c. Other issues.

Several subscribers have commented on delays in delivery, particularly overseas. We now post the printing date for each issue on our web page. If you do not receive your copy of MAPS in a reasonable time, please contact our office.

7. Web-based manuscript handling and submission.

From mid-September 2004, we have implemented a new web-based manuscript submission and review handling system. This system allows the editors to access all information on papers and their status during the review process. The associate editors can assign reviewers and read reviews from any computer. This has already greatly improved the tracking of new papers. We now require that papers be submitted this way, unless the author has no access to the web. Papers submitted before Sept 15, 2004 will still be handled through email.

Finally, I would like to thank our staff at MAPS for all their hard work. The volume and quality of papers submitted to MAPS continues to be high and we look forward to another successful year in 2005.

As always, if you have any concerns, please contact me (jull@meteoritics.org) or our managing editor, Agnieszka Baier (baier@meteoritics.org).

GEOCHIMICA ET COSMOCHIMICA ACTA

Since the Meteoritical Society jointly sponsors GCA with the Geochemical Society, members can purchase GCA at a reduced rate for their private use. The member rates for 2005 will be announced in the dues letter from the Treasurer.

ANNUAL MEETINGS

2004 Rio de Janeiro **Rosa Scorzelli**

The 67th Annual Meeting of the Meteoritical Society was held in the Sofitel Hotel, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, from 1 to 6 August, 2004. It was the first of our Society in South America and the attendance was about the same as for other Meteoritical Society Meetings held previously, attracting 220 registrants, including 26 guests, from 23 countries. Almost all attendees stayed in the excellent and comfortable accommodations of the Sofitel Rio de Janeiro, facing the city´s most famous beach.

The meeting format was rather standard, with two simultaneous scientific sessions almost every day of the week. The Scientific Program Committee whose chair was Klaus Keil put a lot of effort in the preparation of the program in which interesting and exciting multidisciplinary talks were presented. We had 220 contributions presented in plenary sessions, and the various oral and poster presentations. The oral presentations were distributed in 15 sessions including a special session on South American Impact Craters which attracted a large number of papers. The sessions included Cosmogenic Nuclides and Physical Properties of Meteorites, Early solar System Chronology, Carbonaceous Chondrites, IDPs and Micrometeorites, Impact Processes and Structures, Martian Surface and Martian Meteorites, Presolar Grains, Primitive and other Achondrites, Carbonaceous and Ordinary Chondrites, Iron Meteorites, Ca-Al-rich Inclusions, Chondrules and AOAs and a session covering papers on Meteorites and Asteroids, Lunar Meteorites and Isotopic Anomalies. Each session was provided with LCD projectors for Powerpoint-based oral presentations, which were used by most of the speakers. Poster presentations were scheduled for Monday and Tuesday evenings, following the oral sessions. On Monday there was a poster-party at which the participants enjoyed Brazilian music and typical drinks and food.

On Wednesday afternoon meeting attendees enjoyed the tours to Christ the Redeemer, Sugar Loaf, and a Jeep tour to the Tijuca Forest. After the excursions the participants had the opportunity to sample the delicious Brazilian style grilled meats in a famous restaurant where they could also enjoy a beautiful view of Rio de Janeiro.

One of the highlights of the meeting was the presentation of the Society awards on Thursday, honoring Michael Drake (Leonard Medal), Peter Schultz (Barringer Medal), and Scott Messenger (Nier Prize). After the award ceremony the meeting participants moved to the beautiful Rio de Janeiro Yacht Club where in an open –air area the banquet was staged, facing the Guanabara Bay and the Sugar Loaf. During the Banquet participants could enjoy the Capoeira performance as well as Brazilian music with dancing lasting until late at night.

Thanks mainly to the most generous support of the Barringer Crater Company, NASA as well as the International Center for Theoretical Physics, Pallasite Press, and the Planetary Studies Foundation, we were able to provide travel grants for 22 students and recent PhDs to attend the meeting. The Brazilian Center for Physics research, the host Institution, and several Brazilian Institutions, also gave generous support to defray meeting costs. The Latin American Center for Physics supported the participation of students and young researchers from Latin America. Essential support was provided by the Lunar and Planetary Institute, whose very

competent staff helped with our announcements, program booklets and abstract submission processing.

We hope that holding this meeting in Brazil will certainly improve the studies on meteoritics and planetary science in South America and will enhance scientific collaborations and encourage more Latin American scientists to join our community.

2005 Gatlinburg, Tennessee Hap McSween & Larry Taylor

You are cordially invited to attend the 68th Annual Meeting of the Meteoritical Society, to be held September 12-16, 2005, in Gatlinburg, Tennessee. Gatlinburg is the popular gateway to the Great Smoky Mountains National Park, the most visited national park in the USA. Gatlinburg offers a peaceful, safe environment with many attractions, restaurants, and shops within easy walking distance or accessible by trolley cars.

Plenary, oral, and poster sessions will be held in meeting facilities at the Glenstone Lodge, which will also provide the primary accommodations for meeting attendees. Registration will begin on Sunday afternoon, September 11, and be followed by a welcome reception and barbeque on the grounds of Glenstone Lodge. Other scheduled events include an awards reception, an afternoon excursion to Biltmore Estate in Asheville, North Carolina, and the annual banquet.

Gatlinburg is serviced by Knoxville's McGee-Tyson Airport (TYS), which has direct flights from Atlanta, Charlotte, Chicago, Cincinnati, Dallas/Ft. Worth, Orlando, Pittsburgh, St. Louis, and Washington. The airport is ~50 miles (~80 km) from Gatlinburg. Van service will be provided to shuttle meeting participants to and from the airport at nominal cost, and rental cars (desirable if you wish to take advantage of the National Park) are available in the terminal.

150 rooms have been prebooked at the Glenstone Lodge (www.glenstonelodge.com) at special, very favorable rates ($86 plus tax for single or double occupancy). Reservations will be taken until September 11, 2005 or until the block is full; meeting participants are strongly urged to register early.

Student travel grants will be made available to qualified students and recent PhDs who are members of the Meteoritical Society.

The first announcement of the meeting will be mailed in October by the Lunar and Planetary Institute. For more information on the venue, sponsors, registration, accommodations, program, and visa requirements, please see the meeting web site: web.eps.utk.edu/2005/metsoc2005.html

Zürich 2006 Rainer Wieler

The 69th Annual Meeting of the Meteoritical Society will be held in the main building of ETH in Zürich, Switzerland, from July 23 – 28, 2006. The meeting venue is located in the City center, in a superb 19th Century building, equipped with several large modern lecture halls close to each other and ample nearby space for posters. Sessions are planned from Monday to Friday, with Wednesday afternoon being reserved for an excursion, probably a trip on an early 20th Century steamboat to the beautiful city of Rapperswil. The banquet on Thursday evening may be held at the lake shore. Depending on the number of presentations, Friday afternoon sessions may or may not be scheduled.

Zürich is a pleasant city, and very lively especially during the summer months. Attractions include a lake and a river, both inviting for swimming, many museums, Europe's largest piece of tropical rainforest imported from Madagaskar (unfortunately indoor only), and an uncountable number of discotheques. It is easily accessible thanks to its intercontinental airport (15 minutes to the city center) and frequent international train connections. Most places of interest are within walking distance or can easily be reached by an excellent public transport system. Many top touristic destinations can be visited from Zürich in half-day or day-trips, and, of course, Switzerland and its mountains are a preferred holiday destination. Depending on the interest, pre- or post-meeting science field trips in the Alps may also be organized.

Zürich offers plenty of hotel rooms, many of them very reasonably priced. Some of the low-budget hotels may require the use of trams or busses, but many mid-class hotels are within walking distance of the meeting venue. On the meeting website, we will provide the necessary information how to book hotels, emphasizing the low- to mid-price categories. We are also confident to be able to support a sizeable number of students and scientists from less wealthy countries with travel grants and/or waiving of the registration fee.

For further information, please visit our web site at: www.metsoc2006.ethz.ch or contact: Rainer Wieler (wieler@erdw.ethz.ch) phone: +41 1 632 37 32, fax: +41 1 632 11 79

Other Annual Meetings:
2007 Tucson, Arizona
2008 Fujiyoshida, Japan

FINANCES

Treasurer's Report Kevin McKeegan

As of July 1 2004, Society assets totaled $434,225, which represents an increase of approximately $20K compared to the same time last year. The increase is due to improvement of the investment funds, which have recovered significantly from previous losses in the equity markets over the past couple of years. The general endowment increased by $37K and the Nier fund improved by $5.2K. The investment committee, under leadership of Chair Joe Goldstein, sold the Society's shares ($76K) in one growth-oriented mutual fund in order to reduce exposure to the volatility of the stock market and additionally authorized consolidation of the Society's investment portfolio with a financial consultant associated with the A.G. Edwards brokerage firm. Society assets had previously been scattered over 9 different accounts, which had been accumulated over a protracted period. By bringing the investments under professional management, we will be able to respond better to changing market conditions than was possible by a committee of (otherwise busy) people. The financial advisor, Mr. Roger Radcliff of Tucson, AZ, will balance investment funds to meet the overall objective of moderate growth with income and will make regular reports to the investment committee. The annual charge for this service is 1.14% of funds under management.

Operational costs for *Meteoritics and Planetary Science* are budgeted at $319.5K, with $96.5K derived from membership dues and most of the remainder from institutional library subscriptions. Additional notable Society expenses include $7K for the *Geochimica et Cosmochimica Acta* Editorial Office, $10K for the Treasurer's Office, where Mr. Keith Kirts is employed part-time as a bookkeeping assistant (replacing Ms. Dewi Faulkner), and ~$4K for web services, finance fees, etc. The operational budget is technically in deficit by ~$13K, as we currently have fewer members than anticipated and cash-flow issues, including late payments of GCA royalties. The number of paid members at the end of 2003 totalled 878, down slightly from last year and almost 10% below the record high in 2001.

Considering the improvement in overall Society finances and that the deficit in operational funds appears not to be a long-term structural problem (assuming that membership does not decline further), Council voted to hold dues constant for 2005 at $110 for regular members and $55 for student and retired members. Furthermore, the additional charge for air-

mail delivery of MAPS outside the United States (formerly $36) will no longer apply beginning in 2005.

For this past year, requests for dues payment were sent by email. Although this strategy realized a savings of more than $1k for the Society, it also resulted in some mis-communications for which I apologize. We have learned some things about bulk emailing, and hope that, in the future, failure rates will be very small and significantly less than regular mail. This year, requests for membership renewal will be sent with the December issue of MAPS and email reminders will be sent out by late December. A longer-term goal is to enable on-line membership renewal, but as this requires additional security measures, we are still seeking a cost-effective solution; you will be informed when this option becomes available. Questions or problems regarding payments or receipt of MAPS (including notice of change of address) should be directed to the Treasurer's Office at either Metsoc@oro.ess.ucla.edu or treasurer@meteoriticalsociety.org whereas questions regarding passwords for on-line access should be sent directly to the journal editorial office.

Many members of the Society made generous gifts during the previous year, and we thank them all. These gifts have helped the Society to fund some of its awards and prizes and have enabled the organizers of meetings to offer student travel grants.

The Society is particularly indebted to the extraordinary gifts from the Barringer Crater Company and from William Welbon. The following members have contributed $100 or more during the past year: Henry Price Deyerle Jr., Bevan M. French, Roderick W. Leonard, Edward Olsen, Robert O. Pepin, Thomas E. Rodman, Calvin Shipbaugh, John T. Wasson, and Dorothea S. Welbon. The Society also appreciates generous gifts from the following: E. Anders, C. Arps, R. Auth, M. Blander, A. Brearley, S. Brodt, C. Brooks, H. Bultemann, D. Clayton, G. Crozaz, H. Csadek, P. De Carli, V. Demichele, B. Devouard, D. Dickson, R. Dodd, T. Fagan, G. Faure, G. Flaherty, T. Fukuoka, M. Gaffey, B. Glass, D. Gold, J. Goldstein, P. Hardersen, R Hutchison, Y. Ikeda, R. Jones, L. Lindner, J-C. Lorin, G. Lugmair, U. Marvin, B. Narendra, H. Nishimura, J. Nuth III, J. Obradovich, J. Otto, M. Ozima, R. Reedy, J. Rondot, R. Schaudy, E. Scott, T. Swindle, L. Taylor, and G. Wetherill.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Meeting: Protostars and Planets V
October 24–28, 2005, Waikoloa, Hawaii
http://www2.ifa.hawaii.edu/CSPF/ppv/ppv.html

The goal of the Protostars and Planets meetings, which started in 1978, is to bring scientists from the star formation community, planetologists, and meteoriticists together approximately every 7 years to review what we have learned in this exciting interface between disciplines. The discovery of extrasolar planets, and rapid advances in our understanding of circumstellar disks, planet formation, the Kuiper belt, and chondrule and CAI formation, to mention only a few areas, promise that PP-V will be an exciting meeting. The goals of the meeting, which is being organized by the University of Hawaii, are four-fold: 1) to present an overview of the major areas of progress since PP-IV; 2) to bring researchers together for discussions and exchanges of ideas; 3) to strengthen future interdisciplinary research in these areas; and 4) to encourage the participation of young researchers and advanced students in these fields of research.

Meeting: Dust in Planetary Systems Meeting
September 26-30, 2005, Kauai, Hawaii

Colloquia on Interplanetary Dust have been held approximately every five years since 1967. The next meeting is being organized in 2005 by the University of Washington, the University of Hawaii in cooperation with the dust group at the MPI in Heidelberg. Topics include: the interplanetary dust complex, interstellar dust within the solar system, circumstellar dust disks, cometary dust measurements and modeling, planetary rings measurements and modeling, near earth in-situ measurements, space debris, laboratory simulation and measurements, new instrumentation for dust detection and analysis. forthcoming dust missions.

New Cosmic Dust Catalog Released by NASA JSC

The brand new Cosmic Dust Catalog 16 has just been placed on the NASA JSC Curator's web page (http://curator.jsc.nasa.gov/dust/dust.htm). This catalog is unique among Cosmic Dust Catalogs in that no new particles are described. Rather, we have revisited all previous catalogued cluster particles, and ascertained how much (if any) of each remains for allocation. Cluster particles include many of the most primitive grains, and are always in high demand. In this catalog there is an entry for each cluster particle that remains from 19 earlier cataloged collection surfaces. For each cluster (i.e. parent) particle we show (1) an image of the remaining material, (2) an SEM image of at least one separated (i.e. daughter) grain and (3) its associated EDS spectrum (the latter two from previous catalogs). In cases where unusual heterogeneity is evident, we include data for two separated grains.

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Stardust Mission Preliminary Sample Examination

The Stardust Mission Science Team has devised a plan for the Preliminary Examination of the returned samples from Comet Wild 2's coma, and the interstellar particles that were also collected. The samples will return to Earth in January, 2006, and the Preliminary Examination will last until Sept. 2006, at which time the samples will be given to the NASA Curator for general allocation and curation. During the sample Preliminary Examination a team of scientists will document the state of the returned samples, and perform analyses of a limited set of particles. Preliminary Examination will be performed by six subteams of scientists, all under the direction of the Mission Principal Investigator, Don Brownlee (Univ. Washington). Each team has a leader who is already on the Stardust Science Team. The sub-teams and their leaders are: Mineralogy-Petrology: Michael Zolensky (NASA JSC) michael.e.zolensky@nasa.gov; Isotopes: Kevin McKeegan (UCLA) mckeegan@ess.ucla.edu; Organics: Scott Sandford (NASA ARC) ssandford@mail.arc.nasa.gov; Foil craters: Fred Hörz (NASA JSC) friedrich.p.horz@nasa.gov; Bulk composition: George Flynn (SUNY Plattsburgh) george.flynn@plattsburgh.edu; Optical Spectroscopy: Lindsay Keller (NASA JSC) lindsay.p.keller@nasa.gov.

Qualified scientists are invited to join the Preliminary Examination of the Stardust samples. Participants must have demonstrated their expertise and capabilities in peer-reviewed journal articles or appropriate doctoral dissertation research in one or more of the following areas: analysis of Interplanetary Dust Particles collected in the stratosphere, polar ices, ocean floor, or terrestrial sediments; analysis of geological materials at <10 micron scales with emphasis on extraterrestrial samples.; analysis of micro-impact craters on LDEF, MIR, Solar Max or other space exposed surfaces.

The Preliminary Examination will be made under severe time and sample constraints, and all participants must be willing to operate as part of a team. If you are interested in this critical effort, please contact the appropriate sub-team leader for more information.

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