



Supplement to *Meteoritics & Planetary Science*, vol. 55, no. 11

The Meteoritical Society Newsletter

(December 2020)

A report of the business carried out by The Society over the past year, edited by Munir Humayun, Secretary.

IN THIS ISSUE

From the President
Annual Meetings
From the Treasurer
From the Endowment Committee
Publications Reports
 MAPS
 GCA
 Elements
From the Nomenclature Committee
From the Membership Committee
Awards and Honors
Call for Nominations
 Procedures for nomination and eligibility
From the Secretary

Important reminders

Please renew your membership before Dec. 31 as the society has to pay the costs of mailing late reminders. Members renewing after December 31st will lose electronic access to MAPS and will risk missing paper copies of the journal. You can renew online at <https://meteoritical.org/membership/renew>.

Nominate your colleagues and students for awards. See the Awards section for details and deadlines.

Proposals to host the 2025 MetSoc meeting are due in March. Please contact the secretary for procedures.

FROM THE PRESIDENT

In my second and final year as President of the Meteoritical Society, I appreciate the opportunity to reflect on this past year in this Annual Newsletter. First of all, I would like to acknowledge what an unusual and challenging year this has been for all of us and our loved ones. We have all had to flex with the circumstances to varying degrees, and I am grateful to our Society officers and committee members for helping to keep Society business going as we navigate the current situation. I would particularly like to express my heartfelt gratitude to Past President Trevor Ireland and Vice President Brigitte Zanda for providing valuable advice and guidance in Society matters. I also extend great thanks to Munir Humayun and Tasha Dunn for their substantial efforts as Secretary and Treasurer, respectively, of our Society.

Status of Annual Meetings

Owing to the global pandemic this year, the Annual Meeting for our Society that had been previously scheduled to take place in Glasgow was postponed to 2022. Due to this postponement, several of the key activities that typically take place during this meeting were conducted synchronously or asynchronously in a virtual format. Over the last few years, the Meteoritical Society council has been meeting virtually in the spring and fall, with an in-person meeting held during the week of the Annual Meeting. This year, all our council meetings have been held virtually. We also conducted our Business Meeting (which is also typically held during the week of our Annual Meeting and is open to all members in attendance) in a webinar format on August 12, 2020. This Business Meeting webinar was accessible to our entire membership. Moreover,

this year we posted the citations, acceptance speeches, and award lectures for the Leonard and Barringer Medal on our Society website.

Next year, the Annual Meeting will be in Chicago, Illinois, USA. We look forward to this event organized by Philipp Heck and his team. Information and updates on this meeting can be found at: <https://www.metsoc2021-chicago.com/>

Finances

Overall, The Meteoritical Society continues to be financially sound, in large part due to the contribution from our membership dues, but also thanks to generous donations from our members.

Our dues have remained stable over quite a long time now. The only change in the fees agreed to by Council concerns the cost of the printed version of our Society's journal, *Meteoritics and Planetary Science*. As indicated last year, this simply reflects the increasing costs of a limited production run. We are clearly transitioning to new forms of media that offer greater flexibility and generally better quality of materials to readers. Inevitably, the nature of journal articles themselves is changing, with far more online supplementary materials that cannot be made easily available in print.

The Meteoritical Society Funds are used to support awards for outstanding efforts in meteoritics and planetary sciences (such as the Nier and McKay Funds, and the newly established Jessberger Fund), as well as travel awards for attendance at the Annual Meeting (such as the TIM Travel Fund and the Richard O. Norton Fund). Members can also make a donation to particular Funds as part of their annual membership renewal. And, of course, we continue to rely on, and are extremely grateful for, the generous contributions of those who have consistently supported our mission (in particular, our annual meetings) over the years: the Barringer Crater Company, Tim Swindle, the International Meteorite Collectors Association, the Planetary Studies Foundation, and the Macovich Collection.

The Endowment Committee (EC) recommends to Council projects that should be funded by the Meteoritical Society Funds. In the past this has largely been on an ad hoc basis; that is, the EC considered a proposal when it came in. With an increasing number of requests, the EC has found itself in a position where the funding allocation could be consumed early in a given year thereby prejudicing consideration of later proposals. To address this issue, the EC recently formulated new policies concerning consideration of proposals such that they do so only at two different times of the year. As such, members considering proposing to the EC should note that they may need to make a request up to 6 months in advance of any activities that are proposed to be supported. If you are considering proposing, please consult the new EC funding guidelines posted on the Society website (<https://meteoritical.org/grants>) or get in touch with the Society Secretary.

A more detailed Treasurer's report of the state of the Society's financial standing is provided later in this newsletter.

Awards

Our Annual Meeting is also the time to celebrate the scientific achievements of our colleagues. This year, the Leonard Medal was awarded to Michael E. Zolensky. Mike is recognized for his work on aqueous alteration in carbonaceous chondrites and IDPs, his discovery of high temperature components in comets through findings of CAIs in Stardust returned samples, and other contributions that have led to a better understanding of asteroid formation and diversity. Next year, the 2021 Leonard Medal will be presented to Katharina Lodders.

This year the Barringer Award was presented to Joanna Morgan for her tireless efforts in the geophysical exploration of the Chicxulub crater and its global consequences. The Barringer Medal for 2021 is to be awarded to Gordon Osinski.

Every even numbered year, the Meteoritical Society recognizes a new class of Fellows who have distinguished themselves in their research

and contributions to the fields of meteoritics and planetary sciences. This recognition is extended to a group numbering no more than 1% of the Society's membership, selected by the Leonard Medal Committee. This year's Fellows represent the most diverse group in the history of the Society:

Natalia Artemieva (Planetary Science Institute, USA)

Lindy Elkins-Tanton (Arizona State University, USA)

Richard Greenwood (Open University, UK)

Hope Ishii (University of Hawaii, USA)

Candace Kohl (San Diego, USA)

Maria Lugaro (Konkoly Observatory, Hungary)

Tomoki Nakamura (Tohoku University, Japan)

Takaaki Noguchi (Kyushu University, Japan)

Gordon Osinski (Western University, Canada)

The Nier Prize is our award made to an outstanding early-career scientist working in meteoritics or related areas. This year the Nier Prize was awarded to Thomas Kruijer for his contributions in recognizing the non-carbonaceous (NC)-carbonaceous chondritic (CC) compositional dichotomy in nucleosynthetic anomalies in Mo and W isotopes. The Nier Prize for 2021 has been awarded to Nan Liu.

The Jessberger Award was established this year thanks to a generous endowment from the family of Elmar K. Jessberger. This award will be made every other year for outstanding contributions in isotope cosmochemistry by a mid-career female scientist. The inaugural Jessberger Award for 2021 will be presented to Maria Schönбächler.

The Service Award honors the efforts by an individual who has advanced the Society's goals in promoting research and education in meteoritics and planetary science in ways other than by conducting scientific research. This year the Service Award was presented to Agnieszka

Baier for her stewardship of the Society's journal, *Meteoritics and Planetary Science*. In 2021, the Service Award will be presented to Chris Koeberl.

The Pellas-Ryder Award is jointly awarded by the Division of Planetary Sciences of the Geological Society of America and the Meteoritical Society to the best paper published by a graduate student in planetary sciences. This year's winner is Sabina D. Raducan, Imperial College London, for her paper titled "The role of asteroid strength, porosity and internal friction in impact momentum transfer" published in *Icarus* in 2019.

My warmest congratulations to all of our 2020 award recipients!

Given that we were unable to hold our Annual Meeting this year, there were no student travel funds awarded. Instead, the Society chose to assist students and early-career researchers who were interested in attending the 2020 Goldschmidt Virtual Meeting. Those who registered for this meeting and were selected will have their 2021 Meteoritical Society membership dues paid for by an award from the Meteoritical Society's Endowment Committee.

Finally, I would like to remind our members that one of the easiest and most valuable ways in which you can contribute to the Society is through nomination of your colleagues for the different awards, whether it be as an early-career scientist, or for achievements following a distinguished career. There are several different award committees to whom nominations can be made, and details are available below and on our Society website. Please do not assume that somebody else will nominate that worthy person you know. If you are surprised someone has never received a particular award, it could be simply that no one has nominated them. So please do take the initiative and nominate them yourself. Finally, please remember that we have a diverse and international membership, and so I encourage you to think broadly about the deserving candidates that you choose to nominate.

Committees

The Meteoritical Society could not function without its committees. A big note of thanks to all of our members who have been involved in serving the Society. The Nominating Committee has prepared a new slate of Officers to commence in 2021. If you are approached to sit on Council or other committees please give it due consideration, and then accept. If you would like to volunteer, please get in touch with me or with the Society Secretary.

In Memoriam

Finally, we should take a moment to pause and reflect on some of our distinguished members and friends who passed away this past year:

Nadine G. Barlow

Bruce F. Bohor

William A. "Bill" Cassidy

Jay Melosh

Edward J. Olsen

Richard "Dick" Pugh

John T. Wasson

Please check our Society website (https://meteoritical.org/news/news_categories/1601957829185/in_memoriam) for details on their life and work.

As a final note, I thank you all for your part in making The Meteoritical Society such a special organization and community. I also hope that 2021 will be a healthy and productive year for all our members.

Meenakshi Wadhwa,

December 2020

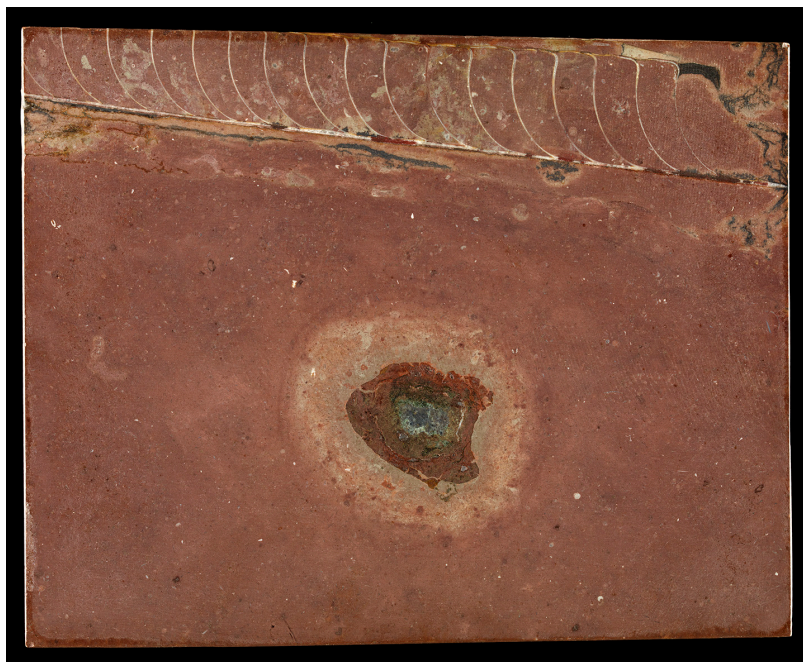
ANNUAL MEETINGS

UPCOMING MEETINGS			
Year	Location	Dates	Contact
2021	Chicago, USA	August 14-21	prheck@fieldmuseum.org
2022	Glasgow, United Kingdom	August TBD	Lydia.Hallis@glasgow.ac.uk
2023	Perth, Australia	July TBD	katarina.miljkovic@curtin.edu.au
2024	Brussels, Belgium	TBD	vdebail@ulb.ac.be

2021 Annual Meeting in Chicago, IL, USA, August 14-21.

You are cordially invited to attend the [84th Annual Meeting of the Meteoritical Society](#) to be held on August 14-21, 2021 in Chicago, Illinois. Please mark your calendars. We are planning for an in-person meeting but are prepared to hold the meeting online should the situation with the COVID-19 pandemic require this. The MetSoc 2021 meeting is being organized by planetary scientists at the Field Museum of Natural History and the University of Chicago. The Field Museum is the [birthplace of the Meteoritical](#)

[Society](#) which was founded there in 1933 as the Society for Research on Meteorites. Chicago has a long history of pioneering work in meteoritics, cosmochemistry, and planetary science, and several of its scientific institutions are still active in these fields. The Field Museum is one of the few museums that has the famous fossil meteorites from the Middle Ordovician on public display. One of these is the magnificent specimen shown here – a fossil L chondrite that was deposited along with a *Ortoceras* nautiloid shell in a hemipelagic ocean.



The 2021 meeting will feature special sessions on asteroid sample return missions Hayabusa2 and OSIRIS-REx. More details about the meeting program and events will be provided later. The meeting venue will be the [Hilton Chicago](#)

at 720 South Michigan Avenue in downtown Chicago with views overlooking Grant Park, Lake Michigan, and the Museum Campus. The venue is within walking distance to most major attractions. Chicago is a top tourist destination in the US, a world-class, cosmopolitan city with two frequently served international airports (O'Hare International and Midway). It has a safe, walkable downtown with beautiful parks, beaches, and cultural attractions including many museums. Chicago is also known for its vibrant restaurant and microbrewery scene, many of which offer outdoor experiences in the summer.

COVID-19 precautions for an in-person meeting: The event organizers will do whatever is possible to minimize the risk for attendees of exposure to SARS-CoV-2. The hotel has already started implementing

[special cleaning procedures](#) to minimize pathogen exposure of guests. The City of Chicago has reopened cautiously and has implemented [comprehensive guidelines](#) to reduce the spread of COVID-19. The organizers will work with city and hotel officials to provide the safest and most enjoyable meeting. The event organizers and the Council of the Meteoritical Society will decide if an in-person meeting can be held when we get closer to the meeting. Information will be provided on our [meeting website](#): <https://www.metsoc2021-chicago.com>.

Our first survey of the Meteoritical Society members indicates that a majority of the members (~60% of 269 members who responded) would attend an in-person meeting, if

A promotional graphic for the 84th Annual Meeting of the Meteoritical Society in Chicago, 2021, August 14-21. The graphic features a cityscape of Chicago, a stylized meteorite trail, and logos for The Meteoritical Society, FIE LD, and the University of Chicago. The text "84th Annual Meeting of the Meteoritical Society" is written in a circular path above the cityscape. Below the cityscape, the text "Chicago" is written in a large, bold font, followed by "2021" and "August 14-21". At the bottom, the website "www.metsoc2021-chicago.com" is displayed. Logos for The Meteoritical Society, FIE LD, and the University of Chicago are also present.

feasible. A ~60% majority would also attend an hybrid meeting with an in-person and online option, without a banquet and without other social activities. In such a case we may consider selected outdoor activities, an idea which has also received support from ~60% of our surveyed members. We plan to send out another survey closer to the meeting date to help us prepare for the meeting.

Whether in person or virtual, the meeting will be an excellent venue to present and discuss your research and learn about the state-of-the art in our fields. We encourage you to reserve the dates of August 14-21, 2021 in your calendar today and we hope to welcome you to Chicago in the summer of 2021.

Philipp R. Heck (e-mail: prheck@fieldmuseum.org)

October 2020

<https://www.metsoc2021-chicago.com>

FROM THE TREASURER

This report summarizes the Society's finances in Fiscal Year 2020 (FY20), 1 June 2019 to 31 May 2020. Despite last year's losses due to a phishing scam, the Society's finances are healthy and the budget is balanced under our current operations.

Assets

At the end of FY20, the balance of the Operating Fund was \$233,728 and the portfolio value of the Investment Fund was \$1,603,117. During FY20, the Operating Fund had a net gain of \$72,329. Though the stock market experienced a significant drop during the spring of 2020, our Investment Fund gained \$146,296 during the fiscal year. The Investment Fund now contains six endowed funds: the General Endowment Fund, the Nier Fund, the Gordon A. McKay Fund, the TIM (The International Members) Travel Fund, the O. Richard Norton Fund, and the Jessberger Fund. A Reserve Fund is also being maintained within the Investment Fund at a flat value of \$100,000 as decided by council during the March 2013 meeting. The current (31 May 2020) distribution between the five endowed funds is approximately as follows: 71.4% is in the General Endowment Fund, 5.4% is in the Nier Fund, 5.6% is in the Gordon A. McKay Fund, 5.5% is in the Tim Swindle Travel Fund, 5.3% is in the O. Richard Norton Fund, and 0.7% is in the Jessberger Fund.

Operating Fund

FY20 was the tenth year of publishing *Meteoritics and Planetary Science* (MAPS) with Wiley. Our operating

budget includes two kinds of income from Wiley: an agreed sum that supports the MAPS Editorial Office, as well as royalty income that is based on Wiley's total MAPS revenue. For FY20, we received \$122,594 in editorial office support and \$33,822 in royalties from Wiley. Some of Wiley's revenue consists of MAPS subscriptions, which members pay as part of their membership dues. In FY20, we paid Wiley \$26,791 for membership subscriptions. Additionally, we paid \$89,328 to the MAPS editorial office. The contract with Wiley was renewed at the end of 2019, and the next term will run from 2020-2024. The new contract with Elsevier for *Geochimica et Cosmochimica Acta* went into effect in January of 2016 and has been working well. The Operating Fund budget for FY20 is balanced.

Gifts

The Society wants to give special thanks to those who have supported our mission and especially our Annual Meeting over the years, including the Barringer Crater Company, Tim Swindle, the International Meteorite Collectors Association, the Planetary Studies Foundation, and the Macovich Collection. We would like to especially thank Dorothy Norton Kashuba and John Kashuba, who established the O. Richard Norton Fund in 2018, and Ulrike Jessberger, who established the Elmar K. Jessberger Fund in 2019.

We thank the 175 Society members who generously contributed gifts to the Society in the past fiscal year. These many generous donations helped support workshops, awards, student and professional travel,

and other activities. The total of gifts received for the Endowment, Nier, and McKay Funds was \$16,560. The Richard O. Norton Fund received \$1550 in donations from members. Members also donated to the TIM (The International Members) Travel Fund, which is intended to support travel for professional members from low income countries to attend the Annual Meeting. As the corpus of the Fund is being built, donations will be used directly each year for designated travel support. A total of \$185 was donated for this purpose in FY20.

The following members contributed \$100 – \$200 during FY20: N. Barlow, A. Bouvier, J. Brearley, S. Brey, D. Brownlee, D. Burnett, P. Buseck, R. W. Carlson, H. Connolly, G. Crozaz, D.K. Dickson, T. Fagan, C. Gabriel, M.J. Gaffey, S. Genest, E.S. Grew, J. Grossman, T. Haber, D. Harries, G. Herzog, B.A. Hofmann, A. Holzheid, F. Horz, G. Huss, M. Hutson, T.R. Ireland, M. Ito, B.L. Jolliff, J. H. Jones, R. Jones, A. Jull, A. Jurewicz, N. Kita, C. Koeberl, C.P. Kohl, A. Kracher, R. Korotev, D. Lauretta, L.A. McFadden, H.J. Melosh, T. Mikouchi, D. Milton, K. Nagao, L. Nittler,

M. Nolan, T. Okada, D. Papanastassiou, R.O. Pepin, J. Plescia, J. Pohl, O. Pravdivtseva, S. Russell, A. Ruzicka, E.R.D. Scott, M. Strait, A. Stuedi, K. Takahashi, A. Treiman, M. Wadhwa, R.J. Walker, K. Wimmer, S.R. Winzer, E.D. Young, H. Yurimoto, B. Zanda, and J. Zipfel.

The following members contributed >\$200 during FY20: E. Anders, B. French, D. Gotz, L. Labenne, R. Pugh, C.M. Velsko, J.F. Wacker, J. Wasson, and M. Zolensky.

Tasha Dunn

October 2020

FROM THE ENDOWMENT COMMITTEE

Projects during the last 12 months

Endowment Committee members for 2019-2020 have been Drew Barringer (Co-Chair), Allan Treiman (Co-Chair), Gary Huss, Rhian Jones, and Candace Kohl. Wolf Uwe Reimold rotated off the Endowment Committee this year, having served as member and Co-Chair for many years. We thank him for his steadfast service.

The committee was supported by ex officio member Tasha Dunn (Treasurer).

Details of the value of the investment funds and the gifts received this fiscal year are given in the treasurer's report.

The Endowment Committee received only four external requests for meeting support in the past year, and agreed to support two of them.

- We were pleased to fund a request of \$6600 from Dr. Millarca Valenzuela

(Universidad Católica del Norte, Antofagasta, Chile) to support a COSPAR Capacity Building Workshop on "Data Analysis for Planetary Sciences." That workshop was scheduled for July 20-31, 2020, in Antofagasta, Chile. Because of the COVID pandemic, the workshop has been delayed until either January 18-31, 2021, or perhaps late July - early August of 2021.

- We were also pleased to fund a request of \$5000 from Dr. Hasnaa Chennaoui (Hassan II University, Casablanca, Morocco) to support outreach about and student attendance at the Colloquium on African Geology 28. The Conference was scheduled for October 10-18, 2020, and Dr. Chennaoui would have been supporting sessions on "Meteorites and Planetary Science" (part of the Arab Impact Cratering and Astrobiology Conference 5) and on "Geoheritage."

Sadly (again because of the COVID-19 pandemic) the Colloquium has been rescheduled to October, 2021.

- Because the Society's Annual Meeting in Glasgow, Scotland, had to be postponed, the Endowment Committee decided to support the participation of students and early-career professionals who presented on meteoritical topics at the Annual Meeting of the Geochemical Society (the Goldschmidt Conference) in July 2020. Students and professionals who registered for this meeting and were selected will have their 2021 Meteoritical Society membership dues paid for by an award

(totaling \$1580) from the Meteoritical Society's Endowment Committee.

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- The procedural change in grant processing announced in the 2018 newsletter, involving grant requests only twice a year, with deadlines of January 15 and June 15, has been received well and remains in effect. Anybody wishing to request Endowment Fund grants should plan ahead and observe these deadlines. Please allow for a time period of at least three months for a Council decision before funding is needed.

Allan H. Treiman
October 2020

PUBLICATIONS REPORTS

Meteoritics and Planetary Science

From the Editor, A.J.T. Jull

I would like to summarize the status of the Society's journal, *Meteoritics and Planetary Science*. The journal has been doing well despite the pandemic. The 2-yr impact factor is 2.863 for 2019, closer to the long-term average, an increase from the previous 2.318. The journal submission rates continue to be very good. In the last year, we received 165 new papers, as well as 265 different revisions of other papers in process. During the last 2 years, the "accept" ratio was 79% (298 of 374 papers). Average turnaround from submission to first decision was 74.6 days.

All issues of the journal are available online at the Wiley website. Members can access this through their member identification. Members can access the journal through the website meteoritical.org (note new address) which offers access to MAPS through a direct link: the user needs their email and password. Open-access (OA) papers are available without restriction to all readers. The number of fully open-access papers increased to 21 in the year 2019. I expect this

trend will continue as more countries adopt financial support for OA.

The number of papers printed in 2019 was 3100 pages. This included 181 original papers, one Meteoritical Bulletin, and several memorials and awards. In addition, we also published the electronic material for a total of 171 online pages and 509 pages of electronic abstracts. In 2020, there were no abstracts since the Annual Meeting was canceled due to COVID-19.

There has been some delay in reviewing, proofing and final publication due to the effects of the pandemic. All papers go online in Early View as soon as they are accepted. Print copies were suspended for a few months, but have now resumed. The print issues up to August have been mailed. We anticipate clearing the remaining delay on the September and October issues shortly.

Thank you for your continued support of our Society journal.

A. J. Timothy Jull
Editor, Meteoritics & Planetary Science
October 10, 2020

Geochimica et Cosmochimica Acta

From the Executive Editor, Jeff Catalano

2020 has been a challenging year for the authors, reviewers, and editors of *Geochimica et Cosmochimica Acta* (GCA), for obvious reasons. Despite all that has happened, the geochemistry and cosmochemistry community have continued to publish excellent, novel scientific results in GCA. This has been made possible by the hard work and diligent effort of the reviewers and associate editors. I wish to extend my sincere gratitude to all who have contributed to GCA this year. For those who have struggled during the COVID-19 pandemic, whether from illness, unexpected job disruptions, new child care or elder care responsibilities, or any other impacts, please know that GCA will accommodate your needs to the best of our abilities. Please contact the editorial office at gca@elsevier.com if extra time or other accommodations are needed as you review, edit, or revise manuscripts.

Over the last three years GCA has seen a record number of new submissions to the journal. After a brief slow down earlier this year that largely predated the pandemic, submissions are again up in 2020, currently running (as of mid-October) one week ahead of 2019 submission numbers. The final issue of 2020 is currently in production, with an expected 460 papers published in 2020. The 2019 ISI Impact Factor for GCA was 4.659, an increase from 4.258 for 2018. The Editorial Board of GCA has grown over the last year to approximately 110 Associate Editors. This expansion is intended to provide better topical coverage and to manage the growing number of submissions. The Joint Publications Committee of the Meteoritical Society and the Geochemical Society, chaired by Prof. Tina van de Flierdt, is currently leading an effort to enhance the diversity, broadly defined, of the Editorial Board.

This year also witnessed an unfortunate event in the history of GCA: for the first time,

papers were retracted for research misconduct. Three retraction notices were published in the July 1 issue of the journal which briefly explain why these articles were retracted. While these papers all originated from the same research group in China, these are solely the actions of individuals. Many, many excellent scientists in China are important members of our community (and likely receive this newsletter), and GCA continues to support and welcome their contributions. The actions of a few individuals should not be used as reason to question or criticize Chinese scientists as a whole.

As authors prepare new submissions to GCA they should be aware of two requirements that have evolved over the last two years. First, all data that underlie the submission, including data shown in figures, must be made available in a text-based numerical format. This required sharing of data may be accomplished by attaching files in an Electronic Annex to the paper or by posting the data in a public, open repository. Second, GCA is now more rigorously emphasizing that references cited must, in general, have been peer-reviewed. Abstracts from meetings such as the Lunar and Planetary Science Conference and the Annual Meeting of the Meteoritical Society are not peer-reviewed and thus should not be cited if at all possible. Exceptions will be made for abstracts widely cited by the community and for which acceptable peer-reviewed citations are lacking. Authors should be prepared to provide justification for all abstract citations at the time of submission. While not representing a change in policy, authors are reminded to continue to follow proper meteorite nomenclature in their submissions.

Recent months have also brought two changes for GCA in the digital realm. In early October 2020 the journal migrated to a new editorial system, Editorial Manager. While this brought with it a few bugs, the system should both look familiar to users and also provide new functionality. Any authors or reviewers experiencing difficulties should contact the editorial office. GCA also now has a presence on

social media, going live on Twitter in June 2020 under the handle @GCA_Journal. If you have access to Twitter then please follow the account for recent highlights and news.

Jeff Catalano
October 2020

Elements Magazine

Elements Magazine (<http://elementsmagazine.org/>) is a bimonthly publication with an international circulation of ~15,000 focusing on subjects and news of broad interest in the geological sciences. *Elements* now has a completely digital version that can be seen on the *Elements* website. If you have been unable to get to your office to receive your hardcopy editions due to COVID-19 restrictions, this is an excellent way to catch up on the entirety of the past few issues. The magazine represents 19 different international societies and is edited by a team of three rotating Principal Editors (currently Jonathan Blundy for Petrology, John Eiler for Geochemistry, and Richard Harrison for Mineralogy). In 2021, Rebecca Lang will replace Jonathan Blundy as PE for Petrology. The Executive Editor, Jodi Rosso, can be reached at jrosso.elements@gmail.com.

Recent issues of *Elements* with specific interest to the meteoritics and planetary sciences community include Abiotic Hydrogen and Hydrocarbons in Planetary Lithospheres

(February 2020), Raman Spectroscopy in the Earth and Planetary Sciences (April 2020), the Redox Engine of Earth (June 2020), and Lithium (August 2020). The Meteoritical Society publishes Society news in 1-2 pages per issue, and is responsible for a feature article every other issue, entitled “CosmoElements” that highlights hot topics in the fields of Meteoritics and Cosmochemistry

(<http://elementsmagazine.org/cosmoelements/>). Most recently, these CosmoElements articles have included “MetBase.org as a Research and Learning Tool for Cosmochemistry” (Dominik Hezel, February 2020), and “Primitive Meteorite contains Cometary Surprise” (Rhonda Stroud, June 2020). Under an agreement between *Elements* magazine and the Meteoritical Society, members receive printed copies of *Elements* as part of their membership package and have electronic access to all articles published by *Elements*, including past issues. The editor for the Meteoritical Society’s contributions to *Elements* is Cari Corrigan (Smithsonian Institution). Please feel free to contact her with ideas for entire issues, or CosmoElements, at corrigan@si.edu.

Cari Corrigan
October 2020

FROM THE NOMENCLATURE COMMITTEE

The purpose of the Nomenclature Committee (NomCom) is to approve new meteorite names and to establish guidelines and make decisions regarding the naming and classification of meteorites. New meteorites, dense collection areas, type-specimen repository collections, and revisions are published through the Meteoritical Bulletin and the Meteoritical Bulletin Database (MBDB) (<https://www.lpi.usra.edu/meteor/>).

Membership: The current membership of NomCom is as follows, with nine appointed members: Audrey Bouvier (Chair; Universität Bayreuth), Emma

Bullock (Carnegie Institution of Washington), Hasnaa Chennaoui Aoudjehane (Université Hassan II de Casablanca), Vinciane Debaille (Université Libre de Bruxelles), Massimo D’Orazio (Università di Pisa), Mutsumi Komatsu (Sōkendai), Francis McCubbin (Deputy Editor, NASA JSC), Bengkui Miao (Guilin University of Technology) and Devin Schrader (Arizona State University); and three ex-officio NomCom members: Jérôme Gattacceca (MetBull Editor; CEREGE), Jeff Grossman (Database Editor, NASA) and Brigitte Zanda (MetSoc Vice President; MNHN Paris).

Meteoritical Bulletin Database (MBDB)

The database is a record of all recognized and classified meteorites as accepted by the Committee for Meteorite Nomenclature (NomCom) of the Meteoritical Society. In addition, the database lists all DCAs (including their KML coordinates for direct viewing in Google Earth), and NomCom-approved Collections and Repositories as well as other institutional collections.

Meteorites: The MBDB database (<http://www.lpi.usra.edu/meteor/>) which is updated regularly by the Database Editor Jeff Grossman, currently (as of October 20th, 2020) lists 64103 valid meteorite names (including relict meteorites).

The 2018 and the 2019 meteorite entries have been published by Gattacceca et al. in the Meteoritical Bulletin No. 107 and No. 108 respectively. The summary and some highlights are published in Meteoritics & Planetary Science. The full write ups of non-Antarctic meteorites and supplementary tables can be found online as Supporting Information and in the MBDB Archive.

The Meteorite Bulletin, No. 107 (Meteoritics & Planetary Science 55, Nr 2, 460–462, 2020) contains 2714 meteorites. The number of Northwest Africa meteorites reached a new peak with 799 meteorites. Antarctic and NWA meteorites make up 58% and 29% of the total number of meteorites, respectively. Over 200 submissions from South America were also approved. Notable entries are 7 meteorites from fall events reported in 2018: Hamburg (H4, USA, 16 Jan), Ablakotka (H5, Kazakhstan, 16 Feb), Aba Panu (L3, Nigeria, 19 Apr), Mangui (L6, China, 1 Jun), Ozerki (L6, Russia, 21 Jun), Renchen (L5-6, Germany, 10 Jul), and Gueltat Zemmour (L4, Morocco, 21 Aug).

The Meteorite Bulletin, No. 108 (Meteoritics & Planetary Science 55, Nr 5, 1146–1150, 2020) contains 2141 meteorites including 12 approved falls, from which 4 more are from 2018: Benenitra (L6, Madagascar, 27 Jul), Komaki (L6, Japan, 26 Sep), Ksar El Goraane (H5, Morocco, Oct 28), Mhabes el Hamra (H4/5, Mauritania, 23 Dec). Notable 2019 reported falls are Viñales (L6, Cuba, 1 Feb), Aguas Zarcas (CM2, Costa Rica, 23 Apr), Oued Sfayat (H5, Algeria, 16 May), and Taqtaq-e Rasoul (H5, Iran, 10 Aug).

The total annual numbers of lunar and martian meteorites have reached 45 and 23 respectively last year. Most of these were found in NW Africa. Coordinates are known for several lunar meteorites (e.g., Errachidia, Swayyah), and the largest lunar so far, 103 kg lunar feldspathic breccia NWA 12691, was reported. New martian meteorites are mostly shergottites, but two new nakhlites (Caleta el Cobre 022, first nakhlite from Chile, and NWA 12542) and five polymict breccias (including Rabt Sbayta 010 and 012 with coordinates) paired with NWA 7034 were reported. Martian meteorites that are likely paired with NWA 7034 are now classified as “Martian (polymict breccia)”.

As of October 2020, NomCom has already approved 1895 meteorites including 944 non-Antarctic meteorites and 13 falls, two as ungrouped carbonaceous chondrites:

- Al Farciya, Morocco/Western Sahara, L6, 2019 Aug 20
- Cavezzo, Italy, L5-an, 2020 Jan 1
- Flensburg, Germany, C1-ung, 2019 Sep 12
- Gatuto, Kenya, L6, 2020 Apr 24
- Kolang, Indonesia, CM1/2, 2020 Aug 1
- Mahadeva, India, H5, 2019 Jul 22
- Matarka, Morocco, L6, 2018 Jan 5
- Novo Mesto, Slovenia, L5, 2020 Feb 28
- Oslo, Norway, H3-6, 2012 Mar 9
- Saint-Ouen-en-Champagne, France, H5, 1799 Sep 29
- Tarda, Morocco, C2-ung, 2020 Aug 25
- Wad Lahteyba, Morocco/Western Sahara, H5, 2019 Jun 27
- Zhob, Pakistan, H3-4, 2020 Jan 9

Dense Collection Areas: A list of all DCAs with their corresponding coordinates and KMZ files can be found at <https://www.lpi.usra.edu/meteor/DenseAreas.php>.

Updated procedures: Certain submissions to name meteorites from dense collection areas may be unilaterally approved by the Editor of the Meteorite Bulletin without a vote by the Nomenclature Committee. Criteria required at submission are listed in the Procedures and must be satisfied prior to editorial approval. This update concerns several groups of meteorites including now ordinary chondrite breccias and melt breccias, eucrites, and ureilites, in addition to types 3 to 6 ordinary chondrites which were already processed this way.

Recommended repository masses: while NomCom has not changed the requirements for type specimens for almost 20 years, I would like to remind finders, mass owners or submitters that type specimens provide not only the base materials required for classification and long-term curation, but they are often the only materials available for scientific research. This is particularly critical for rare specimens which are difficult to acquire or access from collections. Please make all possible effort (thanks to those who already do!) to provide at least the recommended masses for new classifications at a type specimen repository of your choice. Larger type specimens are recommended for meteorites larger than 400 g such as at least 5% of total mass for 0.4 to 10 kg, and at least 500 g for > 10 kg meteorites. These larger

type specimen requirements are mandatory for meteorites declared to be in Special Pairing Groups.

Use of official meteorite names in abstracts and publications: names of meteorites have to be approved by NomCom and published in the MBDB to be used in abstracts and publications. It is critical to give correct meteorite names, any collection numbers when available, and also acknowledge meteorite loan sources. Such information can be used to track samples and data, to ensure that research on meteorites is reproducible, and to prevent confusion in the literature. The article “Best practices for the use of meteorite names in publications” by Heck et al. (Meteoritics & Planetary Science, 54, 1397-1400, 2019) details such recommendations that should become standards for meteorite research outputs.

Finally, please do not hesitate to contact us with questions or concerns about the NomCom, especially with suggestions for improvement.

Audrey Bouvier

October 2020

FROM THE MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

The Membership Committee is pleased to report that our Society continues to show strong membership. At the latest count, the MetSoc has 927 members (down from 955 in 2019) from 48 countries, representing scientists, citizen scientists, meteorite enthusiasts and other people who support the Society’s mission. The breakdown of the various 927 active memberships are as follows: 616 general memberships, 83 students, 181 retired members, 30 life members, 12 members from developing countries, and 5 complimentary memberships.

As discussed later in this update, the Membership Committee would like to take the opportunity to welcome new members, and to recognize those members whom we have lost over the past year.

The Membership Committee would also like to invite members to nominate deserving people in the Society (for the Service Award) who have promoted research and education in meteoritics and planetary science by means other than conducting scientific research.

New Non-Student Members

We welcome 18 new non-student members: Eldwin Chappell, Hung Dung Dang, Geraint Day, Dominique Duchene, Manuel Espejo-Garcia, Tim Havens, Sergio Huanaco Alvarez, Andrew Kalman, Tom Landis, Tim Lowry, Calvin Powell, David Priest, Wes Schiwitz, Frederick Sheard, Robert Taylor, Ken Turnbull, Ralph Winrich, Daniel Wolterding.

New Student Members

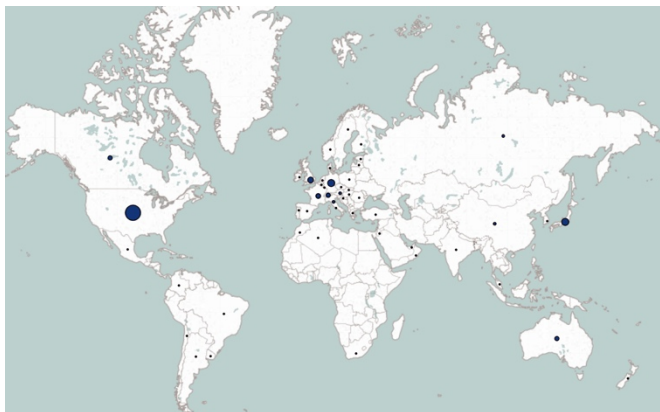
We also welcome 9 new student members: Andrew Findlay, Barnaba Gaggio, Pim Kaskes, Alexander Kawohl, Leonardo Mascarenhas, Devin McQuaig, Sergio Montes, Jacob Yates, Louise Zenie.

Student members are an important component of our evolving Society. These scientists-in-training represent the next generation, who will carry forward our mission of promoting research and education in meteoritics and other extraterrestrial materials that further understanding of our solar system's origin.

By becoming a student member, you are offered a substantial registration discount, and are eligible to apply for travel grants and the Gordon A. McKay Award, which is given each year to the student who is deemed to have delivered the best oral presentation at the annual meeting of the Society. So, if you have not done so already, *we encourage you to join today!*

A reminder to our new student and continuing student members about the Student Reception at the Annual Meeting of the Meteoritical Society! This represents an exciting opportunity to meet peers in the planetary science community and to network with discipline experts.

The global distribution of our membership. A black sphere indicates a country in which we have members, with the sphere size indicating the relative number of members in each.



Deceased Members

It is with great sadness that we acknowledge the passing of Nadine Barlow, Bruce Bohor, Bill Cassidy, Jay Melosh, Ed Olsen, Richard Pugh and John Wasson and this past year. Heartfelt condolences are extended to the family and friends of these members who contributed to the field of meteoritics and planetary science.

Membership Committee Goals

In the previous year, our Committee was focused on soliciting nominations for the Service Award and increasing student membership. These continue to remain our primary objectives in 2020 and beyond. However, working with the Council, the Membership Committee has expanded its scope to build a solid and more modern foundation from which to work from.

- 1) We have been documenting all deadlines and processes to make the succession transition smoother for the next chair.
- 2) We have been working on a better and more intuitive flow for website visitors and, as part of a much bigger project, we are also transferring the new membership and renewal interfaces from the metsoc.meteoriticalsociety.net to a modern interface integrated within the meteoritical.org website. These functions were previously performed, on contract, by the Mineralogical Society of America (MSA). By the time you are reading this report, the new website will have already launched. We have focused on delivering a user-friendly interface, a consistent look and feel, and significantly improved security in order to benefit all members. Here are just a few highlights:
 - a. Members will be able to manage their accounts, passwords, addresses and profiles on their own.

- b. When new members or renewing members activate their account, they will be sent welcome letters and be told their payment has been processed.
- c. Once a member logs into their account, access to MAPS will now require only a single click.

These and many other features will enable the Membership Committee to build on this foundation and fulfill our mission of expanding membership, increasing student membership, retaining existing members, and making it easier for members from developing countries to join. By bringing these functions in-house, and simplifying and automating processes will enable the Meteoritical Society to pay all development costs in under one year. Our work is not done and feedback from members will be critical to inform our future direction.

Significant effort was put into revamping our membership database for the new website. Doing so will enable us to develop better insights and more detailed information so that we can do a better job of retaining members and creating targeted campaigns to fulfill this committee's mission. Special thanks to the MSA and Alex Speer for managing the data base in years past.

Service Award Nominations

This Award was established in 2005 to honor those members who have advanced the goals of the Society in ways not including scientific research, which could include education and public outreach, service to the broader scientific community, acquisition, as well as classification and curation of new samples for research. In 2020, we instituted rubrics to make the selections process more systematic while still retaining a great deal of personal judgment to select the proposed winner of the award.

Each year, the Membership Committee asks members of the Society to submit nominations for

the Service Award. Though solicitations for nominations have proved difficult in past years, 2020 proved to be excellent year (a big thank you to our membership) with many qualified candidates submitted to the committee. Please continue this trend as we need your continued support to recognize the efforts of our well deserving members.

In the past we have awarded deserving recipients including Roy Clarke Jr, Ralph Harvey, Gisela Poesges, Cecilia Satterwhite, Rainer Bartoschewitz and most recently Prof. Christian Koeberl. Winners are granted lifetime membership to the Meteoritical Society. Nomination packages for the 2021 Service Award will be accepted up to February 15, 2021. Please include a biographical sketch of the candidate and additional substantive information, as well as a maximum of three supporting letters to strengthen the nomination.

Nominations should be sent by email to metsec@gmail.com. We hope to hear from you soon!

A special thank you to our outgoing Membership Committee members including Ludovic Ferrière and Ozan Ünsalan who resigned mid-term for personal reasons and Tomas Kohout whose term ends this year.

We hope to see you next year at the 84th Annual Meeting of the Meteoritical Society in Chicago, USA!

Mendy Ouzillou on behalf of Membership Committee

Members: Ludovic Ferrière, Lucy Forman, Tomas Kohout, Arya Udry and Ozan Ünsalan.

Prepared with the assistance of Tasha Dunn

October 2020

AWARDS AND HONORS

Leonard Medal for 2021 to Katharina Lodders

The Meteoritical Society recognizes Katharina Lodders with its 2021 Leonard Medal for her work on “the condensation of presolar grains in stellar atmospheres and her compilation of the Solar System Abundances of the Elements and the condensation temperatures of the elements”.

Nier Prize for 2021 to Nan Liu

The Meteoritical Society recognizes Nan Liu (Washington University of St. Louis) with its 2021 Nier Prize for “her contributions to the field of presolar grains and nucleosynthesis, using a wide range of analytical techniques”.

The recipients of the Leonard Medal and the Nier Prize were selected by the Leonard Medal Committee: Maria Schönbächler (chair), Roger Hewins, Hiroshi Hidaka, Zita Martins and Jeff Cuzzi.

Barringer Medal and Award for 2021 to Gordon Osinski

The 2021 Barringer Medal is awarded to Dr. Gordon Osinski for “his prolific studies on impact melt rock and hydrothermal alteration processes in terrestrial craters with a particular focus on understanding melting, ejecta emplacement, and habitability, as well as his work on the ‘suevite conundrum’ ”.

The Barringer Medal Committee selected the recipient of this award. The committee members were Michael Poelchau (chair), Sarah Stewart, Michael Zanetti and Roger Gibson.

Service Award for 2021 to Christian Koeberl

The Service Award for 2021 is awarded to Prof. Christian Koeberl “for his transformative decade-long tenure as Director General of the Naturhistorisches Museum during which the museum was extensively modernized and renovated resulting in a doubling of the number of

visitors. He is also recognized for his tireless public outreach activities in meteoritics and impact cratering and impressive societal service contributions”.

The Service Award was selected by the Membership Committee: Mendy Ouzillou (chair), Ludovic Ferrière, Thomas Kohout, Uwe Reimold, Ozan Ünsalan, Arya Udry and Lucy Forman.

McKay Award for 2020

The McKay Award Committee consists of Romy Hanna (chair) and Lydia Hallis (vice chair; Glasgow meeting organizer). Due to cancellation of the 2020 Annual Meeting during the COVID-19 pandemic, there is no McKay Award for this year.

Wiley Awards for 2020

Due to cancellation of the 2020 Annual Meeting during the COVID-19 pandemic, there are no Wiley Awards for this year.

Pellas-Ryder Award for a paper published in 2019 to Sabina D. Raducan

The Pellas-Ryder Award for a first-authored student paper published in 2019 went to Sabina D. Raducan (Imperial College, UK) for her paper titled “*The role of asteroid strength, porosity and internal friction in impact momentum transfer*” published in *Icarus* in 2019.

The selections of the Pellas-Ryder Award for 2019 were made by a joint committee of the Meteoritical Society (MS) and the Geological Society of America (GSA). Its members for this award year were Emily Martin (GSA, Chair), Lindsay Keller (MS), Debra Needham (GSA), Joe Boesenberg (MS), Jemma Davidson (MS) and Nick Lang (GSA).

Elsevier Early Career Scientist Award 2020

Elsevier, the publisher of *Geochimica et Cosmochimica Acta*, donated funds to support

travel to the Annual Meeting for scientists within 5 years of receiving their Ph.D. There was no

2020 award.

CALL FOR NOMINATIONS: AWARDS AND FELLOWS

The society depends on its members to nominate deserving candidates for its awards and fellowships. Your participation is needed and important. The procedures for making a nomination are summarized here and can also be found on our website, <https://meteoritical.org/awards>.

Nominations for Meteoritical Society awards should be sent, preferably by email with electronic attachments, to the appropriate committee chair listed at the end of each paragraph where that person is known, or to the Secretary (MetSocSec@gmail.com).

Leonard Medal and Nier Prize - Deadline February 15, 2021

Leonard Medal

The Leonard Medal honors outstanding contributions to the science of meteoritics and closely allied fields. It was established in 1962 to honor the first President of the Society, Frederick C. Leonard. Nominations for the Leonard Medal should include:

- a formal letter of nomination,
- a biographical sketch of the candidate,
- a list of publications covering the work to be considered for the award,
- additional substantive information, such as statements as to the importance of the nominee's research to the field of meteoritics and/or to the research of others,
- one seconding letter in support of the nomination (additional letters are encouraged but limited to **three** supporting letters).

Nier Prize

The Nier Prize recognizes outstanding research in meteoritics and closely allied fields by young scientists. The award was established in 1995 to honor the memory of Alfred O. C. Nier, and is supported by an endowment given by Mrs. Ardis H. Nier.

In 2013 and with the approval of the Nier family, the eligibility requirements for the Nier Prize were changed as follows: The recipient will be a scientist who has not yet reached his or her thirty-fifth birthday at the end of the calendar year in which he or she is selected by the Council, or whose doctorate was awarded no more than seven calendar years before the year of selection by the Council. For 2021, this language means that the nominee must either have 1) been born on or after January 1, 1987; or 2) received the doctorate on or after January 1, 2014.

Nominations for the Nier Prize should include the items listed above for the Leonard Medal. They should also include the candidate's date of birth and the date on which the doctorate was awarded. If the research for the Nier Prize 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.

Please send nominations to metsosec@gmail.com and to Maria Schönbacher (chair of the Leonard Medal Committee) hidaka@eps.nagoya-u.ac.jp.

Barringer Medal - Deadline February 15, 2021

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 were established in 1982 to honor the memory of D. Moreau Barringer Sr. and his son D.

Moreau Barringer Jr. and are sponsored by the Barringer Crater Company. Nominating letters should include:

- a biographical sketch of the candidate,
- a summary and evaluation of the accomplishments of the candidate and the importance of the candidate's work,
- a list of publications covering the work to be considered for the award, and
- at least **one** but not more than **three** supporting letters.

Please send nominations to metsec@gmail.com and to Michael Zanetti (chair of the Barringer Medal Committee) michael.r.zanetti@nasa.gov.

Service Award - Deadline February 15, 2021

This award honors members who have advanced the goals of the Society to promote research and education in meteoritics and planetary science in ways other than by conducting scientific research. Examples of activities that could be honored by the award include, but are not limited to, education and public outreach, service to the Society and the broader scientific community, and acquisition, classification and curation of new samples for research.

Nominating letters should include a biographical sketch of the candidate and additional substantive information, such as statements as to the importance of the nominee's activities to the field of meteoritics and/or to the research of others. One or more seconding letters in support of the nomination are strongly encouraged.

Please send nominations to metsec@gmail.com and to Mendy Ouzillou (chair of the Membership Committee) mendy.ouzillou@gmail.com.

Pellas-Ryder Award -- Deadline January 31, 2021

This award, which is jointly sponsored by the Meteoritical Society and the Planetary Division of Geological Society of America, is for undergraduate and graduate students who are the first author of a planetary science paper published in a peer-reviewed scientific journal. To be eligible for this cycle, the paper must have a publication year of 2019. Any first author of a paper published on a topic listed on the cover of MAPS, who was a student when the paper was submitted, is eligible for consideration for this award. Nominations should include:

- the full citation,
- a brief description of the paper's significance,
- a letter from the department head verifying that the first author was a registered student when the paper was submitted, and
- a letter from the student's advisor describing what portion of the work was done by the student.

Please send nominations to the secretary metsec@gmail.com and Emily Martin (chair) MartinES@si.edu.

Jessberger Award -- Deadline February 15, 2022

The Jessberger Award is now open for nominations (<https://meteoritical.org/society/leadership/jessberger-award-committee/bylaws-rules>). Nominations must be received by February 15, 2022.

The award will be presented **every other year** to a mid-career, female scientist in the field of isotope geochemistry. The candidate should be between 10 and 20 years past the PhD in the 2022, and need not be a member of the Meteoritical Society.

Nominations for the Jessberger Award should include (a) a biographical sketch of the candidate; (b) a summary and evaluation of the

accomplishments of the candidate and the importance of her work; and (c) a list of publications covering the work to be considered for the award. The Nominator should also provide, or arrange to have provided, to the Chair, at least **one**, but not more than **three**, supporting letters that may provide additional information. Supporting letters may be provided either by

Members of the Society or by appropriate knowledgeable outside scientists. Nominations should be sent to the Secretary, metsec@gmail.com and to Mario Trieloff (chair of the Jessberger Award Committee): Mario.Trieloff@geow.uni-heidelberg.de.

FROM THE SECRETARY

I'm serving my second year as Secretary of the society. It has been a pleasure working with President Meenakshi Wadhwa, past-President Trevor Ireland, Vice President Brigitte Zanda, Treasurer Tasha Dunn, and all of the Society councilors, committee chairs and members. The entire effort of running this society is based on the time volunteered by those members involved in its activities, which is greatly appreciated.

This year is a time of change for officers and councilors. After six years of service, Past-President Trevor Ireland rotates off the Council. I'll always remember Trevor's cheerful response to having to stay awake past midnight in Canberra for Council telecons "it beats jet-lag". I'll miss his sage advice. I thank Mini Wadhwa for her thoughtful and steady stewardship of the society through this exceptionally rough year. She now gets to 'relax' for the next two years as the Past President. She has been a pleasure to work with as president. I welcome Nancy Chabot as the incoming Vice President and Brigitte Zanda as the incoming President and I look forward to working with both of them. The council will also see turnover as four councilors, Cari Corrigan, Pierre Rochette, Mario Trieloff and Maria Eugenia Varela, complete their terms at the end of 2020. I welcome the four new councilors elected this year that begin their terms January 01, 2021: Henner Busemann, Sarah Crowther, Denton Ebel and Ann Nguyen.

This year, the society added a graduate student, Steffanie Sillitoe-Kukas, in the new

position of deputy treasurer for the development of social media for the society and for support of the secretary.

This year as secretary was dominated by fallout from the global pandemic that resulted in the cancellation of the 2020 Annual Meeting in Glasgow. I appreciate all the efforts of our meeting organizers for the Perth and Brussels meetings who kindly consented to moving their meeting dates to accommodate the Glasgow meeting in 2022. A special thanks goes to Lydia Hallis for cheerfully agreeing to host the 2022 meeting in Glasgow after the SEC convention center in Glasgow invoked the *force majeure* clause in their contract when they were asked to convert to a field hospital for the COVID crisis.

This year, a special thanks goes to Mendy Ouzillou (and the Membership Committee) for leading the effort to overhaul the website. Working with WebSanity, the company that manages the Meteoritical Society website, the new website incorporates the membership portal.

The website is being updated with news and announcements, including awards, and memorials to prominent Society members that have passed away. This year, we remembered the career contributions of Nadine Barlow, Edward J. Olsen, Bruce T. Bohor, Richard "Dick" Pugh, William "Bill" Cassidy, John T. Wasson and Jay Melosh. My sincere condolences to their families and to their loved ones. My gratitude to colleagues who wrote obituaries for each of these members.

Nominations for Awards for 2021

This coming year, 2021, please nominate deserving candidates for the society's awards and medals. According to the Bylaws, officers of the society and members of the council are not allowed to nominate candidates. We strongly encourage the membership to nominate deserving candidates paying particular attention to creating a diverse candidate pool.

To improve participation, the Council agreed to move the award deadlines away from the LPSC deadlines and the holidays in mid-January. The new deadline for all nominations (excluding the

Pellas-Ryder Award) is **February 15, 2021**. Another important bit of news for nominators is that the Council has limited the number of supporting letters to a maximum of three for any nomination.

Future Meetings of the Meteoritical Society

We are seeking proposals for the 2025 Annual Meeting. Please contact us (metsec@gmail.com) if you are interested in hosting the meeting.

Munir Humayun
December 2020