

**Meteoritical Society Council Meeting  
November 18, 2025, 3 pm - 5:00 pm (UTC)  
online only**

**Agenda for the 6th Meeting of the Meteoritical Society in 2025**

**Council Members Invitees**

Guy Consolmagno (President)  
Maria Schönbachler (Vice President)  
Nancy Chabot (Past President) (excused)  
Cari Corrigan (Treasurer)  
Jutta Zipfel (Secretary)  
Byeon-Gak Choi  
Alvaro Crósta

Elena Dobrică  
Juliane Gross (excused)  
Marina Ivanova  
Yangting Lin  
Yves Marrocchi  
Gordon Osinski

**Guests**

Sarah Crowther (Nominating Committee)  
Tasha Dunn (MetSoc Address)  
Larry Nittler (Nier Prize and Leonard Medal)  
Romy Hanna (Membership Committee)

**The following documents were sent to councilors prior to the Meeting:**

Dunn Report to Council\_Nov 25.pdf  
Membership Committee Report November 2025.pdf  
Suggested changes to the bylaws of the Leonard Medal Committee.pdf  
Nominating Committee 2025 Final Report.pdf  
SOC members MetSoc 2026 in Frankfurt.pdf

**Agenda & Minutes**

**1. Welcome (President)**

3:00 pm UTC

Announcements and review of electronic votes since last meeting

The president welcomes all members and guest present.

The secretary reviews electronic votes held since the last meeting.

31e Approve the minutes of the council meeting on July 13, 2025 (25 September 2025)  
Approved with 10 votes in favor and 2 votes abstained.

32e Approve the minutes of the council meeting on September 16, 2025 (2 October 2025)  
Approved with 9 votes in favor and 2 votes abstained.

## **2. MetSoc Business**

2.1. MetSoc address (Tasha Dunn)  
Proposal for a new address of the society  
10 min application and 5 min questions

3:05 pm UTC

Tasha Dunn summarizes and explains the backgrounds and the requirements for the Meteoritical Society, which is a 501C, if changing the physical address. Since the society was incorporated in California in 2010 it uses the private address of a member who lives in California as official address. For changing to a less private address the society needs to hire a registered agency in California. Tasha Dunn, Candace Kohl and Rhian Jones from the Endowment Committee looked into this matter and propose some options for a registered agent service in Sacramento, CA. In essence they are proposing to use one of the smaller companies which offers their services at \$49/year. Other than a physical address no other services are needed.

A report summarizing these findings was sent to council in advance of the meeting.

The president offers to explore the issue further by seeking advise from friends familiar with such issues, and by calling some of the suggested companies. Further he suggested to postpone the decision to the next council meeting. There is no urgency at the moment to have a new address. The current mailing address used most is the one of the treasurers.

2.2. Proposal from Membership Committee (Romy Hanna)  
Ed Scott family bequest; lead(s) for student lecture series  
20 min application and 5 min questions

3:20 pm UTC

Romy Hanna sent a report prior to the meeting to council.  
She gave her feedback about the mentor/mentee program at Perth. She could match 27 mentees to 13 mentors. The program is liked by the mentees and they recommended to continue it in future meetings. However the number of mentors volunteering was small, so that not all mentees will get a match. More effort is needed to increase the number of volunteering mentors.

The Ed Scott lecture series is continuing. The next speaker will be Sara Russel on December, 18. She will talk about type 1 chondrites. Rhian Jones will give a lecture in early 2026. Richard Greenwood would like to purchase a Zoom Business account to use for cost of US\$ 220/year. The current plan is to reserve a total of US\$ 1500 of the donation from the Ed Scott family for this. The remaining funds could be used for a proposed pre-meeting workshop in honor of Ed Scott providing financial support for food, accommodation, and travel.

Early Career (EC) & Student Initiatives to increase EC and student involvement in the society. Suggestions were collected at the Brussels meeting in 2024. The top 3 suggestions were:

1. Highlight student and EC talks at Annual Meetings
2. Run online lecture series focused on non-research topics (locating and requesting samples, helpful tools, software, writing/ proposals/presentation support, etc.)
3. Implement an online member-only web forum

The last two items on this list require a dedicated volunteer to organize and run. No member from the membership or outreach committee has volunteered so far. Asking for volunteers in the next newsletter would be an option.

Brochure Update for AGU Booth – Imene Kerrouche has been working on a new brochure. She is planning to have it printed by the AGU25 Meeting in December in New Orleans. The brochure looks great and Imene has done a beautiful job putting it together. Next to other minor feedback one was on the society address. She was recommended to leave it out as it seems no longer necessary to be given on a brochure.

The president is asking council for advice on possible student members for the Membership Committee, particularly from Asia and Australia and New Zealand. There were questions about membership of students doing volunteering work for the society. Romy Hanna recommended to have the student/EC on the LOC who will be organizing the EC lunch, as well as volunteers taking care of the lecture series and web forum, becoming members of the Membership Committee would be very good and helpful.

**Motion 33** Approve to give US\$ 1500 from the Ed Scott family donation of US\$ 10k to purchase a Zoom license to support the Ed Scott lecture.

**Move** Jutta Zipfel

**Second** Alvaro Crosta

All in favor.

### 3. Committees

#### 3.1. Leonard Medal new rules (Larry Nittler)

3:45 pm UTC

Proposal for changing the rules for operation and nominations of the LMC

15 min

A report was send out to councilors before the meeting. The Leonard Medal Committee sees a discrepancy between rule A1 and A9 for operation and nominations of the committee. In the case when two independent nominations for the same candidate are received in different years, the current rules may lead to treat other nomination packages differently and unfair.

The rational behind this are the following two problems:

a) A second nomination received at a later time should not reset the nomination cycle of 5 years.

Suggestion: The first nomination received should be the nomination with priority and set the clock.

b) Letters in support from a secondary nominator should not be added to the first nomination as it would lead to more than three support letters. Nomination packages according to A1 are restricted to three letters in support.

Suggestion: The secondary nominator should be encouraged to provide material to the first nominator to update the letter of nomination. Or the chair of the committee or nominee advocate on the committee may update the nomination letter and other materials.

Proposed changes to the rules:

*A9. If independent nominations of a candidate are received in the same year, the first received will be considered the nomination and the others will be treated as supporting letters.*

to:

A9. If independent nominations of a candidate are received, the first received will be considered the nomination and will set the five-selection-cycle period. However, in such a case of new nominations for an existing candidate, the Chair of the committee or nominee advocate on the committee (see B.3.) may (1) update the primary nomination package with information from the secondary nomination and/or (2) encourage secondary nominator(s) to provide the primary nominator with material to update the letter of nomination (which should be co-signed by the nominators) and other materials of the nomination package. In either case, the limit of three supporting letters (which may be co-signed) in the nomination package considered by the Committee must be adhered to.

**Motion 34** Accept the change to section A9 of the Leonard Medal rules as proposed by the Leonard medal committee.

**Move** Jutta Zipfel

**Second** Yves Marrocchi

All in favor.

3.2. Nominating Committee report (Sarah Crowther)

4:00 pm UTC

How the process worked? Any suggestions?

15 min

Sarah Crowther reported about the process and how it worked.

She states that having a committee with different nationalities, backgrounds, etc. has been great but the time difference made it difficult to hold meetings within working hours for all members.

The committee started the process in May 2025, which allowed for enough time for the various steps. However, keeping the September 1 deadline for a report to council appeared to be too tight as it is close to summer vacation times.

Using a completely anonymous voting tool to vote on potential candidates worked great. In order to raise the pool of potential candidates, the committee felt it was important for the committee to have a big range of nationalities, backgrounds, research fields, career stages, and soliciting suggestions from the membership. They received 12 suggestions from other members among which 3 were self-nominations. There was a lack of candidates from South America or Africa.

Sarah Crowther had the following recommendations for future committees:

- Actively encourage nominations from regions with little potential candidates, both by self nominations and by other members.
- The 2028 Annual Meeting in Chile will help increase prominence of South American members.

It followed a discussion focusing on ways to increase membership from, so far, under-represented countries. It was consensus that the higher numbers of students and EC from such countries eventually will transfer to other career stages while keeping up their membership with the society. The president thanked Sarah Crowther and the committee for the great work they have been doing.

#### 4. Annual Meetings

##### 4.1. Frankfurt 2026 (Jutta Zipfel)

4:15 pm UTC

Update and planning progress  
20 min

Jutta Zipfel showed a list with 7 names of members on the program committee. Dominik Hezel will be chairing this committee. She asked council to appoint this committee as required by the bylaws. Additional members with different expertise may be co-opted at any time later. As noticed by one councilor two names were misspelled.

**Motion 35:** Accept the SOC/Program Committee as suggested with spelling corrections.

**Move** Cari Corrigan

**Second** Yves Marrocchi and Marina Ivanova

All in favor.

Zipfel gave an update on the plannings for the Annual Meeting in Frankfurt in 2026. So far there are still negotiations about the costs for the venue ongoing. The planning for catering during sessions and for the banquet have been finished and a contract will be signed soon. The catering for the ice breaker is almost finished. Numbers on the budget can only be shown once costs for the venue are known.

The organizers are still looking for a speaker for the Barringer lecture.

Zipfel reported about other activities in the planning, like social programs for Wednesday afternoon and conference excursions.

There will be the opportunity for a conference excursion to Nördlinger Ries, however the leads could only offer a pre-conference trip. Council felt that offering a post-conference excursion would be much better. Alternatively the organizers should plan for a trip before and one trip after the conference. Wednesday afternoon excursions will likely include a wine tasting tour to the Rheingau, a trip to the Messel pit, as well as a boat tour and guided site seeing tours directly in Frankfurt. Further options are visits to ESA and Mathildenhöhe in Darmstadt. Council suggested the offer for Wednesday afternoon excursions should be extended to accommodate as many attendees as possible.

#### 4.2. LPI technical support (Guy Consolmagno)

4:35 pm UTC

Technical support with abstracts, travel awards, program  
20 min

LPI has provided technical support for MetSoc meetings during past years. Until 2025 a NASA grant could cover their costs. This grant is no longer available and for the kind of support typically provided they are charging now US\$ 15,550 for supporting the Frankfurt meeting.

The president asked council to think about how the society should handle this in future? And more explicitly whether it should be a cost covered by MetSoc rather than by individual meeting organizers – making this a regular policy? There are no financial problems at the moment and the society should be able to cover such costs.

For the upcoming meeting in Frankfurt it will be covered by the loan granted which is set to US\$ 15,000. The deficit could be taken from the discretionary funds of the executive committee. There was agreement on council to convert the loan by paying the LPI instead of the organizers. This would allow for paying LPI US\$ 15,000 plus up to US\$ 5,000, if needed. The following motion was entertained:

**Motion 36:** The Meteoritical Society approved a payment of up to 20,000 to the LPI for support of abstract handling for the Frankfurt meeting.

**Move** Gordon Osinski

**Second** Marina Ivanova

All in favor.

## 5. Adjourn

### 5.1. Meeting ends

5:00 pm UTC