

Meteoritical Society Council Meeting
Lunar and Planetary Institute, Houston, TX
11 March 1990

Councilors Present: R. Taylor, E. Anders, H. McSween, R. Hewins, O. Eugster, E. Gibson, G. Lugmair, D. Sears, J. Wasserburg, D. Woolum

Guests Present: M. Lipschutz, J. Wasson, G. Wetherill

(1) President's Introduction

(a) Recent Committee Appointments - New appointments to various Society committees were announced (see attached list).

(b) Correspondence with Leonard Medal Committee - A letter from J. Veverka expressing concerns about the Council's decision process on the 1990 medalist was circulated, along with Taylor's response. Council discussed these concerns and noted that enactment of the proposed bylaws change should alleviate future problems.

(c) Report on Discussion with DPS - Taylor and B. Hapke have discussed possible interactions of the Society with DPS. Both Societies are comfortable with the present organizational arrangement, but representatives of both should attempt to design some joint sessions at LPSC. Wasserburg expressed an opinion that we would benefit from closer interactions.

Motion: Council is eager to establish bridges with DPS. The President should contact his DPS counterpart to identify a topic of mutual interest for a jointly sponsored session at the Monterey Meteoritical Society meeting and at future meetings as appropriate. This information should be conveyed to the Monterey organizing committee so that it may be included in circulars advertising the meeting (McSween, seconded by Anders, passed unanimously).

Action: Taylor should coordinate with Hapke to identify a topic and pass this on to Englert with instructions.

(2) Proposed Bylaws Change

Wetherill reviewed proposed changes to Bylaws Article 11 - Barringer Award (attached).

Motion: Proposed item 2 should be amended to state "The Chairman is appointed by the President for a one-year term." (Anders, seconded by McSween, passed 5 to 2 with 1 abstention).

Motion: Change the third sentence in item 3 to read "The committee shall present its first and second candidates for the award..." (Taylor, seconded by Anders, passed 6 to 2).

Motion: Council approves the proposed bylaws changes, as amended above (by acclamation, passed unanimously).

(3) Secretary's Report

Motion: Council approves minutes for the Vienna meeting, as amended by Anders and Sears (Gibson, seconded by Woolum, passed unanimously).

McSween indicated that no other nominations for officers or councilors have been received as yet. Anders suggested the advisability of including a DPS member in future nomination lists to increase communication.

(4) Treasurer's Report

Hewins provided a report (attached) indicating that the Society had a net profit of \$1,368 for 1989. He also noted that members who join late are still having difficulties in receiving *Meteoritics*, and that there are problems with late dues payments. Hewins indicated that an NSF proposal by Hewins and McSween to fund U.S. student travel to Perth had been funded at \$4,000, and the money had been transferred to the organizing committee. McSween suggested that it would be desirable to have figures on new members in the annual Treasurer's report.

Action: Hewins should add the number of new members to his annual report, if that information is available.

(5) Publications Committee Issues (see attached reports)

(a) Institutional Subscriptions to *Meteoritics* - Lipschutz reported that D. Macdougall has been asked to look into this issue (letter attached). Lipschutz estimated that the already approved increase in rates to \$80 for 1991 will result in a gross surplus of \$5,215. Anders expressed a concern that this is a thin margin of error because of uncertainties in the number of printed pages and should be considered a break-even budget.

Motion: Council should reset the 1991 institutional rate for *Meteoritics* at \$90 (Gibson, seconded by Anders).

Amendment to Motion: Table this motion until Wasson arrives and this can be discussed with his input (Wasserburg, seconded by McSween, passed unanimously).

(b) Editorship of *Meteoritics* - Lipschutz reported on a recommendation from the Joint Publications Committee that Wasson be reappointed as Editor for an additional term. Discussion by Councilors indicated strong approval for the results that Wasson has achieved.

Motion: Council authorizes reappointment of Wasson as Editor of *Meteoritics* for another term (Taylor, seconded by Wasserburg, passed unanimously).

Note: No action is necessary because Wasson subsequently submitted a letter of resignation, effective at the end of this term.

(c) *Geochimica* Issues - Lipschutz expressed concern about the GCA subscription list being handled at Ohio State, as authorized by the Geochemical Society Council. This person's activities should be audited, and Lipschutz plans to discuss supervision and

bonding of this person with G. Faure. Anders noted that Pergamon should pay for this activity.

Lipschutz shared some information on the budget, although it has not yet been approved by the Committee. For 1989, expenses were approximately as estimated, but income was \$18,000 lower because Pergamon has not billed for offprints in many instances and returns on back issues were lower than in past years. He is inquiring into these problems. Lipschutz noted that in 1991, the cost of GCA will be dictated by the increase in the number of pages printed, and wondered if there should be a limit on pages. Anders and Wasserburg noted that special publications should be fully self-supporting. Lipschutz indicated that GCA had not been included in recent Pergamon advertisements.

The question of gratis subscriptions for abstracting journals was also discussed. The advice of Council to the Editor is that abstracting journals should pay. The Meteoritical Society Council's proposal on increasing student subscriptions for GCA was considered by the Geochemical Society Council, and they dissented with this decision. Since both Councils must approve any change, the original rates stand.

(6) Future Meetings

(a) Perth - Taylor reported that they expect approximately 250 participants at the 1990 meeting, and that field trips are heavily subscribed. Abstracts should be sent to Perth rather than to the LPI.

(b) Monterey - Woolum reported that local arrangements are being negotiated with hotels, and reservations will be handled through a local travel agency for the 1991 meeting. The Doubletree Hotel will provide locations for technical sessions. A total of \$12,000 has been raised from sponsors so far, and the Barringer Crater Company will match student travel funds raised. Wasserburg noted that 1993 is an open date for a U.S. meeting, and that we should begin to explore possibilities for hosts.

(7) Proposed Bylaws Changes

(a) Anders offered a change to Bylaws Article 3.3 - Finance, related to late payment of dues (attached). After discussion, Anders agreed to change this recommendation from two to three months.

Motion: Council adopt the proposed change, with the amendment noted above (Anders, seconded by Gibson, passed unanimously).

Action: Hewins should insure that future dues statements should reflect this change.

In a related matter, McSween described a request from K. Keil for a ruling on whether dues-delinquent fellows are automatically reinstated as fellows once they renew their membership. Council indicated that once elected, fellows remain so for life.

(b) Anders proposed changes to Bylaws Article 4 - Meetings of the Society (attached). After much discussion about the legal ramifications of these changes, as well as the desirability of intervention in the operation of those organizing the meeting, Taylor decided to refer this matter to a subcommittee. This group should review the present guidelines for meeting organizers as well as the relevant bylaws, and make

recommendations to Council at its next meeting.

Motion: That the President appoint a subcommittee to review and revise procedures for conducting Society meetings, and to make recommendations for bylaws changes to Council at its next meeting (Gibson, seconded by McSween, passed unanimously).

Action: This subcommittee (Sears, Anders, McSween, Taylor) should make recommendations as directed.

(c) McSween offered a change to Bylaws Article 6.3 - Leonard Medal (attached). After discussion, McSween agreed to change the proposed wording to "the committee shall present to the Council documented nominations for its first and second choices...".

Motion: Council approves this bylaws change, as amended above (McSween, seconded by Sears, passed unanimously).

(d) Lipschutz, on behalf of the Publications Committee, proposed a number of changes to Bylaws Article 7 - Publications Committee. Council considered amendments to these changes offered by Wasson.

Motion: In Article 7.2, replace "the other ex officio members of the committee" with "Editors" (Hewins, seconded by Wasserburg, passed 4 to 3).

Motion: In Article 7.3, add "and the Editor of *Meteoritics*" after "Presidents" (Hewins, seconded by Sears, failed 3 to 5). Motion: In Article 7.4, add "be invited to" after "members shall" (adopted by consensus).

Motion: In Article 7.5b, add "and to review their performance annually" after "Editor" (Gibson, seconded by Wasserburg, passed unanimously).

Motion: In Article 7.5e, replace "recommendations shall take the form of advice and not be binding" with "final decision will reside with the Editor" (adopted by consensus).

Motion: Council adopts changes to Article 7, as amended above (Wasserburg, seconded by Hewins, passed unanimously).

(e) McSween, as directed by Council at its previous meeting, offered a change to Bylaws Article 8.4 - Editor of *Meteoritics* (attached).

Motion: Council adopts this change to Article 8 (McSween, seconded by Gibson, passed unanimously).

Action: Secretary should insure that the amended Bylaws are printed in a future issue of *Meteoritics*.

(8) Other Publications Issues

(a) Return to Tabled Motion Concerning 1991 Institutional Subscription Rates for *Meteoritics* - Discussion with Wasson indicated that *Meteoritics* is likely to publish more pages than originally estimated for 1991. Some Councilors felt that page charges should be assessed for special issues of this journal. Wasson expressed strong concerns about possible Council action on raising institutional rates in advance of a formal recommendation by the Publications Committee.

Motion: Council should set the 1991 institutional subscription rate for *Meteoritics* at \$100 (Anders, seconded by Wasserburg, passed 6 to 2 with 1 abstention).

Action: Wasson should pass on this new rate to institutional subscribers.

(b) Abstracts for Perth Meeting - Wasson sought post-facto approval for printing abstracts for the Perth meeting as submitted, rather than allowing for revisions. Anders discussed concern about strict length limits for published abstracts. Wasson indicated that his office already allows some flexibility in length, except for authors who flaunt the guidelines.

Motion: Council approves of the proposed procedure for printing of abstracts for the Perth meeting (McSween, seconded by Gibson, passed 7 to 1).

(c) Wasson provided some statistics on *Meteoritics* manuscripts and institutional subscriptions (attached).

(9) Possible Affiliation with IUGS

Taylor reported that the Society has been invited by R. Brett to consider affiliating with the International Union of Geological Sciences (see attached letter). Brett will attend the Perth meeting and will answer any questions Council might have. Wasserburg suggested that we might also want to consider affiliation with the International Astronomical Union. Gibson noted that the Society had severed its relationship with AAAS because of lack of benefit.

(10) Meteorite Collection Issues

(a) Taylor briefed Council on cancellation of the 1989/90 Antarctic meteorite expedition, and his letter on behalf of the Society to NSF expressing concern.

(b) Taylor circulated letters from several Society members (L. Schultz, C. Koeberl, Swiss Meteorite Laboratory) expressing concerns about illegally exported meteorites recovered in the Sahara. Taylor will appoint a committee consisting of Schultz (chairman), R. Hutchison, A. Bevan, M. Prinz, R. Walker, and G. Huss to look into the matter and report to Council. Since that time, an incident involving Haag has erupted and was noted by Council. The Council should consider whether or not it needs a policy statement on illegally exported meteorites, but will wait on the report of this committee before acting.

(11) Funding for Eastern Block Scientists at Society Meetings

Taylor noted that P. Barringer has agreed to pay partial travel expenses for some Eastern Block scientists to attend the Perth meeting. McSween expressed the opinion that student travel support is a more legitimate concern of the Society and should have preference.