

SUPPLEMENT TO *METEORITICS & PLANETARY SCIENCE*, VOL. 36, 11
The Meteoritical Society Newsletter
(November 2001)

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

PRESIDENT'S EDITORIAL

President's Editorial

Things usually turn out somewhat different from what one expects them to be and this was exactly so also with my first few months in office. I was positively surprised by the amount of activities initiated by members of our Society. The overwhelmingly constructive contributions make investing time for the Society a joy. There are, however, also some unsolved problems which do not create instant joy but whose solution eventually could lead to improvements beneficial for all of us. So joy is awaiting us afterwards. Us means the Council and in particular the Secretary of the Society who does an excellent job in spite of the bumpy communication between our worlds that are 12 hours apart.

The Meeting

The highlight of this year was—of course—our 64th Annual Meeting held at the Pontificia Universitas Gregoriana in the Vatican City from September 10 to 14, 2001. It was a huge success and set a new record of 560 registered attendants, quite a few more than we had in Vienna many years ago (see report by Brother Guy Consolmagno). It was also a big success from a scientific point of view, both for quality and quantity. And that it took place in the heart of Roma in a school where about one-third of the now ruling Roman Catholic Church's cardinals and quite a few popes were educated. The building offered a wonderful ambience with stylish lecture halls, a perfectly working internet room (thanks to Claudio Casacci from Alenia Spazio and help from Compaq Italia) and a patio that allowed all posters to be shown during the whole week. I wish to thank again the University authorities, in particular Fr. Franco Imoda, S.J., Rettore Magnifico of the Pontificia Universitas Gregoriana, and the local organizing committee led by Brother Guy Consolmagno, S.J. for what they have done for us. Thanks to the generosity of the sponsors, in particular the Fondazione Cassa di Risparmio di Torino, many travel grants, especially for students, were distributed and the conference fee could be kept refreshingly low (see report by Brother Guy Consolmagno for details).

One of the many highlights of the meeting was the presentation of the awards:

The Leonard Medal to Hap McSween "...in recognition of extensive, outstanding petrologic studies of martian meteorites and for lucidly communicating the importance of these studies to broad audiences";

The Barringer Medal to Sasha Basilevsky "...for outstanding scientific contributions in field and remote studies of impact craters and the comparison of craters on the Earth, Moon and other planets" and

The Nier Prize to Larry Nittler "...for developing a new technique of isotopic imaging with the ion microprobe and using it to discover presolar oxide grains and to isolate presolar SiC grains from supernovae", a real assemblage of excellence.

The meeting was overshadowed and shaken by the terrorist's attack on the World Trade Center and the Pentagon on September 11, 2001. Our hearts and thoughts were with the victims and with our colleagues and friends who could possibly have been hurt.

Nomenclature

There are some indications that SNC meteorites could originate from Mars, there are others that relate them to carbonaceous chondrites. Among the advocates for a martian origin is also the foremost expert on these meteorites, Hap McSween. Some colleagues neglect the possibility that SNC meteorites could not come from Mars and call them "martian meteorites". Others prefer to call them "SNCs", for obvious reasons. Hap has this year been honored for his work on "martian meteorites". As the possibility for a non-martian origin of SNC meteorites still exists, a curious conundrum emerges: how could Hap have done this wonderful work on something that possibly does not exist? Please help us to solve that riddle—the best three solutions will receive prizes.

Similar shortcomings in nomenclature possibly contributed to the very negative conclusion reached by John Wood in his Masursky Lecture at the L.P.S.C. in Houston last year, namely, that we do not know more about chondrule formation than was known about 150 years ago. Of course, this is an exaggeration, but there is a true kernel to it. We definitely know very much more of chondrules than did Howard, Sorby, Tschermak and others. Chondrules tell us wonderful stories and we do have detailed reports from quite a few that tell us about their adventures when traveling their world that very likely was the early solar nebula, but we cannot be sure. As each traveler (chondrule) reports somewhat different pictures on changing conditions, heat, cold, storm, sunshine, clouds, evaporation and precipitation (the same holds for reports from travelers on Earth) the overall picture signals chaos, and that's what it very likely was and a clear picture cannot be found as there was no clear situation. The missing clear picture on chondrule formation could in part also be due to the fuzziness of nomenclature. Apparently, "chondrule" is defined by each lab in a different way. Trying to find common genetic features for apples, sea urchins, eggs, pebbles, *etc.* cannot be successful. Naturally, this has also to do with our field of research being truly multidisciplinary. Even if we can read the travel reports of many chondrite constituents, inclusive chondrules, we cannot find a proper scenario that could take care of all the fatalities experienced by them. It would be simple to blame this deficit to the astronomers and astrophysicists—they carry their weight but all of us do so too.

The Meteoritical Bulletin

Jeff Grossman, the editor of the Meteoritical Bulletin for the last five years—lately together with Jutta Zipfel—unfortunately had to step down (see editorial in *Meteorit. Planet. Sci.* **36 (Suppl.)**, A6). All those of you who browse through the Bulletin or search for new meteorites know what tedious work lies behind that product. I want to thank him—in the name of the Society and the many baptized extraterrestrials—for the great job and service he has done. Fortunately, he will not be totally lost from the meteorites and us as he will continue to serve the Bulletin together with Sara Russell, Monica Grady and Jutta Zipfel. I thank all of them very much for their readiness to take care of this important but time-consuming task and I wish the new editorial board all the best.

Meteoritics & Planetary Science

The Society's journal is going very strong—thanks to the efforts of Derek Sears, the executive editor—and will this year appear, for the first time, in 12 issues. MAPS has grown from a pocket-sized journal to maturity, to a product we all can be proud of. This fact, however, induced to the editor a wish and a dream: to leave home and create his own family (see editorial in *Meteorit. Planet. Sci.* **36 (Suppl.)**, A5 and the editor's report below). The dream calls for transferring to a new journal the supplement to MAPS which contains the abstracts of the Society's Meetings, the list of new meteorites discovered, rules for baptizing meteorites and descriptions of new meteorites.

A committee headed by Gary Huss investigated this case and came to the conclusion that the Supplement to MAPS should be published as before. Both committee and Council felt strongly that the Society's journal should also serve important needs of the Society besides being a good scientific journal.

Council recognized the adult status of MAPS and created a new publications committee chaired by Hap McSween solely for MAPS. In the past, a joint publications committee of the Meteoritical Society and the Geochemical Society has advised the Councils of both Societies about GCA and MAPS. Now that MAPS has become a major planetary science journal, we have asked the joint publications committee to focus solely on GCA. The new committee will advise council to ensure a smooth evolution of MAPS and will keep a continuous exchange of opinions and ideas flowing. This shall make sure that MAPS continues to be successful, continues to improve and serve the needs of the future and the Society. It shall continue to carry unmistakably our Society's flavors and to serve the needs of meteorites—our sole window into the early solar nebula and the prime focus of our curiosity. I hope we can avoid imitating others.

Geochimica et Cosmochimica Acta

Geochimica et Cosmochimica Acta, jointly sponsored by the Geochemical Society and our Society, is the leading journal in geochemistry. Its executive editor, Frank Podosek, wants to go the opposite way to that envisioned by the MAPS editor: he wants to add a Supplement to GCA that will contain the abstracts of the annual Goldschmidt Conferences. The Council felt this to be a good idea. I agree and may add that this set-up will be beneficial to all, the journal, the meeting organizer, participants and science.

Future Meetings

Thanks to a continuing influx of invitations, the Society could allocate upcoming annual meetings well ahead of time. As of September 2001 the following list for future meetings exists:

- 2002 July 22–26, Los Angeles, USA
- 2003 July 28–August 1, Münster, Germany
- 2004, date not fixed, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil
- 2005, date not fixed, Knoxville, Tennessee, USA
- 2006, location and dates not fixed
- 2007, date not fixed, Tucson, Arizona, USA

The 2002 Awards

The nominating committees again found an excellent selection of awardees. Don Bogard will receive the Leonard Medal for "his distinguished contributions to noble gas geochemistry and the chronology of the solar system". Bevan French will receive the

Barringer Medal for "his fundamental and pioneering contributions to cratering research and for promoting the significance of this field in a variety of editorial and administrative positions". Dante Lauretta will be given the Nier Prize for "his experimental studies of iron-bearing sulfide formation in the solar system". Congratulations to all and many thanks to the nominating committees.

As the success of the nominating committee's work also depends on the input from our membership I like to ask you to send nominations for the Leonard Medal, for the Nier Prize and for fellows to Urs Krähenbühl and for the Barringer Medal to Fred Hörz or to the Secretary of the Society, Ed Scott, by January 15, 2002 (addresses below in the Secretary's report). Thank you.

The Best Student Paper Award

A joint award of the Geochemical Society and our Society was given for the first time. Natasha Johnson, Washington University, St. Louis, received it for her paper on "Water on Venus: New insights from tremolite decomposition" that appeared in *Icarus*. The award and a check for \$500 will be handed to her at this year's GSA meeting. The committee had a hard time reaching this decision and issued an honorable mention to the runner-up: Barbara Cohen, University of Tennessee, for her paper "Modeling of liquid water on CM meteorite parent bodies and implications for amino acid racemization" that appeared in *Icarus*. Congratulations to both and many thanks to the committee. Again, nominations of papers that are published in 2001 by students are needed and Dan Britt (chairman of the committee) or the Society's secretary look forward to receiving many of them before January 15, 2002.

New Council

The Nominating Committee chaired by Greg Herzog nominated the following officers and councilors of the Society for 2003–2004:

Vice President:	Herbert Palme
Secretary:	Ed Scott
Treasurer:	Kevin McKeegan
Councilors (2nd term):	Adrian Brearley Christian Koeberl Sara Russell Meenakshi Wadhwa
Councilors (1st term):	Addi Bischoff Trevor Ireland Hideyasu Kojima Mike Zolensky

Unless other nominations are received from members, these nominees will automatically be elected. I want to thank the Nomination Committee (Greg Herzog, Don Bogard, Mitsuru Ebihara, Katharina Lodders, François Robert, Rainer Wieler, and Dorothy Woolum) for their careful and tedious work. I think that they came up with a very good selection of respected persons who will lead the Society into continuing prosperity.

NASA–NRC Decadal Study

A once-in-a-life-time chance for everybody from everywhere to contribute to the future of planetary sciences has been offered by NASA and NRC (USA). Our Society is sponsoring this effort, which the Council considers to be a very important one, to set priorities for future planetary explorations. Please participate and have a look at: <http://www.aas.org/~dps/decadal>.

Now is the time to participate in programming the planetary future!

Antarctic Service Medal

Brother Guy Consolmagno, the organizer of our meeting in Roma, has been awarded the Antarctica Service Medal, an award established by the Congress of the U.S.A., for his extraordinary service in the Antarctic Search for Meteorites team. The medal, service ribbon and certificate from the National Science Foundation were given to him by Dava Sobel during the opening of the annual banquet. Congratulations from all of us!

In summary, it was a good start of my term as the president of the Society and a refreshing activity among officers and members ensures that the Society will improve and stay lively for the coming years. My letter touches only some of these subjects—there is more to come in the upcoming business meetings and my next letter. Until then I wish all of you joy and success with meteorites and their relatives and a pleasant winter.

METEORITICS AND PLANETARY SCIENCE

Editor's Report

Derek Sears

Making Society Journals Competitive

There are intrinsic difficulties to running a first-tier scientific journal that is owned by a scholarly society.

First, societies need a vehicle to inform their members about society affairs, reports of meetings, subcommittees, and so on, and they naturally tend to turn to their journal. Second, there is an almost inevitable tension between society officers and editors; witness the history of *Meteoritics & Planetary Science* and its predecessors. To some extent it is the age-old tension between the owners and editors where editorial judgment competes with the agenda of its owners. I have even known of societies where officers had an automatic right to unrefereed publication; such was their grasp on the society's journal. Third, there is invariably inconsistency in the views of elected officers as terms of office expire and others begin. Of course, to some extent this is the intention of term limits and regular elections, but this inevitably makes problems for the long-term well being of the journal. One Council advocates doing everything possible to attract a greater number of better papers, another advocates performing service functions that we know deter good papers.

This is the current state of *Meteoritics & Planetary Science*. This is my annual report. In a year in which the growth of the journal has exceeded that of all previous years—after all, we not only went to monthly publication, but we introduced a wide range of innovative and well-received electronic services—the talk is not of the success of *Meteoritics & Planetary Science*, but whether *Meteoritics & Planetary Science* should play the multiple roles required by society affairs or concentrate on publishing only first-tier peer-reviewed science articles.

The Editor and the Editorial Board feel that it is time to stop publishing abstracts and the Meteoritical Bulletin in *Meteoritics & Planetary Science*, and to allow *Meteoritics & Planetary Science* to concentrate on primary research. Their vote in Rome was unanimous. In this way, we can continue to enhance the competitiveness of the journal with the other major monthlies. Publishing a house journal, analogous to the present supplement but appearing twice a year, can then satisfy the service functions required by the Society. Economically, it is a wash, since the present supplement costs about the same as a house journal, and logistically there need be little difference from the present system, but the Meteoritical Society would

be falling into line with all the major societies that have separate science and house journals.

Sometimes it is difficult reconciling everybody's interests. Understandably, there are groups who want to see new approved meteorite names and abstracts published in the Society's premier journal. It gives these efforts greatest recognition and visibility. The editors do not want the journal used this way, but to be used only to promote the quality and quantity of research in our field. Council is split between these ends, and it takes considerable imagination and strength to put aside the local pressures for the greater good. In the short term, it will be the quality and quantity of our research that will determine the extent to which the Meteoritical Society can justly take its place alongside the major scientific societies like the AGU, AAS, and GSA. In the long run, despite the comings and goings of our meetings and committees, it is the quality and quantity of our research by which future generations will judge us. They will judge not just the journal, but also the Society who own it.

GEOCHIMICA ET COSMOCHIMICA ACTA

Executive Editor

Frank A. Podosek

Electronic GCA for Members, Authors

In the past couple of years, *Geochimica et Cosmochimica Acta* has been electronically accessible through institutional subscriptions. Beginning in 2002 it will also be electronically accessible to individual members. Exact details are yet to be arranged, but it is anticipated that the full journal will be posted on a special website maintained by Elsevier, and that society member subscribers will be given access instructions and a password when their subscription payments are acknowledged. The use of a password system will mean that access is portable (*i.e.*, subscribers will be able to access *Geochimica et Cosmochimica Acta* from any computer, not just from certain IP addresses). For 2002, access will be free, compliments of Elsevier, to individual society members who subscribe to *Geochimica et Cosmochimica Acta*.

Also beginning in 2002, authors of papers published in *Geochimica et Cosmochimica Acta* will have temporary free electronic access to *Geochimica et Cosmochimica Acta*, independently of whether or not they have individual member subscriptions (or, indeed, of whether or not they are members of either sponsoring society). The temporary access will likely be for a three-month period that includes the time at which their papers are published. Authors will be notified of this access period, and provided with a password, shortly before their papers appear in the journal. Authors can also download the files containing their own manuscripts, and thus secure an inexhaustible supply of good-quality reprints, which can be produced by printing the files.

SOCIETY AWARDS AND HONORS

The Meteoritical Society has four awards, which are presented annually. In addition the Society elects Fellows every two years.

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 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 recognizes outstanding research in meteoritics and closely allied fields by young scientists. Recipients must be under 35 years old at the end of the calendar year in which the Council

selects them. The award honors the memory of Alfred O. C. Nier, and is supported by an endowment given by Mrs. Ardis H. Nier.

The Planetary Sciences Best Student Paper Award is jointly sponsored by the Meteoritical Society and the Planetary Division of Geological Society of America. The award is for undergraduate and graduate students who are first authors of a planetary science paper published in a peer-reviewed scientific journal. The prize includes a plaque, and a cash award of \$500. Topics included under this award are 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 at the time the paper was submitted to the publishing journal. Papers published during the year 2001 will be considered for the award next year.

Award Committees

The members of the Barringer Medal Selection Committee this year were Fred Hörz (chair), Tom Ahrens, David Kring and Boris Ivanov. In 2002, Uwe Reimold will replace Tom Ahrens.

The Leonard Medal Committee, which nominates awardees for the Leonard Medal and the Nier Prize, was chaired this year by Elmar Jessberger and the other members were Urs Krähenbühl, Klaus Keil, Gregory Herzog, and Hiroko Nagahara. Next year Urs Krähenbühl will be the new chair and Marc Chaussidon will join the committee replacing Jessberger.

The Committee for the Best Student Paper Award is chaired by Dan Britt. The members representing the Meteoritical Society are Marilyn Lindstrom, Elmar Jessberger, and Iain Gilmour. Next year Ulrich Ott replaces Marilyn Lindstrom.

Nominations

Members are strongly urged to nominate candidates for the Society's awards and Fellows. Lists of previous award winners are available at the Society's website (<http://www.uark.edu/metsoc/>). Society members including members of the Council may submit nominations to the Chair of the appropriate Medal Committee or to the Secretary by January 15, 2002. Members of the Council and the Medal Committees are ineligible for consideration for the awards during their terms of office.

Nominations for the Leonard Medal and the Nier Prize should be sent to Urs Krähenbühl, Institut für Chemie und Biochemie, University of Bern, CH-3000 Bern 9, Switzerland; e-mail: kraehenbuehl@iac.unibe.ch.

Nominations for the Barringer Medal should be sent to Fred Hörz, Planetary Sciences, SN2, NASA Johnson Space Center, Houston, Texas 77058, USA; e-mail: friedrich.p.horz1@jsc.nasa.gov.

Nominations of papers published in 2001 for Best Student Paper Award should be sent to Dan Britt, Department of Geological Sciences, University of Tennessee, 306 Geological Sciences Building, Knoxville, Tennessee 37996, USA; e-mail: dbritt@utk.edu.

Nominating letters for the Leonard Medal, Nier Prize and Barringer Medal 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, (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 must 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.

Nomination for the Best Student Paper Award can be made by full members of the Meteoritical Society and Geological Society of America or their associated societies. Nominations 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 paper submittal, and a brief description of why this paper is among the best.

Fellows

Members who have distinguished themselves in meteoritics and allied sciences may be elected Fellows by the Council. Next year the Council will elect no more than 9–10 new Fellows (<1% of the Society membership) from a list prepared by the Leonard Medal Committee. Please send nominations for Fellows to the chair, Urs Krähenbühl.

ANNUAL MEETINGS

Rome 2001

Br. Guy Consolmagno, S.J.

The 64th annual meeting of the Meteoritical Society, hosted by the Vatican Observatory at the Pontifical Gregorian University on September 9–14, 2001, was notable for being the most popular meeting in the history of the society with 560 attendees, a hundred more than the previous largest meeting. And it boasted the largest number of poster and oral presentations—more than 200 of each—of any Meteoritical Society gathering.

And yet, the meeting will be remembered most for an event that happened thousands of miles away from Rome: the tragic terrorist attacks in America on September 11th, the Tuesday of our meeting week. The sad events were announced to the attendees at 5 P.M. Rome time. After a moment of silence and prayer, we continued our work in a troubled, subdued mood.

However, following Meteoritical Society custom, we had planned to dedicate Wednesday to a morning Papal Audience and afternoon tours of Rome. More than 400 tickets were distributed to our members for the papal audience. We joined a silent crowd of 50,000 gathered in St. Peter's Square, hearing the name of our society listed among those in attendance, and joining in the prayers for peace. Both listening to the Pope, and seeing the 2000 year history of Rome's tragedies and triumphs in our afternoon tours, helped put the terrible news in a perspective.

Americans at the meeting, concerned about loved ones left behind, were supported by both the good wishes of their fellow Meteoritical Society members and the outpouring of support from the Italian people. The volunteers from Alenia, Compaq, and Datamax who had set up our Internet Point kept the room open for extra hours so that people could communicate with home. The Europe-wide pause of silence on Friday noon, both on the streets and in our meeting chambers, was especially moving. This time was very healing.

Dava Sobel's Barringer Lecture, "Galileo's Daughter," at our Banquet on Thursday night helped remind us of the significance of what we do. The era of Galileo was one of terrible plagues and bitter conflict—the Thirty Years' War was the backdrop of his famous trial—and yet today all the kings and generals of that era are known only to the historians. The achievements from then that remain fixed in our memory are those of the artists and scientists: Shakespeare and Milton; Caravaggio and Bernini; Galileo and Kepler. It reminded us that our work as scientists, trying to understand the natural universe and our place in it, represents a part of the highest achievement of the human spirit, one that remains when wars and hatred are long forgotten.

As Archbishop Pittau, secretary of the Vatican's Office of Education, said in his opening remarks on Monday morning, "The pursuit of Truth is the goal of our lives, a most wonderful goal . . . This dedication to Truth is itself an act of worship." In this spirit, the attendees of this meeting worked for the search for Truth, confident that it would triumph over despair.

A brief overview of the meeting:

Our attendance of 560 included 268 regular members, 57 student members, 115 non-members, 16 student non-members, 99 guests, and 5 members of the working press.

Dan Britt and the program committee put together an outstanding array of sessions from the remarkable work of the scientists at the meeting. Including invited talks, there were 30 oral sessions, with a total of 221 oral papers, and 201 poster papers accepted for presentation. Special sessions included "Mars from the Meteorite Perspective"; "Spacecraft and Near Earth Objects"; and "Laboratory Simulations of Circumstellar Dust".

Along with the welcoming remarks of Fr. Franco Imoda, Rector of the Gregorian University, who described the rich history of science and astronomy at the University, and Archbishop Giuseppe Pittau, Secretary of the Vatican Office of Catholic Education, there were also special talks by Fr. George Coyne on the History of the Vatican Observatory; and by Roberta Olson and Jay Pasachoff on "Meteoritics as Visual Metaphors." After the meeting, Alessandro Montanari ran a very successful field trip to the Gubbio K/T boundary and impact sites in Italy. Eight members took part.

More than a third of the budget for this meeting came from grants and sponsorships. As a result, this meeting had one of the lowest registration rates in recent history. Thanks are due to the gracious donations from the Vatican Observatory, Alenia Spazio SpA, Fondazione Cassa di Risparmio di Torino, Compaq Italia, Kuoni Incoming SpA, Lunar and Planetary Institute of Houston, Agenzia Spaziale Italiana (Italian Space Agency), European Space Agency (ESA), European Industrial Engineering (EIE), and Lanteri Sergio of Cuneo. In addition, thanks in part to grants from the Barringer Foundation and also from Meteorite Magazine, we were able to distribute nearly EUR 40,000 as travel grants to 26 students and 9 other scientists from Eastern Europe.

The meeting itself was run under the firm direction of Pamela Solomon, whose invaluable experience and deep wisdom was matched by her grace and good nature. Liz Maggio did tremendous service both in handling press relations and acting as our interface with our Italian hosts; on their part, Beatrice Mirelli, Eugenio Biris and Gianfranco Fattorini of the Gregorian University and Elena Ripamonte of Kuoni Incoming Travel Agency responded to our every need in finding the facilities we needed to make the meeting run smoothly.

Six students—Mariana Cosarinsky, Olwyn Menzies, Eisuke Nahamura, Victoria Pearson, and Erin Walton, organized by Keith Millam—ran the (often balky) audiovisual equipment. They also put in tremendous service in filling in as needed in the many other tasks needed to run a meeting. In addition, Karen Stockstill was the mistress of the meeting web site, working long hours for many months before the meeting itself.

Finally, I must say a word of thanks to our volunteer help, who were absolutely indispensable for the running of this meeting. Kerry Millam and Judith Britt, who had registered as guests, stayed and worked alongside their spouses helping out in countless ways throughout the week. Elmar Jessberger, who is chairing the 2003 meeting in Münster, lent us four of his staff for this meeting: Gea McCormack, Ursula Heitmann, Thorsten Grund and Frank Bartschat. They worked nonstop, keeping the registration desk and the AV equipment working. In addition, Heide Prager came to us from Heinrich Wänke's lab in Mainz; she ran the pre-registration desk

during the hectic Sunday registration and then kept it going most of the week as well. These people volunteered their time and effort; and I have no idea how we could have run the meeting without them. They were great. I thank both them, and their institutions, for their presence at the meeting.

2002 Los Angeles

Paul Warren

The 65th meeting of the Meteoritical Society will be held in the DeNeve Plaza conference-accommodation facility on the campus of the University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA), from July 21 to 26, 2002. UCLA is located on the attractive west side of Los Angeles, amidst the affluent communities of Beverly Hills, Bel Air, Brentwood and Westwood. The Getty Center Museum is just 3 km northwest of the campus, the Pacific Ocean (Santa Monica Beach, Venice Beach) 8 km southwest, and Wilshire Boulevard's Museum Row, including the La Brea Tar Pits, is 8 km east. The Los Angeles entertainment industry, center for much of 21st century world culture (like it or not!), is concentrated in the nearby communities of Century City, Hollywood, Burbank, *etc.* Farther afield, but still within 1–2 hours drive distance, are such attractions as Disneyland, the scenic Malibu to Santa Barbara coast, and portions of the San Gabriel (3000 m) mountains. The southernmost Sierra Nevada, including groves of giant redwood trees, can be reached in about 4 highway hours.

DeNeve Plaza is new. It has opened in stages during 2000–2001, and is scheduled to become fully operational by January 2002. It features a 430-seat lecture auditorium and, across a lobby, another large meeting room. Technical sessions will be held Monday morning through Friday noon, with the exception of Wednesday afternoon, when some type of excursion, perhaps to the Getty, will be arranged. Poster displays will probably be set up in the lobby area, in two groups, remaining up for two days each. Taking advantage of the always fine July weather in Westwood, the welcoming reception will be given at an outdoor site on the UCLA campus. We also plan to hold the banquet outdoors, either (we hope) at the Getty, or at a different UCLA location.

Four DeNeve residential buildings offer a total of 600 air-conditioned rooms, all with daily maid service and hotel-style amenities: private bathroom, cable TV, *etc.* Anticipated rates, including full breakfast in DeNeve's upscale cafeteria, are \$102 for single occupancy and \$120 for double occupancy. Thriftier participants may save about 40% in a regular dorm (no private bath, no air conditioning). Those bringing families might prefer a "suite" located a pleasant 500 m walk from DeNeve. The suites lack air conditioning. All residential guests have complimentary access, via a short walk, to UCLA's Olympic-quality recreational facilities: swimming pools, tennis courts, *etc.* Parking for rental cars will cost \$6 per day.

For participants who insist upon staying in a "real" hotel, we will arrange group accommodation at several local hotels. As a sampling of the anticipated rates (discounts and taxes included, for comparison *vs.* DeNeve), the Westwood Doubletree Hotel will cost \$170/night (double rate same as single); the Hilgard House, \$130 single, \$141 double. Unfortunately, only one of these hotels, the 47-room Hilgard House, is within a reasonable walk (1.6 km street distance) of DeNeve.

UCLA also operates a frequent shuttle service between the campus and Westwood Village. An attractive feature of the West LA region is the diversity of world, especially Asian and Middle Eastern, cuisines that are very authentically represented by moderate-priced local restaurants. Of course, this culinary advantage is a byproduct of the area's great ethnic diversity.

UCLA is 18 (highway) km from Los Angeles International Airport (LAX). In July, traffic in the UCLA area tends to be light, by Los Angeles standards. Air quality in western Los Angeles is uniformly

good, for an area so close to a city center. Prevailing westerly breezes convey pollutants toward the downtown and eastern sections of the LA basin. Temperatures are also moderated by the Pacific Ocean. For 21–26 July, UCLA daytime highs average 24.7 °C (76.5 °F), 5 °C cooler than downtown Los Angeles; the highest temperature on record since 1955 is 33 °C (91 °F). Diurnal temperature variation is great: early morning lows for 21–26 July average 16.3 °C (61 °F). Julys are practically rain-free.

We tentatively plan to arrange a weekend field trip to northern Arizona, to visit Meteor Crater, Sunset Crater, and the South Rim of the Grand Canyon.

For further information, please contact: Dr. Paul H. Warren, Institute of Geophysics & Planetary Physics, UCLA, Los Angeles, CA 90095-1567, USA; e-mail pwarren@ucla.edu; phone: 310-825-3202; fax: 310-206-3051.

2003 Münster

Elmar K. Jessberger

The Institut für Planetologie invites the Meteoritical Society for its 66th Annual Meeting from July 28th to August 1st 2003 in Münster in the beautifully flat northwest of Germany.

The Institut für Planetologie performs teaching and research in Planetary Sciences with a particularly interdisciplinary approach including physical, geochemical, geological, geophysical, and mineralogical methods. The Institut für Planetologie is the only institute with the outspoken designation planetology in the German speaking world. It is actively involved in space experiments. Visit our web-site: <http://ifp.uni-muenster.de>.

Münster, the city of the Westphalian Peace Treaty in 1648 that ended the Thirty Years' war in Europe, is well suited for a Meteoritical Society meeting: Münster is a city of administration, courts (Oberverwaltungsgericht), high technology (BASF) and academia. Actually, our people—280,000—are rather bourgeois. Two-thirds of the employed people are civil servants and other white-collar employees. Münster serves as a store for about 1.4 million people from the city and its environs. The Westfälische Wilhelms-Universität with about 46,000 students is the third largest in Germany. More than 20% of Münster's inhabitants are students. Thus, our people are rather young.

The meeting will be held in a renovated lecture hall building reserved for the meeting that is situated next to the Schloß—built in 1773—that belongs to the University. The fee will be kept low since the meeting will be held in an academic environment. The Schloßgarten is available for informal gatherings and picnic lunches. A suitable place for the annual banquet on Thursday has been reserved for up to 350 eaters. Churches for a planned evening concert are plenty. In the Münsterland there are "100" water castles—from medieval to Rococo and classicist—awaiting the visit of the meteoriticists for the Wednesday afternoon trip. Alternatively, the transformation of the heavy-industry Ruhr area to a high-tech and art area may be of interest for a full-day Wednesday excursion.

Münster is easily reached by plane—Flughafen Münster-Osnabrück 20 km from the city—and train (Intercity) as well as by car (Autobahn). Special airfares to nearby Amsterdam already were asked for (e.g., KLM from US, CN and GUS: \$470*; GB: \$350; F: \$230; JP: \$700; AUS: \$1000) and will be negotiated again. (*All prices are as of 1998.)

Within the Altstadt—the city center inside a circular park, the Promenade with a diameter of 1,200 m—are about 1,000 hotel beds priced between \$80* and \$50*. A youth hostel is also available (\$40 for two). Münster is the capital of bikers—2.4 bikes per head—and accordingly about 8,000 bike thefts per year. A bike rental will be organized. A (rented) car would be an encumbrance. Better bring your roller skates! A convenient bus system is serving the city of Münster as well as its environs.

We will explore for pre- or post-meeting excursions open coal mining in the Ruhrgebiet or near Aachen, the Eifel with its volcanic Maare, the Wattenmeer (mud flats) of the North Sea in Northern Germany and include some German and Dutch cities. Certainly, the Nördlinger Ries Crater will be a target for the young members who have never been there—as well as for the more mature ones who want to refresh their memories.

Participants will choose of the guest program among guided tours through Münster with its churches and palaces from the fifteenth to the eighteenth century, the All-Weather-Zoo, the Planetarium, canoeing on the river Werse, a visit of Warendorf with its horse breeding center, the water castles and much more...

Two excerpts of typical Münsteriana from the time of the Westphalian Peace Treaty still hold today:

You are the gem of Westphalia, Mimigarda¹, and still I have called you 'home of the rain'. Please excuse! But from my own experience I know that this judgement is not unfair because since six years now I am here and experienced you only in permanent rain...But actually the kind heaven does you a favor: you have to imagine that the earth is thirsty and the heaven itself reaches a mug down to drink...

To drink there generally is a brew of fermented barley; drinkable only if bitter hop is added. It is called "beer"... One beverage, however, is strictly forbidden: Water (who would have thought?). It is really regarded as a crime to drink pure water. Wine can be afforded only by a few... but to mix it with water would be a sin and beneath a real German; who would do that would be viewed totally degenerate.

¹The first name of Münster given by the saxonians who founded a settlement between the fifth and seventh century A.D. In 793 A.D. Karl der Große ordered the monk Liudger to build a *Monasterium* from which the city inherited its present name.

FINANCES

Treasurer's Report

Tim Swindle

As of June 30, 2001, the Society had total assets of \$431,771, including \$96,743 in operating accounts, \$258,870 in Endowment accounts, and \$76,158 in special purpose accounts, including the Nier fund and royalties from *Geochimica et Cosmochimica Acta*. This is down nearly \$29,000, from \$460,584 one year earlier. The bulk of the difference was due to losses in investments. The operating budget appears to be very close to balanced. More details are available in the Treasurer's Report that was presented to the Society Council at its meeting in Rome, and is available to members upon request to the Treasurer.

Because the royalties from *Geochimica et Cosmochimica Acta* provide a cushion, we are budgeting for 2002 based on a balanced budget (no surplus), so we will be able to hold dues to an increase of approximately 10%, to \$110 for regular members, \$55 for retired or student members. You should receive next year's dues statement soon, if you have not already.

As of September 25, 2001, the Society had 975 members who had paid for 2001, although more than 200 of those are either retired or student members. We have members with mailing addresses in 35 nations around the world. Membership remains almost evenly split between the United States (495) and the rest of the world. Germany and Japan each have approximately 100 members, while France, Switzerland and the United Kingdom all have 40 to 50.

Many members of the Society made generous gifts during the period between November 2000 and August 2001, and we thank them all. These gifts have enabled the organizers of our Annual Meetings to offer travel grants to students and funded various projects that are described by Hap McSween in the Endowment Fund Report below.

The Society is particularly indebted to the extraordinary gifts from the Barringer family, and from William Welbon.

The Society offers its thanks many members who have contributed to the general endowment fund (*), the special fund to provide subscriptions to libraries in former eastern bloc countries (†), or both. The following members have contributed \$98 or more during the past year:

Evans H. Burn*, Walliam A. Cassidy*, Ghislaine Crozaz*†, Henry Price Deyerle, Jr.*, Bevan M. French*, Monica M. Grady*, William Greenberg*, Roderick W. Leonard*, Ursula B. Marvin*, Edward Olsen*, Thomas D. Palmer*, Robert O. Pepin*†, Sara S. Russell*†, Philip Goodenow Rust Jr.*, Calvin Leroy Shipbaugh*†, Carolyn S. Shoemaker*†, J. T. Wasson*, and William W. Welbon*†,

The Society also appreciates gifts from the following:

Edward Anders*, Charles E. S. Arps*†, Rudolf Auth*, David J. Barber*, F. Begemann*†, John L. Berkley*, Milton Blander*, Giuseppe Bonino*, H. W. Bottcher*, Robin Brett*†, Stephan A. Brodt*, Alfredo Brogioni*†, Vagn F. Buchwald*, Patrick Cassen*, Roy S. Clarke, Jr.*, Herbert Csadek*, Paul S. De Carli*, Vincenzo Demichele*, Donald Keith Dickson*, Noel Eberz*, Wolfgang E. Elston†, Wolf von Engelhardt*, Takaaki Fukuoka*, Michael J. Gaffey*†, James D. Gilmour*, Billy P. Glass*†, David P. Gold*†, George E. Harlow*, Richard W. Harper*, Jan Hertogen*, Dorrit Hoffleit*, Eugene J. Hoffman*†, Robert Hutchison*†, Yukio Ikeda*, Anthony John Jeffries*, Michael Jensen*†, Elmar K. Jessberger*†, Lindsay P. Keller*, Charles Kenknight*†, Candace Phelps Kohl*†, Truman P. Kohman*, Hans Kramer*, James K. Krieger*†, Karla Elizabeth Kuebler*†, Jean-Claude Lorin*, Stanley G. Love*†, Gunter W. Lugmair*†, J. Douglas Macdougall*, Kurt Marti*†, Brian Mason*†, Bradley S. Meyer*, Daniel J. Milton*, John W. Morgan*, Barbara L. Narendra*, Ardis H. Nier*†, Takaaki Noguchi*, John D. Obradovich*†, Minoru Ozima*, Bill Peck*, Carle M. Pieters*†, Lee Plansky*, Richard Norman Pugh*, George W. Reed, Jr.*, Robert C. Reedy*†, Bo Reipurth*, Gary Peter Rooke*, Gerald L. Rowland*, John A. Russell*, Edward R. D. Scott*†, Lawrence A. Taylor*, Michael A. Velbel*, Carol Molini Velsko*†, Stanislav Vrana*, Dorothea S. Welbon*†, Kees Welten*†, Laurel L. Wilkening*, Walter Zeitschel*, and Anna Zezulova*.

If you have any questions about your dues or membership status, the easiest and fastest way to reach me is by email: tswindle@u.arizona.edu.

Endowment Fund

Hap McSween
Investments Committee Chair

The value of securities in which the Meteoritical Society invests its Endowment Fund decreased over the past year, in step with a

worldwide economic slump. This may seem like an inappropriate time to ask you to consider making a donation to the Endowment Fund. However, the time to acquire mutual funds is when their prices are depressed. If you take a long-term view, this is actually the best time to make a contribution, because its value is likely to increase significantly when the market turns around. Please consider adding a gift for the Endowment Fund to your annual dues payment—there will never be a better time.

Over the past year, the Council has approved expenditures of Endowment Funds to support a number of initiatives. A new Best Student Paper Award, co-sponsored by the Planetary Geology Division of the Geological Society of America, has been established, and the first winner was announced in Rome. An effort by Ursula Marvin to interview Meteoritical Society members as part of an historical study is underway. Funds were approved for a public education effort to increase meteorite recoveries in Canada. And funds were made available to match generous donations from the Barringer Crater Company and G. J. Wasserburg for MAPS subscriptions to libraries in former Soviet-bloc countries.

OTHER COMMITTEES AND ACTIVITIES

Meteoritical Bulletin

Sara Russell

The new Editors of the Meteoritical Bulletin are Sara Russell, Monica Grady, Jutta Zipfel and Jeff Grossman. Meteorite submissions should be sent in the first instance to: Sara Russell, Department of Mineralogy, The Natural History Museum, Cromwell Road, London, SW7 5BD, U.K.; fax: +44 20 7942 5537; phone: +44 20 7942 5074; e-mail: meteorite@nhm.ac.uk or *via* the WWW at <http://www.uark.edu/metsoc/bullform.htm>.

Society Web site

Paul Benoit continues to update the Society's web site at <http://www.uark.edu/metsoc/>. We are very grateful for his services to the Society. The site contains full instructions for submitting nominations for medals and fellows, names of past winners, minutes of Council meetings, links to other meetings of interest, members' own websites, and much other useful information.

Society Archives

In June 2000, nine banker boxes of Society archives were transferred from Arizona State University to the Smithsonian Institution. Since then Roy Clarke has been trying to organize the archives and weed out documents of no archival value. He hopes to develop a system of files to make the archives more useful. Clarke and the SI Assistant Archivist will work to develop guidelines to help determine what materials are deposited in the future. The Council appointed Tim McCoy as the Society's contact person to take responsibility for future transfers to the Archives.

THE CONSTITUTION OF THE METEORITICAL SOCIETY

ARTICLE 1 – NAME, PURPOSE, AND SCOPE

1. The name of this Society shall be THE METEORITICAL SOCIETY.
2. The purpose of this Society shall be to promote research and education in planetary science with emphasis on studies of meteorites and other extraterrestrial materials that further our understanding of the origin and history of the solar system.
3. This Society, in its membership and activities, shall be an international organisation.

ARTICLE 2 – MEMBERS AND FELLOWS

1. Those persons who joined this organisation on or before August 22, 1933 shall constitute the charter members of the Society. The charter members and such other persons as may subsequently be elected to membership shall constitute the members of the Society. Persons interested in furthering the purpose of the Society may, on application, be elected to membership by the Council.
2. Members who have distinguished themselves in meteoritics or allied sciences may be elected Fellows by the Council. Fellows shall be elected in even-numbered years. The number which may be elected during an even-numbered year shall not exceed one percent of the current membership of the Society, rounded to the next highest integer.
3. Bylaws shall be adopted to regulate the nomination and the election of members and Fellows and any matters pertaining to them for which this Constitution does not expressly provide.

ARTICLE 3 – COUNCIL (OFFICERS AND COUNCILORS)

1. The Officers of the Society shall consist of a President, the immediate Past President, a Vice-President, a Secretary, and a Treasurer who shall discharge, in addition to the duties specifically assigned them by this Constitution and Bylaws, all the duties customarily pertaining to their office.
2. The Council of the Society shall consist of the Officers and eight Councilors. The Council shall be charged with the administration of all the affairs of the Society for which the Constitution or the Bylaws do not otherwise provide. The President and the Secretary of the Society shall be respectively the chairman and the secretary of the Council; together with the Treasurer, they shall constitute a standing Executive Committee to act, ad interim, upon all matters affecting the welfare of the Society that, in their judgement, do not call for submission to the entire Council; but all the transactions of this Executive Committee except those expressly authorised by the Constitution or the Bylaws shall be reported to the Council at its next following meeting.
3. An election of Officers and Councilors of the Society shall be held each even-numbered year. Nominations for Officers and Councilors shall be prepared by a Nominating Committee of six members. The members and chair shall be proposed by the President following consultations with other members of the Executive Committee and approved by Council prior to April 1 of each odd-numbered year and shall hold office until the close of the next election. For each office to be filled in a given election, the Nominating Committee shall nominate one candidate whom it has verified to be qualified and willing to serve in that office. The slate so nominated shall be mailed to all members of the Society before December 1 of an odd-numbered year. A nomination for any

specific position may subsequently be made by at least 3% of the Society's members in good standing who shall verify that the candidate is qualified and willing to serve in that office. Nominations by members must be received by the Secretary no later than February 15 of the even-numbered year.

If no candidates are nominated other than those nominated by the Nominating Committee, the Secretary shall be empowered to declare these candidates elected by affirmation. If other candidates are nominated, then a ballot shall be prepared listing the names of candidates for contested positions and mailed to each member of the Society in good standing before April 15 of the even-numbered year. These ballots, if returned to the Secretary by June 15 in a way that allows the secrecy of the ballot to be preserved and identifies the voter as a member of the Society shall be counted.

The new Officers and Councilors shall take office on January 1 of odd-numbered years.

4. The Vice-President shall automatically accede to the Presidency upon the end of the President's two-year term, or earlier if the office of the President should be vacated. The Council shall appoint one of its members to fill a vacancy in the Vice-Presidency; if a Vice-President appointed by the Council accedes to the Presidency, he shall succeed himself only if nominated by the regularly constituted Nominating Committee and elected by the membership of the Society.
5. The term of the Council shall be two years in length.
6. No person shall hold simultaneously more than one position in the Council. The President shall vote only when necessary to break a tie.
7. No person who has been elected to and has assumed the office of President shall ever afterwards be eligible for that office, nor for the office of Vice-President. No person who has served two terms as Councilor, or three terms as Secretary or Treasurer shall be eligible for the same position until the expiration of four years after the end of his last term in office.
8. Vacancies in the position of Secretary, Treasurer or Councilor shall be filled by appointment by the Council.

ARTICLE 4 – PUBLICATIONS

1. The official journals of the Society shall be
 - a. *Meteoritics and Planetary Science*, sponsored by the Society alone, and
 - b. *Geochimica et Cosmochimica Acta*, which is also sponsored by the Geochemical Society.
2. The Council shall appoint an Editor for *Meteoritics and Planetary Science* who shall serve at the pleasure of the Council.

ARTICLE 5 – AMENDMENTS AND BYLAWS

1. This Constitution may be amended only at the proposal of the Council and by mail ballot. A ballot for each proposed amendment shall be mailed by the Secretary to each member of the Society in good standing. In order that it be adopted, each proposed amendment must receive at least two-thirds of all votes cast.
2. The Council may enact, annul and amend Bylaws as appropriate and necessary for carrying out the Society's business. Any proposed amendment of the Bylaws shall be mailed to the Council at least one month before a regular meeting. It shall then be deemed adopted if it receives the votes of two-thirds of

the entire Council. Council members unable to attend may submit their votes in advance of this meeting.

Bylaws of the Meteoritical Society

ARTICLE 1 – NOMINATIONS AND ELECTIONS OF MEMBERS, COUNCILORS AND OFFICERS

1. Any applicant who is in sympathy with the purposes of the Society may be elected by unanimous vote of the Executive Committee or by majority vote of the Council.
2. Any member who has made improper use of his membership or whose connection with the Society is regarded as detrimental to it may be expelled from the Society by at least a three-fourths vote of the entire Council.
3. The Nominations Committee shall operate under rules approved by the Council. It shall submit to the Council its slate of candidates for Officers and Councilors prior to September 1 of the odd-numbered year. When the Council is satisfied that the candidates were selected in accordance with the Constitution, Bylaws, and Committee rules, it shall authorize the Secretary to submit the slate to the members. Brief biographies of the candidates and a statement from the nominee for Vice-President shall be mailed to members by December 1.
4. Members of the Nominating Committee shall be selected to ensure balance with regard to age, area of expertise, and geographic representation. The Committee Chair should be an experienced member of the Society who understands the duties of the Officers and Councilors. Members of the current Council cannot serve on the Nominating Committee. The Nominating Committee cannot nominate any of its members to be Officers or Councilors.
5. If ballots are mailed to members of the Society with three or more candidates for any office except Councilor, members shall rank those candidates in order of their preference. If no candidate has a clear majority of first-place votes, the candidate with the fewest first-place votes shall be eliminated. The second-place votes on ballots of members who gave their first-place votes to the eliminated candidate shall then be added to the first-place votes of the candidates still in contention. This process shall be repeated until one candidate has a clear majority.

ARTICLE 2 – DUTIES OF MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL

1. Members elected to positions in the Council are expected to attend official Council meetings.
2. The Secretary shall be responsible for informing the Society membership of important actions of the Council. The Secretary shall conduct all elections and inform members of the results. The Secretary shall coordinate activities between the Council and those Society committees provided for in the Constitution and Bylaws. The Secretary, in coordination with the Treasurer, shall maintain the Society membership list, records of all official actions of the Council, and all changes made to the Constitution and Bylaws of the Society.
3. The Treasurer shall keep accounts showing all the receipts and expenditures of money belonging to the Society and all the financial transactions of his office. The Treasurer shall be responsible for the collection of membership dues and other income and for the payment of legitimate Society debts. Any member of the Executive Committee shall possess authority to spend up to five percent of available Society funds for an appropriate Society function. The Treasurer shall present a summary of the financial status of the Society to Council at least

once a year. The Council may, upon request, obtain all detailed financial records from the Treasurer.

4. At the beginning of each term, Council shall appoint a Deputy Treasurer who will temporarily assume the Treasurer's duties when the latter is unable to perform them, continuing until the Treasurer is able to resume his/her duties or until a new Treasurer has been appointed by Council. The Deputy Treasurer is not a member of the Council.

ARTICLE 3 – FINANCE

1. Any member in good standing may become a life member by the payment of a fee equal to twenty times the annual dues then in force. A life member shall be exempt from the payment of annual dues.
2. The annual dues shall be fixed by the Council and payable to the Treasurer on the date of election and prior to January 1 of each year thereafter. Payment of the life membership fee or of the annual dues shall entitle a member to all the rights of membership including that to receive the official notices and certain publications of the Society, free of charge or at a reduced rate.
3. Any member who is more than three months in arrears shall be dropped from the Society. The Council shall, for cause, and on the recommendation of its Executive Committee, have the authority to suspend any part of this Bylaw in behalf of a defaulting member in the first year of his default.

ARTICLE 4 – MEETINGS OF THE SOCIETY

1. The Council shall determine the time and place of each meeting of the Society. If possible, at least one meeting shall be held each year, for the delivery of scientific papers, addresses and other communications, and for the transaction of any business that may come before the Society. The Secretary will ensure that notice of each meeting shall be mailed to each member in good standing at least four months prior to the opening date of the meeting.
2. Arrangements for each of the Society's meetings shall be made by an Organising Committee and a Program Committee, which are appointed by the Council. Both committees have the right to co-opt additional members. The Organising Committee shall include a member from a previous year's committee and the Vice-President of the Society (who will be President at the time of the meeting).
3. The Society will provide a loan toward meeting expenses, in an amount set by Council. The Organising Committee shall raise additional funds, especially for student travel grants, and shall submit a tentative budget to the Treasurer for approval. Meetings are expected to be self-supporting, but the Society shall maintain a reserve fund, financed from meeting surpluses, from which Council can cover deficits that it judges to be justified.
4. At each meeting, fifty or more members shall constitute a quorum.
5. Procedures during business meetings of the Society shall be governed by Robert's Rules of Order.

ARTICLE 5 – MEETINGS OF THE COUNCIL

1. A meeting of the Council shall be held in connection with each meeting of the Society.
2. The President shall convoke the Council in special meeting, at a time and place to be determined by the Executive Committee whenever, in the judgement of the Committee, the affairs of the Society require it. For urgent issues, the Committee can authorise mail or fax ballots, preceded by informal discussion, in lieu of a

special meeting. The vote on such a ballot is subject to review at the next regular Council meeting.

3. A request in writing addressed to the President by four or more members of the Council shall render the convocation of the Council obligatory within three months after the date such request is received and at a time and a place to be determined by the Executive Committee.
4. Advance notice of each special meeting, which shall include a statement of the nature of the business to be transacted at the meeting, shall be prepared at the direction of the President and transmitted by the Secretary, by mail, facsimile or telephone at the earliest possible date, to each member of the Council.
5. If the President cannot attend a meeting of the Council, he shall appoint from the Council a temporary chairman who will serve in his stead. Should he fail to do this, the Council shall elect a temporary chairman.
6. At each meeting, regular or special, five or more Council members shall constitute a quorum. The President, or in his absence the temporary chairman, may invite other members of the Society to sit with the Council, but any action approved by fewer members of the Council than four shall be subject to ratification by at least a majority vote, taken by the Secretary by mail or facsimile, of the entire Council.
7. Any notice required or permitted by the bylaws to be given to members of Council may be given by mail, facsimile or telephone.
8. Council members unable to attend a meeting of Council, or to participate in decisions without a meeting, may vote by proxy. The proxy, issued to another member of Council, may be general (all matters to come before the meeting) or specific (relate to one issue or topic) and is valid for three months. The proxy, signed and dated by the councillor delegating his vote, must be given to the chairman before the start of business.
9. Procedure during Council meetings shall be governed by Robert's Rules of Order.

ARTICLE 6 – LEONARD MEDAL

1. The Leonard Medal of the Society shall be awarded to individuals who have made outstanding, original contributions to the science of meteoritics directly or through work in closely allied fields of research.
2. The Leonard Medal Committee shall consist of five members serving five-year terms, which are staggered such that one term expires each calendar year. No member of the Council may serve on the Committee. Vacancies on the Committee shall be filled by appointments made by the President. Each year the President shall designate one member of the Committee to serve as chairman. The Committee shall operate under rules approved by the Council.
3. Six weeks prior to the annual meeting of the Society, the Committee shall submit to the Secretary documented nominations for its first and second choice for recipient of the Leonard Medal to be awarded at the next following annual meeting. The Secretary shall distribute copies to Council members at least one month prior to the Council meeting. Final selection of the Leonard Medallist shall be made by Council, with at least a two-thirds vote of all voting Council members present.

ARTICLE 7 – PUBLICATIONS COMMITTEE

1. A Publications Committee shall be constituted jointly by the Meteoritical Society and the Geochemical Society for the purpose of overseeing the publications of the two Societies.
2. The Committee shall consist of six members who serve three-year terms. Two terms shall expire each year. Members of the

Committee shall be jointly appointed by the Presidents of the two Societies, in consultation with the Editors and the Chairman of the Committee. The Presidents of the Meteoritical Society and the Geochemical Society and the Editors of *Geochimica et Cosmochimica Acta*, *Meteoritics and Planetary Science* and the *Special Publications Series of the Geochemical Society* shall be ex-officio members of the Committee. At all times, at least two Committee members shall have been nominated by each Society.

3. The officers of the Joint Publications Committee of the Geochemical and Meteoritical Societies shall include a Chairman, a Vice Chairman and a Financial Officer who are appointed for two year terms. No later than four months before the expiration of the term, an *ad hoc* Nominating Committee, chaired by the Executive Editor of *Geochimica et Cosmochimica Acta* and including the two Society Presidents, shall proceed to nominate successors for approval by the two Councils. The incumbents are eligible for renomination.
4. The ex-officio members shall be invited to take part in all discussions and their views shall be included in decisions made by consensus. However they do not have formal voting rights, except for Editors when the issue directly concerns their own publications.
5. The Publications Committee has the following responsibilities:
 - a. To advise the Editors of the Societies' journals and the *Special Publications Series of the Geochemical Society*, and to monitor the journals and the *Special Publications* on a continuing basis.
 - b. To approve new Associate Editors following their nomination by the responsible Editor and to review their performance annually.
 - c. To negotiate contracts with the journals' publishers. Such contracts, and subsequent changes therein, must be ratified by the Councils.
 - d. To advise the Societies on any matter concerning publication. In particular, the Publication Committee's Financial Officer shall monitor the finances of *Geochimica et Cosmochimica Acta* and *Meteoritics and Planetary Science* and provide the Councils of the two Societies with budget figures so that the Councils can approve subscription rates for the next year in a timely fashion.
 - e. To mediate conflicts between an Editor and authors. Such mediation may be initiated at either the author's or the Editor's request, but the final decision will reside with the Editor.
 - f. To review the state of *Geochimica et Cosmochimica Acta* every three years and *Meteoritics and Planetary Science* every four years in conjunction with the (re)nomination of the respective Editor.
6. The Committee shall formulate rules appropriate to its function subject to ratification by the Councils of both Societies.

ARTICLE 8 – EDITOR OF METEORITICS AND PLANETARY SCIENCE

1. The term of the editor of *Meteoritics and Planetary Science* shall be four years. New terms shall begin on January 1 of years that are multiples of four. An Editor may succeed himself/herself.
2. The Publications Committee shall evaluate the record of the current Editor, nominate an editor for the next term, and report this evaluation and nomination to the Council. Final selection of the Editor shall be made by Council 18 months prior to the expiration of the current term.
3. The Editor of *Meteoritics and Planetary Science* shall seek the advice of the Publications Committee before making any substantive changes in the operation or format of the journal.
4. The Editor of *Meteoritics and Planetary Science* shall seek the advice of the Board of Associate Editors in deciding whether or not to publish memorials for specific individuals.

ARTICLE 9 – EDITOR OF GEOCHIMICA ET COSMOCHIMICA ACTA

1. The term of Editor of *Geochimica et Cosmochimica Acta* shall be three years. An Editor may succeed himself/herself.
2. The Publications Committee shall evaluate the record of the current Editor, nominate an Editor for the next term, and report this evaluation and nomination to the Council. Final selection of the Editor shall be made by the Councils of the Meteoritical and Geochemical Society upon recommendations of the Committee on Publications approximately 18 months prior to the expiration of the current term.
3. The Editor of *Geochimica et Cosmochimica Acta* shall seek the advice of the Committee on Publications before making any substantive changes in the operation or format of the Journal.

ARTICLE 10 – ELECTION OF FELLOWS

1. Article 2.2 of the Constitution describes the election of Fellows. The Leonard Medal Committee is charged with preparing a list of Society members whom they propose for election as Society Fellows.
2. The means of selecting candidates for Fellow shall be determined by the Leonard Medal Committee. To aid the Committee in identifying candidates, the Council shall publish yearly a solicitation for Fellow nominations from the Society membership. The Committee shall prepare a slate of Fellow candidates, which may be of any length, but normally will be a length equal to one percent of the Society membership rounded up to the next highest integer. This slate shall be submitted to Council prior to its annual meeting held in conjunction with the Society meeting in even-numbered years.
3. Members of the Council and of the Leonard Medal Committee are not eligible for election as Fellows during their term of office.
4. The Council shall elect Fellows only from the slate of candidates submitted by the Leonard Medal Committee. Election as a Fellow shall require at least a two-thirds vote of all voting Council members present. The number of Fellows elected shall not exceed the number of candidates submitted by the Committee or one percent of the Society membership (rounded up), whichever is the smaller number.
5. An announcement of Fellows who have been elected shall be made during the annual meeting of the Society and shall be published in *Meteoritics and Planetary Science*.

ARTICLE 11 – BARRINGER MEDAL

1. The Meteoritical Society administers the Barringer Medal and Award program, created in memory of D. Moreau Barringer Sr. and his son D. Moreau Barringer Jr. The program is sponsored by the Barringer Crater Company. The Barringer Medal recognises outstanding work in the field of impact cratering, and/or work that has led to a better understanding of impact phenomena. The Medal shall be presented during each annual meeting of the Society.
2. A Barringer Medal Selection Committee shall consist of four Society members appointed by the President, one of whom shall be nominated by the Barringer Crater Company. The Committee members shall serve staggered, four-year terms. The Chairman is appointed by the President for a one-year term.
3. Nominations for the Barringer Medal shall be solicited from Society members through annual announcements in *Meteoritics and Planetary Science*. The means of selecting a candidate for

the Barringer Medal shall be determined by the Selection Committee. The Committee shall present its candidate for the Medal, along with supporting documentation, to the Council at the annual meeting. Concurrence of the selection by the Council shall be by two-thirds of all voting members present.

ARTICLE 12 – METEORITE NOMENCLATURE COMMITTEE

1. The Meteorite Nomenclature Committee shall be responsible for establishing guidelines for the naming of meteorites, for the approval of new names, for decisions regarding pairing or separation of meteorites previously named, and for dissemination of this information by publishing the Meteoritical Bulletin in *Meteoritics and Planetary Science*.
2. The Meteorite Nomenclature Committee shall consist of the Vice-President of the Society, the Editor of the Meteoritical Bulletin, the Editor of the *Catalogue of Meteorites* of The Natural History Museum, London and 12 other members nominated by the Chair of the Nomenclature Committee and appointed by the President. Appointed members shall serve a three year term and may be re-appointed for an additional three year term. Individuals may be re-nominated for additional terms after a three-year hiatus in their service on the Committee. A minimum of three terms shall expire each year. The membership of the Committee shall be chosen to provide a balance among researchers, curators and field workers, and to provide a balanced representation from those countries having high meteorite recovery rates.
3. The President shall designate one of the appointed members to serve as chairman of the committee. Chairmen shall serve two year terms ending on December 31 of odd-numbered years.
4. The term of the Editor of the Meteoritical Bulletin shall be four years. An Editor may succeed himself/herself for a maximum of one additional term. One year before the end of an Editor's term the President shall nominate an ad hoc committee to nominate an Editor for the next term. Final selection of the Editor shall be made by Council.
5. The Committee shall formulate rules appropriate to its function. These rules shall be official following ratification by the Council.

ARTICLE 13 – NIER PRIZE

1. The Nier Prize honours the memory of Alfred O. Nier and is supported by Mrs Ardis H. Nier. This award shall be given for a significant research contribution in the field of meteoritics and closely allied fields of research; the award recognises individual research or research done in a small group in which the awardee played the leading role. 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.
2. Nominations for the Nier Prize will be solicited by the Leonard Medal Committee. At each annual meeting of the Society, the Committee shall present to the Council documented nominations for its first and second choices for recipient of the Nier prize to be awarded at the next following annual meeting. Final selection of the Nier Prize recipient shall be made by the Council.

ARTICLE 14 – INVESTMENTS COMMITTEE

1. The duties of the Investments Committee are:
 - (a) To serve as trustees for the Meteoritical Society Endowment Fund (MSEF). Responsibilities include accepting and acknowledging contributions to the MSEF, managing the

endowment funds, promoting the MSEF and issuing a report to the Meteoritical Society Council annually.

(b) To advise the Treasurer on the management of other Society monies and properties, such as the Nier Fund, Society income and other funds that may be established by the Council.

2. The Committee shall consist of five members, at least four of which must be Meteoritical Society members. The Society Treasurer is also an *ex officio* member of the Committee. Members are appointed by the President for three-year terms, and may be re-appointed without limit. The President shall designate one of the members to serve as chair.
3. The Committee may recommend expenditures from the MSEF and other funds. Final approval of expenditures will be made by the Meteoritical Society Council.
4. The Committee shall formulate rules appropriate to its function. These rules shall be official following ratification by the Council.

ARTICLE 15 – PLANETARY SCIENCE BEST STUDENT PAPER AWARD

1. The Planetary Science Best Student Paper Award shall be awarded to the graduate or undergraduate student who, in the opinion of the Selection Committee, the Meteoritical Society Council, and appropriate representatives of the other sponsoring societies, submitted as first author the best planetary science paper published

in a peer-reviewed scientific journal during the previous year. The topics included for this Award are asteroids, comets, craters, interplanetary dust, interstellar medium, lunar samples, meteors, meteorites, natural satellites, planets, tektites, and the origin and history of the solar system.

2. The Selection Committee for this Award shall consist of three members serving staggered three-year terms from each of the sponsoring societies. The Committee members from the Meteoritical Society shall be appointed by the President of the Meteoritical Society. The Committee shall operate under rules approved by the Council.
3. The Committee shall present its candidate for the Award, along with supporting documentation to the Council one month before the annual meeting. Concurrence of the selection by the Council shall be by two-thirds of all voting members present.

The Constitution was last revised in March 2001 (Article 1.2, 3.3, and 5.2) and March 1993 (Article 3.3).

Since the Bylaws were last published in the Newsletter in 1994, they have been revised as follows: Article 1 (September 2001), Article 12 (March 1999), Article 13 (July 1995), Article 14 (July 1996), Article 15 (August 2000). Articles 7–9 will be revised shortly to accommodate the proposed new Publications Committee for MAPS (see President's Editorial).