

# The Meteoritical Society Newsletter

OCTOBER 1994

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*A report of the business carried out by the Society over the past year, compiled by  
Monica M. Grady, Secretary.*

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## CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS OF THE METEORITICAL SOCIETY

It is some time since the Constitution and Bylaws of the Society have been published. An up-to-date version is therefore appended to this Newsletter, for the information of the Membership. This includes the amendment to Article 3.3 of the Constitution, which was approved last year.

## NEW COUNCIL

Following the terms of the constitutional amendment passed by the membership in 1993, the following Nominating Committee was appointed to choose a slate of officers and councillors for the 1995-1996 term: Ross Taylor (Chair), Peter Eberhardt, Robert Hutchison, Klaus Keil and Gunter Lugmair. Since this slate was unopposed, the following are elected by affirmation, to serve from January 1st 1995 to December 31st 1996:

Dieter Stöffler	Vice-President
Monica M. Grady	Secretary
Joseph I. Goldstein	Treasurer

### Council:

Alex W. R. Bevan	(Australia)	
Clark R. Chapman	(U.S.)	2nd term
Jitendra N. Goswami	(India)	2nd term
Gregory Herzog	(U.S.)	
Glenn J. MacPherson	(U.S.)	2nd term
G�rard Manh�s	(France)	2nd term
Hiroko Nagahara	(Japan)	
Dimitri Papanastassiou	(U.S.)	2nd term

The current Vice-President, Hap McSween, becomes President, and Heinrich W nke becomes Past-President. Retiring members of Council, and the Nominating Committee are warmly thanked for their efforts.

**FINANCES**

Roger H. Hewins, Treasurer

The balance sheet for 1993 given below shows the Society in a healthy financial position. The royalties from Pergamon Press for the publication of *Geochimica et Cosmochimica Acta* continue to accrue. Council considered the high number of pages planned for *Meteoritics* in 1995 and the new lower costs per page, and decided that \$60 membership fees are adequate for Society expenses. There will be no dues increase for 1995.

BALANCE SHEET  
31 December, 1993

<b>ASSETS (\$US)</b>	
Bank Account Balance	79,100.27
Checks for deposit	6,440.00
Assets as of 31/12/93	85,540.27
Liability (Volume 28, #5)*	8,235.01
Net Assets as of 31/12/93	77,305.26
<b>CAPITAL (\$US)</b>	
Bank Account Balance	42,910.44
Checks for Deposit**	10,425.00
Total Capital as of 1/1/93	53,335.44
<b>Increase in Capital for 1993</b>	<b>23,969.82</b>
Net Capital as of 31 December 1993	77,305.26

This statement include a royalty from Pergamon of \$23,333.33 (which is being set aside until 1997, at the recommendation of the Publications Committee), but does not include income, including page charges, from the 1993 Vail meeting (\$7,786.64), which was received in 1994.

\*This is listed separately, as we received the bills for one issue of *Meteoritics* more than we actually printed in 1993.

\*\*Mailed to bank in December, credited to account in January.

With late payments and new members still trickling in, the current number of members has almost regained the total of 905 it reached for the last two years. A small number of members make a substantial impact on society finances in the form of gifts. The following sustaining members gave major amounts (\$100 or more over the last two years):

Burn E., French B., Greenberg W., Herfurth G., Ngo H., Rust P., Skinner W., Wanke H., Wasson J., Welbon W.

The following members also gave donations:-

Bishop J., Brogioni A., Cook A., Dietz D., Gaffey M., Glass B., Gold D., Harlow G., Hill L., Houston W., Huss G., Jeffries A., Kempton R., Kohman T., Lugmair G., Lundquist C., Mark K., Marvin U., Narendra B., Ogilvie R., Okada A., Pepin R., Plansky L., Qi-Lu, Reimold W., Reynolds J., Russell J., Taylor L., Thompson E., Tilton G., Velsko C., Walker D., Walker R., Weigel A., Welbon A.

Apologies to anyone whose contribution was overlooked. We are awaiting receipt of a donation left to the Society in the will of Edwin E. Fritton.

Next year's dues should be sent to the incoming treasurer, Joe Goldstein of the University of Massachusetts. Please read your dues statements carefully and respond promptly; it is difficult to get back-issues of journals if you miss them when they should be issued.

**METEORITICS**  
Derek Sears, Editor

*Meteoritics* continues to fare well. The Society published five issues in 1993 and will publish six issues in 1994. The flow of high quality papers continues and the invited review series seems to be as popular and successful as ever. This series was originally intended to be temporary, but now there is considerable resistance to stopping it. We exhausted the supply of reviews originally identified and the board is now in the throes of drawing up a new list. We have a number of exciting ideas, but we would always welcome new suggestions.

On the financial front we had two pleasant surprises this year:

First, despite the 40% increase in the charge we must make to libraries for the journal, we managed to increase the number of institutional subscriptions by about 10%. (This time last year our major concern was that the loss of institutions following the price increase be no more about 20-30%). About half the increase was due to the donations by the Barringer Crater Company and Gerry Wasserburg of subscriptions for institutions in "soft-money" countries. We are grateful to these benefactors for this special form of support to our journal and our colleagues. However, many members also worked hard to acquire new subscriptions for us, and the entire Society is very grateful. One member secured four new institutional subscriptions this year. However, *Meteoritics* still does not have the number of institutional subscriptions warranted by the calibre and quality of the journal, and we are still asking all our friends to help. If your institution does not subscribe, please encourage them to do so, and please contact us for help. We can give you advertising material, specimen copies, copious arguments, and other legal incentives you can offer the librarian.

The second pleasant surprise was that we were able to renegotiate the contract with the printers, cutting about a further 25% from production costs. With the changes to electronic submission introduced last year, we are now able to produce a journal more than twice the 1991 size at two-thirds the cost per page and take on a fairly ambitious marketing campaign.

All this means that the journal is healthy and still has room for growth. A good journal always has room for good articles, and we can never have enough of our community's best material. We have therefore decided to add to our marketing campaign, a concerted effort to attract high-quality articles. It should not be difficult. The journal's circulation and the number of asteroid, comet and meteorite articles appearing in the journal are higher than some of our competitors, and institutional subscriptions are doing better than just holding steady. We are working hard to broaden the scope of the journal. Most importantly, we review and publish more rapidly than the other journals in the field. The short mean review time (from receipt of a paper by the journal to the receipt of reviews by the author) is about 2 months and our short production time (typically about 3 months) means that more than 75% of acceptable articles appear in print within 8 months of initial submission. By

prior arrangement, especially exciting and timely papers can often be handled in about half this time.

The mainstay of the journal, authors aside, is the team of associate editors. They now number thirteen, the most recent being Hiroko Nagahara and Rainer Wieler. All do an excellent job, not just in handling papers but in guiding the editor through his daily turmoils. In this respect the managerial board (Mike Lipschutz, Ed Anders and Hazel Sears) also deserve more thanks than they receive, as do Joyce Roth and Gail Halleck who actually chase the papers through the system, assemble the material on the page and ensure that it gets to you.

## HONOURS

**Leonard Medal 1995.** Next year's medallist is Professor F. Begemann, of the Max-Planck-Institut für Chemie, Mainz. Here are excerpts from the Committee's citation:

*One of Dr Begemann's better-known contributions is the measurement and interpretation of cosmic-ray effects in meteorites. Dr Begemann was the first to determine an age for a meteorite's exposure to cosmic rays in 1957; this opened up a whole new field of research which has prospered and matured since.*

*His investigation of the occurrence and composition of the planetary noble gases in ureilites produced outstanding results: he determined the isotopic composition of the lighter noble gases with unprecedented accuracy, and for the first time he identified the carbon-rich, diamond-containing meteoritic component as a major carrier of the planetary noble gases.*

Members of the Leonard Medal Committee were: Robin Brett, Don Bogard (Chair), Paul Pellas, Otto Eugster and John Wood.

Nominations for Leonard medallists are encouraged and may be submitted to Don Bogard (Leonard Medal Committee Chair in 1995), prior to January 15th 1995. His address is: NASA Johnson Space Centre, Code SN2, Houston, Texas 77058, U.S.A.

**Barringer Medal 1995.** Next year's medallist is Professor W. A. (Bill) Cassidy, from the University of Pittsburgh. Here are excerpts from the Committee's citation:

*Although Bill's contributions to meteoritics through his initiation of an extremely successful program to recover meteorites from the Antarctic continent are well known, he is also one of the early workers in meteorite crater studies.....In studying the craters of the Campo del Cielo meteorite in Argentina he documented one of the earliest occurrences of impact craters which have associated meteorite masses.....This became part of a growing body of evidence that ultimately marked the beginning of the end of resistance to impact as a recognizable geological process on Earth.*

*The latter part of Bill's career has been focused on recovery of meteorites from Antarctica. He is best known for his leadership in the Antarctic Search for Meteorites (ANSMET) Program. This program is intended primarily to recover meteorites, but also it provides indirect information on fall phenomena such as atmospheric break-up and dispersal, as well*

*as shock and impact phenomena on meteorite parent bodies and in space. Bill has made a monumental contribution to this discipline.*

Members of the Barringer Medal Committee were: Robert S. Dietz (Chair), Eugene Shoemaker, Mike Dence and Billy Glass. Nominations for Barringer medallists are encouraged and may be submitted for 1995, to Eugene Shoemaker (Leonard Medal Committee Chair in 1995), prior to January 15th 1995. His address is: U.S.G.S., 2255 N. Gemini Drive, Flagstaff, Arizona AZ 86001, U.S.A.

**Fellows.** This year, nine Fellows were elected: Richard Becker, Andrew Graham, James Head, Gregory Herzog, Elmar Jessberger, Greg Kallemeyn, Christian Koeberl, Michel Maurette and Ulrich Ott. Next year is an odd-numbered year, therefore no new Fellows will be elected. However, nominations are encouraged and may be submitted for 1996, to Don Bogard (Leonard Medal Committee Chair in 1995), prior to January 15th 1996. His address is: NASA Johnson Space Centre, Code SN2, Houston, Texas 77058, U.S.A.

## MEETINGS

**1994, 25-29 July: Prague.** (*Petr Jakeš*). This year's meeting, held in the Congress Palace in the centre of Prague, was one of the most successful to date. Approximately 285 delegates attended, accompanied by 95 guests. Grants were awarded to 16 students. In all, *ca.* 200 papers were given in two parallel sessions, plus *ca.* 35 posters. Medals and certificates were presented to award winners Al Cameron and David Roddy and to the 9 new Fellows at a formal ceremony in the Karolinum, the ancient hall of Charles University. This was followed by a concert of chamber music. The banquet was held in the beautiful and impressive Spanish Hall of the Presidential Palace. The Society was also fortunate to be received by the Mayor of Prague at an afternoon reception.

Much thanks and warm appreciation goes to Petr Jakeš for organising such a memorable meeting.

**1995, 11-15 September: Washington, D.C.** (*Glenn J. MacPherson, Alan Boss, Tammy Dickinson, Jeff Grossman, George Wetherill, Jim Zimbleman*). Organisation of the 1995 meeting continues to gather momentum. The annual banquet will be held in the History of Flight Gallery at the National Air and Space Museum. The registration fee is currently estimated at around \$150.

**1996, 22-26 July: Berlin.** (*Dieter Stöffler*). The venue of the 1996 meeting has been changed, from Münster to Berlin. It will now be based at the Humboldt University, on the famous main avenue "Unter den Linden", Berlin. The welcome party and the annual banquet will be held in the Dinosaur Hall of the Museum für Naturkunde. Pre- and post-meeting field trips are planned to impact craters in Southern Sweden and Finland, and Nördlinger Ries and Steinheimer Becken in Germany.

**1997: Hawaii.** (*Klaus Keil*). No date yet fixed. Council has accepted an invitation from Professor Klaus Keil at the Hawaii Institute of Geophysics to host a meeting in Hawaii. No firm venue has been chosen: the organisers are investigating the possibility of holding the meeting on one of the outer Islands, *e.g.* the Garden Island of Kauai, rather than in Honolulu.

**1998:** The Society has received two invitations for 1998, from Dublin and Johannesburg. Letters of invitation from the two groups are given overleaf. Both are very attractive, and before deciding

which one to accept, Council wishes to consult the membership, to determine which site is more likely to attract a large and representative turnout. To this end, a questionnaire is attached. Please complete the questionnaire and return it by **February 15th 1995** to the Secretary:

Dr Monica M. Grady,  
Dept. of Mineralogy,  
The Natural History Museum,  
Cromwell Road,  
London SW7 5BD

Fax: (44) (71) 938 9268

E-mail: M.Grady@nhm.ac.uk

**Future meetings:** It has traditionally been the case that alternate annual meetings are held in North America. However, the Society currently does not hold any invitations from a North American institution, although an invitation from Kobe in Japan has been received by Council.

## **Invitation to host the 1998 meeting in Dublin**

Ian Sanders, Department of Geology, Trinity College, Dublin  
Fax: 353 1 671 1199; E-Mail: ISANDERS@VAX1.TCD.IE

The idea of a Dublin meeting was first mooted informally at Vail, where certain members of the society (some with obvious Irish connections) waxed lyrical at the prospect of partaking of the wine of the country in authentic surroundings. Over the succeeding nine months the idea took root, and with helpful advice from Robert Hutchison, a serious proposal was drawn up and presented at the Prague meeting. The main features of the proposal are outlined here.

The conference would be held in Trinity College, a 400-year-old university whose campus forms a walled oasis of eighteenth century buildings, cobbled squares, and green open spaces set in the heart of the city of Dublin. Conference facilities include two adjacent 200-seat lecture theatres beside a broad concourse area where coffee would be available all day and where posters would be displayed. A 400-seat theatre for plenary sessions is situated nearby. The scientific programme would be drawn up by a committee consisting mainly of researchers based in the UK.

On the non-scientific side, the banquet would be held in the mellow surroundings of an eighteenth century hall some 3 miles from the college. The guest programme would include day excursions to the picturesque monastic settlement of Glendalough in the mountains some 30 miles south of Dublin, and to the 5000 year-old tombs of the Boyne Valley to the north. The city itself offers many attractions, including pubs, shops, museums, art galleries, excellent theatre, and the Book of Kells all within a few minutes walk. The Guinness brewery is a short bus-ride away. Post-conference geological excursions to Precambrian granulites and younger rocks of the western seaboard of Ireland are planned.

Accommodation in Dublin ranges in quality from student dormitories at \$12 (1994 prices) up to first-rate hotels at \$150 per person, all within a very short walking distance of the college. Many participants may choose to stay in traditional college rooms, with distinctive elemental charm, at around \$45 per person including breakfast. Dublin is easily reached by air, with frequent connecting flights from London and direct daily flights from many European capitals and the eastern USA.

## **Invitation to host the 1998 meeting Johannesburg, South Africa.**

Wolf Uwe Reimold, Dept. of Geology, Univ. of the Witwatersrand, Johannesburg 2050, South Africa  
Fax: +27-11-339-1697; e-mail: 065wur@witsvma.wits.ac.za

**INTRODUCTION:** The University of the Witwatersrand ("Wits") and the Rand Afrikaans University ("RAU") would like to invite the Society to hold their 1998 Annual Meeting in Johannesburg - in the New South Africa. This venue offers numerous unique features and advantages, which are of interest to the members of the Society. About 45 international airlines have direct flight from Europe, North and South America, Asia, Australia, and the rest of Africa to Johannesburg. Logistical and financial support for this invitation has been pledged by the administrations of both Universities, the Geological Survey of South Africa, the Johannesburg municipality, and various other scientific agencies and associations in South Africa.

**TIME, VENUE, and ORGANIZERS:** The proposed venue is the Wits campus, close to the center of Johannesburg. Modern lecture halls and all supporting technical facilities are available on site, where numerous international meetings have already been held. Both lecture rooms will be on the same floor and close to the poster area, where coffee will be served (all day long). The meeting will be held at the customary time, in mid-July 1998. The weather in July is excellent, with day temperatures reaching the mid-20s (x°C; 70s F), evening and night temperatures may reach the lower teens (50s F). Days will be sunny and dry without exception. The organizing committee currently consists of Uwe Reimold (Wits) and Lew Ashwal (RAU), co-chairmen, as well as T.S.McCarthy (Wits), J. Barton (RAU), Arch Reid (Univ. Houston), Christian Koeberl (Univ. Vienna), Marian Tredoux (Univ. Cape Town), and others.

**WHY SOUTH AFRICA?:** South Africa has just entered a new era in its history. In the "New South Africa", the spirit of renewal is ubiquitous in all parts of society, including political, cultural, and scientific aspects. A Meteoritical Society Meeting in Africa would have a strong impact on meteoritical and planetological research and education on this continent. Holding the Annual Meeting in South Africa would not only stimulate relevant activities in this country, but also in neighboring countries (e.g., Namibia, Zimbabwe, Mocambique) and the whole continent. South Africa encompasses numerous different and dramatic landforms, which are the result of a long and multi-faceted geological evolution. Of special interest to members of the Society are the spectacular and classical geological localities, such as the Bushveld Complex, the Vredefort structure, the Barberton Mountain Land, the Great Dike, the Kimberley diamond fields, and many others, which are easily reachable from Johannesburg. In addition, Society members will have a unique chance to establish collaborations with African scientists on the study of meteorites, impact craters, and other geological topics.

**ACCOMMODATION:** Several 1\* to 4\* hotels (e.g., Holiday Inn, 3\*) are in easy walking distance from the meeting venue. It should be noted that the hotel prices are very low compared to European or North American levels, without compromising the standards of accommodation. Current prices (1994) range between about US \$16 to \$75 per night (incl. breakfast). Students (and other participants that choose this option) can be accommodated directly on campus for about \$16 a night, including three meals. All conference hotels are known to the Organizing Committee as reliable and excellent value from utilization during previous conferences. Local transport will be provided for all special professional or social occasions.

**STUDENT SPONSORSHIP:** Considering support that has already been pledged, and expecting additional funding, we anticipate that at least 20 student awards (a larger number than at most recent meetings) will be made available to students from overseas and from African countries. To help promote the development of meteoritics and related sciences in Africa, special efforts will be made to attract additional funding for African students.

**SOCIAL PROGRAM:** Guest tours of the Johannesburg-Pretoria region will be offered for conference participants and their spouses. We anticipate an afternoon excursion to the Pretoria Saltpan crater (1.5 hours

from Johannesburg), which is included in the fee. Several spectacular banquet sites are currently under consideration.

**FIELD TRIPS:** For many participants, the field trips will be the highlight of the Meeting. We plan excursions to the Vredefort impact structure, the Bushveld Complex (the world's largest repository of magmatic ore deposits), the Archean Barberton Mountain Land, with the latter two trips including visits to South Africa's principal game reserve, the Kruger National Park. Arch Reid has agreed to conduct a tour through the Cape Peninsula with special emphasis on the famous vineyards. In addition, visits to the Victoria Falls or the Great Dike in Zimbabwe, the Roter Kamm Crater and Etosha Pan in Namibia, or the coast of the Indian Ocean in Natal, will be supported.

**COSTS:** As this point seems to be maybe the most important factor for many members of the Society, we are providing a few examples and comparisons, based on quotations from travel agencies, airlines, and hotels (1994 basis; July-August prices). Some examples for the cost of air tickets (advance-purchase) to Johannesburg (and back) are: New York or Washington, D.C.: US \$1300-1600; London, Amsterdam: \$750-900; Vienna: \$800-1000. It is clear that these prices are somewhat higher than those for Transatlantic air travel (currently about \$800-1000 in the summer). However, hotel prices, living expenses, and other local costs (e.g., transportation) are considerably cheaper in South Africa than in recent U.S. and European Meeting sites. Meals are inexpensive and a very good value; e.g., a glass of juice or beer, 50 cents (US), a large steak, \$4, a bottle of good wine, \$4, or, a full buffet dinner with 70 dishes at one of the best restaurants in Johannesburg, \$12. Thus, typical examples for total travel costs are (registration fee not included, because this fee is similar at all venues):

(1) Washington, D.C. (USA) to Johannesburg: \$1400. 7 nights @\$50 at 3\* Hotel = \$350; meals @\$20 a day = \$140; total = \$1890 (2) Vienna (Austria) to Johannesburg: \$1000; other costs the same; total = \$1490. [in comparison with, for example, the cost of attending the Copenhagen meeting: Vienna-Copenhagen = \$550; 7 nights @\$100 at 3\* hotel = \$700, meals @\$50 per day = \$350; total = \$1600!]

Thus, it should be obvious that the higher ticket costs are balanced by much lower hotel and living expenses. The total cost of attending a meeting in Johannesburg are not higher to most members of the Society than the cost of attending other recent meetings has been.

In summary, we hope that the Members of The Meteoritical Society will opt for a meeting in the culturally and geologically exciting New South Africa.

## Questionnaire on Venue of 1998 Annual Meeting

**Note: This is not a competition between Dublin and Johannesburg: the invitations will be held over for consideration in future years.**

1. Name (optional): .....

2. Position:            Research/Teaching        .....  
                                 Student                                .....  
                                 Other                                 .....

3. Country: .....

4. The likelihood of my attending a Meteoritical Society Meeting in 1998 in

<b>Dublin</b> is	Good	.....	<b>Johannesburg</b> is	Good	.....
	Fair	.....		Fair	.....
	Poor	.....		Poor	.....

5. I would prefer the 1998 meeting to be held in

<b>Dublin</b>	.....	<b>Johannesburg</b>	.....
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6. Comments:

Please return this questionnaire by **February 15th 1995** to the Secretary:

Dr Monica M. Grady  
Department of Mineralogy  
The Natural History Museum  
Cromwell Road  
London SW7 5BD, U.K.

**Fax:** (44) (71) 938 9268

E-mail (internet): M.Grady@nhm.ac.uk

## 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 the study of meteorites and other samples of extraterrestrial matter and their relation to the origin and history of the solar system. Additional areas of interest include the investigation of meteors, micrometeorites, impact features, tektites and planetary surfaces.
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 COUNCILLORS)

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 Councillors. 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 Councillors of the Society shall be held each even-numbered year. Nominations for Officers and Councillors shall be prepared by a Nominating Committee of five members, which shall be proposed by the President and approved by Council prior to May 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 petition, signed 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. The petition 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 all candidates and mailed to each member of the Society in good standing before April 15 of the current year. These ballots, if returned to the Secretary by June 15 in a signed and sealed envelope, shall be counted.

The new Officers 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 Councillor, 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 Councillor shall be filled by appointment by the Council.

#### ARTICLE 4 - PUBLICATIONS

1. The official journals of the Society shall be
  - a. *Meteoritics*, 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* 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 prepared in written form and circulated 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.

## The Bylaws of the Meteoritical Society

### ARTICLE 1 - NOMINATIONS AND ELECTION OF MEMBERS AND FELLOWS, ET CETERA

1. Any applicant who is in sympathy with the purposes of the Society may, on the nomination by two members, be elected by unanimous vote of the Executive Committee or by majority vote of the Council.
2. Fellows shall be elected by two-thirds vote of the Council.
3. 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.

### 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 co-ordinate activities between the Council and those Society committees provided for in the Constitution and Bylaws. The Secretary, in co-ordination 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 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 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* 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

1. The term of the editor of *Meteoritics* 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* 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* shall seek the advice of the Society Executive Committee 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*.

#### **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*. 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, and for decisions regarding pairing or separation of meteorites previously named.
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 British Museum (Natural History) and nine other members appointed by the President. Appointed members shall serve three year terms; they may be re-appointed for a maximum of two additional terms. 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. New terms shall begin on January 1 of even-numbered years that are not multiples of four. 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.

Constitution last updated March 1993 (Article 3.3)  
Bylaws last updated: May 1992 (Article 5.2)