

Minutes of the meeting of the Council of the Meteoritical Society
July 21, 2002 at DeNeve Plaza, University of California, Los Angeles, CA

Present: Gero Kurat, President; Tim Swindle, Treasurer; Ed Scott, Secretary; Mike Drake, Past President; Gary Huss, Vice President; Councilors: Adrian Brearley, Pat Cassen, Christian Koeberl, Tim McCoy, Sara Russell, Mini Wadhwa.

Absent: Marc Norman, Uwe Reimold.

Guests: David Kring (Barringer Committee), Trevor Ireland, Kevin McKeegan and Mike Zolensky (2003 councilors), Hap McSween (Publications Committee chair), Paul Warren (2002 meeting), Thomas Stephan (2003 meeting), Rosa Scorzelli (2004 meeting), Bill Welbon, Frank Podosek (GCA Editor), Urs Krahenbuhl (Leonard Medal Committee), and Dan Britt (Best Student Paper Committee).

1. Introductions, minutes, etc.

The meeting was called to order at 12.45 pm by President Gero Kurat who welcomed the Council members and guests to the meeting. The minutes of the last Council meeting were approved.

2. Annual meetings of the Society

2002 Los Angeles

Paul Warren reported that 309 people had registered for the meeting as of July 16 of whom 30 were guests; 350-360 were expected. 21 students and 2 Eastern Europeans were given travel awards. Poster boards would cost more than anticipated. Only one of the three field trips would be held as not enough people had registered for the Barringer Crater and Santa Barbara excursions. 1080 room-nights had been booked by 250 participants at DeNeve Plaza (cf. 954 in the contract). Light buffets had been arranged for Monday evening for the posters and on Tuesday evening at the Page Museum (La Brea Tar Pits). Posters would remain up all week in DeNeve.

2003 Münster

Thomas Stephan reported for Elmar Jessberger on the arrangements for the Annual Meeting in Münster (July 28 to August 1). A meeting website has been established at <http://ifp.uni-muenster.de/metsoc2003/>. 245 hotel rooms have been booked at an average price of \$50-60 per night within walking distance of the meeting. The membership of the organizing committee chaired by Elmar Jessberger and the program committee chaired by Addi Bischoff were approved. The banquet will be held in a tent in front of the Schloss. There will be three post-meeting field trips: Nordlinger Ries, to Wattenmeer, and to the Volcanic Eifel area including Maare, Kaiserstuhl, Black Forrest etc. Stephan presented a preliminary budget, showing that meeting expenses were estimated at around 190,000 Euros. More donations will be needed if the registration fee is to set at 250 Euros.

A request from a scientist from a developing country for financial assistance to attend the Münster meeting was forwarded to the Münster program committee and the investments committee.

2004 Rio de Janeiro

Rosa Scorzelli announced that the meeting in August 1-6 would be held in the Hotel Sofitel, which has the best convention facilities and is a most comfortable hotel. Oral sessions will be held in two rooms seating 400 and 150 people. Current room estimates at the Hotel Sofitel are \$175 per night excl. taxes but including breakfast for single or double rooms. Cheaper hotels are available within walking distance (\$40-150 per night). The more people stay at the Hotel Sofitel, the lower the cost of the meeting rooms. The poster session will be held at the planetarium (1/2 hr by bus) with a light buffet, as another room at the hotel for a week would be too expensive. If 300 people attend, the registration might be about \$280 (excluding \$45 for MAPS abstract volumes), assuming that \$50K could be raised from other sources. LPI will assist with the meeting. Most of the program committee members will probably be based in the US.

2006

Invitations to ETH Zurich had been received from Alex Halliday and Rainer Wieler (Appendix 1) and to the Ural State Technical University at Ekaterinburg, Russia from Victor Grokhovsky (Appendix 2). President Kurat reported that an invitation had not been received from Tokyo. The council favored Zurich, but hoped that a meeting could be arranged in Russia soon.

Motion: The Council accepts the offer to hold the 2006 meeting in Zurich. Proposed by Drake, seconded Brearley. Motion passed unanimously.

3. Secretary's report

a) Frank Podosek had been reappointed for a second three year-term as GCA Editor (2003-5) following email votes of the Councils of the Meteoritical Society and the Geochemical Society.

b) Paul Benoit wishes to resign as Society webmaster at the end of this year. He set up the Society website at the University of Arkansas in 1996 and has operated it ever since.

c) Werner Janoschek, who is Secretary General of the IUGS, has written urging the Meteoritical Society, which is an Affiliated Organisation of the IUGS, to participate more in IUGS activities.

4. GCA Editor's report

Frank Podosek presented the GCA Editor's report (Appendix 3). He attached two pages of detailed guidelines for the publication of Goldschmidt Conference abstracts in GCA and requested the Council's approval.

Motion: The Council approves the guidelines for publication of Goldschmidt Conference abstracts in GCA. Proposed by Swindle, seconded Koeberl. Motion passed unanimously.

5. Joint Publications Committee

Gordon McKay reported by email on four issues that the JPC had addressed.

a) The Committee requested that the Editor supply publication lists as well as resumes of prospective associate editors. Frank Podosek has agreed to do this.

b) Some JPC members considered that prospective reviewers should not see the full manuscript of papers until they have agreed to be reviewers. McKay discussed this with Podosek, who pointed out that much effort by the editorial office would be needed to institute this change. Most JPC members therefore agreed to drop this issue, but some

dissented strongly.

c) The JPC held the strong opinion that the Goldschmidt abstracts should not be published as a special issue of GCA. However, the Geochemical Society officers, like the Meteoritical Society council, disagreed.

d) Some JPC members requested performance reports on individual associate editors but following discussions with Podosek, most agreed that they were not necessary.

Alain Manceau has resigned from the JPC as a result of disagreements over the three last issues (b-d).

6. Treasurer's report

Tim Swindle presented a Treasurer's report with summaries of revenues and expenses for the last 12 months (Appendix 4). The main activities since the previous meeting involved membership activity (902 as of June 11 cf. 905 last year on that date), the current and future finances of MAPS, and tax-exempt status for the Society in the State of California, where we are registered as a corporation. After 18 months of effort, the Society is now a tax-exempt organization according to the state tax office (as well as the federal Internal Revenue Service) and a non-profit charitable trust according to the state Attorney General's office.

Because of the vagaries of the stock market, the Endowment and Nier Fund had declined and Swindle recommended that the amount of the Nier prize be lowered.

Motion. The amount awarded to the Nier Prize winner in 2003 should be reduced to \$1000. Proposed Swindle, seconded Brearley. Motion carried: 9 in favor with 1 abstention.

Huss pointed out that given the non-MAPS related expenses of the Society, about \$10 of the annual dues of \$110 should be set aside to cover those expenses. Drake reviewed the history of the Elsevier royalties for GCA, which are shared with the Geochemical Society. They would be used to pay the expenses of moving the MAPS editorial office this year.

Motion. The Council appoints Paul Warren as Deputy Treasurer from January 2003 to act when needed in Kevin McKeegan's absence. Proposed Swindle, seconded Drake. Motion carried unanimously.

At the end of the meeting, the council decided to keep the dues for next year at the 2002 rates.

Motion: The annual dues for 2003 should be kept at \$110 for members and \$55 for students. Proposed: Swindle; seconded Scott. Motion passed unanimously.

7. MAPS Editor and Publications Committee

Following lengthy disagreements with the Council, Derek Sears unfortunately decided to resign as the Editor of Meteoritics & Planetary Science on December 31, 2002. The Council voted by email in June to accept his resignation and President Kurat wrote to Sears on behalf of the Council thanking him "for the excellent services you have provided for the Society and for our journal in the past decade. It is with deep regret that we have to end this long-lasting, fruitful and on many occasions also joyful cooperation."

Sears' resignation was announced on the Society's website together with a call for nominations and the Publication Committee was asked to recommend a new Editor.

The chair of the new Publications Committee, Hap McSween, reported to the Council meeting on the progress that he had made to find a new Editor of MAPS. Several people had been contacted; four had submitted proposals with estimated annual costs for the editorial office. The latest offer arrived just two days before the council meeting and had not been discussed by the publication committee. The merits of the candidates and the costs of locating the editorial office at different locations were discussed. Since the committee had not been able to discuss all of the prospective candidates, the council asked the committee to report back with a recommendation for a new Editor before the end of the Annual Meeting.

McSween reported that he would be meeting with Friso Veenstra of Elsevier for discussions about the possibility that Elsevier might produce and market MAPS for the Society. The council requested a report on these discussions before the end of the Annual Meeting.

Mike Drake proposed that the Society recognize Derek and Hazel Sears' remarkable contributions to the success of MAPS by offering them both life memberships of the Meteoritical Society. During the 11 years that Derek has edited MAPS, Hazel Sears has been manuscript editor, business editor, and for the last four years, managing editor of MAPS.

Motion. In recognition of their remarkable achievements and dedicated service to the Society and its journal, Meteoritics & Planetary Science, the Council should offer Hazel Sears and Derek Sears life memberships in the Society.

Proposed by Swindle, seconded Russell. Motion passed: 9 in favor, 1 against.

8. Leonard Medal Committee

After all the guests had left, the chair of the Leonard Medal Committee, Urs Krahenbuhl, presented the Committee's report, which had been mailed to all Council members (Appendix 5). Six nominations for the Leonard Medal were considered by committee members, Krahenbuhl, Keil, Herzog, Nagahara, and Chaussidon. After two votes the committee selected their first and second choices.

Motion: The Council accepts the recommendation of the LMC that the 2003 Leonard Medal be presented to Herbert Palme. Proposed Swindle, seconded Cassen. Passed unanimously.

Krahenbuhl noted that there were only three nominations for the Nier Prize this year and urged that more nominations be obtained from members before next year. The possibility that the Nier Prize might not be offered in a year in which there were no worthy nominations was discussed.

Motion: The Council accepts the recommendation of the LMC that the 2003 Nier Prize be presented to Steve Desch. Proposed Swindle, seconded Huss. Passed unanimously.

Motion: The Council accepts the recommendation of the LMC committee that the following be appointed Fellows of the Society: Alan Boss, Jeremy Delaney, Cyrena Goodrich, Peter Hoppe, Emil Jagoutz, Kevin McKeegan, Rolf Michel, Francois Robert, Allan Treiman, Michael Weisberg. Proposed Swindle, seconded Brearley; passed unanimously.

9. Barringer Medal Selection Committee

David Kring presented the report of the Barringer Medal Selection Committee, which was composed of Fred Horz (chair), David Kring, Boris Ivanov, and Uwe Reimold. The committee's report (Appendix 6) had been sent to the Council in June by Fred Horz. The committee argued that their unanimous recommendation for a posthumous award to Graham Ryder was a consequence of very special and truly exceptional circumstances. They decided unanimously to waive the committee rule against posthumous awards, as this rule should not apply to the unexpected death of an essentially active scientist. Kring answered many questions about the committee's report and procedures from Council members.

Motion: The Council accepts the recommendation of the Barringer Medal Selection Committee that the 2003 Barringer Medal be awarded to Graham Ryder. Proposed Drake, seconded Wadhwa. Motion passed unanimously.

10. Selection Committee for Best Student Paper Award

The report of the Best Student Paper Award Committee, which was emailed to Council members on July 18, was presented by Dan Britt (Appendix 7). The committee members for 2002 were I. Gilmour, E. Jessberger, D. Britt (chair), M. Chapman, U. Ott, and J. Zimelman. The Committee considered 16 valid nominations for the award and eventually recommended that Bjorn Davidsson of Uppsala University, Sweden be named the winner for 2002 for his paper 'Tidal Splitting and Rotational Breakup of Solid Biaxial Ellipsoids' which was published in *Icarus* 149, 375-383 (2001). They further recommended that Jerome Aleon of Centre de Recherches Petrographiques et Geochimiques-CNRS be granted an honorable mention for his paper 'Clues to the origin of interplanetary dust particles from the isotopic study of their hydrogen-bearing phases' *Geochimica et Cosmochimica Acta*, 65, 4399-4412 (2001).

Motion: The Council accepts the recommendation of the Best Student Paper Award Committee that the 2001 Best Student Paper Award be awarded to Bjorn Davidsson. Proposed Drake, seconded Huss. Motion unanimously approved.

Action: Britt will arrange for Davidsson to be presented with a check for \$500 from the Meteoritical Society and a framed certificate from the GSA.

11. Meteorite Nomenclature Committee

Sara Russell noted that the Meteoritical Bulletin would appear in the MAPS Supplement this year. Tim McCoy reported that more co-editors for the Bulletin would be appointed for specific geographical regions.

12. AOB

By letter Roy Clarke informed the Council that he was making progress with the Society archives and hoped to have a summary of holdings next year (Appendix 8). He requested that members who produce or accumulate documents for the Society send hard copies to him.

The meeting was adjourned at 5.15 p.m.

The Council met again on July 26 at 7.30 am at DeNeve Plaza, UCLA.

Present: Kurat, Swindle, Scott, Huss, Brearley, Cassen, Koeberl, McCoy, Russell, Wadhwa, and McSween. Drake voted by proxy.

13. Publications Committee report

Hap McSween presented the recommendations of the Publications Committee (Appendix 9). The committee had requested vision statements from the two top candidates for MAPS Editor and unanimously voted to recommend that Tim Jull be appointed Editor of MAPS from January 1 2003.

Motion: The council accepts the recommendation of the Publications Committee that Tim Jull be appointed as Editor of MAPS for a four-year term starting on January 1, 2003. Proposed Koeberl, seconded Brearley. Motion passed: 8 in favor, 1 against, 1 abstention.

During the week, McSween, Huss, and Drake met with Friso Veenstra to discuss Elsevier's offer to handle the production and marketing of MAPS. According to this offer, the Society would retain the copyright and ownership of the MAPS name. The advantages to the Society included royalties from the library sales, inclusion in Science Direct, and possibly reduced prices of MAPS for members. The disadvantages included loss of control of the institutional rate and access to the institutional subscription records. The Committee recommended that the Society enter into an agreement with Elsevier to handle the production, distribution and marketing of MAPS provided that Elsevier adequately fund the editorial office.

Motion: The Council accepts the recommendation of the Publications Committee that the Society sign a contract with Elsevier for the production, distribution and marketing of MAPS provided that Elsevier adequately fund the editorial office. Proposed Koeberl, seconded Swindle. Motion passed unanimously.

McSween will contact Sears about the offer from Elsevier and negotiate further to obtain a contract between the Society and the new Editor and a detailed agreement with Elsevier.

Motion: The Society should pay up to \$32,000 for the costs of establishing a new MAPS editorial office in Tucson and transferring the back numbers of MAPS and records from Fayetteville. Proposed Swindle, seconded Scott. Motion passed unanimously.

[Note that on August 2, Hap McSween reported to the council that Elsevier was not able to adequately fund the editorial office in Tucson even if the Society also used its royalties for this purpose. The publication committee recommended with the concurrence of Tim Jull that the Society not sign an agreement with Elsevier. The executive committee agreed with this recommendation and decided that Jull would handle the production of MAPS next year in Tucson. A four-year contract between the Society and the Arizona Board of Regents concerning the operation and production of MAPS was approved by the publication committee and signed by Kurat and Scott for the Society.]

14. Society Webmaster

Scott reported that Matthew Genge had offered to take over from Paul Benoit as webmaster. Sara Russell noted that Genge had also agreed to help establish a new website for the Meteoritical Bulletin.

Motion: The council appoints Matthew Genge to succeed Paul Benoit as webmaster for the Society from January 2003.

Proposed Scott, seconded Russell. Motion passed unanimously.

The meeting ended at 8.20 am.

Ed Scott, Secretary; 10/15/02

Appendices:

1. Invitation to hold Annual Meeting in Zurich, Switzerland in 2006.
2. Invitation to hold Annual Meeting in Ekaterinburg, Russia in 2006.
3. GCA Editor's report.
4. Treasurer's report.
5. Leonard Medal Committee report.
6. Barringer Award Committee report.
7. Best Student Paper Committee report.
8. Society archives report.
9. Report of the Publications Committee.