

Minutes
Meteoritical Society Council Meeting,
Cairns, Australia
Sunday, August 12, 2012

Meeting called to order at 12:15 pm

Council members attending:

Gretchen Benedix (Councilor)

Nancy Chabot (Councilor)

Hasnaa Chennaoui (Councilor)

Harold Connolly (Councilor)

Alex Deutsch (Councilor)

Luigi Folco (Councilor)

Greg Herzog (Sec)

Rhian Jones (Treas)

Keiji Misawa (Councilor)

Larry Nittler (Councilor-elect)

Maria Schönbächler (Councilor-elect)

Ed Scott (Pres)

Hisayoshi Yurimoto (Councilor-elect)

Mike Zolensky (VP-elect)

Council members regrets

Monica Grady (VP)

Melosh Jay (Councilor-elect)

Kevin Righter (Councilor)

Hiroko Nagahara (Past Pres.)

Guests

Conel Alexander (Leonard/Nier Cmte)

Phil Bland (Membership Cmte)

Cari Corrigan (Elements, McKay)

Alvaro Crósta (Barringer Award)

George Flynn (PubCom)

Joe Goldstein (Legacy Program)

Chris Herd (NomenCom; 2013 meeting)

Trevor Ireland (Cairns)

Tim Jull (MAPS Ed.)

Marc Norman (MetSoc 2012/GCA)

Uwe Reimold (MetSoc 2016, Endowment Committee))

Guests regrets:

Marc Caffee (Endowment Cmte)

Fred Ciesla (McKay Committee)

Jon Friedrich (MetSocCom)

Cyrena Goodrich (PubCom)

Jeff Grossman

Hiroshi Kaiden (website)

Joanna Morgan (Barringer Cmte)

Fiona Murphy (Wiley Blackwell)

Kuni Nishiizumi (MetSoc 2015)

Alex Ruzicka (Membership Cmte)

AGENDA
Meteoritical Society Council Meeting,
Cairns, Australia
Sunday, August 12, 2012

	Welcome and introductions	Scott	12:00 5
1	Minutes of the last council meeting	Herzog	12:05 10
2	President's Report	Scott	12:15 10
3	Secretary's Report	Herzog	12:25 10
4	Treasurer's Report	Jones	12:35 5
	FY13 budget	Jones	12:40 5
5	Awards		12:45
	Leonard Medal	Alexander	12:45 5
	Nier Prize	Alexander	12:50 10
	Barringer Medal	Crósta*	13:00 5
	Service Award	Bland	13:05 10
6	Membership Committee	Bland	13:15 5
7	Website	Misawa	13:20 10
8	Meeting reports		13:30
	2012 Cairns	Ireland/Norman	13:30 10
	2013 Edmonton	Herd	13:40 10
	2014 Casablanca	Chennaoui	13:50 5
	2015 Berkeley	Herzog	13:55 5
	2016 Berlin	Reimold	14:00 5
	BREAK		14:05 5
9	Nomenclature Committee	Herd	14:10 10
10	Elements	Corrigan	14:20 10
11	McKay Award	Corrigan	14:30 10
12	Publications committee report	Flynn/Scott/Nittler	14:40 10
13	MAPS		14:50
	Editor's report	Jull	14:50 10
	Wiley report	Jull	15:00 10
14	GCA		15:10
	EE report	Norman	15:10 10
	JPC	Scott	15:20 10
	BREAK		15:30 10
15	Endowment Committee Report	Reimold	15:40 5
	Legacy Program	Goldstein	15:45 10
16	New business		15:55 10
	Adjourn		16:05

- 1) Minutes of the Council Meeting held prior to the Lunar and Planetary Science Conference at the Woodlands, Texas.

Herzog introduced the minutes for the open and the closed sessions. Harold Connolly moved passage of the minutes. Rhian Jones seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

- 2) President's report

Ed Scott announced the official transfer of MetSoc Archives to the Smithsonian: accession number 12-490.

Scott introduced proposed changes in the bylaws (Article 11) and the rules of the Barringer Medal and Award Committee. These changes had been circulated to the Council 30 days in advance of the meeting and were available to the Council as Appendix 02a. The purposes of the changes are (a) to improve the procedures for selecting nominees by aligning them with those for other medals, (b) to clarify the rules for nominations, and (c) to clarify the administration of the award. The goal is to ensure that the Barringer Medal is given to the top scientists in the field, and that roles of all participating organizations are clearly described.

Passage was moved by Jones and seconded by Benedix. The motion passed unanimously.

- 3) Secretary's Report

Herzog reported on activity in the Society's online discussion group, MetSocCom and on progress in developing the new website. After a period of reconstruction, the new website is in beta testing. The comments of committee chairs are invited.

Herzog relayed comments that Jeff Grossman made in his capacity as NASA Discipline Scientist (Appendix03a).

- a) Because of new NASA restrictions on the support of travel, anticipated NASA support of \$25K for student travel to the MetSoc meeting in Cairns was reduced to \$15K. Grossman also explained that future requests for meeting support will have to be submitted to NASA six months in advance of the meeting.

- b) The mechanisms for support of the Lunar and Planetary Science Conferences are under review at NASA. Changes could affect the time and place of MetSoc Council's spring meeting.

- c) The three-agency agreement that defines the administration of ANSMET, the US search for Antarctic meteorites, is being re-drawn.

In discussion of item 3c, Chabot noted the importance of ANSMET and pointed out that despite its importance to planetary research, it was not cited in the Decadal Survey. Additional publicity might be helpful. An item on ANSMET might be placed in *Elements*. The subject of ANSMET will be in the next report of SBAG (the Small-Body Analysis Group, which is part of the NASA Advisory Committee, or NAC).

d) The Council approved the Program Committee for Cairns by an e-mail ballot in May. The members of the Program Committee are listed below.

Program Committee

Marc Norman, (ANU, Chair)	Kunihiko Nishiizumi (Univ Cal, Berkeley)
Yuri Amelin (ANU)	Hugh O'Neill (ANU)
Michelle Bannister (ANU)	Robert Reedy (UNM)
David Beaty (JPL)	Tracy Rushmer (Macquarie Univ)
Gretchen Benedix (NHM)	Raquel Salmeron (ANU)
Alex Bevan (WA Museum)	Bruce Schaefer (Macquarie Univ.)
Phil Bland (Curtin Univ.)	Martin Schmieder (UWA)
Monica Grady (Open University)	Lian-Kun Sha (Guilin Univ Tech.)
Eckart Hakansson (UWA)	Ed Scott (Univ. Hawaii)
Trevor Ireland (ANU)	Andy Tomkins (Monash Univ)
Tim Jull (Univ. Arizona)	Paul Warren (UCLA)
Penny King (ANU)	Tomohiro Usui (Tokyo Inst. Tech.)
Candace Kohl (UCSD)	Hisayoshi Yurimoto (Univ Hokkaido)
Kurt Liffman (CSIRO)	Ernst Zinner (Washington Univ.)
Kevin McKeegan (UCLA)	Mike Zolensky (NASA Johnson Space Center)
David W. Mittlefehldt (NASA JSC)	

4) Treasurer's report

Rhian Jones presented a summary of the financial status of the Society (Appendix 4) A few highlights follow.

a) An amended tax return for FY 2010 was needed and filed to explain the MetSoc's tax-exempt status in relation to accounts opened (and later closed) for the New York meeting.

b) As of May 31 2012, the Society had 1020 members. To increase membership of scientists from developing countries, it was suggested that we advertise the availability of reduced membership rates in *Elements*. Chennaoui pointed out that international money transfers can be difficult.

c) With all items taken into consideration, and anticipating repayment of loans made to support the Cairns meeting, the Society showed a net profit of \$6000.

d) In light of the stable financial condition of MetSoc, Jones proposed that dues for 2013 be kept at current levels as shown in the following table:

	Print + online M&PS	Online M&PS only
Regular	110	80
Retired	55	40
Student	55	40
Developing country	25	25

Herzog moved that the proposed dues be adopted. Deutsch seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

e) Noting the healthy balance in the Operating Fund and the likelihood that the Cairns loans will be repaid, Jones proposed the transfer of \$60K to Endowment fund.

Deutsch moved the transfer of \$60K from the Operating to the Endowment Fund. Connolly seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

5) Awards

In accordance with custom, the specific recommendations of the various award committees were discussed in closed session. The actions of the Council were later announced at the Business Meeting of the Society in Cairns.

Leonard Medal – Conel Alexander presented the report of the Leonard Medal Committee, which had been circulated to the Council in advance of the meeting. The Committee recommended that Ahmed El Goresy receive the Leonard Medal for 2013 for his many contributions to improving our understanding of the mineralogy and petrology of chondrites and shocked meteorites.

Benedix moved approval of the recommendation; Connolly seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Nier Prize – Conel Alexander summarized the voting procedures and discussion of the Leonard Medal Committee that led to the recommendation that Audrey Bouvier receive the Nier Prize for 2013 for significant contributions to understanding the isotopic compositions of Solar System materials and the timescales of their formation.

Connolly moved approval of the recommendation; Jones seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Alexander pointed out that new nominations for the 2014 awards are needed.

Service Award – Phil Bland presented the report of the Membership Committee with its recommendation that Jeff Grossman receive the Service Award for 2013. The 2012 Service Award will be given to Jeff Grossman for his role in creating the Meteoritical Bulletin Database and an on-line submission and voting system for the Meteorite Nomenclature Committee, and for his service as Editor of the Meteoritical Bulletin

Some questions remained about whether Jeff, as a NASA civil servant, would be permitted to accept the life membership that goes with the award. Receipt of the award itself, however, was not seen to be problematic.

Folco moved approval of the recommendation; Connolly seconded. The motion passed with 9 voting yes and one not voting.

Barringer Award and Medal - Alvaro Crósta presented the recommendation of the Barringer Award and Medal Committee that Walter Alvarez be recognized for his pivotal role in the discover that the global K-Pg layer was produced by a large meteorite impact, and for linking this impact to the K-Pg mass extinction.

Herzog moved approval of the recommendation; Connolly seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

6) Membership Committee

Phil Bland presented the report of the Membership Committee, which included statistics on current membership and recent trends.

	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Paid memberships	936	940	962	1019	1001*
Change from previous year		+0.4%	+2.3%	+5.9%	+1.3% [§]
Change from 2008		+0.4%	+2.8%	+8.9%	+9.2% [§]

*As of June 27, 2012. § Projected; best estimate.

At Ed Scott’s request, Committee members considered policies concerning the use of the Society’s logo. They recommended that the use of the logo for commercial activities be prohibited unless accompanied by the disclaimer “This use of the logo of the Meteoritical Society does not imply support of or validation by the Meteoritical Society.” Council members said that such a statement concerning the logo should appear explicitly on the website.

Herzog moved that the suggested policies concerning use of the logo and of the Membership Committee be approved; Jones seconded. The motion passed with one abstention.

The chair person (Ruzicka) recommended that members be allowed to state their membership in the Society without restriction. Connolly so moved with a second from Herzog? The motion passed with one abstention.

Noting that Society members receive many requests to help in identifying meteorites, Herzog suggested that some form of collaboration with IMCA members might be useful. The suggestion met with a mixed reception from Council members.

7) Website

Although summarized here, the discussion of this item occurred toward the end of the meeting in order to accommodate the schedules of several guests.

Keiji Misawa noted that we have set up a Paypal account is set up for paying our new web-hosting company, Techneco. Techneco has sent a contract in Japanese that Keiji has kindly agreed to translate into English.

8) Meeting reports

Edmonton – Chris Herd presented a listing of the proposed members of the Local Organizing Committee:

Chris Herd	Erin Walton-Hauck
Amy Riches	Rob Hilts
Sharon Baskett	Hasnaa Chennaoui
Trevor Ireland	Monica Grady
Ed Scott	

Herd noted with approval the inclusion of Hasnaa Chennaoui, the organizer of the meeting to take place the following year. All agreed that this was an excellent way to familiarize future organizers with the necessary tasks.

Herzog: moved approval of the proposed membership of the Local Organizing Committee for the Edmonton meeting; Chabot seconded. The motion passed unanimously

Herd then presented a listing of the proposed members of the Program Committee for the Edmonton meeting.

Erin Walton-Hauck	Rob Hilts	Ed Cloutis
Phil McCausland	Don Davis	Stephen Kissin
Graham Wilson	Richard Herd	Kim Tait
Gordon Osinski	Roberta Flemming	Michael Higgins
Lucy Thompson	Chris Herd	Richard Stern
Monica Grady		

Chabot moved approval of the proposed members of the Program Committee for Edmonton. Benedix seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Herd said the suggestions for additional members would be welcome.

Herd requested a loan \$15K to support the Edmonton meeting broken down as follows:

- \$2500 entertainment
- \$1000 midweek field trips, transportation
- \$1500 poster receptions
- \$5000 banquet rentals
- \$5000 for additional contingency funding

Jones moved approval of the loan with a second from Connolly. The motion passed unanimously.

Herd explained that the sites of the posters and the talks are physically separated by a 7-minute walk, but that because the space for the posters will be ample, each one can be up for the entire week. The banquet may take place in in new science building of Univ. Alberta Centennial Centre for Interdisciplinary Science.



Casablanca

Hasnaa Chennaoui initiated a discussion of the scheduled dates of the MetSoc Meeting, September 7-12, 2014. She had been asked by some members if the meeting could be held in August rather than in September. She was willing to change the date and asked for the council's preference. After much discussion and straw votes from the council, which showed no preferred date, the council asked the organizers to make the final decision. As a result the meeting dates are unchanged: Channaoui said the weather in Casablanca should be pleasant, but that it could be very hot on the field trip, which will take up to 30 people.

The meeting organizers commented that it might be possible to include a workshop in conjunction with the MetSoc annual meeting.

Berlin

Uwe Reimold proposed 7-12 August 2016 as the dates for the Society meeting at the Frei Universitat Berlin. He noted that in 2016 the IGC will meet in Capetown in July, so there will be no conflict. The dates of the Goldschmidt meeting are uncertain. Scott will notify the Geochemical society President of our decision.

Conolly moved approval of the proposed dates; Herzog seconded. The motion passed withone abstention.

Cairns

Trevor Ireland presented a brief status report on the Cairns meeting. He provided the following approximate registration figures: Total, 350; Guests, 50; Students, 70; Regular, 230. Attendees came from 28 countries.

The number of abstracts submitted was 403 and the number of oral presentations 250.

Two parallel sessions were scheduled to run throughout the week, ending at various times, and at 4:45 pm on Friday afternoon.

Forty-five travel awards were made. Funding in this area was adequate. Typical grants were ~\$825/person for participants from N. America and Europe and ~\$560 for Asia). These awards combined funds from NASA and the Barringer Crater Co.

Berkeley – Herzog reported that there was no major news concerning the Berkeley meeting. Council members asked that Kuni be encouraged to include past and future organizers on the Local Organizing Committee for Berkeley.

9) Nomenclature Committee

Chris Herd reported that preparation of Meteoritical Bulletin **100** is in progress, with 1942 meteorites approved (1005 non-Antarctic). NomCom has already approved an additional 1209 meteorites (175 non-Antarctic) for MB **101**.

NomCom expects to have up to 4 vacancies starting January 1, 2013. Some current members are eligible for a second term.

5) The following changes have been made to the Guidelines in the last year:

a. A new guideline (Section 9) for naming meteorite found on celestial bodies other than Earth was adopted. It covers meteorites collected on sample-return missions and meteorites observed in situ during manned or robotic missions.

b. The list of geographic features that can be used to name meteorites (Section 3.1) was refined, largely in response to the proposal to name the recent California fall “Sutter’s Mill.” The language was clarified, historical sites were added to the list, and most sites associated with recent human activity were removed from the list.

c. The requirements for institutions that may be used as type-specimen (Section 7.1) repositories were clarified. They now specify that “At the time of submission of the meteorite to the Committee, the type specimen must be in the permanent custody of the institution.” Previously, they stated that the specimen must be “deposited” in the institution, which one classifier was interpreting to mean that he only had to loan specimens to the institution (in the same sense that one would deposit money in a bank).

Jeff Grossman continues to improve the Meteorite Database and the voting system that NomCom uses. Committee members can now access mineralogical and oxygen isotopic diagrams useful for classification. The oxygen isotope plotting feature has been greatly refined in collaboration with Richard Greenwood, and will be added to the public database prior to the Cairns meeting.

10) Elements – Corrigan

Cari Corrigan reviewed current arrangements with *Elements*. We are allotted two pages per issue. Alternating issues contain either a two-page Society news spread or 1 page of news and a one-page CosmoElements article. *Elements* has been receptive to publishing MetSoc material. Since last year, MetSoc members have authored the following titles: C. Corrigan,

Antarctic Meteorites (Oct '11); C. Corrigan, H. Beck and T. McCoy, *Asteroids* (Feb '12); S. Simon, *Allende* (June '12); D. Brownlee, *Comet Dust* (October '12). A full Topics issue (6 or 7 article) on asteroids edited by Corrigan and Libourel is in preparation.

Members' suggestions for articles and special topics issues are welcome.

11) McKay and Wiley-Blackwell Awards

Cari Corrigan presented the report of the McKay Award Committee, which was also charged with nominating Wiley-Blackwell awardees. She reported that the McKay Award committee members had discussed whether poster presenters should be eligible to receive the McKay or Wiley-Blackwell Awards. Council members suggested that eligibility should be restricted to oral presentations and that this point should be clarified on the application form. .

Corrigan observed that current regulations do not require a Wiley-Blackwell award winner to be a member of the Society.

Corrigan said that once the Committee selected and recommends the 2012 Award nominees, chairperson Fred Ciesla will write a letter to Council.

It was suggested that at future meetings, session chairs might be asked to judge the presentations. .

12) Publications Committee

1) President Scott asked for advice on the methods that should be used to provide electronic abstracts and program information for participants at the 2013 annual meeting. The committee members recommend that meeting participants should be given a USB memory stick preloaded with all abstracts. It would be helpful if each abstract was available (copyable) as a separate pdf file. The Committee saw no advantage (and several disadvantages) to being given an empty memory stick with instructions for downloading the abstracts. Further, for the foreseeable future, there will probably be many places where Wi-Fi is not available, for example during travel to and from the meeting.

In addition, the entire program and abstracts should be readily available online during the meeting (as well as indefinitely afterwards). Chris Herd that he would be discussing accessibility and maintenance of MetSoc abstracts with the staff at LPI.

2) Committee members stressed that Wi-Fi access at the annual meeting site should be carefully checked to make sure it has sufficient capacity for a heavy load of users. Also, Wi-Fi access should also be available in all places meeting participants are likely to gather at the conference site.

Flynn noted that President Scott asked the Publications Committee to evaluate a preliminary list of questions regarding the future of Meteoritical Society publications and that the Committee had taken these questions under advisement.

One question concerned the future of hard-copy publication. A poll of members was suggested as was consultation with Wiley about the implications for cost. The poll would require that we formulate appropriate questions and background.

13) Endowment Committee

Uwe Reimold the new chair, thanked Marc Caffee, the previous chair, for his service. Reimold reported that two students received support to attend the Lunar Highlands Conference/Stillwater and that both had written to thank the Society.

In 2011, the Endowment fund supported the following activities: Travel funds for MetSoc 2011 for members from low-income countries (\$4,000); Travel funds for the Second Arab Impact Cratering and Astrogeology Conference (AICAC II), held in Morocco in November 2011 (\$3,500); Student travel support for the Workshop on Formation of the First Solids in the Solar System, held in Kauai, HI, in November 2011 (\$3,000). In 2012, the Endowment fund support attendance of two students at the Lunar Highlands Conference/Stillwater. Reimold said that the committee had received thanks from the students.

At the time of the meeting, the Committee was considering two applications for support and expected to make recommendations by the end of the week of the meeting.

Legacy Program

The Council had previously received a document describing the creation of a Legacy Program for the Meteoritical Society. Joe Goldstein discussed the purpose and some key elements of the new program.

The Meteoritical Society has developed a new initiative in which our members can make lasting contributions to our society through bequests and other gifts, called the Legacy Program. These bequests and gifts will support the various activities of The Meteoritical Society for the future, thus leaving a personal legacy for each contributor. With such legacy support the Society will be able to ensure that it can continue to carry out its important activities. A fund is envisioned that will eventually provide the Society enough financial support so that yearly dues continue to be modest, especially for our student members.

Council members noted that there will be a continuing need to keep up with old and to gain new commitments. These activities may require follow up through several successive Councils.

Herzog: moved approval of the proposal to create a Legacy Program. Rhian Jones seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Goldstein reported that the members of the legacy subcommittee are: Drew Barringer, Candace Kohl, Hap McSween, Ed Scott, Tim Swindle, Grenville Turner, Herbert Palme, Rhian Jones, Joe Goldstein (chair).

14) Joint Publications Committee and GCA report

Munir Humayun presented the report of the Joint Publications Committee. As previously announced, Marc Norman accepted the EE position. Prior to the appointment of the new EE, a major attrition of AEs had occurred, and as of August the rate of departure of AEs remains relatively high. The main function of the JPC since May 2012 has been the approval of new AEs. They reviewed 27 nominees, with 15 additional nominees under consideration. Humayun noted that of the 68 AEs, only 8 are female. These numbers do not include 5 new approvals, which include two new female AEs. More effort is needed to identify additional female AEs for the future. The geographical distribution of AEs appears to reflect the distribution of corresponding authors, which is good news and does not require much tweaking. The peak of experience (age distribution) is in the 1986-1995 range, which seems reasonable. However, five AEs received their PhDs between 2005 and 2008, and include new assistant professor hires. Such cases might be justified when the imperative of expertise required in a given topical area outweighs the requirements of experience and job stability, but the JPC strongly feels that we should limit the number of AEs that have do not hold tenured/permanent positions

Executive Editor Marc Norman presented a report on the status of *Geochimica et Cosmochimica Acta*. In brief, relations with Elsevier are working reasonably well and communications have been fruitful. The new Journal Manager, David Vargas, has been cooperative. Catherine Beasley has been appointed 30% time to work on GCA in Canberra. As discussed in the JPC report above, the depleted state of the Editorial Board and the continuing turnover of AE's remain the most significant problems facing the editorial operation. The reasons have included family health issues, continuing aggravation with Elsevier policies, the heavy administrative overhead required to operate within EES, and planned retirements after the EE appointment was finalized. Elsevier has acted promptly to welcome the newly approved AE's but in some cases there have been delays in scheduling the induction and training. A relatively small but still significant number of manuscripts have been in the system for an excessively long time and have required the EEs individual attention.

16) The meeting was adjourned at 5:30 PM.