

Minutes
Meteoritical Society Council Meeting
12:00-5:00, March 15, 2015
Room: Sterling Ridge, Woodlands Marriott
Woodlands, Texas

Past President

Monica Grady

Council Members Attending

Mike Zolensky (Pres)

Trevor Ireland (VP)

Candace Kohl (Treas)

Mike Weisberg (Sec)

A. N. Krot

Jay Melosh

Keiko Nakamura-Messenger

Larry Nittler

Maria Schönbacher

Caroline Smith

Yoshi Yurimoto

Council Member Regrets

Francoise Robert

Guests Attending

Cari Corrigan (Elements, McKay Award)

George Flynn (PubCom)

Christine Floss (Leonard)

Jeff Grossman (NASA report)

Chris Herd (NomCom)

Marina Ivanova (MetSoc 2018, Moscow)

Nancy Chabot (Ethics Guideleines)

Erin Walton (membership Com)

Debra Buczkowski (Pellas-Ryder)

Tim Jull (MaPS)

Fiona Murphy (Wiley Blackwell)

Karen Ziegler (MetSoc 2017)

Kuni Nishiizumi (MetSoc 2015, Berkley)

Marc Norman (GCA)

Uwe Reimold (2016 Berlin and

Endowment Com)

Kai Wünnemann (2016 Berlin)

Guests Regrets

Hasnaa Chennaoui (MetSoc 2014 Casablanca)

Alvaro Crosta (Barringer Award)

Harold Connolly (Audit Committee)

David Hilton (JPC)

Agenda

0 Welcome and introductions	Zolensky	12:00	05
1 Minutes last Council Meeting	Weisberg	12:05	05
2 President's report	Zolensky	12:10	05
3 Secretary's report	Weisberg	12:15	05
4 Treasurer's Report			
Budget	Kohl	12:20	30
.....Audit Committee	Connolly/Weisberg		
5 Ethics Statement	Chabot	12:50	10
6 Awards Status			
Leonard Medal (+ Nier Prize) Com	Floss	13:00	05
Barringer Medal Com	(Alvaro/Sec.)	13:05	05
Pellas-Ryder (vote on Bylaw changes)	Buczowski	13:10	05
7 Meetings reports			
2019 proposals			
Hokkaido proposal	Yurimoto	13:15	10
Quebec and Case Western proposals mentioned			
2014 Casablanca report	(Hasnaa/Sec.)	13:25	10
2015 Berkeley	Nishiizumi	13:35	10
2016 Berlin	Reimold	13:45	05
	and Kai Wünnemann		
2017 Santa Fe	Ziegler	13:50	05
2018 Moscow	Ivanova	13:55	05
BREAK		14:00	10
8 Endowment Committee report	Riemold	14:10	30
(Klaus Kiel proposal, other proposals)			
9 Nomenclature Committee report	Herd	14:40	30
vote on Bylaw changes			
10 Membership Com	Erin Walton	15:10	10
and Service Award			
11 Elements	Corrigan	15:20	10
12 McKay Award	Corrigan	15:30	05
13 Publications Committee report	Flynn	15:35	20
14 MaPS			
Editor's report	Jull	15:55	10
Wiley Report	Murphy	16:05	10
15 GCA			
Editor's report	Norman	16:15	10
Responsibilities of journals and editors (JPC)		16:25	30
16 Elsevier Contract report/vote	Grady	16:55	10
17 News from NASA	Grossman	17:05	05
18. Vote on Nominating Committee		17:10	05
19 New business		17:15	
20 Adjournment			

0. Welcome and introductions

At noon, Mike Zolensky convened the meeting of the Council and welcomed all those attending.

1. Minutes of the Council meeting of September 7, 2014 meeting

Mike Weisberg presented the minutes (prepared by Greg Herzog) of the Council meeting held on September 7, 2014 at the Meteoritical Society Meeting in the Hyatt Regency hotel in Casablanca, Morocco.

Monica Grady moved acceptance of the Minutes, Candace Kohl seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

2. President's report (Mike Zolensky)

Mike Zolensky indicated that all of the important issues are included in other agenda items.

3. Secretary's report (Mike Weisberg)

3.1 Actions adopted by e-mail vote

Since 2015, the new council took 2 actions via e-mail.

3.1.1 Budget for the Meteoritics and Planetary Science (MaPS) editorial office – Council approved the revised budget for the MaPS editorial office. The Society needs to repay the University of Arizona for the amount overspent by the MaPS editorial office, ~ \$40,000. As a result, Tim Jull submitted a revised budget for 2015 of \$139,406, \$4,226 more than the budget approved at the Casablanca meeting. This amount includes $\frac{1}{4}$ the funds needed to repay University of Arizona. Via e-mail, Mike Weisberg motioned to vote on the revised budget, Candace Kohl seconded and the motion passed with 9 in favor and 2 abstaining.

3.1.2 Request for \$3000 in support of student attendance at the Origin of Solar Systems Gordon Conference – Fred Ciesla submitted a request to the Endowment Committee for \$3000 in funds for student attendance at the Origin of Solar Systems Gordon Conference. The endowment committee presented this proposal to council for vote. Via e-mail, Candace Kohl made the motion to vote, Caroline Smith seconded the motion and 9 votes were submitted, all in favor.

3.2 Other activity

3.2.1 MaPS Contract - Mike Weisberg reported that he and the president signed the renewed contract with University of Arizona for operation of the MaPS editorial office and that the new contract will be discussed later in the Publication Committee report.

3.2.2 Renewed of the contract with El Sevier – On November 11 and December 7, Mike Zolensky, Monica Grady and Mike Weisberg joined a teleconference with Seth Davis, Barbara Lollar, and Rick Carlson of the Geochemical Society, to discuss negotiating the next GCA contract with Elsevier. Mike Zolensky distributed an e-mail message to council with the results of these negotiations and major points of the contract.

3.2.3 Student Travel Awards - The secretary reported that he contacted Alan Trieman about submitting a proposal to fund student travel to the MetSoc meeting, and Alan put together a proposal to NASA requesting \$25K to support student travel to the 78th MetSoc meeting at Berkeley. (The proposal has since been submitted.)

In discussion, Monica Grady asked about Jeff Grossman's concern that the distribution of student travel awards from NASA should be competitive and reserved for US students.

Mike Zolensky explained that this issue is going to be overseen by Alan Trieman and the Program Committee.

3.3 Final notes

In January the secretary updated the website with information of new council and new committee members. Also the Society letterhead was updated for the 2015 council. Finally the secretary asked council for suggestions on improving the website and adding news or new images.

The president called for a vote to approve the secretary's report. Caroline Smith motioned to vote, Monica Grady Seconded and the report was unanimously approved.

4. Treasurer's report (Candace Kohl)

4.1 Candace Kohl conveyed that in her treasurer's report in September 2014, at the Metsoc meeting, Rhian Jones reported that she had filed all tax returns for FY 14. Tax returns for FY 15 are not due until the fall.

4.1.1 Tax reporting and accounts - Candace Kohl gave an update on the issue that the Society has been functioning as two separate entities ("Meteoritical Society" and the new incorporated "The Meteoritical Society").

The treasurers' summary of the two entities:

(1) Meteoritical Society: This organization is registered with the State of California Franchise Tax Board as a tax-exempt organization but is unincorporated. Date of formation: January 1st 1999. We have been doing business under this EIN and since 2002 tax returns have been filed for this organization.

(2) The Meteoritical Society: This organization is incorporated in the State of California. Date of incorporation: April 5th 2010. We received notification that "The Meteoritical Society" was granted tax-exempt status, both in the State of California and with the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) (received January 2014). However, the tax-exempt status was automatically revoked because we had not filed tax returns for this organization for the previous three tax years. As of October 2014 the problem was resolved and our tax-exempt status was verified. Council passed a resolution to transfer all assets to the incorporated entity "The Meteoritical Society" and when the transfer is complete the unincorporated entity, "Meteoritical Society", will be dissolved. This fiscal year the Society will submit tax returns for both entities.

With regard to Society accounts, Candace Kohl reported the following:

Bank of America: The new accounts (checking and savings) have been established and funds in the old ones will be transferred over and those old accounts closed as soon as all checks have cleared. Mark Thiemens is the deputy treasurer and has signing privileges on these accounts. These are the Society's main operating accounts.

Wells Fargo: The new checking account has been opened but the old account is still active.

PayPal: The changeover has not been started but PayPal is seldom used and the balance has remained static for many months. I will initiate this change after this meeting.

Merrill Lynch: The new investment account is opened and the majority of our funds have been transferred. The old account is still active and accumulating small amounts of money. This should end soon and the old account will be closed when it is no longer active.

4.1.2 Membership - No issues with membership were reported. As of Jan. 31, 2015, the total

membership was 809. This is similar to the membership of 829 at this time last year. These numbers are not the same as those given by the membership report because their numbers are as of March 2, 2015 and these are as of January 31, 2015.

4.1.2 Assets - Kohl informed council that the Operating Fund money is distributed between several accounts. The main Operating Fund is held in two accounts with Bank of America.

Membership dues are collected and managed by the Mineralogical Society of America (MSA): Funds collected by MSA are deposited in a Wells Fargo checking account, and then transferred periodically to the Bank of America account.

The Society has a PayPal account, which is used occasionally when members have no other way to pay membership dues. PayPal is also used to pay website fees to Techneco, Japan.

Overall, the bank balances of all four Operating Fund accounts stood at \$ 214,886.65 at the end of January 2015.

The Merrill Lynch Investment Fund had a Portfolio Value of \$1,037,223 on 31st January 2015. The Investment Fund is distributed among four different endowed funds: the Endowment Fund, the Nier Fund, the Gordon A. McKay Fund, and the new Swindle Travel Fund (begun in 2013). The Investment Fund also holds the Reserve Fund that was established in 2013, with a flat value of \$100,000.

As of January 31st the Society had received \$16,455 from members, as donations to the different funds.

Taking into account encumbrances and the equity balance, the effective balance of the Operating Fund is \$191,432.

4.1.3 Investment Fund - The Portfolio value of the Investment Fund has decreased a bit, by \$1,079, since the end of FY14.

The current (31 January 2015) distribution between the four endowed funds is as follows: 76.19 % is in the General Endowment Fund, 5.96 % of the money is in the Nier Fund, 6.20 % is in the Gordon A. McKay Fund, and 1.99% is in the Tim Swindle Travel Fund.

There was no cash activity in the Investment Fund for the period 1 June 2014 to 31 January 2015.

A note about the MetSoc Travel funds for members from low-income countries: The intention of the Endowment Committee is that these grants will continue during the period of time that the TIM Fund is building up its full corpus. The grants are offset by donations from members who are invited to donate to this fund on the membership renewal form. A total of \$1,815 was raised to support travel to MetSoc 2015 as of 31st January 2015.

As of Jan. 31st investment account reserve is \$100,000. Nier Prize and McKay looks the same as last year because nothing was taken out. A little money was lost this year due to the stock market.

4.1.4 Wiley account - A significant amount of the society's financial turnover is associated with the cost of publishing MAPS. Wiley's accounting is on a calendar year basis.

The society pays Wiley for member subscriptions, which is collected as a part of membership dues. The estimated amount for this in 2014 is \$33,560. The actual cost, for which we have

been billed in February 2014, was \$35,310. We expect to receive the final figures for 2014 in April 2015.

The society receives a contribution towards the MAPS editorial office expenses from Wiley. This sum began at \$85,000 in 2010 and increases by 3% each year, so that in 2015 it stands at \$98,559. We also receive royalties from Wiley, calculated as 11% of Wiley's revenue (income). The projected amount for 2014 is \$38,414. As per the agreement with Wiley, we receive 75% of this sum in advance, and the balance for 2014 will be settled in April 2015.

The Wiley budget includes \$2,000 that Wiley has given to the society for the last two years, to support the Wiley awards to students presenting at MetSoc meetings as well as an annual payment of \$500 to the society as a travel grant, as detailed in the Wiley agreement. These values appear together in their budget for 2015 listed under grants although they are different categories. They will both be requested from Wiley later in the year.

4.1.5 Operating Fund Account FY15 – Candace summarized revenues and expenses for FY15.

Revenues - notes

- Membership dues collected to 31 January total \$72,650. This compares with \$63,743 at the same time last year.
- Revenue from Wiley is discussed above. Wiley pays royalty advances that total 75% of projected royalties, on a quarterly basis. Only one payment had been received up to 31 January. The payment for the second half of the support for the editorial office was also not received. This issue has been resolved and the checks issued by Wiley.
- Abstract fees for the MetSoc 2014 meeting were collected by the MSA Office. A few abstract fees were paid at the meeting or were collected directly. A bill from Wiley for the abstract fees less 10% was received in February.
- The loan of \$15,000 made to the Edmonton MetSoc conference was repaid along with a surplus of \$8,555.
- The loan of \$30,000 to the Casablanca MetSoc meeting was repaid. The final accounting for the Casablanca meeting is very close to balanced at 0, including the repayment of the loan. The conference may have made a small profit of a few hundred dollars but the exact accounting has not been completed.
- We received several donations towards grants and awards. Funds for the 2014 Barringer Award were received from the Center for Meteorite Studies, ASU. Wiley provided us with a grant of \$2,000 to fund student awards at MetSoc 2014. Travel awards for MetSoc 2014 from the International Meteorite Collectors Association (IMCA) and the Planetary Studies Foundation (PSF) were also processed through the Operating Fund. The Barringer Student Travel Awards and the Barringer Lecture Honorarium are also listed in this section. All of this revenue was paid out soon after it was deposited.
- The Geochemical Society donated shared royalties to the Meteoritical Society in quarterly installments of approximately \$5,000 each. Only one of these was received in the time period. One of the expected checks was not received and this is being checked into. There were several issues with mail going astray with the changeover of treasurers and Rhian's move to the UK.
- Interest was received on the Bank of America savings account.

Expenses – notes

- The Wiley membership invoice (\$35,310) was received in February, as was an invoice (\$14,310) for the abstract fees collected by MSA.
- MAPS editorial office. Society support for the editorial office is made in four equal

quarterly payments, totaling \$133,922 in FY14. The amount is based on the MAPS budget provided by Editor Tim Jull.

- Elements magazine. Payment for member subscriptions to Elements is made on a calendar year basis. Payment is made in two estimated installments, plus one payment for the balance at the end of the calendar year. The total cost to the society for the time period reported was \$6,000.
- Awards. The Barringer Crater Company donated \$18,000 for student travel awards to MetSoc 2014 and the additional Barringer travel funds not used at the Edmonton meeting were added to this.
- MSA membership services. Fees for handling subscriptions and the membership database. MSA charges a monthly maintenance fee of \$300. The 2014 invoices include membership processing (\$5 per member), as well as charges for sending paper renewal forms, postage, and internet services.
- Fees for credit card payments of membership dues are debited directly from the Wells Fargo account.
- The website is administered by Techneco, Japan. The Society pays a monthly fee of JPY6,000 plus tax (approximately \$70 per month).
- The Society had filing fees for various tax forms and accountant fees for preparation of tax returns.
- The cost of the Donor Reception at the Casablanca MetSoc was covered entirely from the Operating Fund.

On balance the Operating Fund shows a net gain for FY15 to 31 January, of \$109,968.76. However, there are a large number of outstanding payments that were not recorded in the time period reported here. In addition the Casablanca loan was repaid as well as the Edmonton loan and surplus and at this time there are no outstanding loans to future meetings.

In discussion, Monica Grady explained that the abstract fees were run through MSA because of difficulties in dealing with Casablanca and suggested that it be done again because it ran well.

4.1.6 FY15 Operating Fund Budget - The total revenue for membership dues is estimated at \$80,000. This assumes that we maintain membership at around 1000 members. The budget also assumes that the Geochemical Society will donate approximately \$19,000 this year.

The budget shows a significant profit of about \$47,000. This reflects the fact that all meeting loans have been repaid and there are no outstanding loans to future meetings. In addition the FY15 budget presented at the MetSoc meeting in 2014 did not list any revenue from the Geochemical Society.

4.1.7 FY16 Operating Fund budget – Candace reported that overall the budget for next fiscal year is almost the same as previous year's budget. MAPS office is same, GCA assumed to be the same. Small loan is requested for Santa Fe meeting. As a result we can expect a healthy budget.

Mike Zolensky asked for comment and then called for the Council to approve the Treasurer's report. Trevor Ireland motioned to vote, Monica Grady seconded and the report was unanimously approved.

4.2 Audit Committee report (prepared by Harold Connolly and read by Mike Weisberg.)
Charge by Council (March 2007): The Audit Committee is responsible for producing an audit of

the Treasurer's Annual Report at the end of each fiscal year. The committee will consist of three Society members. Committee members cannot be Council members and cannot be affiliated with the institution of any Treasurer who served during that fiscal year. Members will serve staggered, three-year, renewable terms, with one member acting as Chair. The President will appoint new members of the Audit Committee and select the Chair at least one month before the end of the fiscal year. If possible, the report of the Audit Committee should be transmitted to the Secretary for distribution to the Council prior to the Annual Meeting; otherwise, the report should be transmitted within 4 months of receipt of the Treasurer's report. The main goal of the committee is to report to Council whether 1) the Treasurer accurately reported all Society expenditures and revenues in the annual report, and 2) whether the net profit or loss reported by the Treasurer for a given year is correct. The Treasurer oversees the operations accounts, and the Endowment Committee has jurisdiction over the endowment fund accounts. The Audit Committee must, therefore, assess whether transfers between these funds are accurately reflected in the Treasurer's report. The committee should then recommend to the Council whether or not to approve the Treasurer's Report. The committee also has a general mandate to make suggestions to the Council and the Treasurer as to how the Society handles its finances. The committee's mandate includes consideration of whether an external audit is warranted, in which case the committee would so recommend to Council.

Members of Audit Committee include Harold Connolly (chair), Bernard Marty and Susan Taylor.

Timeline: Fiscal Year 2013 (FY13): June 1, 2013 - May 31, 2014

Comment from the Committee: The committee does not include anyone trained in financial accounting standards, or a certified public accountant. Its report, therefore, cannot substitute for a professional external audit. The committee did not review Federal and State tax returns. The committee did not review accounts in the Endowment.

Findings of the Committee: During FY14 Rhian Jones served as treasurer and the Committee received the following documents from Rhian Jones:

- Treasurer's report from September
- A multipage spreadsheet covering FY14 activity in all accounts
- Scanned PDFs of monthly portfolio reports from Merrill Lynch, checking and savings account statements from Bank of America checking account, Bank of America savings account, Wells Fargo, a PayPal account, and the Endowment account for FY14.

With the provided materials, the Audit Committee was able to verify the following reported bank account balances given in the Treasurer's report. Summary of the Meteoritical Society Assets:

- Starting and ending balance the Bank of America checking account for FY14
- Starting and ending balance for a Bank of America savings account for FY14.
- Starting and ending balance for Wells Fargo account for FY14.
- Starting and ending balance of the Endowment account (Merrill Lynch Investment fund), FY14.
- Starting and ending balance of the PayPal account for FY14.

Gifts and contributions to the Endowment accounts that passed through the Operating Account, transfers between the Endowment and Operating Accounts, and payments by the Operating Account for Endowment expenses were reviewed and found to be in order.

The Audit Committee finds agreement between the FY14 Treasurer's Report and the Meteoritical Society's financial records for FY14.

Recommendations: The Committee recommends approving the revised report of the Treasurer for FY14. Given the data reviewed the Society appears to be on a sound financial footing.

Special Notice from the Audit Committee: The Audit Committee would like to thank Professor Rhian Jones for the remarkable work and dedication during the last 3 years and suggests that a formal letter be sent to her from the current Council thanking her for her dedication and wisdom in establishing a fully functional Treasurer's Office for the Society.

Special Notice from the 2015 Audit Committee: We suggest the current Council send a formal thank you note to the past Chair of the Audit Committee, Professor Bernard Marty, for his hard work and three years of service to the Society through the Committee.

Suggestion: The investment fund is more than 1 million USD now, a comfortable amount. One suggestion could be to support efforts in sub-Saharan countries (e.g., Morocco) to better find and curate meteoritic samples, as well as to encourage and support efforts for outreach in those countries, e.g., exhibitions etc.

On the recommendation for a professional audit, Monica Grady asked if we have to do this. Mike Zolensky, Trevor Ireland and Candace Kohl agreed it would be a good idea.

Zolensky said that we will ask Drew and the accountant about this? Nancy Chabot added that we never had a professional audit and Zolensky replied that if an audit is recommend, we will bring it to council to vote.

Mike Zolensky said that he will write a letter thanking Rhian Jones for her service as past Treasurer and will circulate the letter to council for approval. He added that he will write a letter to Bernard Marty too and to all past Society officers, thanking them for their services..

On the audit committee's suggestion to support efforts in sub-Saharan countries, Monica Grady commneted it is not within the realm of the audit committee to make such proposals, and Mike Zolensky said that he will contact the endowment committee about this suggestion.

Mike Zolensky concluded that he will look in to a professional audit and Candace Kohl will look into costs.

5.0 Ethics Statement vote (Nancy Chabot)

Nancy Chabot explained the history of the ethics statement; Past presidents were charged with writing the statement and it was distributed to the whole society to review and later revised. The statement is outlined below:

Preamble

The constitution of the Meteoritical Society states that "The purpose of this Society shall be to promote research and education in planetary science with emphasis on studies of meteorites and other extraterrestrial materials...". These goals are best served when meteorites are collected, curated, and studied in an ethical manner. The Meteoritical Society has therefore adopted the following Ethical Guidelines.

Ethical Guidelines

1.) Members who recover, collect, trade, display, or do research on meteorites should comply with all applicable national, state and local laws and regulations; international

conventions and agreements; institutional and professional rules and codes; and rules of good scientific practice.

2.) Those recovering meteorites from the field should follow all applicable laws and obtain governmental approval when required; they should also cooperate with local governmental and institutional authorities to advance meteoritics.

3.) The Society urges those who recover meteorites to certify their meteorites by obtaining an “official” name from the Nomenclature Committee of the Meteoritical Society and satisfying all the requirements for new meteorites. Researchers should not publish on new meteorites until the meteorites have been certified by the Nomenclature Committee.

4.) Collectors, curators, and researchers should not acquire or study meteorites if they know that these samples were not recovered or acquired legally.

5.) Research and publication on meteorites should be conducted in an ethical manner (e.g., [AGU Scientific Integrity and Professional Ethics](#)).

6.) In order to promote education and research in meteoritics, the Society encourages the donation of representative samples of meteorites to institutions in the area where new meteorites are discovered. Such donations do not replace the requirement for the deposit of a type specimen in a well-curated meteorite collection.

Jeff Grossman provided a word document with track changes containing comments on the above document and those comments were distributed to council via e-mail.

In discussion, Nancy brought up the issue of whether to call the document an “ethics statement” or “statement of good practice”. She suggested that council should vote on accepting the statement since it has been publically circulated to the entire Society and has been a long outstanding issue.

Mike Zolensky proposed tabling the vote till Berkeley in order to revise the wording, specifically on what to call the statement and whether to re-word it as a “code of conduct”. Monica Grady added that “code of conduct” is a better wording for this statement. She reminded council that the statement has been in discussion by the Society’s councils for a decade. Caroline Smith added that, her, Herbert Palme and Joe Goldstein started it in 2005 and an Ad hoc committee was formed consisting of past presidents to write the statement.

Monica Grady added that it may overlap with NomCom and that it is difficult to present it as an “ethics statement” and “code of conduct” or “best practice” is a better wording.

Monica Grady volunteered to take on rewording the statement and will circulate to council for approval.

Voting on the statement will be postponed till the council meeting at Berkeley. Nancy Chabot again urged council to vote at Berkeley and finalize this issue.

(Jay Melosh joined the meeting at 12:40).

6. Awards status

6.1 Leonard Medal – Christine Floss reported the status of the Leonard Medal Committee. She began with an issue that there is a lack of female representation for the Nier prize as well as the Leonard Medal. There has never been a female recipient of the Leonard Medal. Caroline Smith discussed the possibly of factors like going off to have families. Monica Grady suggested putting up a Table at the Berkeley meeting with a list of award winners indicating male and

female in order to demonstrate the gender bias in the awards. Caroline Smith added that there appear to be a bias toward isotope geochemists for the awards. Overall discussion by council seemed to show a general agreement that the issue of gender bias needs to be pointed out to the Society.

Christine reported that there are six candidates for the 2016 Leonard Medal, one of which is new this year. Of the five candidates for the Nier Prize, three are new this year. The Committee is progressing well on recommendations for both awards.

6.2 Barringer Medal – Mike Weisberg read the report prepared by Alvaro Crosta. The Committee had three active nominations for the Barringer Award, all nominated in 2013 and expiring in 2016:

In order to actively seek more nominations for 2015, an e-mail was sent in Dec. 2014 to a number of key MetSoc fellows and members, encouraging new nominations and reminding them of the Jan. 15 deadline. As a result, the Committee received two additional nominations:

All the nomination documents were sent to Committee members on Jan. 26, 2015, together with the Award rules. Current Committee members are:

Alvaro Crósta (2015 - Chair)

Mark Burchell (2016)

Alex Deutsch (2017)

John Spray (2018)

A deadline of May 29, 2015, was set for Committee Members to send their evaluations, so that a final decision and recommendation can be submitted to the MetSoc Council in due time for its next meeting in Berkeley.

6.3 Pellas-Ryder Award

Debra Buczkowski reported that the committee is down to a short list of 4 out of nine paper submitted. Of those it is down to two that are the strongest.

Monica Grady asked the gender of the candidates and Debra replied one is female.

Mike Zolensky asked if there are any issues. Debra indicated that meteorite papers tend to be favored by the committee but this year the type choices by the Meteoritical Society representatives are geology-oriented papers and visa versa.

Mike Zolensky and Mike Weisberg reported the issue that a paper was nominated twice for the award. This was due to the paper appearing electronically at the end of the year and then appearing in hard copy the start of following year. To resolve this issue a change to the bylaws section was recommended. The recommendations was to add the following line to Article 15:

“Any paper published in multiple formats (online and/or in print) cannot be considered for the award more than one time.”

Mike Zolensky called for a motion to vote on changing the bylaws. Larry Nittler made the motion to vote, Monica Grady seconded the motion and all present voted in favor.

7. Reports on annual meetings

7.1 2019 – Yoshi Yurimoto presented an invitation for 2019. He reasoned that Sapporo is a

convenient location for the meeting because there are many flights from other cities and it has an international airport. The airport is close to downtown by train. There are many hotels with prices of \$100 on average, close to the venue. Also, temperatures are comfortable in summer. The venue would be Hokkaido University. Yurimoto discussed that William Smith Clark, the 1st president of the university, studied meteorites. Hokkaido University is close to the city and hotels. The university has a large hall for posters and close by areas for sessions in the same building. The LOC will be from the university and other colleagues, Yurimoto-san said that there will also be support from the city of Sapporo. They are interested in supporting young scientists. The proposed date would be July 21-26.

Jay Melosh asked about requirements for a VISA to travel to Japan. Yurimoto responded that there may be requirements for some nations, but not the US.

Mike Zolensky introduced other bids for the 2019 meeting. He indicated that Serge Genest submitted a bid for Quebec City, Ralph Harvey submitted a bid for Case Western (Cleveland) and Paris may bid for 2019 or 2020. Council reviewed the invitations for Quebec City and Cleveland via e-mail. Zolensky indicated that formal presentations will be given at the annual meeting in Berkeley where the meeting location will be decided. **NOTE the bids for Quebec and Cleveland have since been withdrawn.**

7.2 2014 Casablanca Report

Hasnaa Chennaoui was not present to submit the final report for the past meeting but submitted a spreadsheet with final accounting. The spreadsheet shows that the meeting was close to breaking even with a small deficit of ~\$1000.

7.3 2015 Berkeley (Kuni Nishizumi)

Kuni Nishizumi described the schedule of the meeting

Larry Nittler asked about the timing of the award ceremony and Kuni responded it would be late afternoon.

Kuni discussed the website and deadlines for housing.

The make-up of the local organizing committee (LOC) was presented and Mike Zolensky asked for a motion to vote on the LOC. Candace Kohl made the motion to vote, Monica Grady seconded the motion and the LOC was unanimously approved by the council members present.

Kuni presented the Program Committee (PC) to council and Mike Zolensky asked for a motion to vote on approving the PC. Candace Kohl made the motion to vote, Monica Grady second the motion and all votes were in favor of approval.

Kuni showed location maps of science meeting rooms and the banquet area. Poster sessions will be Tuesday and Friday, but posters will remain up throughout the meeting.

Monica Grady asked about restaurants outside of campus for lunch. Kuni indicated that there are many restaurant options around the campus area.

Kuni indicated expectation of 400-500 attendees with guests.

Registration fees were estimated based on a ratio of 0.7-0.2-0.1 for regular-student-guests, respectively

The budget for meeting was presented by Kuni.

Monica Grady was concerned about having alcohol in the budget but Kuni indicated that this is standard procedure.

Candace Kohl asked Kuni to clarify A/V costs that are not on the budget.

Candace Kohl said we need to have \$1500 allocated for the donor reception.

Sasha Krot raised a question about the registration fee. And what it would be if there were 400 registered for the meeting. Monica Grady recommended that we vote on Kuni's budget. Mike Zolensky asked for a motion to vote, Monica Grady made the motion, Mike Weisberg second the motion and all voted in favor.

Trevor Ireland asked that Kuni specify a registration fee and that council vote on the amount. The amount of \$550 was suggested, based on the estimated number of attendees. Mike Zolensky asked for a motion to vote on the \$550 registration fee for the 78th annual meeting. Trevor Ireland made the motion to vote, Monica Grady second the motion and all voted in favor of the \$550 registration fee.

7.4 2016 Berlin meeting report (Uwe Riemold)

Uwe Riemold presented the logo, LOC and Science Program Committee for the Berlin meeting. He indicated that all members of the program committee confirmed that they will participate. The venue for the meeting will be the Henry Ford building SW of Berlin. The Society will get this venue at a vastly reduced fee. The format of the meeting and events were also presented.

Sasha Krot asked about the short 9-4 sessions and amount of talks possible. Uwe replied as many as possible and that the LOC will be looking into it.

It was reported that the Banquet venue holds 550 people. The proposed registration fee for the meeting is below 500 euro. Also discussed were other sources of income for the meeting and the general location and accommodations.

7.5 2017 Santa Fe meeting report (Karen Ziegler)

Karen Ziegler reported that the Santa Fe convention center [meeting venue] is 1 hour drive north of Albuquerque. Downtown Santa Fe is the preferred city location because it has lots of hotels and restaurants. The convention center has rooms for lectures, large enough for 3 parallel scientific sessions. There are rooms for committee meetings. The Community Gallery has contemporary art and would be a good location for the donor's reception. The opening reception and banquet would be held at the Hotel La Fonda, which is one of the 4 oldest hotels in Santa Fe. Meeting space at the hotel is complimentary and 80 rooms will be held for guests.

There will be field trips and day trips organized.

The organizers have a hold on the convention center for July 24-28.

The organizers request a \$5000 loan from the society for down payment for Society dinner, and venue for meeting.

Monica Grady asked why not La Fonda for the whole meeting – Karen answered that the size would not be suitable for the scientific sessions.

Mike Zolensky asked for a motion to vote on the loan to the LOC of the Santa Fe meeting. Candace Kohl made the motion to vote, Caroline Smith seconded the motion and all voted in favor.

7.6. 2018 Moscow (Marina Ivanova) - Marina reported the following:

1. Preferable date of the meeting is July, 29 – August, 3. This time is preferable for Moscow State University and for the Russian Academy of Sciences.
2. For organization of the conference we will contact companies which organized multiple previous international meetings in Moscow. These companies will help to coordinate different steps in organization of the events (accommodation, transport, catering, excursions, visa, AV loan, poster boards and others).
3. Reservations of the Conference Halls are developing towards a short list, currently with two main potential options:
 - 1) **Moscow State University (MSU), Lomonosov's Hall.** Marina reported that she is in discussions with the director of Moscow State University to potentially reserve Lomonosov Hall and dormitories.
 - 2) **Russian Academy of Sciences (RAS) conference center** is another option. Based on an inquiry from the Scientific Council of the Vernadsky Institute, the Russian Academy of Sciences has included the Meteoritical Society Meeting conference in the main schedule of scientific events in 2018. That means that the RAN guarantees support of the Conference (organizations and funds), and reserved 2 Conference Halls (200 pers.) and 1 Hall (1000 pers.) in the building of Presidium of the Academy of Sciences.

In both cases (Academy of Sciences and Moscow State University) reservation of the conference halls are free.

4. Accommodations:
 - 1) Hotels of different categories are located around the building of Presidium of RAS (the closest is the Corston Hotel (4*), 10 minutes walk from the RAS building.
 - 2) Dormitories of MSU.
5. Welcome party is planned to be organized in the MSU Hall or in the modern building of RAS. For the banquet, Restaurant MSU or Academy of Sciences (other possibilities are also being looked at, such as Sparrow Hills overlooking the Moscow River, or a cruise on restaurant boats along the Moscow River.
6. Preliminary Local Organizing Committee (LOC) and Program Committee (PC) are developed in draft versions. LOC will include a list of honorary academicians – directors of Institutes and a list of the LOC executive members who will really work for the conference. Participation of famous academicians plays a big role to get a good financial support for organization of the conference according to the Russian system of Institutions.

8. Endowment Committee Report (Uwe Riemold)

Uwe Riemold reported that since the committee meeting at MetSoc 2014, Casablanca, the Endowment Committee (EC) can report the following actions:

8.1 The Travel award fund for deserving professional members was renamed “The “Travel by International Members” (TIM) Fund. EC debated whether this annual grant of up to \$ 4000 should be opened up to *professional members and doctoral student members* in order to provide more flexibility in utilizing the funds that, in the past years, have not been called up in full. This is for Council to decide.

8.2 A donor function was organized and held at the Casablanca meeting.

8.3 Applications for support:

8.3.1 - An application for support from the Endowment Fund for a workshop in Hungary, organized by Dr. Arnold Gucsik, on Modern Techniques in Analysis was debated and rejected on the grounds that the application was insufficient.

8.3.2 - A second application received from Fred Ciesla for student support for a Gordon Origins Conference was unanimously approved by the committee. The Society President has since arranged an email vote by Council, who also approved this grant support.

8.3.3 - A third and fourth application for considerable funding by Dr. Dominik Hezel are aimed at *A digital strategy for Cosmochemistry – maintaining MetBase by MetSoc* as well as *Maintaining a Cosmochemistry Paper Website*. While the benefit of both systems is appreciated, the EC is concerned that recurring costs to the tune of 20,000 € and € 3000 per annum cannot be sustained by the Fund. Council may want to debate these proposals.

8.4 EC has been engaged since March 2014 in discussion about further avenues of utilization of the Fund's resources. A number of issues were singled out at Casablanca and require further discussion by the committee. However, Sasha Krot made a proposal that suggests "*improving the relationship with related disciplines (e.g., astrophysics) through inviting an expert speaker to an Annual Meeting, at the expense of the Fund*". The committee is unanimous that this is a good idea but that it could be instituted on a case-by-case basis – leaving it up to respective meeting organizers to propose such an invited lecture and request funds. Council needs to discuss and decide on the principle and, perhaps, the amount to be made available (such as "up to \$ 2000").

8.5 Following its discussion at Casablanca, the EC has liaised further with Klaus Keil about his proposal of a lecture tour on Meteoritics to a host of sites (public audiences as well as university audiences) in Brazil. Specifically, further information regarding sustainability for the tour's outcomes, availability of Portuguese materials for audiences, and more detail on the travel agenda and budget had been requested. Unfortunately, Klaus Keil recently withdrew his application. The President attempted to reverse Klaus' decision, so far to no avail. The EC will revisit the issue of lecture tours aimed at broadening knowledge on the core subjects of the Society in regions where this may be required/possible.

8.6 The Committee asked Council to approve use of funds for a Donor Function at the upcoming Berkeley meeting. Additionally, the EC requests more flexibility of the travel funds granted for young members of the society and extend them to more professional members of the society.

In discussion, Mike Zolensky and others voiced concern over the proposals by Dominik Hezel, specifically the costs being in the 10's of thousands of dollars and being opened ended. Zolensky indicated he will draft a response and circulate it to council for comments and Dominick could re-propose. Monica Grady – said that she does not use the one site and asked if we need to maintain metbase or give more support to the Meteorite Bulletin Database.

Larry Nittler questioned what was meant by "interdisciplinary" in the proposal by Sasha Krot. Sasha explained that it would be to bring someone to annual meeting that would not normally come. MZ make it known to Metsoc organizers that there is funds from council to bring in an expertise from other fields.

Candace Kohl asked the difference between this and the Barringer. Uwe Riemold answered that the Barringer lecture has no constraints and does not need to be scientific.

On the proposal to reserve \$2000 to invite someone who is not directly from the Meteoritics discipline to Meteoritical Society Meetings, Mike Zolensky suggested we vote by e-mail

Uwe asked for funds (\$1500) for the Donor reception at Berkeley.

Travel support for students and post-doctoral fellows. \$4000. From the "Travel by International Members" (TIM) fund and \$6000 from endowment. This aims at providing more flexibility to be able to make it possible for students and postdoctoral researchers to attend meetings.

It is proposed that the Endowment Committee allocate a sum of \$10,000 in 2015 to support the attendance of students and post-doctoral scholars to the 78th Annual Meeting of The Meteoritical Society, 2015, to be held in Berkeley California. This amount shall include \$4000 from the TIM Fund that is to be allocated to post-doctoral participants from low-income countries. The Secretary of The Society shall inform the Local Organizing Committee of the Meeting of the funding allocation available from the Endowment Fund for support of students and post-doctoral scholars to attend the meeting. The Meeting organizers should apply to the President of The Society to obtain this support.

Travel support under this mechanism shall be available only by application to the Local Organizing Committee of the 78th Annual Meeting of The Meteoritical Society, after public announcement of the opportunity. To be considered for this travel support, an applicant must, at the time of the meeting:

- be a member in good standing of The Meteoritical Society;
- be a student pursuing an academic degree in a field relevant to the goals of The Society or have received a Ph.D. degree (or equivalent) in a field relevant to the goals of The Society within the preceding two years; and
- must have submitted a first-author abstract for oral or poster presentation at the meeting.

In support of an application for travel support under this mechanism, the applicant must: submit evidence that these three requirements have been met; and provide a copy of the submitted first-author abstract for the meeting.

Travel support under this mechanism shall be awarded competitively among qualified applicants, based on: fulfillment of the above requirements, and the quality of the research represented by the abstract. Awards shall be based solely on these criteria, and will not be based on religion, gender, national origin, race, age, or any other quality or quantity unrelated to the goals and aims of The Meteoritical Society. The Local Organizing Committee shall be responsible for following these selection guidelines, and shall determine qualified recipients of funding and suggested funding levels.

The mechanism for disbursement of funds from the Endowment Committee will be decided by the The Society's Treasurer and the Local Organizing Committee.

Mike Zolensky called for a motion to vote on \$1500 for the Donor Function at the Berkeley meeting. Candace Kohl made the motion to vote, Monica Grady seconded the motion and all voted in favor.

In regard to student travel support, Zolensky recommended the council vote later by e-mail.

9. Nomenclature Committee report (Chris Herd)

Chris Herd reported that NomCom is carrying out business as usual.

MB 101 and 102 are awaiting publication. Bulletins are now synchronized to the year. MB103, covering meteorites accepted in 2014, has 2593 meteorites (1082 non-Antarctic). MB104 has 1023 meteorites (270 non-Antarctic) so far. Given the number of recent NomCom-related changes and updates, we are working towards establishing the new newsletter-type format for the Bulletin shortly.

A new scheme for Falls and Finds has been implemented, in order to better express the varying level of confidence as to whether a given meteorite was actually an observed fall. Categories include: Confirmed fall; Probable fall; Find, possible fall; Find, doubtful fall; and Find. A document explaining the new scheme can be found at: <http://www.lpi.usra.edu/meteor/docs/falls-finds.pdf>

Monica Grady asked how our Moroccan colleagues feel about the new scheme. Chris Herd mentioned the differences between falls in NWA vs. other parts of the world. MG asked if this helps with past issues.

Monica asked about names vs. numbers in northwest Africa. Chris replied that if it falls into a fall category, it will be given a name.

Chris reported changes to guidelines, such as elimination of special rules for Moroccan meteorites, such as requiring a photograph for the meteorite, and established a Dense Collection Area (DCA) grid for all of Morocco and Western Sahara. DCAs sizes are consistent with those from other desert areas (e.g., in Saudi Arabia, Oman, etc.), approximately 1 to 1.5 square degrees. Any meteorites found in these areas will be given DCA names that better reflect the general area in which they were recovered. NWA will apply to poorly documented meteorites, for examples those bought in a market. NWA (Northwest) will apply to poorly documented meteorites thought to be found in Morocco, Western Sahara, Mauritania, Mali, Algeria, Tunisia, or Niger; and NEA (Northeast) will apply to meteorites thought to be found in Libya, Chad, Egypt, or Sudan. Numbering system for NWA meteorites will re-start at 10001

He discussed the issues with dense collection areas (DCAs) for this part of the world and indicated that a subcommittee was set-up to discuss the DCAs and to update as needed.

Other guideline changes were outlined.

Chris welcomed new members to NomCom (Vinciane Debaille, Emma Bullock and Hasnaa Chennaoui-Aoudjehane) and was thankful to past members (Kees Welten, Henning Haack, Smail Mostafaoui and Caroline Smith) who have completed terms. Chris specifically mentioned Caroline Smith who was secretary of the Committee for 8 years.

Chris said that he will step down as chair on March 16 of this year. Carl Agee will be chair and Audrey Bouvier will be the editor

Mike Zolensky indicated that it takes a year to replace the editor – Audrey would be interim editor and an ad hoc committee will be established to find an editor. MZ appointed Audrey to be editor until it is resolved.

Chris Herd outlined two proposed changes to Article 12 of the Bylaws:

In Article 12.2: The number of committee members is reduced from 12 to 9. In article 12.3: The President shall designate one of the *appointed* members to serve as the Committee Chair. The word “appointed” is added to ensure checks and balances in place. Editor or DB Editor does not normally become Chair, and VP Society does not become Chair, to avoid conflicts of interest.

Changes to the Procedures section C3 and D3 include:

C3: Changes to the number “7 of the 12 voting members” to reflect new number of voting members in 12.2.

D3: Changes to the NomCom Procedures regarding how Type Specimen repositories are approved. The new procedures read:

- a. *The Database Editor shall review all submitted information about new repositories for conformance to the requirements in Section D2. The Database Editor will then put the acceptance of the repository to vote by the NomCom. Voting will be done by email, and will follow the procedure outlined in Section C3, with the following exception:*
 - i. *The announced voting period may be shortened to as little as 24 hours in the event that two-thirds of non-conflicted members vote unanimously either for or against the proposal and no items for general discussion have been offered. A vote shall also be considered valid any time after all non-conflicted members have voted or abstained and no items for general discussion have been offered.*
- b. If an institution is rejected as a type specimen repository, the reasons for the rejection will be communicated to that institution. Any appeal for reconsideration shall be directed to the Vice President of the Meteoritical Society, who will *either let the decision stand, review the rejection and request that the NomCom reconsider, or forward the matter to the Executive Committee of the Meteoritical Society for a final decision.*

Mike Zolensky called for a motion to vote on the changes to the Bylaws and new procedures. Monica Grady motioned to vote, Candace Kohl seconded the motion and all voted in favor.

Jeff Grossman asked when the new bylaws go into effect. Mike Zolensky replied next year, January 1.

Jeff Grossman reported on the database.

10. Membership Committee report (Erin Walton)

Erin Walton introduced herself, thanked past members, and named the new members of the committee. The membership total is 878 members. This year, there are 189 lapsed members and emails will be sent to them. Blanket e-mails will be followed by personal e-mails

Service Award – the 4 candidates being considered were recycled from last year; no new nominations were submitted. The committee is on track with making a decision on the award. Monica Grady asked about women nominated for the award in regard to any possible gender

biases. Erin replied two of the nominees are women.

11. Elements report (Cari Corrigan)

Cari Corrigan introduced herself as the Meteoritical Society representative for Elements. She announced a new exec editor (Jodie Rosso). Bernie wood joined as principal editor. Everything is going well for Elements with Recent Cosmochemistry articles on Fireballs and other topics. Rhiannon Mayne volunteered to possibly write an article on the Monig collection.

12. McKay Award (Carri Corrigan)

Cari Corrigan discussed the Facebook page. Larry Nittler asked if we could use social media to better highlight papers.

13. Publications Committee – George Flynn

Flynn reported that the new 4 year contract was discussed in Casablanca and asked if it was signed. Mike Zolensky said it was. George gave a brief review of budget.

George Flynn brought up a standing issue of the AE being from the same institution as the article submitter and that a new committee is in now in place to look at this issue.

14. Meteoritics and Planetary Science

14.1 Editor's Report (Tim Jull)

The acceptance rate of papers has gone down but the number of papers published in the journal has gone up. All issues of the journal are online. However, some of the older issues appear to be of lower quality because they were scanned 5 years ago. No new developments in open access for journal articles. Other countries are starting to use open access.

Tim Jull continued to summarize briefly the status of our journal, Meteoritics and Planetary Science. Scientifically, the journal continues to do well. The journal continues into new terrain with open access and electronic publication.

14.1.1 Paper submission summary for the last year.

The journal submission rates continue to be good. In the last year, we received 186 new papers, as well as various revisions of a further 206 papers. For the 20 month period from June 2013 to Feb 2015, the “accept” ratio was 72% (156 out of 219 papers).

14.1.2 Online journal.

All back issues of the journal are available online at the Wiley website. Members can access this through their member identification, if they do not have full university library access. The meteoriticalsociety.org website now offers access to MAPS through a direct link – the user needs their email and password.

14.1.3 Open Access

There have been no new developments in open access since 2013. This is now mandated in the UK for new scientific publications. Some other countries or agencies may mandate open access in the future.

There are two forms of open-access to which we should pay attention:

I. Gold Open Access. The paper is made available to any reader immediately on publication on-line. The costs of this service are currently about \$2,500 per article (according to current pricing of several publishers). For “gold access” that the copyright remains with the authors.

Green Open Access. The paper is made openly available after some waiting period, usually 6 months to 1 year. The US government has required this for National Institutes of Health-funded work, and *may* require it for NASA and NSF-funded work in the future.

14.1.4 Production and Typesetting of Papers - There are no production delays in the production of papers. Minor problems are generally worked out at weekly telephone conferences with Wiley personnel. There are no recent reports of delivery delays. There is one report of color pages not being printed when requested. New production manager.

14.1.5 Print Statistics - Tim Jull reported that since 2003, the number of papers going up and number of pages are increasing

1. All abstracts and bulletins are electronic
This year was the third year for the electronic-only abstracts. We published 454 abstracts for Casablanca, compared to 394 (Edmonton) and 360 (Cairns). The Meteoritical Bulletin is published as an electronic-only supplement, pages E1-101 appear in volume 49 (2014).

2. Reports
We have established “reports” as a way for more descriptive papers to be published which are separately designated from regular articles, letters, comments and other types of submissions. In the past 2 years, 6% of published articles were of this type.

3. Payment for Abstracts
We have established a good model for abstract payments, where it can't be done through the organizers, using the Mineralogical Society of America for payments. Most payments for Casablanca were received here, and some payments were made in cash at the meeting. It works well now because Alex Spear took it over.

4. Budget.
The total budget for 2016 is \$139,406. Extra amount (\$11K) will pay off the debt.

Mike Zolensky indicated that there is enough council memory to track that the debt is paid off after 4 years to pay off the debt.

Trevor Ireland asked about the deficit and Tim Jull indicated that keeping Susan McDonald on too long was partly to blame.

Monica Grady – asked about travel cost and whom it funds. Tim indicated it was for Agnieszka Baier.

14.2 Wiley Report (Fiona Murphy)

Fiona Murphy gave an overview of publishing in MaPS. She reported that open access is growing and policies on it continue to develop. Wileys has a new English language editing service for foreign papers. Other programs are being explored. A pilot program called KUDOS that helps researchers increase their profile and build collaborations is being explored but is currently more for biosciences. Readcube allows renting articles for lower prices. Altmetrics has been introduced to all articles. JISC pilot monitors institutions and those with a lot of open access get discounts. Institutions can set up accounts for open access. If a submitter wants a paper to be open access it can be selected.

Fiona reported that the journals is secure and performing very well. Amount of income from multi-year commitments is growing. The Journal's impact factor is going up.

15. Geochimica et Cosmochimica Acta editor's report (Marc Norman)

Mark Norman things are stable for the publication.

GCA has received 140 new submissions over the first two calendar months of 2015. This would correspond with 840 submissions on an annual basis, which, would continue a recent trend of declining numbers of new submissions (960 in 2014, 1015 in 2013, 880 in 2012). For the period Jan14 through Feb15, 547 manuscripts were accepted and 546 were rejected for an acceptance rate of 50%, consistent with the long-term average.

Acceptance time is about 10 weeks on average but that includes desk rejections. Time from submission to publications has gone down. There is a high rejection rate from China – too many general regional geology submissions. The Journal's impact factor went up in 2013 to about 4.2 .

GCA and Journal of petrology are the most highly ranked specialized journals. The top ten articles that helped the impact factor are mostly environmental studies. The number of downloads continues to go up which translates to increase in citation.

There are currently 200 manuscripts in various stages of review, and another 184 with authors for revision. The GCA Editorial Board currently comprises 92 active Associate Editors. The biannual Impact Factor for GCA is 4.25. Additional information from the publisher concerning journal performance will be presented at the meeting.

In other news from the publisher, the previous Journal Manager David Vargas left the company unexpectedly late last year. The new Journal Manager, Amy Mutale, was appointed in early February and has settled into the job quickly and professionally.

In a major development, The Meteoritical Society and the Geochemical Society have agreed to a new contract with Elsevier to continue the sponsorship and publication of GCA. Additional details will be discussed.

Marc Norman presented the issue of publishing an article by a convicted felon, who served time in prison. He indicated that the issue came up before and a previous editor rejected a paper on this basis. Marc Norman brought the issue to council of the Geochemical and Meteoritical Societies, specifically pointing out the clause in his contract to "do no significant harm to the journal". He asked discussion from the society. Mike Zolensky said that he and Barbara Sherwood will set up an *ad hoc* committee to approach this issue. The two Society members to serve on this committee will be Keiko Nakamura-Messenger and Hap McSween.

Marc Norman's main issue is if there is particular harm to the journal.

In discussion, Caroline Smith asked where do you draw the line. Marc indicated that the JPC felt the same and that it is a slippery slope.

Larry Nitter presented a different issue. He indicated that a paper submitted to GCA went through 2 rounds of re-view and was accepted and the only one who new was the first author. Co-authors were not informed of the submission, review and acceptance. Marc Norman said that the new submission process has a field to enter co-authors and GCA contacts them.

16. Elsevier contract report/vote

Monica Grady discussed the problems with the previous contract and informed Council that Morna Conway was hired to negotiate the new contract. Monica indicated that Elsevier gave us what we wanted. We (The Society) are back in the contract and it was discussed how the royalties should be listed in the contract. We will be getting \$14k per year from GCA. They are also instituting an annual award fund, \$12K for the Geochemical Society and 3K to Meteoritical Society for student awards. The Geochemical Society has accepted the new contract.

Mike Zolensky added, thanks largely to the special efforts of Monica Grady, Barbara Sherwood (GS President), Paul Cumine (AGU) and the negotiator we hired last year (Morna Conway) we have been able to obtain a new GCA contract with Elsevier that has basically everything we wanted, and more besides. In particular, MetSoc is back in the contract as an official party.

The new Contract characteristics are:

- MetSoc is reinstated into the contract
- Reinstatement of MetSoc's direct royalties from Elsevier
- An overall increase in royalties for both societies
- Complete removal of the clauses that had limited our other publication activities
- Clarification that the societies own the copyright to the society pages in the GCA issues.
- A new annual fund (see clause 5.2) to fund awards/bursaries. (a special bonus).

Mike Zolensky asked for a motion to vote on approval of the new contract with Elsevier. Trevor Ireland made a motion to vote, Larry Nittler seconded the motion and the new contract was unanimously approved.

17. News from NASA (Jeff Grossman)

Grossman explained that he is here on behalf of NASA headquarters. He came to answer questions. No prepared report. Jeff confirmed NASA night on Monday. He discussed student awards for annual meeting and expressed concern that travel awards for US students need to be competitive.

18. Nominating Committee vote

Mike Zolensky presented the proposed slate and indicated that he wanted international representation as well as gender representation. Takashi Mikouchi was suggested as the chair. Mike Zolensky asked for a motion to vote. Monica Grady made the motion to vote, Mike Weisberg seconded and all present voted in favor to approve the new Nominating Committee.

19. New business

Mike Zolensky asked if there was any new business.

20. Adjournment

Mike Zolensky called for Adjournment. Monica Grady made a motion to vote, Candace Kohl seconded the motion and all voted in favor.