



Meteoritical Society

<http://meteoriticalsociety.org>

IN MEMORIAM: HEINRICH WÄNKE



Heinrich Wänke, former director of the Max-Planck-Institut für Chemie in Mainz, (Germany) passed away 21 November 2015, at the age of 87. Heinrich was well known for his work in cosmo- and geochemistry, which included studies on meteorites, Moon rocks, Martian meteorites, and Earth's mantle rocks. His research had, and continues to have, a

strong influence on present work on the formation and evolution of the terrestrial planets. Heinrich Wänke made many contributions to the Meteoritical Society, including organizing the society's annual meeting in Mainz in 1983 and serving as president (1993–1994). He was a fellow of the society since 1976. And, in 1980, he was awarded the Meteoritical Society's Leonard Medal for numerous contributions of fundamental importance to meteoritics and planetary science.

Wänke received his PhD in physics in Vienna (Austria) and took a post-doctoral position with Friedrich Paneth in Durham (England). In 1953, Paneth was appointed director at the Max-Planck-Institut für Chemie and Wänke went with him. After Paneth's death in 1958, and after years of hard work, Wänke became director of the newly formed Department of Cosmochemistry, a position he kept until 1996, when he retired. However, he was still active in research until 2008.

In the 1960s, Wänke began to research the effect of cosmic rays and solar wind on meteorites and to establish an analytical scheme for meteorite analysis and, later, lunar rocks. He used instrumental and radiochemical neutron activation techniques to determine most of the major, and a large number of trace, elements. These analyses were the backbone of many years of innovative research on a variety of problems in meteoritics and planetology. Early on, Heinrich Wänke argued the Martian case for the origin of SNC (shergottite–nakhlite–chassigny class) meteorites and actively participated in Mars missions. He was the first to recognize the significance of tungsten in planetary differentiation and in estimating the size of planetary cores. Today, using the abundance of tungsten and other siderophile elements to derive the conditions of planetary core formation is a major field of research.

Heinrich Wänke received many medals and awards in his career: the Meteoritical Society's Leonard Medal in 1980, the Austrian Mineralogical Society's Friedrich-Becke-Medaille in 1991, the European Geophysical Society's Runcorn Florensky Medal in 1999, and the German Mineralogical Society's highest award, the Abraham-Gottlob-Werner Medaille, in 1999. He was a corresponding member of the Austrian Academy of Science, a foreign member of the Russian Academy of Science and an associate of the Royal Society of London (UK). From 1993 to 1995, he was chair of the Solar System Working Group and a member of the Space Advisory Committee of the European Space Agency (ESA); from 1996 to 1998, he was president of the European Geophysical Society.

Heinrich Wänke was an outstanding scientist. His death is a major loss to the society and to the international planetary science community.

RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP NOW!

Please renew your membership by 31 March 2016. After that date, a \$25 late fee may be imposed. You can renew online at metsoc.meteoriticalsociety.net.

ANNUAL MEETING SCHEDULE

2016, August 7–12, Berlin (Germany); www.metsoc-berlin.de

2017, July 25–28, Santa Fe, New Mexico (USA)

2018, Dates to be announced, Moscow (Russia)

2019, Dates to be announced, Sapporo (Japan)

CALL FOR NEW MEETING LOCATION PROPOSALS

The society is currently accepting proposals for future annual meeting locations. The next meeting location to be chosen will be for the year 2020. Please submit questions and/or proposals to metsocsec@gmail.com.

CALL FOR AWARD NOMINATIONS

Please consider nominating a colleague for one of the society's awards. Nominations should be sent to Secretary Mike Weisberg (metsocsec@gmail.com) by 15 January (31 January for the Service Award and for the Paul Pellas–Graham Ryder Award). For more information and details on how to submit a nomination for any of these awards, please see the latest newsletter at the society's website or e-mail the secretary.

The society gives a number awards each year. The **Leonard Medal** honors outstanding contributions to the science of meteoritics and closely allied fields. The **Barringer Medal and Award** recognizes outstanding work in the field of impact cratering and/or work that has led to a better understanding of impact phenomena. The **Nier Prize** recognizes outstanding research in meteoritics and closely allied fields by young scientists (under 35). The **Service Award** honors members who have advanced the goals of the Meteoritical Society to promote research and education in meteoritics and planetary science in ways other than by conducting scientific research. The **Paul Pellas–Graham Ryder Award** is given for the best student paper in planetary science and is awarded jointly by the Meteoritical Society and the Planetary Geology Division of the Geological Society of America.



COMMITTEE MEMBERS THANKED

Many thanks to all those members who are serving on the society's committees this year. We have listed their names below with names of the committee chairs in **bold**. Without the generous help of all these members, the society could not function. We greatly appreciate their help.

| 2016 | Affiliation | Ends |
|--|---|------------|
| Leonard Medal and Nier Prize Committee (5 members, 3-year term) | | |
| Christine Floss | Washington University in St. Louis | 2017 |
| Phil Bland | Curtin University | 2018 |
| Sara Russell | Natural History Museum, London | 2018 |
| Richard Binzel | Massachusetts Inst. of Technology | 2019 |
| Roger Hewins | Rutgers University/MNHN-UPMC, Paris | 2020 |
| Barringer Award Committee (4 members, 4-year term) | | |
| Mark Burchell | University of Kent | 2016 |
| Alex Deutsch | University of Münster | 2017 |
| John Spray | University of New Brunswick | 2018 |
| Akiko Nakamura | Kobe University | 2018 |
| Pellas-Ryder Award Committee (3 MetSoc members, 3 Geological Society of America members, 3-year term) | | |
| Debra Buczkowski (GSA) | Johns Hopkins Univ. Applied Physics Lab | 2016 |
| Susan Schwenzer (MS) | Open University | 2016 |
| Danielle Wyrick (GSA) | Curtin University | 2016 |
| Randy Korotev (MS) | Washington University in St. Louis | 2017 |
| Brad Thomson (GSA) | Boston University | 2018 |
| Christoph Burkhardt (MS) | University of Chicago | 2018 |
| McKay Award Committee | | |
| Tasha Dunn | Colby College | 2016 |
| Kai Wünnemann (vice chair) | Museum für Naturkunde, Berlin | 2016 |
| Uwe Reimold (vice chair) | Humboldt University, Berlin | 2016 |
| Harry Becker (vice chair) | Free University of Berlin | 2016 |
| Nominating Committee | | |
| Hasnaa Chennaoui | Hassan II University, Casablanca | 2016 |
| Marina Ivanova | Vernadsky Institute | 2016 |
| Yangting Lin | Chinese Academy of Sciences | 2016 |
| Takashi Mikouchi | University of Tokyo | 2016 |
| Rosa Scorzelli | Centro Brasileiro de Pesquisas Físicas | 2016 |
| Ed Scott | University of Hawaii | 2016 |
| Nomenclature Committee (12 members, 3 ex officio, 3-year term) | | |
| Tasha Dunn | Colby College | 2016 |
| Jerome Gattaceca | CEREGE (CNRS) | 2016 |
| Hasnaa Chennaoui | Hassan II University, Casablanca | 2017 |
| Emma Bullock | Carnegie Institution of Washington | 2017 |
| Vinciane Debaille | Université Libre de Bruxelles | 2017 |
| Takashi Mikouchi | University of Tokyo | 2017 |
| Knut Metzler | University of Münster | 2018 |
| Francis McCubbin | NASA Johnson Space Center | 2018 |
| Laurence Garvie | Arizona State University | 2018 |
| Audrey Bouvier (editor) | University of Western Ontario | Ex Officio |
| Jeff Grossman | NASA Headquarters | Ex Officio |
| Trevor Ireland | The Australian National University | Ex Officio |

| 2016 | Affiliation | Ends |
|--|---------------------------------------|------------|
| Endowment Committee (5 members, 3-year term) | | |
| Allan Treiman | Lunar and Planetary Institute | 2016 |
| Drew Barringer | The Barringer Crater Company | 2017 |
| Gary Huss | University of Hawaii | 2017 |
| Uwe Reimold | Humboldt University Berlin | 2017 |
| Paul Warren | University of California, Los Angeles | 2017 |
| Candace Kohl | University of California, San Diego | Ex Officio |
| Audit Committee (3 members, 3-year term) | | |
| Susan Taylor | CRREL, New Hampshire | 2016 |
| Beda Hoffman | Natural History Museum, Bern | 2017 |
| Harold Connolly | City University New York | 2018 |
| Publications Committee (6 members plus treasurer, 3-year term) | | |
| Keiko Nakamura-Messenger | NASA Johnson Space Center | 2016 |
| Denton Ebel | American Museum of Natural History | 2017 |
| Cecile Engrand | CNSNM, CNRS/IN2P3, Univ. of Paris-Sud | 2017 |
| Ian Lyon | University of Manchester | 2017 |
| Akira Tsuchiyama | Kyoto University | 2017 |
| Alan Rubin | University of California, Los Angeles | 2018 |
| Joint Publications Committee (6 members, 3 MetSoc, 3 Geochemical Society, 3-year terms) | | |
| Liz Canuel (GS) | Virginia Institute of Marine Science | 2016 |
| Andy Davis (MS) | University of Chicago | 2016 |
| Chris Koeberl (MS) | University of Vienna | 2016 |
| Jeremy Fein (GS) | Florida State University | 2017 |
| George Flynn (MS) | SUNY-Plattsburgh | 2017 |
| Laurie Reisberg (GS) | CRPG-CNRS, Nice | 2017 |
| Michael Zolensky | NASA Johnson Space Center | Ex Officio |
| Tim Jull | University of Arizona | Ex Officio |
| Marc Norman | The Australian National University | Ex Officio |
| Membership Committee (6 members) | | |
| Katie Dyl | Curtin University | 2016 |
| Shoichi Itoh | Kyoto University | 2016 |
| Ludovic Ferriere | Natural History Museum, Vienna | 2017 |
| Tomas Kohout | University of Helsinki | 2017 |
| Rhiannon Mayne | Texas Christian University | 2017 |
| Erin Walton | Grant MacEwan University | 2018 |