

<http://meteoriticalsociety.org>

METEORITE NOMENCLATURE COMMITTEE REPORT

Report of the Chair Laurence Garvie

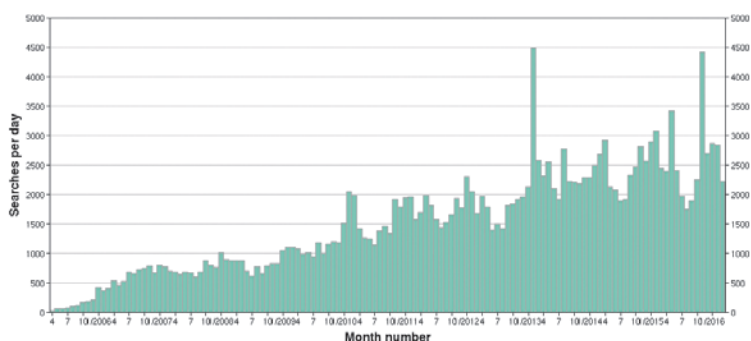


The purpose of the Nomenclature Committee (NomCom) is to approve new meteorite names and to establish guidelines and make decisions regarding the naming of meteorites. The committee also keeps the community apprised of new meteorites via the *Meteoritical Bulletin* and the *Meteoritical Bulletin Database* (www.lpi.usra.edu/meteor/metbull.php). While the yearly publication of the *Meteoritical Bulletin* (e.g. MB103 = 2014, MB104 = 2015) lags behind the database entries, new meteor-

ites are automatically added to the next issue of the bulletin by the database editor. The contents of the bulletin are accessible using the "Publication" dropdown window in the database. MB104 contains 2,282 meteorites (1,285 non-Antarctic), and MB105, so far, has 204 meteorites.

I would like to thank Carl Agee for his service on the NomCom since 2013 and as Chair. I also welcome Francis McCubbin as a new NomCom member. Special thanks to Alex Ruzicka for his term on the NomCom and especially to Chris Herd who has served on the committee since 2009 as the Chair

The *Meteoritical Bulletin Database* (www.lpi.usra.edu/meteor/), which is updated almost daily by our database editor Jeff Grossman, currently (as of 11 March 2016) lists 53,199 valid meteorite names. Many submitters understand the importance of the database as a worldwide source for meteoritical information, and the depth of their submissions reflect this understanding. I encourage submitters to see these submissions as mini-refereed publications—they are reviewed by the NomCom consisting of 12 of your fellow scientists. Often, this submission will be the only time the meteorite is studied, and, as such, sufficient petrographic and geochemical information should be included so as to be useful for future scientists.



Meteoritical Bulletin Database usage statistics. Number of searches per day for the years 2006–2016.

An indication of the importance and popularity of the database as a source of meteoritical information is seen through the usage statistics, with searches per day of only a few hundred in 2006 to currently several thousand a day (see figure). The database also reflects changes in discovery and recognition of meteorites. For example, the NomCom has approved an astonishing 37 lunar meteorites in the last year alone, for a total mass near 50 kg! The database also shows some interesting numbers. Of the 41,327 approved meteorites from Antarctica, only 35 are lunars, with the largest being 1,226 g. However, of the 21,506 classified non-Antarctic meteorites, 209 are lunars, of which 23 have a mass greater than one kg, with several above 10 kg.

Essential information on meteorite nomenclature, instructions and the template for reporting new meteorites, and NomCom membership can be found at meteoriticalsociety.org/?page_id=106. The template that should be filled out for new submission can be found at meteoriticalsociety.org/?page_id=63. This template is in Microsoft Excel® format with instructions both on page one of this file and header for each column (just let your mouse hover over the column header name). Here is where I would like to make a special plea—please take the time to follow these instructions, especially for special characters such as micron, degrees etc. Having been the NomCom editor from 2011 to 2013, I found myself spending many hours editing submissions before sending them out for vote. In my opinion, the editor position, currently held by Audrey Bouvier and Jérôme Gattacceca, is the most time-consuming on the committee – a big thank you to Audrey and Jérôme for taking on this mammoth task!

Finally, please do not hesitate to contact us with questions or concerns about the NomCom, especially with suggestions for improvement. You can find a list of current and past NomCom members at www.lpi.usra.edu/meteor/docs/TermExpirations2016.html.

Laurence Garvie

Chair of the Nomenclature Committee



Cari Corrigan



Christine Floss



Pierre Rochette



Mario Trieloff



Maria Euginia Varela

NEW COUNCIL MEMBERS

The Meteoritical Society has elected five new members to its council. Cari Corrigan (Smithsonian Institution, Washington DC, USA), Christine Floss (Washington University of St Louis, Missouri, USA), Pierre Rochette (Aix-Marseille Université CNRS, Aix-en-Provence, France), Mario Trieloff (Universität Heidelberg, Heidelberg, Germany), and Maria Eugenia Varela (ICATE-CONICET, San Juan, Argentina) will begin their terms as councilors in January 2017.

ANNUAL MEETING SCHEDULE

- 2016 August 7–12, Berlin, Germany
- 2017 July 24–28, Santa Fe, New Mexico, USA
- 2018 July 29 – August 3, Moscow, Russia
- 2019 Dates to be announced, Sapporo, Japan