YOU ARE CORDIALLY INVITED TO ATTEND THE 81ST ANNUAL MEETING OF THE METEORITICAL SOCIETY IN MOSCOW, RUSSIA.

The meeting will take place at the V.I. Vernadsky Institute of Geochemistry and Analytical Chemistry of the Russian Academy of Sciences, 2 Lomonosov Avenue, Moscow 117913, Russia. The meeting will run from July 22 to 27, 2018. The meeting will be preceded by an excursions program on July 20-21, 2018.

The conference will include oral and poster presentations, plenary sessions, invited lectures, the Barringer lecture, and the award ceremony.

We have reserved rooms in multiple hotels, offering a range of price categories and distances from the “Golden Brain” building. Oral sessions will take place in the conference halls of the Academy of Sciences Presidium building ("Golden Brain"); plenary sessions, invited lectures, the Barringer lecture, and the award ceremony will take place in the largest hall, which seats 1,000 participants. The Golden Brain building will also house the poster sessions.

Oral sessions will take place in the conference halls of the Academy of Sciences Presidium building ("Golden Brain"); plenary sessions, invited lectures, the Barringer lecture, and the award ceremony will take place in the largest hall, which seats 1,000 participants. The Golden Brain building will also house the poster sessions.

Conference registration begins at 4:00 p.m. on Sunday, July 22 2018 at the Vernadsky State Geological Museum in the historical center of Moscow, right across from Red Square and the Kremlin. At 5:30 p.m. on Sunday, a welcome party will be held in the museum. On Wednesday afternoon of the meeting, several excursions will be offered that explore Moscow (such as a city tour, a boat trip along the Moscow River, or a Red Square and Kremlin guided tour). The conference banquet will be held in the comfortable Korston Hotel banquet hall at 6:00 p.m.

A number of pre- and post-conference tours are being prepared: a 3-day trip to Saint-Petersburg, including a visit to the Russian Geological Institute (VSEGEI) which has a special exhibition dedicated to the Popigai impact structure; a 2-day tour to Yaroslavl; including a visit to the public museum of Russia’s deep-drilling projects and a visit to the deep-core repository which stores kerns from the famous 5 km deep drill core of the Puchezh–Katunki impact crater and the super-deep Kola borehole; a 4-day trip to Ekaterinburg to visit the boundary between Europe and Asia, the underground museum of gold mining (with its crocodile room), and the fall site of the Chelyabinsk meteorite; and a 3-day trip to the famous ancient city of Kazan, including a tour to the Karla impact crater.

We have reserved rooms in multiple hotels, offering a range of price categories and distances from the “Golden Brain” building. And because only one of the hotels is within walking distance of the Academy of Sciences Presidium building, we will offer a 7-day travel pass to all participants of the conference.

Moscow is the capital of Russia: its political, economic, cultural and scientific center. It was founded eight centuries ago by Prince Yuri Dolgoruky. Historians have accepted the year of 1147 as the start of Moscow’s history. Though Peter the Great moved the capital to Saint-Petersburg in 1712, Moscow remained the heart of Russia. Now, Moscow is one of the largest cities in Europe. Moscow has three international airports (Sheremetyevo, Domodedovo and Vnukovo); its express trains, buses and taxis allow one to reach the city center within one hour; and its famous subway system and renovated public transportation operate from 6:00 a.m. to 1:00 a.m. We look forward to welcoming you to Moscow.

Marina Ivanova, e-mail: metsoc2018@gmail.com

**2017 ANNUAL MEETING STUDENT TRAVEL AWARDS**

On behalf of the Meteoritical Society, we would like to thank the organizations whose generous sponsorships provided student travel grants, postdoc travel grants, and travel grants for scientists from countries with limited financial resources. These sponsoring organizations, and the recipients of the travel awards, are listed below.

This year, 63 travel grants were given to students and researchers who attended the annual meeting of the society in Berlin (Germany). Travel grants were generously sponsored by the Barringer Crater Company, the Planetary Studies Foundation, NASA Emerging Worlds, Elsevier, the Meteoritical Society’s Endowment and Travel for International Members Funds, and the International Mineral Collectors Association (the Brian Mason Award).

**The Barringer Crater Company**

Morgan A. Cox, Curtin University (Australia)
Samuel Ebert, Westfalische Wilhelms University (Münster, Germany)
Runliian Pang, Nanjing University/Friedrich Schiller University (China)
Marcus Patzek, Westfalische Wilhelms University (Münster, Germany)
Soumya Ray, Arizona State University (USA)
Jan Render, Westfalische Wilhelms University (Münster, Germany)
Poornima Srinivasan, University of New Mexico (USA)
Martin D. Suttle, Imperial College, London (UK)
Zachary Torrano, Arizona State University (USA)
Takash Yoshizaki, Tohoku University (Japan)
Daniela Weimer, ETH Zürich (Germany)
Patrizia Will, ETH-Zürich (Germany)
Weifan Xing, Chinese Academy of Sciences/China University of Geosciences (China)
Bidong Zhang, University of Western Ontario (Canada)
Mingming Zhang, Chinese Academy of Sciences (China)

**Planetary Studies Foundation**

Daniel R. Dunlap, Arizona State University (USA)
Paul W. Scholar, Case Western Reserve University (USA)

**NASA Emerging Worlds**

John N. Bigoski, CUNY Graduate Center/American Museum of Natural History (USA)
Michael Bojazi, Clemson University (USA)
Caroline Caplan, University of Hawaii (USA)
Samuel D. Crossley, University of Maryland (USA)
Leticia P. De Marchi, Auburn University (USA)
Crystalynda Fudge, Arizona State University (USA)
Jennika Greer, University of Chicago (USA)
Brendan A. Haas, Washington University (USA)
Rachel Rahib, University of Nevada, Las Vegas (USA)
Sarah Roberts, University of Tennessee (USA)
Sheryl Ann Singerling, University of New Mexico (USA)
Krysten L. Villalon, University of Chicago (USA)

**Elsevier**

Queenie H. S. Chan, The Open University, UK
Nan Liu, Carnegie Institute, USA

**The Meteoritical Society Endowment Fund**

Luke Daly, University of Glasgow (UK)
Pierre Haenecour, University of Arizona (USA)
Nicole Lunning, Smithsonian Institution (USA)
My Riebe, Carnegie Institution of Washington (USA)
Reto Trappitsch, Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory (USA)
The Meteoritical Society’s Travel for International Members (TIF) Fund

Houda El Kermi, Hassan II University (Morocco)
Fazia Kassab, University of Science and Technology Houari Boumédienne (Algeria)
Taha Shisseh, Hassan II University (Morocco)

International Collectors Association – Brian Mason Award

In 1997, Joel Schiff, the first editor of the popular Meteorite magazine, created a travel award in honor of Brian Mason, who was born in New Zealand and spent the majority of his career as a curator at the Smithsonian Institution (Washington DC, USA). The award is given to a student attending the annual meeting of the society who submits an abstract that clearly explains exciting results of particular interest to readers of Meteorite magazine. The recipient is required to write a popular account of their work for the magazine. Since 2008, the award has been generously funded by the International Meteorite Collectors Association.

This year, the Program Committee for the Santa Fe meeting awarded Levke Kööp and Emilie Dunham the Brian Mason Award. Levke Kööp is a postdoctoral fellow at the University of Chicago (USA). His abstract was entitled, “Calcium and Titanium Isotope Systematics in Refractory Inclusions from CM, CO, and CR Chondrites” and the authors were L. Kööp, A. Davis, A. Krot, K. Nagashima, and S. Simon. Emilie Dunham is a graduate student at Arizona State University (USA). Her abstract was entitled, “The Range of Initial 10Be/9Be Ratios in the Early Solar System: A Re-assessment based on Analyses of New CAIs and Melilite Composition Glass Standards” and the authors were E. Dunham, M. Wadhwa, and M.-C. Liu.

CALL FOR AWARD NOMINATIONS

Please nominate a colleague for one of the society’s awards. Nominations should be sent to Secretary Mike Weisberg (metsocsec@gmail.com) by 15 January 2017 (31 January 2017 for the Service Award and the Pellas–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 website or e-mail the secretary.

The society gives a number of awards each year. The Leonard Medal honors outstanding contributions to the science of meteoritics and closely allied fields. The Barringer Medal and Award recognize 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. 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 Pellis–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.

IN MEMORIAL

Stanisław Hałas – passionate person, teacher, scientist, inventor, and experimenter

Professor Stanisław Hałas, a full professor and world-renowned researcher in isotope geochemistry at the University of Maria Curie-Skłodowska (UMCS) in Lublin (Poland) passed away 3 May 2017. He was 72 years old.

Professor Hałas received his MSc degree in physics in 1968 from UMCS. Following his degree, he joined the Institute of Physics at UMCS where he remained for the rest of his career. He obtained the title of professor in 1992 and was, for many years, the chair of the Department of Mass Spectrometry in the Institute of Physics UMCS. Stan was a distinguished scientist in the fields of mass spectrometry and isotope geochemistry and geochronology, and he was a pioneer in developing new measurement and analytical techniques. Stan was, above all, a creator: he was a novel inventor and could seemingly make something from almost nothing. His authorship or coauthorship of 24 patents is not surprising. Stan Hałas was also the author of hundreds of scientific papers and was one of the most cited Polish scientists in his discipline.

Stan was highly committed to teaching thousands of students and to the careful training of his graduate students and postdoctoral associates. He supervised six PhD students and introduced many Polish scientists to isotope geochemistry during the 50-year lifespan of his hospitable laboratory. He collaborated with others, working in laboratories in Calgary (Canada), Heidelberg (Germany), East Kilbride (Scotland) and Potsdam (Germany). Professor Hałas was distinguished by numerous decorations and awards, both Polish and international, and he was either a president or a member of numerous Polish and foreign scientific societies.

Stan was a physicist by education, but his intensive and extensive activities in isotope studies of rocks and minerals left his mark on Polish mineralogy, petrology and geochemistry. Stan will be remembered as the best physicist among geologists, and the best geologist among physicists. Even after he retired, Stan actively participated in research and was always full of new ideas and trying to initiate new projects.

Professor Hałas was active not only professionally. Among his other interests included observing the sky, giving public demonstrations of physics, car touring, swimming and gardening. He is survived by his wife, six children, and six grandchildren. He will be very much missed by his colleagues, friends, family and all who knew him.

Ziggy Sawlowicz