Meteoritical Society

http://meteoriticalsociety.org

2018 METEORITICAL SOCIETY TREASURER'S REPORT

Candace Kohl,
Met Soc Treasurer

The society's finances continue to be on a sound footing, and both the Operating Fund and our Investment Fund are currently very healthy. A large portion of the operating budget relates to publication of *Meteoritics and Planetary Science* (*MAPS*), our international monthly journal of planetary science which covers topics including the origin and history of the solar system, planets and natural satellites, interplanetary dust and the interstellar medium, lunar samples, meteors, meteorites, asteroids, comets, craters, and tektites. The *MAPS* journal has been published by Wiley since 2010, and our income from Wiley closely matches the expenses of the Editorial Office at the University of Arizona (USA), which is managed by Editor Tim Jull.

Society memberships include subscriptions to *MAPS* and *Elements*. Membership with subscription to only the electronic version of *MAPS* has become a popular option, although more than half of our membership still purchases the printed version. Dues were raised this year for those desiring the print copy of the journal. Collection of membership dues for 2019 will begin in October 2018. I would like to encourage members to pay their dues in a timely manner, as this helps greatly with financial planning. Healthy finances depend on a stable number of memberships.

Our Investment Fund, which includes a number of endowed funds, continues to do as well as we can expect with the current market situation. The Nier Fund supports the annual Nier Prize, which recognizes outstanding research by young scientists in meteoritics and closely allied fields. The 2018 recipient is Dr. Lydia Hallis of the University of Hawaii at Manoa (USA). The Gordon A. McKay Fund supports an award to the student who gives the best oral presentation at the annual meeting of the society. The 2017 award was given to Jennika Greer from the University of Chicago (USA). The Travel for International Members (TIM) Fund to support travel to Meteoritical Society meetings for professional members of the society from low-income countries continues to grow, and, this year, funds donated to it will be used to fund travel to our 2018 meeting in Moscow (Russia). Tim Swindle continues his generous annual donation to this fund.

This year we are delighted to report a new endowed fund. This fund was established to honor the memory of science author and public educator O. Richard Norton (1937–2009) and is generously supported by John H. and Dorothy Norton Kashuba. The money will be used for travel to the annual meeting of the society for the presentation of papers and posters, with preference given to early career scientists. The O. Richard Norton Travel Awards will be given out for the first time this year for the 2018 Moscow meeting and will be an ongoing resource for future meetings.

The General Endowment Fund supports a variety of outreach projects. Over the last year, this fund has been used to provide travel support for students to attend two workshops on meteorites in different parts of China and to support a series of lectures in Brazil. Endowment funds were also used to support travel for students to attend the Meteoritical Society meeting in Santa Fe (New Mexico, USA). This year, General Endowment Funds will be used to fund students and post-doctoral scholars to attend the meeting in Moscow. The Meteoritical Society recognizes Bevan and Mary-Hill French for their generous donation to the General Endowment Fund. We always welcome suggestions and ideas for ways in which the General Endowment Fund can be utilized to promote the goals of the society and enrich its activities.

Many society members contribute generously to support all of these funds, and your donations are always greatly appreciated. It is simple to donate to any of our funds at the same time as you renew your membership. Donations by check (cheque) or other means are also welcomed.

In addition to major contributions, a total of over $15,000 was donated to the various funds from our generous members. Over 270 separate donations were received this fiscal year. Your contributions provide direct support that helps to strengthen our international community.

PAUL PELLAS / GRAHAM RYDER AWARD WINNER

The Pellas–Ryder Award for the best student paper in planetary sciences is jointly sponsored by the Meteoritical Society and the Planetary Geology Division of the Geological Society of America. It is awarded to an undergraduate or graduate student who is first author of the best planetary science paper published in a peer-reviewed scientific journal during the year prior to the award. The award has been given since 2001 and honors the memories of meteoriticist Paul Pellas and lunar scientist Graham Ryder.

For 2017, the award for the Best Student Paper in Planetary Sciences has been given to **Emily Worsham**, formerly a PhD student at the University of Maryland (USA), now a postdoc at the University of Münster (Germany). The award is in recognition of the paper "Characterizing Cosmochemical Materials with Genetic Affinities to the Earth: Genetic and Chronological Diversity within the IAB Iron Meteorite Complex", which was published in *Earth and Planetary Science Letters* in 2017.

2017 MEMBERSHIP REPORT

As of May 2018, the Meteoritical Society comprises 630 regular members, 161 students, 101 retired members, 34 life members, 15 members from developing countries and 2 complimentary members. This brings us to a grand total of 943 members. Many thanks to Erin Walton (MacEwan University, Canada) for providing these statistics. This year we can include Colombia and Turkey in the growing list of countries in which the society has membership. We can be proud that we have members in 48 countries; however, the statistics show that we still have a lot to do to gain members in many countries and to increase the number of student members. Student memberships are inexpensive (US$40) and subsidize the registration fee for the Meteoritical Society's annual meeting. Student members also have the opportunity to attend a student reception at this meeting, providing an excellent forum where they can interact with their peers and meet senior scientists in the community. Please encourage your students to join! In addition, the society does have a mechanism in place to subsidize annual dues for members in low-income countries. Prior approval is required from the Membership Committee for this rate – please refer to our website at http://www.meteoriticalsociety.org for more information.

For those wishing to avoid the hassle of paying dues every year, consider a life membership! For more information and details on how to become a member of the Meteoritical Society, please see our society web page at www.meteoriticalsociety.org.

MEETING INFO

2019 July 8–12	Sapporo (Japan)
2020 August 9–14	Glasgow (Scotland, UK)
2021 Dates TBD	Chicago (Illinois, USA)

Country	Developing Country	Member	Retired Member	Student	Life Member	Compli-mentary	Total
Algeria	3			1			**4**
Argentina		1					**1**
Australia		17	3	7			**27**
Austria		6	2	1			**9**
Belgium		4	1	1			**6**
Brazil		4	1	1			**6**
Canada		18	7	8	1		**34**
Chile	1	3		1			**5**
China	2	9		1			**12**
Colombia		1					**1**
Croatia				1			**1**
Czech Republic		2	1				**3**
Denmark		3	1		1		**5**
Estonia		1					**1**
Finland		3					**3**
France		25	9	3	2		**39**
Germany		65	18	14	5		**102**
Greece		1					**1**
Holy See (Vatican City State)		2					**2**
Hungary		2					**2**
India	2	5	2				**9**
Ireland			1				**1**
Italy		10	1				**11**
Japan		71	11	8			**90**
Jordan	1						**1**
Korea, Republic of		3	1				**4**
Latvia				1			**1**
Luxembourg			1	1			**2**
Malaysia		1					**1**
Mexico		1					**1**
Morocco	4						**4**
Netherlands		5	1	1			**7**
New Zealand					1		**1**
Norway		2					**2**
Oman	1	1					**2**
Poland		4	1				**5**
Portugal		1					**1**
Romania	1						**1**
Russian Federation		10		4			**14**
Slovak Republic		1					**1**
South Africa		3					**3**
Spain		4	1				**5**
Sweden		3					**3**
Switzerland		18	7	6	1		**32**
Turkey		2		1			**3**
United Kingdom		36	5	19			**60**
USA		281	86	21	23	2	**413**
Uruguay		1					**1**
48 Countries	**15**	**630**	**161**	**101**	**34**	**2**	**943**

IN MEMORIAM

Ursula Marvin (1921–2018)

Ursula Marvin passed away on 12 February 2018 at the age of 96. Discouraged from majoring in geology as an undergraduate, she graduated from Tufts University (Massachusetts, USA) in 1943 with a degree in history, but pursued numerous geology courses despite not majoring in the subject. She applied for, and won, a Folsom Scholarship to study geology at Radcliffe College (Massachusetts, USA). Working mostly at Harvard University (Massachusetts, USA), she earned a Master's Degree in geology in 1946. She intended to immediately pursue a PhD at Northwestern University (Illinois, USA) and published her first papers in 1950. However, the dissolution of her first marriage was followed by a second marriage to Tom Marvin, a mining geologist and fellow PhD candidate at Harvard. In 1952, the two not only decided to marry but to spend two years in Brazil and Angola in search of ore deposits. Ursula joined the research staff of the Smithsonian Astrophysical Observatory (SAO), which had just moved from Washington D.C. to Harvard. She became a civil servant a few years later and lost interest in obtaining a doctorate. She would earn her PhD in 1969 based on work she had completed during her tenure at the SAO.

The 1960s and 1970s were very productive years for Ursula and the SAO group. Ursula published the first paper on the Allende meteorite, co-authored with John Wood, and was a co-author on the seminal paper that described anorthosite from Apollo 11 soil, leading to the idea of an early magma ocean on the Moon. Ursula's interests were wide-ranging. In the early 1970s, she published one of the early popular books on the history of continental drift.

Ursula served as President of the Meteoritical Society between 1975 and 1976. She used her background in both history and geology to their fullest extent in a series of oral histories and papers published in *Meteoritics and Planetary Science*. Her publication of thirteen oral histories of prominent people in the field, as well as papers on the Ensisheim Meteorite, Ernst Chladni (1756-1827), Domenico Troili (1722-1792), and the history of the Meteoritical Society itself should be required reading for anyone entering the field. Ursula became an active participant of the International Commission on the History of Geological Sciences.

Ursula participated in the 1980, 1981 and 1982 U.S. Antarctic meteorite expeditions.

Ursula published over 160 research papers in her career and she received awards from the Geological Society of America (1986), the Geological Society (2005) and received the Meteoritical Society Service Award (2012) for her research on the history of geology. She won the Lifetime Achievement Award of the Women in Science and Engineering from the UK campaign for Women in Science and Engineering (1997). Marvin nunatak in Antarctica and asteroid 4309 Marvin have been named in her honor.

Both for her personality and her contributions to the Meteoritical Society, Ursula will be missed.

Derek W.G. Sears
(full citation can be read on the Met Soc website)