Meteoritical Society

http://meteoriticalsociety.org

SOCIETY AWARD WINNERS

The Meteoritical Society now gives five major awards each year. The Elmar Jessberger Award was added in 2020.

The award winners cited below were announced in 2019. The awardees received their awards at a special virtual ceremony as part of the online annual society business meeting in August 2020. For more information on individual awards, please see the Call for Nominations and the society's webpage.

The LEONARD MEDAL is the society's highest and oldest award and is given to individuals who have made outstanding original contributions to the science of meteoritics or closely allied fields. It is named for Frederick C. Leonard who was a founder and the first president of the society. The 2019 winner is **Michael E. Zolensky** (NASA Johnson Space Center, USA). Mike has made many remarkable contributions to meteoritics and allied fields; his discoveries, innovative science, enthusiastic sharing of his encyclopedic meteoritic and mineralogical knowledge as well as tireless curatorial service to the sample analysis community have profoundly enriched our field. The citation was given by Don Brownlee.

The BARRINGER MEDAL AND AWARD are sponsored by the Barringer Crater Company, which was created in memory of D. Moreau Barringer Sr and his son D. Moreau Barringer Jr. The award is given for outstanding work in the field of impact cratering. This year, the Barringer Medal and Award is given to **Joanna Morgan** (Open University, UK) for her fundamental contributions to our understanding of impact cratering, and, in particular, the Chicxulub (Mexico) impact crater as co-chief scientist of the International Ocean Discovery Program–International Continental Drilling Project Expedition 364. The citation was given by Richard Grieve.

The NIER PRIZE is for young scientists in the field of meteoritics. This year's winner is **Thomas Kruijer** of the University of Muenster (Germany). Thomas receives this award for his significant contributions using W isotope geochemistry to understand nucleosynthetic anomalies, the timing of earliest melting of asteroids, and the differences between the Earth and Moon's late veneer.

The METEORICAL SOCIETY SERVICE AWARD. **Agnieszka Baier** of the University of Arizona (USA) is the winner of this year's Meteoritical Society Service Award. Agnieszka receives this award for her effort in advancing the goals of the society and the far-reaching impact of her work. Her contribution to the society's goals is accomplished through her work with and dedication to our society's journal, *Meteoritics and Planetary Science*.

Call for Award Nominations

Please consider nominating a colleague for one of the society's awards. Nominations should be sent to Secretary Munir Humayun (metsocsec@gmail.com) by 15 February 2021, or 31 January 2021 for the Paul Pellas–Graham Ryder Award and the Meteoritical Society Service Award. For more information and details on how to submit a nomination for any of these awards, please see the latest *Meteoritical Society Newsletter* at the society's website, or e-mail the secretary.

IN MEMORIAM

Nadine G. Barlow (1958–2020)

Nadine Gail Barlow passed away 17 August 2020. A native of San Marcos (California, USA), Nadine received her BSc in astronomy with minors in geology and chemistry from the University of Arizona (USA) in 1980. She received her PhD in planetary sciences from the University of Arizona in 1987 under Dr. Robert Strom.

Nadine then did a post-doc at the Lunar and Planetary Institute (Texas, USA) followed by a National Academy of Sciences/National Research Council Assistantship at NASA's Johnson Space Center (Texas, USA). She taught astronomy and planetary geology courses part-time at the University of Houston Clear Lake (USA) where she realized that she enjoyed both teaching and research. Nadine then spent 6.5 years at the University of Central Florida (USA) teaching and restoring the college's Robinson Observatory while serving as its director. In 2002, during her last year at the University of Central Florida (UCF), Nadine was honored both with the UCF College of Arts and Sciences Excellence in Undergraduate Teaching Award and with the overall university Excellence in Undergraduate Teaching Award.

Nadine then returned west and became an assistant professor at Northern Arizona University (NAU), eventually becoming the Chair of the Department of Astronomy and Planetary Science. Nadine received numerous awards for teaching excellence (e.g., the NAU Research and Creative Activity Award for Most Effective Research Mentor, 2011). Largely responsible for doubling the size of the department, she grew its curriculum into a PhD-granting program. Nadine supervised many students over the years and was a popular mentor. A prize for Undergraduate Research Excellence is being established at NAU's Department of Astronomy and Planetary Sciences in her name.

Nadine specialized in impact cratering processes, particularly on Mars. For her PhD dissertation—almost on a dare—she mapped, measured, and classified every crater on the entire planet over 8 km in diameter. These data were then used in numerous fundamental studies, including to establish the detailed relative chronology of Martian geologic features. Throughout her career, Nadine maintained and expanded this database, as later spacecraft missions returned increasingly detailed images of Mars. She also wrote many papers on martian craters, and authored the 2008 textbook *Mars: An Introduction to its Interior, Surface, and Atmosphere*. Asteroid 15466 Barlow is named in her honor.

Nadine was central to the creation of the Mars Crater Consortium in the late 1990s (now the Planetary Data Consortium), which provides a forum for the discussion of studies of impact craters on all planetary bodies. Nadine served as the Chair for the first 15 years of its existence, establishing its direction and character. Nadine also served the Division for Planetary Sciences, American Astronomical Society, in a variety of roles. She served on the Meteoritical Society's Barringer Award Committee. Nadine brought the Arizona Space Grant Program to NAU, and she fostered cooperation between NAU, the Lowell Observatory (Arizona), and the US Geological Survey. She served as Director, NAU Space Grant Program and Associate Director of the Arizona Space Grant Consortium.

Friends and colleagues remember Nadine's positive outlook toward life. She is survived by her sister and several nieces and nephews and their families. Throughout her career, Nadine made many lifelong friends, and she will be missed by all of us.

For a more complete version of Nadine's story, please see the Meteoritical Society's website.

Bob Marcialis, Faith Vilas, Lisa Prato, Lynn Hayden

John T. Wasson (1934–2020)

John Taylor Wasson passed away peacefully at home on 8 September 2020, at the age of 86. John, an emeritus professor at the Department of Earth, Planetary, and Space Sciences at University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA) (USA), was passionate about meteorites and what their properties reveal about the formation and early evolution of the solar system. Over a research career spanning six decades, he left a rich legacy of contributions to meteoritics and planetary science.

John was born in Arkansas (USA) in 1934. He attended the University of Arkansas as an undergraduate, graduating in 1955. Only three years later, he received his PhD in chemistry from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (USA), with his now-famous independent streak facilitated by loose supervision from his thesis advisor, Dr. Charles Coryell. At just 24 years of age, the newly minted Dr. Wasson accepted a one-year postdoc at the Technische Hochschule in Munich (Germany), working in nuclear physics. There, he met his future wife, Gudrun Hanewald (with whom he later had two daughters, Christina and Kerstin). He also started a project using a form of activation analysis.

In 1959, John spent time as a postdoc with Coryell back at MIT, and then, fulfilling his US Reserve Officer Training Corps requirement, spent 3.5 years working at the Air Force Cambridge Research Laboratories (based in Ohio, USA) while Gudrun completed her PhD at nearby Harvard University (Massachusetts, USA). John and Gudrun then returned to Germany where John did a postdoc at the University of Bern (Switzerland) with Franz Houtermans. There, he published his first work in cosmochemistry, entitled "Radioactivity in Interplanetary Dust". He also coauthored a paper involving neutron activation analysis and started his meteorite research in earnest.

In 1964, John was hired to the faculty at UCLA, appointed to both the Department of Chemistry and the Institute of Geophysics and Planetary Physics, where he immediately gave full rein to his passion for meteoritics, going on to author some 260 notable papers on the classification and interpretation of iron meteorites, siderophile and volatile trace elements in lunar samples (having been allocated Apollo 11 samples), chondrites, and achondrites. John also wrote two books: *Meteorites: Classification and Properties* in 1974, and *Meteorites: Their Record of Early Solar-System History* in 1985.

The Meteoritical Society always was an important part of John's scientific life. In 1980, he served as president. He served five years as editor of *Meteoritics*, beginning in 1987, during which time he oversaw a tremendous enhancement of the quality and stature of the society's journal (now the prestigious *Meteoritics and Planetary Science*).

John was awarded the Meteoritical Society's highest honor, the Leonard Medal, in 1992. In 2003, he was awarded the US National Academy of the Sciences' triennial J. Lawrence Smith Medal. In 2011, the mineral wassonite (TiS), indicative of extremely reducing conditions, was formally approved. In 2013, with key assistance from fellow UCLA researcher and curator Alan Rubin, John established the UCLA Meteorite Gallery, offering thousands of visitors the chance to encounter meteorites and to learn more about the solar system using the UCLA collection (the 5th largest in the USA) that John helped grow throughout his career.

After John formally retired from UCLA in 2015, he still remained active in research, cycling to his office nearly every day and continuing his instrument neutron activation analysis of iron meteorites. He was also a very good tennis player, even into his eighties, and could often be seen sporting his tennis gear in the venues of the Lunar Planetary Science Conferences and at Meteoritical Society meetings.

For a more complete version of John's story, please see the Meteoritical Society's website.

Paul Warren, Alan Rubin, Kevin McKeegan

ANNUAL MEETING SCHEDULE

2021 (84th)	14–21 August, Chicago (Illinois, USA)
2022 (85th)	August TBD, Glasgow (Scotland, UK)
2023 (86th)	3–8 July, Perth (Australia)
2024 (87th)	July/August TBD, Brussels (Belgium)

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Please renew by 31 March 2021; after that date, a $15 late fee will be assessed. You can renew online at: http://metsoc.meteoriticalsociety.net