



Meteoritical Society

<http://meteoriticalsociety.org>

2013 ANNUAL MEETING INVITATION

The 76th annual meeting of the Meteoritical Society will take place in Edmonton, the capital city of Alberta, Canada. The meeting will be held on July 29–August 2 at the Crowne Plaza Chateau Lacombe in Edmonton's downtown core, within walking distance of the Arts District, shopping, nightlife, restaurants, and coffee shops. Edmonton is the most northerly major city in Canada. Long daylight hours and warm weather are therefore expected during the summer months. Situated on the North Saskatchewan River, Edmonton is close to UNESCO World Heritage Sites such as Jasper and Banff national parks in the Canadian Rocky Mountains, Head-Smashed-In Buffalo Jump, and Dinosaur Provincial Park. Less than an hour from Edmonton is Elk Island National Park. In addition to being an opportunity to observe bison, moose, and deer in a natural setting, this dark-sky preserve is also a prime viewing area for the aurora borealis, a light show we may be treated to as the next northern lights activity maximum is approached. The conference banquet will be held on Wednesday, July 31, on the picturesque campus of the University of Alberta.



We expect to have a wide variety of interesting scientific sessions at our meeting. Several field trips are planned, including an excursion to the Whitecourt Meteorite Impact Crater, one of a few Holocene craters worldwide; a K/T boundary locality; and the world-famous Royal Tyrrell Museum of paleontology. Full details can be found in the first announcement, available on the LPI website, www.lpi.usra.edu. Additional details can be found on the local meeting website, www.metsoc2013edmonton.org. For more information, please contact Organizing Committee Chair Chris Herd at herd@ualberta.ca.

We look forward to welcoming you to Edmonton next summer!

SECOND CONFERENCE ON THE LUNAR HIGHLANDS CRUST – MEETING REPORT

The lunar highlands are the accessible exposures of the Moon's pre-mare crust, and so are a principal source of data on the Moon's origin and early history. Lunar meteorites are essential contributors to understanding the lunar highlands; they provide "ground truths" from outside the Apollo and Luna sampling sites for remote sensing data (optical, radar, and gravity). The last conference devoted solely to the lunar highlands was in 1979, the year of the first find of a lunar meteorite. So, it seemed timely to hold another such conference, augmented by



Anaïs Fourny, one of the two students sponsored by the Meteoritical Society to attend the workshop. PHOTO CREDIT: ALLAN TREIMAN

field study of a terrestrial analog for lunar crust formation. The Meteoritical Society was a cosponsor, and supported attendance by two students, Corey Wall and Anaïs Fourny of the University of British Columbia.

The workshop, held on July 12–16, 2012, was convened by Dr. Allan Treiman of the Lunar and Planetary Institute (and Fellow of the Society) in Bozeman, Montana. The workshop featured invited contributions by Dr. David Kring, who talked about the Moon's impact history (including the nature of the putative cataclysm) and the sources of the impactors; Dr. Maria Zuber, on the new gravity maps from the GRAIL mission; Dr. Carlé Pieters, on optical remote sensing and the mineral constitution of the lunar surface; and Dr. Randy Korotev, on the nature of the lunar highlands revealed by meteorites and the returned samples. Contributed talks and posters spanned a huge range of topics, such as terrestrial analogs, details of optical properties and models, and petrologic studies of samples new and old. Free discussion was an important part of the meeting, and the conversations were active and cordial.

To complement the technical sessions, Dr. Stewart McCallum (University of Washington) led two field trips to view rocks of the nearby Stillwater Complex, a layered basic intrusion that has provided much of the conceptual basis for understanding lunar highlands rocks. Before the workshop, participants examined rocks of the lower section of the Stillwater, including peridotites, pyroxenites, chromite-rich rocks, and some anorthosites. After the workshop, Dr. McCallum and a dozen young hardies climbed up Picket Pin Mountain to see part of the upper section, including massive anorthosites, norites with sedimentary structures, and a sulfide-rich zone. After summiting, the group retreated from a massive thunderstorm, soaked, but alive and happy.

To view the complete program and abstracts for this workshop, see www.lpi.usra.edu/meetings/highlands2012/.

FUTURE ANNUAL MEETINGS

2013 July 29–August 2 Edmonton, Alberta, Canada
Contact Chris Herd (herd@ualberta.ca)

2014 September 7–14 Casablanca, Morocco
Contact Hassna Chennaoui (chennaoui_h@yahoo.fr)

2015 July 27–31 Berkeley, California

2016 Dates to be announced Berlin, Germany

STUDENT TRAVEL AWARDS

Over 45 students attending the annual meeting of the Society in Cairns, Australia, in August 2012, received travel grants. Student travel grants and travel grants for scientists from countries with limited financial resources are generously sponsored by the Barringer Crater Company, the Planetary Studies Foundation, NASA (Cosmochemistry Program), the Meteoritical Society Endowment Fund, the International Meteorite Collectors Association (Brian Mason Award), and the Australian National University (Research School of Earth Sciences and ICOG-7 awards).

The Barringer Crater Company

- Feargus Abernethy, *Open University*
- Marlene Giscard, *Imperial College*
- Michael Goodyear, *Open University*
- Maartje Hamers, *Utrecht University*
- Leon Hicks, *University of Leicester*
- Yoshihiro Hidaka, *Tokyo Metropolitan University*
- Jesper Holst, *University of Copenhagen*
- Yutaro Kuriyama, *University of Tokyo*
- Yi-Jen Lai, *University of Bristol*
- Nan Liu, *University of Chicago*
- Anna Losiak, *University of Vienna*
- Tu-Han Luu, *CPRG-CNRS Nancy, France*
- Mia Olsen, *University of Copenhagen*
- Claudiu Tănăsela, *Babes-Bolyai University*
- Nicole Spring, *University of Manchester*
- Hiroko Suzuki, *University of Tokyo*
- Mona Weyrauch, *Westfälische Wilhelms Universität, Münster*
- Felicity Williams, *Open University*
- Niel Williams, *University of Manchester*
- Yuchen Xu, *Chinese Academy of Science, Guiyang*
- Shogo Yakame, *University of Tokyo*

NASA–Cosmochemistry

- Robert Beauford, *University of Arkansas*
- Timothy Bowling, *Purdue University*
- Patrick Gasda, *University of Hawaii*
- Evan Groopman, *Washington University in St. Louis*
- Pierre Haenecour, *Washington University in St. Louis*
- Junko Isa, *University of California, Los Angeles*
- Christine Jilly, *University of Hawaii*
- Jordan Kendall, *Purdue University*
- Takafumi Niihara, *Lunar and Planetary Institute*
- Caitlin Schnitzer, *University of Arizona*
- Lev Spivak-Birndorf, *Arizona State University*
- Reto Tappitsch, *University of Chicago*
- Myriam Telus, *University of Hawaii*
- Curtis Williams, *Arizona State University*
- Kelsey Young, *Arizona State University*

Planetary Studies Foundation

- Marc Biren, *University of New Brunswick*
- Matthew Huber, *University of Vienna*

Australian National University Research School of Earth Sciences

- Vicki Darlington, *James Cook University*
- Francesco Pignatale, *Swinburne University*

Australian National University ICOG-7 Conference Fund

- Joeline Buntain, *Monash University*
- Barbara Frasl, *Australian National University*

Meteoritical Society Endowment Fund

- Rogelio Acevedo, *Centro Austral de Investigaciones Cientificas, Argentina*
- Hasnaa Chennaoui Aoudjehane, *Hassan II University, Morocco*
- Assia Laroussi, *Hassan II University, Morocco*
- Kuljeet Marhas, *Physical Research Lab, India*
- S.V.S. Murty, *Physical Research Lab, India*

International Meteorite Collectors Association (Brian Mason Award)

- Natasha Stephen, *Imperial College*



Natasha Stephen, winner of the Brian Mason Award. PHOTO CREDIT: DIAMOND LIGHT SOURCE

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. The award is given to a student attending the annual meeting of the Society who submits an abstract that presents clearly explained, exciting results of particular interest to readers of *Meteorite* magazine. The recipient is required to write a popular account of his/her 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 Cairns, Australia, meeting selected Natasha R. Stephen as the winner of the Brian Mason Award. Natasha is a student at Imperial College in London, UK, and she submitted an abstract entitled “The Tissint Meteorite: A pristine and unique sample of the Martian sub-surface,” authored by N. R. Stephen, M. Genge, and S. Russell. This paper discusses the newest Martian meteorite, Tissint, which was recovered quickly after it fell and represents a rare opportunity to study unweathered Martian material (see the August 2012 “CosmoElements” feature in this magazine for a discussion of Tissint).

CALL FOR AWARD NOMINATIONS

Please consider nominating a colleague for one of the Society’s awards. Nominations should be sent to Secretary Greg Herzog (herzog@rutchem.rutgers.edu) by January 15 (January 31 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 (<http://meteoriticalsociety.org/Newsletter/nlett11.pdf> - see page 9) or e-mail the secretary (metsocsec@gmail.com).

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 (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.