

<http://meteoriticalsociety.org>

METEORITE NOMENCLATURE COMMITTEE

Report of the Chair



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. We are also charged with keeping the community apprised of new meteorites through the *Meteoritical Bulletin* and the Meteoritical Bulletin Database (www.lpi.usra.edu/meteor/metbull.php). Since the last report, *Meteoritical Bulletin* (MB) 99 has been published in the new online format, and MB100 and 101 are forthcoming. The Database now includes a news feature, available to the public.

The topic of type specimen repositories has been on the NomCom agenda for some time, with efforts directed towards ensuring that any type specimens (provided to a repository as part of the process for approval of new meteorites) are properly curated over the long term so that they are available for scientific research. The process culminated recently in a new section called Type Specimen Repositories in the NomCom Procedures. The section defines an acceptable repository and outlines the process for approval of new repositories and review of existing ones. The changes were approved by Council in March and are now in effect. A copy of the procedures is available at http://meteoriticalsociety.org/?page_id=107.

Please do not hesitate to contact me (herd@ualberta.ca) with questions or concerns about NomCom and especially with suggestions for improvement. Essential information on meteorite nomenclature, instructions and the template for reporting new meteorites, and NomCom membership may be found on our home page: http://meteoriticalsociety.org/?page_id=106.

Chris Herd, Chair

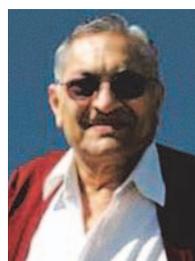
IN MEMORIAM



David S. McKay, Chief Scientist for Astrobiology at the NASA Johnson Space Center, passed away on February 20, 2013. McKay was perhaps best known for being the first author of a scientific paper postulating past life on Mars. This paper has become one of the most heavily cited papers in planetary science. The NASA Astrobiology Institute was founded partially as a result of community interest in this paper and related topics. McKay studied lunar dust since the return of the first Apollo 11 samples in 1969 and contributed over 200 publications on this topic.

As a graduate student in geology at Rice University, McKay was present at John F. Kennedy's speech in 1962 announcing the goal of landing a man on the Moon within the decade. Kennedy's speech inspired his interest in helping to train the Apollo astronauts in geology. During the Apollo program, McKay gave the first men to walk on the Moon training in geology. He was a chief trainer for Neil Armstrong and Buzz Aldrin during their last geology field trip in West Texas and was the only geologist present in the Apollo Mission Control Room in Houston when Armstrong and Aldrin walked on the Moon in 1969.

McKay was honored by the International Astronomical Union by having an asteroid named after him in 2002. He was also a recipient of the NASA Superior Achievement Award for Lunar Science Contributions and the NASA Exceptional Scientific Achievement Medal. This text was adapted from an obituary posted on the Meteoritical Society website.

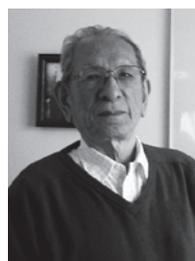


Devendra Lal, Professor of Nuclear Physics at Scripps Institution of Oceanography, passed away on December 1, 2012, at his San Diego home at the age of 83. Throughout his long career, Professor Lal was known for the diversity and creativity of his research. His early work on the composition and energy spectrum of primary cosmic radiation and in elementary particle physics became the basis for his research on the mechanisms and rates of natural physical and chemical processes on Earth and in the Solar

System using radionuclides. He worked on nuclear tracks and radioactivity in the Apollo lunar samples and in meteorites. His work brought him numerous international honors, among them his appointment as a Fellow of the Royal Society and his reception of the V. M. Goldschmidt Medal of the Geochemical Society.

Professor Lal held appointments in India, first as a professor at the Tata Institute and then as a professor and director of the Physical Research Laboratory in Ahmedabad. From 1989 onward he made the Scripps Institution of Oceanography his full-time academic home. He worked closely with his wife, Aruna, until her death.

To his many friends and colleagues, Professor Lal was well known for his insatiable curiosity and good humor and as a caring and demanding teacher. He was born to a large family of modest means in Varanasi, India, where he completed his bachelor's and master's of education degrees at Banaras Hindu University. This text was adapted from an obituary published at <http://scrippsnews.ucsd.edu/Releases/?releaseID=1314>.



Masatake Honda passed away on February 16, 2013, at the age of 92, ending a distinguished career in meteoritics, lunar geochemistry, analytical chemistry, and nuclear chemistry, a career that lasted more than half a century. He was the recipient of several awards, including the 1987 Leonard Medal of the Meteoritical Society for his pioneering work in establishing the measurement and the production-rate systematics of cosmic-ray-produced stable and radioactive nuclides in meteorites and lunar samples. He continued to

be active in research throughout his professional life, devoting much of his later efforts to comprehensive studies of cosmogenic nuclides in large iron meteorites.

ANNUAL MEETING SCHEDULE

- **2013** July 29–August 2, Edmonton, Alberta, Canada (<http://metsoc2013edmonton.org>)
- **2014** September 7–12, Casablanca, Morocco
- **2015** July 27–31, Berkeley, California
- **2016** August 7–12, Berlin, Germany
- **2017** Dates to be announced, Albuquerque or Santa Fe, New Mexico