

<http://meteoriticalsociety.org>

REPORT OF THE METEORITE NOMENCLATURE COMMITTEE



Michael K. Weisberg

I took over as Chair of the Meteorite Nomenclature Committee (NomCom) of The Meteoritical Society in January. It has been more than 15 years since I last served on the NomCom, as editor of the *Meteoritical Bulletin* (MB), and I am pleasantly surprised to see how more efficiently the Committee is currently operating. This is important considering the high rate of new meteorites submitted to the NomCom each year. The success of the NomCom is due to the dedication of Jeff Grossman as the Meteoritical Bulletin Database

(MBDB) Editor, Jerome Gattacceca as Editor of the MB, and all the members of the NomCom who donate their time to ensure that meteorite and dense collection areas (DCAs) are given appropriate names and that collection histories and classification information are correctly entered. I also want to acknowledge all of the meteorite collectors, classifiers, and repository curators. Their efforts grow the number of new and interesting meteorites, benefiting the scientific community.

The online MBDB is a valuable resource for the planetary materials community. It is a searchable electronic resource that contains information about all known meteorites, and mirrors the information on new meteorites published in *The Meteoritical Bulletin*. The MBDB is edited by Jeff Grossman. Working with colleagues at the Lunar Planetary Institute (LPI), the database is currently being moved to a new, more secure web platform at the LPI. The new database is projected to be operational by the end of this year.

NomCom is currently composed of ten appointed members: Michael Weisberg (Chair; City University of New York, USA), Camille Cartier (Université de Lorraine, France), Cyrena Goodrich (Lunar and Planetary Institute, USA), Ansgar Greshake (Deputy Editor, Museum für Naturkunde Berlin, Germany), Juliane Gross (NASA Johnson Space Center, USA), Katherine Joy (The University of Manchester, UK), Jon Friedrich (Fordham University, USA), Devin Schrader (NASA Johnson Space Center, USA), Bidong Zhang (Rice University, USA), and Hikaru Yabuta, (Hiroshima University, Japan); and three ex-officio NomCom members: Jérôme Gattacceca (*MetBull* Editor; CEREGE, France), Jeff Grossman (Database Editor), and Maria Schönbächler (MetSoc Vice President; ETH Zurich, Switzerland).

According to the bylaws of The Meteoritical Society, "The Meteorite Nomenclature Committee shall be responsible for establishing guidelines for the naming of meteorites, for the approval of new names [including naming of meteorite dense collection areas], for decisions regarding pairing or separation of meteorites previously named, and for dissemination of this information in the *Meteoritical Bulletin* and the Meteoritical Bulletin Database" (<https://www.lpi.usra.edu/meteor/>).

As of this writing, there are 77,301 valid meteorite names listed in the Meteoritical Bulletin Database, including 16,833 with a full classification writeup.

New Meteorites and Dense Collection Areas

The NomCom continues to receive a high rate of new meteorite submissions each year. Since the last report, the 2487 meteorites (including 1916 non-Antarctic meteorites) approved in 2023, and entered in the MBDB, have been published in MB no. 112 by Gattacceca et al. (2024). Full write-ups of the non-Antarctic meteorites and supporting information and supplementary tables can be found online in the MBDB. The MB no. 112 includes 14 approved falls as well as 33 newly approved

DCAs. MB no. 113, containing 3635 meteorites and 74 DCAs approved in 2024, is in preparation and will be submitted later this year to *Meteoritics & Planetary Science*. All of these meteorites and their historical and classification information are currently entered in the online MBDB.

Meteorite Submissions

Please remember to send your write-ups for new and provisional names to NomCom at least four weeks before submitting your conference abstracts or manuscripts to journals to avoid potential issues with naming and classification, which can delay publication. The release of the write-up to the database may be held on request if there is an embargo from publishers.

Finally, please feel free to contact us with any questions or concerns about the NomCom, or if you have any suggestions for improvement.

Michael K. Weisberg

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REFERENCE

Gattacceca J and 11 coauthors (2024) The Meteoritical Bulletin, no. 112. *Meteoritics & Planetary Science* 59: 1820-1823, doi: 10.1111/maps.14181

NINE NEW ENDOWMENT GRANTS AWARDED

The Meteoritical Society Endowment Fund supports a variety of activities through grants that advance the goals of the society, with selections made twice a year. The recently selected grant efforts are:

Community Grants

More details on the Meteoritical Society website

Terik Daly (Johns Hopkins University Applied Physics Laboratory, USA) – Student travel funding: 9th Planetary Defense Conference, South Africa

Anthony Pelaez (Meteor Crater Education Alliance, USA) – Crater Quest: Inspiring Adventures at Meteor Crater

Marian Sapah (University of Ghana, Ghana) – The 5th Edition of the Arab and Africa Impact Cratering And Astrogeology Conference (AICAC V)

Robyn Symons (University of the Witwatersrand, South Africa) – The Nqweba Meteorite: A Fireball That Captured the Curiosity of a Nation

Research Grants

More details on the Meteoritical Society website

Nicola Allen (ETH Zürich, Switzerland) – Unlocking the origins and histories of interplanetary dust particles

Daniel Burgin (Curtin University, Australia) – Ni-rich meteorites as samples of oxidised planetary cores

Stephanie Halwa (The University of Manchester, UK) – Investigating solar wind implantation and volatile-budget of highland-derived lunar impact glasses

Tanja Michalik (Museum für Naturkunde, LIEB, Germany) – Identifying ejecta and impactor material through reflectance spectroscopy – A case study with Monturaqui crater in Chile

Myrto Simopoulou (Agricultural University of Athens, Greece) – Study of shock feature distribution in ordinary chondrites and hydrocode modelling at mesoscale

The next application deadline will be **June 15, 2025**. Details about scope, eligibility, funding and the application form can be found on the website at <https://meteoritical.org/endowment/general-endowment-fund>.

GIFTS AND GRANTS GUIDELINES

The stated mission of the Meteoritical Society is “to promote research and education in planetary science with emphasis on studies of meteorites and other extraterrestrial materials that further our understanding of the origin and history of the solar system.” Besides the Society’s publications, the annual scientific meetings, establishing official names for newly found meteorites, and the awards sponsored by the Society, there are other ways by which we work toward furthering our mission. This includes supporting student travel to conferences and workshops, supporting student research, assisting scientists from economically disadvantaged countries, supporting classes or field schools, especially those that bring meteoritics and planetary science to developing countries, compiling oral histories from prominent members of the Society, and supporting outreach to the broader public community on meteoritics and planetary science.

To support these activities, the Society has created an Endowment Fund. The majority of the Endowment consists of the *General Fund* which can support one-time activities that are not part of the normal Society business. The Endowment Fund also has named funds; the *Nier Fund*, the *McKay Fund*, the *Jessberger Award Fund*, the *O. Richard Norton Fund*, and the *TIM Fund*, which were established for specific purposes.

Details about activities supported by all of these Funds can be found on the Individual Endowment Funds page (<https://meteoritical.org/endowment/individual-endowment-funds>).

For those who wish to assist in this mission, donations can be made to the General Fund or to any of the specific Funds (see Ways to Contribute on the society website: <https://meteoritical.org/endowment/gifts-and-contributions>).

ED SCOTT LECTURE SERIES

There are two new lectures available from the Ed Scott Lecture Series: one by **Motoo Ito** entitled “Exploring Ryugu: Key Discoveries from Asteroid Samples returned by Hayabusa2,” and the second by **Christoph Burkhardt** entitled “Solar System Genealogy based on Isotope Anomalies in Meteorites.” They can be found under the Society pages on the MetSoc website (<https://meteoritical.org/society/ed-scott-lecture-series>).

ANNUAL MEETING SCHEDULE

2025	July 14–18, Perth, WA (Australia)
2026	August 9–14, Frankfurt, Germany (EU)
2027	July 26–30, Flagstaff, USA (hosted by ASU)
2028	(90 th Annual Meeting) July 30 – August 4 (tentative dates), Antofagasta, Chile

From an Idea to a Published Issue

Elements

Every year, *Elements* publishes six thematic issues on subjects related to the general disciplines of mineralogy, geochemistry, and petrology. The editorial team looks for topics that

- are broadly related to mineralogy, geochemistry, and petrology
- are interdisciplinary
- represent established but progressing fields
- would be of interest to a broad cross section of readers
- have not been adequately represented by *Elements* before or have advanced considerably since the topic was previously covered

Each proposal is carefully evaluated by our editorial team for thematic scope, content, and authorship. Feedback is then provided to the proposers.

Once a proposal is accepted and included in the *Elements* lineup, the fun really begins! Over the subsequent 15–20 months, timelines and deadlines are set, authors are invited by the guest editors to write articles, and articles go through several stages of review (by external reviewers, by the guest and principal editors, and by the *Elements* editorial team). At the end of this process, the issue goes to press and is shipped to our over 16,000 readers.

The journey from an idea to a published magazine involves many steps. The goal? A lineup of well-written thematic issues that readily conveys the exciting aspects of mineralogy, petrology, and geochemistry to specialists and non-specialists alike.

Call for Thematic Proposals

Would you like to read about a certain topic in *Elements*?
Do you think your research area would make a great thematic issue?

Submit a thematic proposal!

Elements has two annual submission deadlines each year:
March 25 and September 25.



For more information, visit:
<http://elementsmagazine.org/publish-in-elements/>
We look forward to receiving your proposal!