



# Meteoritical Society

<http://meteoriticalsociety.org>

## 2025 METEORITICAL SOCIETY TREASURER'S REPORT



Cari Corrigan

As of January, 2025, I became the Society's Treasurer. The transition into this daunting position has been relatively seamless thanks to the thoughtful and meticulous actions and record keeping by our past Treasurer, Tasha Dunn. We owe Tasha a debt of gratitude for her six years of service to the Society. She is a star—thank you Tasha!

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 full report of our finances will be presented at the annual meeting in Perth.

As reported in the 2024 Treasurer's Report, at the recommendation of the Endowment committee, Council voted to support a more sustainable investment strategy. This new fund was opened in January of 2024. As a result of the excellent performance of this fund, the Endowment committee recommended a further transfer of \$300,000 into the Blackrock ESG fund. Council voted to approve this transfer in February of this year, and the funds were transferred in March. As of May 31<sup>st</sup>, 2025, the balance of the Blackrock Investment account was \$546,636. The Endowment Committee will assess the performance of the fund every quarter, and if the fund continues to perform well, an additional allotment of \$200,000 will be transferred from the primary investment fund into the Blackrock ESG fund in increments later this year. The Society's goal is to invest as much of our money as ethically as possible over time.

The general investment fund sits at \$2,027,000. The investment fund is distributed across six endowed funds. The Nier, McKay, and Jessberger Funds support our named awards. The TIM Fund and the Norton Fund support members travel to the annual meeting. The largest fund is the General Endowment Fund, which supports a variety of outreach projects, research grants, and early career travel to annual meetings.

The Endowment Committee is responsible for allocating funds in the General Endowment Fund. The Society's Bylaws state that 5% of the general endowment's value can be allocated for spending each year. In fiscal year (FY)25, the Endowment Committee began to allocate 4% of the General Endowment for grants and 1% for Early Career travel awards. In FY26, this amounts to ~\$76,000 and ~\$19,100, respectively.

Requests for funding from the general endowment are considered twice annually, on January 15<sup>th</sup> and June 15<sup>th</sup>. **Community Fund Grants (formerly Endowment Fund Grants)**, which are open to all members to support activities that further the goals of the Meteoritical Society, and **Research Grants** (open to students and early-career researchers) support collaborative research in the fields of meteoritics and planetary science. More information about these grants can be found on the website: <https://meteoritical.org/endowment/general-endowment-fund>. Please see the website for a list of recently funded grants: <https://meteoritical.org/news/four-new-community-grants-funded>.

Proposals for community fund grants or research grants should be emailed to the secretary ([metsecsecretary@gmail.com](mailto:metsecsecretary@gmail.com)). If you have any questions, please contact the chair of the Endowment Committee, Rhian Jones ([rhian.jones-2@manchester.ac.uk](mailto:rhian.jones-2@manchester.ac.uk)).

## 2025 MEMBERSHIP REPORT

Membership in the Meteoritical Society is open to any person interested in meteoritics and related sciences regardless of residence, citizenship or age. As of May 2025, the Meteoritical Society comprises 439 regular members, 153 students, 133 early career members, 215 retired

members, 65 life members, and 12 members from developing countries. This brings us to a grand total of 1017 members in 57 countries, an increase of 102 members since 2022. To encourage students and early career researchers to join the Society, in 2023, we implemented a new fee structure: **Early career memberships are only \$40** (which we define as anyone who is within 10 years of completing their PhD) and **student memberships have been reduced to only \$10 USD**.

Country	Early Career	Lifetime	Low-income Country	Retired	Standard	Student	Total
Algeria	0	0	2	0	0	0	2
Argentina	2	0	0	1	0	0	3
Australia	6	0	0	6	14	11	37
Austria	0	1	0	1	5	0	7
Belgium	4	0	0	1	4	0	9
Brazil	0	0	0	1	2	2	5
Canada	2	3	0	11	13	7	36
Chile	2	0	0	0	3	5	10
China	6	5	2	2	8	4	27
Colombia	0	0	1	0	0	1	2
Costa Rica	0	0	0	0	1	0	1
Cyprus	0	0	0	0	0	1	1
Czechia	0	0	0	0	2	2	4
Ivory Coast	0	0	0	0	0	1	1
Denmark	2	1	0	2	1	0	6
Finland	3	0	0	0	3	0	6
France	6	5	0	11	14	3	39
Germany	10	9	0	18	37	7	81
Ghana	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
Greece	0	0	0	0	0	2	2
Guatemala	0	0	0	1	0	0	1
Holy See	0	0	0	0	2	0	2
Hong Kong	0	0	0	0	1	0	1
Hungary	0	1	0	0	3	0	4
India	0	0	3	1	3	9	16
Ireland	0	0	0	1	0	0	1
Italy	3	0	0	4	6	1	14
Japan	12	0	0	8	59	15	94
Korea (the Republic of)	0	0	0	0	3	0	3
Latvia	0	0	0	0	0	1	1
Lithuania	0	0	0	0	1	0	1
Luxembourg	0	0	0	2	1	0	3
Malaysia	0	0	0	0	1	1	2
Mexico	0	1	0	1	0	0	2
Morocco	0	1	1	0	1	1	4
Netherlands	0	0	0	0	3	1	4
Nigeria	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
Norway	2	0	0	0	0	0	2
Oman	0	0	1	1	0	0	2
Philippines	0	0	0	0	1	0	1
Poland	1	0	0	1	1	0	3
Portugal	0	0	0	1	2	1	4
Romania	1	0	0	0	1	0	2
Russian Federation	1	0	0	0	9	0	10
Singapore	0	0	0	1	1	0	2
Slovakia	0	0	0	0	1	0	1
South Africa	1	0	0	0	3	1	5
Spain	1	0	0	1	11	3	16
Sweden	3	0	0	1	2	3	9
Switzerland	5	1	0	8	9	5	28
Taiwan	0	0	0	0	1	0	1
Tunisia	0	0	0	0	0	1	1
Ukraine	1	0	1	0	0	0	2
United Arab Emirates	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
United Kingdom	15	3	0	7	20	24	69
United States of America	42	34	0	122	185	40	423
Uruguay	0	0	0	0	1	0	1
<b>Totals</b>	<b>133</b>	<b>65</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>215</b>	<b>439</b>	<b>153</b>	<b>1017</b>

Student and early career members have the opportunity to apply for small research grants twice a year, as well as for travel grants to the Annual Meeting. Students can also compete for presentation awards at the Annual Meeting. At the 2024 Annual Meeting in Brussels, the Society hosted both a student luncheon and an early career reception, and introduced a mentor/mentee program to help students and early career members connect and network with more senior members during the meeting. Feedback was overwhelmingly positive, and these activities will continue at the 2025 Annual Meeting in Perth. We also continue to subsidize the registration fee for the Meteoritical Society's Annual Meeting for all membership levels. 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 <https://meteoritical.org/membership/join>.

### PAUL PELLAS / GRAHAM RYDER AWARD WINNERS FOR 2025

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 annually to an undergraduate or graduate student who is a 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 meteoritist Paul Pellas and lunar scientist Graham Ryder. After reviewing several high-quality papers covering a wide range of areas in planetary science, the selection committee are delighted to announce **Alexander Kling** and **Ian Pamerleau** as joint winners of the 2025 Pellas-Ryder Award.



Alexander, a graduate student and NASA FINESST Fellow at Purdue University, USA, led a paper entitled “Nanoscale reservoirs store solar wind-derived water on the lunar surface.” The paper was published in *Earth and Planetary Science Letters* and describes detailed analyses of hydrogen and water in the space-weathered rims of small lunar grains returned by the *Apollo* missions. Using correlated nanoscale observations, the paper shows that hydrogen and water can be trapped in vesicles formed by solar wind irradiation, providing proof of the mechanism to form solar wind-derived water of the Moon. These observations help explain the behavior and long-term storage of solar wind volatiles on the lunar surface.



Ian, who is also a graduate student at Purdue University, led a paper entitled “An ancient and impure frozen ocean on Ceres implied by its ice-rich crust.” Published in *Nature Astronomy*, the paper reports a novel modeling approach to solving the mystery of Ceres' internal structure. Unlike previous studies, the model considers the effects of impurities in the ice and demonstrates how Ceres can have both an ice-rich crust and heavily cratered surface, satisfying multiple datasets collected by NASA's *Dawn* mission.

Congratulations to Alexander and Ian for leading these exciting studies that change our understanding of Solar System processes! We would also like to thank everyone who took the time to submit nomination packages and members of the Pellas-Ryder Award committee for their effort reading through the papers.

### MEETING INFO

2026	9–14 August	Frankfurt, Germany (EU)
2027	July/August TBD	Flagstaff, Arizona (USA)
2028	July 30–August 4 (tentative)	Antofagasta (Chile)

### BEVAN FRENCH, 1937–2025

Bevan French is most widely known for his pioneering work in planetary science and the field of impact cratering. He was one of the early workers on terrestrial impact materials at a time when impacts on the Earth were not considered mainstream—or even possible. Throughout his career, Bevan was a champion for impact science, particularly centered on petrography, and geologic observations at terrestrial craters.

Bevan's career in geology included a bachelor's degree from Dartmouth College, a Master's from Caltech, and a PhD from Johns Hopkins in 1964, all in the USA. Bevan started his geological work in metamorphic petrology, and his PhD centered on the stability of siderite and metamorphism of iron formations in the Minnesota iron range. At a geological conference in Minneapolis in the mid-60s, Bevan gave a talk about his thesis work, which attracted a smart lady who was working for an iron-mining company. Two years later, they married. Mary-Hill French became a close partner in editing Bevan's manuscripts and joined in all the travels around the world. Together, they supported young investigators interested in terrestrial impacts until her passing in 2019.

After graduating from Johns Hopkins, Bevan quickly turned toward planetary science and joined NASA Goddard Space Flight Center in 1964, where he continued working on impact cratering. Bevan then joined the *Apollo* lunar exploration program as a co-investigator on *Apollo 11* and *12* samples, and as a trainer for astronauts of the *Apollo 16*



Bevan French at the MetSoc meeting in 2005. PHOTO: D. JALUFKA/C. KOEBERL.

and 17 missions. Bevan spent a few years (1972–1975) away from NASA as a Program Director of Geochemistry at NSF before returning to NASA headquarters in 1975.

Bevan officially retired from NASA in 1994 and continued his work on impact cratering. He returned to active research on terrestrial impact structures, first as a visiting professor at the University of Vienna, Austria, and later as a research collaborator in the Smithsonian Institution, USA. In recognition of his contributions to planetary science and impact cratering, Bevan was awarded the Barringer Medal from the Meteoritical Society in 2002.

Beyond science, Bevan enjoyed many things, including classical music and reading (mystery and humor being high on his lists of favorites). Lately, he spent a lot of his time organizing his books and reprints as well as his large sample collection, housed in the basement of his home in Chevy Chase, Maryland, USA, and he was even just now working on more Sudbury research. We have lost a giant in the field of impact cratering research, and a wonderful person and gentleman.

For the full obituary, please go to the Meteoritical Society webpage (<https://meteoritical.org/news/bevan-m-french-1937-2025>), and also a full memorial in *Meteoritics and Planetary Science* (<https://doi.org/10.1111/maps.70010>).

Submitted by: **Steven Jaret**, **Peter Schultz**, and **Christian Koebel**