

<http://meteoriticalsociety.org>

REPORT OF THE METEORITE NOMENCLATURE COMMITTEE



Michael K. Weisberg

The Nomenclature Committee (NomCom) is currently operating steadily and efficiently. This is important considering the high number of new meteorites submitted to the NomCom throughout each year. The success of the NomCom is due to the dedication of Jérôme Gattacceca as Editor of the Meteoritical Bulletin (MB), Jeff Grossman and Natasha Almeida as the Meteoritical Bulletin Database (MBDB) Editors, and all the members of the NomCom, who donate their time to ensure that meteorites 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 the meteorite collectors, classifiers, and repository curators involved with the descriptions of new meteorites. Their efforts grow the number of new and interesting meteorites, benefiting the scientific community.

The online MBDB (<https://www.lpi.usra.edu/meteor/>) is a valuable resource for the planetary materials community. It is a searchable electronic resource that contains information about all meteorites recognized by the Society and mirrors the information on new meteorites published in the Meteoritical Bulletin.

Recently, the MBDB was successfully moved to a new, more secure web platform at the Lunar Planetary Institute (LPI), and the public interface was updated and modernized. The database editors are happy to accept comments and suggestions about the MBDB at their new email address, metbulldbeditor@gmail.com.

NomCom is currently composed of 10 appointed members: **Michael Weisberg** (Chair; City University of New York, USA), **Natasha Almeida** (Deputy Database Editor, Natural History Museum, London, UK), **Camille Cartier** (CRPG, Université de Lorraine, France), **Cyrena Goodrich** (Lunar and Planetary Institute/USRA, USA), **Ansgar Greshake** (Deputy Editor, Museum für Naturkunde Berlin, Germany), **Katherine Joy** (The University of Manchester, UK), **Jon Friedrich** (Fordham University, USA), **Allan Treiman** (Lunar and Planetary Institute, 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, USA), and **Maria Schönbächler** (MetSoc Vice President, ETH Zurich, Switzerland). In addition, NomCom works with regional consultants to ensure proper names of meteorites and DCAs. They include **Djelloul Belhai** (Algeria, Libya, and Mali), **Elycheikh Naviée** (Mauritania), **Hasnaa Chennaoui** (Morocco and Western Sahara) and **Bingkui Miao** (China).

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."

As of this writing, there are 78,941 valid meteorite names and 6398 provisional names listed in the Meteoritical Bulletin Database, including 17,980 with a full classification write-up.

New Meteorites and Dense Collection Areas

Since the last report, the 3646 meteorites (including 2396 non-Antarctic meteorites) approved in 2024 and entered in the MBDB, have been published in MB No. 113 by Gattacceca et al. (2025). Full write-ups of the non-Antarctic meteorites and supporting information and supplementary tables can be found in MB 113 and online in the MBDB. MB No. 113 reports 17 approved falls as well as 43 new DCAs. MB No. 114, containing 1944 meteorites and 34 new DCAs approved in 2025, is in preparation and will soon be submitted to *Meteoritics & Planetary Science*. All of these meteorites with their associated historical and classification information are currently entered in the online MBDB.

NomCom Operating Procedures

The document that outlines the Operating Procedures for the NomCom was revised in January 2026. All revisions were approved by the NomCom and the Council of The Meteoritical Society. The Procedures document is available at <https://www.lpi.usra.edu/meteor/docs/nc-procedures.pdf>.

Meteorite Submissions

Please remember to send your information about new meteorites 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 information may be held, on request, for synchronization with embargoes from publishers (see the Procedures document referenced above for information on embargoes).

Finally, please feel free to contact us with any questions or concerns about the NomCom, or if you have any suggestions for improvement (chair.nomcom@kbcc.cuny.edu).

Michael K. Weisberg

Chair of the Nomenclature Committee
Kingsborough Community College and
Graduate Center City University of New York

REFERENCE

Gattacceca J and 11 coauthors (2025) The Meteoritical Bulletin, No. 113. *Meteoritics and Planetary Science* 60: 1587-1591, doi: 10.1111/maps.14ger374

TWELVE 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 per year. The recently selected grant efforts are:

Community Grants – full details available at <https://meteoritical.org/news/three-new-community-grants-awarded>:

- **Marian Sapah** (*University of Ghana*) The Traveling Telescope Ghana: Extending Planetary and Space Science
- **Alexandre Corgne** (*Austral University of Chile*) Creation of a permanent meteorite exhibition linked to the Pelom Kura
- **Sujoy Ghosh** (*Indian Institute of Technology*) MetMeSS-6 – National Symposium on Meteoroids, Meteors and Meteorites

Research Grants – full details available at <https://meteoritical.org/news/nine-new-research-grants-awarded>:

- **Roberto Boriello** (*University of Venice, Italy*) Shock-induced metasomatism in the CO chondrite parent body explored through CAIs in the FRO 90006 chondrite
- **Shivanshu Dwivedi** (*University of Allahabad, India*) Second Oldest Suevite Breccia Exposure from the Dhala Impact Structure, India: A First Report
- **Chloe Kadri** (*University of Manchester, UK*) A comprehensive survey of meteorite flux to Earth using the Global Meteor Network (GMN)

- **Imene Kerraouch** (*NASA Johnson Space Center, USA*) Tracing Fine-Grained 16O-Rich Refractory Dust in the Inner Solar System
- **Randolph Maier** (*University of Cambridge, UK*) Oxygen isotopic composition of relict stony meteorites in the Morokweng impact melt sheet, South Africa
- **Nozomi Matsuda** (*University of California, Los Angeles, USA*) Petrography and oxygen isotopic compositions of type I and type II chondrules from CA chondrites
- **Neha Panwar** (*Physical Research Laboratory, India*) Coordinated Raman and NanoSIMS isotopic studies of organic matter in HED achondrites

- **Ashley Rogers** (*Curtin University, Australia*) New meteorites from Western Australia: a case study on the effects of re-crystallisation for determining the classification of iron meteorites
- **Ronica Sims** (*Arizona State University, USA*) Development of Fe-rich Silicate Standards to enable Oxygen Isotope Analysis of Bennu and Ryugu Particles

The next application deadline will be **June 15, 2026**. Details about scope, eligibility, funding, and the application form can be found on the website: <https://meteoritical.org/endowment/general-endowment-fund>.

IN MEMORIAM: JOHN HUME JONES

Dr. John Hume Jones (known to all as “JJ”) died on April 13, 2025, in Houston, Texas, USA, succumbing to complications from a chronic illness. He was a towering figure in experimental petrology who helped lay the foundations of quantitative and theoretical trace element partitioning. JJ also contributed significantly to planetary materials and sample science, focusing on basalts, especially eucrites and Martian meteorites.



John Hume Jones was born and raised in Ekron, Kentucky, USA. After high school, he enrolled at the University of Kentucky in nearby Louisville, majoring first in chemistry, and then geology. John graduated in 1974 and was then accepted to the PhD program at Caltech (USA), where he received his PhD in 1981. After this, JJ applied for and was accepted into a post-doc position with Michael Drake at the University of Arizona (USA). His work there included constraining the composition of the core of the eucrite parent body (now Vesta), determining partition coefficients of siderophile elements between solid and liquid metals, and of transition elements between olivine and basaltic melts. After Arizona, JJ continued his experimental work at Johnson Space Center in the group now known as ARES (Astromaterials Research and Exploration Science), constraining the distribution of trace elements between minerals and basaltic melts. JJ leveraged those experimental results into groundbreaking studies on the origins of asteroidal achondrites, Martian meteorites, and Mars’ volatiles.

Several of JJ’s most significant contributions were on the Martian meteorites, including demonstrating that the 180-My Sm-Nd age of the Zagami SNC was its crystallization age, thereby aligning radioisotope chronology with the geomorphology and crater-count chronology of Mars’ surface. JJ was also a strong advocate for Mars sample return. Over the course of his career, JJ mentored and advised many interns, post-docs, and visiting scientists, and is fondly remembered by all who knew him. Outside of work, JJ enjoyed pursuing his family’s genealogy—not a simple task given the name Jones!

Submitted by **Allan Treiman, Amy Jurewicz, Duck Mittlefehldt, and Justin Simon**

Please view the full obituary at the Meteoritical Society webpage: <https://meteoritical.org/news/john-hume-jones-1952-2025>.

IN MEMORIAM: JOHN W. LARIMER

John W. (Jack) Larimer, a pioneer in meteorite research, passed away at the age of 86 on January 22, 2026. Jack attended Lehigh University in Bethlehem, Pennsylvania, USA, where he received his bachelor’s (1962), master’s (1963), and doctoral degrees (1966). He spent 1966 to 1969 as a postdoctoral fellow working with Ed Anders at the University of Chicago, USA, where he developed the “big picture” of the origin of chondrites as we still understand it today. In 1969, Jack joined the geology faculty of Arizona State University, USA, where he spent the remainder of his academic career.



Jack’s work on nebular condensation chemistry laid the groundwork for many subsequent thermodynamic studies in cosmochemistry, meteoritics, and planetary science, and his papers continue to be cited frequently. His work on calculating the condensation temperatures of trace elements has greatly influenced subsequent work on solar nebular processes. Jack was the first to propose the occurrence of extremely reduced minerals in enstatite chondrites by condensation from a nebular gas with slightly increased C/O ratio. Later in his career, Jack extended his research to the composition of the Earth and its relation to meteorites. He dealt primarily with trace elements and emphasized the similarity of volatile element patterns in the Earth and in some types of meteorites. The general depletion of volatile elements in inner Solar System materials is still an important constraint on models of the formation of the Solar System.

His awards and honors include the Ninger Meteorite Award (1966), Meteoritical Society Fellow (1969), a NATO Senior Post-doctoral Fellowship at the MPI für Chemie in Mainz, Germany (1975–1976), and an invited visiting professorship at Caltech (1979–1980). Jack Larimer has made fundamental contributions to meteorite research and many of the basic concepts that we use today can be traced back to his creative work.

Submitted by **Herbert Palme and Bruce Fegley**

For the full obituary, please see the Meteoritical Society webpage: <https://meteoritical.org/news/john-w-larimer-1939-2026>.