

**Minutes of the Third 2015 Council Meeting**  
Mineralogical Society of America  
Saturday, 31 October 2015  
Hilton Baltimore  
401 West Pratt Street, Baltimore, Maryland 21201

Attending:

Steve Shirey, President  
David Vaughan, Past-President  
Howard Day, Treasurer  
Andrea Koziol, Secretary  
Rebecca Lange, Vice-President  
Edward Grew, Councilor  
Abby Kavner, Councilor  
Matthew Kohn, Councilor  
Kirsten Nicolaysen, Councilor  
Wendy Panero, Councilor (Via Skype)

Not present:

Isabelle Daniel, Councilor

Visitors:

J. Alex Speer, MSA Executive Director  
Rachel Russell, Managing Editor, *American Mineralogist*  
Peter Nabelek, incoming councilor  
Bryan Chakoumakos, incoming Secretary  
George Harlow, incoming vice-president  
Rajdeep Dasgupta, incoming councilor (Via Skype)

Note: Motions and Council action items are presented in *italics*; SoC = sense of Council

ITEMS

[1] Call to order and Roll Call

Steve Shirey called the meeting to order at 8:00 AM. All present introduced themselves.

[2] Additions to and deletions from the Agenda, approval of the Agenda.

A revised agenda was sent by A. Speer ahead of this meeting, and this agenda would be used during the meeting.

[3] Accept Reports to Council containing no questions or action items as a group. Reports will be acknowledged by Secretary.

The Financial Advisory and Audit Committee (FAAC), Membership Committee, American Mineralogist Science Editors, Series Editor of the Reviews in Mineralogy and Geochemistry & Monographs Series, MSA Society News Editor for Elements, Editor of the Handbook of Mineralogy, MSA Representative to the GeoScienceWorld Board of Directors, MSA Representative to the GeoScienceWorld Advisory Council, Coordinator of Meetings, MSA Webmaster, Outreach Committee (K-12), MSA Lecture Program Committee, MSA Lecture Program Administrator, Bloss Crystallographic Fund Committee, Distinguished Public Service Medal Committee, Clay Minerals Society (CMS), European Mineralogical Union (EMU), Gemological Institute of America (GIA), Geological Society of America (GSA), Geological Society of America

Mineralogy, Geochemistry, Volcanology, Petrology (MGPV) Division, Pegmatites Special Interest Group, Planetary Materials Special Interest Group.

Not heard from: Ad Hoc Committee on Earth Materials Data, Liaisons to American Crystallographic Association (ACA), American Geophysical Union (AGU-VGP Section), American Geophysical Union (AGU-Mineral Physics), Friends of Mineralogy (FM), International Mineralogical Association (IMA), the International Centre for Diffraction Data (ICDD), International Mineralogical Association (IMA), and Society of Mineral Museum Professionals (SMMP).

*M. Kohn moved to accept all reports as submitted, K. Nicolaysen seconded. Motion passed unanimously.*

- [4] Approve the minutes of the Second 2014 Council Meeting. The minutes reflect all revisions previously sent to the MSA Secretary.

*M. Kohn moved to accept the Secretary's minutes with no corrections, K. Nicolaysen seconded. Motion passed unanimously.*

- [5] Review of Executive Committee actions (Section 1).

(a) AGI Ethics Guidelines. AGI revised their Guidelines for Ethical Professional Conduct after our basic agreement with the draft document as circulated last winter. The executive committee agreed that “we commend the work of the AGI Ethics Committee on its 'Guidelines for Ethical Professional Conduct' and will agree to communicate them as guidelines for the purpose of assisting our members in making ethically correct decisions about their professional behavior. We will also publicize these guidelines on our website and with our membership. We cannot agree to adopt these guidelines as a code of conduct because adopting a code of conduct has specific contractual implications that would bind MSA with undue legal responsibilities and liabilities.” This is essentially the same wording as applied previously to the draft. It was simply important to have it apply to the final guidelines.

S. Shirey discussed this topic. K. Nicolaysen questioned how *American Mineralogist* will communicate these policies to potential authors. R. Russell replied that the journal has a general policy that applies here, and it is linked on the website.

(b) MSA Distinguished Lecturer Series — New Lectureship Administrator. Andrea Koziol, working with the MSA Distinguished Lecture Series Committee, has secured a new Lecture Administrator who will replace the outgoing Lectureship Administrator, Tim Grover. The new administrator is David Peate of the University of Iowa. It is recommended that MSA Council officially congratulate and thank Tim Grover for exemplary service as Lecture Administrator.

S. Shirey reviewed this topic.

- [6] Accept medal, award, grant, and honor recommendations:

Roebing Medal (2016): ..... Robert M. Hazen (Section 23)

Dana Medal (2017): ..... Sumit Chakraborty (Section 26)

MSA Award (2016): ..... Anat Shahar (Section 24)  
MSA Fellows\* Walter, Michael J.; Lin, Jung-Fu; Sanloup, Chrystèle; Garcia, Michael;  
McEnroe, Suzanne; Wintsch, Robert P.; Frezzotti, Maria Luce; Bohrsen, Wendy;  
Schindler, Michael; Lu, Anhuai; Henderson, Grant S.; Putirka, Keith (Section  
27)  
Crystallographic Research Grant: ..... (Section 28a)  
Mineralogy/Petrology Research Grant:  
..... Niklas Martin Stausberg and Margo Regier (Section 28b)

Council considered the medalists and the nominated Fellows first. S. Shirey pointed out that M. Walter is a lapsed member, and Council agreed not to award him Fellowship. E. Grew suggested that the next person in line, Leonid Aranovich, be considered for fellowship.

*Motion to consider L. Aranovich for Fellowship was made by E. Grew, seconded by M. Kohn. Motion passed unanimously.*

Discussion followed on the issue of conflicts of interest, as noted by E. Grew, the chair of the Fellowship Committee. Consensus was that committee members should be self-policing, and report conflicts to the chair of the committee immediately. Committee members should recuse themselves from voting in the first ranking on someone in their current department (not past affiliations). The suggestion was made to bring in a MSA past-president if one committee member has multiple conflicts.

*SofC: Add sentences to the respective Handbooks about institutional conflicts, and notes on the importance of self-policing and self-reporting to the chair of the Committee.*

Abby Kavner reported that the Kraus committee was in the process of choosing an awardee.

*SofC: The Executive Committee will approve the Kraus grant when it is determined.*

*Motion to approve the medals as listed in the Agenda was made by D. Vaughan. H. Day seconded. The motion passed unanimously.*

The Chair of the Dana Medal Committee had four additional items (Section 26):

- a) Approve amendment of handbook instructions to say that committee members should contact the MSA office if technical difficulties prevent them from downloading files.
- b) Approve amendment of handbook instructions to indicate that a meeting of the committee by telephone or Skype must occur after the initial round of voting no matter the outcome of the first round of voting.

c) Consider forwarding a suggestion to the Committee on Committees that it takes geographic location into account when appointing panelists to facilitate simultaneous participation of all panelists in the discussion.

d) Time permitting, consider discussing recruitment of nominators.

K. Nicholaysen led this discussion. The suggestions were based on her experience and difficulties with some aspects of this committee, in particular members' schedules and limited availability. After some discussion, it was decided that suggestions can be made to the committee chairs, but it was thought better not to add undue restrictions on the operation of the committees.

*SofC: We ask A. Speer to review the pertinent language in the respective Handbooks to clarify discussion of methods in running the Medals Committees.*

[7] The Executive Director recommends that Council pass the unanimous resolution and consent of Section 3, Appendix K. This will permit MSA to advertise and award grants from the Edward H. Kraus Crystallographic Research Fund to similar areas of science most closely related to the study of crystallography. This might help to increase the number of submissions, which lag well behind the Min/Pet grant proposals (for this year, the number of applicants for the grants were: 51 Min/Pet and 4 Kraus).

[Executive Director's note: Passage will necessitate rewording the description and advertising of the Kraus grant, as well as instructions to the committee. Suggestions as to how to word a more expansive grant description are welcome.]

A. Speer led the discussion based on his consultation with the MSA attorney. The Kraus trust document allows the Trustees (= MSA Council) after fifty years and on each succeeding fiftieth anniversary, to examine the state of the art of crystallography and, if in their unanimous opinion the interest of scientists in crystallography is so minimal as to make any further grants unproductive, then such grants may be made in such other areas of earth sciences closely related to the study of crystallography. In this case, expanding the areas of support to spectroscopy, crystal chemistry, Mossbauer, and Raman techniques in the advertising for this grant might help in attracting applicants. Discussion continued.

The resolution:

“Grants from the Trust shall not be limited to the field of crystallography but shall be expanded to other fields of earth sciences that are closely related to the study of crystallography, and may, from time to time, in the discretion of a majority of the then-serving trustees, provide grants to recipients in any field of earth sciences that is closely related to the field of crystallography as determined by the Kraus Research Grant Committee, with no further action required.”

*M. Kohn moved that Council pass the unanimous resolution and consent of Section 3, Appendix K. Ed Grew seconded. Motion passed unanimously.*

In further discussion at this point, a Sense of Council was made.

*SoC: Change "Earth Sciences" to "Earth and Planetary Sciences" in the advertising of the Kraus grant.*

[8] The Executive Director writes that changing the terms of the Kraus Trust by action of the courts may be more than MSA wishes to take on, but it would be the clean and neat solution to be able to make grants awards to students, both graduate or undergraduate, of any age (Section 3). This option is available at any time. The no-cost alternative of making grants from the Permanently Restricted portion of the Kraus Trust requires much more attention to the details of how MSA goes about spending from a Trust. Does Council wish the MSA attorney to consult with one of their D.C. attorneys that handles trust issues and provide more details and a cost estimate? Try the option of making grants from the Temporarily Restricted portion of the Kraus Trust? Both? Neither?

A. Speer led discussion of this topic. The MSA attorney says the age restriction cannot be changed. A.Speer then described the two options listed in the agenda. He suggested that MSA go back to the lawyers and ask what is required to change the trust.

*SofC: Council gives its approval for A. Speer to proceed with discussions with MSA attorneys on the Kraus Trust.*

[9] MSA Committee membership and appointed posts for 2016 as recommended by the Committee on Committees (Section 7). Review and fill any outstanding vacancies. The actual vote on appointment of Committees and other posts will occur during the First 2016 Council Meeting this afternoon (Section 31).

Becky Lange led this discussion. All committee positions and chairs were filled. Voting on these positions will be made later in the day.

[10] Other MSA Committee action items relating to committees and appointments:

(a) David Peate, of University of Iowa, MSA Lecture Program Administrator in January 2016, replacing Timothy W. Grover, Castleton State College (Sections 1, 21(a), and 21(b)).

S. Shirey introduced this topic.

*H. Day moved that Council accept the appointment of D. Peate as MSA Lecture Program administrator. M. Kohn seconded. Motion passed unanimously.*

(b) Michael Hochella, MSA liaison to the Geochemical Society, request that Council select a new MSA Liaison to the Geochemical Society (Section 29h).

S. Shirey volunteered to be MSA Liaison to the Geochemical Society.

*K. Nicolaysen moved that Council accept the appointment of S. Shirey as MSA liaison to the Geochemical Society. D. Vaughan seconded. Motion passed unanimously.*

(c) As requested by Council, Mickey Gunter, chair of the Bloss Crystallography Fund Committee, identified and added Donald Halterman, OSHA, Salt Lake City as a committee member (Section 22).

*M. Kohn moved that Council accept the appointment of D. Halterman as member of the Bloss Crystallography Fund Committee. K. Nicolaysen seconded. Motion passed unanimously.*

At this point in the meeting, G. Harlow reminded Council of the revised list of IMA representatives. Discussion on this was deferred to later in the day.

(d) Abby Kavner, MSA Liaison to the American Geophysical Union (AGU) Fall Meeting Committee, strongly recommend that MSA re-assign this role to a person who is also on the AGU program committee (Section 29(c1)), a “job description of the MSA-AGU liaison” is included in her report (Appendix A).

A. Kavner discussed her experience in this position, and M. Kohn added to the discussion. In some cases MSA sponsorship or co-sponsorship of sessions is not being listed. MSA needs someone to be diligent and attentive to MSA’s needs.

*S. Shirey moved that discussion be tabled until this afternoon. A. Kavner seconded. Motion passed unanimously.*

[11] The Nominating Committee for Officers (Section 8) presented a list of possible candidates for Vice-President, Secretary, and for Councilor. The list must be reviewed, ordered, and approved so that the MSA Secretary can contact those on the list in the sequence decided by Council to invite them to run for office.

A. Koziol introduced the list of candidates. Further suggestions of candidates and for ordering of candidates was solicited. Discussion continued on the slate of candidates for Vice-president, Treasurer, and Councilors.

*A motion to accept the slate of officers as decided by the Executive Committee and ordered by Council was made by A. Kavner. H. Day seconded. Motion passed unanimously.*

[12] Consider recommendations of staff evaluations from the Management Committee of the preceding day.

All visitors left the room. Recommendations were reported orally. The Management Committee reported their recommendations, and raises, to all council members present.

*Motion to approve the Management Committee's recommendations was made by E. Grew. K. Nicolaysen seconded. Motion passed unanimously.*

[13] The Executive Director requests that Council accept the 2015 election results and give permission to destroy the paper ballots and the electronic ballot files upon acceptance (Section 3).

*M. Kohn moved to accept the results. H. Day seconded. Motion passed unanimously.*

[14] Council needs to confirm date and location of its Spring 2016 Council meeting so arrangements can be started. The 2015 Spring Council's sense was that the meeting would be at the MSA society offices in Chantilly, VA. This would make the date of the Council meeting flexible (Section 3).

*H. Day moved to hold the meeting in Chantilly VA. M. Kohn seconded.*

After a short discussion a date of April 30 2016 was chosen.

*A call for voting on the motion on the table, as amended, was made by K. Nicolaysen and seconded by M. Kohn. Motion passed with all ayes and one abstention (A. Koziol).*

[15] The Treasurer (Section 4) has no specific action items relating to 2015 finances for the 2015 Council, but the 2016 budget will need to be approved during the First 2016 Council Meeting this afternoon (Section 31). The Treasurer will describe highlights of both years and answer questions.

The Treasurer and MSA Executive Director request a few moments for any brief updates on MSA membership numbers, subscriptions, and MSA finances, if any. During this time they can answer (as best they can) or relay any questions or comments Council might have on the draft of the independent auditors report on MSA finance statements for the years ending 2013-12-31 and 2014-12-31 (Section 6, Appendix D).

H. Day led discussion of this topic. Endowment is rising at about 4% about twice the rate of inflation. The 2014 budget came out approximately even in terms of income and expenses. In the face of rising expenses for the American Mineralogist and declining income, this will continue to be a challenge. A. Speer explained that about \$85 K was withdrawn from endowment last year to cover expenses: student research grants, life member dues, lecture program, etc. A. Speer added that more detailed information was available at this meeting for any councilor to read.

A. Speer noted that the MSA staff has TIAA-CREF as their retirement manager. The federal government now wants employers more involved and TIAA-CREF is sending the Business Office more reports for what is now considered the MSA Retirement Program. More information is available to the employer, possibly adding responsibility to the

employer. \$1.1 million currently in the retirement account covers current and former employees.

[16] The Financial Advisory and Audit Committee (FAAC) has informational items for Council attention (Section 6), particularly the draft of the 2014 audit.

A. Speer commented that November is the deadline for the IRS 990 form and details on the audit are available.

[17] The *American Mineralogist* Science Editors (Section 12(a)) have no action items, but do write about some look-a-heads for the future. The *American Mineralogist* Editorial Office (Section 12(b)) has three items:

(a) Sense of Council regarding DOI (Digital Object Identifier = a unique number assigned to any item posted on the Internet) project and possible increase in costs.

[Executive Director's note: There are many threads to the discussion in the report. Some things are being done in any case now, such as DOI's to back issues to 1995 and correcting errors in the DOI's. Other features might be nice to have and it is suggested they could be investigated, such as plagiarism detection as part of peer review via CrossRef or setting up a parallel set of DOI's. The more significant question: should MSA set up the *AmMin* preprints to have live DOI's? This would in theory enhance the user experience of the preprints, the discoverability, and perhaps even the citation/impact factor and may cost very little compared to the other items.]

R. Russell discussed this item. DOI's are obtained from GeoScienceWorld for articles in *American Mineralogist* and for chapters in *Reviews in Mineralogy and Geochemistry*. High Wire Press takes care of this and makes the links "live" – linking to the item on the Internet. With more DOI's R. Russell feels there is more chance of usage and citations. She asked the councilors if we use DOI's as part of our research. Some said yes, others no. A councilor asked, what is the cost of adding DOI's to past articles, and to preprints? R. Russell replied we do not know at this time.

*SofC: We agree that R. Russell should proceed on the DOI project, and look into the cost of the project.*

(b) Consider opening the *American Mineralogist* preprints of papers in press to all readers, not just MSA members  
<[http://www.minsocam.org/msa/Ammin/AM\\_Preprints.html](http://www.minsocam.org/msa/Ammin/AM_Preprints.html)>.

This would increase (potentially) article discoverability and citation. This would also be a risk because access to the online preprints is now a member benefit.

Rachel Russell introduced this topic, and a short discussion followed.



*SofC: We agree to allow access to preprints to be available freely.*

(c) Consider the future of “New Mineral Names”. Publish “New Mineral Names” online-only in PDF format exactly as sent to us, as a part of the American Mineralogist website – but not as a part of the journal? Included in a “data journal”? Leave “New Mineral Names” as is?

This section of the journal was started 100 years ago, in the first volume. Discussion followed on the current state of mineralogy research and the use of online databases.

*SofC: Leave things the way they are now, and consider what to do at a future date.*

[18] The Executive Director recommends that MSA consider the expenses of the MSA officer and Councilor travel to MSA Council meetings as Gifts-in-Kind, and provide a receipt so that officers and councilors can deduct their travel if they wish (Section 3). In order to do so, there are requirements:

- (a) limitations on what can be included as a gift (travel directly related to MSA business, so not the expenses of an entire meeting.)
- (b) submission of documentation of the expenses included in the gift (c) submitted with the Gift-in-Kind Travel Contribution form (Section 3 App L).
- (d) submission and processing of the gift must be within the time period of the tax deduction. MSA cannot process a back-dated gift.

A. Speer introduced this item, and there was a very short discussion.

*H. Day moved to approve this item. K. Nicolaysen seconded. Motion passed unanimously.*

[19] Barb Dutrow, the MSA Representative to Elements Magazine, has one action item requiring a vote, and a several requests of Council (Section 16):

- a) Forward additional nominations for the “mineralogy” Principal Editor to your Elements’ representative by 25 November 2015.
- b) Approve the cost to participating societies at \$15/member.
- c) Please send Jodi Rosso any information for “People in the News”.
- d) Review Elements in the past year, and send comments, concerns, and thoughts about the publication to your representative.
- e) Approval of the Corporate Resolution to open an investment account with TIAA-CREF Brokerage Services for the Elements Reserve Fund with J. A Speer and J Rosso being the Authorized Persons to operate on the account (Section 16, Appendix B).  
[Executive Director’s note: MSA is the Publisher of Record for Elements and is responsible for all financial aspects of the magazine, such as opening an account.]

For part a: S. Shirey led this discussion. Names supplied by Council are (in alphabetical order): Mickey Gunter, Martin Kunz, Nancy Ross, Lars Stixrude, and Kim Tait.

For part b: *H. Day moved to approve the cost to participating societies at \$15/member. M. Kohn seconded. The motion passed unanimously.*

Parts c and d of this item were brought to Council's attention.

Part e: A. Speer introduced this topic. A short discussion followed.

*M. Kohn moved to accept the Approval of the Corporate Resolution as stated. A. Kavner seconded. The motion carried, with one councilor opposed.*

[20] The Benefactors Committee (Section 9(a)) asks Council members to relay any prospective donor corporations and contacts therein to John M. Hughes, Chair of this committee.

Council was made aware of this item.

[21] The Short Course Committee (Section 19) has two items for Council: (a) The committee recommends that the proposed RiMG/short course budget for the "Measurements, Theories and Applications of non-Traditional Stable Isotopes" short course before 2016 Fall AGU meeting be accepted. Conveners: Fang-Zhen Teng, James Watkins, Nicolas Dauphas.

A short discussion ensued on this topic.

*Motion to accept the Short Course Committee's recommendation was made by M. Kohn, K. Nicolaysen seconding. Motion passed unanimously.*

(b) MSA should develop a list of potential short course/RiMG topics and possible conveners. Our proposal submissions are weak and will continue to decline otherwise.

M. Kohn led discussion on this topic. D. Vaughan reminded Council of MSA workshops. It was noted we don't have a committee on workshops. Should the Short Course Committee be responsible for these? A. Speer suggested a separate committee. This may be discussed in the afternoon.

[22] There are five items regarding the MSA Centennial Celebrations (Sections 1 and 10(c)):

(a) Council feedback on alternative formats for the Centennial Symposium for further discussion by the Committee. The suggested venue does not allow for parallel sessions, so sessions of plenary talks would be the only format, though there can be space for posters. The topic(s) of the plenary session(s) and the process by which speakers are selected require thought. One possibility is to invite past Roebling (or Dana) medalists to offer perspectives on the major themes in mineralogy over the past century. Another possibility is to choose a single very broad idea that might attract an audience, such as

“Mineralogy and Sustainability”, “Mineralogy and the Origin of Life”, or “Mineralogy and Earth Evolution”, and develop the symposium around that idea.

S. Shirey led discussion of part (a). He suggested that the presentations could be recorded, as in some high-profile talks available on the internet. A theme of “Mineralogy of the Solar System and Beyond” was suggested. Other suggestions included getting the minerals industry involved, or possibly offering a workshop before or after the presentations. A. Speer suggested a modest registration fee to cover costs, perhaps with a reduction for students. It was suggested that pre-registration be offered to MSA members first, then opened to non-members.

(b) Council feedback on two or three editors willing to organize a MSA Centennial theme issue for *Elements*, and the possible theme.

Council agreed that 2 -3 editors were needed but no names were mentioned. The *Elements* theme was suggested to be the overall plenary theme.

(c) Designate Barb Dutrow to coordinate with the Mineralogical Society of Great Britain and Ireland (MSGBI) efforts to organize a field trip in Great Britain in honor of MSA.

(d) As a foreign field trip may exclude those with limited budgets, particularly students, MSA may consider a field trip that is associated with the US celebration or with a national meeting. This will require an organizer.

[Executive Director’s note: In running a field trip on its own, MSA may find insuring it prohibitively expensive. An alternative would be to run the field trip under the GSA umbrella.]

(e) Suggestions for ways in which we might incorporate students into a celebration of MSA’s centennial.

Discussion followed. Peter Crowley was suggested for an Appalachians field trip. George Harlow volunteered to help with field trips, which could include museum visits. It was suggested that students be offered lower registration costs.

[23] Becky Lange, in her Publications Director report, asks for a discussion of an “MSA data journal”, will present a proposal to move forward, and will provide an initial short list of possible names for the editor job (Section 11).

The time is ripe to move forward on the proposed MSA Electronic Data Journal. A MSA Data Journal Committee may need to be appointed. Rachel Russell and the Publications Director have discussed what the best format for this journal might be: (1) electronic only, (2) very broad scope for type of data that would be published, (3) limited peer-review, mostly confined to confirming validity of data, etc., (4) needs editor committed to need for data accessibility, importance of data archiving, etc.

R. Lange led discussion on this topic. She noted we do have a committee on Earth Materials Data (EMDI), with self-selected members. A wide-ranging discussion followed.

Suggestions for other people to be involved include Ross Angel, George Rossman, Francis McCubbin, Rachel Russell, and a mineral curator. George Harlow will bring this topic up at the next meeting of SMMP (The Society of Mineral Museum Professionals). Becky Lange will send draft of current proposal to the EMDI committee, call individuals, and do followup.

*SofC: We agree in moving forward on the Data Journal proposal.*

[24] MSA receives requests to establish, adopt, support or sign on to various polices, codes, coalitions, or statements unrelated or tenuously related to its purpose stated in the Articles of Incorporation and for which it has been given federal and state tax exemption. In the last year there were two direct requests (Sections 3 and 29(b)) to do so. On the face of it, these requests would appear to be no-cost gestures to support a variety of “good causes”, and a show of good association citizenship. In both instances MSA declined to sign on (Section 1) because of the potential liabilities.

The Executive Director recommends, as a general policy, that MSA not adopt, support or sign on to various policies, codes, coalitions or statements of others that are not related in any direct way to its purpose stated in the Articles of Incorporation and for which it has been given federal and state tax exemption. The reasoning, legal advice, and background for this recommendation is detailed in Section 3, pages 30-33. If MSA were to involve itself in such activities, it needs a process for performing due diligence on any requests. However, to be a good “association citizen”, MSA could provide link(s) on its website policy page to these policies, codes, or position statement pages of other societies, government agencies, funding agencies, etc. with no comment.

S. Shirey led the discussion of this topic. A. Speer outlined several examples of problems that have occurred in the past with other scientific societies. A. Speer also noted these requests are becoming more frequent over time. He is asking for a general sense of council for guidelines. Discussion continued, ranging from concerns over legal issues, to what MSA should and should not advocate. Council came to consensus that the Executive Director would attempt to find out more on who is proposing the statements, and consult with the Executive Committee, who would give feedback.

[25] MSA has relationships with a number of organizations:

<b>Society</b>	<b>MSA's relationship</b>
American Crystallographic Association (ACA)	lapsed business agreement (1964)
American Geoscience Institute (AGI)	Member Society (1948)
American Geophysical Union (AGU)	Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) (2012)
American Geophysical Union (AGU-VGP Section)	working partner for AGU MOU (2012)
American Geophysical Union (AGU-Mineral Physics)	Occasional report on activities
Clay Mineral Society (CMS)	business agreement (2006)
Coalition on Publishing Data in the Earth and Space	

Sciences (COPDESS)	Statement of Commitment (2014)
EarthCube	informal
Elements magazine	Participating Society (2005)
European Mineralogical Union (EMU)	Informal (2000)
Friends of Mineralogy (FM)	Informal (1970)
Gemological Institute of America (GIA)	Informal (2007)
Geochemical Society (GS)	two agreements: co-publishing the Reviews (1998), Goldschmidt Conference (2009)
Geological Society of America (GSA)	Associated Society (1920)
Geological Society of America Mineralogy, Geochemistry, Volcanology, Petrology (MGPV) Division	Adhering Society (2005)
Geological Society London (GSL)	Associated Society (2014)
Geological Society of Washington (GSW)	business agreement (1985)
GeoScienceWorld Founding Society (2001);	Contract (2004)
Hudson Institute of Mineralogy (HIM)	informal (2003)
International Humic Substance Society	business agreement (2008)
International Kimberlite Conference	Informal (1995)
International Mineralogical Association (IMA)	Adhering Organization (1958)
International Natural Zeolite Association (INZA)	business agreement (2011)
Meteoritical Society (MetSoc)	business agreement (2007)
MinDate.org	Informal
Mineralogical Association of Canada (MAC)	Informal (1996)
Mineralogical Society of Great Britain and Ireland	Informal (1995), MOU (2014)
PanAmerican Current Research on Fluid Inclusion (PACROFI)	lapsed business agreement (2008)
Science Education Resource Center (SERC)	informal (2008)
Society of Mineral Museum Professionals (SMMP)	Informal (2006)

As can be seen in a number of reports for this meeting, MSA's involvement while widespread, the degree of involvement varies. Some relationships are significant, on-going, and well-organized (GSW, GSA, *Elements*) and others, not so much. There are several items contained in the reports related to relationships with other organizations:

(a) EMU would like to see increased joint activities with the MSA in terms of schools and short courses (Section 29(e)).

(b) David Vaughan and Alex Speer will meet with Sarah Fray and Edmund Nickless, respectively the incoming and outgoing Executive Secretaries of the Geological Society of London (GSL) at GSA. Partly as an introduction, but more importantly, discuss how to make the relationship meaningful (Section 3).

(c) Steve Shirey is working on the basics of a new Memorandum of Understanding with Geochemical Society (GS) Past President Richard Carlson. It is hoped to structure it to be acceptable to the European Association of Geochemistry (EAG) as well. This document is necessary to correctly describe the working relationship between GS and MSA when it comes to joint publications such as RiMG. It is hoped to be able to work out an important benefit to MSA members that attend the Goldschmidt Conferences by having MSA listed as an affiliated society so that our members could receive affiliated society status during registration for GS (section 1).

(d) Abby Kavner, MSA Liaison to the American Geophysical Union (AGU) Fall Meeting Committee, describes several challenges in working with AGU and the Fall Meeting (Section 29(c1)).

These requests point to an important limitation for many of these relationships: figuring out the what and the who of co-operation and how to co-operate on a sustainable basis.

Discussion was led by A Speer, informing Council of topics (a) through (d). He pointed out that relationships with other societies need people to make these “robust”. Also some societies are set up to work well with other societies, and others are not. Working with EMU was thought to be a very good thing. D. Vaughan noted that there is lots of potential in working with the Geological Society of London (GSL). S. Shirey reported on his work with the Geochemical Society, stating it should be a straight-forward process. A. Kavner suggested that a liaison needs to be active in the other society.

Adjournment

*Motion to approve by M. Kohn, seconded by D. Vaughan. Motion passed unanimously.*

Meeting adjourned at 2:52 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Andrea M. Koziol, Secretary