

Minutes of the Second 2016 Council Meeting
Mineralogical Society of America
Saturday, 30 April 2016
Mineralogical Society of America Offices
3635 Concorde Pkwy Suite 500, Chantilly, Virginia

Attending:

Rebecca Lange, President
Steve Shirey, Past-President
George Harlow, Vice-President
Howard Day, Treasurer
Bryan Chakoumakos, Secretary
Edward Grew, Councilor
Rajdeep Dasgupta, Councilor
Abby Kavner, Councilor
Peter Nabelek, Councilor
Matt Kohn, Councilor (by Skype)

Not Present:

Wendy Panero, Councilor

Visitors:

J. Alex Speer, MSA Executive Director
Rachel Russell, Managing Editor, *American Mineralogist*
Kristi Bailey, Editorial Assistant
Peter Heaney, Chair of Centennial Celebration Committee (by Skype)
John Hughes, Chair of Benefactor Committee (by FaceTime)
Michael Harris, Administrative Assistant II
Sean Karoly, MSA Intern, M.S. student George Mason University, VA

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

ITEMS

- [1] Roll Call and Introduction by the President, introduction of those attending.

Rebecca Lange 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 was used during the meeting.

- [3] Approval of the minutes of the Third 2015 Council Meeting and First 2016 Council Meeting (Section 2).

George Harlow moved to accept the Secretary's minutes for the Third 2015 Council Meeting with no corrections, Steve Shirey seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

George Harlow moved to accept the Secretary's minutes for First 2016 Council Meeting with no corrections, Ed Grew seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

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

Nominating Committee for Officers, Membership Committee, Benefactors Committee – Corporate Relations and Capital Campaign, Centennial Celebration Committee, Publications Director, *American Mineralogist* Editorial Office, Editor of the *Reviews in Mineralogy and Geochemistry & Monographs Series*, MSA Society News Editor for *Elements*, Editor *Handbook of Mineralogy*, MSA Representative to *Elements*, MSA Representative to the *GeoScienceWorld* Board of Directors, MSA Representative to the *GeoScienceWorld* Advisory Council, MSA Meetings Coordinator, MSA Short Courses Committee, MSA Workshops Coordinator, MSA Webmaster, MSA Lecture Program Committee, Bloss Crystallographic Fund Committee, Roebling Medal Committee, MSA Award Committee, Distinguished Public Service Award Committee, Dana Medal Committee, Nominating Committee for MSA Fellows, Kraus Crystallography Grant Committee, Min-Pet Grant Research Grant Committee, Representative to ACA, AGI, AGU Meetings, CMS, EMU, GIA, GS, GSA, GSA-MGPV, IMA, SMMP, Special Interest Group on Pegmatites, and Special Interest Group on Planetary Materials

Not heard from: MSA Distinguished Lecturer Series Administrator, *ad hoc* Committee on Earth Materials Data, Representatives to FM, ICDD

Howard Day moved to accept the Reports to Council with no corrections, Ed Grew seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

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

- a) Distinguished Lecturer Series. The MSA Executive Committee approved the roster of MSA Distinguished Lecturers for 2016-2017 as selected by David Peate and the MSA Distinguished Lecturer Committee:

Cin-Ty Lee (Rice University, Houston, TX, US)

- Whole Earth Oxygen and Carbon Cycling: Climate and Atmospheric Composition Through the Eons.
- Continent Formation: from Magmas to Unconformities to the Cambrian Explosion.

John Cottle (University of California - Santa Barbara, CA, US)

- Taking The Pulse of the Himalaya: Insight Into Orogenesis From The Roof of the World
- Geology In The Freezer: Subduction Dynamics of the Ross Orogen, Antarctica.
- Rags to Riches: Rare Earth Element Mineralization in North America

Daniela Rubatto (University of Bern, Switzerland)

- The Tale of the Tiny: Petrology, Geochemistry and Geochronology of Accessory Minerals.
- Fast and Furious or Slow and Steady: Subduction Recycling and Crustal Melting

- b) The MSA Executive Committee approved the list of proposed members of the Workshop Committee and the text of the new Workshop Committee Handbook.

Name	Institution
Sumit Chakraborty	Universitat Bochum, Germany
Rick Hervig	Arizona State University, Has agreed to be chair for 2 years
Jim Webster	American Museum of Natural History
Mark Rivers	Argonne National Laboratory
Alexis Templeton	University of Colorado
Anat Shahar	Geophysical Laboratory, Carnegie
Fabrizio Nestola	University of Padua
Wendy Mao	Stanford University
Fang-Zen Teng	University of Washington, Seattle
James Scoates	University of British Columbia
Steve Jacobsen	Northwestern University
Jessica Warren	University of Delaware
Cara Santelli	University of Minnesota
Mickey Gunter	University of Idaho
Horst Marschall	Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution
Francis McCubbin	Johnson Space Center
Denton Ebel	American Museum of Natural History
Nick Tosca	Oxford University

Other items for action or discussion from the President's Report are taken up under the appropriate sections later in the day.

[6] Determine the member and institutional *American Mineralogist* subscription rates as well as member dues for 2017. From the Treasurer:

- a) for *American Mineralogist* subscription rates:

Category	Current	2017 Proposed
MSA members		
US AmMin (print + electronic)	\$115	\$120
Non-US AmMin (print+ electronic)	\$125	\$130
AmMin (electronic-only, with dues)	\$10	\$10
RiMG (electronic-only)		\$100
Institutions (AmMin+RiMG+Elements)		
US (print+ electronic)	\$1,025	\$1,075
Non-US (print + electronic)	\$1,050	\$1,100
Institution (electronic)	\$950	\$975
Multi-site Institution (negotiable)	\$1025+	\$1075+
Institutions (RiMG)		
US RiMG (print+electronic)		\$315
non-US RiMG (print+electronic)		\$335
Institution RiMG (electronic)		\$275
Institutions (GSW- subscribers)		
GSW Institutions - RiMG	\$125	\$135
GSW Institutions - AmMin	\$170	\$190

Howard Day reported no dues changes needed to MSA membership or *America Mineralogist* subscription, but he noted that we spend \$22,000 to get foreign subscription out annually, and suggested that we increase the foreign member subscription rate. Discussion ensued about how we might lower the cost of shipping for paper foreign subscribers. Council weighed Howard Day’s suggestion against Steve Shirey’s suggestion that we raise the subscription rate for both foreign and US members.

Howard Day moved to accept Steve Shirey’s proposal to raise the American Mineralogist subscription rates by an additional \$5 for US (to \$120) and Non-US (to \$130) members over what was proposed. Motion unanimously agreed.

SoC that the other proposed subscription rates remain the same for 2017.

- b) The Treasurer recommended that 2017 dues for regular and student members be maintained at current levels, \$80 and \$20 respectively, with \$10 of each committed for the journal as above.

Council unanimously agreed to keep the dues the same.

[7] MSA Executive Director provided updates on MSA membership numbers, subscriptions, and MSA finances.

- a) The table of “Page Growth of Am Min” in the Editorial office report, suggests the society’s increasing operating losses are a result of increasing page length of the journal.

Year	Pages in volume	Income – Expenses for the journal
2010	1,827	\$73,424
2011	1,912	\$123,580
2012	2,076	\$70,069
2013	2,204	\$–5,494
2014	2,448	\$–27,799
2015	2,756	\$–95,131
2016	1,020	<i>as of the April issue</i>

This has been recurring since the 1920’s. Council response in the past has been to increase subscription rates, increase manuscript rejection rates, reduce paper lengths, and make no special issues.

- b) In the past, MSA’s income stream was simple: dues, journal sales, contributions, and interest income. Examination of the details of income in the Treasurer’s report shows a diverse income stream from many sources, which increases the costs of managing them.
- c) There are no action items in the GeoScienceWorld Report, however, it does describe a drop in future income in response to Open Access. While cost-savings are under consideration, the only way to truly overcome reduction in income is by increasing subscription sales.

People - committees, officers, appointed posts, and staff.

George Harlow reported how new members were suggested for all of our society committees to be considered by Council. George Harlow feels that a database approach might be better, utilizing descriptions of candidates' interests, institutions, diversity, etc. The membership database unfortunately is somewhat incomplete in regards to peoples' interests. Peter Nabelek urged improvement in the members database by listing all of their interests. Alex Speer noted that the MSA Database already contains this information (member research interests), which can be exported along with the information he already supplies to the Committee on Committees. He also said that the "currentness" of the information may be uncertain, and he proposed that we make it a requirement during the next renewal process that people review their interests and check a box before they can go to next step for renewal.

All suggested candidates for the various committees were reviewed by council. The Membership Committee was singled out to be renewed as are other committees.

[8] From the Committee on Committees

- a) consider, amend where necessary, and vote on the proposed list of committee members and chairs. Authorize the MSA Secretary to contact individuals in the order(s) listed.

SoC Secretary should proceed with invitations.

- b) In his solicitation of members of committees, the Committee on Committees chair received some comments about concerns within some committees, e.g., about function or perceived inequities. He asked Council for permission or its advice on how to share these comments with the incoming Chairs of the committees in question.

SoC it is ok to share these comments with the incoming Committee Chairs where appropriate.

- c) Steve Shirey will serve as new liaison with the Geochemical Society.
- d) The MSA Executive Committee approved the list of proposed candidates (see below) for members of the Workshop Committee and the text of the new Workshop Committee Handbook. Becky Lange, MSA President is contacting them personally to construct the inaugural committee.

Name	Institution
David Vaughan	University of Manchester (ex officio)
Sumit Chakraborty	Universitat Bochum, Germany
Rick Hervig	Arizona State University (Has agreed to be chair for 2 years)
Jim Webster	American Museum of Natural History
Mark Rivers	Argonne National Laboratory
Alexis Templeton	University of Colorado
Anat Shahar	Geophysical Laboratory, Carnegie
Fabrizio Nestola	University of Padua

Wendy Mao	Stanford University
Fang-Zen Teng	University of Washington, Seattle
James Scoates	University of British Columbia
Steve Jacobsen	Northwestern University
Jessica Warren	University of Delaware
Cara Santelli	University of Minnesota (already agreed to be on MSA Lecture Program Committee)
Mickey Gunter	University of Idaho
Horst Marschall	Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution (unlikely, already declined to be on another committee)
Francis McCubbin	Johnson Space Center
Denton Ebel	American Museum of Natural History
Nick Tosca	Oxford University
Christine Beavers	Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory

4 members in total needed.

- [9] Personal items from other reports:

Bryan Chakoumakos is willing to serve another term as Secretary.

- [10] Council needs to give an indication about the location and timing Spring 2017 Council meeting so arrangements can be started. GAC-MAC (in May) is at a good time and is nearby in Kingston, Ontario, Canada, or the fallback location at the MSA Offices in Chantilly, VA. Council discussed the various options.

SoC the Third 2016 and First 2017 MSA Council Meetings will be held in Denver, Colorado, USA on Saturday 24 September 2016; and the MSA Management Committee meeting will be held Friday afternoon of 23 September 2016.

SoC to have the Spring 2017 meeting at MSA Offices in Chantilly, VA.

Meeting joined by Peter Heaney (by Skype) and John Hughes (by FaceTime)

[11] Peter Heaney, Chair of the MSA Centennial Celebrations Committee (CCC) raised a number of questions on mechanics of the celebration. Is the CCC empowered to make the critical decisions, and how much is the Council involved. Input from membership should be solicited and vetted by the CCC for approval by Council. Specifically, a thematic *Elements* issue, however, *Elements* represents many member societies, so how do we get concurrence from the member societies? The year in question is 2019, so timeline is short to get buy-in from other societies. A centennial issue of *American Mineralogist* was considered and discarded. Rashjeep Dasgupta suggested a thematic RiMG might be better to allow more content. SoC supports one RiMG volume and a single *Elements* issue. George Harlow pointed out that a thematic centennial RiMG volume would also be an effective statement of the MSA mission. The centennial celebration is tentatively planned for May-June 2019 in Washington, D.C., but avoiding Memorial Day. Student only posters suggested. Many ideas on the table. Peter Heaney will coordinate with Steve Shirey (local organizer) to work on details. CCC will organize theme(s) for *Elements*, and solicit input for the RiMG volume.

- a) Centennial Celebration Committee welcomes the enthusiasm for a Centennial Symposium in Washington, DC in 2019 in the Carnegie Institution building for one or two days, combined with a behind-the-scenes tour of the Mineralogy Department at the National Museum of Natural History. The best received symposium would be

a series of broadly themed talks, such as “Mineralogy and the Origin of Life”, “Mineralogy and Global Climate Change”, “Mineralogy and Earth Evolution”, etc.

The committee also discussed dedication of an issue of *Elements* to the MSA Centennial. This will require identifying editors and a theme for this issue. Suggestions: (1) ask each of the last 10 Roebling winners to write a one- or two-page essay on what s/he thinks is the most important min/pet discovery of the last 50 years, or (2) if that is too backward looking, the Roebling medalists could identify a recent discovery that they think will set the stage for a major new research direction. This idea might tie in with Richard Harrison’s 100 most important unanswered questions in mineralogy today:

http://www.elementsmagazine.org/archives/e9_3/e9_3_dep_perspective1.pdf.

The committee is at the point where it needs to decide which speakers would be invited for the Symposium and how we choose editors for an issue of *Elements*. Council input is welcome.

[Executive Director’s note: In a subsequent message, Peter Heaney suggested opening some of these decisions up to the membership -- advertise that MSA is looking for 2 editors to organize a Centennial issue and see if people respond with ideas.]

Howard Day moved that the MSA Centennial Celebrations Committee be empowered to develop a plan for all aspects of the Centennial Celebrations. Seconded by George Harlow. Unanimously passed by Council.

[12] The Financial Advisory and Audit Committee (FAAC) and the Benefactors Committee had action items related to fund raising. Bottom-line, we need more creative ways to raise more money. Just raising prices of our publications has diminished success above certain amounts.

- a) The last few FAAC reports have expressed concern about the likelihood that in the future MSA may need to draw more dollars out of the endowment for recurring operating expenses. A principal, but not the only, factor driving this is the transition we will undergo when Executive Director Alex Speer retires in 2019. However, the first step in the transition plan is the hiring of an accountant in 2017, i.e., next year. With appropriate notice, at least a year, we can increase the current income from endowment, but only for a limited period of time. The problem is that taking more income today means less principal to grow for the future, and ultimately less available income in the future.

The best and most logical solution to this problem is to increase the size of our endowment. The most realistic way to raise significant amounts of endowment money is through bequests and testamentary gifts.

=> FAAC recommends that Council adopt appropriate strategies to advertise and enhance this form of giving.

- b) John M. Hughes, Benefactors Committee (capital campaign) indicated his desire to step down after six years in the post, Council must find a replacement.

John Hughes described ~\$50,000 per year efforts by MSA, but to get better results, he asked for alternative approaches to secure more bequests. Typically, past award winners and officers are targeted. Howard Day urges that we have a specific list of areas that need funding (see below), so donors will see the identifiable benefit for their particular

donation. George Harlow urged that we come up with dollar amounts for each of these. Examples of underfunded programs are the lectureship program and mineralogy4kids. We need more ideas to raise donations and to get more donors. Extensive discussion ensued of who could be approached and how they should be approached. Apparently there are many identified, but untapped, donors.

M-4-K K-12
MSA Undergraduate Prize
Lecture Program
Student Travel Grant Program to Centennial Meeting in 2019
Min-Pet Awards
Crystallography Award
Collector's Corner
AM Crystal Structure Database
Short Course
Publications

Action items: Assign donor amounts needed for specific activities, prepare slides for lecture series to acknowledge and describe MSA. John Hughes will develop an acknowledgment slide, and Rebecca Lange will develop a general slide about the MSA membership, both to be reviewed by Council.

There are three parts or "sub-committees" to the Benefactors Committee:

- Membership Giving - largely done by the office on the membership renewal forms, or any summer appeal
- Corporate Donations - the "Benefactor Program" in the original, limited sense
- Capital Campaign - the "Second Century Campaign"

=> MSA ought to return to these three distinctions, and regard each as independent from the others because each targets a different audience and requires a different approach.

=> John Hughes agreed to remain as chair of the Corporate Donations ("Benefactor Program"). He has a relationship with all the benefactors, the numbers (and tasks) are limited and well-defined, and the Benefactor Program can be operated independently of the other two. The office should continue as it has been for membership giving. The membership giving and the benefactor programs generate steady contributions that significantly and continually support MSA's existing established programs (student grants, lecture program, Bloss fund, etc.). It would be unwise to impede these by tying them to the different and less certain search for bequests and testamentary gifts.

At the recommendation of the Financial Advisory and Audit Committee, the focus can be on bequests and testamentary gifts, but other large sources should be considered. It would be wise to decide at the outset if there would be any limitations as to those sources given the recent demands from some quarters that money not be accepted from some currently unpopular industries and individuals.

=> What is needed is one or more individuals to handle the Capital Campaign - the "Second Century Campaign". Likely more would be better given the different communities to be targeted.

The Executive Director, Alex Speer, made aware to Council historical examples from the

Society's archives concerning bequests and large donations.

SoC John Hughes will continue as Chair of Benefactors Committee - Corporate Donations. The Benefactors Committee – Membership Giving will remain chaired by Peter Heaney. The Benefactors Committee - Capital Campaign will be expanded, to be 4 members. Candidate members to be suggested by Council.

Lunch Break.

Deferred from [11]

Jade Star Lackey, candidate for 2017-2019 MSA Councilor wrote in his election biography that as the Society closes in on its centennial (1919–2019), the time is ripe for creative outreach to increase public awareness of the importance of mineral resources. The centennial is also a time to celebrate the historical development of our field and he would like to explore developing an international mineralogy and petrology “genealogy” project, akin to the Mathematics Genealogy Project <http://www.genealogy.ams.org/index.php>. See also that the *Mineralogical Record* has a Biographical Archive, <http://www.minrec.org/labelarchive.asp>, a database of biographical information and illustrations relating to past and present mineralogists, mineral collectors, mineral dealers and mineralogical institutions and companies.

SoC communicate to Jade Star Lackey that Council is open to him pursuing this idea further.

Programs - Publications, Short Courses, Meetings, Outreach, Policies, and website

[13] The Executive Director recommends changing the terms of the Kraus Trust by action of the D.C. Courts to be able to make grants awards to students, both graduate and undergraduate, of any age (Section 3). He recommends that MSA ask Nick Gehrig, MSA's legal counsel, to work with their D.C.-licensed attorney that handles trust issues to request the D.C. Courts to approve making grants awards to students, both graduate and undergraduate, of any age. The estimated cost is \$5,000, made on the high end to build in the unpredictability of the D.C. Courts. This could be considered a trust expense, and there is a fair amount of temporarily restricted monies in the trust to pay for it.

Howard Day moved that the terms of the Kraus Trust Crystallographic Grant Award be changed to specify that it is to be given to students. Steve Shirey seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

[14] The Short Course Committee has three items:

- a) The “*Petrochronology: Methods and Applications*” short course was accepted in principle by the Spring 2015 Council. Organizers are Matthew J. Kohn, Martin Engi, University of Bern, and Pierre Lanari, University of Bern. A first here is the proposal to hold two short courses in 2017, the first April 21-22 (immediately before EGU in Vienna, April 23-28) and the second October 20-21 (immediately prior to the GSA annual meeting in Seattle, October 25-28). The committee recommends acceptance of the detailed organization of the course and its budget.

SoC accept the proposal.

- b) The committee considered several ways to generate more proposals for short courses and/or RiMG volumes: (1) the topics and editors for all *Elements* issues through 2009 [topics perhaps ripe for updating] and (2) the topics and conveners of many specialized meetings and special sessions at general meetings in the past year or so. They would appreciate any comments on this approach.

SoC accept these ideas.

- c) The committee received a proposal for a short course and RiMG volume just as they were submitting their report. The subject would be "*Gas-Solid and Gas-Melt Reactions in Earth and Planetary Processes*" from Penny King and Dick Henley, Australian National University. Committee members' comments have been strongly positive and accompanied by some suggestions for additional speakers/chapters. The organizers would like a date for the 2017 Fall AGU and the course would be held in Phoenix, Arizona, allowing for a field trip to sub-volcanic copper porphyry systems that expose some of the reactions in the upper crust that the course will cover (to be arranged with J. Thompson). Furthermore, there are extrusive volcanic rocks with evidence for interaction with gases at low altitude (i.e., no snow) in the Superstition Mountains (rhyolite tuffs) and the San Carlos basin (cinder cone basalts). The committee should have a final recommendation in the near future. To meet this timetable, the MSA Executive Committee will need to agree to approve the recommendations of the committee to accept the course in principle, with any final approval of the course at the Fall 2016 meeting.

SoC accept the proposal.

- d) Steve Shirey stated that a Diamond RiMG is in the works.

[15] The Chair of the Mineralogy-Petrology Research Grant Committee recommended moving the deadline for proposals to January 31 of each year.

Peter Nabelek proposes that the timing of the Min-Pet research Grant be changed so that the award could be dispensed in the Spring rather than the Fall. Alex Speer agreed the process could be sped up, so that the Executive Committee could approve it prior to the summer, with an accelerated deliberation by the award committee.

SoC New March 1 deadline for Min-Pet Award and the Kraus Crystallography Award applications, starting next year for the 2018 award; and the Executive Committee will do the approvals rather than the full Council in order that the grant can be made before the start of the summer.

[16] R. Lange and D. Vaughan asked for a MSA Council discussion and a vote on a proposal regarding student travel grant awards to the 2019 MSA Centennial Celebration (Section 1, Appendix A). They suggest to first focus on a travel grant program for students to attend the 2019 MSA Centennial Celebration. They propose that half of the funds available to the Min/Pet Research Grant (\$5,000 out of \$10,000 annually) be held in reserve for the next two years, providing a total of \$10,000 to be earmarked for student travel to the 2019 MSA Centennial Celebration; given to students presenting posters, selected by the CCC. If awards are up to \$500 each, then ~20 travel awards can be made. The reason why the Min/Pet Research Grant is chosen for this earmark is because it was only recently that funding for this

program was doubled from \$5,000 per year to \$10,000 per year, so that going back to \$5000 per year (for two years only) will not be a major disruption to the program. Also, it is legally possible to make this change, if voted on by MSA Council.

George Harlow motioned that we try fund raising for student travel grants to the Centennial Celebration meeting, with the Min-Pet funds from 1 (one) award for each of 2018 and 2019 only used as backup if insufficient funds are raised; and that this item will be added to the summer appeal.

George Harlow moved to accept the motion. Steve Shirey seconded. The motion unanimously passed.

[17] Three action items are related to the Geochemical Society and the Goldschmidt Conference from the MSA President and the Geochemical Society Liaison:

- MSA Council discussion (for possible vote at 2016 Fall Council Meeting) on a proposal to move MSA Awards Luncheon from annual GSA meeting to annual Goldschmidt meeting
- move award of Dana Medal from AGU Fall meeting to the MSA Awards Luncheon annual Goldschmidt meeting
- discussion on the MOU between the MSA and the Geochemical Society

[Executive Director's notes: To make a change in location work, MSA requires an agreement with the European Association of Geochemistry (EAG) regarding European or EAG-organized Goldschmidt Conferences, otherwise the international rationale is lost. Years when Goldschmidt Conferences are held in Asia will need to be addressed. Based on MSA's recent "participation" in Goldschmidt Conferences, there needs to be specific details about meetings in any MOU. I could not recommend a positive vote on an MOU until we better understand how Goldschmidt Conferences are and will be produced and operated on behalf of GS and EAG, and until MSA has early, more, direct, and better involvement in both the technical and the social events planning, and there is no adverse economic impact on MSA.

The MSA Distinguished Public Service Medal has been given at venues more relevant to the awardee other than the MSA Awards Lunch and it would make sense to continue that practice.

The report suggests that MSA will no longer have any presence or expenses at AGU, and will have a reduced presence at GSA. This is based on the demographic differences of the two meetings – AGU attendees overlapping significantly with Goldschmidt attendees whereas GSA has a significantly different audience.]

Rebecca Lange argued strongly to move the MSA Awards Luncheon from annual GSA meeting to annual Goldschmidt meeting, retaining our Fall Council meeting at the GSA Annual Meeting. In addition, move award of Dana Medal from AGU Fall meeting to the MSA Awards Luncheon at the annual Goldschmidt meeting. Keep the Council Meeting, Business Meeting, reception, and Presidential Address at GSA. Most of the discussion by Council agreed with this idea in terms of the interest focus of the meeting and attendees, and alliance of the sponsoring societies. Negative views focused on the high cost of the Goldschmidt meeting, and that every other year it is held abroad. Steve Shirey and Howard Day pointed out that we would need to formalize a relationship with the Geochemical Society so that we had input to the program, like what we now do with the GSA meeting. GSA is well organized and accommodating. There is skepticism that Goldschmidt would not

be so well organized, because the local planning group changes with each venue. It was suggested that we start by pulling all of our award ceremonies into the same meeting, i.e., move Dana Medal ceremony to the Fall GSA, and then later move these to the Goldschmidt.

Motion by Steve Shirey that the Dana Medal award ceremony be joined with the other MSA awards, to be in 2017 at the GSA Annual meeting. Seconded by Abby Kavner. Motion unanimously passed.

SoC Sumit Chakraborty Dana Medal award will be also labeled 2016.

Publications

[18] Discussion of MSA Data Journal, proposal to move forward, and producing an initial short list of possible names for editor(s).

Rebecca Lange argued for the Data Journal project. Rachel Russell summarized some of the issues about the logistics. Slow growth would be manageable. Identifying an editor would be a critical first step. Bob Hazen is a good resource for suggestions. A review board could be used in place of conventional peer review. We have a Committee on Earth Materials Data already, with expert qualifications. Council is canvassing for a potential editor.

SoC Rebecca Lange will discuss ways forward with the Committee on Earth Materials Data.

[19] Discussion of MSA membership issues and ways to increase membership.

Rebecca Lang discussed the most common excuses for why people are not members, how we can win over more members. Do we need a membership drive? What stops people from joining? Lapsed member list is an obvious target audience. An electronic poll via our MSA Talk and directly to our members would be useful to get input and to help educate others about MSA.

SoC The MSA Office and Council will draft polls for members and for the MSA-Talk mailing list to better understand how we can engage members and grow our membership.

Adjournment

Motion to approve by George Harlow, seconded by Howard Day. Motion approved unanimously.

Meeting adjourned 3:45 PM.

Respectively submitted,

Bryan Chakoumakos, Secretary