

Minutes of the Second 2019 MSA Council Meeting

Saturday, 6 April 2019
Mineralogical Society of America Offices
3635 Concorde Pkwy Ste 500, Chantilly, Virginia, USA

Attending:

Mickey Gunter, President
Michael Brown, Past President
Carol Frost, Vice President
Thomas Duffy, Treasurer
Bryan Chakoumakos, Secretary
Sarah Carmichael, Councilor
Jay Ague, Councilor
Mark Caddick, Councilor

Visitors:

J. Alex Speer, MSA Executive Director
Ann Benbow, MSA Executive Director
Rachel Russell, Managing Editor, *American Mineralogist*
Peter Heaney, Chair, Centennial Celebration Committee
Gloria McFarland, MSA Webmaster & Information Technology Support
Gordon Nord, MSA Webmaster
Mary Endosomwan, MSA Accountant

Not Present:

Donna Whitney, Councilor
Sarah Penniston-Dorland, Councilor
Adam Simon, Councilor

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

ITEMS

[1] 8:02 AM, Meeting called to order by Mickey Gunter. Attendees introduced themselves. Mary Endosomwan, MSA Accountant, was introduced.

Reflections of President: Transition of Executive Director and editorship of the *American Mineralogist* have been resolved nicely in since our spring council last year. The organization of and registration for the Centennial Meeting have also developed nicely over the past year .

Michael Brown commented that the most distant councilors have difficulty attending all of the council meetings, owing to time and expense. Mickey Gunter noted that it is also true that a variety of other legitimate reasons can prevent their attendance in person. Brown suggests that we have video conferencing tools made available at MSA Headquarters to allow distant councilors to participate remotely. Alex notes that there may be restrictions on voting as a governing board if the councilors are not present in person. Consensus is that this is a good idea and should be pursued. Teleconferencing could allow for more frequent meetings and gives more options for the councilors to juggle family obligations.

SoC: Executive Directors will look into the cost of the infrastructure to do teleconferencing.

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

Carol Frost moved that the modified agenda be approved by Council, Michael Brown seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

[3] Approval of the minutes of the Third 2018 Council Meeting and First 2019 Council Meeting.

Michael moved that the minutes be approved by Council, Sarah Carmichael seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

[4] Acceptance of Reports to Council containing no questions, requests, or action items as a group.

Nominating Committee for Officers, Editor and Managing Editor of the *American Mineralogist*, Editor of the *Reviews in Mineralogy and Geochemistry* & Monographs Series, MSA Society News Editor for *Elements*, Editor *Handbook of Mineralogy*, MSA Meetings Coordinator, Workshop Committee, Editor of the *Reviews in Mineralogy and Geochemistry* & Monographs Series, MSA Representative to *Elements* magazine, MSA Webmaster(s), Outreach Committee (*Mineralogy4Kids*), Lecture Program Administrator, Bloss Optical Crystallographic Fund Committee, Roebling Medal Committee, MSA Award Committee, Distinguished Public Service Award Committee, Dana Medal Award Committee, Nominating Committee for MSA Fellows, Kraus Grant Committee, Representatives to ACA, EMU, FM, GIA, GSA, GSA-MGPV, IMA, and SSMP, Special Interest Group on Pegmatites

Not heard from: Representatives to CMS, GS, Special Interest Group on Planetary Materials

Carol Frost moved that the committee reports be accepted, Mark Caddick seconded. Motion passed unanimously. Reports will be acknowledged by Secretary.

[5] Review of Executive Committee actions:

- a) Sumit Chakraborty asked to be removed as a vice presidential candidate. The Executive Committee chose Howard Day to replace him, and Howard agreed.

The 2019 election slate is now: Carol D. Frost, University of Wyoming; Vice President (one to be selected): Howard W. Day, University of California-Davis and Mark Ghiorso (OFM Research). Secretary (one to be selected): Kim Tait (Royal Ontario Museum) and Razvan Caracas (Ecole Normale Supérieure de Lyon); Councilor position 1 (one to be selected): Przemyslaw Dera (University of Hawaii) and Mainak Mookherjee; (Florida State University). Councilor position 2 (one to be selected): Fangzhen Teng (University of Washington) and Francis McCubbin (NASA Johnson Space Center).

Thomas S. Duffy (Princeton University) continues in office as Treasurer. Continuing Councilors for 2019 will be Jay J. Ague (Yale University); Donna L. Whitney, (University of Minnesota); Mark J. Caddick (Virginia Poly. Inst. & State University); and Adam C. Simon (University of Michigan).

Dues, subscriptions, and finances

[6] Determination of the member and institutional *American Mineralogist* and *Reviews* subscription rates as well as member dues for 2020. The Treasurer recommended:

a) for *American Mineralogist & Reviews* subscription rates:

Category	2019 Current	Projected Actual Cost	2020 Proposed	Subsidy
MSA Members				
US AmMin (paper + electronic)	\$ 135	\$ 154.50	\$ 150	\$ 5
Non-US AmMin (paper+ electronic)	\$ 145	\$ 202.50	\$ 165	\$ 38
AmMin (electronic-portion of member dues)	\$ 15	\$ 22.50	\$ 15	\$ 8
Institutions				
US (paper + electronic)	\$ 1150	\$ 1362.60	\$ 1200	\$ 163
Non-US (paper + electronic)	\$ 1175	\$ 1410.00	\$ 1225	\$ 185
Institution (electronic)	\$ 1050	\$ 1230.60	\$ 1125	\$ 106
Multi-site Institution (negotiable)	\$ 1150+	-	\$ 1200+	
Institutions (GSW subscribers)				
Am Min (paper) (domestic)	\$ 250	\$ 154.50	\$ 260	\$ (106)
Am Min (paper) (foreign)		\$ 202.50		\$ (58)
RiMG (paper)	\$ 125	\$ 56.00	\$ 200	\$ (144)

b) It was recommended that the 2019 MSA dues be maintained at 2018 levels (\$85 for members, \$45 for early career members, and \$20 for students).

[Executive Directors note: The MSA Bylaws (ARTICLE VI. MEMBERSHIP, Item # 7) states that a life membership requires a single prepayment of an amount equaling twenty-five times the then annual dues of a Fellow or Member of the Society. I will interpret this as \$2,125 for those who only require electronic access to the journal and \$5,875 (US) and \$6,250 (non-US) for those who require print+ electronic access to the journal.]

Michael Brown moved that the 2020 dues be maintained at 2019 levels and that the subscription rates be changed as above, Thomas Duffy seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

[7] The Financial Advisory and Audit Committee (FAAC) (Section 06) had three items for Council notice:

a) \$200,000 were transferred from investments to operations in September 2018. As this amount exceeded the limit of the recently adopted 4% rule, Council approval was required. The Executive Committee, acting on behalf of Council, approved this transfer on September 6, 2018.

- b) We have switched our auditors from Rubino & McGeehan to Citrin Cooperman. As this was a formal change, FAAC requested and received approval from the Executive Committee on December 18, 2018. to make this switch.
- c) FAAC continues to recommend ongoing fundraising for the endowment to preserve our endowment for the future. Withdrawing endowment dollars today means fewer dollars available in the future to support MSA programs

[8] The Treasurer and MSA Executive Director will provided brief updates on MSA membership numbers, subscriptions, and MSA finances (Sections 03, 04 and 06).

Among various updates, Alex Speer reported that in recent meetings with other societies, a few commented that making grants available to everyone, not just members, was required to retain their 501(c) status. There are many kinds of 501(c) organizations [501(c)(1) – 501(c)(23)], each with differing requirements. MSA is a 501(c)3 organization of which there are 5 types. Until this year MSA research grants were open to all, not just members. The legal implications of this members-only restriction are not known, and will be looked into.

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

[9] From the Committee on Committees

- a) consider, amend where necessary, and vote on the proposed list of committee members and chairs.
- b) authorize the MSA Secretary to contact individuals in the order(s) listed (except when restricted by guidelines for the position.
- c) In addition to asking past chairs for suggestions for new committee members, C. Frost, the committee chair, asked them for advice and best practices. Responses include:
 - 1) A request that we pay attention to the disciplinary expertise of committee members to be sure a range of areas are represented. Low-temperature environmental mineralogy was noted as one area that has been underrepresented on some committees.
 - 2) A suggestion that committee meetings be held by Skype or similar internet conferencing, particularly the meeting where final decisions are made. One committee chair reported using Skype very effectively to come to agreement about awards.
 - 3) Several chairs noted the lack of women nominees for awards and Fellows. They recommended that committee members must be proactive about nominating strong members - both men and women - for awards.
 - 4) One past chair suggested that if at all possible, the main committee work should be completed by June 1 because it can be difficult to get people together in the summer months.
 - 5) When the membership committee was active, they planned to contact former members who had not renewed and ask them to complete a survey. This strategy would yield information about why they no longer belonged to MSA, and at the same time would involve them by soliciting their opinions and suggestions. This plan was not carried out despite good intentions and may be worth considering in the future.
 - 6) The suggestion was made that MSA consider ways to recognize more of the membership, particularly given the relatively few opportunities for recognition in our field compared to others including chemistry, biology, and physics. Are there ways we can do a better job recognizing and publicizing our awardees, Fellows, and Lecturers?

SoC: For subsequent council meetings the CoC report will include affiliations of proposed committee members and the list of members agreeing to volunteer. This will allow the councilors to come up with other suggestions to present at the Spring Council meeting when the CoC report is discussed and finalized.

Jay Ague moved that the Secretary contact the individuals in the orders listed as modified by council, Thomas Duffy seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Council discussed how we involve more non-North American candidates for the committees, as well as gender diversity, science diversity, etc. Expectations are that celebration of the Fellows would improve engagement for Fellow nominations. If we could know by early summer who the new Fellows are, they could be recognized at the Fall luncheon. Institutions of the Fellows certainly would like to promote Fellow recognitions of their staff. It is not clear how we get more numbers and more diversity of nominations for our awards.

Michael Brown moved that the Executive Committee will work with the Fellows Nominating Committee to get their results in advance of the Fall Luncheon so that they can be encouraged to attend and be recognized during the luncheon. Carol Frost seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Discussion about fund raising.

Ann Benbow outlined the strategy for a capital campaign for fund raising. It starts with research to identify where support can come from, i.e., looking for those individuals that can give the lead donations. The money is out there, e.g., mineral and gem collectors, industry, etc. We have to do the research initially and that can take years to accumulate. Identifying recognition factors that will be appealing to donors is also important. The background research is the foundation on which to build the campaign, then organizing the various donation streams to pool towards the bigger goal. More to come on this at the Fall Meeting.

Operations

[10] The Executive Director presented two operational items:

- a) Council needs confirmed that the Third 2019 and First 2020 MSA Council Meetings will be held in Phoenix, Arizona, USA on Saturday 21 September 2019. The MSA Management Committee meeting will be held Friday around 4:00 PM of 20 September 2019.

- b) Council needs to give an indication about the location and timing of the Spring 2020 Council meeting so arrangements can be started:

SoC: Spring 2020 Council meeting will be held in Chantilly, Virginia, tentatively May 9, 2020.

[11] Reports from the MSA Webmasters provided a glimpse of why computer expenses are running higher, and will continue to do so for the next 1-2 years.

Gloria McFarland with comments from Gordon Nord gave reported about the upgrades of the MSA Web site and overall IT improvement efforts. Obsolescence is a major issue. New infrastructure components are being replaced. Adopting software and standards that can be continually upgraded is important. Security protocol is another big issue. All the systems are interconnected; changing one often affects others. Malware is another issue that has to be handled. Moving to a cloud-based system would be a huge and expensive change. Familiarity of the office staff with the current software tools and its ease of use makes it tough to replace. Redundancy and a contingency plan would be prudent.

[12] The Benefactors Committee asked MSA Council members to relay any prospective donor corporations and contacts therein to Phil Neuhoff, Chair of this committee.

[13] MSA's two position statements posted online will require review this Fall:

- *Preservation of Natural History Collections: Minerals and Rocks*
- *Asbestos*

MSA Council should reevaluate MSA's Position Statements every 4 years, to assess whether it retains suitable value and purpose as it expressed when adopted <<http://www.minsocam.org/msa/policy.html>>. The instructions says little on how this review ought to be done. These two were created 8 years ago.

When the two policies were previously reconsidered, Council discussed them, saw no need to revise or do away with them, and thus reaffirmed them.

If there were to be changes of any great extent, it would be wise to follow a streamlined process used to approve new ones. The Executive Committee would:

- evaluate and revise the statement
- post the draft on the MSA web site for comment by the members and the public
- either appoint an *ad hoc* committee to explore the ramifications of any significant comments and make recommendations or place the proposed statement, with or without minor revisions, on the agenda for the next Council meeting with a recommendation to accept or to let the policy lapse

[The policy statement on *Preservation of Natural History Collections: Minerals and Rocks* likely would not need any revision. Mickey Gunter offered to review the policy statement on *Asbestos*, to be discussed at the Fall Council meeting.](#)

[14] The Business Office report to the Fall 2018 Council described the need for a harassment policies, and presented a draft policy. A decision on that proposed policy was tabled.

Thomas Duffy has examined the draft policy, and offered a number of comments and suggestions on it. Ann Benbow has reviewed what is being done by other societies and offered several additional suggestions:

- a) Recognize best practices
- b) Join the Societies Consortium on Sexual Harassment in STEMM.
- c) Adapt a Policy from Another Scientific or Learned Society.
- d) Generate our own Harassment Policy.

[Executive Director's note: MSA has few situations where individuals come in direct contact with each other – whether physically or virtually. Each society with which MSA meets (GSA, AGU) have their own policies for which all meeting attendees must agree, as well as having response procedures in place. The only situations not covered are MSA's short courses, infrequent meetings of its own (e.g., 2007 Frontiers in Mineral Science meeting, the 2019 Centennial Symposium), workshops, Council meetings, and MSA offices.

Given the participation of both GSA and AGU in the "Societies Consortium on Sexual Harassment in STEMM", most earth science society policies will likely be more or less the same. The cost for MSA to join the Consortium would be \$500 per year.

For such policies, defining the behavior is easier than establishing procedures and having the people in place to deal with unwanted behavior. Societies acting in concert with uniform policies makes the most

sense. In the meantime MSA might rely on one of its own making until the above efforts come to fruition. MSA's self-generated policy can then be revised. This would be to avoid the perfect becoming the enemy of the good.]

[Executive Director's note: AGU requires a professional self-disclosure for its awardees and officers. They are not looking for issues like driving offenses but rather major problems that occur as part of their member's professional life. This requirement was also mentioned by GSA at its Divisions meeting for its awardees and officers.]

Thomas Duffy circulated a rough draft of a Code of Conduct for MSA-sponsored Events and Activities. He commented that other societies have more detailed policies and more complex implementations. Ann Benbow researched that other societies have organized to create subscription based policy services. This is easy to do, but how do we police improper behavior at our events? A policy for our sponsored events is needed. A more complicated question is how would an infraction be adjudicated?

SoC: We need a policy statement about code of conduct for MSA-sponsored events and activities. The proposed draft statement will be reviewed by a legal expert and approved later by the Executive Committee.

Programs: Publications, Short Courses, Meetings, Lecture Program, Outreach, Policies, and website

[15] Barb Dutrow, the MSA Representative to *Elements* Magazine, had several requested items, but none required a vote of Council:

- a) Send Jodi Rosso any information for People in the News.
- b) Consider proposing an issue of *Elements*.
- c) Review *Elements*' in the past year, and send comments, concerns, and thoughts about the publication to your representative = Barb Dutrow. Also please review the new *Elements* website and send comments.

[16] The Short Course Committee had two short course proposals that required Council approval:

- a) **Proposal 1:** Triple oxygen isotopes *Ilya Bindeman, Andreas Pack*. The budget for the course was received and is recommended for approval. The conveners requested that the course will be presented at the 2020 AGU Fall Meeting in San Francisco (December 2020) and the Committee supports this proposal. A confirmed speaker list remains outstanding but is expected for the Report to Third 2019 Meeting.

Michael Brown moved that we accept Short Course Proposal 1; Mark Caddick seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

- b) **Proposal 2:** Natural Diamonds: Their Mineralogy, Geochemistry, and Genesis *Fabrizio Nestola, Graham Pearson, Steven Shirey, Thomas Stachel, Karen Smit*. This course is planned for just after the 12th International Kimberlite Conference (12IKC) in Yellowknife, NWT, Canada (August 2021) and, again, associated with the 2021 Fall AGU Meeting in New Orleans (December 2021). The budget and confirmed speaker list for the course and was received and is recommended for approval. Note that the budget only covers delivery of the course at 12IKC and predicts a surplus of \$24K, which is planned as seed money for presentation of the course at the 2021 Fall AGU. A budget for the second delivery of the course is expected for the Report to Third 2019 Meeting.

Michael Brown moved that we accept Short Course Proposal 2; Jay Ague seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Information items for MSA Council:

- a) **Proposal 3:** Geological Melts. *D.R. Newville, G.S. Henderson, D.B. Dingwell*. The conveners confirmed their intention to present the course at the 2020 Goldschmidt Conference in Hawaii (June 2020) and reported that they would provide a budget and confirmed speaker list for the Report to Third 2019 Meeting.

[17] Lecture Program Committee submitted a list of nominees for the 2019-2020 MSA Distinguished Lecturer program for consideration, ranking, and approval. The new Lecture Program Administrator (Dave Jenkins) will contact people and will continue to make his way down the approved and amended list until there are two people from the North American list and one from the European list that agree to serve as Distinguished Lecturers.

This report was submitted late, and was amended by Council.

Mark Caddick moved that we accept the revised list of ranked potential speakers for the Lecture Program; Michael Brown seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

The Secretary will communicate the revised list to the Lecture Program Coordinator David Jenkins.

[18] GeoScienceWorld's Open Access Community Journal.

GeoScienceWorld (GSW) is proposing an Open Access Community Journal as a joint effort by its society partners. It will be a gold open access (OA), electronic-only journal using the CC BY (credit only), CC BY-SA (ShareAlike), or CCO (relinquishing) licenses. Why? In September 2018, a group of European-based funding organizations, with the support of the European Commission, including the European Research Council (ERC), announced the launch of “cOAlition S”. This is an “initiative to make full and immediate Open Access to research publications a reality.” Better known as Plan S, it will require every publication that the research the group members fund to be freely available from the moment of publication starting in 2020. This is gold OA. Most importantly, it will not allow embargo options (green OA) nor publication in hybrid OA journals (like the *American Mineralogist*).

A GSW-commissioned consultant's report “*GeoScienceWorld Financial Modeling and Business Planning for Cooperative Open Access Transfer Journal*” (Clarke & Esposito (2019)) focuses on different options to establish and operate a GSW Open Access Community Journal. It is much less useful as a basis for a Society to decide on the need for a gold open access publication, let alone whether or not to participate in a GSW joint effort.

The report by Rachel Russell (GSW Board of Director) and J. Alex Speer (GSW Advisory Council), described:

- a) Why MSA needs a Gold Open Access publication:

[1] Accommodating authors that need to be published in fully OA journals to meet their funder's requirements.

[2] Ability to increase the amount of material MSA publishes.

[3] Providing a pathway to what appears to be a future of “Read and Publish” deals.

- b) Why MSA needs to consider participating in the joint effort.

[1] Going it alone to produce an MSA OA journal that meets subscribers expectations is unlikely to be economically viable.

[2] The GSW Community Journal can be up and running sooner than a standalone MSA OA

journal.

[3] As a small publisher, it would be difficult for MSA to negotiate and offer attractive “Read and Publish” agreements with innumerable domestic and foreign universities, research organizations, government agencies, etc.

- c) Finances
- d) Manuscript handling
- e) Next Steps

Russell and Speer recommended that MSA agree to participate in the planning of the Community Journal, much as the role MSA played when GSW was planned. Considering that MSA needs to have a gold OA publication vehicle, and the advantages of a community journal being able to attract a larger and financially viable number of OA manuscripts, this is an offer that MSA should accept. It would require staff time and travel, but we would have to spend time figuring a solution to this need in any case.

- ⇒ If participation is agreed upon, MSA needs to send GSW a Letter of Intent. This does not irrevocably commit MSA to participate in the Community Journal.
- ⇒ As always, any feedback is welcome for planning purposes regarding any features, improvements, or priority suggestions for GeoScienceWorld.

Alex Speer gave a synopsis of the issues of an open access journal managed by GSW but branded by MSA. A major concern is that the open access journal would appear to have second-rank status. GSW is not the only option. Alex Speer notes that de Gruyter would likely also be interested. GSW has been good for AmMin, so it is a reasonable argument that we should continue to invest in GSW to ensure its continued success. Three issues about reasons to submit to such a journal are conflated: 1) open access, 2) valid but science topic not appropriate, and 3) volume overflow papers. GSA and SEG (Society of Exploration Geophysics) are also interested. Open access has the merit of being more widely available. We all want to maintain the same standards for whatever open access format is adopted.

SoC: MSA will send GSW a Letter of Intent. This does not irrevocably commit MSA to participate in the Community Journal.

[19] Centennial Celebration

- a) Peter Heaney visited Council to give updates on the status of the MSA Centennial Symposium (Section 10(a)).

Peter Heaney says there is good news and bad news. The program looks good. Registration needs to be bolstered. Only about 100 so far have registered. Projected expenses could exceed income given that we were projecting 3-4 times more registrants. Projected deficit could be between \$20K to \$40K. Targeted advertising has been ongoing, but the word still apparently has not gotten out to everyone. Sarah Carmichael argues that we should be using Twitter or Instagram to target a younger audience. More external donations are being sought, e.g., only one mineral dealer has donated. DCO and AGI will be engaged. We don't have much flexibility in lowering expenses except maybe a little in the catering. Why have more people not registered? Diversity could be one factor, but the gender diversity in the speakers and session chairs for the meeting exceeds the gender diversity of the society membership.

SoC: The early bird registration will be continued, and Mickey Gunter will send out an email announcing that change.

Program design will be a small glossy paper pamphlet with a detailed program, one abstract per page

(with picture of each of the 28 invited speakers), plus a reprint of some historical perspective. It would be nice to have something forward looking. Each author has been asked to write a chapter for a RiMG volume, due by Oct 1. The RiMG volume will be a challenge for Ian Swainson, the series editor, who normally does the layout (~1 week per chapter) given his outstanding work load. It was urged that we communicate with Ian to make sure that the logistics will work.

- b) Robert Heimann, one of the session moderators, requested permission for a German publishing company (Schweizerbart Science Publisher, Stuttgart, Germany - *European Journal of Mineralogy*) to display flyers and/or inspection copies of books related to mineralogy and archaeometry at the symposium.

SoC: We should ask for a fee to advertised this in the program, otherwise we cannot accommodate this request.

- c) The celebration of MSA's Centennial will continue at GSA's Annual Meeting in Phoenix, AZ on Sept.22 – 25, 2019. Events include:
 - 1) MSA President Mickey Gunter's Presidents' Symposium on Monday, Sept. 23 (beginning in the morning, and possibly in the afternoon as well). The accepted session is titled "*MSA at 100: Reflections, refractions, diffractions, intrusions, subductions, reactions from MSA past presidents.*" He had asked the past presidents how many would speak in such a session; 8-9 said they would, plus he will give his presidential address in the session. He will contact more past presidents individually in hopes of having two back-to-back sessions on Monday, with a catered, standup lunch, between. He plans to "entice" them with the option to publish their talk in the planned RiMG volume for papers from the 100th symposium.
 - 2) The "MSA wall" in the Exhibit Hall close to the MSA/CMS/MAC booth. It has been suggested that we post banners, such as the *100 Unanswered Questions in Mineralogy*, MSA and Centennial logos; etc.
 - 3) The usual Joint Reception, but with some Centennial focus (Maybe a cake? Another champagne toast? Recognition of Past Presidents, Fellows?)
- d) Steven Shirey reminded us that at the MSA Council meeting a year ago there was a suggestion for an MSA session submitted as a special Centennial session to the Fall AGU. Deadline for session submissions was April 17. The background and draft session proposal was distributed, and he has asked for comments and suggestions.

SoC: The draft session proposal was approved. No comments were given.

- e) Mickey Gunter will reported on several of his efforts for the Centennial Celebration and any updates (Section 01):
 - 1) worked with Peter Heaney helping find sponsors
 - 2) his wife agreed to help with the food and beverage selections
 - 3) found a donor to purchase champagne glasses with the MSA 100th logo for a toast at the Smithsonian
 - 4) followed up with the past presidents about donations to endow the lecture program that Mike Brown started last year. More agreed, with a couple saying they could do \$5,000 at not \$10,000 over the next 10 years. At this point we have \$170,000

committed from this group; this is approximately one-half of what we would need for the endowment as the program costs MSA about \$15,000 per year.

- 5) plans to contact the 74 past distinguished lecturers and ask them for \$2,500 over five years, or whatever they would like to give. The \$2,500 would be about half what it costs per lecturer per year - so it's sort of a match from them.

[20] The number of Senior Members and Fellows continues to grow and now number 285. Senior Members and Fellows are exempt from payment of dues but retain all rights and privileges of membership (MSA Bylaws, Article VI, Section 5). If these seniors had remained dues-paying members, there would be at least an additional \$22,800 in dues income. The cost of serving a member is \$62.16. The cost of these 285 senior members is \$17,716.90. The MSA President prompted discussion of how we might lessen the financial burden of these member categories. Categories that will continue to grow.

Some wording of the renewal forms and reminder letters could provide the necessary encouragement for Senior Members and Senior Fellows to donate some amount to offset their cost of membership.

Carol Frost moved for the opt-out option membership cost for Senior Fellows and Senior Members; Thomas Duffy seconded. Motion was unanimously passed. The “opt out” meant that a “radio button” would be highlighted on the renewal form to pay the \$85 dues for a senior member. They would have to click that button off to renew for free.

[Executive Director’s note: The fact that the Senior Members and Fellows are specified in the Bylaws means can change require a vote by the membership.]

MSA faces a similar problem with Life memberships. For the 2008 balloting, a measure was proposed to change the life time dues from 25 to 50 times the annual dues. This was the only measure that failed:

*417 Yes Votes for Life Member Dues
285 No Votes for Life Member Dues
239 abstained for Life Member Dues*

Article XI. Amendments Section 3 states that any amendment shall become effective when approved by a simple majority of the members voting, except that any amendment of Article III, Membership, shall require a two-thirds affirmative vote of those voting Thus the dues change failed.]

Mark Caddick moved to adjourn the meeting, Sara Carmichael seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Respectively submitted,

Bryan Chakoumakos, MSA Secretary

