The Second meeting of the 2009 Council of the Mineralogical Society of America (MSA) was held at Metro Toronto Convention Centre, Toronto, Ontario, Canada, May 23, 2009.

ITEMS

1. Roll Call and Introduction by the President.

   President Ross called the meeting to order and introductions were made.

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

   J. Brady moved to approve the agenda.  S = D. Henry.  Motion passed unanimously.

3. Approve the minutes of the Third 2008 Council Meeting and First 2009 Council Meeting.
P. Heaney moved to approve the minutes. S = P. King. Motion passed unanimously.

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

Financial Advisory and Audit Committee, Nominating Committee for Officers, Benefactor Committee (Corporate), Benefactor Committee (Member), Editors, American Mineralogist, MSA Series Editor of the Reviews in Mineralogy and Geochemistry & Monograph Series, MSA Society News Editor for Elements, MSA Representative to the GeoScienceWorld Advisory Council, MSA Representative to the GeoScienceWorld Board of Directors, MSA Editor Handbook of Mineralogy, MSA WebMaster, Outreach Committee (Databases), Outreach Committee (Education), Lecture Program Committee, Lecture Program Coordinator, Bloss Optical Crystallography Fund Committee, Roebling Medal Committee, Distinguished Public Service Award Committee, Dana Medal Committee, Nominating Committee for Fellows, Kraus Crystallography Grant Committee, Mineralogy/Petrology Grant Committee, Representative to ACA, AGI, CMS, EMU, FM, GIA, Special Interest Group on Mineral Surfaces and Interfaces, Planetary Materials, and Pegmatites. Ad hoc Committee on Asbestos.

M. Gunter moved to accept the reports. S = D. Henry. Motion passed unanimously.

5. Review of Executive Committee actions and President's Report. Any items for action or discussion were taken up under the appropriate sections later in the day.

As a reminder to all, the Executive Committee (composed of the President, Past President, Vice President, Treasurer, and Secretary) often are called upon to make time-sensitive decisions between council meetings. Since the last council meeting the committee:

* Approved a revised description of the Dana Medal
* Approved sessions for the 2009 GSA Annual Meeting
* Approved the application for the Swiss Society of Mineralogy & Petrology to join Elements
* Approved a list of candidates for the 2009-2010 MSA Distinguished Lecturer series
* Provided a list of nominees to replace Susan Stipp as Editor for Elements
* Revisited the topic of Geoscience accreditation
* Recommended candidates for the VGP division of AGU
6. Determine the member and institutional *American Mineralogist* subscription rates for 2010 and member dues. The Treasurer recommends:

(a) for 2010, *American Mineralogist* member subscription rate continue to differentiate between domestic and foreign members to reflect more closely the actual costs of production and mailing of *American Mineralogist*. He also recommend that MSA maintain the shift of creation and printing costs (7.5%) from institutional to individual subscribers. Due to the increased costs, he proposes that MSA increase the U.S. member subscription price (paper and electronic) to $80 (currently $70) and similarly increase the non-U.S. member subscription rate to $90 (currently $80). Further, he proposes that MSA maintain the member electronic-only subscription at $30.

*K. Mezger moved to the increase the member subscription rate.  S = J. Brady.* Motion passed unanimously.

(b) for 2010, *American Mineralogist* institutional subscription rate continues to differentiate between domestic and foreign institutional subscription rates to reflect more closely the actual costs of production and mailing of *American Mineralogist*. He also recommends that MSA maintain the shift of creation and printing costs (7.5%) from institutional to individual subscribers. Due to the increased costs, he propose that MSA increase the U.S. institutional subscription price (paper and electronic) to $875 (currently $825) and similarly increase the non-U.S. institutional subscription rate to $900 (currently $850).

*D. Henry moved to increase the institutional subscription rate.  S = J. Brady.* Motion passed unanimously.

(c) for 2010 dues, a $10 increase for regular members for 2010. Dues were last increased $5 to $55 for regular members for 2004, but partially offset by the $5 discount for renewals by 12/31 (now 10/31 if a member renews online). By 2010 it will have been 6 years since dues were last increased and MSA now has to pay for *Elements* ($14 per subscription), a dues increase should be considered. Student dues are recommended to stay at $10. They were last increased for 2006 from $5 to $10.

*P. Heaney moved to increase regular member dues.  S = P. King.* Motion passed unanimously.

*M. Gunter moved to maintain the student member dues.  S = K. Mezger.* Motion passed unanimously.

7. The Treasurer and MSA Executive Director provided brief updates on MSA membership numbers, subscriptions, and MSA finances.

Treasurer D. Henry gave a brief overview of MSA finances. Even though the economy is in a downturn, overall MSA’s finances, while down, are doing better than the market in general. Our total assets at the end of 2008 were $2.8 million,
down from $3.7 million at the end of 2007. The largest drop was in our investments. Our end-of-year market values were: $1.7 million (2002), $2.4 million (2007), $1.6 million (2008), but had increased to $2.0 million by (May 2009).

Executive Director A. Speer gave a brief report on membership, showing that we have increased membership in the last decade: total members are 1996 (1998), 2596 (2008), and 2496 (as of May 2009), with the student membership showing a large increase over the ten year period: 252 (1998), 741 (2008). While membership has been increasing the number of subscriptions to the American Mineralogist have fallen from 2935 (1998) to 1987 (2008) with the largest drop occurring in institutional subscriptions: 1025 (1998) to 610 (2008).

8. From the Committee on Committees, discuss and confirm the proposed list of committee members and chairs. Authorize the MSA Secretary to contact individuals in the order listed (except when restricted by guidelines for the position).

   Action Item: After some discussion and refinements to the suggestions made by the Committee on Committees, the list was finalized and the secretary charged to contact the individuals.

9. Approve Dr. Martin Kunz as the new American Mineralogist editor to take over from Dr. Dana Griffen, officially starting January 1, 2010.

   M. Gunter moved to approve Kunz as the new American Mineralogist editor, officially starting January 1, 2010. S = D. Henry. Motion passed unanimously.

10. The Executive Director has four operational items:

   (a) Council needs to confirm that the Third 2009 and First 2010 MSA Council Meetings will be held in Portland, Oregon on Saturday 17 October 2009. The MSA Management Committee meeting will be held Friday afternoon or evening 16 October 2009.

       J. Brady moved to approve these times. S = M. Hirschmann. Motion passed unanimously.

   (b) Council needs to give a firm indication of its intention that its Spring 2010 Council meeting will be in conjunction with 2010 Goldschmidt Conference, Knoxville, TN so we can make plans with the organizers. If the Council meeting were held the day before the Conference it would be Sunday 13 June 2010.
It was SOC to hold its Spring 2010 Council meeting will be in conjunction with 2010 Goldschmidt Conference, Knoxville, TN.

(c) Council needs to decide when and where the 2010 Dana Medal will be presented to Jillian F. Banfield.

It was SoC that the medal would be presented at the 2010 Goldschmidt meeting.

(d) The new Federal IRS Informational Return for Non-Profits, Form 990, for the return year 2008 asks if the filing organization has adopted five specific governance policies. Each governance policy must be in writing and be adopted by the end of the year for which the form is being submitted if the organization is to answer “yes”. While not specified by the IRS, such policies are usually adopted by the organization’s principal governing body, in the case of MSA the Council. One policy is already in place (Conflict of Interest Policy approved by MSA Council at its Second 2005 Council Meeting). The four remaining policies (included as Appendices in his report (Section 3)) recommended for adoption by Council are:

• Appendix F contains a draft Conflict of Interest Policy. A comparable policy was passed by the MSA Council at its Third 2003 Council Meeting, but this is a revision that includes an expansion of who is covered and the provision that all covered individuals must annually complete a disclosure form.

• Appendix H contains a draft Document Retention and Destruction Policy. A comparable policy was passed by the MSA Council at its Second 2005 Council Meeting, but this is a revision that has benefited from a legal review and comments supplied by a company associated with The Clay Minerals Society.

• Appendix I contains a draft Policy on the Process for Determining Compensation for approval. This would be incorporated into the MSA Management Committee Handbook.

• Appendix J contains a draft Joint Venture Policy for approval

D. Henry moved to approve the above policies. S = P. Heaney. Motion passed unanimously.

(e) Recommends that Council reaffirm MSA’s retirement plans by adopting the following:

***************
A meeting of the Council of the Mineralogical Society of America, herein referred to as “society”, was held on the 23th day of May 2009, in accordance with the society’s bylaws, the council reaffirmed the retirement plans for the benefit of the Society’s employees. The following resolutions were offered, seconded and unanimously adopted.

The Society adopted (1) 368098: Mineralogical Society of America 403(B) DC Plan and (2) 368099: Mineralogical Society of America 403(B) TDA Plan to
cover the Society's employees as a reaffirmation of the original plans effective 1 January 1995.
The officers of the Society are authorized and directed to execute any and all documents and do any and all acts that may be necessary in connections with the adoption, maintenance and ongoing funding of the plan.
The officers of the society are authorized and directed to retain any service providers they believe necessary or desirable in connection with the Plans.

J. Brady moved to reaffirm MSA’s retirement policy.  S = D. Henry.  Motion passed unanimously.  And the Secretary signed the appropriate documents.

11. The Publications Director asks for a decision on MSA’s publishing the F. F. Gorbatevich monograph "Acoustopolarity of Rock-forming Minerals and Crystalline Rocks". This manuscript is a 2004 translation from a 2002 Russian book (Акустополярископия породообразующих минералов и кристаллических пород) and both versions are freely available on the author's web site (http://acoustpol.narod.ru/) in pdf format. Based on the negative reviews, the limited audience, and the large amount of effort needed to turn this manuscript into an MSA Monograph, and the fact is it already available online, he recommends that MSA reject it.

    P. Heaney moved to approve the recommendation to not publish this monograph.  S = M. Gunter.  Motion passed unanimously.

12. The Short course committee has four action items:

    (a) recommends approval of the proposal for the short course “Theoretical and Computational Methods in Mineral Physics: Applications to Geophysics” by Lars Stixrude (Univ. College London) and Renata Wentzcovitch (Univ. of Minnesota) to take place at Berkeley, coincident with the Fall 2009 AGU meeting.

    It was SOC to approve this proposal, but we expressed concerns if the book could be completed in time for the short course. This then lead to the discussion about the merits of holding a short course without a printed volume.

    (b) recommends approval of the preliminary proposal for the short course “Sulfur in Silicate Melts and its Importance for Natural and Technical Processes” by Harald Behrens (Univ. Hannover) and Jim Webster (American Museum of Natural History) to take place in Goslar, Germany, in spring 2011.

    It was SOC to approve this short course, however council had several suggestions which were communicated to the short course committee:

    1. Title needs to be more general, something dealing with "magma"
    2. Too many chapters (based on titles); there was a sense some should be
consolidated
3. Is there a possibility of having this at the Goldschmidt meeting, which we think might be in Prague?
4. If it's held in Prague, there might be some interesting local field trips.
5. We suggested to add S in planetary melts as well as S in sulfide melts.

(c) recommends approval of the proposal for the short course “Applied Mineralogy of Cement and Concrete” by Maarten Broekmans (Geol. Survey of Norway) as part of the ICAM meeting in Trondheim, Norway (the organizer’s home base), in August 2011.

This is a thoroughly revised version of a more general “Building Materials” proposal examined by Committee and rejected by Council in 2007. The Committee has been of the opinion that this is an important direction into which RiMG should venture, and we are heartened that the organizer has worked with us to make a proposal for a more focused and cohesive short course. The proposed chapters touch on a wide range of topics that should be interesting to groups in mineralogy, geochemistry, materials science and environmental studies, to name a few.

*It was SOC to approve this short course, however council had several suggestions which were communicated to the short course committee:*

1. Council wondered if there could be different registration prices for industry/academics/students as the registration fee was somewhat high for us academics, but may be fine for folks in industry.
2. We also would request the conveners to provide information for the "cement" societies whereby MSA may get some press in their materials (e.g., web sites, newsletters, etc.)

(d) Some recent hopeful short course organizers have submitted their proposals to MSA with unrealistic or nearly unrealistic time scales for both organizing the short course and completing the work of the chapter preparation, review, revision, final editing, and printing. It is clear to us that they have either ignored the example time table in the *Short Course Guide* or they feel that this does not apply “in their case.” There are typically circumstances (funding structure, sabbatical timing, venue schedule, etc.) that the would-be organizers feel are extenuating and put them in a special category for the volume production time line. The Short Course Committee asked the Council to consider instituting a two year mandatory window from the date of Committee’s receipt of the initial proposal to the proposed date of the short course. This may serve to reduce interest in the community toward organizing short courses, but it is a way to force would-be organizers to realize important aspects of the commitment they propose to undertake
In order to try and minimize difficulties that arise from short time frames for short courses and publication of RiMG volumes, Council considered two firm yearly deadlines for submission of short course proposals:

- June 1 is the deadline for short courses proposed to occur in the latter half of a year 1.5 years in advance (i.e., June 1, 2009 would be the deadline for courses to occur in the latter half of 2011)

- December 1 is the deadline for short courses proposed to occur in the first half of a year 1.5 years in advance (i.e., December 1, 2009 would be the deadline for courses to occur in the first half of 2012)

_K. Mezger moved to approve these new deadlines. S = P. King. Motion passed unanimously._

13. The MSA President notes that the Lecture Program expenses thus far for 2009 ($15,426.53) are nearly equal to those for all of 2008 ($18,038.52) and past years. MSA Council should consider ways to ensure that the MSA Lectureship Series remains a vibrant and affordable activity within the Society. There was discussion of what caused the increased expenses. Suggestions on how to avoid excessive costs:

- provide more explicit instructions to the MSA lecturers that they are expected to plan travel in advance to take advantage of APEX fares and that they will only be reimbursed only for travel in economy.
- reduce the number of lecture tours
- encourage lecturers from Europe to restrict their lecture series to Europe and to encourage lecturers from North America to restrict their lecture tours to North America
- mount a campaign to save the lecture series.

_In an attempt to avoid these sorts of expenses again, it was SOC that some wording changes were necessary in the information sent to the lecturers._

14. The MSA Representative to _Elements_ has an action item and a number of questions for discussion:

(a) Approve the 2010 _Elements_ Budget.

All agreed that _Elements_ is an excellent publication and that MSA should be very proud of. However, there was discussion that our cost to _Elements_ continue to increase. It was suggested that one way to keep cost down was to increase
advertisements in *Elements*. And it was pointed out that ads are indeed being actively sought.

*P. Heaney moved to approve the budget. S = D. Henry.* Motion passed unanimously.

(b) Questions for Council’s input:

- Is MSA willing to financially support the *Elements* Representative to attend meetings?

*MSA has a policy of seldom providing travel support to its officers or councilors; thus, it was SoC to maintain this policy in regards to the MSA representative to Elements.*

- Will MSA authorize their *Elements* Representative to vote on most issues (not financial) without consultation with their governing bodies?

*It was SoC to allow the MSA Elements representative to vote on non-financial issues without consultation of MSA council.*

- Authorize the *Elements rep* (or have Council) affirm that the Editors are responsible for content published, including on society pages (that is, if inappropriate content is proposed, they may delete)?

*It was SoC to allow the editors of Elements to have final say on the content published in Elements, including the society pages.*

- Determine MSA’s level of support for increasing *Element’s* staff?

*MSA currently pays $14 per member or institutional annual subscription for *Elements*. Also MSA provides in-kind support. It was SoC that our current level of support is sufficient and we do not support adding any extra staff.*

- Can MSA contribute to increasing Pierrette's salary, realizing that MSA provides services in-kind?

*It was SoC that MSA cannot contribute any funds for salaries of Element’s staff.*

15. There are no action items for GeoScienceWorld. However included in section 17c of the meeting book were copies of *Introduction and Explanation for the GSW Electronic Licensing Agreement* and the *GSW Prospectus III*. The *Introduction and Explanation for the GSW Electronic Licensing Agreement* is an explanation of the agreement MSA has
with GSW. The *GSW Prospectus III* contains a lot of confidential background information about GSW. These two documents were revised this year for the Meteoritical Society to consider joining GSW. Because much of the current MSA Council has not seen these it is important that MSA Council be aware of them because GSW is an increasingly important part of MSA finances.

16. The MSA Meetings Coordinator has several items:

(a) The 20th V M Goldschmidt Conference will be held in Knoxville, TN June 14-18, 2010. The local organizing committee, Dave Cole (Oak Ridge National Laboratory), Ted Labotka (University of Tennessee) and Hap McSween (University of Tennessee) is putting together an International Program Committee (IPC). MSA is encouraged to contact the organizing committee with suggestions for special sessions and to consider appointing a representative to the 2010 Goldschmidt Conference.

*MSA Council discussed the need to help develop sessions for the meeting that would interest MSA members. MSA will likely have a booth at the meeting.*

(b) The 20th General Meeting of the International Mineralogical Association will be held in Budapest, Hungary in August 2010. The general chairman is Ekkehart Tillmans, Univ. of Vienna, Austria and the vice-chairman is George Calas, LMCP, France. Because the Goldschmidt Meeting will take place in June, MSA should consider how it will impact our presence at the IMA meeting and whether there is any interest in having presence there.

*Council discussed the role of MSA in this meeting and pointed out the need to help develop sessions. However MSA does not plan to have a booth at the meeting as MSA plans to have a strong presence at the Goldschmidt Conference in Knoxville.*

(c) The Mineralogical Society of Great Britain & Ireland is planning a meeting on "Frontiers in Environmental Sciences", to be held in Aberystwyth, UK the week beginning June 20th, 2011. This meeting replaces Karen Hudson-Edwards proposal for a meeting on “Frontiers in Environmental Geoscience 2010” for which Council expressed strong support but also concern because of the proximity to the 2010 Goldschmidt Meeting (see Minutes of Second 2008 MSA Council Meeting). MSA was a headline sponsor along with the Mineralogical Society and the Mineralogical Association of Canada of the “Frontiers in Mineral Sciences” meeting, held in Cambridge on 26-28 June 2007. Although not officially requested, MSA should consider whether to offer sponsorship of this meeting. Co-sponsorship can assume any of many different forms, such as organizing sessions, holding MSA awards ceremonies or simply by advertising and promoting the meeting.
This meeting might be considered as the venue for presentation of the 2011 MSA Dana Medal.

Council discussed what MSA’s role would be in the meeting and concern was expressed of potential overlap in subject area with the 2011 Goldschmidt Conference. The proposed meeting in Aberystwyth was also seen to be too focused and not an appropriate venue for presentation of the 2011 Dana Medal.

(d) The International Division of the Geological Society of America is considering organizing a section meeting in China in 2012. The Geochemical Society is interested in co-sponsoring such a meeting that addresses an aspect of Chinese geology / geochemistry. One idea was to focus on high T metamorphic belts and weathering of these belts.

The Meeting Coordinator recommends that MSA consider sponsoring meeting (assuming it goes forward) as a means to attract the growing mineralogical community in China. However, no decision can be made until further details of the meeting become available.

(e) The 100th birthday of MSA is in 2019. At the third 2006 MSA Council Meeting, George Harlow, MSA Representative to IMA, reported on a discussion of the IMA Council that it would be appropriate for MSA to host the 2014 IMA meeting. Since MSA will have its Centenary in 2019, close to the following meeting in 2018, a discussion followed about MSA hosting the 2018 IMA Meeting. George Harlow followed up by reporting to the IMA Council that MSA Council (from the meeting of 1 June 2007) expressed interest and enthusiasm in hosting the 2018 IMA Meeting in the United States.

MSA Council expressed reluctance to host the 2018 IMA meeting. An alternative suggestion was made to host a “Frontiers in Mineral Sciences” Meeting” in 2019, the year of MSA’s Centenary.

17. Fund-raising. The Benefactor Committee co-chairs make no specific recommendations. However:

(a) a decision will need to be made whether or not there will be a 2009 Summer membership giving campaign of some sort.

It was SoC to initiate another membership giving campaign. This time we would target members who had belonged to MSA from 16 to 24 years. President Ross will compose a letter to be sent to this category of members.

(b) Barb Dutrow asks Council to consider the purchase of “FoundationSearch” software as funds become available.
FoundationSearch software is a search tool and database of private US foundations (80,000) containing 10 years data on what support they have provided. The cost of accessing FoundationSearch for 5 years with two userid’s and passwords is $5999. More importantly, can MSA come up with a plan to make such an expenditure worthwhile of how to systematically search the database and follow-up with inquiry letters to support such programs as Mineralogy4Kids, Lecture Program, Handbook, digitization of the Reviews series, certain short courses, perhaps some Bloss Fund activities?

*It was SoC to not purchase this software at this time. However, council thinks it might be wise to purchase this software at some future date if volunteers can be found who would help use it and then follow up on any potential donors.*

18. MSA’s Representative to the Geological Society of America ask for Council’s advice on two items:

(a) the proposal to form a mineralogy, petrology, geochemistry and volcanology (MPGV) Division within the Geological Society of America in anticipation that MSA will participate in the Division as an “Adhering Society”.

Executive Director A. Speer reported on the progress in discussions between MSA and GSA in regards to the formation of an MPGV division. As such he reported on the history of GSA, a survey MSA had conducted, and a draft version of bylaws. Council then discussed some of the pros and cons of forming such a division. The overall thought is that we should continue our discussions with GSA.

*It was SoC to continue to explore formation of this division.*

(b) MSA is likely to be asked to help support the Biogeoscience.org website. This is one of the “virtual society” or “earth science websites or databases” previously mentioned in council started by a small number of individuals with government or foundation support. Among their common features are an avoidance of existing “store-front” societies and a lack of a business plan to be self-sustaining over the long-haul, but with some vague expectations that once the initial funding stops “store-front” societies should continue to fund them.

*After some discussion, and a look at this web site, it was SoC to not support the Biogeoscience.org website if asked.*

19. The agreement signed between the Mineralogical Society of America and the Geochemical Society applies to MSA participation in Goldschmidt Conferences that are the responsibility of the Geochemical Society. MSA Council should consider pursuing a similar agreement with the EAG which is responsible for the Goldschmidt Conferences held in Europe. The time might be right as Eric Oelkers, President of EAG (who
replaced Alex Halliday), approached MSA about participating in the 2009 Goldschmidt Conference as a co-sponsor.

*It was SoC that President Ross would have preliminary discussions with Eric Oelkers at the Davos Goldschmidt meeting in regards to formalizing our connection to EAG as we have with GS in collaborating on Goldschmidt meetings.*

20. Barb Dutrow suggested the idea of MSA having a Facebook or Myspace page to reach the ‘younger’ generation when she was President of MSA. GSA has recently advertised their success in establishing a presence in the world of social media by adding a Facebook page, posting videos on YouTube, and watching their Twitter following grow. The Geochemical Society is looking for attendees of the 2009 Goldschmidt meeting in Davos, Switzerland to join GS President Marty Goldhaber in blogging about the meeting. Is MSA being left behind? Can MSA sustain activities such as these?

*It was SoC that MSA should have a Facebook page. The main use for the page would be to link back into to MSA’s web page and to provide a forum for a different audience than those who might be using the listserve. Marc Hirschmann volunteered to take the lead in developing the page.*

21. GSA has a network of over 500 spokespersons for GSA on two- and four-year college and university campuses across the United States and abroad. Should MSA consider something similar? The primary activity of a Campus Rep is to advocate for the Society and its mission to their students and colleagues. He/she would be available to answer questions and disseminate information about the Society.

*Action Item: President Ross volunteered to write guidelines for MSA members interested in being a campus representative. To find members who are willing to serve as campus representatives, it was agreed that this option would be included in the renewal membership notices.*

22. Bob Tracy, chair of MSA’s Financial Advisory and Audit Committee (FAAC), visited the meeting in late afternoon to review MSA investments. The Financial Advisory and Audit Committee has no specific items for Council discussion or approval. MSA’s investment advisor at Wachovia Securities (Jeff LeClair) is prepared to make some strategic reallocations of funds once the current market downturn has bottomed out. Cash reserves have been allowed to build up so that fast actions can be taken to reallocate when the timing is appropriate.

*After a summary of our financial status, which is really very good considering the state of the economy, Bob and council discussed who should replace him when he steps down as chair. It was SoC that Mark Van Baalen would make a good
choice, and Bob was asked to contact Mark to see if he would be willing to serve as chair of FAAC.

23. Adjournment

J. Brady moved that the Second 2009 Council meeting be adjourned.  S = came from all others in attendance.  Motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,
Mickey Gunter, MSA Secretary