

MINUTES OF THE SECOND 2010 COUNCIL MEETING
MINERALOGICAL SOCIETY OF AMERICA

Attending:

John Brady, President
David Bish, Vice President
Nancy Ross, Past President
Darrell Henry, Treasurer
Carol Frost, Councilor
Marc Hirschmann, Councilor
Peter Burns, Councilor
Penny King, Councilor
Wendy Bohrson, Councilor
Sumit Chakraborty, Councilor

Visitors:

J. Alex Speer, MSA Executive Director
Charles Geiger, MSA member
Bryan C. Chakoumakos, out-going *American Mineralogist* Editor

Absent:

Mickey Gunter, Secretary

Note: Motions, action items, and sense of Council are presented in *italics*; *SoC* = sense of Council, M = moved, S = second.

The Second meeting of the 2010 Council of the Mineralogical Society of America (MSA) was held at University of Tennessee Conference Center, Room 401, 600 Henley Street, Knoxville, TN 37902, USA.

1. Roll Call and Introduction by the President.

President Brady called the meeting to order at 8:02 am, on Sunday June 13, 2010, and welcomed the members of council and visitors. Everyone introduced themselves. Mickey Gunter, MSA Secretary, was unable to attend, having been unable to make connecting flights to Knoxville. J. A. Speer will act as recording Secretary.

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

There were two additions to the agenda: J. A. Speer asked to add an item to consider a new printer for the journal. M. Hirschman wanted policy clarification about a possible conflict of interest on the Roebling Committee.

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

3. Approve the minutes of the Third 2009 Council Meeting and First 2010 Council Meeting. D. Bish offered a number of corrections:

Third 2009 Council Minutes

Section 2, Appendix A – page 3 of 10, Item 7(b) “*an* MSA Councilor”

Section 2, Appendix A – page 8 of 10, Item 19(f) “2018 IMA meeting *was* discussed”

Section 2, Appendix A – page 9 of 10, Item 21 “*The* revised policy”

J. Brady asked that the minutes be approved as revised. S = D. Henry. Motion passed unanimously.

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

Publications Director, MSA Society News Editor for *Elements*, MSA Representative to the *GeoScienceWorld* Board of Directors, MSA Webmaster, Lecture Program Committee, Lecture Program Coordinator, Bloss Optical Crystallography Fund Committee, Roebling Medal Committee, MSA Award 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, GIA, GSA, GSA-MGPV, Special Interest Group on Pegmatites, Planetary Materials

D. Bish moved that these reports be accepted. S = W. Bohrson. Motion passed unanimously.

5. J. Brady briefly reviewed Executive Committee actions since the last Council meeting. These were approving rewording of the Kraus grant description to better reflect a crystallographic basis of the research, approving Hsiu-Wen Wang as the 2009 Kraus grant recipient, voting to accept Benjamin Gilbert as the 2010 MSA Awardee, approving the recommended list of possible 2010-11 MSA Lecturers, and appointing P. Tomascak as chair of the Short Course Committee.

6. J. A. Speer provided brief updates on MSA membership numbers (2585, 35 more than the 2550 reported in the BlueBook report written 04/30/2010, paid institutional subscriptions of 524, and MSA bank (\$449,793.27) and investment balances (\$2,302,334) as of as of June 11. He reported on the number of award nominations and grant proposals received by the June 1 deadline (Distinguished Public Service Medal – 2, MSA Award – 7, Roebling – 8, Dana – 8, Kraus – 6, Min/Pet – 62). The significant increase in Min/Pet grant proposals was attributed to advertising among several list servers in addition to MSA-Talk and MSA-Announce. Speer asked that if anyone comes upon a list serve that would be suitable to announce MSA awards and grants to let him know.

Speer reported on a recent federal legislative development that could have an impact on MSA, an unanticipated consequence of the new health care reform bill:

The new health care bill requires that, beginning in 2012, employers file a Form 1099 for all transaction over \$600, including payments to corporations and in exchange for merchandise. Businesses have traditionally filed a 1099 only to report sources of income to the IRS paid to

individuals. However, the new inclusion of property and service transactions would require reporting for traditional association practices that have never required filing previously. For example, a short course registration fee in excess of \$600 per attendee could require MSA to submit a Form 1099 for every attendee to the IRS. The “Small Business Paperwork Mandate Elimination Act” (H.R. 5141), introduced by Rep. Dan Lungren (R-CA) would repeal the expanded 1099 reporting requirement and is the first bill introduced in Congress to overturn a part of the new health care law. This new and expanded requirement means that almost every business-to-business transaction is potentially reportable to the IRS.

Lastly, Speer pointed the displayed examples of the most recent Reviews volume, J. Banfield’s Dana Medal, and a mineral monograph series for collectors.

7. D. Henry briefly summarized his report before presenting his recommendations for 2011 dues and subscriptions. The finances of the society have recovered from the 2008 slump.

- (a) for 2011, *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 recommends 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 \$90 (currently \$80) and similarly increase the non-U.S. member subscription rate to \$100 (currently \$90). Further, he proposes that MSA maintain the member electronic-only subscription at \$30.

S = M. Hirschmann Motion passed unanimously.

- (b) for 2011, *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 \$900 (currently \$875) and similarly increase the non-U.S. institutional subscription rate to \$925 (currently \$900). These rate increases of \$25 are at a lower rate of increase than previous years. Increase the GSW institutional subscription price for *American Mineralogist* to \$150 (currently \$120), but maintain the GSW institutional subscription rate for the *Reviews* at the current level of \$175.

S = M. Hirschmann Motion passed unanimously.

- (c) for 2011 the dues are recommended to remain at \$65. Dues were increased \$5 to \$65 for regular members in 2009 for the 2010 dues, but partially offset by the \$5 discount for renewals by 12/31 (now 10/31 if a member renews online). Student dues are recommended to stay at \$10. Student dues were last increased for 2006 from \$5 to \$10. Additionally, costs considered to be covered by the income from dues appear to be largely attained by our current dues structure.

S = C. Frost. Motion passed unanimously.

D. Bish moved to accept the Treasurer's report. *S = C. Frost.* Motion passed unanimously.

8. President J. Brady introduced the report of the Financial Advisory and Audit Committee (FAAC) that makes two recommendations for diversification of portfolio:

- (a) FAAC recommends that Council authorize Jeff LeClair, in consultation with executive Director Alex Speer, Treasurer Darrell Henry, and FAAC, to implement a modest portfolio reconfiguration over the next year. This should be accomplished by replacing "Mortgage-backed bonds" with "Commodities and emerging markets". The percentages for this category should be numerically the same as the Mortgage-backed bonds category, i.e. a minimum of 0%, a maximum of 20%, and a target of 5%. Specific MSA investments in the future should include ETFs as well as mutual funds.
- (b) Jeff LeClair should be authorized, but not required, to establish a 5-year bond ladder. The bonds in the bond ladder should ordinarily be investment grade or government bonds. The proportion of bonds in the ladder, as opposed to bond funds, should be chosen by Jeff LeClair with oversight as above. In the asset allocation table, the category of Investment grade bonds should remain unchanged.

During the discussion Council suggested that "ordinarily" be dropped and that the bond ladder should be investment grade or government bonds.

S = D. Henry. Motion passed unanimously.

9. The Committee on Committees asks Council to approve the proposed list of committee members and chairs and to authorize the MSA Secretary to contact individuals in the order listed (except when restricted by guidelines for the position). President Brady outlined the process and timing of committee appointments. D. Bish asked that it be emphasized to the Vice-President candidates, when invited to run and again once they accept, that they are automatically placed on this committee.

During the discussion of the report it was pointed out that Nancy McMillian is spelled Nancy McMillan, Ross Angel should be omitted as the MSA representative to the AGU Mineral Physics group, and the committee chair recommendations for P. King (MSA Award) and S. Chakraborty (Roebing) be exchanged.

S = S. Chakraborty. Motion to accept the list as modified passed unanimously.

Action item. *N. Ross will examine the list of AGU Mineral Physics Committee members to determine who is an MSA member and if they might serve as MSA's representative.*

10. The Meetings Coordinator recommended that for continuity in meeting planning and a predictable succession, that the MSA Past President become the Meetings Coordinator.

S = C. Frost. Motion passed unanimously.

11. The *American Mineralogist* Editors and Managing Editor request approval of Ian Swainson as the new Letters Editor to replace Bryan Chakoumakos, who is stepping down; transition to begin the month of June/July.

S = N. Ross. Motion passed unanimously.

12. Mickey Gunter and Greg Meeker, a USGS scientist active in asbestos issues, were asked by [The National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health \(NIOSH\)](#) if they would work together on mineralogy issues dealing with asbestos. Both previously talked about working on policy statements and compliment one another -- with Greg Meeker mainly working with the government and regulatory agencies and Mickey Gunter with industry. The *ad hoc* committee on Asbestos recommends that the committee be reconstituted to comprise Mickey Gunter and Greg Meeker who will write a draft a policy statement for MSA.

During the discussion it was pointed out that both the International Mineralogical Association (IMA) and Association Internationale pour l'Etude des Argiles (AIPEA) may have comparable groups and the committee ought to be aware of what these other groups are doing. It was also commented that an enlarged committee might make the deliberations more detached, however that can be achieved when the draft statement is posted for member comment as required.

S = S. Chakraborty. Motion passed unanimously.

13. The Executive Director reminded Council that one member retention tool discussed by previous Councils is for members of Council to know who has not renewed recently and ask these individuals, if known to a Council member, to rejoin. A personal contact is much more effective than notices from the office. A list of lapsed MSA fellows and members is in his report. The other member retention tool was to establish the Membership Committee to contact lapsed members.

There was a short discussion about how to determine why members do not rejoin. It was felt that a brief list of “talking points” of why colleagues (professionals, not students) ought to join MSA.

14. The MSA Webmaster reports that 3.8 million pages were served from the MSA *Mineralogy 4 Kids* webpages to 148,000 distinct hosts. The MSA Website Outreach Coordinator (K-12, Education) is the person now responsible for the *Mineralogy 4 Kids* pages. Given the attention that these web pages bring MSA, there should be some communication about any possible plans for the site.

Action item: President Brady will talk with the MSA Website Outreach Coordinator about what he might have in mind.

10:03 – 10:24 am break

15. The Executive Director requested Council action on three operational items:

- (a) Confirm that the Third 2010 and First 2011 MSA Council Meetings will be held in Denver, Colorado, USA on Saturday October 30, 2010. The MSA Management Committee meeting will be held Friday afternoon or evening 29 October 2010.

N. Ross made the motion that the Third 2010 and First 2011 MSA Council Meetings will be held in Denver, Colorado, USA on Saturday October 30, 2010. The MSA Management Committee meeting will be held Friday afternoon or evening 29 October 2010. S = W. Bohrsen. Motion passed unanimously.

- (b) Give a firm indication of its intention where its Spring 2011 Council meeting will be. The options:

2011	Chantilly, VA	anytime
2011	Frontiers in Environmental Geoscience, Aberystwyth, Wales, UK	21-24 June
2011	Goldschmidt, Prague, Czech Republic	14-19 August
2011	AGU's Meeting of the America (Spring AGU)	unknown

Sense of Council. The date and location of the AGU's Meeting of the America (Spring AGU) will not be known until after this year's 8-12 August 2010, Foz do Iguassu, Brazil meeting. Council would make a final decision about the 2011 Spring Council Meeting at its Third 2010 Council Meeting. The consensus was to meet at Chantilly, VA unless the AGU's Meeting of the America is at a compelling time and place.

- (c) Decide when and where the 2011 Dana Medal will be presented to Ross John Angel.

Sense of Council. The Meetings Co-ordinator suggestion that the 2011 Goldschmidt Meeting held August 14-19, 2011 in Prague, Czech Republic is the most appropriate venue for presentation of the 2011 Dana Medal to Ross J. Angel.

16. The Benefactor Committee asks Council to raise the minimum level for Corporate sponsorship by eliminating the lowest category of Sustaining (\$200 to \$499). The "value" of what a sustainer receives well exceeds the \$200 to \$499 amounts. Eliminating the "Sustainer" Benefactor level also removes any confusion with a Sustaining Member or Fellow.

There was some discussion about what "benefits" benefactors receive. The benefits have to be limited to little more than recognition. Anything of value given in return must be subtracted from the value of the contribution for tax purposes.

S = P. King. Motion to eliminate the lowest category of Sustaining Benefactor passed unanimously.

There was a short discussion followed about whether or not to have a “summer appeal” and, if so, what MSA members to target and what to emphasize.

Action item. The MSA President will explore with the P. Heaney (co-Chair for Membership Giving) and the Executive Director what can be done for a summer appeal. This would need to be done soon so as not to overlap the solicitations in the membership renewals.

17. The MSA Representative to *Elements* Magazine recommends Council:

- (a) approve the 2011 *Elements* Budget, which includes approval of the fee per member of \$15 (Appendix A of the report).
- (b) reject CMS’s proposal for redistributing the institutional membership fees among all the participating societies to lessen the burden on the publishing societies.

S = D. Bish. The motions to accept the 2011 *Elements* Budget and reject CMS’s proposal for redistributing the institutional membership fees among all the participating societies were passed unanimously.

18. The MSA Webmaster reports that in the near future there will be a significant change in the look of the MSA publication web pages. Council is invited to send him any thoughts and suggestions.

19. The Short Course committee recommends approval of the preliminary proposal for “Electron Energy Loss Spectroscopy” by Andre Mkhoyan, Joshua Feinberg, Lee Penn, and Ozan Ugurlu (University of Minnesota (UNM)). The EELS group’s choice to hold the short course at the 2011 GSA 2011, Minneapolis, Minnesota, USA, 9–12 October will permit use of their lab at UMN as a workplace and technical focal point for the proposed short course.

There was discussion of what attendance might be, if the course would cover its costs, and if the UNM campus was a good location for the course. This is only the preliminary proposal to allow the organizers to plan the course. These details ought to be addressed in the detailed proposal for the next Council meeting. UNM was said to be a good, low cost venue.

S = D. Henry. Recommendation to approve the preliminary proposal for “Electron Energy Loss Spectroscopy” short course passed unanimously.

Council also discussed the ending of the DOE support, and if anything could be done. DOE stopped the support about the time they had to disburse large amounts of stimulus money quickly. The MSA short course contracts were probably not seen as a cost-effective use of their time. Additionally, the DOE project manager felt the short courses should now be self-supporting. Could NSF be tapped for support? Several course have had NSF support, with the money passing through the organizers’ schools, thus never

showing up on MSA books. The main concern with the outside support is that it has been masking the unsustainable expense of reimbursing large numbers of speakers.

The feeling was that more short courses ought to be focused on hands-on teaching and learning that is accessible to students with only a few speakers, rather than a mini-technical meeting of people presenting their latest research. A Reviews volume can have many more chapters than speakers or topics presented at the course itself.

Council was reminded that MSA does have a mechanism for workshops. These are not as elaborate as short courses, are hands-on, and a few have been held in the past.

20. G. Harlow, the MSA Representative to the International Mineralogical Association (IMA), asked for thoughts Council may have about MSA's IMA 2018 meeting. There is a MSA IMA 2018 Planning Committee in place that will begin work to identify a location and/or organizers for such a meeting.

President Brady gave a brief background on how MSA came to commit itself to organizing the 2018 IMA meeting, and what relationship it might have to MSA's Centennial in 2019. The potential efforts, costs, and liability of an MSA-organized IMA meeting were discussed. GSA, which has indicated that it would take on organizing meetings other than its own, was asked if it could organize the practical aspects of a summer IMA meeting if MSA organized the scientific program. After consideration, GSA said it would be too committed to its own meeting in 2018 as well as the 2018 Goldschmidt to be held in North America that same summer. This reason was a reminder that the success of a North American IMA meeting would be limited at best if held the same summer as a North American Goldschmidt.

Is a joint Goldschmidt-IMA meeting a possibility? MSA would need to ask both parties, and convince them that their identity would not be subsumed in a joint meeting, but would benefit both with a much larger meeting. With the Geochemical Society meeting today here as well, and both are to share lunch, perhaps we should inquire. Having a positive indication would allow G. Harlow to raise the possibility with IMA when he presents an update to the IMA Council in August.

Action item. The MSA President will explore with the Geochemical Society the possibility of a joint Goldschmidt-IMA meeting at lunch.

12:05 – 1:06 pm lunch

21. The *American Mineralogist* Editors and Managing Editor make three recommendations:

- (a) migrate from PDF's to XML work flow starting with the January 2011 issue of *American Mineralogist*, or whenever it will not be an extra "new workflow" charge by HWP.

Sense of Council. After a brief background about XML from President Brady, it was decided that this is a technical issue that the Editors and Managing Editor can better decide and proceed as they see best.

(b) add to MSA's "Fraud retraction policy":

If MSA is notified by an author's(s') institution or other organization with the authority to determine misconduct with regard to the reported work or published paper and if they have made a determination that suggests that a published paper needs to be retracted, with appropriate documentation the situation will be handled as above with the editors writing the retraction notice which will replace the original article.

The editors and MSA expect that for most situations, honest errors can simply be handled with an erratum or a corrigendum. Honest differences of opinion between scientists might be handled with a "Discussion/Reply" or a "Further work" type of paper; see the full Information for Authors for details concerning these options.

Full ethical guidelines and expectations for publication follow peer organizations summarized by the Geological Society of America's *Ethical Guidelines for Publication* <<http://www.geosociety.org/pubs/ethics.htm>>.

The impetus for the change was the recent incident of fraud in several papers of *Acta Crystallographia* and to communicate that MSA has neither the basis nor resources to investigate or punish cases of scientific fraud. That responsibility lies with the author's(s') employer.

S = N. Ross Recommendation to make the addition to MSA's retraction policy passed unanimously.

(c) make online color free (instead of \$100) for authors who are MSA members.

President Brady felt that this would encourage authors to publish in the journal. During the discussion it was said this would keep the *American Mineralogist* competitive as a place to publish, and should be emphasized as a benefit of membership.

S = D. Henry Recommendation to make online color free for authors who are MSA members passed unanimously.

22. B. Downs, Chair of the Outreach Committee (on Databases), reported that there are a significant number of new minerals not being reported in the New Mineral Names portion of *American Mineralogist*. He recommends that the editors of the New Mineral Names be encouraged to develop a relationship with the IMA nomenclature group to ensure complete coverage of the minerals.

Sense of Council. After discussion it was concluded that one need or benefit of closer communications between the editors of the New Mineral Names and the IMA nomenclature group would be help in locating new mineral descriptions that

have been published in places other than the usual journals routinely scanned by the New Mineral Names editors.

23. The RiMG Series Editor and The *American Mineralogist* Editors and Managing Editor had recommendation and discussion items concerning electronic versions of the respective publications, specifically e-books or e-prints:

(a) RiMG Series Editor asks Council to approve selling annual e-RiMG subscriptions to MSA members on GeoScienceWorld (GSW) at \$90-100/year.

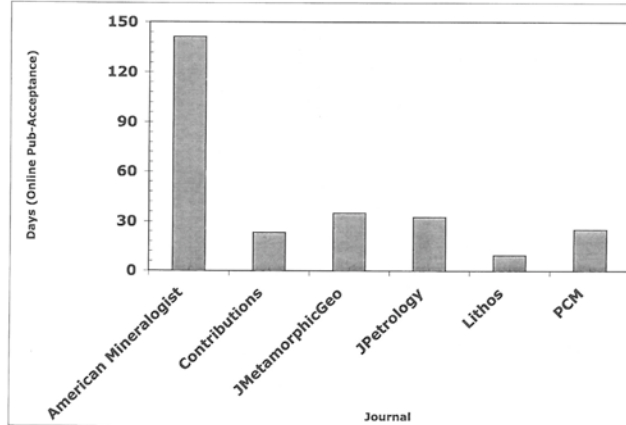
S = D. Henry The recommendation for a 2-year trial of offering e-RiMG subscriptions to MSA members on GeoScienceWorld (GSW) at \$100/year passed unanimously.

(b) Consider making available electronic versions of chapters (e-Prints) or entire volumes (e-Books) of the Reviews volumes and articles (e-Prints) or entire issues (e-Books) of the *American Mineralogist* issues available. If electronic versions are sold, should they have some sort of security controls (digital rights management or DRM) to prevent extensive file sharing.

This is a complex issue. The Executive Director noted we do not have enough information at the moment to make a decision. If MSA decides to pursue e-books, and DRM is thought to be worthwhile, he suggested that the Publications Director assemble an *ad hoc* committee to determine how best to implement DRM. There are expensive ways to do so, and less expensive ways. MSA has to be mindful of the different business models of the *American Mineralogist* and *Reviews* series, as well as its contract with GeoScienceWorld.

S = D. Bish. The recommendation to form assemble an ad hoc committee to determine how best to implement electronic prints and books with some sort of DRM passed unanimously.

24. The *American Mineralogist* Editors and Managing Editor discuss “Publish ahead of Print” in their report and recommend against it because of the expense. M. Hirschmann presented a chart showing the days between acceptance of a manuscript and appearance of it online for a selected group of mineralogy-petrology journals:



The discussion turned to what was being posted online by these other journals and what precisely is meant by “Publish ahead of Print”. The other journals post pdf files of the accepted manuscript as returned by the author(s). If similar material were posted on the MSA website, the cost could be minimal. It would give other authors 2-3 months to be aware of a paper and incorporate it into their thinking and references of their own work. By time their paper is “published” the final reference is likely to be available.

There were several issues discussed. Authors should be given the option to opt-out of having their manuscripts posted as preprints. The manuscripts cannot be posted until the copyright is assigned to MSA. The pdf files should be watermarked to identify the source of the preprint. Access to these should be limited to member subscribers of the journal. The manuscript needs to be removed once the paper is posted as part of the issue on GSW.

M. Hirschmann made the motion to post pdf's of the accepted manuscript as returned by the author(s) with the stipulations that authors should be given the option to opt-out of having their manuscripts posted as preprints, the manuscripts will not be posted until the copyright is assigned to MSA, the pdf files will be watermarked to identify the source of the preprint, access to the posted preprints is limited to member subscribers of the journal, and the preprint will be removed once the paper is posted as part of the issue on GSW. S = S. Chakraborty. Passed unanimously

25. President Brady, as a petrologist, noted that there are fewer articles on petrology and geochemistry in *American Mineralogist* than there once were. Should this be a concern for MSA or are we happy with a journal that, based on submissions, publishes research principally from only two of the four MSA fields? If so, what can be done?

It was said that the world is specialized, and the *American Mineralogist* is specialized. It is the premier journal for mineralogy/mineral physics. Can it hope to also compete with other specialized journals such as *Journal of Petrology* and *Journal of Metamorphic*

Geology? However, the journal does tend to acquire those petrology and geochemistry papers and technique papers with a mineralogy component.

President Brady suggested that there could be a change in journal content by being proactive, but what are those proactive steps? The *Mineralogical Magazine* is actively soliciting review articles. Commercial publishers actively solicit papers from special sessions at meeting for thematic issues. Both Editors and Associate Editors can do similar. Special issues of a print journal can present production problems as you wait for the very last author to complete his manuscript. With electronic publishing the papers could be marked as part of a virtual special issue as they are ready to post so production is not held up. We might try to change the perception of some that the journal does not publish articles in their fields and make people see the *American Mineralogist* as a place to publish new fields. No motions were made concerning these issues.

26. The Executive Director reported that in a search for a better “editor’s helper” program that acts as a format and reference checker for manuscripts, the office encountered the possibility for significant savings in printing the journal. Because of the size of the savings he asked Council approval for the Publication Director to appoint an *ad hoc* committee to examine the possibility further to make a recommendation to the Executive Committee who could approve any recommendations before the next council meeting. The motivation is less a complete and extensive print contract review than a target of opportunity for cost-savings.

N. Ross made the motion that the Publication Director appoint an ad hoc committee to examine and to make a recommendation about changing printers and that the Executive Committee could approve any recommendations before the next council meeting. S = M. Hirschmann. Passed unanimously.

27. The Executive Director reported that Representatives Mike Doyle (D-PA), Henry Waxman (D-CA), Rick Boucher (D-VA), Debbie Wasserman-Schultz (D-FL), Dana Rohrabacher (R-CA) and Gregg Harper (R-MO) introduced a measure for federal agencies to provide public access to federally-funded research on April 15. The bill, Federal Research Public Access Act of 2009 (H.R. 5037) would require every federal agency with more than \$100 million in extramural research expenditures to provide public access to research papers and research results. The measure stipulates that an author should submit an electronic version of the original manuscript or research results to the agency. The author must then submit any revised manuscript after peer-review and with the publisher’s permission the final published version. The manuscripts must be made available to the public within six months of publication. Agencies would also be required to maintain a database of all published research findings. The bill is identical to a Senate measure (S.1373) introduced by Senator Joseph Lieberman (I-CT) in June of 2009. There is language in the America COMPETES reauthorization (H.R. 5116) that calls for study of public access to research.

It is unclear if there will be any action on these bills, especially in an election year when issues that make better election material gain more attention. It is unlikely that anything

will happen until the White House's Office of Science and Technology Policy comes out with recommendations based on the public input during their comment period at the beginning of the year. It is significant that most proposals are now tending toward the quick and easy embargo period solution which shifts the financial and procedural burdens to publishers to make it work. In any case, there is nothing definite to respond to until there is movement by the executive branch in some direction.

28. In 2001 the copyright for the *Handbook of Mineralogy* was given to the Mineralogical Society of America by Kenneth W. Bladh, Richard A. Bideaux, Elizabeth Anthony-Morton and Barbara G. Nichols. Ken Bladh, one of the original *Handbook* authors, is willing to assume the role of editor for *Handbook* to revise existing entries for posting, a simple and easy method to update the online Handbook. New formats and data bases would enter the project as time and funds permit.

M. Hirschmann moved to approve Ken Bladh as MSA's Handbook Editor. S = D. Bish. Passed unanimously.

29. *Elements* magazine is to be the basis of a Pardee Symposium at the 2010 GSA Annual Meeting in Denver, CO based on the February 2010 issue of *Elements* magazine. If it is a success, the MSA President would like to consider trying it at another meeting and wanted to know if MSA should seek some funding from the *Elements* member societies to support these symposia to help pay travel costs of speakers. There was a short discussion, but no consensus.

30. M. Hirschmann has a situation wherein a Roebling Committee member has given the highest ranking to a colleague at their own university. Is there a policy on this? It was believed there was, but this needed to be checked.

[later note: The Roebling Medal Handbooks states "Once the list of nominees is known, the Chair will ask each committee member to identify known or potential conflicts of interest that might bias or otherwise preclude an objective assessment of the candidates. Between them, the Chair and committee member in question will decide if a situation warrants that the member reclude themselves from voting on a nominee (Council 06-3). **Committee members cannot participate in votes for nominees from the same institution (Council 93-3).**"]

3:12 pm adjourn

Respectfully submitted,
J. Alex Speer, MSA Executive Director
on behalf of
Mickey Gunter, MSA Secretary