

Minutes from the Third 1998 Council Meeting Mineralogical Society of America

Attending:

E. Bruce Watson, President
John Ferry, Vice-President
Brooks Hanson, Treasurer
Barb Dutrow, Secretary
Jillian Banfield, Councillor
Mark Barton, Councillor
Mark Ghiorso, Councillor
John Holloway, Councillor
Robert Luth, Councillor, absent
Frank Spear, Councillor
J. Alex Speer, MSA Executive Administrator
Anne Hofmeister, Am. Min. Editor
Bob Dymek, Am. Min. Editor
William Carlson, Vice-President elect
Sorena Sorenson, Councillor elect
Michael Carpenter, Councillor elect
Paul Ribbe, RiM Editor
John Brady, Outreach Committee, afternoon

Note that motions are presented in *italics*; and S = second; BB = Bluebook; SoC = Sense of Council.

The third council meeting of the MSA was held at the Sheraton Centre Toronto Hotel, Toronto, ON, Canada, October 25, 1998. The meeting was called to order by President E. Bruce Watson at 8:04 a.m. President Watson lead an introduction of the table and welcomed the visitors to council; Paul Ribbe, RiM Editor; and the newly elected councillors, Michael Carpenter and Sorena Sorenson who take office at the first 1999 council meeting.

ITEMS

1. **Acceptance of reports containing no action items or questions, or action items deferred to the first 1999 MSA council meeting.**

Reports with no action required by council were grouped together for acceptance. These include: Report of the Treasurer, Committee on Committees, Benefactors and Tellers Committees, American Mineralogist Managing Editor, Reviews in Mineralogy Series Editor, Publication, Short Course, Outreach and Lecture Program Committees, GIA, IMA, ICDD and SEG Representatives, and Industrial Mineralogy, Pegmatite, and Teaching Special Interest groups reports.

Discussion of these reports:

- (a) Treasurer B. Hanson noted that the 1999 deficit would be approximately \$91,000, that will need to be covered by unrestricted Funds. This includes \$33,000 in operating losses and \$58,000 for programs supported by the Funds. P. Ribbe noted that a new short course has been proposed by John Valley and Dave Cole on Stable Isotope Geochemistry, to be presented in 2001, if accepted.

It was the Sense of Council to encourage development of a full proposal for the Stable Isotope Geochemistry short course.

M. Barton moved to accept the above mentioned reports as submitted. S = J. Holloway. The motion passed unanimously.

2. Secretary's Report

F. Spear moved to accept the minutes of the second 1998 MSA Council meeting as written. S = M. Barton. The motion passed unanimously.

An additional action item concerned posting of council minutes on the MSA website. After a brief discussion,

B. Hanson moved to publish only the actions and decisions made by council, with short discussions as needed, on the MSA website. S = M. Ghiorso. The motion passed.

3. Accept award and honor recommendations made by the various committees.

Note that the Kraus and Min/Pet award winners are interchanged in the BB meeting schedule.

J. Holloway noted that several proposals were submitted solely for travel funds. The announcements do indicate that grants are to be awarded for research support only.

J. Banfield questioned the low number of proposals considered for the MSA Award. M. Barton clarified that with the new electronic format, hard copy files of those previously nominated did not receive consideration.

J. Banfield moved to consider all previous nominations for the MSA Award next year. S = J. Holloway. The motion passed unanimously.

J. Holloway noted that it is often difficult to decide the exact year that a Ph.D. was granted. Discussion followed with no action requested or taken.

F. Spear moved to accept all nominations for awards and grants:

Roebing Medal to Ikuo Kushiro

MSA Award to Yingwei Fei

Distinguished Public Service Award to Robert A. Howie

Kraus Crystallography Research Grant to Christopher Cahill

Mineralogy/Petrology Research Grant to Wim van Westrenen

S = M. Ghiorso. The motion passed unanimously.

4. Report of the Nominating Committee for Officers

F. Spear explained that their list was divided into two categories: those that were highly acceptable and those that were acceptable. No ranking was included. Discussion followed inclusive of ranking (to be set by council, unlike previous years). B. Hanson suggested that the list include more non-North American candidates and that the list should contain a diversity of disciplines. Additional candidates suggested for Vice President include George Rossman and Rich Reeder.

J. Banfield moved to rank the Vice Presidential candidates as follows: George Rossman, Jonathan Stebbins, Frank C. Hawthorne, David Walker and Ed Stolper.

J. Holloway moved to rank the Secretarial candidates as follows: Dave Jenkins, Peter Heaney, Darby Dyar and Tracy Rushmer. S = M. Barton. The motion passed unanimously.

In order to maintain maximum diversity on the council, candidates for councillor were separated into two categories List 1. "crystallography" and List 2. "petrology".

F. Spear moved to rank the two lists as follows: List 1. Jeff Post, Dave Bish, Peter Heaney (to be skipped if Post accepts), Darby Dyar, C. Eggleston, Z. Sharp. List 2: B. Bodnar, J. Drever, D. London, Tracy Rushmer. Two candidates from each list should be chosen. S = B. Hanson. The motion passed.

MSA secretary will contact candidates.

5. Communication within the MSA: MSA Administrator serving as communication link between MSA council and MSA office staff

J. A. Speer would be responsible for directly and quickly communicating MSA council decisions to the staff. Pres. Watson clarified the intention of this action. A. Hofmeister raised serious concerns over the MSA Administrator communicating decisions to the Am. Min. editorial staff. She was assured that only decisions would be communicated. No oversight is intended.

F. Spear moved to have J. A. Speer, MSA's Administrator, serve as a direct communication link between the MSA council and the MSA office and editorial staff. S = M. Barton. The motion passed unanimously.

6. Reviews in Mineralogy and Geochemistry series

The Geochemical Society (GS) has proposed to join together with MSA to produce a *Reviews in Mineralogy and Geochemistry* series to replace the *Reviews in Mineralogy* series. J. A. Speer and P. Ribbe from MSA, together with GS officers M. Hochella and M. Drake, developed an agreement to do so. F. Spear questioned who would sell these volumes. J. A. Speer clarified that GS will sell volumes produced by GS and MSA will sell all MSA and GS volumes. P. Ribbe noted that J. A. Speer is a superb negotiator and was able to secure from GS all that was requested.

F. Spear moved to accept the agreement as set forth in the BB and to authorize J. A. Speer to sign the contract on behalf of the MSA. S = J. Ferry. The motion passed.

President Watson thanked P. Ribbe and J. A. Speer for their efforts in securing a mutually beneficial agreement.

7. Co-sponsorship of the 2001 Goldschmidt meeting

GS President M. Hochella has formally invited MSA to co-sponsor the 2001 Goldschmidt meeting to be held in Roanoke, VA. J. Ferry clarified that, as first time participants, MSA would be allowed to co-sponsor without any financial commitment. Typical co-sponsorship involves money for student travel grants. MSA is invited to participate in this way if MSA so chooses. He also noted that MSA could/would have special sessions. S. Sorenson suggested that MSA sent a representative to the program committee. B. Hanson noted that co-sponsorship of the 2001 Goldschmidt meeting should be advertized on the MSA website as well as in the Lattice.

J. Ferry moved to co-sponsor, with the Geochemical Society, the 2001 Goldschmidt meeting, to be held in Roanoke, VA. S = J. Banfield. The motion passed unanimously.

8. Hazen Proposal for splitting the American Mineralogist

Bob Hazen (re)proposed to split the Am. Min. into a "descriptive" portion and a "scientific" portion. J. A. Speer suggests that we investigate the underlying reason(s) for his suggestion, as Hazen also suggested this in 1987. J. A. Speer feels that the present format of Am. Min. can accommodate both types of articles, but that the membership and other interested parties are not aware of this. Many members, and potential members, feel disenfranchised from MSA. B. Dymek noted that the Editors publish what is submitted; if good descriptive mineralogy is submitted it will be published.

Treasurer Hanson noted that specific costs need to be considered in any such split. He also feels that separating JGR was detrimental to that journal. In addition, the web publication could be used for "descriptive" articles, with the advantage that color photographs could to be incorporated inexpensively. This issue will be forwarded to the publications committee for review and recommendation.

F. Spear moved that the Publications Committee be charged with investigating the underlying reason(s) for the Hazen proposal, that they undertake a detailed review of this issue, that they include a cost analysis of separating the journal and that they consider the option of web publishing for "descriptive" mineralogy. S = J. Holloway. The motion passed unanimously.

MSA also needs to appoint a new representative to FM (Friends of Mineralogy). This person could also be involved in this discussion. (Note added: MSA Secretary has contacted Michael Wise, who agreed to serve as MSA's representative to FM.)

9. Page Charges and reprint charges.

B. Dymek clarified this proposal.

F. Spear moved to table the issue of page charges, pending discussion of publishing options for the American Mineralogist. S = J. Holloway. The motion passed unanimously.

10. Timing of Second 1999 Council Meeting

The timing and likelihood of a second council meeting was discussed. B. Watson reminded council that MSA is a co-sponsor of Spring AGU. There is the possibility of a "virtual"

spring council meeting, in lieu of an "actual" meeting. Therefore the Boston meeting may be cancelled.

J. Holloway moved that the spring meeting be held on June 5, 1999 in Boston, if an "actual" spring meeting needs to take place. S = B. Hanson. One abstention. The motion passed.

A short leg-stretching / coffee break occurred from 9:50-10:04 a.m.

11. Consideration of action items from the Editors of Am. Min., exclusive of future production:

- (a) letter of appreciation from MSA to Rachel Russell and her staff
- (b) two copiers in the Business Office and Editorial Office be replaced by a single lease machine with automatic feed
- (c) American Mineralogist given the right of first-refusal from any MSA-sponsored short course, symposia, theme sessions, etc.
- (d) Scott Johnson be appointed additional guest editor for the Texture special issue
- (e) Permission to publish a January, 2000 special issue in honor of Orson Anderson (SUNY-Stony Brook) with R. L. Liebermann and D. Isaak as guest Associate Editors
- (f) Permission to publish a special June, 2000 special volume in honor of the retirements of S. A. Morse and P. Robinson (U Mass)
- (g) Remove the request for an American Mineralogist web-based database from the MSA website.
- (h) Approve as Associate Editors: B. Chakoumakos, F. Allen, R. Couture, C. Merzbacher, J. Kirkpatrick, J. Brodholt, D. Cole
- (i) Approve "Best-Paper" Citation for Teng, H. H. and Dove, P. M (1997) Surface site-specific interactions of asparate with calcite during dissolution: implications for biomineralization. American Mineralogist 82, 878-887.
- (j) Cite Associate Editor Jillian Banfield for her efforts in coordinating the Geomicrobiology special issue
- (k) Replace page charges with offprint sales at a cost similar to other journals

Items were approved except:

- e. Orson Anderson's affiliation should be changed to UCLA
- c. If MSA sponsors a short course, theme session or topical session, American Mineralogist should be given the right of first-refusal for publications that result from these events. This stems from several recent courses and sessions. F. Spear noted that for the MSA sponsored "Textures" symposium (Spring 98 AGU) approximately half of the papers were being submitted to "Computers and Geoscience".
A. Speer will place this in the Short Course guidelines. B. Dymek noted that he wrote to the symposium organizers soliciting papers.

When MSA symposia or keynote sessions are approved by council, the organizers should also be informed at this time that MSA/Am. Min. has the first right of refusal for these papers stemming from these presentations. (Note added: Because most queries for sponsorship go through the MSA office, perhaps J. A. Speer could inform those seeking sponsorship of this?)

J. Holloway pointed out the associated financial issues. B. Hanson reminded council that each special issue of Am. Min. is ca. \$25,000, a cost that must be included in the budget.

g. This request has been withdrawn.

h. A. Hofmeister requested that, in addition to those listed in the BB, the following be approved as potential Associate Editors for Am. Min.: Brian Phillips (UC-Davis, Material Science); Eugene Leibowiski (IR- H_2O in minerals). She clarified the expertise of Coutoure, to be X-Ray Physics (runs XRD at Wash U.) and of Merzbacher, to be Single Crystal IR (Naval Research Lab).

k. Tabled.

J. Holloway moved that all requests by Am. Min. editors be approved. S = M. Ghiorso. The motion passed unanimously.

12. RiM actions

An additional item should be added: Authorize Paul Ribbe and J. Alex Speer to negotiate a contract with Chen Zhu and Greg Anderson for their book on "Environmental applications of geochemical modeling".

This book is nearly finished and P. Ribbe thinks that it looks fabulous. D. Rimstidt also gave it a strong endorsement. Permission to proceed with a contract will allow MSA to compete with Cambridge University Press, who is also interested in the book.

F. Spear moved that P. Ribbe and J. Alex Speer be authorized to negotiate a publishing contract with Chen Zhu and Greg Anderson on behalf of the MSA for publication of their book on "Environmental Applications of Geochemical Modeling". S = J. Ferry. The motion passed unanimously.

B. Hanson questioned the progress of the Be volume for budgeting purposes. P. Ribbe noted that it will need to appear in the 2000 budget in addition to reprinting costs for the Spear monograph.

13. Support for the Lattice

D. Henry, Lattice Editor, requested an increase in support by \$200, to hire a work study student to assist in preparation and web publication of the Lattice.

B. Hanson moved to approve the request for an increase in editorial support for the Lattice to \$400. S = F. Spear. The motion passed unanimously.

14. New Lecture Administrator

Guy Hovis will be stepping down after the 1999-2000 series, after several years of exceptional service.

It was the Sense of Council to authorize John Ferry to contact perspective Lecture Administrators, beginning with Tony Philpotts, proceeding to Helen Lang, and that a letter of appreciation be sent to Guy Hovis for his years of work on behalf of the series.

15. Internet Coordinator

A discussion of the MSA website and coordinator followed. One-third of the coordinator's pay derives from the NSF grant; two-thirds from MSA's Roebling Endowment Fund, for a total of \$25,000/year.

a. *Expedite a continuing contract, with revisions as appropriate, for the Coordinator.*

A discussion commenced concerning the productivity of the coordinator, MSA's needs being met, and the sustainability of the site in the future. Several councillors noted that it does not appear that the web site coordinator has produced an amount equivalent to his pay. In addition, he is making the scripts much too complicated. F. Spear suggested aggressive oversight. M. Ghiorso suggested adding specific deliverables to his contract and P. Ribbe suggested that there be a review at the end of a six month period of these action items. There was general displeasure with the progress and content of the MSA website.

B. *Watson suggested that A. Speer communicate with M. Bloom concerning the contract for the Coordinator of Internet Resources and that the contract include suggestions with specific deliverables for the web site to be identified by the Chair of the Outreach Committee and M. Ghiorso (AGU-VGP website guru). S = F. Spear. The motion passed unanimously.*

b. *Money for professional graphics design for GMR.*

J. *Holloway moved to veto this request. S = M. Ghiorso. The motion passed unanimously.*

c. *Approve \$5000 for cost-sharing with Los Angeles County Museum for acquisition of ca. 10,000 Kodak PhotoCD images from Scovill and Behnke Collections.*

A. *Speer clarified that this is a large database of mineral photos; which would be scanned images with reduced resolution format. Anyone could download these photos from the MSA website, but the owner retains copyright. Questions were fielded concerning the cost.*

J. *Holloway moved to secure an agreement with all parties which contains specifics of use, copyright, cost-sharing, resolution of images, potential for use on an MSA calendar, educational uses vs. profits uses, and related issues. S = M. Ghiorso. The motion passed unanimously.*

- Cost-sharing partners for MSA web-site

J. *Banfield reiterated the promising aspects of cost-sharing and that M. Bloom is working with other societies who are willing to pay. Discussion ensued concerning securing of additional monies and if the coordinator will do this. B. Hanson noted that MSA should be developing a superb website and that some resources could be contributed toward this end. J. Holloway noted that a superb website is not yet defined. F. Spear suggested that he and Mark Ghiorso oversee this.*

M. *Ghiorso moved that the Outreach committee consider evaluating the cost-sharing of the site with CM, GERM, ACA, and various other societies. S = J. Holloway. The motion passed unanimously.*

It was the SoC that our web site should be as comprehensive as possible and have the widest representation of "mineralogy".

16. Switching of proposals between Mineralogy/Petrology and Crystallography Grant Committees

J. Holloway explained that several proposals sent to Min/Pet for consideration were more appropriate for the crystallography grant. Therefore, exchange of proposal should take place; perhaps by initially sending proposals to the chairs of both committees. M. Carpenter noted that applicants must be informed if switching is permitted. J. Ferry noted that there is an element of unfairness to switching and that this might be overcome by better advertisement.

M. Ghiorso moved to allow switching between grants, and that this be at the discretion of the chair. S = J. Holloway. For = 5; Against = 4. The motion passed.

A sentence should be added to the proposal advertisement that states; proposals may be moved to another category at the discretion of the committee chair, if the proposal appears to be more appropriate for consideration in another grant category.

B. Watson asked for clarification in administering these grants and the stipulations of the Kraus Trust deed. After further discussion concerning administering of the applications, another vote was taken.

B. Hanson moved to prohibit switching and to add more clarifications as to the nature of the award in the advertisement to alleviate the need for switching. S = J. Banfield. For = 7; Against = 2. The motion passed.

17. Pegmatite Interest Group (PiG) Request for participation in a pegmatite field trip and conference honoring Gene Foord

It was the Sense of Council that MSA would like to participate in this endeavor but that MSA needs more specific guidelines as to the form of this participation.

18. Planetary Interest Group concerns about Geological Materials Research (GMR)

B. Watson and F. Spear clarified the history of the name change of the electronic journal and noted that the group's concerns have been resolved.

19. Mid-Career Award

Council discussed this award and the need for the award. Several questions concerned the specifics of this award. A. Speer noted that criteria and guidelines need to be developed (in addition to being ineligible for other awards). Council needs to determine what qualities are sought this award. As a reminder, the MSA Award is based on a paper or set of papers; the Roebling medal is based on critical papers that advance our state of knowledge (lifetime achievement).

B. Hanson moved to accept the award in principle, to work out the details of the award, and to charge the committee with recommending to council the first awardee at the fall meeting. S = J. Ferry. Abstention = 1. The motion passed.

20. Geological Materials Research (GMR) Editor's Report

F. Spear provided an update on the progress of GMR. A manuscript is currently online and several more are in progress. Announcements for the journal will be made at the Business meeting, broadcast over the MSA Listserve and placed in the Lattice.

The journal can be found at gmr.minsocam.org. It is in pdf format.

21. Management Committee

Due to lost evaluations, the Management Committee does not have recommendations to make at this time. Information will be resent.

22. Art Council

No action is required at this time. No calendar was produced for 1999.

23. Financial Advisory Committee

A. Speer reported the current value of MSA holdings, although subject to large deviations because of the recent stock market fluctuations. Most recently, MSA's total endowment was reported at \$1.8 million, approximately the same value as at the beginning of 1997. In June, the value was \$2.1 million and in August, \$1.6 million. The funds have been relatively stable (considering the market) due to thoughtful investments by Dave Hewitt.

\$1.3 Ma are restricted funds; \$475,000 are unrestricted, with some of this amount that can only be used for research support. Approximately \$283,000 is available to cover operating expenses.

Council notes FAC's advice to reduce budget deficits immediately.

24. Committee to Nominate Fellows

There is no report at this time.

25. Lunch

The meeting adjourned between 12:05 and 12:45 p.m. for lunch.

26. Meetings Committee Report

B. Watson reviewed the history of the proposed "stand alone" MSA meeting. The Meetings Committee provided a detailed report concerning this and other options. One specific suggestion is to team up with Goldschmidt Meeting in alternate years (when Goldschmidt meets in the U.S.), and remain with the GSA.

With respect to a stand alone meeting, A. Speer noted his concerns about the costs. This includes the required office space and salary for a meetings coordinator, from \$40,000 to \$70,000, and the cost to the society. MSA has a direct financial and personnel advantage when meeting with other societies, i.e. there is no deposit required from MSA, and others provide time, space and salary for organization. MSA is only required to pay direct costs. This subsidizes MSA approximately \$30,000 or more per year.

A stand alone meeting would be a specific financial burden to the Society. By contrast, the Goldschmidt Meeting is run totally by volunteers. This would require the MSA to find volunteers to support our role. S. Sorensen noted her conversation with J. Post and suggested that Post may not have seen the report. B. Hanson reiterated C. Prewitt's displeasure with the MSA, potentially resulting in the upstart of another society for X-Ray Crystallography.

S. Sorensen suggested polling the membership to find the center of intellectual mass. Questionnaires could be sent out with the due's notice, incorporating questions as to whether members would be in favor of a stand alone meeting and how they view paying the financial repercussions of this meeting. This would provide council with a database from which to work.

B. Watson summarized T. Grove's letter as President of the VGP section of the AGU. Grove is making significant overtures for MSA to remain with Spring AGU: (1) MSA's spring meeting

liaison could be made a full member of the AGU Program Committee and (2) AGU is looking for a Chapman Conference Coordinator, MSA is welcome to suggest a coordinator.

It is the Sense of Council to have MSA's Representative to Spring AGU, currently Pamela Burnley, elevated to a full member of the program committee.

M. Barton questioned the role of interest groups within the Society in order to identify underlying issues. Three components to this meetings issue are: (1) What type of meeting is it to be, i.e. a stand alone meeting or a joint meeting with who/where, (2) how financially attractive is this, and (3) what is the future relationship with the GSA, see Anovitz report. He suggests that each of these be addressed.

Discussion continued. J. Holloway urges Council that if undertaking a cost comparison (e.g. registration costs), a complete analysis must be done. J. Banfield suggests that MSA remain connected, which we do through GSA, but that we need to become more organized as a group. B. Dymek reminded council that since 1989 GSA has had MSA theme sessions. Anyone can organize one, thus providing a mechanism to have a meeting within a meeting, with no overlaps. GSA does the organizational up-front work, leaving MSA to organize the scientific aspects of the meeting.

M. Carpenter noted that the Mineralogical Society of Great Britain supports anyone who suggests a meeting but that they must organize the meeting. M. Ghiorso noted that organization from the top is a problem as we do not know what they want. MSA can inform them of the opportunities that exist, and they need to tell us what they want. J. Holloway urged council to separate the issues of a separate meeting with the tie to Goldschmidt. B. Carlson returned to the question of how MSA is to deal with interest groups.

Council was unanimously not in favor of a separate meeting. Thirty members asked by the meetings committee were not in favor of a separate meeting.

It was the Sense of Council to have B. Watson write P. Heaney, J. Post and C. Prewitt summarizing the comments of council, informing them of the options that exist (i.e. co-sponsorship of Goldschmidt, elevation of Pamela Burnley to full member of program committee), and inviting them to prepare a full proposal for a meeting; including the scope of the meeting, the likely participants, the budget, what arrangements will be made for students, the organizers, noting that the meeting should not compete with GSA, AGU (Fall or Spring), EUG, or Goldschmidt.

27. Future production methods of the American Mineralogist.

Due to the rising costs to the Society, the afternoon was devoted to the future production methods of the American Mineralogist.

B. Watson provided a brief overview to the situation and reminded council to provide for a fiscally responsible future. Production of the American Mineralogist is a large budget item, and it is not projected to remain in the black in the near future. Three possibilities currently exist that need to be evaluated:

- (1) moving to Desk Top Publishing (DTP);
- (2) teaming up with a commercial publisher; and
- (3) status quo.

He reviewed the history proposing the alternatives and the assessment of options; all contained in detail in the Bluebook.

Treasurer B. Hanson reviewed the financial aspects, the need for a "big picture" view, and the financial flexibility that exists (or doesn't). He noted the disturbing fiscal trend of decreasing library subscriptions within the last several years. This has had a significant impact on MSA, about \$15,000/yr, resulting in a loss of about \$100,000 within the past five years. In part, this can be related to the world and Asian financial crises that affect Universities. MSA must arrest this attrition. MSA has raised rates 8-10% over the last several years. If we keep the current system, we will need another 10% raise this year. Membership has also been declining. Why? The Journal is a large incentive to be a member. Therefore, caution is advised with respect to web-based publications and other items that could impact journal subscriptions.

B. Hanson stressed the need to arrest declining subscriptions.

The 1998 budget has a very large deficit, ca. \$140,000 to \$190,000 primarily due to the number of RiM volumes that are being reprinted. The deficit is made up from the Roebling Fund, but this results in a loss to the principle. In 1999, the budget deficit will be about \$91,000, approximately 9% of MSA's funds, if they continue to grow at the current rate. Therefore, there is little money remaining with which to fund the societies goals or initiatives. About \$58,000 is used for Society programs defined by the Funds. The budget was further reviewed with respect to the American Mineralogist.

Questions for thought included: how journal production impacts the move to web access; and how to make the journal more attractive for author submission (perhaps by decreasing cost).

Two commercial publishers were invited to council to make presentations summarizing their view of a joint publication venture with MSA. Their positions are summarized by the extensive data in the bluebook. Editors of American Mineralogist were also invited to present their views of the joint ventures as well as the move to DTP, and the advantages of remaining with Allen Press.

28. Presentation by Elsevier

Am. Min. retains full control of scientific content, Elsevier has charge of all aspects of publishing. Am. Min. retains copyright. Elsevier noted their electronic service, marketing abilities, production issues, pricing, etc. Am.Min. would be packaged with other geo-journals, and fast links provided. (note: current subscription base is lower than for Am. Min.)

Elsevier staff would be in charge of issue composition, pre-editing and copy editing. Twelve weeks are spent in production time, with fast track submissions 8-9 weeks. Physical appearance is flexible.

Pricing: Society retains membership price; price for libraries set between Elsevier and council who must agree to a formula for setting prices. Authors are provided 50 free reprints, color costs \$400 per page, \$200 for additional pages. A ten year contract is required. One-third of the proceeds is returned to the society.

B. Hanson questioned pricing formula. The response was an increase in price to be "competitive". F. Spear asked what they would set the current price to be. Answer = \$460 (inclusive of RiM). This is a 40% pricing increase!

S. Sorensen voiced concern about pricing of Elsevier journals in general.

There was an overall consensus by council that the visitors were poorly informed about Am. Min. and MSA in general.

29. Break from 3:05-3:25

30. Presentation by Blackwell

Very lively, entertaining executives began by reviewing the history of Blackwell publishing, owned by family trust. Therefore, it can not be sold. Shareholders consist of 1 from the family and 30 managers. They desire to be viewed as a Society publisher not as a "large profit publisher".

He reviewed the synergy that exists between the publisher and the society. Each office can market, sell, etc. to build up society and library membership.

Advantages include: marketing; subscription management; claims; back issue storage; high quality publishing (e.g. JMG); copy editing as is, or remotely; supervision of typesetting; other electronic systems; etc.

Financially, there is a charge per member and overhead charge, 13% of sales. MSA could receive either a set royalty or a true profit share. Budgets are agreed to yearly, therefore independent of number of issues. Cost of online system included. B. Hanson noted that a larger grant to editorial office means lower profits. B. Dymek noted that current editorial processes are similar to those outlined by Blackwell. One person from Blackwell staff is assigned to journal for production. Ten to twelve weeks turn around time from when the ms. is received. Nothing is advertized without approval.

31. Presentation by American Mineralogist Editors for DTP

A. Hofmeister provided samples of several Letters that had been created by R. Russell, the Am.Min. managing editor, using Pagemaker. These were compared to recently published Letters using the "old" typesetting technique. The quality of the DTP letters was comparable to the "old" method. Using DTP, Anne suggests a savings of about \$7,000 per issue for a total savings of about \$42,000 per year. With the Am. Min. office making corrections, about \$1,600 is saved per issue. An additional savings is realized with electronic figures. The resulting savings are approximately \$10,000 per issue, but this could be offset if an additional person is required. Anne feels that Am. Min. can move toward DTP with no increase in personnel at this time. An additional advantage of DTP is that the sub to pub time should decrease by 2-3 weeks. A. Hofmeister secured an agreement with Allen Press, current publisher, so that Allen Press will continue to work with Am. Min. during the transition to DTP. They will work with a "mixed" system, i.e. they will continue to prepare some manuscripts by the traditional method in addition to those that arrive for printing via DTP.

Discussion centered on additional intangible costs, such as the need for new computers and increased administrative overhead. A. Speer clarified that 4-6% of salary and benefits of MSA Business Office staff are for Am. Min. related activities, and are probably underestimated. Blackwell doesn't cover the true overhead. Elsevier gives "free subscriptions" which we can sell.

Questions concerned how the budget proportions costs to the American Mineralogist. A. Speer questioned if appropriate costs were included. B. Hanson noted that two-thirds of the Society's income is from the American Mineralogist. The Society runs in the red, therefore there is insufficient revenue or MSA is spending too much. The largest ticket items need to

be examined i.e. Am. Min. MSA should be concerned about growth in expenses and lack of income.

Alternatively, F. Spear noted that Am. Min. does make a profit, and that profit is used to run the Society. We need to revisit other areas and analyze other options for cutting costs. A. Speer noted that Am Min. "profit" does not include subtraction of any overhead expenses for such things as working with Allen Press, sending renewals to subscribers, processing incoming subscription renewals and claims, answering inquiries, processing offprint and page charge orders, supplying mailing instructions to the printer, record keeping, bookkeeping, etc.

More discussion followed: J. Ferry asked the time scale for moving to DTP. A. Hofmeister foresees completion by the end of the summer, i.e. the last issue for 1999. Current budget for 1999 (deficit of \$33,000) does not include DTP. B. Hanson noted that by the Spring Council meeting, a report must be submitted on the status of DTP publishing and costs because this is the time we set library rates.

J. Banfield moved to implement DTP immediately. S = F. Spear. The motion passed; for = 6.

F. Spear moved to allocate up to \$5,000 for a new computer to increase productivity of the staff. S = J. Banfield. The motion passed unanimously.

32. Other Business

J. Banfield suggested that an endowment be created for the Mid-Career award. The Benefactors committee should be advised to seek funds to endow the award.

33. The meeting adjourned at 5:30 p.m.

*Respectfully submitted,
Sue Muttan
MSA Secretary*