

More changes on the editorial front

The associate editors of *Meteoritics & Planetary Science* are very unusual. Authors and reviewers know them mainly for their handling of papers. However, most of the policies that dictate our day-to-day procedures, as well as our long-term policies, were the result of collective decisions by the associate editors acting as an editorial board. This policy-making role is probably not well known, since it is fairly rare for associate editors to also act as an editorial board. We are therefore doubly cautious in the selection of associate editors. The Board identifies needs and candidates and makes nominations to the Publications Committee who approve or disapprove the nominations, sometimes qualifying their endorsement with specific advice. There are usually three or four candidates for each position we would like to fill.

Last March we announced the appointment of five new associate editors, two were replacements for retirees and three were enlargement positions reflecting the growth of the journal in the last few years and its name change. We are now very pleased to welcome three new associate editors. These appointments complete this phase in the growth of the editorial board.

Anny-Chantal Levasseur-Regourd of the University of Paris 6 will supplement our team of Don Brownlee and Paul Weissman in matters concerning interplanetary dust and comets. She is heavily involved in organizing the Asteroids, Comets and Meteor meeting at the moment but will start handling papers for *Meteoritics & Planetary Science* as soon these commitments are satisfied. Urs Krähenbühl of the University of Bern will take some of the burden of lunar papers from Paul Warren. Paul is one of our most devoted and hard-working associate editors who was carrying about twice the average workload within a few months of agreeing to join the board. Alex Deutsch of the University of Münster also comes to the rescue of a dedicated and much overworked associate editor. Alex will primarily help Richard Grieve with crater papers, Alex concentrating on the laboratory studies and Richard concentrating on field studies. We are all very fortunate that these very busy people agreed to help nurture the journal and the research community it seeks to serve. There is much truth to the adage that one looks to the busiest people in the room to help with important tasks, and in moments of flagging enthusiasm, it is the calibre, dedication and friendship of the associate editors that restores my own energy levels.

Derek Sears
Editor