



## From the Editors

### Renaissance

For two years, the associate editors of *Meteoritics and Planetary Science* have deliberated how to best use electronic communication. It has been very satisfying to watch the ebb and flow of views until a consensus settled in. Some of these views have been made public in various editorials and reports, and these in turn solicited further input from others. When Council decided that *Meteoritics and Planetary Science* should go monthly with the January 2001 issue, the editors were ready to make decisions on a number of issues. These were announced in the November 2000 issue. Thus with this issue, we have what we call the *Meteoritics and Planetary Science* renaissance:

- *Meteoritics and Planetary Science* goes to monthly publication.
- The format is changed, with larger figures, gloss paper, larger fonts, and simpler layout.
- Manuscripts can be submitted, reviewed and tracked electronically.
- *Prelude*, a new preprint service for authors and readers of *Meteoritics and Planetary Science* is introduced. Every article accepted for publication is placed on the web at the *Meteoritics and Planetary Science* secure site within days of formal acceptance by the editor. Thus the articles are published as electronic preprints two to three months earlier than they will appear in the journal proper (both hard copy and electronic versions).
- **ScienceMAPS** is introduced, a service whereby readers can have tables of contents sent directly to their e-mail account as soon each issue is closed. Requests will be made via the journal website.

Another very significant change concerns the membership of the editorial board. In recognition of the growth and increasing role of *Meteoritics and Planetary Science* in the planetary science of small bodies, and pending sample return by several planetary missions, the editorial board has identified six new associate editors who will start in 2001. Their role will be to increase the involvement of *Meteoritics and Planetary Science* in asteroid and comet science and mission-related planetary science, while we maintain strength in existing areas of interest. The Editors have long felt that meteorite research, as well as small body planetary science in general, is best served by breaking down the boundaries of these research fields and in this process the journal can play a useful part. The new associate editors are:

- Eric Asphaug, University of California, Santa Cruz
- Beth Clark, of Cornell University
- Anita Cochran, of the University of Texas, Austin
- Walter Huebner, of the Southwest Research Institute
- Kevin McKeegan, University of California, Los Angeles
- Dina Prialnik, Tel Aviv University

The editorial board is grateful to these colleagues for agreeing to serve the journal in this way.

Several associate editors have stepped down over my nine years as editor, and this seems a fitting time to thank them all publicly for their many and varied contributions to our journal. Without exception, they all stressed their loyalty to the journal and offered their continued support in any way I thought appropriate. I have many times gone to such colleagues for objective, informed, disinterested, yet engaged advice on many journal matters. In recognition of this continued role, the editorial board recommended, and Council approved, the establishment of the title Emeritus Associate Editor. Their names will appear on one of the covers of the journal.

The Emeritus Associate Editors of *Meteoritics and Planetary Science* are Richard Binzel, Jeremy Delaney, Andrew Graham, Rhian Jones, Klaus Keil, Michael Lipschutz, Harry Y. McSween, Frank Podosek, Ludolf Schultz, Hiroshi Takeda, Kazushige Tomeoka, Paul Weismann, and George Wetherill. They all served the journal in different ways and for different lengths of time, and I am proud to have had their services for the journal.

Making so many changes at one time is not without risk and has taken considerable help from the associate editors and the journal office staff. We have taken similar steps before and they have been very successful, partly because the authorship and readership want the journal to succeed. I am confident that this will be the case here, and I thank the everyone for their support and advice. I hope no one will hesitate to contact me, or any member of the editorial board, if they have suggestions or comments on the new *Meteoritics and Planetary Science*.

Derek Sears  
Editor