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Letters

Unpublished Record of a Career in Meteoritics

In his news focus article about meteoriticist John Wood and his views on the state of meteoritic science, Richard A. Kerr says, "The editor of the field's leading publication, *Meteoritics and Planetary Science*, had asked Wood to submit a manuscript, but the two of them could not agree on its format" ("A meteoriticist speaks out, his rocks remain mute," 31 Aug., p. 1581). The manuscript referred to was based on the Harold Masursky Lecture that Wood delivered at the 2000 Lunar and Planetary Science Conference.

Wood's paper was sent to three reviewers, and the consensus was that the paper was not acceptable for publication in *Meteoritics and Planetary Science*. However, I was hopeful that with revision it might be publishable in the journal's supplement, which contains papers of value to the community but not necessarily appropriate for the journal. I requested changes accordingly, which were of substance, not format. The paper did not seem to me to be an assertion that chondrule research over the last four decades had been futile. Rather, it suggested that the avenues of interpretation pursued by this particular researcher had been fruitless. It was a valuable record of a frustrating career over a unique time in planetary science history, and I regret that it has not yet been made publishable.

Derek Sears
Editor,
Meteoritics and Planetary Science,
Cosmochemistry Group,
Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry,
University of Arkansas,
Fayetteville, AR 72701, USA.
E-mail: dsears@uark.edu