



## From the Editor

As the new editor of *Meteoritics & Planetary Science*, it is with some trepidation that I write my first editorial. I have several tasks to achieve in this editorial.

First, I must thank the editor emeritus, Derek Sears, for his long dedication to the task of publishing *Meteoritics & Planetary Science* for the last eleven years. Derek succeeded in turning a modest publication with 4 issues and some 420 pages in 1991 when he took over, into a much larger, more respected scientific publication of some 2,000 pages per year, with 12 issues and one supplement. In 2002, Derek was not content with even this and published 2 supplements! I would also like to thank Derek and his staff in Arkansas for helping during the transition of the MAPS office to Tucson. We are still learning a few things about MAPS as we go to print with our first issue of January 2003.

Second, I must acknowledge the sterling service of the associate editors of *Meteoritics & Planetary Science*, who do much of the work encouraging reviewers and authors to come to agreement on a manuscript. Five associate editors stepped down at the end of 2002, Joe Goldstein, Ross Taylor, Kevin McKeegan, Eric Asphaug, and Bill Hartmann. They have given long service to the journal, and their work is often underappreciated by the wider community. Indeed, one associate editor even decided to handle a new paper after he had officially “retired.” I already know that the fine cadre of associate editors is one of the reasons for the good science published in MAPS. We also welcome four new associate editors, who are already following in the same tradition, Marc Caffee, Kevin Righter, Betty Pierazzo, and Allan Treiman.

Third, we have assembled a professional team in Tucson to continue MAPS. I should introduce Kim Elliott, our managing editor, who makes sure things run and the bills are paid. Agnieszka Baier, our production editor, and Lydia Tarbox, our assistant editor, spend long hours typesetting manuscripts, tracking down papers, associate editors, and reminding associate editors to encourage reviewers and authors to return their reviews or manuscripts. You may also interact with Cynthia Likewise, our secretary, who assists in the task of producing MAPS.

You may notice a few minor changes in the format of the

journal, designed to produce a more standard style. We will use the Chicago Manual of Style, which is widely used in the scientific journal world. References will be slightly different. Authors’ names will not be in all capital letters. We will go to the more standard full referencing of journal names, but to make the transition, we will continue to accept manuscripts for the time being which use the older “house” style. The rest of the journal should look practically the same as the issues published in 2002. We will continue the practice of having a supplement for the Society’s abstracts, the *Meteoritical Bulletin*, interviews, and historical material. This supplement will, of course, be fully referenced, as in the past, as part of MAPS.

I have been very impressed with the high quality and the volume of papers that have been submitted to MAPS since last September when we started receiving new papers in Tucson. Reading these submissions makes it obvious that MAPS has a bright future. The scientific quality of the papers published in MAPS will continue to be of a high standard and the breadth of topics discussed will continue unchanged.

I hope that you, the members of the Meteoritical Society, as well as other readers of the journal, will continue your loyalty to your Society’s journal. I am always happy to discuss any aspect of the journal with anyone, and I look forward to serving the Society and its members as editor of *Meteoritics & Planetary Science*.

A. J. Timothy Jull  
Editor

Tucson, Arizona  
January 2003

### Note about electronic service:

Our new electronic service will go online with this first issue. Please, consult our website at <http://meteoritics.org> for instructions. Access will be free for all Society members. As in the past, archived issues of MAPS are available through the Astrophysical Data Service of Harvard University (<http://adswww.harvard.edu>).