

Minutes of the 2008 MAS Business Meeting

Aztec Room, Albuquerque Convention Center

Albuquerque, New Mexico

Wednesday, August 6, 2008, 5:15 pm

President Ian Anderson brought the Business Meeting to order at 5:15 p.m. A head count was taken and it was determined that there were 47 persons in attendance and that a quorum (35 or more MAS members, per Article IV Section 3 of the ByLaws) was present. Attendance increased to a maximum of about 75.

Welcome and Announcements (Ian Anderson, President):

The members of the MAS executive council were introduced using the MAS website. Highlights from 2007-2008 MAS activities were presented:

- The ByLaws were revised to allow on-line voting and dues renewal.
- A new web site and letterhead were created for better MAS identity and branding.
- Two MAS Topical Conferences, Hyperspectral Imaging II at NIST in October 2007 and EBSD 2008 at University of Wisconsin in May 2008, were held.
- The Arthur A. Chodos Memorial Fund was established to support student activities within MAS.
- Strategic planning exercises were conducted amongst the Strategic Planning Committee and MAS Council.

Secretary's Report (Scott Davilla, Secretary)

The Minutes of the 2007 Annual Business Meeting was presented and reviewed. Tom Huber moved to accept the Secretary's Report, seconded by Nestor Zaluzec. There was no discussion and the motion was unanimously approved.

Treasurer's Report (Jim McGee, Treasurer)

The MAS budget was presented; details can be found in the Summer 2008 issue of MicroNews. The society is currently in the black with respect to the budget. The budget highlights included:

- Routine bookkeeping and membership activities were moved from the Accountant's office to MAS volunteer personnel, reducing the accounting services and expenses.
- The transition to electronic banking and dues renewal/payment is now complete.
- The MAS website has operational links for MAS Topical Conferences registration and payment (via PayPal).
- Financial investments with Schwab accounts are doing well and are steady at around \$172,000 as of June 2008.

Paul Hlava moved to accept the Treasurer's Report, seconded by Valerie Woodward. There was no discussion and the motion was unanimously approved.

Membership Services Report (Lou Ross, Chair)

On-line membership application and renewal is in place and operational. For the first time in many years, membership is increasing, with 303 regular members (an increase of 13 percent relative to this time last year) and 68 student members (more than a factor of two increase). The total membership was reported as 443. A question was raised as to

how this number compared with the all-time high for MAS membership. The response was that going back ten years, there were as many as 600 on the rolls, but this was at a time when the rolls were not purged of members whose dues were not current. It was asked whether renewal reminders are sent to all members. The response was that renewal notices are sent with at least two follow up emails in the spring for those that have not renewed. It was noted that new members receive a “Welcome to MAS” letter. Dan Kremser will be replacing Lou Ross as Membership Services Chair.

Sustaining Members Report (Cathy Johnson, Chair)

The number of Sustaining Members is stable at 23 but did not increase as had been anticipated. Some sustaining members have expressed interest in becoming more active in the Society. Lou Ross will be replacing Cathy Johnson as Sustaining Members Chair.

Affiliated Regional Societies (Paul Hlava, Chair)

There were nine Tour Speaker visits to MAS affiliated regional societies (AReS) during the past year. The most requested Tour Speaker during the past year was Robert Simmons. Three new speakers were approved at the annual AReS representatives’ luncheon earlier in the day: Paul Hlava, Michael Jercinovic and Klaus Wormuth.

Publications and MAS Website

Computer Activities (Scott Wight, Chair)

The web site has a new look, and new on-line capabilities dues payment and voting which are operational. PayPal provides an on-line capability for financial transactions; a PayPal account can be used or credit card information can be entered. The website has a member’s only content section. Access is provided by a general-purpose username and password that were provided to those in attendance. On-line voting will be provided through Elections Online, and an e-mail will be sent to all members with a link to the election. It was noted that during a dry run by MAS Council, it was determined that some e-mail filtered directed the election notification to the “junk” folder. An e-mail will be sent to MAS members from the Membership Services Chair a few days before the election to alert members to look for the election notification. Scott Wight announced that he will be stepping down as Computer Activities Chair in a year’s time and that any help or assistance with this role would be appreciated.

Microscopy and Microanalysis Journal (Charles Lyman, Editor-in-Chief)

The Journal is doing very well, with the largest number of submissions ever during the past year. There was a special issue on Atom Probe Tomography, which resulted in half a dozen more unsolicited papers on the subject. Charlie will be leaving the Editorial Board of the Journal at the end of the year, to be replaced by Bob Price as Editor-in-Chief and John Mansfield as Microanalysis Editor.

MicroNews (Ryna Marinenko, Editor)

Traditionally published three times per year, MicroNews is now published annually. MicroNews is an archival record for the Society with content gather from the MAS website and other sources, including membership services info, by-laws changes, etc.

Topical Conferences

Hyperspectral Imaging II, October 23-26, 2007 (Ian Anderson, Co-Chair)

Hyperspectral Imaging II (HI-II) was organized by Ed Vicenzi, Paul Carpenter and Ian Anderson. Major sponsors were Bruker AXS and ThermoFisher Scientific. There were 56 registrants, including 10 students and 5 post-docs, meeting a goal of 20-25% participation by early career professionals. HI-II featured a full day of instrument and technique demonstrations followed by two and one-half days of technical programming. As a follow up to HI-II, a meeting was organized by Nestor Zaluzec at M&M 2008 on Hyperspectral Imaging file formats to discuss the creation of a standard file format.

Electron Backscattered Diffraction 2008, May 20-22, 2008 (John Fournelle, Chair)

EBSD 2008 was organized by John Fournelle, Luke Brewer and Joe Michael. Major sponsors were the National Science Foundation, EDAX/TSL, and Oxford/HKL. There were 102 registrants, one third of which were students and 60% of which were not involved previously with MAS, meeting a goal of reaching out to nonmembers. The meeting was used as a vehicle to recruit 45 new MAS members, and had strong participation by geologists and material scientists. EBSD 2008 featured a full day tutorial, followed by two days of technical programming. Participants requested a follow-on MAS Topical Conference on EBSD for 2010. The Computer Activities Committee created a website for EBSD 2008, which provided conference details and on-line registration. The website helped streamline conference organization and will provide a template and infrastructure for future Topical Conferences.

PSMM 2009, scheduled April 20-23, 2009 (Paul Carpenter, Co-Chair)

This proposed topical conference is to be organized by Craig Schwandt and Paul Carpenter. The TC is still in the planning stages and will concentrate on the microanalysis of particles and small samples. The organizers plan to hold the TC at the College of Microscopy in Westmont, IL.

In addition to the proposed particle workshop, Lucille Giannuzzi has propose to hold a MAS-sponsored workshop on Nanoanalysis in March of 2010 in conjunction with the meeting of the Florida Chapter of the American Vacuum Society (AVS) in Orlando, FL. The goal is to form a partnership with two Florida Microscopy Societies and the Surface Science Division of the AVS. The attendance is expected to be about 150.

Annual Meetings

M&M 2008, Albuquerque, NM (Paul Carpenter, MAS Co-Chair)

A strong MAS presence in the Program Committee and the Program Production Meeting resulted a large amount of Microanalysis content at this year's annual meeting. The new meeting manager and their personnel were very responsive in resolving issues.

M&M 2009, Richmond, VA (Luke Brewer, MAS Co-Chair)

The Executive Program Committee for M&M 2009 is comprised of Janet Woodward (Chair), John Mansfield (Vice-Chair), Luke Brewer (MAS Co-Chair) and Fred Schmidt (IMS Co-Chair). Planned meeting highlights include:

- Emphasis on fewer, larger symposia with 7 Physical Sciences, 7 Biological Sciences, and 18 Instrumentation and Technique symposia
 - The David B. Wittry Memorial Symposium, organized by Yimei Zhu, Joe Michael and Richard Leapman
 - The Otto Scherzer Memorial Symposium, organized by David Smith and Uli Dahmen
 - A planned plenary session with a high profile speaker to open the meeting on Monday
- A question was raised because the MAS website had mentioned the meeting location for M&M 2009 being Baltimore MD. The response was that Baltimore had originally been selected for 2009, but that these arrangements had fallen through and the 2009 M&M meeting will be held in Richmond VA, followed by Portland in 2010, Nashville TN in 2011, and (tentatively) Phoenix AZ in 2012.

It was noted that a plenary session had been featured in meetings some years ago, but was dropped, and the reasons why it was discontinued should be investigated.

Strategic Planning Report (Paul Carpenter, Chair)

The committee has been engaged in preliminary discussions over the past few weeks. The Committee started by examining the core issue of what MAS represents and what value it provides to its members. Major areas include: teaching the world how to do microanalysis properly; communicating to our members' current research activities; providing a forum for exchanging ideas; development of software tools; nurturing the next generation of scientists; and forming strategic partnerships. Metrics that we use to measure our health as a society include: M&M program support; attendance at MAS-sponsored meetings; our Topical Conference Program; membership growth; the number of MAS members; our student members, both their numbers and their level of participation; our financial status; and the growth vs. decline in membership. Those kinds of things are how we quantify how we're doing and how we want to steer things for the future. The Committee would like feedback from MAS members as this effort involves planning the future of MAS for the long term.

Nominations Committee (Cathy Johnson, President-Elect)

The Nominations Committee recommended the following nominee for MAS offices in this year's election: Ed Vicenzi for President-Elect; Jim McGee for a second term as Treasurer; and Jim Bentley, Brendan Griffin, Heather Lowers and Colin MacRae for Directors. Ian Anderson asked for additional nominations from the floor; there were none. Paul Hlava motioned to close the nominations, seconded by Paul Carpenter. There was no discussion and the motion was unanimously approved.

New Business (Ian Anderson, President)

There was no new business.

Adjournment

The Office of Presidency was transferred from Ian Anderson to Cathy Johnson at 6:36 pm. Paul Hlava motioned to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Paul Carpenter. There was no discussion and the motion was unanimously approved at 6:37 pm.