



2024 MAS Business Meeting Minutes
31 July, 2024, 17:30-18:30 EDT
Huntington Convention Center of Cleveland, Cleveland, OH

Patrick Camus	(President 2022-2024)
Andrew Herzing	(President-Elect 2023-2024)
Owen Neill	(Secretary 2022-2025)
Dave Tomlin	(Treasurer 2023-2024)
Assel Aitkaliyeva	(Director 2022-2024)
Thomas Lam	(Director 2022-2024)
Katherine Burgess	(Director 2023-2025)
Jordan Hachtel	(Director 2023-2025)
Megan Holtz	(Director 2024-2026)
Jessica Riesterer	(Director 2024-2026)
Steve Seddio	(Commercial Director 2021-2025)
Thomas Lam	(AReS 2022-2025)
John Fournelle	(Archivist 2010-2023)
Brad De Gregorio	(Awards 2020-2024)
Josh Taillon	(Computer Activities 2024-2027)
Mary Scott	(Education 2022-2024)
Abigail Lindstrom	(Goldstein Scholar Coordinator)
Vin Smentkowski	(Fellows 2024-2027)
Pete McSwiggen	(Finance 2021-2024)
Emma Bullock	(Membership 2023-2024)
Heather Lowers	(International Liaison)
Joe Boro	(Social Media 2022-2025)
Angela Halfpenny	(Strategic Planning 2024-2027)
Anette von der Handt	(Topical Conferences 2024-2027)
[VACANT]	(M&M Editorial Board)
Steven Spurgeon	(2024 M&M Co-Chair)
Stuart Wright	(2025 M&M Co-Chair)

Council/Directors Present: Joe Boro, Emma Bullock, Pat Camus, Brad de Gregorio, Jordan Hachtel, Angela Halfpenny, Andy Herzing, Abby Lindstrom, Heather Lowers, Pete McSwiggen, Owen Neill, Jessica Riesterer, Steve Seddio, Dave Tomlin, Stuart Wright

Quorum Reached at 17:28

- Call to Order: 17:30 EDT (Pat Camus)
- Approval of Agenda (Pat Camus)
- Secretary's Report (Owen Neill)
 - Abby Lindstrom moved to accept the [minutes of the 2023 MAS Business Meeting](#), Dave Tomlin seconded.
 - Motion carried.
- Treasurer's Report (Dave Tomlin)
 - Dave Tomlin reported that MAS' net income for 2024 was \$25,531.43.
 - This is up significantly relative to the 2024 budget projections.
 - Dave presented the MAS financial summary as of 30 June, 2024:
 - Total income: \$80,745.56 (\$67,350.00 projected).
 - Total expenses: \$55,224.13 (\$114,450.00 projected).
 - Total liquid assets: \$180,392.99.
 - Total charitable funds: \$45,297.76.
 - Schwab investment account: \$804,555.21.
 - Total encumbered assets: \$1,030,245.96.
 - Total unencumbered assets: \$984,948.20.
 - Dave presented the proposed MAS budget for 2025.
 - Projections for revenue and expenses were identical to 2024, with the exception of the following:
 - Projected income from General Membership was increased from \$12,000 to \$15,000.
 - Projected income from Sustaining Membership was decreased from \$18,000 to \$12,000.
 - Dave noted that mergers between sustaining members will likely decrease revenue from Sustaining Membership going forward.
 - Projected income from the M&M2024 Co-Share remained at \$50,000.
 - A line item was added to the Expenses to cover MAS' membership in ASTM/ISO, in the amount of \$1562.50
 - Another line item was added to the Expenses to cover \$10,000 for seed initiatives proposed by the Strategic Planning Committee.
 - Projected expenses for the MAS booth at M&M2024 were increased from \$1,000 to \$1,500, based on the expenses from 2023.
 - The budgeted projects for 2025 indicate a deficit of \$28,912.50, but MAS has consistently exceeded revenue projections in past years, so such an end-of-year deficit is unlikely.

- o Brad de Gregorio asked whether there would be any consequences if the society's total assets exceeded \$1,000,000.
 - Dave responded that there may be potential issues with the IRS if this happens, which is why increasing expenditures on items like strategic planning and student funding has become a greater priority.
 - Pat Camus noted that increasing funding for society awards would both address this issue and offset increased travel costs to awardees.
 - o Nestor Zaluzec moved to accept the proposed budget as presented, Abby seconded.
 - Motion carried.
- Membership (Emma Bullock)
 - o Emma Bullock reported that as of 16 July, 2024, MAS had 794 members in good standing, down from 1087 members one year ago.
 - This may be partially due to planetary scientists attending the 2023 Klaus Keil Memorial Symposium, when they otherwise would not have attended.
 - Of the 794 members, 61 are MAS-only, and 96 are students.
- Strategic Planning Committee (Angela Halfpenny)
 - o Angela Halfpenny reminded membership to please contact her regarding future strategic planning initiatives.
 - o Angela reported on a Strategic Planning initiative brought to her by FIGMAS which Council has decided to support.
 - Funding for this proposal would support:
 - Identifying a pair of synthetic standard materials for each major element that could be synthesized reproducibly.
 - Characterizing an aliquot of the material using multiple techniques for chemical and structural analysis.
 - Allowing the materials to be made freely available to any interested and qualified lab.
 - Data from the characterization of the new materials would also assist with creating a consensus K-ratio database.
 - Under the terms of this proposal, MAS would provide \$10,000/year for 5 years, followed by \$15,000/year for another 5 years.
 - The second round of funding would be contingent upon completion of a satisfactory report on the outcomes of the first 5 years of funding.
 - Nestor Zaluzec suggested that a similar initiative to also allow these materials to be made TEM standards would be very useful.
 - Thomas Lam asked whether FIGMAS would be sponsoring a Topical

Conference in 2026.

- Emma responded that this was being planned, but separately from this effort.
 - Pat suggested that a nominal fee be charged to acquire the standards, rather than giving them away for free.
 - This would not be to generate revenue, but to prevent people from just asking for free things and then never using them; if prospective users make an investment in the materials, they are more likely to actually make use of them.
 - Kat Crispin asked who would administer distribution of these materials.
 - Angela responded that the distribution issue would be part of an NSF proposal being put together by Will Nachlas, which will provide funding for administration of this effort.
- FIGMAS (Emma Bullock)
 - o Emma thanked MAS and the Strategic Planning Committee for their support of the FIGMAS strategic planning initiative.
 - o Emma also invited membership to the FIGMAS business meeting, which will be held at 12:15PM on Thursday in room 25C.
- M&M 2024 (Steve Spurgeon)
 - o Steve Spurgeon reported on the attendance figures for M&M2024, which included:
 - 2191 registrants (up from 2027 in 2023).
 - 1295 attendees (up from 1219 in 2023).
 - 896 Exhibitors (up from 808 in 2023).
 - 118 Companies (up from 99 in 2023).
 - o Dave said that the number of registered attendees and exhibitors were closer to 1400 and, respectively.
- M&M 2025 (Stuart Wright)
 - o Stuart Wright reported on planning for M&M2025, to take place in Salt Lake City, UT, on 27-31 July, 2025.
 - o Stuart reported that there are currently 10 analytical, 8 biological, 9 physical, and 7 cross-discipline symposia scheduled for M&M2025.
 - o Stuart suggested several MAS-related symposia for members to participate in, including a Analytical symposium on Advances in SEM Instrumentation, Application and Techniques.
 - John Donovan suggested adding EPMA to the title of this symposium.

- Stuart said that he will discuss this with the Program Committee.
- Emma asked whether the M&M2025 website had gone live.
 - Stuart responded that it had not.
 - Kat C added that the meeting website usually goes live in the fall after the previous meeting.
- Brad asked if there were symposia with a geosciences focus, and if not, whether one could be added.
 - Stuart responded that no geoscience-related symposia had been proposed, which was a cause for concern.
 - Stuart also added that he would discuss options with the Program Committee for either adding such a symposium or modifying an existing one to include such a focus.
- Stuart also noted that the future M&M meetings would take place in the following cities:
 - M&M2026: Milwaukee.
 - M&M2027: Pittsburgh.
 - M&M2028: Seattle.
 - M&M2029: Kansas City.
- Affiliated Regional Societies (Thomas Lam)
 - o Pat introduced Thomas Lam as the new AReS Chair.
 - o Thomas asked members to send requests for MAS Tour Speakers to him.
 - o Angela asked whether the costs for tour speakers were fully covered by MAS.
 - Pat said that they were.
 - o Pat reminded membership to also send Thomas proposals for new Tour Speakers.
 - Dave added that the speakers must be MAS members.
 - o Val Woodward asked whether MAS still includes slides about MAS and its goals for Tour Speakers to include in their talks.
 - Thomas said he would make slides for this.
- Awards Committee (Brad de Gregorio)
 - o Brad thanked the members of the Awards Committee for their work.
 - o Brad announced the Outstanding Paper Awards from M&M2023:
 - Birks Award (Best Contributed Paper, Sponsored by JEOL): Vivek Subramanian, Texas A&M University.
 - Cosslett Award (Best Invited Paper, Sponsored by MAS): Claudia Roig González, University of Wisconsin – Madison.
 - Castaing Award (Best Student Paper, Sponsored by Cameca): Sarah

Anderson, University of Minnesota.

- Macres Award (Best Instrumentation/Software Paper, Sponsored by Oxford): Paul Carpenter, Washington University in St. Louis.
- o Brad also announced the M&M2024 Distinguished Scholar Awards:
 - Students:
 - Jack Grimm, University of Washington.
 - Huiming Guo, University of California Irvine.
 - Hanyu Hou, University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign.
 - Ya-Hsiang Hsu, The Ohio State University.
 - Minhazul Islam, The Ohio State University.
 - Zhongmin Long, Karlsruher Institut für Technologie.
 - Julian Lüken, Universiteit Antwerpen.
 - Patricia Meza, Northwestern University.
 - Ruiying Shu, University of Oxford.
 - Oliver Waszkiewicz, Imperial College London.
 - Hannah Matos-Pimentel, Florida State University.
 - Post-docs:
 - Akshay Agarwal, Boston University.
 - Brian Caffrey, Rosalind Franklin Institute.
 - Liza-Anastasia DiCecco, Pennsylvania State University.
 - Sohail Shah, Idaho National Laboratory.
- o Brad also announced the 2024 Society Awards:
 - Presidential Service Award: Donovan Leonard, Microsoft Quantum.
 - K.F.J. Henrich Award: Shelly Conroy, Imperial College London.
 - Presidential Science Award: Paul Kotula, Sandia National Laboratory.
 - Peter Duncumb Award for Excellence in Microanalysis: Sergei Kalinin, University of Tennessee – Knoxville.
 - A Microscopy Today article describing the awardees has been published.
- o Brad reminded membership that the 2024 poster awardees will be selected after the meeting.
 - A sheet with the judging criteria is available at the MAS booth.
 - The Society will be presenting two student and two Creative Canvas (technologist/postdoc) awards.
- o Brad asked members to nominate candidates for Best Paper awards.
 - Brad provided a link to the nomination page on the MAS website.
 - Anyone who nominates a Best Paper award candidate in each category gets an MAS-branded sports towel.

- Education Committee (Pat Camus for Mary Scott)
 - Pat reported that there were 10-12 mentors at the Meal with a Mentor event.
 - Pat reported that the event was well attended, and the students were very engaged.
 - Andy Herzing noted that attendees at the students Pre-Meeting Congress had asked about how to sign up for Meal with a Mentor, suggesting that not all students may be aware of this process.
 - Andrés Márquez Rossy responded that students received emails regarding the event but postdocs did not, which may have added to this confusion.
- Fellows Committee (Pat for Vin Smentkowski)
 - Vin Smentkowski introduced the Fellows Committee:
 - Mary Grace Burke, Lucille Giannuzzi, Heather Lowers, Rhonda Stroud.
 - Pat reminded members that the Fellows Committee does not make nominations, but simply reviews the nominations contributed by the MAS.
 - Vin added that he would be sending an email to membership to solicit nominations for new Fellows.
 - Brad noted that the Fellows nomination process mirrors that of the Duncumb Award in this respect.
 - Vin reported that Louis Germinario has been named a 2024 MAS Fellow for ""The development of cryo-stages for in-situ SEM studies, single atom imaging, and service to the microanalysis community.""
- Finance Committee (Pete McSwiggen)
 - Pete reported that the MAS investments have fully recovered from the downturn in 2022.
 - The account's performance remains between the performance of the S&P 500 and bond market, as MAS is required to maintain a balanced portfolio.
 - As of 7/11/24 the account's value had risen to \$821,000 indicating that all losses from the downturn had been recovered.
- International Liaison (Heather Lowers)
 - Heather reported on several upcoming international meetings in microanalysis:
 - The 18th European Workshop on Modern Developments and Applications in Microbeam Analysis (EMAS2025) meeting will take place May 11-15, 2025 in Mataro, Spain.
 - The dates for the AMAS2026 meeting in Melbourne are still to be determined, but the event will be hosted largely by CSIRO.

- The 2025 Asia-Pacific Microscopy Conference will take place 2-7 February, 2025 in Brisbane.
 - The IUMAS9 meeting will take place in Xi'an, China in 2026.
- o Heather thanked the members of the international societies who had traveled to M&M2024.
- MSA Student Council (Andrés Márquez Rossy)
 - o Andrés reported that Thomas Marchese will be moving into the role of President, as Andrés moves into the role of Past President.
 - The size of the MSA Student Council Executive Committee is set to double.
 - o Andrés reported that the Friday night student social and the full-day student Pre-Meeting Congress on Saturday were very successful.
 - Andrés thanked the donors who helped sponsor these initiatives, who also support the Student Council's Regional Liaisons attending other events.
 - Andrés also noted that MAS is always the leading sponsor of these events.
 - o Thomas Marchese reported that the Student Council had created a postdoc subcommittee to better address the needs of these members.
 - This subcommittee hosted an event on Tuesday night with professional development opportunities and mentoring.
 - o Tom Kelly asked whether the Student Council is a joint MAS/MSA council, or MSA only?
 - Andrés responded that the Student Council was run by MSA, but MAS is always the leading sponsor of their events.
 - o Ed Vicenzi asked whether the sponsorship levels for Student Council events would be increasing.
 - Andrés responded that several companies had asked about increasing their sponsorship amounts.
 - o Jackson Spurling, the outgoing MSA Student Council Treasurer, noted that the largest Student Council program is a strategic initiative to send Student Council members to local workshops and meetings.
 - Jackson asked that members send local meeting info to the Student Council, so they can inform their local affiliates of the meetings and possibly send.
 - o Pat noted that MAS has committed to matching or exceeding the sponsorship amounts from any other organization for Student Council events and initiatives.
- Sustaining Members (Steve Seddio)

- o Steve Seddio reported that there are currently 22 paid Sustaining Members, of which two are MAS-only.
 - Two sustaining memberships were lost due to the Gatan/EDAX and Bruker/Nion mergers, a trend that will likely continue and lead to the loss of more Sustaining Memberships
 - Steve also noted that the benefits of Sustaining Membership include 3-6 individual memberships in MAS for company employees.
- o Steve also noted that he had identified two potential new Sustaining Members, and will follow up with them after the meeting.
- Nominations Committee (Andy Herzing)
 - o Andy reported that the following candidates had been identified by the Nominations Committee.
 - President-Elect: Assel Aitkaliyeva (University of Florida)
 - Andy noted that this nomination had come from outside the Nominations Committee to avoid conflict of interest.
 - Treasurer: Dale Burns (Stanford University)
 - Director: Debangshu Mukherjee (Oak Ridge National Lab), Aurélien Moy (Gatan, Inc.).
 - Paul Carpenter asked whether candidates could be added to the electoral slate after the meeting.
 - Pat responded that this was not allowable.
 - o Pat opened nominations for President.
 - No additional nominations were made.
 - Abby moved to close nominations for Treasurer, Emma seconded.
 - Motion carried.
 - o Pat opened nominations for Treasurer.
 - No additional nominations were made.
 - Abby moved to close nominations for Treasurer, Emma seconded.
 - Motion carried.
 - o Pat opened nominations for Directors.
 - Donggao Zhao (University of Missouri – Kansas City) nominated himself.
 - Nicholas Ritchie, Thomas Lam, and Ed Vicenzi seconded.
 - Shize Yang (Yale University) was nominated by Jordan Hachtel.
 - Abby Lindstrom, Masashi Watanabe, and Emma Bullock seconded.
 - Kat noted that the slate of director candidates is not particularly diverse.
 - Nestor moved to close nominations for Director, Tom seconded.

- Motion carried.
- Other Business (Pat Camus)
 - Donggao asked by what process the invitations to the President's Reception were made.
 - Pat responded that invitees were past presidents, members of the Executive Councils of MAS and MSA, committee chairs, and Society award winners.
 - Kat noted that MAS does not have a Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Committee, so she has been working with the MSA DEI committee on several efforts.
 - Kat proposed an effort to create a joint MAS/MSA DEI committee.
 - Mary Grace also voiced support for this effort.
 - Donggao noted that DEI positions and funding are being abolished at many universities, which may suggest that MAS would not be well served by being a part of such efforts.
 - Kat responded that this was beside the point, as the initiatives proposed by the DEI committee are about making the atmosphere at M&M more welcoming for all attendees, not about money or positions.
 - The DEI committee has succeeded in initiatives such as childcare services for meeting attendees and a quiet room for neurodivergent people, allowing attendees who would otherwise not be able to participate in M&M to be a part of the meeting.
 - Furthermore, navigating the local laws and political climate is necessary for some members who wish to attend M&M, which is an area where the DEI committee can assist.
 - Tom Kelly added that a non-harassment clause had also been added to the meeting rules.
 - Angela asked whether MAS received any kind of sustainability report from the convention center/conference.
 - Pat responded that MAS does not get input on conference venues, which are chosen several years in advance.
 - Mary Grace noted that the venues were all Tier 2 cities, which had conference facilities that could sustain microscopy equipment.
- Closing Remarks (Pat Camus)
 - Pat thanked the MAS Council for their support during his tenure, and thanked the MAS membership for the continued support of the Society and of M&M.
 - Pat welcomed Andy Herzing, the incoming MAS President, and transferred the Beads of Office.

- o Abby moved to adjourn the meeting, Tom seconded.
 - Motion carried.
- Meeting was adjourned at 18:32 EDT