



2024 MAS Fall Council Meeting
9 October, 2024, 11:00-13:00 EDT, via Zoom

Andrew Herzing	President 2024-2026
Patrick Camus	Past President 2024-2025
[OPEN]	President-Elect 2025-2026
Owen Neill	Secretary 2023-2025
Dave Tomlin	Treasurer 2021-2024
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 2023-2025
Thomas Lam	AReS 2024-2026
John Fournelle	Archivist since 2010
Brad De Gregorio	Awards since 2020
Josh Taillon	Computer Activities since 2024
Mary Scott	Education since 2022
Abigail Lindstrom	Goldstein Scholar Coordinator
Vin Smentkowski	Fellows since 2022
Pete McSwiggen	Finance since 2021
Heather Lowers	International Liaison since 2018
Emma Bullock	Membership since 2020
Joe Boro	Social Media since 2024
Angela Halfpenny	Strategic Planning since 2023
Anette von der Handt	Topical Conferences since 2024
Stuart Wright	M&M 2025 Co-Chair

Present on call: Assel Aitkaliyeva, Joe Boro, Emma Bullock, Kate Burgess, Pat Camus, Brad De Gregorio, Jordan Hachtel, Angela Halfpenny, Andy Herzing, Thomas Lam, Abby Lindstrom, Heather Lowers, Thomas Marchese, Owen Neill, Jessica Riesterer, Steve Seddio, Vin Smentkowski, Josh Taillon, Stuart Wright

- Call to Order: 11:03 EDT (Andy Herzing)
- Approval of Agenda (Andy Herzing)
 - Pat Camus moved to approve the meeting agenda, Abby Lindstrom seconded.
 - Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.
- Presidential Opening Remarks (Andy Herzing)
 - Andy introduced himself as a materials scientist at NIST's Gaithersburg, MD facility, working on topics such as tomography and 4-D STEM, and expressed his excitement at moving into the role of MAS President.
 - Andy also thanked Pat Camus for his service as MAS President over the last two years.
- Secretary's Report (Owen Neill)
 - Abby moved to approve [the minutes of the 2024 Summer Council meeting](#), Emma Bullock seconded.
 - Motion carried unanimously via voice vote.
- Treasurer's Report (Andy Herzing for Dave Tomlin)
 - The MAS budget for the 2024-2025 fiscal year was approved by membership at the 2024 business meeting.
 - Andy presented Dave Tomlin's summary of the current state of MAS' finances, as of 5 October, 2024.
 - Total income: \$100,513.85.00 (\$87,350.00 projected).
 - Total expenses: \$70,928.45 (\$114,450.00 projected).
 - Total liquid assets: \$181,946.46.
 - Total charitable funds: \$45,425.76.
 - Schwab investment account: \$855,355.95.
 - Total encumbered assets: \$1,082,728.17.
 - Total unencumbered assets: \$1,037,302.41.
 - Andy reported that Dave is working on getting the Society's F990 filed with the IRS.
 - Andy also reported that Dave is working on preparing for the transition to a new MAS treasurer after the election.
 - Josh Taillon asked whether the growth in MAS assets over time has been typical or if it has slowed down or sped up in recent years.
 - Andy said he will follow up with Dave on this.

- Membership (Emma Bullock)
 - Emma reviewed the current status of MAS's membership, as of 30 September, 2024.
 - MAS currently has 980 members, including 22 corporate memberships.
 - The society currently has ~100 fewer members than last year, likely due to the Klaus Keil memorial symposium at M&M2023 that attracted a large audience from the planetary science community who would not otherwise attend M&M.
 - MAS currently has 233 student members with joint MAS-MSA memberships, and 22 MAS-only student members.
 - Of those who reported, there are 425 joint MAS-MSA members and 60 MAS-only members.
 - Membership renewal reminders from VirtualInc were sent out in September.
 - Emma asked that if anyone did not get a reminder to please contact her.
 - Eric Lifshin has been added as an Emeritus MAS member.
 - Emma asked that any new candidates for Emeriti members be directed to her.
 - Abby asked if Dale Newbury could be added as an Emeritus member.
 - Emma responded that Dale likely already has Emeritus status, but she will double check.
 - Andy noted that there has been substantially more income from new members, since membership renewal has been combined with M&M registration.
 - Andy asked whether Emma knew whether the new members were being retained or were letting their membership lapse.
 - Emma responded that she has not looked at retention in detail, but that there is likely a mix.
 - A lot of the new attendees do renew, but there are sessions such as the Klaus Keil session mentioned above that attract a large audience who would not normally attend M&M, who then usually do not renew membership or attend M&M again.
- FIGMAS (Emma Bullock)
 - Abby will take over from Emma as FIGMAS leader on 1 January, 2025.
 - FIGMAS is currently running elections for Leader-Elect and Secretary/Treasurer.
 - Aurélien Moy (Gatan, Inc.) and Donggao Zhao (University of Missouri – Kansas City) are standing for Leader-Elect.
 - Andrew Mott (Texas A&M) is standing for Treasurer as the incumbent.
 - Any FIGMAS members who have not received their ballot should contact Emma.

- o Andy asked whether the two-year term for FIGMAS leader was sufficient.
 - Emma responded that it has not been a problem. .
- o Angela Halfpenny asked whether a person that joined FIGMAS today would become a member immediately, or if their membership would not take effect until 1 January, 2025.
 - Emma responded that, like MAS membership, those who renew before 1 October only have membership through 31 December of the same calendar year, while those who renew after 1 October will have their membership carry forward to the end of the next calendar year.
- o Abby asked whether new FIGMAS members who joined since the election began could be sent a ballot.
 - Emma responded that this was not possible once the election was under way.
- o The cost for the FIGMAS election was ~\$50.
 - Emma has applied for reimbursement from FIGMAS funds.
- Strategic Planning (Angela Halfpenny)
 - o Angela reported on three new initiatives proposed by the Strategic Planning Committee:
 - Initiative #1: Student Social Media Ambassadors.
 - Under this initiative, MAS would recruit 5 student and postdoc social media ambassadors to create at least two M&M-related posts in the month leading up to the meeting, and at least two posts per day while attending the meeting.
 - Posts would be made using the regular MAS social media channels.
 - Students and postdocs serving as social media ambassadors would receive free early registration for the M&M meeting.
 - o The cost for this would be ~\$1020-1390, based on previous rates for student and postdoc registration.
 - o This would benefit students who might not otherwise be able to afford the meeting registration.
 - The Social Media Chair would work with the MSA Student Council to solicit potential applicants.
 - For the first round, the first five students to express interest would be selected, but the process could be made competitive in the future if there was sufficient interest.
 - Josh suggested increasing the compensation for ambassadors to meeting registration and a small honorarium, in order to attract more applicants.

- o Angela said that this would be a good idea if sufficient funding was available.
- Vin Smentkowski suggested that a small team review candidates to ensure some diversity in social media background, and that they do not have a history of inappropriate online behavior.
- Vin also suggested an award for the person with the most posts or most engagement.
- Brad supported the idea but noted that this was outside of the Awards Committee's purview.
- Pat suggested that the Social Media Chair could work with the MSA Student Council on this.
- Joe Boro said that he would be open to a review committee.
 - o Joe also noted that MAS' social media software has analytics built in to review people's social media profiles to see if they are suitable.
- Andy suggested that for the first run of this program, it would probably be easiest to select the first five applicants and then use their experiences to inform how best to run this program in the future.
- Steve Seddio noted that there would need to be some monitoring of social media ambassadors to make sure that their content was appropriate and relevant to MAS.
- Pat suggested an additional award for the non-ambassador who makes the most posts or produces the most social media engagement.
- Angela noted that this first year would be a trial, after which the program would be reevaluated.
- Thomas Marchese, president of the MSA Student Council, supported the idea and suggested that it would allow students to engage with MAS.
 - o This is an item that could be advertised at the next MSA Student Council meeting.
 - o The Student Council also has a returning communications chair with a team planning social media engagement who could recommend applicants.
- Abby moved that council approve the initiative to recruit five student and postdoc social media ambassadors for M&M2025, Thomas seconded.
 - o Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.
- Initiative #2: M&M Accessibility and Inclusion for All Attendees.
 - This proposal was initiated partly through the input of Kat Crispin,

who has been acting as a representative from MAS to the MSA DEI committee.

- Angela described a new initiative to ensure that the M&M meeting is accessible and inclusive to all members who attend.
 - The MSA DEI committee has worked to expand access and inclusivity at the M&M meeting.
 - Examples of initiatives from M&M2024 include childcare services, quiet rooms with support infrastructure for neuro-atypical people, printed information about the meeting schedule and venue, gender neutral bathrooms, and spaces for religious observances.
 - These initiatives have costs, and MAS should match what MSA is contributing.
 - The cost is expected to be approximately \$5000.
 - Abby suggested lactation rooms as another item to be added to future meetings.
 - Andy asked what input MAS would have into what items are added to the meeting.
 - Angela said that this was to be determined, but that Kat has been sitting in on these meetings and could act as MAS' advocate on this front.
 - Vin and Abby offered to assist Kat in this.
 - Pat noted that there is a contractor that picks the venue for the M&M meeting on behalf of MSA, which may limit what MSA can and cannot request for the venue to provide.
 - Jessica Riesterer suggested that MAS provide an official delegate to the MSA DEI committee, to make sure that MAS has input on what MSA is doing.
 - Josh asked about the best way to ensure that items being requested are actually provided at the venue.
 - Angela responded that some requirements have been addressed while some have not, which is why more impetus and funds are needed to make sure that all items are addressed.
 - Some items are standard for conference venues while others are not, so some oversight is needed.
 - Tom mentioned that printed materials would also be helpful because of problems with the meeting app this year.
 - Andy said that issues with the app will be revisited on another channel.

- o Heather suggested that the need for printed materials could also be satisfied with a PDF distributed by MSA prior to the meeting, to allow people to print their own copies.
 - Angela responded that this would put the burden on the attendees to provide their own printed copies, which would not be fair to them.
 - o Andy said that we would meet with Angela and Kat about meeting with the MSA DEI committee to address the details related to these issues.
- Initiative #3: Free Registration to M&M for All Leadership Roles.
 - Angela explained that currently, only Executive Council members and the MAS Membership Chair receive free registration to the M&M meeting.
 - o The cost for this in 2024 was \$8996, with 13 people being reimbursed for the \$692 registration fee.
 - In the past, some committee chairs have not been able to attend due to the cost, so this could potentially increase MAS participation.
 - Under this initiative, people holding other leadership positions in MAS, such as committee chairs and members of the Awards Committee, would also receive free registration.
 - o This would amount to 27 positions whose registration would be reimbursed, for a total of \$18,684.
 - Pat voiced his support, and noted that the actual cost would probably be lower than estimated, since some people in leadership roles would either not attend the meeting for other reasons, or would have their registration paid by their employer.
 - Heather noted that members have been asking about how to spend the large amounts of money that MAS has in reserve.
 - o A number of the proposals for spending have been focused on the Executive Council, so there is a need to avoid the perception of self-dealing.
 - o Andy said that he is working on ways to deal with this issue.
 - o Josh also noted that free registration could serve as an incentive for members to step into leadership roles in MAS.
 - Angela said that she would discuss the budgeting and mechanisms for reimbursement with Dave.
 - Angela moved to approve the additional spending to reimburse MAS members in leadership roles for their registration for the M&M meeting, Abby seconded.

- o Motion carried by voice vote, Brad and Owen abstained.

- M&M2025 (Stuart Wright)

- o Stuart Wright reported that symposium chairs are putting together their invited speaker lists for the M&M2025 meeting.
- o Stuart also reported that there will be two symposia with MAS-related content.
 - These symposia include a FIGMAS-sponsored symposium on microanalytical standards and reference materials, and a session on EBSD.
- o Emma reported that as FIGMAS was putting together their invitee list, Paul Carpenter mentioned that there was a reciprocal agreement with EMAS and AMAS to invite the presidents of those organizations to give talks at M&M.
 - Andy said that he would follow up with other societies on this.
 - Emma also asked that anyone with suggestions for invited speakers for the FIGMAS symposium send them to Abby.
 - There is no dedicated EDS/WDS/EPMA/SEM symposium at M&M2025 beyond FIGMAS' symposium, but that such a symposium has been proposed by Paul Carpenter for 2026.
- o Andy added that Dave had asked that improved posters and graphical presentations for the MAS booth be included in the 2025 budget.
 - Designs for these new graphics should be given to Dave by early 2025.
 - Andy said that he will put out calls for images and other media for the booth to membership.

- M&M2026 (Andy Herzing)

- o Andy reported that Steve Seddio has volunteered to serve as MAS co-chair for M&M2026.
 - Andy will connect Steve to the 2026 Program Chair.
- o Andy also reported that the call for symposia for M&M2026 went out on 2 October.
 - There is a push to have more MAS-focused symposia at M&M2026.
 - Thomas Lam asked about the deadline symposium submission deadline for M&M2026.
 - Kate Burgess reported that the deadline is 12 November.

- M&M2024 Review (Andy Herzing)

- o Reviewing M&M2024, Andy noted that the social went very well but the lack of posters and graphics made the MAS booth look empty.
 - Booth layout could use improvement.

- Andy also noted that the lack of MAS-sponsored symposia in the scientific program was notable.
 - o Heather said more seating at the MAS booth would allow members and meeting attendees to interact around the booth more comfortably.
 - Andy added this to his list of items for M&M2025.
 - o Angela reported that vendors were confused about whether they could attend talks, which limited their participation in the meeting.
 - Stuart said he would follow up with the M&M2025 Program Committee, as some vendors from his employer have been allowed to attend talks. .
 - Jessica added that previously, a certain number of vendors from a given company were allowed to attend the scientific program, but vendors who were not in the company's quota had to register themselves if they wanted to attend talks
 - Steve said that his employer had informed their attendees that their badges would allow them to attend talks.
 - o Angela also noted that at other meetings, such as the European Microscopy Congress, held a closing social at the end of the meeting, which increased attendance at the late sessions and provided a nice coda to the meeting.
 - Stuart was interested in this but said that teardown in the exhibit hall would eliminate the natural gathering space for such a post-meeting event.
 - o Abby observed that since the MAS booth is now being housed in the exhibit hall, exhibitor badges will be necessary for MAS Council working the booth or tearing it down.
 - Andy said that he would make sure these badges were available to Council members who needed them.
- Archivist (John Fournelle)
 - o No report
- AReS (Thomas Lam)
 - o Thomas has taken over as AReS chair.
 - o Thomas reported that the Local Affiliated Societies will be holding a Pre-Meeting Congress at M&M2025,
 - The contact for this PMC is Page Baluch (Arizona State U.).
 - MSA will be providing a registration award for at least 30 awardees to attend this PMC.
 - Thomas suggested that MAS make a similar award.
 - The Local Affiliated Societies will meet again on 12 December, and Thomas will follow up regarding this PMC.

- o Thomas reported that the Pacific Northwest Microscopy society is in the process of being rebooted.
- o Andy asked about the possibility of students and postdocs serving as AReS tour speakers.
 - Tom Marchese said the MAS Student Council was working on putting together a list of possible speakers.
- Fellows (Vin Smentkowski)
 - o Vin reported that the Fellows Committee is currently composed of himself (Chair), Lucille Giannuzzi, Rhonda Stroud, and Heather Lowers.
 - The Committee is looking to add another member.
 - o There are currently no pending nominations for MAS Fellows.
 - o Vin emphasized the need to advertise the MAS Fellows program on all social media platforms and our webpage
 - There is also a need for Council members to encourage colleagues to nominate new fellows.
 - o Andy asked Vin to work with Josh and Emma to get MAS Fellows program information out to membership.
 - o Brad noted that he will soon be sending information about the Duncumb Award nominations, and asked whether including information about the Fellows program with this would be a good idea.
 - Vin said that this would be helpful.
- Awards (Brad de Gregorio)
 - o Brad expressed thanks to everyone who participated in poster judging.
 - o The following poster award winners have been selected for awards, based on judging by Council members during the M&M meeting in Cleveland.
 - Student: Maria Stanko (U. Toronto): Challenges in Silver Preservation: Characterizing the Composition and Sources of Unusual Tarnish on Seleucid Silver Coins Using SEM-EDS.
 - Student: Ann Ngo (U. Southern California): Non-Destructive Imaging of Polar Domains and Crystallographic Symmetry in the Scanning Electron Microscope.
 - Creative Canvas (postdoc/technician): Liza-Anastasia DiCecco (Penn State U.): Improving Methods for Imaging Viral Pathogens Using Liquid Transmission Electron Microscopy.
 - Creative Canvas: Harvey Guthrey (NREL): Cathodoluminescence Analysis of Charge Carrier Recombination in Photovoltaic Absorber Materials.
 - Award winners have been notified via email.

- Brad has printed certificates and will mail them to awardees soon.
 - o Brad reported that the Awards Committee has been convened for 2025
 - The committee is composed of third-year directors Kate Burgess and Jordan Hachtel, as well as at-large members Jian-Guo Zheng (UC Irvine), and Brian Caffrey (Rosalind Franklin Institute)
 - The Committee has begun evaluations of Best Paper nominees.
 - The Awards Committee will meet in early November to finalize selections.
 - o Brad asked how Council liked the sports towels, which were given to anyone who nominated a Best Paper Award nominee in each of the four categories.
 - Andy suggested loosening the award criteria to anyone who makes a nomination, in order to boost the number of nominees.
 - o Andy suggested that Best Paper Award nomination information be added to the MAS booth at M&M2024, possibly as a large graphic.
 - Brad said that he would work on this for next year.
- Computer Activities (Josh Taillon)
 - o Josh outlined a number of issues with Council's Google Workspace strategy that needed to be reevaluated, including:
 - Use of Gmail accounts:
 - Personal or institution emails do not always integrate with Google tools.
 - Conducting Society business using personal accounts looks unprofessional.
 - When MAS roles change hands over time, there is no data persistence or continuity from one officeholder to another if each is using their own account.
 - Use of GoogleDrive:
 - Each Google account has a MyDrive that can be used for that account's personal storage, which in the past has created permission issues when other accounts would need to access the same documents.
 - The MAS Webby and President accounts had been effectively serving as the main organizational storage for the Society.
 - User of GoogleGroups:
 - Individual officers maintained their own lists of MAS contacts that were not searchable or consistent.
 - o Josh then outlined a number of improvements that would address the aforementioned issues.
 - Use of Gmail accounts:

- Gmail accounts have been created for every role, such as committee chairs and council members, which can be transferred as needed from one officeholder to the next.
 - Josh and Andy asked that all MAS business be conducted through these Gmail accounts, and that the use of non-MAS email accounts for Society business be discontinued.
- Use of GoogleDrive:
 - Going forward, MAS should use “Shared Drives” for storage of Society files and documents.
 - This will allow for easier sharing of documents without permission issues, and prevent files from becoming lost in individual accounts.
 - The primary shared drive is “MAS Documents”, which is shared by all Council members.
- User of GoogleGroups:
 - Josh has created a number of centralized email lists for MAS Council members using GoogleGroups.
 - These include council@the-mas.org and ec@the-mas.org, for Council and Executive Council members, respectively.
 - The Secretary will keep these lists up to date, while the Webby can create new groups as needed.
 - Josh and Andy asked that council@the-mas.org and ec@the-mas.org be used for future communications, rather than emailing members directly.
- Josh said that he is creating [a document](#) that outlines the new MAS policies regarding usage of GoogleSuite.
 - Andy added that this is aimed at improving the Society’s institutional memory, as cycling in new officeholders has created continuity issues in the past.
 - Abby asked about storing Goldstein Scholar information in GoogleDrive spaces.
 - Goldstein Scholar information includes applications, which may contain confidential information.
 - Josh said that he has created a President’s GoogleDrive that contains more private council information that is not shared generally, and offered to create a similar Drive for Goldstein Scholars.
 - Angela asked why the display name on the President’s email is still Heather Lowers.
 - Josh responded that email clients like Outlook cache the name that appears the first time a message from an account appears.

- The name can be updated, but must be updated locally by individual users in their email clients.
 - Brad said that the Awards Committee frequently shares documents and information with people outside MAS.
 - This cannot be done from the MAS GoogleDrives but can be done from the Awards Chair's MAS account.
 - Brad plans to keep sharing from the Awards Chair account, and then import documents to the "MAS Documents" drive to ensure data continuity and preservation.
 - o Josh updated Council on requests for posting job advertisements on the MAS website.
 - Josh said that MAS has been approached several times over the last few months about posting advertisements for open positions on the MAS website.
 - Some requestors offered to pay for this, while others did not.
 - Josh opened discussion on whether MAS should have a job posting page and how it might be managed.
 - Andy suggested linking to job postings from the MAS website, perhaps from the Resources page, rather than hosting them locally.
 - o Creating and maintaining a database of open positions would probably be too much work.
 - Abby noted that the Microscopy Listserv that MSA/Nestor Zaluzec maintains accepts notices about job openings, but not solicitations from job seekers.
 - o Josh noted that Clarissa Wisner had asked in August if MAS could help AReS with creating and hosting their websites.
 - Josh proposed three possible solutions to this problem:
 - A joint AReS/MSA Affiliate could probably get a website through MSA, similar to (for example) <https://psm.microscopy.org/>.
 - A self-managed free website on something like wordpress.com, as was done by the Mountain States Society of Electron Microscopists, at <https://themssem.wordpress.com/>.
 - An MAS-provided single-page via Wordpress on the-mas.org, or a free Google Site using MAS' Google Workspace subscription.
 - Clarissa preferred the third option, creating <https://sites.google.com/the-mas.org/csmms/>, which is also accessible via a redirect at <https://the-mas.org/ares/csmms>.
- Social Media (Joe Boro)
 - o Joe said that he would be working with the MAS Student Council regarding the

student social media ambassadors, as described by the Strategic Planning Committee.

- Education (Andy Herzing for Mary Scott)
 - No report.
- Finance (Andy Herzing for Pete McSwiggen)
 - Andy said that he has asked Pete to update the list of Finance Committee members.
 - Andy reported that the MAS investments had done well in the 3rd quarter of 2024, growing by \$50,801.
 - This represents more than a 6% increase in a 3-month period.
 - During the past quarter, funds were rebalanced by the committee and some funds were switched for others.
 - At present, MAS' investments still hold over 8% in cash.
 - This will be reduced to 5% of the total of MAS' total investments once interest rates drop below 4%.
- International Liaison (Heather Lowers)
 - Heather described an issue regarding reciprocity between MAS, AMAS and EMAS regarding invited talks for Society presidents.
 - In the past, EMAS and AMAS presidents were invited to M&M on alternating years, with the guarantee of an invited talk in one of the symposia.
 - Travel and registration was offered to Society presidents, but was often turned down.
 - In return, the MAS president was invited to EMAS or AMAS in alternating years, with a similar guarantee of an invited talk.
 - Also, students sponsored by MAS, AMAS, and EMAS would travel to meetings to give a contributed or invited talk, with travel and registration provided.
 - The COVID-19 pandemic interrupted this established routine, as well as changed the timelines of the meetings for each society.
 - All three societies have expressed interest in reestablishing these connections.
 - Heather asked for feedback on how often EMAS and AMAS presidents should be invited, and what should be expected of invitees.
 - Andy said that if an invited talk were to be guaranteed to an EMAS or AMAS president, MAS would need to identify appropriate symposia early, and to communicate with the symposium

organizers to make sure a slot is available in an appropriate session.

- Abby supported reestablishing a regular schedule for this, and suggested the FIGMAS symposium at M&M2025, and a proposed practical SEM symposium at M&M2026, as possibly appropriate venues for EMAS and AMAS invitees.
- Stuart noted the need to make sure that the research interests of the EMAS and AMAS presidents were compatible with the available symposia.
- Pat added that during his time as MAS president, he was invited to AMAS and EMAS meetings but did not always give a talk.
- Brad said that the Awards Chair has an SOP that students should be identified to send to EMAS/AMAS meetings, and for the Awards Chair to reach out to those societies once the students have been selected.
 - Brad said that at least one MAS student has been selected to attend the EMAS 2025 meeting.
 - Tom offered to poll the AReS about to help identify potential student candidates.
- Brad asked whether people who were students when selected to attend a meeting but have subsequently graduated were still.
 - Heather and Pat both said that in the past, such awardees were still eligible to attend one of the meetings.
- Heather noted that EMAS and AMAS have switched when their major meetings take place (EMAS in odd years, AMAS in even years), and asked whether the presidents come in the “off” years for their respective societies.
 - Andy said that this would make the most sense.
- o Heather also listed some upcoming international meetings from MAS’ partner societies:
 - 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 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.
- Student Council (Thomas Marchese)
 - o Thomas introduced the 2024-2025 MSA Student Council leadership.
 - President: Thomas S. Marchese.
 - President Elect: Jackson Spurling.

- Past President: Andrés Márquez Rossy.
- Treasurer: Huiming Guo.
- Secretary: Madison Ammon.
- o Thomas also introduced the planning committee for the M&M Student Council Pre-Meeting Congress (PMCx60).
 - PMC-Chair: Danial Zangeneh.
 - PMC-Co-Chair: Chuhan Liu.
 - PhysSci Co-Chair: Ramandeep Mandia.
 - BioSci Co-Chair: Yomi Adegboyega.
 - Sponsor Liaison: Matthew Patrick.
 - Social Chair: Essance Ray.
 - Postdoc Subcommittee Chair: Bryan Lim.
 - Communications Chair: Rishi Raj.
- o Thomas also introduced the Student Council's Regional Liaisons for 2024-2025.
 - RL Chair: Patrick Hays.
 - RL I: Vacant.
 - RL II: Ananthu Mahendranath, Kayna Mendoza Trujillo, Nicholas Reinstra, Gabriel T. dos Santos, Liz Griffen.
 - RL III: Justin Warner.
 - RL V: Jane Park, Charlotte Kyeremah, Baird Bankoviz, Shake Karapetyan, Naomi Pieczulewski.
 - RL VI: Blake Dorame, Sally Karstens, Tofunmi Ogonfunmi, Ramandeep Mandia, Aviram Bhalla-Levine, Madelyn Payne.
 - RL VII: Rebekah White Mason Rhue, Adan Joel Mireles.
 - RL VIII: Tori Himmelstein, Austin Houston, Wyatt Peele.
 - RL IX: Casey Rowe.
 - RL X: Mikel Gomez Ruiz, Naveen Goyal, Ritvij Chandrakar.
 - Thomas mentioned that the Student Council was exploring partnerships with German and Czech student organizations to promote international collaboration and networking opportunities for students interested in microscopy.
- o Following on from the proposal for social media ambassadors from the MAS Strategic Planning Committee, Thomas said that the Student Council's communications team consisted of 4-6 people working to get posts out before and during the M&M meeting.
 - There are likely opportunities for collaboration regarding these efforts.
- o Thomas introduced the Student Council's Postdoc Subcommittee.
 - PostDoc Subcommittee Chair: Bryan Lim.

- PostDoc Subcommittee Members: Sylvie Crowell, Streit Cunningham, Jiadong Dan, Daniela Fonseca, Jake Garcia, Serin Lee, Lynnicia Massenburg, Selda Nayir, Jacob Smith
 - The focus of the Postdoc Subcommittee on helping members transition from graduate status into MSA leadership roles.
 - Thomas added that there was a postdoc meeting at M&M2024 that was well attended and received.
- o Thomas outlined the goals of the Student Council for 2024-2025.
 - Expand the reach of the Student Council and Regional Liaisons.
 - Fill more Regional Liaison positions.
 - Encourage participation of Student Council members and Regional Liaisons in local conferences and LAS's.
 - Promote MSA and the Student Council at non-microscopy conferences.
 - Encourage year-round involvement by active members.
 - Several initiatives were proposed to encourage this participation, including:
 - o Image Contest.
 - o Webinars.
 - o Travel Awards.
 - o Student Council Monthly Updates.
 - o Social Events.
 - Focus on the needs of student members, by promoting:
 - Access to mentors.
 - Guidance on how to seek jobs after graduation.
 - Postdoc sessions for career advice.
 - Promote the work of the PostDoc Subcommittee.
 - Continue integrating the PostDoc Subcommittee into the Student Council.
 - Create programs and content beneficial for PostDocs.
- o Brad said that he would be glad to add a student member to the MAS Awards Committee.
 - Brad will follow up with Thomas on this.
- Sustaining Members (Steve Seddio)
 - o Steve reported that there are currently 22 Sustaining Members.
 - Of these, 20 are joint Sustaining Members with MSA, while 2 are MAS-only.

- Mergers between companies have reduced the number of sustaining members relative to previous years.
 - Renewal reminders will be sent to Sustaining Members in late October or early November.
 - Steve will also send Sustaining Membership invitations to several new vendors who may be interested.
- Topical Conferences (Anette von der Handt)
 - o No report.
- Nominations Committee (Andy Herzing)
 - o Andy asked for an update on the 2024 MAS Council election.
 - Emma reported that the ballot is ready, and that the test election ballot will go out to Council members on Wednesday, 10 October.
 - Please report any issues with the test election to Emma or Owen.
 - The official ballot will go out to MAS members on 1 November, and the election will close at 5pm PST on 1 December.
 - The cost for the test election will be ~\$50, and the cost for the real election will be ~\$300-400.
 - o Andy reported that MAS is still looking for a representative for the M&M magazine editorial board.
 - o Andy also reported that Abby will be stepping down as Goldstein Award Coordinator next year.
 - Please send suggestions for a new Coordinator to Andy.
 - o A new nominations committee will be convened after 2024 MAS election
- Next Meetings (Andy Herzing)
 - o Andy reported that the Winter Council meeting will likely be in February 2025, and that the Spring Council meeting will likely be in May 2025.
- Adjourn, 13:21 EDT
 - o Pat moved to adjourn the meeting, Abby seconded.
 - Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.