



2025 MAS Business Meeting
30 July, 2025, 17:30-18:30 MDT
Salt Palace Convention Center, Salt Lake City, UT

Andrew Herzing	President 2024-2026
Patrick Camus	Past President 2024-2025
Assel Aitkaliyeva	President-Elect 2025-2026
Owen Neill	Secretary 2023-2025
Dale Burns	Treasurer 2025-2026
Katherine Burgess	Director 2023-2025
Jordan Hachtel	Director 2023-2025
Megan Holtz	Director 2024-2026
Jessica Riesterer	Director 2024-2026
Aurélien Moy	Director 2025-2027
Debangshu Mukherjee	Director 2025-2027
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
Rhonda Stroud	Finance since 2025
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
Ed Vicenzi	MAM Editorial Board
Stuart Wright	M&M2025 Co-Chair

Council/Directors Present: Dale Burns, Pat Camus, Jordan Hachtel, Andy Herzing, Aurélien Moy, Debangshu Mukherjee, Owen Neill, Jessica Riesterer

Quorum reached at 17:33 MDT

- Call to Order: 17:34 MDT (Andy Herzing)
- Approval of Agenda (Andy Herzing)
 - Andy Herzing outlined the agenda for the 2025 MAS Business Meeting.
 - Heather Lowers moved to approve the agenda of the 2025 MAS Business Meeting, Abby Lindstrom seconded.
 - Motion carried unanimously.
- Opening Remarks (Andy Herzing)
 - Andy thanked the MAS council and the attendees of the business meeting for supporting MAS.
 - Andy also thanked Stuart Wright for his work as MAS co-share for M&M2025.
 - Andy reported that the EMAS and AMAS presidents were not able to attend M&M2025, but that Ric Wuher was attending representing AMAS.
- Secretary (Owen Neill)
 - Pat Camus moved to accept the minutes of the 2024 MAS Business Meeting, Stuart seconded.
 - Motion passed with one abstention
 - Owen outlined a proposed change to Article VI, Section 4 of the MAS bylaws, to implement ranked-choice voting for candidates for office, with a coin-flip used in the event of a tiebreaker.
 - The current text of Article VI, Section 4 is as follows:

“An official ballot shall be prepared by the Secretary containing the selections for each office, and including write-in space for each office. A copy shall be made available electronically or by mail to each Voting Member of the Society not later than November first of each year. The voting shall be conducted as outlined in Article III, Section 7, and shall be performed by the Voting Member no later than 5 pm PST on December first. The President shall appoint two Members to confirm the validity of the ballots, at least one of which is not an officer of the Society. The candidate receiving the largest number of votes is elected.”

- The proposed change to Article VI, Section 4 is as follows:

“An official ballot shall... ..officer of the Society. The candidate receiving the largest number of votes is elected, as decided by ranked-choice voting. In the event of a tie that prevents the

determination of a clear winner for any elected position, the winner will be decided by a coin flip between the tied candidates. The coin flip will be conducted by the President, in the presence of the Secretary, Past-President, the electoral candidates who have tied in the voting, and one Member who is not an officer of the Society as appointed by the President. The coin flip may take place virtually or in person.

- o Ian Anderson gave a brief description of Ranked Choice Voting.
- Treasurer (Dale Burns)
 - o Dale gave a brief report on MAS' finances, as of 23 July, 2025.
 - Total income: \$33,264.33 (\$84,350.00 projected).
 - Dale reported that membership income was meeting expectations.
 - Total expenses: \$37,972.13 (\$113,262.50 projected).
 - Operating expenses: \$27,651.64 (\$56,950.00 projected).
 - Meeting expenses: \$10,812.00 (\$58,000 projected).
 - This will be updated after the meeting.
 - Dale summarized the current state of the MAS accounts.
 - Total liquid assets: \$158,366.40.
 - Total charitable funds: \$48,486.04.
 - Schwab investment account: \$908,650.70.
 - Total encumbered assets: \$1,115,503.14.
 - Total unencumbered assets: \$1,067,017.10.
 - Dale outlined the proposed MAS budget for 2026.
 - Total budgeted meeting expenses: \$58,000 (\$58,000 in FY25).
 - Total budgeted operating expenses: \$57,450.00 (\$56,950 in FY25).
 - The budget is very similar to that of FY25, with a \$500 increase in seed money for topical conferences.
 - Rhonda Stroud suggested increasing the Goldstein Scholarship award in coming years to keep pace with meeting expenses.
 - John Donovan asked if there was a separate line item for FIGMAS support.
 - Dale responded that FIGMAS support is included in the Strategic Planning Initiatives line item.
 - Angela Halfpenny suggested that individual Strategic Planning Initiatives should have their own line items in the FY26 budget.
 - For example, the costs for the FIGMAS award and the Social

Media Ambassadors could be broken out.

- Dale said that he would add this.
- Abby moved to accept the budget pending the changes described above, Pat seconded.
- Motion carried unanimously.
- Membership (Emma Bullock)
 - Emma Bullock reported on the state of MAS' membership as of 17 July, 2025.
 - MAS currently has 829 members in good standing (compared to 794 on 16 July 2024), with 129 MAS-only members and 220 student members.
 - Emma noted that most members elect joint membership with MSA and MAS.
 - Numbers will be finalized after M&M, when on-site registrations are reported.
 - Emma noted that MAS offers a hardship waiver to members who are experiencing financial difficulties and need assistance to renew their membership.
 - Hardship waivers are confidential and available to any member in good standing who is in need of assistance.
 - Details are available on the MAS website.
 - Emma asked that members reach out to her with possible candidates for Emeritus Membership.
 - Jeroen Smulders asked if lifetime membership was available.
 - EMAS offers lifetime membership for an additional fee.
 - Emma will look into whether this is possible.
 - Andy said that he would add a discussion of possible lifetime memberships to the agenda for Fall Council.
- FIGMAS (Abby Lindstrom)
 - Abby reported that FIGMAS currently has 39 members, 26 from the US and the rest from Canada, Europe and Australia.
 - The MAS-funded Strategic Planning Initiative being spearheaded by Will Nachlas is ongoing, with work being done to obtain and characterize new microanalytical reference materials.
 - Abby showed examples of TiO_2 , SrTiO_3 , PbMoO_4 and NdCaAlO_4 obtained by will for potential characterization.
 - Abby reminded members that the FIGMAS business meeting would take place on Thursday, 31 July, at 12:25PM in room 253B.
 - Abby also reminded members that the poster session for the FIGMAS

symposium would also take place on Thursday in the exhibit hall.

- MAM Journal (Andy Herzing for Ed Vicenzi)
 - Andy thanked Ed Vicenzi for stepping in to serve on the MAM editorial board.
 - Andy reported that MAM has the highest impact factor relative to other microscopy journals.
 - The impact factor (3.000) has steadily increased since 2022.
 - Annual submissions to MAM have remained approximately constant after a spike in 2021.
 - Submissions have been received from 84 different countries since 2009.
 - Andy reported on MAM's new continuous publication system.
 - Under this system there is always an active open issue as opposed to a separate "in press" section.
 - The February issue opens on January 1st and closes on February 28th (or 29th).
 - Manuscripts are inserted into the active issue as they are accepted, typeset, and proofed.
 - There is no longer an Advance Access section, as manuscripts are published immediately.
 - Each issue is assigned a generic cover until a manuscript with a figure suitable for the cover is identified.
 - The February issue is delayed due to a severe delay of the December 2024 issue.
 - Andy outlined a new system for the promotion of microanalytical papers.
 - Andy noted that promoting high-quality microanalytical literature had been a long-time goal, but crowd-sourcing efforts had not been successful as they yielded too few submissions.
 - Andy and Ed have identified an avenue to do this through Microscopy Today.
 - This avenue would be similar to Carmichael's Concise Review or Jay's Gems, which identify papers in biology journals further afield from M&M.
 - A dedicated person would identify papers and work with the authors to produce a ~500-word review, which would later be featured in Microscopy Today.
 - Copyright would not be an issue as MSA is nonprofit.
 - Heather asked who would serve in this role.
 - Andy said that he and Ed would work on this initially, but a permanent person has yet to be identified.

- o Joe Boro suggested using AI to help capture and filter potential papers.
- Strategic Planning (Angela Halfpenny)
 - o Angela announced the members of the Strategic Planning Committee.
 - Members are Tom Kelly, Anette von der Handt, Vin Smentkowski, Nicholas Ritchie, Steve Seddio, Jessica Riesterer, Megan Holtz and Julien Allaz.
 - o Angela outlined the Student Social Media Ambassador initiative.
 - This initiative aimed to recruit five student and postdoc social media ambassadors for M&M.
 - These ambassadors would produce at least two posts per month leading up to the meeting, and at least two posts per day while at M&M.
 - Ambassadors would work with the MAS Social Media Chair to create content.
 - Their posts would be promoted using the MAS social media channels.
 - Ambassadors would get free M&M registration, which could allow some students to attend M&M who might not otherwise be able to.
 - The cost for five ambassadors would be ~\$1500.
 - Two ambassadors were able to attend M&M2025.
 - Austin Houston, University of Tennessee-Knoxville.
 - Caleb Okrucky, Northern Arizona University.
 - o Angela outlined the initiative under which all MAS committee chairs would receive free registration for the M&M meeting.
 - Prior to this initiative, registration had only been offered to the Executive Council.
 - This initiative allows more council members to attend the meeting in person.
 - o Angela asked that members contact her with ideas for new strategic planning initiatives.
- AReS (Andy Herzing for Thomas Lam)
 - o Andy announced the Southeastern Microscopy Society held a meeting on 14-16 May, 2025.
 - MAS Tour Speaker Masashi Watanabe (Lehigh University) gave a talk.
 - “Development of a high energy electron energy-loss spectrometry system for an aberration-corrected scanning transmission electron microscope.”

- Also, Lynnicia Massenburg (ORNL), the first MAS-sponsored Student Council Speaker gave a talk.
 - “AI-Automated Morphological Feature Analysis of Bacterial Ultrastructures for CryoEM.”
 - o The New England Society for Microscopy held a meeting on 25 April, 2025.
 - MAS Tour Speaker Ed Vicenzi (Smithsonian) gave a talk.
 - “Milli- to Nano-scale Examination of Early Metal-base Photographs.”
 - o Andy announced that the Great Lakes Microscopy Society (GLMS) has been created.
 - The GLMS is a reboot of the Michigan Microscopy and Microanalysis Society.
 - GLMS will host a regional meeting on 7 October 2025, and has requested funding for both an MAS tour speaker and a Student Council speaker.
 - o Andy also announced that the Mountain States Society of Electron Microscopists has requested Ed Vicenzi as a speaker for their meeting on 16 October, 2025.
- Awards (Andy Herzing for Brad de Gregorio)
 - o Andy announced the members of the Awards Committee:
 - Members are Kate Burgess (MAS), Jordan Hachtel (MAS), Brian Caffrey (at-large), Jian-Guo Zheng (at-large), Andrés Márquez (MSA Student Council).
 - o Andy announced the Outstanding Paper Awards from M&M2024:
 - Birks Award (Best Contributed Paper, Sponsored by JEOL): Michael Colletta, Cornell University.
 - Cosslett Award (Best Invited Paper, Sponsored by MAS): Zsanett Pintér, CSIRO.
 - Castaing Award (Best Student Paper, Sponsored by Cameca): Yueyun Chen, University of California, Los Angeles.
 - Macres Award (Best Instrumentation/Software Paper, Sponsored by Oxford): Ric Wuher, Western Sydney University.
 - o Andy also announced the 2025 MAS Major Society Awards.
 - Presidential Service Award: Vin Smentkowski, GE Vernova Advanced Research Center.
 - K.F.J. Henrich Award: Kayla Nguyen, University of Oregon.
 - Presidential Science Award: Chris Kiely, Lehigh University.
 - Peter Duncumb Award for Excellence in Microanalysis: Marc de Graef, Carnegie Mellon University.
 - A Microscopy Today article describing the awardees has been published.

- o Andy also announced the travel awardees for the M&M2025 Distinguished Scholars.
 - Yutong Bi, University of California Irvine.
 - Robert Busch, University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign.
 - Alexander Kling, Purdue University.
 - Amy McKeown-Green, Stanford University.
 - Chris McRobie, North Carolina State University.
 - Jane Park, Massachusetts Institute of Technology.
 - Beau Prince, University of Arizona.
 - Linna Qiao, Binghamton University.
 - Jacques Reddinger, University of Oregon.
 - Nayely Valeriano García, Instituto Politécnico Nacional.
 - Amir Farkoosh, Northwestern University.
 - Young-Hoon Kim, Oak Ridge National Laboratory.
 - Eveline Postelnicu, Stanford University.
 - Yu Wen, Northwestern University
 - Yu-Mi Wu, Cornell University.
- o Andy reported that Brad de Gregorio had created a GoogleForm for poster judging at M&M2025.
 - Email blasts are sent periodically to members requesting nominations for best paper awards.
- Computer Activities (Andy Herzing for Josh Taillon)
 - o Andy noted that web traffic was in line with prior years, driven primarily by the M&M meeting.
 - Traffic is coming mainly from Google and the MSA website.
 - o Andy outlined several other initiatives from Josh Taillon.
 - Josh has designed and implemented formal Google Workspace policies for council members
 - This includes expectations around use of Google email accounts for society business, shared Google Drive locations rather than individually owned files, etc.
 - These policies ensure continuity of knowledge through transitions, and that MAS data ownership stays with MAS rather than individuals' institutional accounts.
 - Dedicated Gmail addresses have been created for all council positions.
 - Josh has documented important account transition procedures to improve efficiency during important society account turnover periods.

- This has been successfully used for the AReS chair, Treasurer, and Finance Chair transitions in the past year.
 - Josh assisted the Central States Microscopy and Microanalysis Society (CSMMS) in setting up and hosting their AReS website using MAS tools.
 - o MAS meeting minutes back to 2006 have been posted on the MAS website.
 - Minutes from 2013 – 2017 and from before 2006 are missing.
 - Andy asked any members who have copies of older meeting minutes to please send them to Josh.
 - o Andy asked that members share any MAS-related or events, news, etc. of interest to the MAS membership with webby@the-mas.org so that such information can be featured on the MAS website and social media.
 - Other ideas for the website, ways we can support the membership, etc. are always welcome.
- Education (Andy Herzing for Mary Scott)
 - o The Meal with a Mentor event was held on Monday, 28 July.
 - 106 students and 15 mentors attended.
 - Andy reported that the event was very successful.
 - The number of students and mentors may be increased next year.
 - o Mary Scott will be stepping down as Education Chair, but said that she would be willing to stay on the committee.
 - Fellows (Vin Smentkowski)
 - o Vin Smentkowski announced the members of the Fellows Committee.
 - Members are Lucille Giannuzzi, Rhonda Stroud, Heather Lowers, John Mansfield, Ed Vicenzi.
 - Vin announced that Lucille would be rotating off, with Ed replacing her.
 - o Vin gave a short outline of the MAS Fellows program.
 - The program is intended to recognize eminent scientists, engineers, and technologists in the field of microanalysis of materials and related phenomena who have distinguished themselves through outstanding research, teaching, and service to the MAS community.
 - Nomination packages may be submitted at the following link:
 - http://microbeamanalysis.org/Fellowship_Nomination
 - The application deadline for this year is 30 September, 2025,
 - o Vin asked attendees to think of 1-2 candidates for nomination.
 - Andy suggested that members suggest candidates to Vin, so the Fellows Committee can assist in finding people to help put together the nomination package.

- o Jordan asked if there was a way to create a list of people who had been sufficiently active in MAS such that they would meet the criteria.
 - Vin offered to help put this list together.
 - Emma offered to assist Vin with this.
 - Owen noted that a list of past MAS Executive Council members going back to 1968 may be found on MAS GoogleDrive.
- Finance (Rhonda Stroud)
 - o Rhonda has replaced Pete McSwiggen as Finance Committee chair, and is looking for new members for the committee.
 - o Rhonda reported that the portfolio currently has over \$908,000.
 - This is more than enough to cover the MAS co-share in case of a failed meeting.
 - Rhonda encouraged members to think of Strategic Planning Initiatives to make use of the MAS investment account to strengthen the Society.
 - MAS investments are distributed across a range of funds in accordance with the MAS Finance Committee guidelines.
 - The distribution of investments is revisited every 3 months.
- International Liaison (Heather Lowers)
 - o Heather reported on a number of upcoming events being hosted by MAS' international partners.
 - EMAS will be hosting a Regional Topical Workshop on EBSD on June 15-17, 2026 which will take place near Fontainebleau, France.
 - Details will be announced in September.
 - AMAS will host the 2026 AMAS meeting in February.
 - <https://amas-symposium.org.au/2026/home>
 - Workshops will be held at CSIRO, Australian Synchrotron, and National Gallery of Victoria on 9-10 February.
 - The full AMAS meeting will take place at Pullman Albert Park outside Melbourne on 11-13 February.
 - Potential workshops beforehand may include cryo-EPMA, soft x-ray analysis, advanced indicator minerals, CL (practical and hands-on), cultural heritage microanalysis and workshops at the synchrotron.
 - The second international xCLent CL workshop will take place on Monday, 16 February, following AMAS
 - The IUMAS-9 meeting will take place on 31 May – 3 June in Xi'an, China.
 - <https://iumas9.casconf.cn/>

- The 21st International Microscopy Congress will take place in Liverpool, UK, on 28 August – 5 September, 2026.
- Topical Conferences (Andy Herzing for Anette von der Handt)
 - o Andy reported that two virtual Topical Conferences are in the early planning stage for 2026.
 - Topics include sample preparation for quantitative microscopy and microanalysis, and software solutions for microscopy and microanalysis.
 - Initial meetings for those interested in co-organizing are planned within the next four weeks.
 - A budget line item of \$1500 was requested to obtain Zoom Events licenses to host these meetings.
 - o Discussions are currently being held regarding an in-person Topical Conference on EBSD in 2027.
- Nominations (Andy Herzing for Assel Aitkaliyeva)
 - o Andy announced the members of the Nominations Committee.
 - Members are Assel Aitkaliyeva, Jordan Hachtel and Kate Burgess.
 - o Andy announced two new appointed Council members.
 - Ed Vicenzi (Smithsonian): MAM Journal Editorial Board, replacing Donovan Leonard.
 - Michelle Thompson (Purdue University): Goldstein Award Coordinator, replacing Abby Lindstrom.
 - o Andy outlined the nominees for elected positions, to be voted on by membership in November, 2025.
 - Candidates for Secretary:
 - Jordan Hachtel, ORNL.
 - There were no nominations from the floor.
 - Tom Kelly moved to close nominations for Secretary, Abby seconded.
 - o Motion carried unanimously.
 - Candidates for Director:
 - Andres Marquez Rossy, University of Tennessee – Knoxville.
 - Vighter Iberi, The Proctor & Gamble Company.
 - Christopher Marvel, Louisiana State University.
 - Shize Yang, Yale University.
 - There were no nominations from the floor.
 - Nicholas Ritchie moved to close nominations for Director, Tom Marchese seconded.

- o Motion carried unanimously.
 - o Andy thanked outgoing MAS council members.
- M&M2025 Report (Stuart Wright)
 - o Stuart Wright reported that sessions have been well attended, despite concerns about attendance due to funding cuts.
 - Registrations are comparable to M&M2024 (2252 for M&M2025, 2365 for M&M2024), although there is no word on cancellations yet.
 - o Andy noted that the MAS booth is much improved relative to M&M2024.
 - Andy thanked Dave Tomlin for the new booth design, which came at no additional cost.
 - Andy added that the booth at M&M2026 will feature images from MAS members, which he is working on soliciting.
 - The booth features posters about awards and FIGMAS, as well as ribbons and new stickers created by Joe.
- Social Media (Joe Boro)
 - o Joe reported that activity on Twitter and Facebook has decreased while activity on Instagram has increased.
 - Students seem to be more focused on Instagram and TikTok.
 - Joe is working on ideas to generate more TikTok content.
 - LinkedIn is not as heavily used.
 - o Joe is working with the Social Media Ambassadors to create content throughout the meeting.
 - o Joe is also working on an AI tool for summarizing papers, which could aid in selecting high-quality microanalysis literature to highlight.
- M&M2026 Report (Andy Herzing for Steve Seddio)
 - o Andy reported that 36 symposia were proposed for M&M2026, down from 60 proposals for 2025 and 55 proposals for 2024.
 - Symposia include 14 Analytical Sciences symposia, six Biological Sciences symposia, two Interdisciplinary Sciences symposia, and 14 Physical Sciences symposia.
 - The Program Committee has combined six symposia and added two more, for a total of 32 that will take place at M&M2026.
 - o The call for Plenary Speakers will be going out shortly.
 - There is an opportunity to suggest a more MAS-focused Plenary Speaker.
 - Andy asked that any suggestions be sent to him.

- Sustaining Members (Andy Herzing for Steve Seddio)
 - Andy reported that MAS currently has 22 Sustaining Members.
 - 20 Sustaining Memberships are joint with MSA.
 - One Sustaining Membership was lost when EXpressLO LLC was acquired by Tescan.
 - Chemical Microscopy, LLC was added as a Sustaining Member this year.
 - Andy thanked Stuart for helping pass out plaques to the Sustaining Members.
 - Andy will attend Sustaining Members breakfast on Thursday.
 - Angela noted that the Sustaining Members plaques did not stand up correctly.
 - Emma said that this had been corrected.
- Other Business (Andy Herzing)
 - Tom Marchese thanked MAS for its continued sponsorship of the MAS Student Council.
- Adjourn (Andy Herzing)
 - Abby moved that the meeting be adjourned, Heather seconded.
 - Motion carried unanimously.
- Adjourn: 18:34 MDT.