



## From the Editor

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In this month's issue, we publish a set of 4 papers on the Morávka meteorite fall. These kind of detailed studies are a great example of successful collaborations between different specialists in the field. A paper by Beech et al. discusses a "flickering" Gemenid fireball. These are great studies to add to our understanding of the processes occurring during infall of meteoroids.

Other papers in this issue focus on impact effects: tectonics at the Vredefort dome, studies of impactites at the Chixculub site and the Woodleigh impact structure in Australia. To complete the issue, a paper by Izenberg discusses remote sensing studies of the asteroid Eros. These papers demonstrate the wide appeal of *Meteoritics & Planetary Science*, beyond petrographic and geochemical studies of meteorites. As editor, I have noticed a great increase in the number of submissions on cratering studies and cratering dynamics. It's great to see this important part of planetary studies play a more important role in MAPS papers.

In a letter to the editor, Dieter Heymann comments that perhaps papers in MAPS have become "mountains of trivia and near-trivia about meteorites." Perhaps there is something to be said for Dieter's comments, he would like to hear more about parent objects. We certainly read much of detailed information on the mineralogy, petrography, and isotopic composition of very small parts of some meteorites. However, surely, we know a lot more about parent objects, from S-asteroids to Mars, than we did 20 years ago. This gives us the chance to take Dieter's challenge to heart. Some modelers are perhaps already sharpening their pencils (if they still use pencils) or powering up their laptops.

However, I would differ with his interpretation a little, which reminded me of the comments by a well-known

speaker a couple of years ago, at a Lunar and Planetary Science Conference, that we had learned little in the past 30 years and there was nothing new. We have learned a great deal about the moon, about Mars, and about the asteroids. Perhaps we don't always connect the dots. Part of the problem is the structure of science and science funding, which pushes many scientists to focus on easily-published results for the next grant cycle. However, there are many scientists who still think about the "bigger picture," and perhaps they can consider some of the weightier topics.

I would like to announce two new associate editors of MAPS, who will add to the expertise of the associate editors: Ian Franchi (Open University, UK) and Uwe Reimold (University of the Witwatersrand, South Africa). They are both well known to many readers of MAPS.

Finally, on a different note, I would like to acknowledge the long service of Denis Shaw as an associate editor of MAPS. Denis was also previously the executive editor of *Geochimica et Cosmochimica Acta*. His dedication to the field of geochemistry spans many decades. Denis is retiring due to ill health. I would like him to know that his most interesting publications for me is his least read, but important, advice for editors: "On the noninterchangeability of hats." I am sure we all wish him well.

A. J. Timothy Jull  
Editor

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