

Alabama Section Co-Sponsors 3rd Annual Materials Research Conference

The Alabama Section of the Materials Research Society and Alabama EPSCoR jointly sponsored the third annual Alabama Materials Research Conference held September 20-21, 1989 in Huntsville, Alabama. EPSCoR, a U.S. National Science Foundation "Experimental Program to Stimulate Competitive Research," targets underfunded states for scientific development. The conference was co-hosted by Alabama A&M University and the University of Alabama at Huntsville (UAH) at UAH's Tom Beville Center. Hospitality support was provided by McDonnell Douglas Corporation.

The conference was broad in scope, featuring four symposia with concurrent sessions. Session topics spanned microgravity processing, advanced and aerospace materials, space science, composites, ceramics, carbon, crystal growth, biomaterials, and solidification/welding. In addition, the student sessions included diffusion, superconductors, and characterization.

Invited speakers were Lynn A. Boatner, head of the Ceramics and Interfaces Section, Solid State Division, Oak Ridge National Laboratory; James B. Roberto, associate director, Solid State Division, Oak Ridge; and Ralph Carruth, chief of the Physical Sciences Branch, Materials and

Processes Laboratory, NASA Marshall Space Flight Center.

Papers were also presented by scientists from various industries and national laboratories, including McDonnell Douglas Space Systems, Wyle Laboratories, Boeing, SRS Technologies, NASA Marshall Space Flight Center, Johnson Space Flight Center, and Los Alamos National Laboratory.



Left to right: Invited speaker Lynn Boatner, program coordinator and MRS Section President Daryush Ila, and invited referee Ilmars Dalins confer at the third annual Alabama Materials Research Conference.

Hemanta Jena, president of the Alabama A&M University Chapter of MRS, with the help of Hossein Maleki and Stephen D. Pearson organized the student activities. Prizes were awarded for the two best student platform papers and the two best student posters. Recognized in the platform paper category were J.R. Ashburn (UAH) and D.A. Robinson (University of Alabama at Tuscaloosa). For the posters, first prize went to S.E. Zutaut (UAH), and second to D.A. Robinson in collaboration with W.D. Calhoun and K.M. Stephens. First prize in each category was the *CRC Handbook of Chemistry and Physics*; second prize was a one-year paid membership in MRS. The judges were Ilmars Dalins of NASA Marshall Space Flight Center, Tim Volin of Parker Hanefin, and Sam Jacobs of United Space Boosters Inc.

The program committee included Lawrence R. Holland, program chairman (Alabama A&M and MRS); Samuel P. McManus, organizing chairman (UAH and MRS); Daryush Ila, coordinator (Alabama A&M and MRS Alabama Section president); Gwyn Morgan Jenkins (Alabama A&M and University College, Swansea, UK); John C. Gregory, symposium organizer (UAH); J. Milton Harris (UAH); and Manmohan D. Aggarwal (Alabama A&M and MRS).

A program summary including titles and authors is available from Lawrence Holland, Physics Department, Alabama A&M University, Normal, AL 35762; telephone (205) 851-5313; fax (205) 851-7984.

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CHAPTER NEWS

Cornell, Florida University Chapters Announce Officers, Activities

The **Cornell University Chapter** of the Materials Research Society has elected officers for the 1989-1990 year:

President—Adrienne C. Alton, Cornell University, Bard Hall, Ithaca, NY; telephone (607) 255-6684

Vice President—Mark Zaleski

Secretary—Joanna Baum

Treasurer—Barbara Cho

Publicity Chair—Jeff Lawlis

The Cornell Chapter has held several general meetings and a series of computer

training seminars. Their plans included a progressive dinner, a company information session, and a faculty-student reception. Many members expected to attend the 1989 MRS Fall Meeting in Boston.

The **Florida University Chapter** of the Materials Research Society also elected the following officers:

President—Chris Santana, 4411 NW 19th Avenue, Gainesville, FL 32605; telephone (904) 372-3830

Vice President—Brian Greenwood

Secretary/Treasurer—Mike Tyrech

Attendance at the Florida Chapter's first meeting in September was about 20 people. The favorable turnout was attributed to interest in the guest speaker topic—

interviewing techniques. The meeting was held one week before the campus' Career Expo, when companies visit the campus to interview prospective employees.

Of the possible Chapter activities discussed at the meeting, the most popular ideas included inviting department professors to describe on-going research in their labs, making a field trip to a semiconductor processing plant, and organizing a progressive dinner with the faculty.

The Florida Chapter also announced plans to participate in a pre-engineering colloquium on campus by displaying brochures and publications from MRS. This event is held so that freshmen and sophomores interested in engineering can gain first-hand information about the university's colleges.

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