

JS.E. Baglin

The impressive progress of the Materials Research Society during its short history has been due in very large part to the enthusiastic participation of its members in all aspects of its planning and organization. Consider, for example, how many enthusiasts are involved at some level in planning and running the Boston Meeting and all its attendant activities-not only are there all the session chairs, symposium organizers and meeting organizers, but also the headquarters staff and the short course organizers and faculty. The Executive Committee represents the Council in the ongoing management of the MRS. However, in order to deal effectively with the issues of today's organization and at the same time keep up the momentum of the Society's growth and change for tomorrow, the Executive Committee needs the vital advice and support of the MRS Committees.

Each year, the chairs of these special working groups accept a great responsibility, as do their vice-chairs and committee members. They are charged to explore new initiatives in their areas, and to do the background research to support their recommendations for executive action. They also have ongoing responsibility for many day-to-day activities of the Society, and they will frequently become the means whereby MRS members' suggestions or criticisms can be noted and given serious evaluation. An MRS member's input of ideas (or grumbles) to the appropriate Committee Chair can in this way be of best value to MRS, and can be translated into action as a result.

We are fortunate to have an outstanding

Key People

list of dedicated people who have agreed to chair the 1988 committees, or to accept the tasks of subcommittee chair or "area specialist" within those committees. Their names are listed on this page. I have asked all of these folk to pay careful attention to input from you, the MRS members. Your constructive comments and suggestions, or your offers of your special expertise and assistance, are of the greatest value to MRS, and they will be welcomed. In future letters, I hope to discuss with you some of the larger issues our committees are dealing with. I would especially encourage you to articulate your ideas on these issues, so that your opinions can help us to build the most effective MRS for the future.

In February, the MRS headquarters wholeheartedly welcomed Merry Geil to the position of Director of Meeting Activities. The creation of this senior position was approved by Council last December. It was felt that, in order for MRS to maintain its standards of excellence in the presentation of technical meetings, while those meetings continue to grow in size and complexity, it would be necessary to consolidate the meeting coordination, logistics and liaison in the hands of a strong new Director of Meeting Activities. Merry Geil is uniquely qualified to accept these responsibilities. As many of you may know, Merry has been a key member of the consultant firm, The Complete Conference, who routinely perform magic for us as meeting planners and hotel management liaison. Merry understands MRS, its goals and its people in great depth, she shares our excitement in the development of the Society, and she is one of the most pleasant and efficient people you could wish to meet. In the new position, Merry will become a principal headquarters contact for our symposium organizers, meeting chairs, short course planners and meeting contractors such as exhibit organizers and The Complete Conference. We are extremely fortunate that Merry has joined our staff, and I take this opportunity to welcome her aboard.

1988 Committee Appointments*

Academic Affairs—Chair, Barry L. Scheetz (Pennsylvania State University); Student Chapters, Gary Tibbetts (GM Research Labs); Educational Materials, Aubrey L. Helms, Jr. (AT&T).

Awards—Chair, Kathleen C. Taylor (GM Research Labs); Student Awards, J.M. Gibson (AT&T Bell Labs).

Continuing Education—Chair, Alton D. Romig (Sandia National Labs); Short Course Manager, Vivienne Harwood Mattox

Corporate Participation—Chair, L. Michael Quick (Engelhard Corp.); Exhibitor Liaison, Jeffrey A. Kelber (Sandia National Labs); Sustaining Fund, William Krakow (IBM); Mailing Labels, Gordon E. Pike (Sandia National Labs).

External Affairs—Chair, Gordon E. Pike (Sandia National Labs); Domestic Activities, Kathleen C. Taylor (GM Research Labs); International Activities, C.W. White (Oak Ridge National Lab).

Finance—Chair, C.W. Draper (AT&T Engineering Research Center).

Long Range Planning—Chair, Kathleen C. Taylor (GM Research Labs).

Membership—Chair, Julia M. Phillips (AT&T Bell Labs).

Nominating—Chair, Kathleen C. Taylor (GM Research Labs).

Program—Chair, J.B. Roberto (Oak Ridge National Lab); Technical Program, S.T. Picraux (Sandia National Labs).

Public Relations and Publicity—Chair, Carol M. Jantzen (DuPont).

Publications—Chair, Charles B. Duke (Xerox Webster Research Center); MRS BULLETIN, E.N. Kaufmann (Lawrence Livermore National Lab); Proceedings, Peter P. Pronko (Universal Energy Systems); Journals, Jeff P. Gambino (IBM).

*Further ''area specialist'' appointments may be made during the year.

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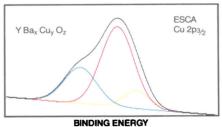
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*Superconducting materials supplied by: Dr. R.C. Budhani., Dr. R.F. Bunshah U.C.L.A. Department of Materials Sciences.

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