

Greater Pittsburgh Section Holds Inaugural Meeting

The newly established Greater Pittsburgh Section of the Materials Research Society held its inaugural meeting on May 8, 1990 at Carnegie Mellon University. Prof. Merton C. Flemings, chair of the Department of Materials Science and Engineering at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, was the guest speaker.

More than 70 persons attended the meeting, including representatives from Carnegie Mellon, the University of Pittsburgh and Youngstown State University; and from PPG Industries, Westinghouse, Kennametal, Alcoa, Kurt Lesker Co., II-VI Semiconductor, and MRS headquarters.

Flemings' talk on "New Processes, New Materials, and International Competition," addressed the crucial role of the materials community in maintaining industrial competitiveness. Flemings summarized the findings of two recent studies on industrial productivity and its relationship to materials technology. The first of these studies, undertaken at MIT, is the subject of a recently published book, *Made in America*. The second study, *Materials Science and Engineering for the 1990s: Maintaining Competitiveness in the Age of Materials*, was sponsored by the National Academy of Sciences and co-chaired by Flemings. Both studies identified materials and manufacturing issues as imperatives for future competitiveness. Flemings emphasized the need for increased attention to materials processing and synthesis. A question-and-answer session followed Flemings' talk.

Also, at the meeting, the Section's current officers were introduced: President, Mehran Arbab (PPG Industries); Vice President, Deborah Partlow (Westinghouse); Secretary, Pradeep Phule (University of Pittsburgh); and Treasurer, Michael McHenry (Carnegie Mellon University).

All those attending the meeting were invited to contribute to the future development of the Section and to help plan forthcoming events. The Section plans to hold four annual meetings, with the next one in early fall 1990. For information, call M. Arbab (412) 665-8064, D.P. Partlow (412) 256-1836, P.P. Phule (412) 624-9736, or M.E. McHenry (412) 268-2703.

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Prof. Merton C. Flemings (center), guest speaker at the Pittsburgh Section's inaugural meeting, poses with the Section's officers (left to right): Pradeep Phule, secretary; Deborah Partlow, vice president; Michael McHenry, treasurer, and Mehan Arbab, president.

New Mexico Section to Sponsor Symposium on Ceramics and Advanced Materials

The New Mexico Sections of the Materials Research Society and the American Ceramic Society are joining forces to offer a one-day Technical Symposium on Ceramics and Advanced Materials, October 5, 1990 in Santa Fe, New Mexico. Events include a general session, a poster session, a concurrent workshop, and an MRS short course.

The general session will focus on topics concerning powder synthesis, thin film preparation and properties, microstructural control for electronic ceramics, and advanced composite fabrication. Technical specialists and students are especially encouraged to participate in the poster session. Monetary prizes will be awarded for the best technical specialist and best student posters.

A special workshop on optical, electronic, and optoelectronic materials, held concurrently with the general session, will span topics in quantum optics, compound semiconductors and devices, and quantum wells and superlattices in optoelectronic devices and integrated optics.

Arrangements are being made for the presentation of an MRS on-site short

course on Film and Coating Deposition Techniques. This will be the first time an MRS Section has sponsored the presentation of an MRS short course.

The deadline for general and poster session abstracts was June 22, 1990, but late news abstracts will be accepted up until the day of the symposium. To submit an abstract or request more information, contact one of the following chairs:

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