

Penn State Student Chapter Hosts Speakers and Day Trips

This year has brought a number of interesting programs for the Penn State Student Chapter, beginning with a January tour of the Penn State Weather Station. The source for the daily New York Times weather forecasts, the station has facilities for satellite and radar imaging, real time satellite hookups, and traditional weather maps.

In February, Rob Fisher, adjunct fellow in art and technology at the Penn State Materials Research Laboratory and president of Design Mirage Inc., presented a seminar on "Technology as a Medium for Art: Research into Applications of Computer Graphics." Fisher discussed his use of computer modeling and graphics in art design. His techniques are particularly useful for creating large sculptures with direct and subtle visual impact.

The Student Chapter hosted Dr. Kenneth E. Voss and Dr. Robert J. Farrauto of Engelhard Corporation in March. They presented "Working in Industry: An Engelhard Perspective." Voss focused on the position of Engelhard in the materials field and on the exploratory work at Engelhard. Farrauto discussed special projects and a case study of catalytic converters.

The Penn State Student Chapter's tradition of day trips continued with an April trip to Hammermill Paper in Lock Haven. Janet Platt, industrial relations assistant for Hammermill, provided a tour of the facilities and information on the operations. Tour stops included: water filtration tanks, zeolitic water softeners, pulp beaters and mixers, drying facilities, cutting rooms, and boxing and packaging areas.

In the future, the Penn State Student Chapter will host a seminar by Dr. Hanson, Penn State patent attorney, on patentability and patent procedures. In June, the Chapter will visit the Penn State Computation Center and Microcomputer Lab. The major summer activity will be a day trip to the National Bureau of Standards.

For more information about the Penn State Student Chapter and its numerous activities, contact:

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Members of the Penn State Student Chapter: (front row, left to right) R. Guo, J. Kraus, S. Pilgrim, M. Bliss, J. Platt; (back row, left to right) E. Plesko, S. Hoyle, C. Nies, P. Sliva, X. Lin. *Photographer: Phil LaCroix.*

University of Pennsylvania Student Chapter Expands Membership and Agenda

This has been a year of growth and change for the University of Pennsylvania Student Chapter. Since the elections in September 1986, efforts to expand the scope and size of the organization have shown positive results. Average attendance at the many meetings held this year has numbered approximately 40 students, and many university departments were represented, including chemistry, electrical engineering, physics, and chemical engineering. In the past only students from materials science and engineering were involved in Chapter activities, but this year has proved that interest in the Materials Research Society does indeed transcend departmental lines.

The main event this past semester was an MRS social hour. It featured an entertaining Philadelphia area band which, though originally hired for background music, became the main attraction of the evening. This well-attended social hour was an overwhelming success in terms

of projecting a positive public image of the Penn Chapter, brainstorming new ideas, and recruiting workers for future programs.

Foremost on the Penn Student Chapter agenda is the planning of a symposium to be held September 18, 1987. The symposium, "Materials Research at Penn: Greater Than the Sum of the Parts," will showcase current research being conducted by Penn students.

For more information about any of the above activities or about the Penn Student Chapter, contact:

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