

Search for New MRS Executive Director


The Materials Research Society has begun a search for an Executive Director to replace the retiring incumbent. The desired start date is early summer of 2008. John B. Ballance, the current executive director, will be retiring after 25 years of dedicated service.

MRS is an organization of materials researchers from academia, industry, and government that promotes communication for the advancement of interdisciplinary materials research to improve the quality of life. Major international activities include two annual meetings with equipment exhibits and a combined attendance of 8,000; a technical magazine and an archival journal, each published monthly; numerous proceedings books; and several public outreach and advocacy programs. Headquartered near Pittsburgh, Pa., the Society has a staff of 40 full-time equivalent employees, including five directors, and an

annual operating budget of \$8 million. The Executive Director is the Chief Staff Officer for the Society who directs and monitors the business of the Society in accordance with policies and instructions from the Board of Directors. There are over 15,000 members, a third of whom are from outside the United States. Leadership at all levels of the Society is volunteer-based, dynamic, and continually involved with providing the technical vision and organization of the meetings, publications, and other activities of the Society.

MRS is looking for a director with outstanding personal characteristics including integrity, interaction skills, openness and consensus building, strategic thinking, and business acumen at a senior management level. An advanced degree or equivalent experience in a technical discipline related to materials research is required. The new executive director will have had manageri-

al experience at a high level in a multi-faceted business or organization, with demonstrated accomplishments in managing people and projects. Candidates are expected to understand the role of meetings and publications in scientific research, comprehend and appreciate the globalization of science, and be knowledgeable of public outreach and advocacy programs.

More details of the job description and qualifications can be found on the MRS Web site, www.mrs.org. Nominations with contact and qualifications information should be sent to Pamela Kaul, Association Strategies, Inc. at Pamela@assnstrategies.com. The current executive director, officers, and staff will neither accept nor respond to direct inquiries about the search. **The deadline for nominations is March 15, 2008.** 



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