

Financial Outlook, International Activities, and Programming Addressed by MRS Council.

The Council of the Materials Research Society met on April 28 during the 1989 MRS Spring Meeting in San Diego, California. The following report highlights the plans and actions of that meeting, which covered aspects of the Society's financial outlook, growth in membership and activities, international activities, programming for future meetings, and graduate student awards.

Finance

Council approved the final 1989 budget of approximately \$3.2 million for the Society. This is about 30% larger than the 1988 budget, reflecting the growth of the Society in both membership and activities. Relocation of MRS Headquarters to a larger suite (within the same building), upgraded computer equipment, and three new staff positions amply illustrate this growth.

Even as new activities have been undertaken, the Society has been able to add to its reserves every year. However, the total reserves as a fraction of the budget have been decreasing. In order to address this issue, Council adopted a policy on financial reserves which calls for the Society to achieve a reserve level of 50% of its annual expenditures in 10 years. The 1989 budget includes a contribution to Society reserves as a first step toward meeting this goal.

Membership

The growth of the MRS membership continues to be remarkable. As of April 30, 1989, there were over 8,900 MRS members worldwide, an increase of nearly 40% in the past year.

Council voted to modify the MRS Constitution and Bylaws to establish a "retired

member" category available to those who have retired from gainful employment either because of permanent disability or having reached the age of retirement, and who have been members of the Society for at least three years. The constitutional amendment will be submitted to the MRS membership for ratification.

Dues for 1990 were set at \$65 for regular members and \$20 for student members so that MRS can provide increased professional and support services to its membership as well as improve and refine the quality of member benefits already offered.

External Affairs

In recognition of the growth and vitality of MRS-style societies worldwide, Council voted to approve MRS participation in the International Materials Research Committee. This committee is constituted as an international association of technical groups or societies which have interest in promoting interdisciplinary materials research. The objectives of the International Committee include the facilitation of international cooperation among materials research organizations, contribution to the advancement of materials research, and the advancement of the multidisciplinary nature of materials research internationally.

Also in the international arena, Council voted to cosponsor and host the Second International Conference on Electronic Materials (ICEM-II). The first conference in this series was held in Japan in June 1988 with MRS cosponsorship. The second conference will be held in September 1990 in the United States and will be cosponsored by MRS, the Japan Society of

Applied Physics, and the European Materials Research Society.

Russ Chianelli, MRS first vice president, will join the Council of Scientific Society Presidents. Its goals include providing a mechanism for communication and cooperation among the various scientific disciplines, developing ways to make scientific information more readily available to the public, improving the free flow of scientific information, and developing and reporting points of view on science and technology issues of national or international scope.

Program

Council approved a change in the MRS Bylaws description of the Program Committee. The change recognizes the existence and function of the Program Development Subcommittee, which was created to assist the Program Committee and meeting chairs in developing a balanced slate of topics for each meeting. This is expected to allow the full Program Committee to devote more attention to long-range planning and global programming issues.

Awards

A new procedure for graduate student awards will be instituted at the 1989 Fall Meeting. For the first time, an oral presentation by the student will be included in the award criteria. The procedures for selecting the award recipients are published elsewhere in this issue.

Julia M. Phillips
Secretary, Materials Research Society

1989 MRS Officers

R.P.H. Chang, President
J.E.E. Baglin, Immediate Past President
R.R. Chianelli, First Vice President
J.B. Roberto, Second Vice President
S.M. Kelso, Treasurer
J.M. Phillips, Secretary

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