Major Facilities

Plenary speaker Dean Eastman Reports on NRC study of materials' needs

The Plenary Session will feature Dean Eastman, co-chairman of the Major Materials Facilities Committee of the National Academy of Sciences' National Research Council. He will deliver a major report on the committee's conclusions and recommendations regarding priorities for new and upgraded major materials research facilities. The Chairman of the Plenary Session, MRS Vice President Bill Appleton, reports:

MRS Participation

"Those who attended the 1983 Plenary Session will recall that George Keyworth, Presidential Science Advisor and Director of the Office of Science and Technology, stressed to our members the need for the materials science community to establish a representative voice which could assist in evaluating materials research and in setting national priorities. As a result, Keyworth's office asked the National Research Council of the National Academy of Sciences to assist in establishing priorities for major facilities—i.e., those with initial costs of at least $5 million—for materials research.

DEAN EASTMAN

"A committee of 22 members was formed within the NRC Commission of Physical Science, Mathematics, and Resources. Dean Eastman of International Business Machines Corporation and Professor Frederick Seitz of Rockefeller University were asked to serve as co-chairmen. The committee's membership was broadly reflective of the diverse disciplines that use such major facilities, such as synchrotron radiation and neutron facilities, and includes the following:

Richard B. Bernstein, University of California, Los Angeles
Robert J. Birgeneau, Massachusetts Institute of Technology
Jerome B. Cohen, Northwestern University
Mildred S. Dresselhaus, Massachusetts Institute of Technology
Harry G. Drickamer, University of Illinois
Peter Eisenberger, Exxon Research and Engineering Company
Donald Engelman, Yale University
Walter Kohn, Institute of Theoretical Physics, Santa Barbara
David W. Lynch, Iowa State University and Ames Laboratory
Albert Narath, AT&T Bell Laboratories
William D. Nix, Stanford University
Edward Rubenstein, Stanford University Medical Center
John J. Rish, National Bureau of Standards
Albert I. Schindler, Naval Research Laboratory
Arthur Sleight, E.I. du Pont de Nemours & Company, Inc.
William P. Slichter, AT&T Bell Laboratories
Joseph V. Smith, University of Chicago
Richard Stein, University of Massachusetts
H. Guyford Stever, Universities Research Association
John M. White, University of Texas, Austin

Top Priority: Synchrotron Facility

"The committee's report, entitled *Major Facilities for Materials Research and Related Disciplines,* was transmitted to Keyworth's office this summer. The report presents priorities both for new facilities and for new capabilities at existing facilities. The top priority assigned for a new facility was a 6 GeV synchrotron radiation facility. The top priority for new capabilities at an

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NSF seeks help

The National Science Foundation is conducting an evaluation of the impact of the Foundation's funding support on recent advances in the fundamental engineering sciences. One of the disciplines in the engineering sciences being evaluated is "materials science engineering," and the NSF has asked the Materials Research Society to aid in this part of the evaluation. F.W. Young of Oak Ridge National Laboratories is managing this task for the Society.

The MRS is asked to identify topical areas within materials science engineering that have advanced substantially over the past twenty years, and for each topical area the seminal papers that led this advancement. The National Science Foundation can then identify the funding source for the work described in these papers and complete the evaluation. Some thirty distinguished materials scientists, distributed over the broad field of materials science have been asked to participate in this task.

The continuing need for evaluation of the effectiveness of the mechanisms for support of scientific research in the United States is apparent. It is important that the Materials Research Society assume its proper position in this process by providing timely, well-reasoned information and advice on matters pertaining to materials science.

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