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## Materials Research & Manufacturing Section

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## Materials Research & Manufacturing Section

Cathy DiPalma, Chair



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Members of the Materials Research and Manufacturing Section of the Chemistry Division share information concerning all phases of materials procurement, production, applications, and handling by means of educational activities, cooperative programs, publications, and Section-sponsored events at annual conferences.

Warm summer greetings everyone!

Those of us who were fortunate to have attended, have had some time to recollect, digest and analyze the events of the landmark 2009 SLA Centennial Conference this past June. Over 5,000 attendees participated in a whirlwind of activities from champagne and ribbon cutting to see-you-in New Orleans in 2010. What resonated most however was the feeling of a new pioneering spirit; different in scope perhaps but no less inspired than that of 100 years ago of moving forward to meet the future. Many of the programs reflected looking toward a greener future and how to incorporate environmental sustainability into our work cultures and industries. Others focused on the future of social media and social networking for research; especially how to use wikis, blogs and tweets to advance communication within the organization. The subject that always seems to be in the present as well as the future—how to do more with less, had a great deal of members offering suggestions on how to provide top-notch service and resources in a lazy economy. I doubt anyone left Washington, D.C. without a genuine sense of accomplishment and good-will.

I am pleased to report that the Materials program, "Materials Research and Wind Energy: Recent and Future Developments" was well received. Stan Calvert, head of the Wind Technology Application Team at the Dept. of Energy and Liz Salerno, Manager of Policy Analysis at the American Wind Energy Association provided two very distinct yet coordinated presentations concerning this growing global renewable technology.

Please take a look at their presentations: <http://units.sla.org/division/dche/mrm/resources/index.htm>

A very special thanks is extended to the sponsors of our program ASM International and the American Chemical Society.

It was my pleasure to plan and moderate this program. However, I had a great deal of help and support from my fellow planners, other members

of the MRM section and the Chemistry Division as well as individuals from the SLA staff. Thanks to all who contributed time and effort to make our section and division programs a success. It is never too late to get involved and lend your unique and valuable skills to SLA. If you get the urge to help out, please email me, [cathy.dipalma@saint-gobain.com](mailto:cathy.dipalma@saint-gobain.com) and I will be happy to get you started.

Happy Anniversary MRM! Are you aware that the MRM section is celebrating a milestone of its own this year?

The Materials group has been in existence, first as a division and now as a section for 60 years. There has been a great deal of commitment from both our membership and leadership to keep this a valuable branch of SLA. The interdisciplinary nature and diversity of materials in both the scientific and engineering fields keeps us a self-sustaining resource.

You may want to view the fascinating "Greatest Moments in Materials Science and Engineering", a timeline on the Minerals, Metals & Materials Society (TMS) website <http://www.materialmoments.org/top100.html> to get an idea of why materials matter.

Although there are many resources the materials information professional is called upon to use each day; in this issue I would like to highlight the general materials science societies which play an invaluable role to our clients and to our research.

ASM International <http://asmcommunity.asminternational.org/portal/site/www/>

Materials Research Society [http://www.mrs.org/s\\_mrs/index.asp](http://www.mrs.org/s_mrs/index.asp)

The Minerals, Metals and Materials Society <http://www.tms.org/TMSHome.aspx>

The Institute of Materials, Minerals and Mining (IOM3—UK) <http://www.iom3.org/>

National Materials Advisory Board <http://sites.nationalacademies.org/deps/nmab/>

Society for the Advancement of Material and Process Engineering <http://www.sampe.org/>

The American Society for Testing of Materials (ASTM) <http://www.astm.org/>

Materials Engineering and Research Lab (MERL) [http://www.usbr.gov/pmts/materials\\_lab/](http://www.usbr.gov/pmts/materials_lab/)

At the Annual Chemistry Division Business Meeting I suggested that the MRM section dedicate itself to outreach of its members, explore more interaction with materials science

societies, centers, institutes and labs, and discuss the possibility of member mentoring and the recruitment of international members. The Board and I welcome any and all ideas from the membership regarding these or other subjects which may take precedence. There will be additional discussions concerning these topics in the months ahead and no doubt we will need to focus on only one or two projects. I will keep you posted with updates via our listserv. Again, please contact me with your questions or concerns.

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***The Materials Research & Manufacturing Section of the  
Chemistry Division Welcomes Its New Members***

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