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Materials Research & Manufacturing Division

Martha Rose Rhine

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Materials Research & Manufacturing

Martha Rose Rhine, Chair

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



End of an old Division is the news this summer. The Metals Division was organized in 1953 when there were many steel companies in the U.S. and some of those had several librarians. By the time I rejoined SLA in 1987, it was the Metals/Materials Division that I chose and became active as the newsletter editor. A few years ago we changed the name again to Materials Research & Manufacturing Division.

If any members were omitted from the batch of e-mails and letters I sent June 20, I'm sorry. I obtained the list for our Division from the SLA online membership directory, but the number of members did not match to those quoted by Brent Mai, Division Cabinet Chair at the board meeting of the Chemistry Division.

The letter and message was a ballot to vote on petitioning the Chemistry Division to become a section of their Division. The reply deadline was July 1, 2005. So far, as of July 1, more than a quorum had overwhelmingly voted in favor

For those of you who did not receive the message, here an edited version of the explanation for the ballot.

At our board meeting on Sunday, June 5, Brent Mai, Division Cabinet Chair was our board guest. He explained that continuing as a division was not an option for us because the SLA board has considered the Materials Research & Manufacturing Division (DMRM) to be a "problem" for the past four years. We discussed the options:

1. Become a section of the Chemistry Division because neither the Science & Technology nor the Engineering Division were interested. The Chemistry Division was very welcoming at their board meetings. As a section we could continue having programs and could continue to sponsor CEU courses. We can continue to have our own list. On your membership renewal bill, you would select CHEM as a division and MRM as a section.
2. Become a roundtable. This is an organization within SLA as well as a program type that a division could sponsor. This would not preclude having a guest speaker. We would not be able to conduct CEU courses.
3. Dissolve. Compose a history of the division and publish it and be done with it.

After discussing the options, members attending the MRM business meeting breakfast on Tuesday, June 7, voted to petition the Chemistry Division to become a section of CHEM to be voted on by the MRM Division members. If approved, it must then be voted on by the CHEM members. The CHEM ballot must be sent out within 45 days of the conference. Therefore, I must have the results of the following ballot by July 4, 2005, because I will be gone to another conference from July 5 until the 45 days have lapsed.

On June 8, there were 68 Division members according to Brent Mai. (My list showed more than that.) Of 68 members 13 is a quorum. I don't know if that is enough to become a section. If less than the minimum number of members choose the section on renewal, it may also be dissolved.

As to our conference program, I'm proud of the fact that our session on Six Sigma was a hit. Over 50 people came, and we have a page of names of people who are interested in having a roundtable next year on that topic. A CEU course is being planned for the 2007 conference in Denver. Thanks to Betsey Aldridge from PACCAR for getting the speaker

this year and continuing to work on programs on this topic for the future. Her enthusiasm is contagious.

We also cosponsored a program on finding properties with the Chemistry Division with CHEM as the lead division. I understand it was well attended."

At the DMRM board meeting, we decided that I will continue as Division Chair this year and become the section chair if the Chemistry Division members approve our petition. Barbara Banek has a two-year office as treasurer, and Earl Mounts is serving as acting secretary.

My new e-mail address is mrhine@speednet.com. ❖

Martha Rose (Marty) Rhine, Chair
Materials Research & Manufacturing Division

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The Materials Research and Manufacturing Division Welcomes its New Members

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