



Between sessions, attendees take the opportunity to review research presentations at the 5th International Union of Materials Research Societies International Conference in Asia (IUMRS-ICA), held in Bangalore, India, October 13–16, 1998.

Symposium J on Polymers covered a wide range of topics including frontier areas of organic materials science such as fabrication of complex surfaces, patterns, conducting polymers, polymer surfaces, light-emitting materials, polymer electrolytes, electrical and dielectric properties of materials, polymer blends, high-

performance polymers, and polymers in nonlinear optical applications.

Characterization and Modeling

Symposium W, Computer-Aided Design of Materials, showed state-of-the-art calculations, for instance, using multimillion atom molecular dynamics simulations and *ab initio* materials design using supercomputing technology. These and other approaches were used to examine dislocations and fraction, dynamics of stick-slip in frictional sliding, as well as simulation of field-effect solar cells.

Symposium V, Characterization of Materials, covered an array of techniques including nuclear magnetic resonance, high-resolution electron microscopy, convergent beam electron diffraction, electron energy loss spectroscopy, Rutherford backscattering spectrometry, and electron probe microanalyzer. The techniques were examined in detail, and their use for understanding composites, defect structures, quasicrystals, and superconducting materials were elucidated. Phase transformation studies in titanium base alloys, chemistry associated with $\text{Li}_2\text{B}_8\text{O}_{13}$ and sinterability of UO_2 and other problems associated with silica aerogels were some of the other important topics.

Materials Education

A panel discussion in Symposium X, Materials Education, looked at the status of materials education in India and

assessed the needs for the future. The need for interdisciplinarity seems to be established, with agreement that this must continue. Also, the notion that research is global has a strong foothold in the Indian community, so the level of education and research efforts allows global collaboration and competition. Much of the focus, however, was on the need for a stronger connection to industry. Students tend to learn theory at the expense of more practical skills, bringing a large disconnect between student education and industry needs. An additional problem in India arises: Because the materials industry in certain areas may not yet exist locally, such as a semiconductor industry, industrial connections are difficult to achieve. Often, participants said, what the universities think is good for industry conflicts with what industry thinks it needs. This makes employability of graduates a problem.

The Indian Academy of Sciences will publish a special issue of the *Bulletin of Materials Sciences* containing the invited talks presented at the IUMRS-ICA-98 Conference. The contributed papers have also been forwarded to the journal for publication consideration.

Contributions made by
S.V. SUBRAMANYAM
GENERAL SECRETARY OF MRS-I



MRS NEWS

MRS Seeks Nominees for Outstanding Young Investigator Award, 2000

The Materials Research Society is accepting nominations for the Outstanding Young Investigator Award to be announced at the 2000 MRS Spring Meeting in San Francisco. The award is intended to recognize outstanding, interdisciplinary scientific work in materials research by a young scientist or engineer. The award recipient must also show exceptional promise as a developing leader in the materials area. The award consists of a \$3,000 cash prize, a presentation trophy bearing a brief citation, and a certificate.

Previous recipients are Stuart S.P. Parkin (IBM) contributions in new materials, high T_c superconductors, and magnetic multilayers displaying oscillatory exchange coupling; David D. Awschalom (University of California—Santa Barbara) for contributions to the field of nanostructured materials; Charles M. Lieber (Harvard University) for contributions to the understanding of

novel materials through synthesis and elegant determination of complex local structure and electronic properties; David J. Eaglesham (AT&T Bell Laboratories) for creativity, leadership, and experimental ingenuity in discovery and understanding of fundamental interface, surface, and defect phenomena in semiconductor crystal growth; A. Paul Alivisatos (University of California—Berkeley) for leadership in materials research, notably in the field of nanocrystals; Antonios G. Mikos (Rice University) for the synthesis and processing of new biomaterials for tissue engineering, supports for cells, tissue-growth conduits, targeted cell-adhesion substrates, and cellular-response stimulants; Christopher N. Bowman (University of Colorado) for seminal contributions to the field of highly crosslinked polymers, information storage materials, and computational methods in polymerization engineer-

ing; Anne M. Mayes, (Massachusetts Institute of Technology) for incisive theoretical and experimental investigations of macromolecules at and near surfaces and interfaces leading to tailororable surface properties, especially novel biocompatible substrates; and Chad A. Mirkin (Northwestern University) for his pioneering and leadership role in identifying, establishing, and developing a new interdisciplinary field that focuses on using complex biological macromolecules to assemble inorganic nanoparticle building blocks into functional meso- and macroscopic structures.

The deadline for submission of nominations is October 1, 1999. Guidelines and application forms are available from website www.mrs.org/awards/ or from John B. Ballance, Executive Director, Materials Research Society, MRS Headquarters, Materials Research Society, 506 Keystone Drive, Warrendale, PA 15086, USA. [MRS]



April 24 - April 28
San Francisco, California

Exhibit:
April 25-27

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call for papers

Abstract Deadlines:

October 18, 1999 for abstracts sent via e-mail, fax, or mail
November 1, 1999 for abstracts sent via the MRS Web site

In fairness to all potential authors, late abstracts will not be accepted.

SYMPOSIA and SYMPOSIUM ORGANIZERS

A: Amorphous and Heterogeneous Silicon Thin Films—2000

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B: Si Front-End Processing—Physics and Technology of Dopant-Defect Interactions II

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C: Gate Stack and Silicide Issues in Silicon Processing

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D: Materials, Technology, and Reliability for Advanced Interconnects and Low-k Dielectrics

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E: Fundamentals and Materials Issues in Chemical-Mechanical Polishing of Materials

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F: Magnetic Materials, Structures, and Processing for Information Storage

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H: Corrosion of Metals and Alloys

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I: New Methods, Mechanisms, and Models of Vapor Deposition

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J: Laser-Solid Interactions for Materials Processing

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K: Morphological and Compositional Evolution of Heteroepitaxial Semiconductor Thin Films

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L: Recent Developments in Oxide and Metal Epitaxy—Theory and Experiment

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M: Morphology and Dynamics of Crystal Surfaces in Complex Molecular Systems

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N: Materials for Separations in Analytical Chemistry

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O: Materials Computation—Progress Towards Technological Impact

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P: Multiscale Modeling of Organic Materials

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Q: Flat-Panel Display Materials

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R: Electron-Emissive Materials and Vacuum Microelectronics

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S: Electrically Active Polymers

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T: Wide-Bandgap Electronic Devices

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U: Materials Science of Novel Oxide-Based Electronics

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V: Materials Development for Direct Write Technologies

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W: Combinatorial Chemistry and Materials Science

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X: Frontiers of Materials Research

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Y: Solid Freeform and Additive Fabrication III

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Z: Thermoelectric Materials 2000—The Next-Generation Materials for Small-Scale Refrigeration and Power-Generation Applications

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AA: Millimeter/Submillimeter-Wave Technology—Materials, Devices, and Diagnostics

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BB: The Granular State

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CC: Hybrid Organic/Inorganic Materials

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DD: Interfacial Aspects of Soft Biomaterials

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EE: Nanostructures in Polymers

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FF: Interfaces, Adhesion, and Processing in Polymer Systems

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GG: When Materials Matter—Analyzing, Predicting, and Preventing Disasters

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