

1985 in Review

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The year 1985 went by quickly for MRS. Such is the perception of time when one is very very busy. Where did the time go and what kept us so busy? This list is long and, for an organization of our youth, it is indeed impressive. I will spare our readers the lengthy descriptions that would be needed to do justice to each accomplishment and to those MRS enthusiasts who have brought them about. A brief enumeration goes as follows.

The central mission of the MRS was marvelously fulfilled through the Spring Meeting in San Francisco chaired by Sue Kelso, A. Wayne Johnson, and K. S. Sree-Harsha and through the Fall Meeting in Boston chaired by John Baglin, Dave Biegelsen, and John Fan. Both meetings exceeded the marks set in 1984 both in terms of numbers of people and activities and, more importantly, in quality and diversity of program. The overall year-round effort was deftly overseen by Program Committee Chair Paul Percy, who has also laid the ground work for meetings to come. The logistical burden of running the expanding MRS meetings was assumed by The Complete Conference, our Sacramento-based meeting planning contractor. Its president, Marilyn J. Hauck, and projects coordinator, Merry Geil, invested their personal attention and expertise in the meeting operations and provided MRS participants with a smooth-running, comfortable environment for their sessions.

MRS publications saw three milestones in 1985. The MRS BULLETIN saw its first full year in its new and expanded format (and continues to grow). After implementing plans in 1984 to take over the publication of the proceedings of MRS symposia, the first 15 such volumes appeared last year and were very well received from the standpoints of both quality and cost. Behind the BULLETIN and the books is MRS Director of Publications Gail Oare. The product speaks for the excellence of the job she is doing. To appear this year as the result of a massive effort put forth in 1985 is *Journal of Materials Research*, the official journal of the Materials Research Society published for us by the American Institute of Physics. In the various stages of development of JMR many have contributed. Recognition is again due Gail Oare at MRS headquarters, and, of course, Editor-in-Chief Charles B. Duke, Editorial Office Supervisor Linda J. Kennedy, John T. Scott of AIP, as well as the entire MRS Publications Committee led by its chairman Gary McVay and the chairs of the subcommittees

on journals and books led by Dave Campbell and John Baglin, respectively. Many more at MRS and AIP as well as the long prestigious list of principal editors of JMR also deserve thanks for the tasks done and the tasks to come.

Significant strides in education were also evident in 1985. Several new Student Chapters were formed (see article in this issue of the BULLETIN, and new benefits for students were initiated. In addition, the MRS Short Course Program saw a healthy expansion and was reorganized through the addition of a Short Course Manager Vivienne Harwood Mattox, to plan for this year and beyond. MRS provided its first "on-site" short course in November at and for a corporate research laboratory and will continue to offer this service in the future. Overseeing and leading these efforts with enthusiasm and expertise have been Linn Hobbs and L. Ralph Dawson, cochairs of the Education Committee. Also coming under the heading of education is the significant expansion, authorized by the MRS Council in December, of the MRS History of Materials Research Program through the addition of video documentation. Rustum Roy will be pursuing this vigorously over the next two years.

Also described elsewhere in this issue of the BULLETIN is the burgeoning ranks of local Sections of MRS. Sections in New Mexico, North Texas, Southern California, and Western New York have been approved by the MRS Council which brings the number of Sections to six (North Carolina and Northern California having been previously chartered). Overseeing the orderly expansion of these local MRS activities and provided information and advice to those interested in forming local organizations is the Membership Committee chaired by Rod Ewing.

Lest too little note be taken of the many smaller but important forward steps taken under the direction of the MRS committees, I mention some typical ones here. A continuing process supervised by the Membership Committee and MRS Secretary Rod Ewing, is the maintenance and revision of the MRS Constitution and ByLaws. Members will continue to see amendments on their annual election ballot which adjust MRS procedures to the changing nature of the Society and of the community it serves. Also under the membership services category is the Job Placement Service, operated at 1984 and 1985 meetings for MRS by the AIP Placement Service. In 1985, the Membership Committee provided a substantively

revised version of the form submitted by employment more fairly reflects the broad multidisciplinary nature of materials research.

The year 1985 was the inaugural year for the new standing committee on External Affairs which was ably chaired by Dick Schwoebel. This committee responded to requests from governments agencies dealing with surveys of the impact of federal funding on materials science and technology, with the rationale and consequences of restricted meetings, and with the manning of the new study of materials science and engineering by the National Academies, to name just a few. Also under its aegis was held a Materials Research Facilities Dialogue at the 1985 Fall Meeting which is described elsewhere in this issue of the BULLETIN.

Operating separately in 1985, but to be included under the External Affairs Committee in the future, was MRS relations with analogous groups overseas. The MRS is of course an international organization as defined by its members and meetings. But in parallel with the U.S.-based efforts a similar effort developed in Europe has made great progress in the past few years. In 1985, the European Materials Research Society held two multitematic meetings attracting over 700 participants and has completed the initial steps toward implementing an organizational and formal constitutional structure. In Asia, initial discussions have led to an anticipated cooperation in holding a materials conference in 1988 covering topics of interest to the international materials research community. As chairman, International Relations, Bob Chang has achieved progress in this area at a pace few thought possible. The MRS looks forward with great enthusiasm to the broader application of the MRS-style forum around the world.

Corporate affiliate ranks have swelled to over 100 companies and institutions which sponsor MRS activities. Under the guidance of Bill Katz, the Corporate Participation Committee has continued the MRS tradition of developing strong ties to industrial research labs and equipment suppliers with whom our members interact. Another continuing task which goes unnoticed when it is well done is the financial planning and custodial functions of the MRS Finance Committee, chaired in 1985 by Don Harrison, and of MRS Treasurer Clif Draper. The complexities of computerizing accounting procedures at the MRS Headquarters and of handling a budgeting process when

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the activity level doubles in one year is just one of several urgent matters with which these folks have grappled in 1985.

Under the direction of Julia Phillips, MRS has promulgated its messages on meetings and other activities to a wider-than-ever audience. The Public Relations and Publicity Committee which Julia chaired in 1985 had been working a group in the previous year and by the end of 1985 had imposed an unprecedented degree of order and comprehensiveness to MRS publicity efforts. Much of the mechanical aspects of these tasks have been transferred to the MRS Headquarters.

The space occupied by MRS Headquarters increased by 50% in 1985 as the number on our staff doubled. This was in response to

increasing activity in MRS as well as to the need to centralize tasks done previously by dispersed volunteers. Headquarters has accomplished a great deal under the direction of MRS Executive Director John Ballance and with the involvement of a staff committed to excellence.

Leading an organization growing at the pace MRS is experiencing has been an exciting and challenging job. That it was a possible job is a consequence of the MRS team effort and the dedication of the individuals involved. The 1985 Executive Committee of the Society included Secretary Rod Ewing, Treasurer Clif Draper, Second Vice President Kathy Taylor, First Vice President Gordon Pike, and Immediate Past President Woody White. The indefatigable

involvement of these officers and Executive Director John Ballance, in all aspects of the Society's work not only made the job possible, but produced progress of which we can be proud. It was a distinct privilege and pleasure to work with these individuals whose continued service to MRS guarantees its future.

At the beginning of 1986, it is of less value to review the past year than it is to look to the coming year and the new challenges it presents. MRS President Gordon Pike does that in this issue of the **BULLETIN**. MRS is a young and flexible organization and one with which it is rewarding to be associated. Every members' involvement is welcomed and encouraged for the coming year.



1986 Fall Meeting Preview

Chang, Jantzen, Roberto Steer 1986 Boston Meeting

Although the highly successful 1985 Fall Meeting is just barely over, the technical programming and facilities arrangements for the 1986 Meeting are now in progress and under the direction of Program Chairs R.P.H. Chang, C.M. Jantzen, and J.B. Roberto. They report that 22 individual symposia are planned for the meeting, representing the work of over 50 symposia chairs from the United States, Australia, Japan, and UK. Topics will span alloys, ceramics, polymers, graphite, and cement, as well as materials for specialized applications, fractals and solitons. The Meeting will also be augmented by the MRS Equipment Exhibit and an extensive short course program.

Diverse Technical Interests, Broad MRS Support

The three meeting chairs bring a wealth of professional experience to the meeting. Bob Chang has served in a number of capacities for MRS, currently holding the positions of Chairman, International Relations and Councillor. Along with B. Abeles, he organized the Society's first symposium on Plasma Synthesis and Etching of Electronic Materials in 1984 and has also served on the Program, Awards, Long Range Planning, and Corporate Participation Committees. Chang has been with AT&T Bell Laboratories since 1971 where he is currently actively working on electronic materials for integrated optoelectronic devices. He has over 170 publications (including patents) to his credit.

According to Chang, "The unique programming plus a strong emphasis on the



1986 Fall Meeting Chairs (left to right): Bob Chang, Carol Jantzen, and Jim Roberto.

science of materials and increased attendance by colleagues from abroad continues to make MRS Meetings of ever increasing importance. Our goal in Boston in 1986 is to help the symposia organizers continue to add to this tradition."

Carol Jantzen cochaired the Eighth Symposium on the Scientific Basis for Nuclear Waste Management with R.C. Ewing and

J.A. Stone at the 1984 MRS Fall Meeting, and continued her involvement with the symposium series at the Ninth Symposium held in Stockholm in September 1985. (The Tenth Symposium in the series will be held during the 1986 Fall Meeting.) Jantzen is staff chemist for DuPont's Savannah River Laboratory and is actively involved with

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