

## UPCOMING CONFERENCE

### “Materials Science for Future Sustainable Technology” to be Held September 2002

“Materials Science for Future Sustainable Technology,” a materials science forum, will be held September 17–20, 2002, at the University of Augsburg in Germany. This forum, being held for the first time, is organized by the University’s Application Center for Materials and Environmental Research (AMU) and the Environmental Science Center (WZU). The Materials Research Society and the European Materials Research Society are co-sponsors.

The purpose of the forum is to enable informative and strategic discussions between scientists, high-ranking industrial leaders, and politicians in order to highlight the crucial role of materials science in the development and implementation of sustainable technologies. The aim of the meeting is the exchange of ideas and expe-

riences on environmentally benign synthesis routes and the use of materials in efficient and economically feasible process technologies. The discussions during this meeting will be inspired by the latest political decisions coming out of the Rio+10 world summit on environment and development, which will have been held two weeks earlier in Johannesburg.

Participants in the forum will evaluate the status of global sustainable developments and thus assess the interrelation between industrial needs and social responsibility. Strategic discussions will cover topics on materials for energy systems, functional composite materials, ceramics, catalytic materials, semiconductors, metals, glasses, carbon modification, biomaterials and biomimetic materials, waste, and life-cycle assessment.

Conclusions will be developed during a panel discussion aimed at reaching a consensus on recommendations for adequate scientific, economic, and political programs in materials science leading to sustainable technologies to be launched by individual governments. An information-management system will provide information on the latest developments in the area of materials science for sustainable technologies.

Invited speakers include Hartmut Grassl (Max Planck Institut, Hamburg, Germany), Louis Schlapbach (EMPA, Switzerland); and Mrityunjay Singh (NASA, United States).

More information is available at URL <http://www.amu-augsburg.de/matforum>. □

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