

# FROM THE SOCIETY'S PRESIDENT

Greetings!

At the Boston Meeting last fall, many of us discussed ways the Society could improve communications between materials scientists. You have begun to see some of the fruits of these discussions in the MRS Bulletin, and other exciting developments will follow soon. The rapid growth of our Society results, in part, from its serving to enhance our ability to discuss state-of-the-art problems and advances in technology. I urge you to share your ideas with us on how to do this even more efficiently.

Many of those who attended the last meeting said they felt a sense of excitement they rarely saw at technical gatherings. The heated, interdisciplinary discussions were refreshing and are a source of strength for our Society. This year the Society is sponsoring two meetings, one in Europe (Berlin) and the second in Boston, and all indications are these meetings will be as important technically as those we have had in the past. Many of the Proceedings of the Society are becoming essential references and this year many of the symposia will

again document these contributions.

Effective communication between technical people from many backgrounds is one of the most important purposes our Society serves. I encourage you to participate in the committees and functions of the Society. Help us discover ways to improve, and to communicate the understanding of materials behavior in creative and meaningful ways.

Best regards,  
**Clyde J. M. Northrup, Jr.**  
 President

## MRS FORMALIZES ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE

At its meeting in Atlanta last January, the council of the MRS adopted a new set of bylaws that formalize the organizational structure of the society. Recently, the membership received for approval, a constitution that has been amended to reflect this new structure. Essentially, the society chose to recognize working relationships that had been proven during the past few years. Tasks that had been carried out without specific mandate were recognized, and their scopes were defined.

The aim in all of this activity was to preserve those attributes for which the society is well known: program flexibility and innovativeness, interdisciplinary approaches to well focussed topics, and the allowance of maximum organizational freedom to society members. The future vitality of the society was looked after by formation of committees on finance, long range planning and education.

The functional relationship of the various working groups are outlined in the block diagrams, and the next issue of the bulletin will include a description of each committee and its membership.

