

# Material Advantage Students Everywhere!

**MATERIAL**<sup>TM</sup>  
**ADVANTAGE**  
The Student Program for Materials Science and Engineering

Material Advantage students, more than 740 strong, were found everywhere at MS&T'06 in Cincinnati, Ohio, attending the technical sessions and numerous special activities focused on students. The MS&T student programs kicked off with the Student Chapter Development Conference on Saturday, Oct. 14. A total of 60 chapter leaders learned about the four partnering societies for the Material Advantage Student Program – ACerS, AIST, ASM International and TMS. The young leaders learned about how to manage a Material Advantage Chapter and tackled solutions to increase membership and raise funds. The students heard from Adam Pilchak and Clarissa Yablinsky from The Ohio State University about graduate school, and from Clayton Spangler of Steel Dynamics Inc. about the art of networking. The afternoon was followed by a fun trip to Dave & Buster's restaurant.

On Sunday, Oct. 15, about 150 students gathered at the orientation session, which provided information on the many events available for all students attending the MS&T conference. This was followed by great resume building and career tips from Michael Doyle of Premier Manufacturing Services Inc. Four volunteers discussed their careers and the many options available to materials science and engineering students. R. Allen Kimel from the Pennsylvania State University represented academia, Al Csontos from the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission represented government, Richard P. Smith from Mittal Steel USA represented industry, and Hank Rawlins from the University of Missouri–Rolla represented graduate students. The volunteers answered the many questions from the students in attendance.

Mock interviews arranged in advance provided practice for 20 students attending MS&T'06. Students selected from a list of five optional mock jobs and were interviewed by volunteers: Al Csontos from the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Art A. Kracke from ATI Allvac, Elizabeth M. Perepezko from Biomet Orthopedics Inc., Derek Burrell from CMC Steel Group and Ronald J. O'Malley from Nucor Steel. The mock interviews gave students the chance to hear valuable suggestions and feedback from the interviewers.



Sunday ended with a mixer, sponsored by Nucor Steel and CMC Steel Group, giving the students an opportunity to relax, dance, meet students from other schools and have fun. Joining the 500 students at the mixer were the board of directors from each partner society, as well as the members from the Material Advantage Committee, and member volunteers who helped coordinate the student events. The students had a great time with a dance-off between Iowa State and Penn State!

A Student Career Connection and Graduate Program Connection were held on Monday, Oct. 16. This included 16 companies interested in recruiting for internships or jobs, and eight universities interested in recruiting for graduate programs. Participating companies were: ATI Allvac; Atmosphere Annealing Inc.; Commercial Metals Co. Steel Group; Halliburton; Krell Institute; Lone

Star Steel Co.; Nucor Steel; Oregon Steel Mills; Republic Engineered Products Inc.; Scot Forge Co.; Severstal North America Inc.; Steel Dynamics Inc.; Timet Corp.; The Timken Co.; The Dow Chemical Co.; and United States Steel Corp. Participating universities were: Alfred University; Georgia Institute of Technology; Iowa State University; Michigan State University; The Pennsylvania State University; University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign; University of Missouri-Rolla, and University of Texas at Austin. The Career Connection event was a mutual benefit to students, companies and universities.

Students also participated in a student speaking contest held on Monday afternoon. The students competed at chapter levels to determine seven finalists who then competed at MS&T'06. All finalists received \$300 for travel expenses. The winners of the 2006 Student Speaking Contest were: Lisa Deibler from Washington State University, taking first place and receiving \$200; Jennifer E. Mueller from Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University for first runner-up, receiving \$100; and Steven Dubelman from the University of Missouri–Rolla and Alejandro X. Levander from The Pennsylvania State University, tied for second runner-up, each receiving \$50. The winners were selected by a volunteer panel of judges consisting



## MS&T'06<sup>®</sup>

Materials Science & Technology  
2006 Conference and Exhibition



C. Spangler, Steel Dynamics Inc.



of Craig V. Darragh, retired from The Timken Co., H. Duff Hunt from Chaparral Steel-Texas, and Lane Wilson, National Energy Technology Laboratory.

Students pre-registered to compete in the Ceramic Mug Drop Contest and the Putting Contest, both held on Tuesday, Oct. 17. In the Ceramic Mug Drop Contest, students entered their mugs, fabricated from ceramic raw materials, which were then judged for brawn and beauty. The winner was Tyson delos Santos from the University of Washington, with a five-foot drop. The winner of the best-looking mug was Matt Thompson from Alfred University, and the runner-up was Katherine Lawler from Iowa State University.

The Putting Contest had teams of four students competing with the putters and balls made from various materials. Prizes were awarded based on aesthetics, closest putt and best putting team. The winners, who all received a trophy, were Brent Apgar from the University of Washington for Best Ball, Todd Morton from the University of Washington for Best Putter, and Dan Krogstad from the University of Illinois for Best Putt. The University of Washington team of Tyson delos Santos, Christopher Petz, Todd Morton and Brian Wong, won the First Place Putting Team award, receiving a trophy and \$25 each.

Student activities ended with an awards ceremony on Tuesday where the winners of Material Advantage contests were congratulated and presented with awards. This included, in addition to the contest above, the 2006 Material Advantage Chapters of Excellence Award. All active chapters were scored based on criteria for programming, career development, service, social activities and chapter management. Iowa State received the Most Outstanding Chapter Award. The Chapters of Excellence winners were Florida International University; Indian Institute of Technology, Madras; South Dakota School of Mines and Technology; Virginia Tech and Washington State University.

Students attending MS&T '06 were offered the opportunity to defray expenses by serving as session monitors. Travel grants were offered to all Material Advantage Chapters through funds donated from the four partnering societies. ♦