

Materials Science and Technology Division

1997 ANS Winter Meeting - 17 November 1997

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm by the Chair, Doug Crawford.

Attendees

Ken Chidester (LANL)
Doug Crawford (ANL)
Mitch Cunningham (PNNL)
Steve Hayes (ANL)
Jim Laidler (ANL)
Brent Lewis (Royal Military College)
Rick Mason (LANL)
Bruce Matthews (LANL)
Bob Seidel (ANL)
David Senior (PNNL)
Terry Totemeier (ANL)
Jim Tulenko (University of Florida)
Kenan Unlu (University of Texas)
Leon Walters (ANL)
Lloyd Wright (ANS Board Liaison)

Agenda

The meeting followed the attached agenda.

Minutes of Last Meeting

The minutes of the last MSTD meeting, held June 2, 1997 at Orlando, Florida, were approved as written.

Chair's Report

The Society has hired a consultant for strategic planning. Meetings in August and October led to a strategic planning document that was reviewed by Stan Hatcher on November 16 prior to presentation to the ANS Directors on Wednesday November 19. A task force has been constituted for implementation of the strategic plan.

Harry Bradley will be the new ANS Executive Director, taking office on December 1, 1997.

The Society is now projecting a funding surplus of about \$200,000 for 1997, with the surplus to grow to about \$260,000 in 1998. This is in large part the result of a more aggressive investment posture approved by the ANS Board.

Secretary-Treasurer's Report

Jim Laidler presented the Secretary-Treasurer's report, describing the current financial status of the Division. The proposed budget for 1998 was reviewed and approved as proposed, with the exception of the addition of \$500 to the budget for awards and plaques, increasing the proposed total for that projected expense to \$750. The approved MSTD budget for 1998 is shown in the attachment.

Program Committee Reports

Jim Tulenko reported on future ANS meeting arrangements. More technical sessions will be held, but occupying fewer meeting rooms (perhaps using half-sessions). This is an attempt to make the Society meetings more desirable to meeting sites/facilities: we consume meeting rooms but don't fill hotel rooms.

Steve Hayes reported that, of the three MSTD special sessions for the Albuquerque meeting, one session went well, one did not have any papers submitted, and one had only one paper. The remote paper review did not go well, resulting in some confusion, and it was emphasized that someone from MSTD must be physically present at the paper review to ensure that arrangements are taken care of in the best interests of the Division (e.g., room assignments). It was moved, seconded and approved that the remote paper review should continue, but that the Program Committee Chair will ensure that at least one MSTD representative is in attendance at the paper review.

Dave Senor reported that there was an average of 14 attendees at the Monday special session, and that all 7 speakers were present.

Extended discussion was held on future special sessions. It was noted that we can get special sessions for the November 1998 meeting, but it is too late for an embedded topical meeting at that time. Dave Senor proposed two topics for special sessions: (1) materials issues for isotope production, and (2) materials issues for FFTF restart. Brent Lewis noted that there is considerable interest in CANDU fuel behavior and on MOX burning in CANDU reactors. He also suggested special sessions on thermochemistry of nuclear materials and on fuel chemical reactivity.

Steve Hayes and Doug Crawford will prepare session descriptions on the following special sessions to be proposed for inclusion in the 1998 Winter meeting: (1) related fuels sessions (e.g., CANDU, LWR, dispersion fuels, fast reactor fuels, MOX, etc.); (2) molten salt processing of fuels; and (3) waste minimization.

Committee Chair Assignments

Jim Stubbins (University of Illinois) volunteered to head the Honors and Awards Committee and was advised to contact Rick Mason (LANL) and John Lambert (ANL) for guidance. Steve Hayes (ANL) will continue to head the MSTD Program Committee, with Dave Senor (PNNL) as his alternate.

Old Business

The MSTD Web page is available at http://www.pnl.gov/ans_mstd/. It is linked to the ANS home page (<http://www.ans.org>) and lists current officers, as well as honors and awards. Historical data provided in the web page could be useful for a number of purposes.

Bruce Matthews reported on the Plutonium Futures Meeting held last summer in Santa Fe. The meeting was very successful, with over 300 attendees including representatives of 14 universities and 11 foreign countries. For the next meeting in this series, LANL will consider ANS/MSTD sponsorship at a more active level of involvement.

Bob Seidel reported that he had approached officials of the Actinides Separation Conference about ANS sponsorship and was rebuffed.

New Business

Mitch Cunningham reported on the nominations of the following individuals for election to MSTD offices in early 1998: Chair, Jim Tulenko; Vice-Chair/Chair-Elect, Dave Senor; Secretary-Treasurer, Jim Laidler; Executive Committee, Adam Cohen, Kenan Unlu, and Jim Stubbins. Bruce Matthews nominated Dana Christensen (LANL) for election to the Executive Committee, and his name will be placed on the ballot.

It was agreed that MSTD student conference support for 1998 would go to two conferences: (1) the Western Student Conference in Austin, TX in March and (2) the Northern Regional Student Conference in Ann Arbor, MI in April. Each student conference will receive \$250.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:10 pm.

Attachments

Attendance List
Agenda
Secretary/Treasurer's report.

Reported by:

James J. Laidler

Secretary/Treasurer
Materials Science and Technology Division