



Updates on friends and colleagues in the materials community

Subra Suresh Nominated for NSF Post



Subra Suresh has been nominated by U.S. President Barack Obama to serve as the new director for the National Science Foundation (NSF). His nomination was passed to the U.S. Senate for approval on June 8. Suresh is the dean of the School of Engineering and the Vannevar Bush Professor of Engineering at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT).

TMS Board Announces Appointments to UECC and OTC

The TMS Board of Directors approved two key appointments at its June meeting.

Lyle H. Schwartz was named TMS representative to the Undergraduate Education Coordination Committee (UECC), which includes participation by TMS, the American Ceramic Society, the Association for Iron and Steel Technology, ASM International, the Materials Research Society, and the University Materials Council. The UECC supports undergraduate materials science and engineering professionals by focusing on such aspects of



In 2000, Suresh was named a TMS Fellow "for pioneering contributions to mechanical behavior and mechanics of materials and leadership in materials education." He has also been chosen to present the 2011 ASM/TMS Distinguished Lecture in Materials and Society at Materials Science & Technology 2011 (MS&T'11) in Columbus, Ohio, October 16–20, 2011.

If approved, Suresh would serve a term of six years. He would follow in the footsteps of another TMS member, Arden Bement, Jr., who served as NSF director from 2004 to 2010.

materials education as accreditation, best practices, and curriculum. A TMS member since 1959, Schwartz is currently a senior research scientist with the Department of Materials Science and Engineering at the University of Maryland.

The Board also approved Art Schroeder, president of Energy Valley, a consulting firm based in Houston, as TMS representative to the Offshore Technology Conference (OTC). Sponsored by 12 industry organizations and societies, including TMS, the OTC is considered a premiere event for the development of offshore resources in the fields of drilling, exploration, production, and environmental protection. This appointment is a consecutive three-year term for Schroeder on the OTC Board.

In Memory of Richard Heckel, 1934–2010

Richard Heckel, a life member of TMS, passed away on May 25 in Wisconsin Rapids, Wisconsin. Earning his bachelor's and master's degrees, as well as his Ph.D., from Carnegie Mellon University (CMU), Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, Heckel began his career in academia as professor of materials engineering at Drexel University, Philadelphia, in 1963. He returned to CMU in 1971 as professor and the head of the Materials Science and Engineering

Department, a position he held until 1976. He then served as professor of materials science and engineering at Michigan Technological University (MTU) in Houghton, Michigan. He retired from MTU in 1996, holding the title of professor emeritus until the time of his death. During retirement, Heckel founded and acted as technical director for Engineering Trends, an e-commerce consulting firm specializing in engineering education.

TMS Members Receive Accolades

Diana Lados Selected to Participate in NAE Symposium

Diana Lados, assistant professor of mechanical engineering at Worcester Polytechnic Institute (WPI), Worcester, Massachusetts, and director of the university's Integrative Materials Design Center, will participate in the National Academy of Engineering's 16th U.S. Frontiers



of Engineering symposium, September 23–25. Participants were chosen based on their exceptional engineering research and technical work.

Herbert Danninger Named Fellow by Metal Powder Society

APMI International, a professional society for the powder metallurgy industry, has named Herbert Danninger, a professor at Vienna University of Technology and a TMS member since 1989, to its 2010 class of Fellows. The Fellow Award recognizes APMI members for their contributions to the society and high level of expertise in the technology of powder metallurgy.

Karl Kainer Elected to IMA Board

Karl Kainer, director, GKSS-Forschungszentrum Geesthacht GmbH Magnesium Innovation Centre and a TMS member since 2001, was elected to a one-year term as vice president on the Executive Committee of the International Magnesium Association (IMA) in May. He was also re-elected to serve a three-year term on the IMA Board of Directors.

Jay Whitacre Receives CMU Research Award

Jay Whitacre, assistant professor at Carnegie Mellon University (CMU), Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, is the recipient of the 2010 George Tallman Ladd Research Award. The annual award recognizes CMU faculty members who demonstrate outstanding research, professional accomplishments, and potential.



TMS Member Profiles

Meet a Member: Wolfgang Schneider Captures Memories with Music

By Lynne Robinson

Though I know I'll never lose affection
For people and things that went before
I know I'll often stop and think about them. . .

From "In My Life" by Lennon/McCartney

The nearly 5,000 vinyl and compact discs that line the walls of Wolfgang Schneider's living room hold more than music for Hydro Aluminum's Research and Development Center head in Bonn, Germany. Each one represents a moment, a memory, a step on a life's journey that began when a 13-year-old Schneider walked out of a German record shop in 1965 clutching his first album—*Rubber Soul* by the Beatles. "I saved my pocket money for months to buy it," he recalled.

Schneider came of musical age when modern rock was being defined by the jaw-dropping innovations of the Beatles, the rebellious spirit of The Who, and the raw energy of Jimi Hendrix, among other great artists. "It was an amazing time," Schneider said. "The music that was being made gave you a new feeling for life."

His ability to purchase shelf-mates for *Rubber Soul* was constrained, however, since German law at the time

fixed prices for LPs, making them cost-prohibitive for most teenagers. That all changed in the early 70s when the law was repealed, causing LP prices to drop dramatically and opening the floodgates to a new world of music and musicians. Schneider was finally able to add steadily to his collection, focusing on "pure rock music—guitar, bass guitar, drums, and a lead singer."

Schneider's love for and curiosity of music soon flowed into other aspects of his life, with business travel and professional colleagues exposing him to new genres and artists. "Aluminum is a very international business, so I was able to meet people who could discuss and give recommendations of local bands from all over the world," he said.

In addition to collecting the luminaries of modern music, Schneider said he also makes a point of getting to know the work of local heroes, such as Joe Grushecky in Pittsburgh. His interests now run the gamut from the old-style blues of Muddy Waters to the alternative "Americana" sounds of artists such as Wilco and Band of Heathens.

Every chance he gets, where ever

his travels take him, Schneider tries to visit local music stores, and largely eschews purchasing his music on the internet. "I like to go to a shop and talk with people who are familiar with the music and learn from them," he said. "There is no replacement for browsing in a store and sharing information and experiences with other people who love music."

Schneider also noted that he tries to pick up vinyl when he can, and counts 1,500 vinyl LPs among his vast collection. "Some people think the original sound is truer than what you get on a CD, but what I really miss is the cover art on the LPs. And, I like reading the liner notes," he said.

Through the years, the music that Schneider has accumulated have become touchstones for times, events, and places in his life. Each piece on his custom-made shelves can spark a memory, from his fond recollection of being introduced to bluegrass and modern country music at the 1986 TMS Annual Meeting in New Orleans, to the quiet triumph of finding an elusive Flo and Eddie album in Melbourne after a search of more than 20 years. "I've been asked very often to sell some of these, but I would never do it," he said.

Long ago Schneider had set a collecting goal of 5,000 pieces, but as he nears that mark, he said that he has no intention of ceasing his quest for good music "as long as I have ears and money." His only regret through his musical journey is that he never learned to play an instrument himself: "If I did, it would be a guitar. Oh, most definitely a guitar."

Each month, *JOM* profiles a TMS member and his or her activities both in and out of the realm of materials science and engineering. To suggest a candidate for this feature, contact Maureen Byko, *JOM* editor, at mbyko@tms.org.



Wolfgang Schneider's nearly 5,000 piece music collection started with *Rubber Soul* by the Beatles.