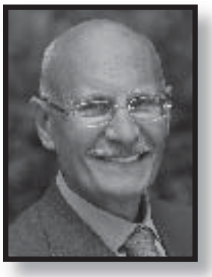
Member News

Updates on friends and colleagues in the materials community

Apelian to Receive AIME McConnell Award



Spotlighting the beneficial service and contributions to society that engineers make is the intent of the Robert Earll McConnell Award, conferred annually by the American Institute of Mining, Metallurgical, and Petroleum Engineers (AIME.) For 2010, AIME has selected Diran Apelian, Howmet Professor of Mechanical Engineering and Director, Metal Processing Institute at Worcester Polytechnic Institute, Massachusetts, in recognition of his "advocating the broader role of MSE in solving global human challenges."

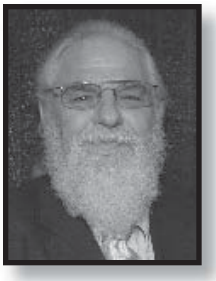
A TMS member since 1976, Apelian is the 2008 TMS president, a 2006 TMS Fellow, and a founding member of the TMS Materials and Society Committee, among many other activities and initiatives. He will receive the McConnell Award at the TMS Annual Banquet and Awards Ceremony on February 16.

Koratkar Selected as 2009 SES Young Investigator

The Electrochemical Society Division of Fullerenes, Carbon Nanotubes, and Nanostructures has named Nikhil Koratkar the recipient of its 2009 SES Young Investigator Award. The annual award aims to "encourage especially promising researchers to remain active in the field of nanotechnology." Koratkar became a TMS member in 2008.

A professor in the Mechanical, Aerospace, and Nuclear Engineering Department at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, Koratkar has authored more than 60 archival journal publications and book chapters and has received a National Science Foundation Faculty Early Career Development (CAREER) Program Award. His research interests are focused on the synthesis of a variety of nanomaterials including carbon nanotubes and graphene, as well as metal- and silicon-based nanostructures.

In Memory of William Arbegast, 1951–2009



William Arbegast, director of the Advanced Materials Processing and Joining Laboratory (AMP) at the South Dakota School of Mines and Technology (SDSMT), passed away on November 28, 2009. He was also the center director of the National Science Foundation (NSF) Multi-University Industry University Cooperative Research Program (I/UCRC) Center for Friction Stir Processing (CFSP), established at SDSMT in 2004. He had also been appointed the director of the university's new Repair, Refurbish, and Return to Service Applied Research Center, which will develop, certify, and implement innovative methods to refurbish and return military equipment to service. His success in running a multi-university I/UCRC prompted the NSF to invite him to write a book on the topic so that all I/UCRCs could benefit from his ideas. He joined TMS in 2003.

Prior to coming to SDSMT, Arbegast worked as a senior staff engineer for Martin Marietta Astronautics Group, Space Launch Systems Division, and also as principal friction stir processing investigator for Lockheed-Martin. He earned a bachelor's degree in metallurgical engineering from the Colorado School of Mines and was posthumously awarded an honorary doctorate of science by SDSMT. As noted in a memorial posted on the SDSMT Web site, "He laughed easily, enjoyed teasing people, and lived with a gusto that everyone admired. He also had a big heart and never turned down a student in need . . . Bill Arbegast was a good man, a great metallurgist, and he will be missed."

TMS MEMBERS SECURE PRESTIGIOUS APPOINTMENTS

Congratulations to two TMS members for their recent career advancements.

Michael E. Kassner, a TMS member since 1981, has been appointed director of research for the U.S. Department of the Navy's Office of Naval Research (ONR). Kassner comes to ONR from the University of Southern California (USC), where he was a professor and chair of the Department of Aerospace and Mechanical Engineering and professor of materials science. In his new position, he is responsible to the chief of naval research for the overall integration of the discovery and invention science and technology portfolio in support of naval needs.

Corby Anderson, a TMS member since 2000, has joined the Department of Metallurgical and Materials Engineering at the Colorado School of Mines as the first Harrison Western Professor of Metallurgical and Materials Engineering. Anderson was previously the director of the Center for Advanced Mineral and Metallurgical Processing and a research professor at the University of Montana.

Meet a Member: Marc Meyers: Building Bridges to Brazil

By Lynne Robinson

Editor's Note: This is excerpted from an article that first appeared on MaterialsTechnology@TMS at *http:// materialstechnology.tms.org/mas/article .aspx?articleID=2965.*

The breadth of materials science unfolded at Marc Meyers' doorstep as a boy growing up in the industrial town of Monlevade, Brazil. His childhood home stood in the shadow of the first integrated steel mill built in Latin America, where his father, Henri, worked as rolling mills engineer and eventually as the plant director. Materials secrets from nature were also revealed during explorations of the neighboring jungle, most memorably in the form of a toucan skeleton. "I lifted its beak and recognized, right then, that it was extraordinarily light and stiff," recalled Meyers. "But, it took me half a lifetime to return to it."

Meyers' earliest forays into understanding the materials world around him sometimes gave rise to unintended consequences. Sneaking into his father's steelworks at the age of seven resulted in a "severe reprimand." And, an attempt to detonate an explosives cap that he "found" at the age of 13 nearly blinded him. "I always liked to explore new areas, understand new phenomena," he said.

It was in the relative safety of university study that Meyers finally set on a path that would define his research for more than 37 years—the dynamic behavior of materials, encompassing dynamic processing, deformation, and fracture. Through the years, he has also explored extractive metallurgy, processing, and physical metallurgy. Still inspired by that discarded toucan beak he found in the jungle, Meyers has most recently expanded his research to biological materials, as well as ultrafine grained and nanocrystalline metals.

Weaving these divergent interests together has been a desire to "build bridges between researchers and society globally." For Meyers, currently a professor of Materials Science, University of California, San Diego, this has meant spearheading the implementation of numerous forums and joint research initiatives that have enabled scientists from different disciplines and parts of the world to share knowledge and progress together. It is these efforts, as well as his many scientific accomplishments, that earned Meyers the 2010 Acta Materialia Materials and Society Award. This prestigious honor recognizes outstanding contributions to understanding the relations between materials technology and society, and/or contributions to materials technology that have had a major impact on society.

Figure 1: Meyers and his brother, Pedro, conceived and developed this monument, "Pioneers in Steelmaking," which now stands at the entrance to the Barbancon steel mill in their home town of Monlevade, Brazil. The sculpture shows an iron worker working a Krupp rolling mill. The two brothers spent many hours observing this operation under the careful watch of their father.

Meyers' latest efforts to enrich science through international cooperation have focused on the development of the inaugural International Materials Congress, to be held jointly by TMS and the Brazilian Metallurgical, Materials and Mining Association (ABM), July 26–30, 2010, in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, in conjunction with the 2010 ABM Annual Congress. Appointed as the international coordinator for the event, Meyers said that response has been extremely positive. "The possibilities for interaction are immense,"" he siad. "We have been able to assemble an outstanding group of both TMS and ABM members for the technical symposia and they are donating their time in a most generous way."

On a number of levels, Meyers' connection with the TMS-ABM Congress is emotional, as well as professional. His father was one of ABM's founding members in 1945. And, he has chosen to receive his Acta Materialia Materials and Society Award at the event. He also plans to use the award honorarium to help establish a scholarship for underprivileged materials science students from his home town of Monlevade.

"I chose to receive the Acta Award at this congress because I am a member of the first wave of Brazilians who came to the United States to do doctoral studies in materials science," he said. "We were just a handful, preceded by the brilliant pioneers Luis Correia da Silva and Walther Arno Mannheimer. I would like to share this recognition with my generation, who left the provincial universities in which they studied to reach for the world."

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*.