

## Member News



Updates on friends and colleagues in the materials community

### TMS Board Announces Appointments

At its June meeting, the TMS Board of Directors approved a series of appointments to various organizing groups for the purposes of representing TMS in the development of key activities for the materials science community. The Board thanks the following individuals for accepting these appointments and volunteering their time and talents to these endeavors:

- Representing TMS on the 2014 Chinese Society for Metals (CSM)-TMS Energy Conference: Xingbo Liu, associate professor, West Virginia University, and conference lead; Cynthia K. Belt, energy management consultant; Jeffrey Fergus, professor, Auburn University.
- Representing TMS on the 2015 CSM-TMS Modeling and Simulation Conference: Zi-Kui Liu, professor, Penn State University and conference lead; Alan Luo, professor, The Ohio State University; Mark Asta, professor, University of California, Berkeley.
- International Advisory Board, 2014 International Conference on Materials: David K. Matlock, professor, Colorado School of Mines.
- Organizing committee for the 150th AIME Anniversary Meeting Event: Brajendra Mishra, 2006 TMS president; Garry Warren, 2011 TMS president.

### TMS Volunteer Training Modules Now Available

TMS has created a series of resources to orient new volunteers to their responsibilities and provide tools that will enable them to do their work effectively. These online Volunteer Training Modules are now available through the TMS Volunteer Central website. The modules—which consist of slideshow presentations providing helpful back-

### Nikhil Gupta to Receive ASM Silver Medal

Nikhil Gupta, Associate Professor, Mechanical Engineering, Polytechnic Institute of New York University (NYU-Poly), has been selected as the recipient of the ASM International Silver Medal.



Nikhil Gupta

The award recognizes mid-career professionals for distinguished contributions in the field of materials science and engineering, as well as service to the profession. Gupta's work focuses on lightweight materials with high damage tolerance for helmets, body armor, and vehicle structures. He will officially receive the award at Materials Science & Technology 2013, October 27–31, in Montréal, Québec.

### Diana Lados Named Inaugural Award Recipient

Diana Lados, Associate Professor, Mechanical Engineering, Worcester Polytechnic Institute, and founding director of the university's Integrative Materials Design Center, received the inaugural Constance Tipper Silver Medal from the World Academy of Structural Integrity at



Diana Lados

the academy's International Conference on Fracture, held in Beijing June 16–21. The medal, which recognizes international achievement at mid-career, will be awarded once every four years. Lados was honored for her "outstanding and seminal research, her technical accomplishments and pioneering contributions with worldwide impact in the fields of metal fracture and fatigue, and her successful efforts to transfer knowledge to industrial applications."

### ASTM International Honors Mikhail Sokolov

Mikhail Sokolov, senior research staff member at Oak Ridge National Laboratory, Materials Science and Technology Division, has received the Award of Merit from ASTM International. The award, which includes the honorary title of fellow, is ASTM's highest organizational



Mikhail Sokolov

recognition for individual offerings to standards activities. Among other accomplishments, Sokolov was honored for his contributions to successful symposia for ASTM's Committee E10 on Nuclear Technology and Applications, and for his work on transition range fracture toughness standards for Committee E08 on Fatigue and Fracture. ASTM is one of the largest international standards development and delivery systems in the world.

ground and information—are currently available for the following volunteer positions:

- ABET Program Evaluator
- Administrative Committee Member
- Award Committee Member
- TMS Board of Directors
- Professional Registration Item Writer

- JOM Advisor/Guest Editor
- Symposium Organizer
- Technical Committee Member
- Technical Presenter

The new volunteer modules can be downloaded at <http://www.tms.org/volunteer/training>. For additional information on volunteer opportunities at TMS, contact [volunteer@tms.org](mailto:volunteer@tms.org).



**TMS Member Profiles**

**Meet a Member: Ray Peterson Goes the Distance**

By Lynne Robinson

The sight of 32,000 bicyclists riding the vehicle-free streets of New York City is something that Ray D. Peterson, Director, Technology RSAA, Aleris International, will not soon forget. As a participant in the city’s annual Five Boro Bike Tour on May 15, 2013, Peterson said that biking for 40 miles without the distraction of taxi cabs and inattentive drivers offered a very different viewpoint of the Big Apple. This type of opportunity to appreciate the details of a location, he notes, is one of the many reasons that he has been an avid cyclist since his college days. “I’ve always enjoyed taking longer rides into the local countryside,” he said. “While riding, you feel closer to nature because you can see everything from a slower and closer perspective.”

The Five Boros Tour marked the end of Peterson’s latest long-distance biking vacation that started with a trek along the Great Allegheny Passage (GAP)/Chesapeake & Ohio (C&O) Canal Towpath trail system connecting Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, to Washington D.C. Due to limited time, Peterson and his biking companions, Chris Martin and Ron Englert, focused on completing the GAP—a scenic trail built on abandoned railroad beds—and then riding the C&O as far as Paw-Paw, West Virginia, for a total of 196 miles. “An amazing aspect of the trip was to travel by bike on converted viaducts and through repurposed tunnels that had been built over 150 years ago,” he commented. “To think that these structures were built without motorized equipment was awe-inspiring.”

While hitting mileage goals is an important aspect of any long distance bike trip, Peterson said that a big part of the fun is stopping to talk with other riders and local residents. One of the more memorable riders he met on the GAP, he recalls, “was 71 years old and doing over 40 miles a day. She had taken up cycling for less than a year before starting on this trip.”

That encounter underscores Peterson’s view that “almost anyone can go on an extended bicycle trip.” While he and his friends managed their own arrangements for their GAP/C&O journey, Peterson noted that many commercial companies are available to handle logistics and provide support.

Whatever the approach, he advises, “To maximize your enjoyment, it is important to train.” Peterson himself tries to ride at least once or twice a week all year long, schedule permitting, and then fits in longer rides several months before a long-distance trip to build up stamina. “My personal goal is to ride 40 miles in three hours with no adverse effects,” he said. “Then, managing longer rides with a loaded bike is just a matter of riding for a longer time.”

Not surprisingly, a critical consideration of long-distance biking is the bike itself. Peterson owns five, each of them suited for different terrains and purposes. “If you are going to start riding as a hobby, I highly recommend buying a good entry level bicycle. It will last longer, be more comfortable, operate more smoothly, and increase your enjoyment,” he said, adding that a lightweight and reliable bike is especially important for longer distance riding.

While Peterson maintains that he has not achieved the mileage of some exceptionally committed distance riders, he is proud that he has notched the Century Ride milestone—100 miles in one day. Most significantly, he treasures the memories that he has stored over the years from his bike riding adventures. His favorite trip remains one that he took with his teenage son from Telluride, Colorado, to Moab, Utah. For more than 200 miles, the Petersons enjoyed up-close views of scenery, ranging from pine-covered mountains to vast, red rock expanses, that most people just glimpse from a car window. “In the U.S.,” he remarks, “most local people will be slightly amazed that you are riding your bike and will be very open to having a discussion.”



(Top, L-R): Chris Martin, Ray Peterson, and Ron Englert early in the ride on the GAP. (Center): Crossing the Queensboro Bridge in New York City. (Bottom): Taking a moment to navigate the trail.

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 Lynne Robinson at [lrobinson@tms.org](mailto:lrobinson@tms.org).