STUDENTS PRESENT RESEARCH AT SOUTH KOREA CONFERENCE

For Ka C. Wong, visiting South Korea was like going home. Wong, a graduate student from North Carolina State University, moved from Hong Kong to the United States ten years ago. In August, he was able to return to Asia through the TMS Student Ambassador program, which rewards quality student research work with an opportunity to attend and present research at international technical conferences.

Wong and Micah Hackett, a graduate student from the University of Michigan, were selected to attend the Sixth Pacific Rim International Conference on Advanced Materials and Processing (PRICM), held in Jeju Island, South Korea, in August. The trip was funded by the TMS Foundation.

“Before arriving at Jeju Island for the conference, I stayed in Seoul for a weekend,” said Wong. “Seoul reminded me of a lot of Asian cultures and customs that I have long forgotten.”

For Hackett, the trip was his first to Asia, and the conference offered him a unique perspective.

“This was my first opportunity to interact with foreign scientists on their soil, as opposed to meeting them only in the United States,” said Hackett. “In this sense, it was good that I had to overcome my own feelings of discomfort at being in a place so foreign to me. It was also a broadening experience to gain the perceptions of American scientists who are now working and living in Asia. If nothing else, it opens my eyes to the possibilities and opportunities that exist to gain new experiences.”

Both Hackett and Wong were selected for the award at the TMS 2007 Technical Division Student Poster Contest, held at the TMS 2007 Annual Meeting in Florida last February. Both were selected for presenting high-quality research in their posters and both had the opportunity to present this research at the PRICM conference.

“I presented my work on devising a new metal foaming method utilizing the various properties of egg white protein,” said Wong. “I was quite nervous because I have never presented in front of an audience specializing in metal foaming techniques. However, I was able to generate as much excitement in my talk as I did at the 2007 TMS student poster session.”

More student research projects will be on display at the 2008 TMS Technical Division Student Poster contest, to be held at the TMS 2008 Annual Meeting in New Orleans, Louisiana, March 9–13.

BE AN ADVOCATE FOR MSE

Join your Material Advantage colleagues in a visit to Washington, D.C. this spring to support increased federal funding for science and technology research. In April, the Material Advantage program will hold a student Congressional Visits Day, where students will meet with Congressional leaders and staff members to discuss the value of science and technology funding in the United States. Last year’s event attracted participation from 55 students representing 13 colleges and universities.

Students attending the event receive training and education on key issues before making their visits, so no experience is necessary. To participate, contact Bryn Stone, TMS manager of member services and student affairs, at bstone@tms.org.

2008 STUDENT AWARD WINNERS

In 2008, the TMS Foundation and TMS technical divisions funded 14 scholarships and awards to help students pursue their academic goals. The scholarships are cash awards of $2,000 to $5,000, while outstanding student paper winners receive $500 to $1,000 in cash and travel grants. The following student members received this year’s awards.

1. TMS J. Keith Brimacombe Presidential Scholarship

“The J. Keith Brimacombe TMS Presidential Scholarship is hard work. It is determination. It is inspiration. It is teamwork. It is generosity. It is the flagship scholarship of an organization that exhibits all of these qualities in spades. It means that a group of purposeful individuals can come together to advance our knowledge of materials and inspire more to do the same. I am honored to be part of this society and to receive this award. I thank TMS, the University of Alabama Department of Metallurgical and Materials Engineering, and my family and friends for making this possible.”

Nicholas DeLeon, University of Alabama

2. TMS Outstanding Student Paper, Graduate Division, First Place

“TMS has been extremely useful for my professional development. I would like to thank TMS, my parents, NCSU colleagues, Professor Jagdish Narayan (Ph.D. thesis advisor), and the National Science Foundation for funding my research.”

Gopinath Trichy, North Carolina State University (NCSU)

3. TMS Outstanding Student Paper, Graduate Division, Second Place

“I dedicate this award to my advisor Prof. Bud Baeslack, who has always been supportive and encouraging to me. TMS has been an influential factor in my career development and I thank TMS for this reward. I wish TMS would continue to support, inspire, and challenge the future students via such competitions to make valuable contributions in materials research.”

Alpesh Shukla, Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute

4. Electronic, Magnetic & Photonic Materials Division Gilbert Chin Scholarship

“I am grateful and honored for this award that represents possibilities to increase the knowledge in an area where we know so little and have done so much.”

Rodolfo Camacho Aguiler, Georgia Institute of Technology

(CONT. ON NEXT PAGE)
9. Light Metals Division Scholarship

“I am quite honored to receive the TMS/LMD Scholarship Award! A former student at LeTourneau University, who was a great friend and mentor of mine and is now pursuing a master's degree in metallurgy, also received this award during his time as an undergraduate. Knowing him and having seen his accomplishments, I am that much more blessed in receiving such a prestigious award. As an LMD scholar, I hope to contribute much to the field of materials engineering as a student and especially during my career.”

Jerica Cadman, LeTourneau University

10. Light Metals Division Scholarship

“I am honored to be selected as an LMD scholar. In the future, light metals will form the foundations of the world, and I will endeavor to bring that future closer to the present.”

Ji Ma, Texas A&M University

11. Light Metals Division Scholarship

“The TMS/LMD scholarship is one of the most prestigious awards in the light metals field, and to receive it is an honor. This award is a testament not only to my hard work and dedication towards my field of study, but also to the support and encouragement I have received from my professors and colleagues at the Colorado School of Mines.”

John Gibbs, Colorado School of Mines

12. Materials Processing & Manufacturing Division Scholarship

“I am extremely honored to be selected as a recipient of the Materials Processing & Manufacturing Division Scholarship. To be academically recognized by a society with such prestige as TMS truly exhilarating. The ongoing commitment to education in the field of materials science of philanthropic societies such as TMS is essential in cementing a strong and well-educated materials science community of the future.”

James Paramore, University of Utah

13. Materials Processing & Manufacturing Division Scholarship

“I am honored to be recognized by TMS with the Materials Processing & Manufacturing Division Scholarship. My accomplishments at Boise State University are a result of my hard work and dedication to my studies. I am fortunate to be part of a new program in materials science and engineering that places an emphasis on undergraduate education and research opportunities for the students. I owe a debt of thanks to the faculty that has given me an opportunity to be a part of the great program. I would like to thank the review committee for their time and effort, and TMS for making these scholarships possible.”

Douglas Kellis, Boise State University

14. Structural Materials Division Scholarship

“Receiving this scholarship makes me feel reassured and supported in my pursuit of a materials science education. I love my journey studying materials science, and the fact that a professional materials society sees merit in my journey is very humbling. This scholarship eases my financial concerns and lets me focus on my passion, materials science.”

Paul Kamenski, University of Wisconsin

DID YOU KNOW . . . ?

TMS is now accepting applications for the 2009 TMS J. Keith Brimacombe Scholarship, as well as all of the 2009 division-level scholarships presented in this issue of Professional Preface. The application deadline is March 15, 2008. Applications and complete submission requirements for all of these scholarships can be accessed through the TMS web site at www.tms.org/Students/Awards.html.

FOR MORE INFORMATION . . .

. . . On participating in any TMS student activities or forming a Material Advantage student chapter, contact Bryn Stone, TMS manager of member services & student affairs, at bstone@tms.org. TMS is part of the Material Advantage student program, which provides students with access to the resources of the American Ceramic Society, ASM International, the Association for Iron & Steel Technology, and TMS for $25 per year.