Special Topic

Bladesmithing 2020

The Bladesmithing 2020 symposium will take the form of a traditional symposium with technical presentations focusing on bladesmithing processes and procedures. This symposium provides an opportunity for students or student teams to present their work associated with, or inspired by, the 2017 and 2019 Bladesmithing competition as well as for new entries from students, student teams, and seasoned bladesmithing TMS members. Participants may use any starting material, from commercial stock material to material smelted from ore. Students and student teams are required to have a faculty sponsor and are expected to observe all of their campus’ applicable policies. All work must be performed safely with elements of those safety procedures apparent in the presentation. Final presentations should provide information on the justification for choice of blade, any historical relevance, materials characterization, mechanical and thermal treatments, processing of ore, etc.

Presentations will take the form of conventional talks, although posters may be invited if the number of entries exceeds session capacity. Actual blades are not to be brought to the conference, but safe metallurgical samples are allowed and encouraged. Abstracts can be brief (at a minimum, it must include a title, university, name(s) of team members, and blade material) and should be submitted by October 15, 2019. A brief abstract explaining the historical background, blade material, processing steps involved and characterization performed on the blades should be included.

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