



Notes from the Chair

Twenty years ago, a true prophet could have predicted what appears to be the demise of the Chemical Engineering profession. The number of B.S. Chemical Engineering graduates entering the traditional chemical and petroleum industries will drop by more than 50%! Fifteen out of the 20 largest U.S. companies in terms of market capitalization were industries dominated by chemical engineers such as petroleum and chemical companies. Today, only one of those 15 companies remains. That is because two previous companies on the list, Exxon and Mobil, combined to form a single new company. Finally, many of the top recruiters of chemical engineers 20 years ago, would merge, split up, or just disappear over that time period.

Certainly hearing such predictions 20 years ago would have led to the natural conclusion that by the year 2001 our profession and the American Institute of Chemical

Market Capitalization (in \$Billions) of Top 20 U.S. Companies.

1979		1999	
Company	Mkt Cap	Company	Mkt Cap
1. IBM	37.6	Microsoft	601.0
2. AT&T	36.6	GE	507.2
3. Exxon	24.2	Cisco	355.1
4. General Motors	14.5	Wal-Mart	307.9
5. Schlumberger	11.9	Exxon Mobil	278.7
6. Amoco	11.8	Intel	275.0
7. Mobil	11.7	Lucent	228.7
8. GE	11.5	AT&T	226.7
9. Sohio	10.8	IBM	196.6
10. Chevron	9.6	Citigroup	187.5
11. Atlantic Richfield	9.3	America Online	169.5
12. Texaco	7.8	AIG	167.4
13. Eastman Kodak	7.8	Oracle	159.5
14. Phillips Petroleum	7.4	Home Depot	158.2
15. Gulf Oil	6.8	Merck	157.1
16. Proctor & Gamble	6.1	MCI Worldcom	149.3
17. Getty Oil	6.1	Proctor & Gamble	144.2
18. 3M	5.9	Coca-Cola	143.9
19. Dupont	5.8	Dell Computer	130.1
20. Dow Chemical	5.8	Bristol-Myers Squibb	127.3

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Engineers, its flagship organization, would dying. However, in spite of all these grim facts, Chemical Engineering is thriving! The job market is as good as it has been for the last few decades, and the profession has an exciting new vitality associated with advances in materials, information sciences, and life sciences.

A recent AIChE survey showed that in 1999, starting jobs in the electronics industry for B.S. Chemical Engineering graduates were 15.6% of the total, and for the first time, this industry passed up the fields of petroleum industry with its hiring of 12.6% of the graduates. If one considers that approximately half of the B.S. graduates entering the chemical industry are involved with polymeric materials, this recent survey suggests that over 1/3 of the graduates entering industry this year will be working in areas associated with the production and fabrication of materials.

It is obvious that the future of the AIChE will depend upon the vitality of the divisions associated with materials, information science, and life sciences. At the present time, the MESD division has less than 600 members and these numbers are actually falling instead of reflecting the increasing importance of this technology to chemical engineers. Obviously, most chemical engineers active in the materials area do not view the AIChE as their primary professional home. The growth and visibility of other professional organizations whose primary missions are associated with materials are no doubt becoming the professional home for many chemical engineers. *Continued on Page 2*

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Breakdown of Industrial Employment for BS Chemical Engineers.

Industry	1988	1998	1999
Chemical	47.3%	26.1%	26.7%
Fuels	13.2%	10.8%	12.6%
Electronics	5.2%	11.4%	15.6%
Food/Consumer Products	8.2%	14.6%	11.4%
Design and Construction	5.7%	7.2%	4.8%
Materials	6.4%	6.0%	3.3%
Biotechnology	2.3%	4.6%	6.9%
Environmental	4.2%	2.6%	2.6%
Pulp & Paper	1.8%	2.9%	2.4%
Public Utilities	0.8%	0.8%	-
Research and Testing	-	-	2.4%
Other	4.9%	13.0%	4.8%

I feel our division is entering a critical period. Either we will emerge with an identity that serves the needs of the increasing number of chemical engineers in the materials arena, and we will experience significant growth, or we will fade away. In this changing professional landscape, I see no safe, do-nothing, middle ground. Personally, I think there are some advantages to a materials-oriented subunit immersed in a larger, more diverse professional organization. In programming at meetings, this advantage becomes clear with the jointly sponsored symposiums with other divisions. There may be other unique opportunities for the

Stine Award Recipients

Curry E. Ford (1979)
John L. Kardos (1981)
Alan S. Michaels (1982)
Nicholas A. Peppas (1984)
Donald R. Paul (1985)
Sheldon E. Isakoff (1986)
Stuart L. Cooper (1987)
Christopher W. Macosko (1988)
J. Larry Duda and James S. Vrentas (1989)
Curtis W. Frank (1990)
Robert S. Langer (1991)
Dale S. Pearson (1992)
Edward W. Merrill (1993)
Timothy J. Anderson (1994)
Klavs F. Jensen (1995)
Matthew V. Tirrell (1996)
Ilhan A. Aksay (1997)
Buddy D. Ratner (1998)
Dennis W. Hess (1999)
Robert E. Cohen (2000)

Division that are not readily apparent to me.

The challenges facing the MESD Division are quite clear. Unfortunately, I do not have a correspondingly clear vision of an effective plan to address these challenges (and opportunities), to carry the Division into the 21st Century. I would appreciate input from MESD members concerning these challenges and how the Division should respond.

-Larry Duda

Stine Award Nominations Sought

The Charles M. S. Stine Award, sponsored by E.I. duPont de Nemours & Company, recognizes an individual's outstanding contribution to the scientific, technological, educational or service areas of materials engineering and science. Selection criteria include:

1. Nominees must be members of AIChE.
2. The award can be given to an individual or a team.
3. Significant discoveries, important research, the development of new processes and products, the initiation of new materials and management, education concepts, or outstanding service to the materials community.

The deadline for submission of nominations is March 31, 2001. Nominations must be submitted by members of the division and can be sent to:

Materials Engineering & Sciences Division Awards Committee

Dr. Klavs Jensen, Chair

Dept. of Chemical Engineering, Room: 66-566

Massachusetts Institute of Technology

Cambridge, MA 02139-4307

The award includes a plaque and \$1,000. The awardee(s) will be invited to deliver an address at the Fall Annual Meeting. For more information visit the award's website at:

www.aiche.org/awards/awardedtl.asp?AwardID=42

or the MESD Website at: www.engr.uky.edu/MESD

Election Results

The election results have been compiled by the national office for the AIChE Division 8 (MESD) Board of Directors. We are pleased to welcome the following new members to the Board:

John Ekerdt	Second Vice Chair
Tim Anderson	Director (term ends 2002)
Giuseppe Palmese	Director (term ends 2002)

In addition, electronic voting was approved by the Division. More information on the electronic balloting procedure will be made available as the next election approaches.

An Apology

In the previous issue of the MESD Newsletter, the name of SURYA MALLAPRAGADA was misspelled in the election candidate profile, Notes from the Chair, and election ballot. We sincerely apologize for the errors.

2002 Meeting Update

MESD will have a total of 53 sessions at the Indianapolis Annual Meeting in 2002, which is a significant increase from the 47 sessions programmed in Los Angeles last year. The facilities at Indianapolis permit more sessions to be scheduled. The 2003 Annual Meeting will be in San Francisco and there will likely be fewer sessions that can be programmed *unless* MESD sponsors a Topical Conference. A Topical Conference will enable programming additional sessions and typically involves a partnership with other programming groups or a different technical society. Petitions for 2003 Technical Conferences will be due in December, 2001. The MESD officers are soliciting organizers and topical themes at this time. Please send suggested topics (and volunteers) to John Ekerdt at ekerdt@che.utexas.edu.

Upcoming Meetings

221st ACS National Meeting

April 1-5, 2001
San Diego, California

2001 MRS Spring Meeting

April 16-20, 2001
San Francisco, California

103rd AcerS Annual Meeting & Exposition

April 22- 25, 2001
Indianapolis, Indiana

2001 AIChE Spring National Meeting

April 22-26, 2001
Houston, Texas

27th Annual Meeting –Society for Biomaterials

April 24 – 29, 2001
St. Paul, Minnesota

The 6th World Congress of Chemical Engineering

September 23-27, 2001
Melbourne, Australia

3rd International Symposium on Structural Intermetallics

September 23 –27, 2001
Jackson Hole, Wyoming

2001 AIChE Annual Meeting

November 4-9, 2001
Reno, Nevada

International Conference on Advanced Ceramics and Glasses

November 4 – 8, 2001
Maui, Hawaii

2001 MRS Fall Meeting

November 26 - 30, 2001
Boston, Massachusetts

4th Pacific Rim International Conference on Advanced Materials and Processing

December 11-15, 2001
Honolulu, Hawaii

2002 AIChE Annual Meeting

Indianapolis, IN

Annual Meeting Highlights



Kendra McCoy (right) of Georgia Tech discusses her poster on "Growth of Patterned Polymer Thin Film Structures via Surface Initiated Radical Polymerization."

The Annual Meeting, held November 12-17 at the Westin Bonaventure in Los Angeles, once again featured an excellent variety of sessions. Included in the 47 sessions was the Plenary Session and the MESD Poster Session.

The Plenary Session, held on Tuesday, featured a presentation by the 2000 Charles M.A. Stine Award Winner, Robert E. Cohen, entitled "Block Copolymers as Templates for Functional Materials." Look for a transcript of his lecture in an upcoming issue of the Newsletter. Other speakers at the Plenary Session were Nicholas Peppas, John Ekerdt, and Jackie Ying. The session was chaired by Klavs Jensen.

Over 80 posters were presented at the MESD Poster Session. No student poster awards were presented this year, but the Executive Committee has decided to reinstate sponsorship of the awards for the 2001 Annual Meeting. Nonetheless, participation was high and the quality of the presentations continues to be excellent.

In addition to technical sessions, a number of planning sessions were held for upcoming meetings. The MESD Executive Board Meeting was held on Tuesday, the minutes for which can be found starting on page 5. The sessions for the upcoming Fall, 2001 Annual Meeting in Reno are currently being finalized, and

should be open for Proposals to Present in April. See page 2 for a report from John Ekerdt on the Fall, 2002 programming.



MESD Chair Larry Duda, Christine Schmidt, Tony Lowman, and MESD Director Giuseppe Palmese (l-r) listen as programming is discussed during the Executive Committee Meeting at the AIChE Annual Meeting in Los Angeles.

Area News

Area 8a: Polymers

The polymers group (8a) enjoyed a strong slate of programs at the 2000 Annual Meeting in Los Angeles, which culminated with the presentation of the Stine Award to Bob Cohen for his outstanding research contributions in the polymers area. 8a is once again looking forward to broad programming in its traditional areas for the 2001 meeting in Reno: Structure and Properties of Polymers, Thermodynamics of Polymers, Polymer Thin Films and Interfaces, Diffusion in Polymers, Polymerization Kinetics, Catalysis and Reaction Engineering, and Polymer Processing and Rheology. In addition, two topical sessions will be held in Reno: "Polymers for Microelectronics", and "Polymer Engineering Education". The latter session will explore the incorporation of polymer science and engineering into the chemical engineering curriculum via both stand alone courses, and the integration of novel problems and experiments into traditional core subjects.

-Douglass Kalika

2001 MESD 50 Year Members

Gus Constan Raymond Mannella Stanley Margolin

Congratulations to our new 50-year members! All 50-year members were sent a certificate and a letter from Executive Director Glenn E. Taylor recognizing this milestone. Look for more information on them in upcoming issues.

More 50 Year Member Info

In the last newsletter, we recognized the two 50-year members from our Division for 2000: Alex James and Hollis (Tom) Galley. In addition to the nice letter we received from Mr. Galley, we are delighted to provide the following biographical information on Alex James.

Alex James graduated from the University of Alabama with a B.S. in chemical engineering in May 1949 after having previously obtained a B.S. in

chemistry from Mississippi College. He obtained his professional engineering license in 1956 and now holds licenses in four states. After having worked for several large fiber producers for 22 years, Alex James founded two companies, Alex James & Associates, Inc., a fibers research company, and Piedmont Crescent Engineering Management Company. He now serves as CEO of Alex James & Associates, Inc., having turned over the presidency to his son eight years ago. Alex and his wife, Louise Moore James, celebrated their 50th anniversary last year and live in Greenville, S.C. They love to travel, visit their four grandchildren, and he enjoys fly-fishing.

Alex James is technical editor for the International Fiber Journal, holds several patents and has developed a number of fibers. He is a member of and still attends Western South Carolina Section AIChE meetings.

Materials Engineering & Science Division – Executive Council Meeting Minutes

Room 208, Los Angeles Marriott Hotel, Los Angeles, CA, 2 –4 pm November 14, 2000

ATTENDEES

Name	Affiliation	2000-01 Office
Stevin Gehrke	Kansas State	MESD Sec./Treasurer
Larry Duda	Penn State	MESD Chair
Sue Ann Bidstrup Allen	Georgia Tech	MESD Past Chair
Giuseppe Palmese	Drexel University	8f Vice Chair
Doug Kalika	U. of Kentucky	8a Chair
John G. Ekerdt	U. of Texas	2 nd Vice Chair
Brian S. Mitchell	Tulane University	Newsletter editor
Klavs F. Jensen	MIT	1999-00 Past Chair
Matthew Tirrell	UCSB	AIChE Director
Amod Ogale	Clemson	8f Chair
John Torkelson	Northwestern	1 st Vice Chair 00-01
Peter Gannon	AIChE Headquarters NY	Division's Staff Associate
Tim Anderson	Florida	MESD Director
Tony Lowman	Drexel University	Session Chair
Christine Schmidt	Texas	Session Chair
Jackie Ying	MIT	MESD Director

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1) Introduction/Elections - Sue Ann Bidstrup Allen, Ga. Tech

Sue Ann Bidstrup-Allen called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m. Attendees introduced themselves. Election results were announced; from 58 ballots returned, elected were: 2nd Vice-Chair: Prof. John Ekerdt, Univ. of Texas; Directors: Prof. Giuseppe Palmese, Drexel Univ., and Prof. Tim Anderson, Univ. of Florida. P. Gannon of AIChE noted that some ballots were received late, but elections were kept open to ensure all valid ballots were counted since some ballots were sent out late.

2) Minutes of Last Meeting – Stevin Gehrke, Kansas State

The minutes of the previous executive council meeting were distributed and accepted by the council by a unanimous voice vote.

3) Programming – Larry Duda, Penn State

MESD was successful this year, with 47 sponsored sessions. We need to continue to seek co-sponsorships – e.g. “Diffusion in Polymers & Membranes.” The session “Diffusion in Polymers” has been a long-standing session in the MESD, but by adding the “& Membranes,” made co-sponsorship by the Separations Division possible and increased the number of materials-oriented sessions at the conference. We need to take the lead within AIChE and add “Nanomaterials” as a subsection – possibly use the dormant 8c (metals) subsection for this. Discussion by the council on the pros and cons of such a move ensued. S. Allen suggested that we leave division structured as it is and combine “nano-” topics into existing sessions sponsored by existing subsections. T. Anderson stated that a new Forum on Computational Molecular Science & Technology is forming, and M. Tirrell is leading development of a new Forum on Nanotechnology, so we may need to move quickly to add this to MESD (this forums are intended to draw chemist/physicists to AIChE meetings). G. Palmese noted that the Nanotechnology Forum probably covers “nano” other than materials, so we’d need to decide whether nanomaterials would be best covered as a facet of this forum or as a stand-alone MESD subsection. In the end, no action was taken by the Council. L. Duda continued his review of the programming by subareas. Biomaterials has been particularly successful. The focus on polymer processing at the Chicago Annual AIChE meeting was very successful: it could be time to do this again. C. Macosko and R. Cohen were the leaders of this meeting and should be contacted for input. There was no information available yet on Abstract and preprint submission rates for MESD sessions.

4) Website – Doug Kalika, University of Kentucky

D. Kalika has tried to keep the site fairly low-tech to make it easy to maintain and keep current. P. Gannon of AIChE Headquarters confirms this approach: he believes the main emphasis of Division websites should be on providing the basic information, with keeping it up-to-date as the main goal; in short, a “current and simple” focus. There is a link to the division’s site from the AIChE website which is content-rich, so there is no need to make the MESD site a similarly content-rich “study” site. However, D. Kalika has started an archive of Stine Award winners’ biographies, and the past newsletters are available at the site in pdf form. J. Ekerdt suggested that it could be useful to have MESD session information posted on the site. D. Kalika will try to add this as soon as he gets it, but AIChE is able to get this out faster. There is not a counter on the site, so there is no information on the number of hits. Doug is willing to continue as the webmaster.

5) Newsletter – Brian Mitchell, Tulane University

During the past year, two newsletters were sent out. He combined the usual summer & fall issues and also used this mailing to do the elections. Because electronic balloting has been approved now, mailing out the election information is less important. But P. Gannon says we have to do combined mail/electronic for the time being so that we don’t disenfranchise people without email or web access. P. Gannon says that AIChE can mail out ballots to people without email addresses separately from those who do have email. The AIChE voting website will include

the ballots. AIChE headquarters can send out “bulk” emails on behalf of the MESD, or MESD can start its own listserv which could take over this process. For the upcoming year, he plans to use a February issue to review the National meeting and provide upcoming session information. The Fall newsletter can still include biographical sketches of candidates election if it comes out soon enough (Sept.). P. Gannon says the election can be set up earlier if desired. The Past Chair should coordinate assembling the list of bios and candidate statements for this newsletter. It was suggested that S. Gehrke send the minutes of this meeting to B. Mitchell for inclusion in the newsletter.

6) Awards – Klavs Jensen, MIT

There were 7 nominations last year, mostly from department heads; they were generally very good candidates. L. Duda noted that we should continue to try hard to get industrial people nominated. K. Jensen will continue to handle the Stine Awards. J. Torkelson said that no Stine Award Plenary session has yet been scheduled for 2001. He can continue as session chair for this, but suggests rotating the position. L. Duda will serve as a co-chair. Trying to set this session up is difficult because we try to coordinate speakers to complement the Stine Awardee’s background, but there is little time between selection of the awardee and the deadline for the session information at AIChE. This year’s awardee is R. Cohen of MIT; his plaque & check are sent together by AIChE, with continued support of the award from du Pont. Last year, J. Trainham of du Pont sent all the money for the award and the plenary speakers to AIChE, which was to be distributed. It was not certain if the 4 \$500 honoraria checks had been distributed to the invited plenary speakers as intended (they may not have been aware that honoraria was to be provided).

7) Student Awards – John Ekerdt (Texas), Klavs Jensen (MIT)

A student paper competition had been planned for Sunday. Abstracts were to be submitted earlier than the deadline so if they weren’t selected for the competition, they would still be able to resubmit abstracts to regular sessions (April 26 - Award session; May 5 - Final deadline). However, only one abstract was received by the deadline; although some came late, they had already cancelled the session. Discussion ensued as to why the submission rate to this session was so poor. J. Torkelson suggested that grad students may prefer to present in a regular session rather than a “hodge podge” session on Sunday afternoon, before most attendees have arrived (e.g., potential employers). Discussion continued on how to implement an effective paper award process. A. Ogale asked about the poster awards provided in the past, whether this should be re-established. S. Allen noted that this award session had been developed as an alternative. We could do this again, but while J. Watkins has done this recently, he may want to pass this job on. D. Kalika said the previous procedure was to collect extended abstracts for the sessions, screen these ahead of the meeting to select five papers as semifinalists; from the posters of these 5 reviewed at the meeting, the three awardees were selected. J. Ying noted that the poster awards were a significant fraction of the Stine award, which did not seem appropriate – perhaps the balance between these awards should be re-examined. The Council decided to return to the old system of MESD poster Awards, and scrap the idea of separate award sessions. K. Jensen and the Council thanked Sue Ann for all of her work as chair over the previous two years.

8) Membership – Stevin Gehrke, Kansas State

S. Gehrke distributed his report to the Council and summarized it. The Division’s financial situation has improved significantly over the past several years; the balance in the Division’s bank account on 8/31/00 was \$22,842.60, an increase of \$4,067.70 over the last year (21.6% increase), and an increase of \$6,433.47 (39.1% increase) over the past 3 years. The primary reasons for the increase is the continued substantial reductions in division operating costs and newsletter costs. Thus the MESD can afford either to initiate new programs on behalf of members, or to reduce the dues rate. Also, since the balance in the division’s

checking account exceeds the historical reserve necessary, the Division can also consider one-time projects of benefit to the membership. Poster award winners last year were awarded \$1000 in prizes using money raised by J. Watkins from Dow Chemical and Procter & Gamble. The Stine Award and the associated plenary session was funded by du Pont via a \$3,000 donation (we have maintained an informal policy that all poster or plenary session costs, honoraria, and awards are to be supported by outside donations rather than division reserves or member dues, so these items do not require division funds). MESD membership declined over the past year by 49 (7.8%) to 576 dues-paying members. This is the lowest membership level in over eight years and a decline of 111 (16.2%) over the past three. Discussion continued regarding the reasons for the decline and possible strategies for overcoming it. S. Gehrke noted that the declines are the steepest in the latter halves of the membership year. This may reflect the fact that in the mid-90's, membership brochures were mailed out during the membership years, a practice which has not been continued in the last several years. L. Duda reviewed the history of the past membership drives. J. Torkelson and M. Tirrell emphasized that people need to be able to pay division dues at the annual meeting: This would encourage people to join the division. P. Gannon thinks we can do this and will look into it. L. Duda will update the membership brochure, send it to academics and try to find industrial members. T. Anderson suggested that we send flyers to all speakers and ask them to distribute this to others, especially within companies, where it's hard for us to identify possible members. P. Gannon can help us target them via sorts of AIChE membership rolls which he sends to S. Gehrke, coordinated with L. Duda. Some ideas were generated regarding the division's financial reserve. S. Allen said that we can commit and advertise the poster awards, relying on the MESD cushion, while continuing to solicit funds to support these awards as in the past. P. Gannon said that there is no legal requirement to spend down the money in our circumstance.

9) Council Liaison – Matt Tirrell, UC-Santa Barbara

The AIChE Operating Councils are now starting to work effectively. The primary responsibility for CTOC (Chemical Technology Operating Council) is meetings & publication. Some Divisions with problems were asked to meet with CTOC, especially smaller divisions. Termination is always a possibility, but certainly MESD is considered strong. As last years minutes suggested, M. Tirrell and T. Anderson are willing to help out the MESD. The MESD leadership may want to make a half-hour presentation to CTOC in the upcoming year. T. Anderson announced that at the Reno meeting next year, there will be 16 sessions on a new Forum on "Computational Molecular Science & Technology," Section 21. There will be a new Division introduced as well. M. Tirrell noted that Group 14 - Nuclear Engineering has a stable membership but is not very active in programming. They may want to work with the MESD to study neutron scattering, radiation effects on materials etc. This is not a huge opportunity for MESD, but could be a useful niche. T. Anderson noted that it's being discussed how to incorporate nanotechnology into AIChE - perhaps as a Forum. L. Duda reiterated that we want to incorporate this into MESD 8. Divisions 1, 3, and 15 also all have an interest in nanotechnology. T. Anderson said that another issue for AIChE is that 20% of chemical engineering students are going into microelectronics and they are not joining AIChE. Our Division 8E is the natural home for these people - How can we build this up? J. Torkelson said that one issue is that microelectronics companies are not sending their people to meetings to present their technical work- it is hard to get any industrial people to present. How can we solve this? J. Eckert thought that we should plan programming around the locations of the Annual meetings - this may attract more attendees- e.g., emphasize microelectronics sessions at upcoming meetings in San Francisco and Austin, TX. T. Anderson also said that AIChE could give more authority to divisions - allow them to generate revenue streams like selling publications, or short courses. We need to figure out how the MESD can take advantage of this opportunity. The

consensus of the MESD Council was that the CTOC communication seems to be working to the benefit of MESD and AIChE.

10) 2001 Program Chair Report – John Torkelson, Northwestern

J. Torkelson passed out planning lists to the Council for next year's meeting. We got almost all of our sessions, even those ranked low priority. This happened because there are more meeting rooms available at Reno than at most previous meetings- we probably could have gotten even more sessions if we'd tried and been more aggressive - T. Anderson agreed. Even this year in LA, things have opened up with sessions held in the World Trade Center and the LA Marriott in addition to the Bonaventure. T. Anderson thinks this trend may hold at upcoming San Francisco meeting also - AIChE is trying to grow the Annual meeting. If there are any more sessions we want to add for the next meeting, this must be requested by early December. Discussion continued on how to keep session attendance up on Thursdays and Fridays of the Annual Meetings. Academics generally prefer meetings which run Sunday through Thursday so they can get cheaper air fare and minimize missed classes, but AIChE staff and industry do not want this. Therefore, nothing has happened yet on this issue. T. Anderson thinks they might do this now that the annual meetings will be going to "secondary sites" like Reno and Indianapolis. There was discussion among the MESD council if we wanted to support going to Sunday through Thursday meetings, but no such consensus emerged. T. Anderson and M. Tirrell pointed out that there is a very long lead time on planning the meeting sites and dates - any such change would likely take more than six years to implement. J. Torkelson suggested that we could advertise MESD programming meetings more broadly to ensure that we get more attendance and good participation by young faculty and graduate students. M Tirrell suggested that the MESD encourage development of the Nanotechnology Forum - we can take the nanomaterials sessions, and let other divisions have the other aspects.

11) 2002 Program – John Ekerdt, Texas

There has been only very preliminary planning to date for the Indianapolis meeting (2002). We will start with "core group allocations" of 18 sessions, broken down as: 8a - Polymers - 7; 8b - Biomaterials -2; 8c - 0; 8d - Ceramics - 4; 8e - Electronic/Photonic 5; 8f - Composites - 2. (As of 2/01, we also now have a Plenary Session and have slipped one more session into our core, though unofficially. The poster session does not count against the core). J. Torkelson will try to increase the number. R. Reklaitis of Purdue will be the Meeting Program Coordinator for 2002. There will be about twice as much room as usual, so we need to get our "wish list" together. D. Kalika cautioned that we don't want to spread our attending membership too thinly among sessions, however - we don't want to wind up with 5 or 6 people per session. S. Gehrke brought up the question of how many papers should be put into a session. The consensus was that 20 minutes was generally a good time. If session chairs get more papers than they can accommodate with this length, they should request additional sessions. We don't want very short talks, but we don't want to turn away potential presenters either. Ideas for a Topical conference at this meeting were developed. Polymer processing seemed like a good possibility: R. Cohen might be willing to develop this. J. Ekerdt suggested the possibility of adding short courses on polymers with such a topical conference. D. Kalika notes that we need to prepare a "white paper" on a proposed topical conference by Jan. 2001 to submit to AIChE. For 2003 (San Francisco), possible topical conference ideas include electronic materials or biomaterials.

12) Other business – Larry Duda, Penn State

L. Duda suggested that we try to add more information about the Annual meeting to our newsletter. It was agreed that S. Gehrke should send minutes to B. Mitchell for inclusion in the February Newsletter. Summaries of sessions or talks at the current meeting should also be added if possible. The meeting was adjourned at 4:03 pm

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