

## Calendar of Meetings

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### 6–8 March 2006

**Joint German-Polish Meeting on Crystal Growth.** Berlin, Germany. Held on the Campus Berlin-Adlershof of the Institute of Physics of the Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin. [Contact: E-mail: dgkk2006@ikz-berlin.de; Info: <http://jm2006.dgkk.de/nav2.php?was=>].

### 12–17 March 2006

**PITTCON@2006 57th Pittsburgh Conference.** Orlando, Florida, USA. [Contact: Pittsburgh Conference, 300 Penn Center Blvd., Suite 332, Pittsburgh, PA 15235, USA. Tel: 1 (800) 825 3220; Fax: 1 (412) 825 3224; E-mail: pittconinfo@pittcon.org; Info: <http://www.pittcon.org>].

### 20–24 March 2006

**International Centre for Diffraction Data, Spring Meeting.** Newtown Square, Pennsylvania, USA. [Contact: Linda Shertz, International Centre for Diffraction Data, 12 Campus Boulevard, Newtown Square, PA 19073-3273, USA. Tel: 1 (610) 325 9814; Fax: 1 (610) 325 9823; E-mail: shertz@icdd.com; Info: <http://www.icdd.com>].

### 3–6 April 2006

**Jahrestagung der Deutschen Gesellschaft für Kristallographie 2006.** Freiburg, Germany. Held at the Albert-Ludwigs-Universität in Freiburg/Breisgau. [Contact: kongress & kommunikation gGmbH, Hugstetterstrasse 55, 79106 Freiburg, Germany, Tel: 49 (761) 270 7316; Fax: 49 (761) 270 7317; E-mail: baechle@kongress-und-kommunikation.de; Info: <http://www.dgk-2006.de> or <http://www.http://kuk.uni-freiburg.de/hosted/dgk2006/menu.html>].

### 4–6 April 2006

**British Crystallographic Association Annual Spring Meeting.** Lancaster, England, UK. Held at Lancaster University. Includes a full day workshop on phase identification using X-ray powder diffraction (April 4.) [Contact: Dr. Jeremy Cockcroft, Department of Crystallography, Birkbeck College, Malet Street, London WC1E 7HX, UK. E-mail: cockcroft@img.cryst.bbk.ac.uk; Info: <http://bca.cryst.bbk.ac.uk/bca/ig/meet06SM.htm>].

### 17–21 April 2006

**Materials Research Society 2006 Spring Meeting.** San Francisco, California, USA. [Contact: Materials Research Society, 506 Keystone Drive, Warrendale, PA 15086; Tel: 1 (724) 779 3003; Fax: 1 (724) 779 8313; E-mail: info@mrs.org; Info: <http://www.mrs.org/meetings/spring2006/index.html>].

### 10 May 2006

**British Crystallographic Society Industrial Group.** Keyworth, Nottingham, UK. Held at the British Geological Survey facility, meeting devoted to X-ray fluorescence applications. [Contact: David J. Taylor, 35 Brichley Road, Billinge, Wigan, Lancs, WN5 7QJ, UK. Tel: 44 (1744) 893 108; E-mail: djtaylor@lineone.net; Info: <http://bca.cryst.bbk.ac.uk/bca/ig/XFR/Meetings/meet06.htm>].

### 28 May–3 June 2006

**9th International Conference on Synchrotron Radiation Instrumentation.** Daegu, Korea. Co-hosted by the Pohang Accelerator Laboratory (Pohang, Korea) and the Japan Synchrotron Radiation Research Institute (Harima.) [Contact: S. Rah, PAL/POSTECH, Hyoja-dong San 31, Namku, Pohang 790-390, Korea; Tel: 82 (54) 279 1533; E-mail: sri2006@postech.ac.kr; Info: [http://sri2006.postech.ac.kr/bottom\\_sri.htm](http://sri2006.postech.ac.kr/bottom_sri.htm)].

### 18–22 June 2006

**2006 American Conference on Neutron Scattering.** St. Charles, Illinois, USA. [Contact: Art Schultz, Argonne National Laboratory. E-mail: ajschultz@anl.gov; Info: <http://www.acns2006.anl.gov>].

### 19–23 June 2006

**EXRS 2006 European Conference on X-ray Spectrometry.** Paris, France. [Contact: EXRS 2006 Secretariat, Laboratoire National Henri Becquerel, CEA Saclay, F-91191 Gif-sur-Yvette Cedex, France. Fax: 33 (1) 69 08 26 19; E-mail: exrs2006@ceafr; Info: <http://www.nucleide.org/exrs2006>].

### 27–29 June 2006

**Microscience 2006.** London, UK. [Contact: The Royal Microscopical Society, 37/38 St. Clements, Oxford OX4 1AJ, UK. Tel: 44 (1865) 248 768; Fax: 44 (1865) 791 237; E-mail: info@rms.org.uk; Info: <http://www.microscience2006.org.uk>].

### 9–13 July 2006

**SAS2006 XIII International Conference on Small-angle Scattering.** Kyoto, Japan. [Contact: SAS2006 Secretariat, A-Cluster, Katsura, Kyoto University, Kyoto 615-8510, Japan. E-mail: SAS2006@alloy.polym.kyoto-u.ac.jp; Info: <http://www2.scphys.kyoto-u.ac.jp/sas2006/index.html>].

**10–13 July 2006**

**Congrès de l'Association Française de Cristallographie.** Toulouse, France. [Info: [http://www.lmcp.jussieu.fr/afc/html/toulouse\\_2006.htm](http://www.lmcp.jussieu.fr/afc/html/toulouse_2006.htm) or <http://www.afc2006-toulouse.org>].

**16–20 July 2006**

**SXNS9 Ninth International Surface X-ray and Neutron Scattering Conference.** Taipei, Taiwan. Held at the Center of Research Activity, Academia Sinica. [Contact: E-mail: [9sxns@nsrrc.org.tw](mailto:9sxns@nsrrc.org.tw); Info: <http://web11.nsrrc.org.tw/9sxns/index.htm>].

**16–23 July 2006**

**7th International Conference on the Occurrence, Properties, and Utilization of Natural Zeolites.** Socorro, New Mexico, USA. [Contact: Robert Bowman, New Mexico Institute of Technology, Socorro, New Mexico, USA. E-mail: [bowman@nmt.edu](mailto:bowman@nmt.edu)].

**22–27 July 2006**

**American Crystallographic Association Annual Meeting.** Honolulu, Hawaii, USA. Held at the Sheraton Waikiki Beach Hotel. [Info: [http://www.hwi.buffalo.edu/aca/meetings/pg\\_list/futuremeetings.html](http://www.hwi.buffalo.edu/aca/meetings/pg_list/futuremeetings.html)].

**23–28 July 2006**

**19th General Meeting of the International Mineralogical Association: Expansion to Nano, Bio, and Planetary Worlds.** Kobe, Japan. The official language is English. [Contact: IMA2006 Secretariat, G. Aoyama, Congress Corporation, Congress Building, 3-6-13 Awajimachi, Chou-ku, Osaka 541-0047, Japan. Tel: 81 (6) 6229 2555; Fax: 81 (3) 6229 2556; E-mail: [2006ima@congre.co.jp](mailto:2006ima@congre.co.jp); Info: [www.congre.co.jp/ima2006](http://www.congre.co.jp/ima2006)].

**30 July–2 August 2006**

**ZMPC2006 International Symposium on Zeolites and Microporous Crystals.** Yonago, Tottori Prefecture, Japan. Organized by the Japan Association of Zeolites. [Info: <http://www.chem.tottori-u.ac.jp/~zmpc2006/main.html>].

**30 July–2 August 2006**

**SRMS2006 Fifth International Conference on Synchrotron Radiation in Materials Science.** Chicago, Illinois, USA. [Info: <http://www.aps.anl.gov/News/Conferences/2006/SRMS>].

**6–11 August 2006**

**EMC23 23rd European Crystallographic Meeting.** Leuven, Belgium. Held at the Katholieke Universiteit Leuven (founded 1425.) The official language of the meeting is English. [Contact: Organizing Secretariat Momentum, Grensstraat 6, B-3010 Leuven, Belgium. Tel: 32 (16) 40 45 55; Fax: 32 (16) 40 35 51; E-mail: [info@momentum-pco.be](mailto:info@momentum-pco.be); Info: <http://www.ecm23.be/GeneralInformation.htm>].

**7–11 August 2006**

**DXC 2006 55th Annual Denver X-ray Conference.** Denver, Colorado, USA. Held at the Denver Marriott Tech Center Hotel. The world's largest X-ray conference. Includes several workshops on training for many practical applica-

tions of X-ray fluorescence and diffraction for the study of materials. [Info: <http://www.dxcidd.com/06/default.htm>].

**Summer 2006**

**XAFS XIII 13th International Conference on X-ray Absorption Fine Structure.** Palo Alto, California, USA. Held at Stanford University. [Contact: Britt Hedman, SSLC. E-mail: [hedman@ssrl.slac.stanford.edu](mailto:hedman@ssrl.slac.stanford.edu)].

**September 2006**

**XTOP 2006 8th Biennial Conference on High Resolution X-ray Diffraction and Imaging.** Baden-Baden, Germany.

**1–4 September 2006**

**EPDIC10 European Powder Diffraction Conference.** Geneva, Switzerland. Held at the University of Geneva. [Contact: Radovan Cerny at [Radovan.Cerny@cryst.unige.ch](mailto:Radovan.Cerny@cryst.unige.ch); Info: <http://www.sgk-sscr.ch/EPDIC10/EPDIC10.html>].

**3–8 September 2006**

**IMC-16 16th International Microscopy Congress.** Sapporo, Hokkaido, Japan. [Contact: Kazuo Furuya, National Institute for Materials Science, 3-13, Sakura, Tsukuba 305-0003, Japan. E-mail: [info@imc16.jp](mailto:info@imc16.jp); Info: <http://www.imc16.jp>].

**4–8 September 2006**

**44th European High Pressure Research Group International Conference.** Prague, Czech Republic. Topics to be discussed include phase transitions, crystal structures, spectroscopy, and electronic structures, among others. [Contact: Ivana Bittarova, Agency Carolina Ltd., Albertov 7/3a, Post Office Box 45, 128 01 Prague 2, Czech Republic, Tel: 420 (224) 990 827; Fax: 420 (224) 918 681; Info: <http://kfes-80.karlov.mff.cuni.cz/EHPRG>].

**13–15 September 2006**

**ECRS7 Seventh European Conference on Residual Stresses.** Berlin, Germany. [Contact: ECRS7 Secretary, Frau Sonja Müller, AWT, Paul-Feller-Strasse 1, D-28199 Bremen, Germany. Tel: 49 (421) 522 9339; Fax: 49 (421) 522 9041; E-mail: [awt.ev@t-online.de](mailto:awt.ev@t-online.de); Info: <http://www.ecrs7.de>].

**25–28 September 2006**

**PNCMI 2006 Conference on Polarized Neutrons in Condensed Matter Investigations.** Berlin, Germany. [Contact: BENSC—HMI Berlin, Glienickestrasse 100, D-14109 Berlin, Germany; Tel: 49 (30) 8062 2046; Fax: 49 (30) 8062 2523; E-mail: [pncmi@hmi.de](mailto:pncmi@hmi.de); Info: <http://www.hmi.de/bensc/pncmi2006/index.html>].

**14–21 October 2006**

**9th Chinese National Conference on X-ray Analysis and ICDD Workshop** will be held in Hangzhou, Zhejiang Province.

**18–19 November 2006**

**Theoretical Crystallography and Materials Science.** Tsukuba, Japan. A satellite conference of **AsCA/CrSJ 2006** (20–23 November). Held in the Epochai Tsukuba Interna-

tional Congress Center. [Info: <http://www.lcm3b.uhp-nancy.fr/mathcryst/asca2006.htm>].

#### 20–23 November 2006

**AsCA/CrSJ 2006 Joint Conference of the Asian Crystallographic Association and the Crystallographic Society of Japan.** Tsukuba, Japan. Held in the Epochai Tsukuba International Congress Center. [Info: <http://www.lcm3b.uhp-nancy.fr/mathcryst/asca2006.htm>].

#### 21–26 July 2007

**American Crystallographic Association Annual Meeting.** Salt Lake City, Utah, USA. [Info: [http://www.hwi.buffalo.edu/aca/meetingspg\\_list/futuremeetings.html](http://www.hwi.buffalo.edu/aca/meetingspg_list/futuremeetings.html)].

#### 22–27 August 2007

**24th European Crystallographic Meeting.** Marrakech, Morocco. Held at the Université Cadi Ayyad. [Info: <http://www.ecm24.org>].

#### 9–14 September 2007

**EuroAnalysis XIV.** Antwerp, Belgium. [Contact: Luc Van't Dack, Department of Chemistry, University of Antwerp, Universiteitsplein 1, B-2610 Antwerp, Belgium. Tel: 32 (3) 820 23 43; Fax: 32 (3) 820 23 43; E-mail: [Luc.Vantdack@ua.ac.be](mailto:Luc.Vantdack@ua.ac.be); Info: <http://www.euroanalysisxiv.ua.ac.be>].

## Short Courses & Workshops

#### 6–8 March 2006

**Basic and Advanced X-ray Powder Diffraction: Pharmaceutical Applications. Part I: Basic Crystallography and its Applications in X-ray Powder Diffractometry—Sample Preparation and Measurement Techniques.** Stamford, Connecticut, USA. [Info: <http://assainternational.com/seminars/about.cfm>].

#### 9–10 March 2006

**Basic and Advanced X-ray Powder Diffraction: Pharmaceutical Applications. Part II: Basic and Advanced Structure-solving Solutions from X-ray Powder Patterns.** Stamford, Connecticut, USA. [Contact: Intro: <http://assainternational.com/seminars/about.cfm>].

#### 24–28 April 2006

**ICDD X-ray Clinic: Practical X-ray Fluorescence Spectrometry.** Newtown Square, Pennsylvania, USA. Sponsored by the International Centre for Diffraction Data. A week-long session directed to both relative newcomers and to more experienced users wishing to broaden their understanding of fundamental concepts and established procedures. Held in the ICDD Headquarters building. The \$1,830 fee includes textbooks, laboratory notebook, use of computers, and daily lunch. [Contact: Leah Mooney, Education Coordinator, International Centre for Diffraction Data, 12 Campus Boulevard, Newtown Square, PA 19073-3273, USA. Tel: 1 (610) 325 9814; Fax: 1 (610) 325 9823; E-mail: [clinics@icdd.com](mailto:clinics@icdd.com); Info: <http://www.icdd.com/education/xrf.htm>].

#### 2–5 May 2006

**Polymorph Screening Techniques and Applications.** Mallorca, Spain. [Info: <http://www.assainternational.com/seminars/polymorph.cfm>].

#### 8–9 May 2006

**First International Workshop on the Pharmaceutical Physical Characterization of the Amorphous State.** Stamford, Connecticut, USA. [Contact: Info: <http://www.assainternational.com/seminars/polymorph.cfm>].

[www.assainternational.com/workshops/iwppcas\\_1/iwppcas\\_1.cfm](http://www.assainternational.com/workshops/iwppcas_1/iwppcas_1.cfm)].

#### 22–25 May 2006

**Polymorph Screening—Techniques and Applications.** Stamford, Connecticut, USA. [Info: <http://www.assainternational.com/seminars/polymorph.cfm>].

#### 5–9 June 2006

**ICDD X-ray Clinic: I. Fundamentals of X-ray Powder Diffraction.** Newtown Square, Pennsylvania, USA. Sponsored by the International Centre for Diffraction Data. A week-long session directed to both relative newcomers and to more experienced users wishing to broaden their understanding of fundamental concepts and established procedures. Held in the ICDD Headquarters building. The \$1,830 fee includes textbooks, laboratory notebook, use of computers, “Selected Resources for X-ray Diffraction” (a compilation of software,) and daily lunch. [Contact: Leah Mooney, Education Coordinator, International Centre for Diffraction Data, 12 Campus Boulevard, Newtown Square, PA 19073-3273, USA. Tel: 1 (610) 325 9814; Fax: 1 (610) 325 9823; E-mail: [clinics@icdd.com](mailto:clinics@icdd.com); Info: <http://www.icdd.com/education/xrd.htm>].

#### 12–16 June 2006

**ICDD X-ray Clinic: II. Advanced Methods in X-ray Powder Diffraction.** Newtown Square, Pennsylvania, USA. Sponsored by the International Centre for Diffraction Data. A week-long session designed for the experienced user and focusing on computer-based methods of qualitative and quantitative phase analysis. Held in the ICDD Headquarters building. The \$1,830 fee includes textbooks, laboratory notebook, use of computers, “Selected Resources for X-ray Diffraction” (a compilation of software,) and daily lunch. The fee for both sessions I and II is \$3,300. [Contact: Leah Mooney, Education Coordinator, International Centre for Diffraction Data, 12 Campus Boulevard, Newtown Square, PA 19073-3273, USA. Tel: 1 (610) 325 9814; Fax: 1 (610) 325 9814; Fax: 1 (610) 325 9823; E-mail: [clinics@icdd.com](mailto:clinics@icdd.com)].

Info: <http://www.icdd.com/education/xrd.htm>].

**18–24 June 2006**

**Eighth International Workshop on Physical Characterization of Pharmaceutical Solids.** Ixia, Rhodes, Greece. [Info: [http://www.assainternational.com/workshops/iwpcps\\_8/iwpcps\\_8.cfm](http://www.assainternational.com/workshops/iwpcps_8/iwpcps_8.cfm)].

**4–6 August 2006**

**Conference on Mathematical and Theoretical Crystallography.** Leuven, Belgium. A satellite conference of the **23rd European Crystallographic Meeting**. Organized as a workshop with alternating lectures and exercises/examples. Topics: magnetic symmetry, black-white symmetry, ordered magnetism, anisotropy of magnetic properties, graph theory fundamentals and applications to crystallographic problems. [Contact: Info: <http://www.lcm3b.uhp-nancy.fr/mathcryst/leuven2006.htm>].

**10–15 September 2006**

**Ecole thématique: Analyse structurale par diffraction des rayons X, cristallographie sous perturbation.** Nancy, France.

**19–22 September 2006**

**Polarized Neutron School.** Berlin, Germany. Held just prior to **Conference on Polarized Neutrons in Condensed Matter Investigations** (Berlin, 25–28 September 2006.) [Contact: BENSC—HMI Berlin, Glienickestrasse 100, D-14109 Berlin, Germany; Tel: 49 (30) 8062 2046; Fax: 49 (30) 8062 2523; E-mail: [pncmi-school@hmi.de](mailto:pncmi-school@hmi.de); Info: <http://www.hmi.de/bensc/pncmi2006/index.html>].

**2–5 October 2006**

**Polymorph Screening—Techniques and Applications.** Stamford, Connecticut, USA. [Info: <http://www.assainternational.com/seminars/polymorph.cfm>].

**16–19 October 2006**

**Polymorph Screening—Techniques and Applications.** Ettlingen, Germany. [Info: <http://www.assainternational.com/seminars/polymorph.cfm>].

**23–26 October 2006**

**Polymorph Screening—Techniques and Applications.** Mallorca, Spain. [Info: <http://www.assainternational.com/seminars/polymorph.cfm>].

**23–25 October 2006**

**Basic and Advanced X-ray Powder Diffraction: Pharmaceutical Applications. Part I: Basic Crystallography and its Applications in X-ray Powder Diffractometry—Sample Preparation and Measurement Techniques.** Stamford, Connecticut, USA. [Info: <http://assainternational.com/seminars/about.cfm>].

**26–27 October 2006**

**Basic and Advanced X-ray Powder Diffraction: Pharmaceutical Applications. Part II: Basic and Advanced**

**Structure-solving Solutions from X-ray Powder Patterns.** Stamford, Connecticut, USA. [Contact: Intro: <http://assainternational.com/seminars/about.cfm>].

**18–19 November 2006**

**Theoretical Crystallography and Materials Science.** Tsukuba, Japan. A satellite workshop, held just prior to the AsCA/CrSJ 2006 Meeting. The conference language is English. [Contact: [mathcryst.satellite@icm3b.uhp-nancy.fr](mailto:mathcryst.satellite@icm3b.uhp-nancy.fr); Info: <http://www.lcm3b.uhp-nancy.fr/mathcryst/asca2006.htm>].

**14–19 January 2007**

**International School on Mathematical and Theoretical Crystallography.** Havana, Cuba. The official language of the School is English. [Info: <http://www.lcm3b.uhp-nancy.fr/mathcryst/havana2007.htm>].

**6–10 May 2007**

**EMAS 2007 10th Electron Microbeam Analysis Society European Workshop on Modern Developments and Applications in Microbeam Analysis.** Antwerp, Belgium. [Contact: Luc Van't Dack, Department of Chemistry, University of Antwerp, Universiteitsplein 1, B-2610 Antwerp, Belgium. Tel: 32 (3) 820 23 43; Fax: 32 (3) 820 23 43; E-mail: [Luc.Vantdack@ua.ac.be](mailto:Luc.Vantdack@ua.ac.be); Info: [http://www.emas-web.net/Content/EMAS2007\\_flyer.pdf](http://www.emas-web.net/Content/EMAS2007_flyer.pdf)].

**7–17 June 2007**

**Engineering of Solid State Properties: Synthesis and Development of New Materials.** Erice, Italy. The 39th crystallographic course at the Ettore Majorana Centre. The course directors are D. Braga (Bologna) and J. Novoa (Barcelona). [Info: <http://www.crystallalice.org/2007.htm>].

**Summer 2008**

**From Molecules to Medicines: Integrating Crystallography in Drug Discovery.** Erice, Italy. The 40th crystallographic course at the Ettore Majorana Centre. [Info: <http://www.crystallalice.org/futuremeet.htm>].

**Summer 2009**

**High Pressure Crystallography: From Novel Experimental Approaches to Applications in Cutting-Edge Technologies.** Erice, Italy. The 41st crystallographic course at the Ettore Majorana Centre. [Info: <http://www.crystallalice.org/futuremeet.htm>].

**Summer 2010**

**Frontiers of Powder Diffraction.** Erice, Italy. The 42nd crystallographic course at the Ettore Majorana Centre. [Info: <http://www.crystallalice.org/futuremeet.htm>].

**Summer 2011**

**Electron Crystallography: Structures of Minute Crystals with Exceptional Properties.** Erice, Italy. The 43rd crystallographic course at the Ettore Majorana Centre. [Info: <http://www.crystallalice.org/futuremeet.htm>].

# The 2005 Material Research Society (MRS) Fall Meeting Report

Winnie Wong-Ng  
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Following tradition, the 2005 Materials Research Society (MRS) annual meeting took place during the week after the Thanksgiving Holidays (Nov. 27 to Dec. 2) in the spacious Hynes Convention Center, which is part of the Boston Copely Plaza. Attending the Boston MRS Fall meeting, for many attendees, has also become a tradition in itself. Many visitors from all around the world are attracted by the old (by American standards) charm of the city of Boston. The Bostonians are particularly proud of its unique history, diverse culture, world-class academic institutions, prominent skyline, historic Boston harbor, charming Charles River, and the state-of-the-art underground highway system. The Copely Plaza where most attendees stayed, offers many trendy specialty shops and restaurants, which add much attraction to a scientific conference.

The four meeting co-chairs: Yang-Tse Cheng from General Motors R&D Center, David S. Ginley from National Renewable Energy Laboratory, Kathryn E. Uhrich from Rutgers University, and Ralf B. Wehrspohn from Paderborn University have successfully organized a world class conference and implemented a superb scientific program. The 2005 meeting consisted of a multidisciplinary scientific program including 42 symposia, 8 tutorials, evening poster sessions, award presentations, special lectures, and a large scale exhibit. The meeting was very well attended, with more than 5000 attendees (about 4700 scientific papers), many of whom came from abroad.

On Sunday, the day before the official opening of the scientific meeting, a few events took place. Eight tutorial sessions which emphasized either new, rapidly breaking areas of research, or provided an overview of established fields were successfully implemented on Sunday afternoon. These eight tutorials included "Organic Photovoltaic Cells Engineering and Polymeric Light-Emitting Diodes," "Nanoscale Sensors From Molecules to Devices," "On-board Hydrogen Storage-Breakthroughs and Barriers," "Smart Materials-Fundamentals and Applications," "Nanoscale Manipulation and Mega-Enhancement of Light Utilizing Surface Plasmons," "Novel Characterization Methods for Magnetic Nanostructures," "Nanoimprint Technology and Printed Organic Thin-film Transistors," and "Quantum-confined Semiconductor Nanostructures-Fabrication, Characterization, and Spectroscopy Properties." On Sunday evening, a number of receptions also took place, including the MRS presidential reception. The presidential reception was a form of acknowledgement of those who have made a significant contribution to the society during the year.

The 42 symposia were organized into seven clusters and two special forums, each featuring a special theme: Energy and the Environment (8 symposia), Bio-organic/Inorganic Composites (5 symposia); Nano- to Micro structured Materials (6 symposia); Smart Materials and Devices (4 symposia); Mechanical Behavior (4 symposia); Electronics and Photonics (7 symposia); and General Interest (7 symposia). Many of the symposia were continuations based on past success, while a number of new symposia also took place which featured the state of the art technology, or materials which

demonstrated a potential great impact. Examples of the new symposia were the entire cluster/symposia in energy/environment (The hydrogen cycle-generation, storage, and fuel cells; Next-generation batteries, supercapacitors and other storage materials; Material innovations for high-performance building systems; Organic and nanostructured composite photovoltaics and solid-state lighting; Electrochromic materials and applications; Materials and Technologies for direct thermal-to-electric energy conversion; Life-cycle analyses tools for "Green" materials and process selection; and Multifunctional energetic materials). The popular symposium X was a series of lunch-time lectures featuring overviews of interesting materials-related topics. Leaders in various fields presented reviews that were designed for materials researchers who are not specialists in the field. This year, the topics discussed included the self assembly codes for soft materials; self organizing dynamics of a knowledge-based economy; smart clothes; nanotechnology in textile finishing; flexible displays; polymer electronics for sensors; and strength and plasticity at the nanoscale.

There were a number of special plenary sessions and notable lectures during the meeting. Plenary talks included "Materials Challenges for the Automobile Industry" by Alan I. Taub who is the Executive Director of GM Research & Development. The MRS Medal Awardee Reshef Tenne of Weizmann Institute presented a talk on "Inorganic Nanotubes and Inorganic Fullerene-Like Materials, from Concept to Applications." The Turnbull Lecturer Award was given to Eugene E. Haller who presented a talk on "Isotropically Controlled Semiconductors." The Materials Research Society's highest honor, the Von Hippel Award, was presented to Robert S. Langer of Massachusetts Institute of Technology who lectured on "Biomaterials for Drug Delivery and Tissue Engineering."

A large-scale MRS exhibit, which was an integral part of the meeting that complimented the technical program, also took place in the Hynes Exhibit Hall. Over 225 international exhibitors (manufacturers, suppliers, service organizers, publishers, engineering firms, etc.) displayed an extensive array of products, services, equipment, instrumentation, publications, and computer-related products, all under one roof. The exhibit hall has traditionally been a meeting place where attendees can relax and exchange information. Many attendees took the opportunity to stroll along different aisles to learn about the latest technology, browse new books and pick up souvenirs. ICDD also had an attractive booth at the exhibit.

A unique event took place this year at the exhibit for the first time. During two of the afternoon coffee breaks (Tuesday and Wednesday), a brand new fashion show featuring technologically advanced clothing and accessories fully captivated the audience. Much excitement was generated by the fashion runway-models. While demonstrating the functional materials-based new fabrics, they also danced or walked in rhythm to the beat of the electrifying contemporary music. The audience learned that future clothing could become a



2005 Materials Research Society (MRS) Fall Meeting—a fashion show featuring technologically advanced clothing and accessories (Courtesy of MRS, Warrendale, PA).

virtual skin that can act and think autonomously. For example, it can be used to monitor our health and warn us of dangers.

The evening poster sessions (another important part of the MRS meeting), was also a favorite gathering place for the attendees. The society offered a variety of complementary dishes and drinks so the attendees could discuss various serious scientific subjects in a relaxing atmosphere. Best poster winners were selected each evening.

This year the annual Women in Materials Science & Engineering Breakfast featured a panel discussion about “*The Leaky Pipeline*” of Women in Science: *Does it leak more in your country than in others?* The breakfast meeting was fully attended. A panel of eminent women in materials science from three continents conducted an open discussion about the leaking pipeline phenomenon. The panelists included Debra R. Rolison of Naval Research Laboratory, Huifang Lang of Aldrich Chemical Company, and Suzi Jarvis of Trinity College.

Other special functions at the 2005 MRS meeting included a MRS Hydrogen Fuel Cell Model Car Challenge for local high school students; a complementary workshop about how to write a successful proposal; and a special workshop designed for scientists who would like to effectively communicate their concerns and opinions to federal policymakers. Representatives from various funding agencies that support materials research and education also presented an overview of their programs at the MRS meeting: the National Science Foundation (T. A. Weber and R. Sinclair), the Department of Energy (H. Kung), and the Department of Defense (O. O. Dchoa, S. E. Walker, and J. T. Prater).

The scientific program concluded on Friday. Throughout the entire week, the weather was rather cooperative. It was a relatively warm November/December week. The peaceful and enchanting holiday atmosphere inside the Copely Square compound provided much enjoyment for the attendees. The 2005 MRS meeting was again, a great success.