

**Society Agility Council Zoom Meeting**  
February 20, 2024 (Tuesday) at 3:30pm ET

**Participants:**

Susan Trolier-McKinstry, SAC Chair  
Paul Drzaic, IES Chair  
Bryan Huey, Topical Differentiation  
Al Hurd, TCS Chair  
Elizabeth Kocs, FoS Subcommittee Chair  
Linda Schadler, Publications Committee Chair  
Loucas Tsakalacos, MTGC Chair  
Eileen Kiley, MRS Director of Programs  
Gopal Rao, MRS Chief Editor for Technical Content  
Danielle Boston, MRS Member Engagement Manager  
Michele Feder, MRS DEI & Engagement Partner

**Unable to Participate:**

Babu Chalamala, TSS Chair

<b>ACTION ITEMS</b> listed below and highlighted in the minutes	
Name	Action
Eileen Kiley	Send Al Hurd a link to the list of <i>MRS Bulletin</i> Webinars
MRS HQ	Advise on institutions that are responding strongly to the Spring Meeting via abstract submissions and attendee registrations
Bryan Huey	Provide a list of subcommittee member names prior to the next SAC meeting (03/15/2024)
Babu Chalamala	Finalize Advanced Semiconductor Packaging Staging Group members and Chair

**Agenda:**

Publications Committee Update (Linda Schadler)  
Meetings Committee Update (Loucas Tsakalacos)  
Review 1/3/24 Action Items

**Minutes:**

Society Agility Council Chair Susan Trolier-McKinstry opened the meeting.

**Publications Committee Update**

- Publications Activities and Initiatives review
  - o New *MRS Communications* paper type: Methods Letters
  - o Joint virtual workshops with *Nature* in May and October
  - o Several recent *MRS Bulletin* monthly webinars have had 100+ attendees
  - o Integration with SRC as a good connection with the Advanced Packing Staging Group
- Editorial Strategic Planning Subcommittee
  - o help EICs improve utilization of their Editorial Boards
  - o Research Integrity will be a topic of discussion at Spring 2024
- Publications interactions for Topical Staging groups
  - o Artificial Intelligence: ongoing activity with webinars/multimedia and multiple MRS journals
  - o Quantum Materials: ongoing *MRS Bulletin* themes, focus issues, expert pitches
  - o Responsive and Adaptive Materials: a lot of activity in *MRS Bulletin*

Suggestions on how to better capture the crossover since a general push hasn't been successful

- Review Meeting programs; pursue AI and Quantum Materials
- Have Editorial Board members talk to presenters
- Review list of *MRS Bulletin* Webinars (Eileen to send AI a link to these)
- Metals is a topical area that is better covered in journals than at meetings
  - o Example of overlap is Suveen Mathaudhu
    - Chair of Awards Committee for many years
    - Recently joined the Metals Staging Group
    - Shortly thereafter agreed to become an Associate Editor of *JMR*
    - Result is a very strong connection between Metals Staging and Publications
- Partnership with MaRDA Alliance
  - o Town Hall at S24 to discuss a report they developed and seek feedback from the MRS community
  - o Ensure Keith Brown is in the loop on this
  - o Engage MaRDA as much as possible

### Meetings Committee Update

- Review of PDSC and MASC Charges for 2024
- View of how MTGC interacts with SAC for strategic guidance to implement with different groups across the organization
- Review of January/February MTGC Activities
- F23 Survey MASC observations
  - o Focus on Differentiation (Fundamental vs. Applied)
  - o Fall Meeting has a slight preference for Fundamental
  - o Applied – related to TRLs, with most attendees doing basic research (TRL 1-3)
- 2024 MRS Spring Meeting
  - o Lots of events and special events; exciting program; lots of interest
  - o Symposium X presentations on Tues/Wed/Thurs
  - o Spring Meeting attendance has been trending upward, contributing to total annual attendance (Spring plus Fall) returning to pre-Pandemic numbers
  - o Sense of institutions that are responding strongly to Spring Meeting via abstracts and attendees; HQ to look into this and advise
- Last Hybrid Spring/Fall Meeting is S24
  - o Board made the decision at F23
  - o Announced to Meeting Chairs
  - o Decreasing Virtual meeting abstract submissions and attendance
  - o Ongoing discussions about other ways to engage throughout the year
- Continue talks between MTGC and PUBS on topics that can be taken back to PDSC

### Differentiation Discussion

- More Applied papers coming through? Incorporate those into a particular symposium
- Bryan/Loucas/Paul meeting on 2/21 to discuss Differentiation
- Drive content towards the journals
- Incorporate into the Abstract and Symposium organization processes
  - o Include a selection option for author/presenter to designate where they view their content lies so that it can be more representative
- Bryan to provide a list of Differentiation subcommittee member names prior to the next SAC meeting (3/15/24)
- Topic of selecting 2026 Chairs and Differentiation has been communicated to the MRS VP

## Topical Staging Updates

- Advanced Semiconductor Packaging Staging Group
  - o Eileen confirmed Babu has been in discussions about the Chair position, as well as others for the member roles; hoping to finalize that Group very soon
  - o Matt has been in touch with Babu about potential contacts
  - o Susan wants to see headway so we can get content in our journals and meetings as this topic gains momentum and funding
  
- Focus on Sustainability
  - o Elizabeth reported she is working on the 2050 Panel; has been in touch with AI Staging; Danielle has been very helpful
  - o Request reduced cost Open Access article
  
- Topical Curation Subcommittee meeting
  - o AI reported the next meeting is on 2/27

## Next Meetings:

March 15<sup>th</sup> at 3:00pm ET

April 12<sup>th</sup> at 2:30pm ET

Susan adjourned the meeting.