

Society Agility Council Zoom Meeting

March 15, 2024 (Friday) at 3:00pm ET

Participants:

Susan Troler-McKinstry, SAC Chair
Matt Copel, Incoming SAC Chair
Babu Chalamala, TSS 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

Unable to Participate:

Michele Feder, MRS DEI & Engagement Partner

ACTION ITEMS listed below and highlighted in the minutes	
Name	Action
Loucas Tsakalacos / Babu Chalamala	Discuss possible S25 programming content from Advanced Semiconductor Packaging
Babu Chalamala	Discuss Asian Industry representation for Advanced Semiconductor Packaging Staging Group with Chair Subhash Shinde
Meetings Committee	Review MRS policy on Speaker criteria
Paul Drzaic	Report at April 12 SAC meeting: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Topics important/interesting to Industry• Provide three (3) names for Industry Engagement SC members
Al Hurd	Connect with Beth Stadler on potential 3M seminar
Gopal Rao	Brainstorm MRS Bulletin article on PFAS and discuss with Beth Stadler
Loucas Tsakalacos / Matt Copel	Provide Paul Drzaic with suggestions for potential Industry Engagement SC members

Agenda:

Action Items from 2/20/24 Meeting
Topical Staging Update (Babu Chalamala)
Topical Curation Update (Al Hurd)
Topical Differentiation Update (Bryan Huey)

Minutes:

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

Action Items from 2/20/24 Meeting

Eileen reviewed

Topical Differentiation Update

Recruitment efforts

- now a team of 3 since one other connection has been finalized
- may have a lead on one more individual
- will re-engage Mike Fitzsimmons from DOE, former MRS President

Abstract and Symposium submissions

- added a question to abstract and proposal submission process asking about Technical Readiness Levels (TRLs); will help with analysis
- plan to scale up analysis with complete Symposium and Abstract descriptions, not just titles
 - Can that data be made available for past/current/future meetings?

Objectives

- confirming differentiation exists
- ensure efforts made are effective
- help future Meeting Chairs determine if technical to fundamental is a good ratio

Topical Staging Update

Metals

- had their first meeting on March 6 and are off to a good start

Advanced Semiconductor Packaging

- group is taking shape with Subhash Shinde as the confirmed Chair and members being finalized
- sub-topics being worked on, with Subcommittee members intending to divide up and build up
- activities to incorporate diversity with seasoned vs. early involvement with MRS

Biomaterials

- has graduated and is no longer part of Topical Staging

Artificial Intelligence

- active group and doing very well
- has a sizeable presence at Spring/Fall Meetings

Quantum Materials

- doing well at Spring/Fall Meetings
- seeing more activity in Pubs

Autonomous Materials

- significantly behind on this
- may want to review committee makeup

Discussion:

PUBS

- Linda pleased to see the progress with these groups and reports many are showing up in the Pubs area

MTGC

- Loucas is having discussions with Paul/Bryan about Industry involvement
- would like certain topics covered in S25 programming; Babu/Loucas to connect on Advanced Semiconductor Packaging
- Topical Staging Chairs sharing their activities/goals at the MTGC meeting on March 20

How to sustain a successful initiation of a new topic

- Babu indicated there is somewhat of a process in place, but a more formal process is needed
- adding new topics is a challenge – somewhat of a disconnect

- determine what needs to be brought back or actively formalized
- noted that Metals and Advanced Semiconductor Packaging were suggestions by SAC
- once an area is graduated, have one or more volunteers from that Staging Group join PDSC to maintain continuity of topics and ensure a topic doesn't die
 - for Biomaterials, it was noted that Jonathan Rivnay's engagement is influenced by his experience as a Meeting Chair
 - Bio has been very successful in programming, with an SB cluster at every meeting that is mostly comprised of biomaterials
 - Topical Curation Subcommittee noticed the strength of biomaterials in their S25 review
- Advanced Semiconductor Packaging has the potential to pull in Industry and become an annual fixture at Spring Meetings
 - begin planning now; plant the seed
 - have a wonderful nucleus of members confirmed
 - suggested recruiting someone from Asian Industry to join the group, such as TSMC or Samsung; Babu will discuss with Subhash

Topical Curation Update

Al Hurd reported that Topical Curation Subcommittee met on February 27

- 11-12 clusters and 76 proposals were reviewed
- reduced to 9 clusters and 66 accepted proposals
- Energy and Sustainability split into two, which represents more than 50% of submissions
- Meeting Differentiation is good; appropriate for a Spring Meeting

General Comments:

S25 submissions have a healthy mix of classic and new topics

One obvious gap is PFAS materials

Meritorious but rejected: Ageing, Undergrad Research

Big 3 Cluster: Energy & Sustainability, Soft Materials and Biomaterials, Electronics, Optics and Photonics

Industry participation is weaker than desired

Topics in the Big 3 Cluster (EL, EN, SB) offer much to Industry, especially West Coast, Asia, and Australia

Invited speakers MAY have a lower acceptance rate

7 Symposia with applications of manufacturing in their titles have no industry speakers or organizers

Explicitly emphasize Application in their title

Overlaps to manage – 6 cases where merger or joint sessions are needed

Community Cultivation – 7 promising communities to be cultivated

Chiral materials – none on the polymer side

Superconductors – strong

Recommendations:

Add PFAS Symposium, satellite, or forum – discuss getting attention of industry and government

Industry participation – follow-up needed

Partner with other Societies – joint programming at Spring/Fall should be actively promoted

Symposia Criteria – required and recommended criteria reviewed and posted regularly

Speaker Criteria – review MRS policy

Discussion:

Industry Participation

- lack of Industry participation is no surprise
- need new topics and more emphasis on topics obviously important/interesting to Industry
Paul will brainstorm topics and submit to this group

- Meeting Chairs recognize the lack of Industry participation and are working on it
- Aerospace and Materials was suggested to the S25 Meeting Chairs
 - very interested in this topic
 - reaching out to Symposium Organizers to try and pull this together
- Would like to have Industry speakers at S25

Continue Differentiation efforts

Future Industry Poster Session

- essentially a twin of the Future Faculty Poster Session
- successful and effective in finding a career path
- offer both an on-site and Virtual format
 - incorporate into an upcoming MRS Meeting; preferably F24, but certainly S25
 - develop proposal for a Virtual session
 - discuss at March 20 MTGC meeting

PFAS recommendation by TCS

- create a focus group around PFAS – Meeting, Publication, Webinar
 - any of the above would start the discussion
 - have a discussion within MRS
- system level approach vs. chemistry
- Elizabeth is happy to consider topics for Sustainability panels; send her suggestions
- 3M seminar suggested; Al to reach out to Beth Stadler, who championed that discussion
- In an effort to encourage people in the community to begin thinking about this area, Gopal to brainstorm with Beth Stadler about an article for *MRS Bulletin*

Gopal noted that the set of S25 Proposals contains the largest # of Tutorials suggested

Industry Engagement Subcommittee

- Susan charged Paul with providing three (3) additional member names by the next SAC meeting
 - Paul requested assistance with recruiting potential members
 - Loucas and Matt to provide Paul with suggestions from their networks

Next Meeting:

Friday, April 12th, at 2:30pm ET

Agenda:

Sustainability update

Industry Engagement update

Susan adjourned the meeting.