

Society Agility Council Zoom Meeting

July 1, 2024 (Monday) at 11:00am ET

Participants:

Susan Trolier-McKinstry, SAC Chair
Matt Copel, Incoming SAC Chair
Babu Chalamala, TSS Chair
Paul Drzaic, IES Chair
Alan Hurd, TCS Chair
Elizabeth Kocs, FoS Subcommittee Chair
Loucas Tsakalakos, MTGC Chair
Gopal Rao, MRS Chief Editor for Technical Content
Kathy Kennedy, MRS Administrative Assistant, Programs

Unable to Participate:

Bryan Huey, Topical Differentiation
Linda Schadler, Publications Committee Chair
Eileen Kiley, MRS Director of Programs
Danielle Boston, MRS Member Engagement Mgr

ACTION ITEMS listed below and highlighted in the minutes	
Name	Action
Babu Chalamala	When finalized, provide Paul with names of Semiconductor Packaging and Microsystems Integration (SPMI) Staging Group members
Babu Chalamala	Provide Sandia Office of Technology Transitions contacts to Paul
MRS HQ	Determine if FoS Program Assessment submitted to HQ can be shared; if so, Danielle to send to SAC members
MRS HQ	Confirm whether MRS can manage/administer NSF funding for FoS if an NSF grant is obtained by FoS
Paul Drzaic / Matt Copel	Discuss joint activity at MRS Meeting that provides value to MRS
MRS HQ	Determine if MRS staff have the bandwidth to manage iMatSci operational activities, including logistics and fundraising
Paul Drzaic / Loucas Tsakalakos	Determine how to structure a new iMatSci event and/or an industry technical track
SAC members	Review EmTech and PuzzleX and provide Paul with feedback

AGENDA

Welcome
Action Items from 5/20/24 Meeting
FoS Update
Industry Engagement Update

MINUTES

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

Action Items from 5/20/24 Meeting

- Babu hasn't received a reply from Leah Appelhans; Susan will provide other contacts if Leah isn't available
- Loucas confirmed that MTGC supports the funding of basic logistics for future 2050 Sustainability panels
- Subhash is finalizing the members of SPMI Staging Group; Babu to send to Paul when complete

- **Babu to send Sandia Office of Technology Transfer contacts to Paul**
- Loucas has analyzed the iMatSci surveys and confirms there was a rich diversity of topics and participants in prior events, which led to additional discussion with Paul on how to re-establish iMatSci or a similar event to further engage industry
- SAC meetings calendar invites for the remainder of 2024 have been sent
- Kathy confirmed receipt of Bryan's PPT slides from his Differentiation update on 5/20/24
- Loucas confirmed there was a meeting on 5/31 to discuss how best to re-establish iMatSci

Focus on Sustainability Update (Elizabeth Kocs)

- Subcommittee Member Update
 - terms expire in December for 3 members; 1 new member; 1 member resigned
 - invitation extended for Vice Chair position; awaiting response
 - diversity of the group was noted, which directly aligns with MRS Board Charges
- 2024 MRS Meetings Updates
 - S24
 - o 65 attendees at FoS 2050 panel with a goal of increasing attendance for S25
 - secure a more desirable/central meeting location
 - schedule earlier in the week
 - o positive survey feedback, with most categories rated Excellent or Very Good
 - o fantastic space, speakers and content
 - F24
 - o established a working group for 2050 panel
 - o deciding on a panel topic for F24
 - reviewing F24 Symposia; possibly connect to EN08
 - alignment with MRES journal
 - reviewing survey results from S24 panel session for topics of interest
- Publications Update
 - F23 publication in MRES was submitted in June
 - S24 publication in MRES is under development
 - concerned about cost for Open Access publication, but looking into this
- MRES Journal
 - July 9 meeting with new Editor-in-Chief, Manish Chhowalla
 - Call for Papers submission deadline for Strategies for a Greener Future: Enhancing Materials and Energy Lifecycles is 11/1; considering this opportunity
- Program Assessment
 - required assessment due to external funding was submitted to MRS HQ
 - **Danielle to send to SAC members if it is permitted to be shared**
 - Goals
 - o enhance awareness and understanding of sustainability across MRS
 - o elevate the impact of sustainability efforts within MRS
 - o train next generation of materials scientists to incorporate sustainability in their work
 - Accomplishments of FoS group
 - o hosted 13 panel sessions at MRS Spring/Fall Meetings
 - o ~2000 community/stakeholders attended 2050 panel events
 - o peer-reviewed commentary published in MRES to further the outreach
- Funding Approaches

- new sponsorship opportunities prospectus was developed
 - o allows for smaller sponsorship opportunities
 - o better integration across the MRS Meeting and other available sponsorship opportunities
- establishing a Work Group to focus on funding opportunities
 - o grants/sponsorships
 - o not pursuing NSF funding at this time; Elizabeth cannot apply for NSF funding at this time, but is open to it if someone else in the group is willing to apply
 - o HQ to confirm whether MRS can still manage/administer external funding from NSF if obtained
- 2024 FoS Meeting Schedule:
 - confirmed meetings on July 8, September 9, and November 11
 - additional ad hoc/work group meetings held on off months as needed to keep work moving

Industry Engagement

- iMatSci Status
 - Current volunteer team
 - o Ed Greer w/Dow Ventures
 - o Jessamine Lee w/Wolf Greenfield
 - o Mark Vreeke w/Chemical Angels Network
 - o Omar Zahr w/Tandem Launch
 - received feedback from volunteers that increased understanding
 - iMatSci connects entrepreneurs to investor ecosystem through MRS Meetings
 - o very well connected into the ecosystem of early-stage materials technology company development
 - o strong interest in developing and engaging with these early-stage companies in a mutually-beneficial way
 - Volunteer team historically had little to no role in the operations of iMatSci and no interest in starting
 - current group is willing to:
 - o help drive program for iMatSci using their personal networks
 - o actively participate in iMatSci events
 - o organize events, with a strong bias towards Boston
 - current group is not willing to:
 - o do any operational activities, including event logistics and fundraising
 - o unsure if they have interest in any MRS Spring Meeting since they were more focused and interested in holding it in Boston (most of them are based in Boston)
 - review of the F17 iMatSci program
 - o discovered that networking is the key
 - o capping the growth at a few hundred is probably ideal
- iMatSci Next Steps
 - SAC feedback
 - o Early-stage technology materials companies seem like a natural constituency for MRS engagement, but what is the priority for MRS?
 - o Susan confirmed improving interaction with Industry is a high priority for MRS
 - Steps if proceeding with iMatSci
 - o secure additional volunteers or MRS staff to perform all operational functions

- fill out the program
 - target F25
 - determine if there is a connection to Spring meetings
- Is there a better format to consider?
 - Applications/Translational-focused track or cluster area within an MRS meeting, spanning a broader audience
 - TED-style programming and networking
 - EmTech (MIT)
 - PuzzleX, a competitor that is endorsed by MRS
 - Focus on applications within hot topics, such as Sustainability, Quantum, Advanced Semiconductors
- iMatSci Discussion
 - find a way to support the operational activities, which may be easier to navigate once an iMatSci format has been decided.
 - improve interaction with Industry, noting we already have a track record with the F17 event
 - consider joint activities with EmTech and/or PuzzleX
 - EmTech
 - showcases the MIT brand by highlighting both MIT work and their partners
 - would require creative thinking to determine a basis for mutual activity
 - PuzzleX
 - showcase to attract tech to Barcelona
 - funded by European and Spanish entities, with a fair amount of people and recognizable names
 - initial communication involved doing more jointly with Early Career researchers/scientists, with the understanding of expanding activities later
 - MRS agreed to post future leaders Rising Star videos on our website from a poster competition for students held at PuzzleX; three (3) videos received
 - 2023 PuzzleX meeting was endorsed by the Meetings Committee in 2022
 - MRS Executive Committee is responsible for partnership arrangements
 - should be a win-win for both organizations
 - participation in the MRS brand is a benefit to PuzzleX
 - the benefit to MRS is attracting people to MRS meetings
 - Paul Drzaic suggests that MRS should focus on Translation rather than Industry
 - think through how this would look, choose a meeting, implement, evaluate
 - industry talks embedded in individual Symposia have historically done well, but this has plummeted over time
 - implement through Meetings
 - Industrial cluster that is part of the Technical program
 - seek PDSC input/approval to maintain technical quality
 - marketing is key and must be very clear
 - S25 Program
 - recommend cluster on Quantum, Soft Materials, Sustainability, but may be too late for S25 so likely F25 or S26
 - cross-cutting program that sits over all those Symposia – joint session
 - identify what we're missing and backfill
 - suggest having two (2) iMatSci panel discussions
 - one from VCs/legal folks at early stages

- one with mid/large size company representatives
 - discuss view of market needs and challenges for advanced materials
 - curtail costs by utilizing a standard meeting room at the Convention Center and minimizing food and beverage
 - Joint activity at MRS Meeting that provides value to MRS **Matt/Paul to discuss**
 - Concept of virtual clusters or tracks is something MRS has discussed with Meeting Chairs, but never implemented; may be an interesting way to do this
 - Encourage Symposium Organizers to attract Industry
 - ask target Symposia to have an All Invited track
- iMatSci Action Items
 - charged with implementing a task to advance the iMatSci initiative
 - **MRS HQ to determine bandwidth of MRS staff to perform all operational activities**
 - **Paul/Loucas determine how to structure an iMatSci event**
 - suggest working with Advanced Packaging and Microsystems Integration Staging Group on their workshop being planned for S25, which is Industry-focused
 - Posters around a cluster
 - **SAC members to review EmTech and PuzzleX formats and provide Paul with feedback on what can be replicated for an MRS event.**

Next Meeting:

11am ET on Mon, 08/12/24

Agenda Items: Updates from MTGC and PUBS

Susan adjourned the meeting.