

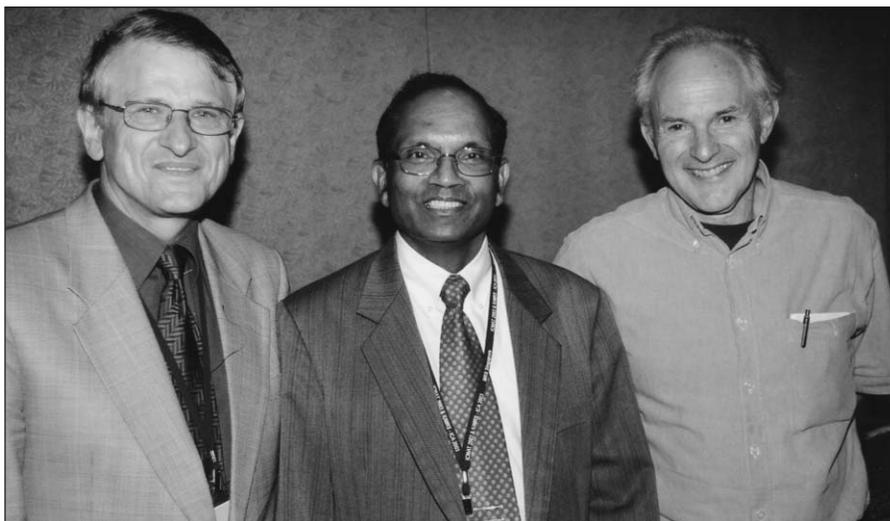
ICMAT 2003/IUMRS-ICA 2003 Held in Singapore

As part of its continuing series of biennial conferences, the Materials Research Society of Singapore (MRS-S) organized the International Conference on Materials for Advanced Technologies (ICMAT-2003) December 7–12, 2003. It was combined with the International Union of Materials Research Societies (IUMRS) International Conference in Asia (ICA 2003). More than 1500 delegates from 42 countries attended the conference at the Singapore International Convention and Exhibition Center. Specific efforts were made to encourage the participation of students and researchers from developing countries.

The conference formally opened with a welcome address by the president of MRS-S and chair of the Organizing Committee, B.V.R. Chowdari. Shih Choon Fong, principal advisor for the conference and president of the National University of Singapore (NUS), welcomed the participants and stressed the importance of research on various materials that collectively is expected to have a great economic impact. He said that NUS is committed to encouraging and strengthening research and development in materials, with special emphasis on nanotechnology and biomedical engineering. Fong expressed the hope that younger researchers and students would take full advantage of the deliberations at the conference and be motivated to develop their careers in materials science. Continuing with this theme, Guest of Honor Tharman Shanmugarathnam, acting minister for education in Singapore, said that the research results should benefit the community and that future generations must pursue science and technology as a career. He congratulated MRS-S for its efforts and conveyed his best wishes for the success of the conference.

Covering the frontier areas of materials science, engineering, and technology, ICMAT-2003/IUMRS-ICA 2003 presented symposia on biomaterials, polymers, catalysis, crystal engineering, electronic ceramics, electromagnetics, micro-electromechanical systems, silicon and compound semiconductors, the use of synchrotron radiation methods, atomistic modeling and simulation, photoprocessing, and nanomaterials. More than 1700 oral and poster presentations were given on state-of-the-art findings and future strategies. The conference aimed to foster mutual friendship, cooperation, and plans for future collaborations among attendees.

The nine plenary talks, delivered by distinguished scientists—including two



Nobel Laureates Klaus von Klitzing (left) and Harry W. Kroto (right) and Materials Research Society of Singapore president and chair of the Organizing Committee, B.V.R. Chowdari, at the joint International Conference on Materials for Advanced Technologies (ICMAT-2003) and the International Union of Materials Research Societies International Conference in Asia (ICA 2003).

Nobel Laureates, Klaus von Klitzing (Max Planck Institute, Stuttgart, Germany) and Harry W. Kroto (University of Sussex, U.K.)—were gathering points for the early morning sessions during all five days. These review talks summarized contemporary research findings and predicted possible future directions in the coming years. The titles of the plenary lectures were “2010—Nanospace Odyssey” (Kroto); “Progress, Prospects, and Problems in Advanced Materials for Dielectric, Piezoelectric, and Electro-Optic Applications” (L.E. Cross, The Pennsylvania State University, USA); “Carbon Nanotube Electronics and Electro-Optics” (P. Avouris, IBM Research, USA); “Quantum Phenomena in Nanostructures—A Modern Research Field” (Klitzing); “Nanoscale Molecular Machines” (C. Joachim, CEMS-CNRS, Toulouse, France); “Nanotechnology is No Small Thing” (J. von Her II, Zyvex Corp., USA); “Smart Polymers and Smart Proteins—A Really Smart Pair” (A.S. Hoffman, University of Washington, Seattle, USA); “Challenges and Opportunities of Nanoscience” (M. Stoneham, University College London, U.K.); and “How, Why, and Which Ceramic Materials have been Developed? And Where Will They Go?” (M. Yoshimura, Tokyo Institute of Technology, Japan).

The Nobel Laureates also gave lec-

tures for the general public and high school and junior college students. Klitzing spoke on “The Most Interesting Aspects of the Quantum Hall Effect” and Kroto addressed “Science, Society, and Sustainability.”

The conference was organized in association with NUS and the Institute of Materials Research and Engineering (IMRE). It was supported by NUS, IMRE, A*STAR, the Lee Foundation, the Singapore Exhibition & Convention Bureau, the U.S. Army Research Office—Far East, the French Embassy in Singapore, and a large number of co-sponsors, supporters, and exhibitors. A*STAR also sponsored the public lectures. Support and help in logistics were provided by the conference secretariat, NUS Corporate Communications, the Physics Department of NUS, and IMRE.

MRS-S will hold ICMAT2005/IUMRS-ICAM2005 on July 3–8, 2005 at Singapore International Convention and Exhibition Centre. Nobel Laureates Steven Chu (USA), Roald Hoffmann (USA), Alan MacDiarmid (USA), and Carl Wieman (USA) will deliver plenary and public lectures. C.N.R. Rao (India), Subra Suresh (USA), and Bernard Raveau (France) are also scheduled to give plenary lectures.

B.V.R. CHOWDARI
Chair, Organizing Committee ICMAT-2003
President, MRS-Singapore

Brazilian MRS Meeting to be Held in October

The Brazilian Materials Research Society (B-MRS) will hold its third annual meeting (SBPMat) in Foz do Iguacu, Brazil, October 10–13, 2004. The meeting will feature thematic symposia and interdisciplinary workshops tackling frontier subjects and other topics significant to the materials community. Plenary sessions on the state of the art in materials research as well as on opportunities in international cooperation are planned. The meeting will include oral and poster presentations and an exhibit.

The Workshop in Semiconductor Spintronics will consist of 20–30-minute talks to stimulate discussion. A poster

session will be held, providing an opportunity for students and researchers to establish an efficient network of collaborative effort.

Symposium topics include nanostructured materials, nucleation, supramolecular materials, electroceramics, computer simulation, mechanical behavior in structural components, particulate materials, and microanalysis of materials. The official languages of the meeting will be Portuguese and English. Researchers who give oral presentations in Portuguese are required to use overhead or PowerPoint projections in English.

Some of the sessions will be held joint-

ly with the IV Brazilian Symposium on Electroceramics and the 9th Micromat (Brazilian Symposium on Materials Microscopy). B-MRS is a new adhering body of IUMRS.

For more information, contact Elson Longo, Chair, PO Box 100, 13560-970, São Carlos, SP, Brazil; tel. 55-16-3351-8214, fax 55-16-3351-8214-208, e-mail encontro@sbpmat.org.br, and Web site www.sbpmat.org.br/3meeting.



All MRS attendees are invited to
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 for
Professor Rustum Roy
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RECEPTION & COMMENTS BY FRIENDS
 November 27, 2004, 8:00 pm – 10:00 pm
 Marriott, Copley Place Hotel, Boston Salon A
 Preregister online (\$20) at www.betterhealthcampaign.org
 For information contact: maw9@psu.edu

Chemical Engineering News wrote: "It is extremely unlikely that the scientific world will soon again see a person functioning on the broadband scale of a Leo Szilard. Today's closest approximation to Szilard may be materials scientist Rustum Roy of Pennsylvania State University. The two share the kind of human energy, moral vision, and futuristic leaps that most scientists do not seem keen to summon, and thus dismiss."

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