AVS Newsletter

AVS Newsletter **Winter 2009**

PLEASE LOGIN USING YOUR MYAVS USERNAME AND PASSWORD PREVIOUSLY PROVIDED TO YOU VIA EMAIL. AFTER LOGIN, YOUR CUSTOM MYAVS MEMBERSHIP SERVICES WILL BE ACCESSIBLE VIA A SET OF GRAY-COLORED MENU TABS. NOT A MEMBER WE ENCOURAGE YOU TO JOIN AVS AS A REGULAR, STUDENT, OR CORPORATE MEMBER.

AVS
125 Maiden Lane,
15th Floor
New York NY 10038
212-248-0200
www.avs.org

President's Report

As My Term Comes to a Close ...

By Gregory J. Exarhos, 2009 AVS President

Returning from the AVS 56th International Symposium & Exhibition in San Jose, I had a chance to reflect upon the impact this Society has had on the technical, educational, and manufacturing communities and the benefits it offers to our members.

Our meeting provides a cogent technical program that continues to attract participants from many different disciplines. The high-quality technical presentations delivered during the week were preceded on Sunday afternoon by two timely plenary sessions focused on biomaterials and photovoltaics.

A lead off talk in the biomaterials session, presented by Professor J.M. DeSimone, is representative of a growth area for the Society that addresses the interface between microelectronics fabrication strategies and drug delivery agents. The top-down processing strategies, underpinned by methods used in the semiconductor industry to produce transistors, are used to fabricate 'Trojan Horse' nano-particles that deliver biotherapeutic agents to specifically targeted cells.

In a second lecture hall, a former AVS President, Larry Kazmerski, presented a most entertaining and compelling review of the state of solar energy research, development, and commercialization. Both plenary sessions provided ample time for participant networking during the well-attended receptions following the events and both addressed topics of great importance to renewable energy conversion and treatment of disease.

Activities such as these, that address grand challenge problems we face today, will continue to be integrated into our International Symposium.

Society outreach to the education sector also was evident throughout the week and our best and brightest students were honored at the Wednesday evening awards ceremony along with our recently elected Fellows and major award winners.

I was pleased to interact with nearly two-dozen middle school science teachers during the Science Educator's Workshop and learn of their successes and frustration at engaging students in science. Much of their frustration arises from spiraling class size, limited resources, and mandates from state governments on an increasing number of topics to be included in their curricula. It was refreshing to see that even under these constraints, all the teachers were highly committed to fostering science among students at this impressionable age.

This indeed represents the pipeline for our future Society members. The teachers deserve our thanks and any assistance we may care to offer

continued on page 2
President's Report

CONTENTS

Meetings Calendar 2
General Topics. 3
Conference Announcements 6
Conference Reports 7
Member Highlights 9
International Symposium 12
Contacts. 15