## in the final analysis

"Cream colored ponies and crisp apple streudels; doorbells and sleigh bells and schnitzel with noodles; wild geese that fly with the moon on their wings; these are a few of my favorite things"

— "My Favorite Things," Oscar Hammerstein

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Volume 66

Number 3

March 2014

About once a year, I catch part of *The Sound of Music* on television (yes, I'm a fan), and come about this time of year, one of my executive director responsibilities is to compile a list of accomplishments over the last year for presentation to the TMS Board of Directors. As I love this professional society and my job within it, the crafting of this report is an enjoyable and reflective time. The 8,000-word report was compiled with immeasurable help from my staff colleagues, which is appropriate as they did the vast majority of the actual work over the course of the year with our energetic volunteers.

While we're proud of all of the work documented, I admit to having a few favorite things, including:

- Our financial projection for 2013 is for TMS to realize excess revenue from operations of roughly \$400,000—that makes for a sizeable contribution to the Society's Operating Reserve/ Development Fund to fuel future development and provide security against a rainy day.
- The Eighth Pacific Rim International Conference on Advanced Materials and Processing, held August 4–9 in Waikoloa, Hawaii, was a great success thanks to the effort of a regiment of volunteers and as hosted by TMS working with partner societies from China, Japan, Korea, and Australia. The event drew 1,079 attendees, 84% of whom came from outside of the United States.
- The TMS Foundation was revitalized with new energy, a new sense of purpose, a new Board of Trustees, a new wave of donations, and a new chair (Rob Wagoner). One thing that did not change was the Foundation's commitment to young professionals.
- With funding from the TMS Foundation and extensive support by volunteers, the Toonseum and
  its cadre of volunteers, and TMS staff, "COMIC-tanium, the Super Materials of the Superheroes"
  was unveiled at TMS2014 in San Diego. The exhibit will also be displayed in 2014 at the USA
  Science & Engineering Festival, April 26–27, in Washington, D.C., and at the Toonseum in
  Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania (the 2014 MS&T conference location) this fall. It's a winner!
- Work began on the First TMS Summit on Creating and Sustaining Diversity in the Minerals, Metals, and Materials Professions (DMMM1): Honoring the First Female Member of AIME: Ellen Swallow Richards. Planned for July 29–31, 2014, this event will focus on drawing on the experience of attendees and equipping them with tools that they can take back to workplaces. The event is also bringing attention to an overlooked pioneer of our field, Ellen Swallow Richards, as a new TMS award has been established in her name and will debut at the summit.
- Last July's 2<sup>nd</sup> World Congress on ICME in Salt Lake City, Utah, was warmly received and laid the groundwork for a third congress in 2015.
- The TMS study *Implementing ICME in the Aerospace, Automotive, and Maritime Industries* was issued in July 2013. The 120 pages provide detailed, practical guidance to implementing integrated computational materials engineering (ICME) and compiles insights and experience from nearly 50 ICME technical experts.
- For decades, there has been talk of starting a third volume of *Metallurgical and Materials Transactions*. This last year, it finally came to pass with the establishment of an "E" edition: *Materials for Energy Systems*, with Victorino Franco (Sevilla University) and Steven J. Zinkle (University of Tennessee) as co-editors.
- Two new energy conferences were established: the International Energy and Sustainable Infrastructure Conference for January 2015 in Doha, Qatar, and CSM-TMS Energy Materials 2014 during November in Xi'an, Shaanxi Province, China.
- TMS was one of 114 companies recognized as "One of the Best Places to Work in Western Pennsylvania" by the *Pittsburgh Business Times*. Companies were judged based upon the results of an employee survey that evaluates team effectiveness, retention, trust with co-workers, feeling valued, and other factors.

That's all the sound of music to my ears, and I hope the ears of all TMS members as well!



James J. Robinson Executive Director

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