



**2014/2015 Division & Class Report  
to the  
ACerS Board of Directors**

Division/Class: \_\_\_\_\_ Basic Science Division \_\_\_\_\_

Current Division/Class Officers: (complete as appropriate for your Division or Class)

Chair: Bryan Huey  
Chair-Elect: Shen Dillon  
Vice-chair: Xingbo Liu  
Secretary: Dunbar Birnie

Counselor: Scott Misture  
Counselor: Jian Luo  
Counselor: Wayne Kaplan

Nominating Chair: Shen Dillon  
Secretary elect: Paul Salvadore

Program Chairs: MS&T 2014, EMA 2015: Shen Dillon, Xingbo Liu  
Program Chairs: MS&T 2015, EMA 2016: John Blendell, Dominique Chatain  
Program Chairs: MS&T 2016, EMA 2017: Ming Tang, Yiquan Wu  
Program Chairs: MS&T 2017, EMA 2018: TBD

Sosman 2016 Nominations Chair: George Rossetti, Karren More

PCSA/BSD Student Representative: Megan Wilson

Incoming Division Officers: (complete as appropriate for your Division or Class)

Chair: Shen Dillon  
Chair Elect: Xingbo Liu  
Vice-chair: Dunbar Birnie  
Secretary: Paul Salvadore

Counselor: Jian Luo  
Counselor: Wayne Kaplan  
Counselor: Bryan Huey

Nominating Chair: Xingbo Liu  
Secretary Elect: TBD at MS&T15

Program Chairs: MS&T 2015, EMA 2016: John Blendell, Dominique Chatain  
Program Chairs: MS&T 2016, EMA 2017: Ming Tang, Yiquan Wu  
Program Chairs: MS&T 2017, EMA 2018: TBD  
Program Chairs: MS&T 2018, EMA 2019: TBD at MS&T15

Sosman 2017 Nominations Chair: Shen Dillon, Xingbo Liu

PCSA/BSD Student Representative: TBD by PCSA at MS&T15

Summary of Meetings and Activities Held/To Be Held (from Oct. 2014 through Oct. 2015):

BSD continued strong support of the MS&T annual meeting in 2014. The Sosman prize was awarded to Robert Cook, with Yuichi Ikuhara being selected for 2015 and Jennifer Lewis announced for 2016. The Ceramographic contest supported by BSD was again a favorite of MS&T attendees, overseen by Karren More of BSD. GEMS graduate student awards were again coordinated by John Blendell and funded by BSD. BSD directly supported several symposia in 2014 as well including registration support for those organized by BSD members.

For MS&T 2015, support has been set aside for 11 BSD-targeted symposium registrations at 5 symposia organized by BSD members. Again, the Ceramographic contest is overseen by Karren More of BSD. GEMS graduate student awards are again coordinated by John Blendell and funded by BSD.

EMA 2015 was also strongly supported by BSD. 5 symposia were sponsored by BSD members, scholarships were provided to 14 students for attendance and participation in graduate student speaking contests, and funds and effort were channeled into continuing a successful 1<sup>st</sup>-day tutorial this time on the topic of Thin Film Stability, by Carl Thompson and Gerhard Dehm.

BSD also began support of next year's GRC 2016 Solid State Ceramics conference, in order to allow meeting planners to establish the meeting, cover various necessary prepayments, and more evenly distribute the costs of this biennial meeting as is customary for BSD.

Future Planned Meetings/Activities (from Nov. 2015 – October 2016):

BSD continues to strongly support the MS&T annual conference (October 4-8, 2015), EMA annual meeting (January 20-22, 2016), and GRC solid state ceramics biennial meeting (July 31-Aug 5, 2016).

BSD also remains committed to supporting member participation in PacRim, European ceramics meetings, ICACC, and more targeted conferences such as those related to leadership, energy, international collaborations, and joint industrial-academic efforts.

New Initiatives/Opportunities:

BSD reached out to the Ceramic and Glass Industry Foundation to explore fundraising opportunities to endow the Sosman award. Efforts to kick this off during 2015/16 are underway.

Working with our PCSA/BSD representative, a list of presentation and symposium highlights that are supported by BSD during the MS&T15 meeting is being prepared for distribution to graduate students and young professionals at the MS&T meeting.

BSD has submitted an application for \$2,500 of supplemental funding to support substantially expanded graduate student and young professional attendance, awards, and networking opportunities

at EMA. These funds will specifically be encouraged to be used: A) as matching funds to allow more than 1 student or postdoc from a particular university or group to attend in order to enhance the meeting participation; B) to support the graduate student speaker award competition; and C) to more actively support the YPN social mixer event in order to better bridge young professionals into active membership in the divisions.

Action Items for ACerS Board Consideration at October 3, 2015 meeting:

BSD has offered to run or assist with the winter meeting spanning the gap between EMA and ICACC in 2017 following Kathleen Richardson spearheading the 2016 meeting (requiring advance planning asap to follow this year's inaugural bridging meeting).

There continues to be an issue in exposure between divisions and our potential future members and leaders such as graduate students, the YPN, and/or PCSA. Opportunities are especially encouraged for direct division participation or support of YPN, PCSA, or related activities, such as those outlined in our special fund request this year.

BSD continues to administer, and regularly fund with the divisional budget, both the GEMS graduate student awards as well as the ceramographics competition. In fact these are open to all graduate students, and as such should be supported by ACerS as a whole instead of BSD bearing the financial burden. This would bring ACerS more in-line with how peer organizations deal with grad student awards, and with art/science contests that have ancillary benefits such as images for journals, the website, marketing, a simple fun place to browse at the annual meeting, etc.

Issues/Concerns:

There remains concern that mechanisms for symposium organizers to support invited speakers are not adequate, transparent, or reliable from year to year beyond occasional cash infusions from the division on an occasional, cash-available basis. Furthermore, such support is often available too late for substantial leveraging of the additional funds in terms of increased meeting attendance. Firmer guidelines, and more registration support, in advance are highly recommended to best utilize those funds for enhancing the meeting quality and attendance.

Overlapping topics/sessions are also persistent concerns among BSD membership, leading to embarrassingly empty rooms during many sessions. This seems true especially at MS&T, and somewhat at EMA as it continues to grow. Of course some of this is expected, but ACerS leadership could: A) take a more decisive and directive role in separating the topical nature of the various symposia being organized in any given conference; B) enforce focused symposia instead of all-encompassing topics; or C) Require cross-listed sessions for clearly overlapping topics, filling one large room instead of competing head to head.

Additional Items of Note:

We are grateful to the always supportive and knowledgeable ACerS staff.

Financial Statement: (Including year-end summary of expenditures from the Division's Funds)

Submitted By:

SAVE THIS FORM, ATTACH IT TO AN E-MAIL, AND SEND TO [MSTOUT@CERAMICS.ORG](mailto:MSTOUT@CERAMICS.ORG)  
WITH THE SUBJECT HEADING OF "xxx DIVISION ANNUAL REPORT"