

## ANNOUNCEMENT

### Notice to Individuals Engaged in Research in the Solid State Chemistry and Materials Area

In response to the need for an assessment of the present status and future direction of activities in the solid state chemistry and materials (SSCM) community, a workshop involving 20–40 invitees is planned for January 1998 to address these matters. This meeting will be comparable to the workshop that will be held in May 1997 in Washington, DC, dealing with future directions and opportunities in the area of macromolecular science and engineering and chaired by Professor Samuel I. Stupp. The deliberations and findings of the SSCM workshop will be summarized in a public report to the National Science Foundation and to other interested government agencies. A planning committee (PC) has been convened for the event. The group met formally on January 25, 1997, and will meet again on April 15 at the ACS meeting in San Francisco. A final meeting of at least part of the PC is scheduled in conjunction with the Gordon Research Conference on Solid State Chemistry in September 1997 at Oxford University to seek advice from the overseas SSCM community. At present the PC has tentatively identified nine areas for consideration and study by the workshop:

1. panel discussion on “What is Materials Chemistry”;
2. strategies for discovery of new materials;
3. societal needs in relation to SSCM: past, present, and future;
4. panel discussion on priority and balance issues, including national facilities and resources;
5. industrial academic connections and related issues, including competitiveness and educational aspects;
6. technological opportunities in the SSCM area: fundamental, scientific, and societal limitations;
7. structure–property relations from the microscopic to the macroscopic domain;
8. hierarchial structure and functions in the SSCM field;
9. interfacial and surface properties.

Other topics may be added in response to suggestions from the SSCM community. More information will be circulated via E-mail and may be found at the following web site:

<http://www-chem.ucdavis.edu/groups/kauzlarich/dmr/>

I am hereby soliciting your assistance and your perceptions of the present status and future directions of the SSCM field in general and of the topics that have been identified by the PC in particular. At stake is the optimal allocation of scarce resources in the face of many exceptional opportunities for future directions of our field. The PC is critically dependent on your opinions; likewise, the workshop will be ineffective unless the issues are dealt with in the context of broad community

inputs. Please make your opinions known on these and related matters by contacting me at:

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Thank you in advance for your assistance and advice.

J. M. Honig  
Editor