Fort Worth – Aluminum Foundry Tour

North Texas Chapter conducted a plant tour on June 8 at the Fort Worth Aluminum Foundry, which has been a long-standing supporter of the Chapter since its founding in 1972. Dinner followed at Los Vaqueros, a restaurant in the historic Stockyards District. The Chapter presented owner, Stan Bass, with an award of appreciation as a Chapter sustaining member.

LA – Student Presentation Winners

Eric Fodran (left), chair of the ASM Los Angeles Chapter, presents a scholarship to Lessa Grunenfelder of the University of Southern California at the Student Night meeting held in April. Lessa also won first prize in the graduate student presentations.

Tour participants take a break in front of the Fort Worth Aluminum Foundry offices.

Please submit news of ASM and its members, chapters, and affiliate societies to Joanne Miller, joanne.miller@asminternational.org

VOLUNTEERISM COMMITTEE

Profile of a Volunteer

Greg Vetterick
Materials Science graduate student
Drexel University, Philadelphia, Pa.

It’s a step into uncharted territory—when college students venture beyond the classroom and into the world of a professional organization like ASM. Greg Vetterick was an engineering student in the material science program at Iowa State University when he took his first step—through the Material Advantage student program.

Greg was one of those kids who loved building things from the beginning. He graduated from blocks and chemistry sets to welding his own go-karts in high school. On a campus tour at Iowa State University, he discovered material science and entered as a freshman in engineering. Wanting to go on the campus trip to the MS&T, Greg became a member of Material Advantage—beginning a new and exciting part of his college experience.

The Material Advantage chapter at Iowa State opened new doors for Greg. He began networking with other material science students, meeting professionals in the field at ASM meetings, attending industry conferences, and sharing his passion for material science through outreach and volunteering.

His volunteer activities include: helping at the FIRST® LEGO® League competition, making the annual pilgrimage to promote science and engineering during Congressional Visits Day, judging a 4th grade bridge and boat-building competition, and giving elementary and high school students material science demonstrations.

Greg is now bringing the Iowa State passion for Material Advantage to the students at Drexel. “A big part of it is connecting with other students – not being separated by freshman, sophomore, junior, senior. You can talk to anyone, and get advice on what classes to take or not to take,” explains Greg. He hopes to promote the program to undergrads. He’d like to see them enjoy the benefits of Drexel’s strong Material Advantage program which includes scholarships, grants to travel to TMS or MS&T conferences, and a free one-year membership in the professional organization of their choice after graduation.

Greg is still exploring new territory with the future wide open before him. He recently spent a week in Chicago doing experimental research at Argonne National Lab, as part of his Drexel University graduate study on the effects of grain boundary character on radiation damage in stainless steel. He plans to finish his studies and then explore an engaging career in materials science. For now, Greg is enjoying life as a graduate student and growing in leadership skills as he gives back to others with his volunteer work through Material Advantage.

“All the opportunities and events arranged by ASM International and its partners have contributed greatly to my passion for engineering and my leadership and personal skills” says Greg. “I encourage any students reading this article to take a break from their normal routine and volunteer. As study breaks go – it’s one of the best.”