TMS Membership: An Investment in Your Professional Future

Ray D. Peterson

Dear Colleague,

As a representative for The Minerals, Metals & Materials Society (TMS),

I come before you to encourage your membership renewal in our professional society. I understand the current economic constraint many of us are operating under this year, but I believe you will recognize the great value membership provides you. As never before, TMS membership affords you the tools to be more effective in your career.

First, there are the many tangible benefits that being a member of TMS provides:

- A *JOM* arrives monthly in your mail to keep you up to date on the latest trends and advances in all technical areas of materials science and engineering (MSE). Additionally, *JOM* contains articles on how MSE applies to our historical past as well as everyday life and culture. Your member journal keeps you connected to your profession.
- TMS has added a new member benefit, TMS On Reserve, featuring a collection of 12 newly digitalized library archive volumes from the American Institute of Mining, Metallurgy, and Petroleum Engineers (AIME). The collection includes foundational documents, as well as selected conference proceedings papers from the TMS library. These books join over 100 award-winning, keynote, and plenary papers from proceedings from the 1960s to date.

- Our new Career Center/Job and Financial Security Resources are available to assist you with job planning and searches, as well as financial planning and management. Whether times are good or bad it is important for all of us to keep our skills sharply focused. Just like a capital investment, money spent now will continue to pay dividends in the future.
- TMS has greatly increased your access to technical information via the Internet. You now have on-line access to over 20 journals related to our fields of interest through Springer, including *Metallurgical and Materials Transactions A and B* plus the *Journal of Electronic Materials*. Access to these current and back issues alone is worth hundreds of dollars. Additionally, the TMS e-Library gives you access to more than 30 engineering reference books and databases. This sort of information used to be available only in technical libraries. *TMS e-News* provides you with a quick summary of new information that the Society has collected for you in the previous month.
- As a member of TMS you receive discounts on Society meetings, such as MS&T and the TMS Annual Meeting, along with discounts on TMS books, proceedings, and other knowledge products. Attendance at the TMS Annual Meeting can lead to new ideas, lifelong contacts, and recognition for your work.
- Access to our Membership Directory allows you to contact any of your fellow members.

Each of these benefits would be costly if purchased on the open market, but all of these are now yours for the price of membership. Additionally, you can be sure that TMS will continue to offer more on-line services every year so you can continue to access important information and stay up to date at all times.

Membership to a professional organization has intangible benefits as well. How do you put a price tag on the opportunity to network with colleagues with similar work or professional interests? Can you put a value on the professional growth you receive when you present a paper in front of your peers or develop a symposium on a special topical area? What worth would you assign to being part of an organization that recognizes our leaders, encourages students to enter our field, accredits university education programs, and establishes programs to certify professional engineers? Membership in a professional organization lets you give back a little to society for all of the opportunities that have been given to you.

The leaders and staff of TMS know that you have the difficult decision of how to spend your precious resources of time and money. We want you to seriously consider renewing your membership to TMS. We have held the line on membership dues at \$115 for 2010 while increasing the services we offer to our members. I believe we offer a good bargain for your money. Sincerely yours,

A stylized, handwritten signature of Ray D. Peterson in black ink.

Ray D. Peterson
2009–2010 TMS President