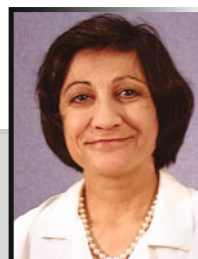


End Notes

Materials science and engineering in our community

# Get Involved: Diana Farkas, Computational Materials Science and Engineering Committee

Kelly Zappas



*“Get Involved” is a recurring End Notes feature that spotlights the work of TMS volunteers and shows the wide range of activities available through TMS. This month, Diana Farkas, a professor in the Materials Science and Engineering Department at Virginia Tech, discusses her work with the TMS Computational Materials Science and Engineering Committee.*

**Q. How did you first get started as a volunteer with TMS?**

A. I first got interested in organizing symposia in computational materials science.

**Q. Currently, what are your main volunteer activities with TMS?**

A. I am a member of the Computational Materials Science and Engineering Committee. I wish I had more time to participate in more activities.

**Q. In the past, you have organized symposia for and presented papers at TMS Annual Meetings. Why do you think it’s important to contribute to TMS conferences?**

A. The meetings are the central place where you can discuss the latest research with your colleagues.

**Q. Has your work with the TMS Computational Materials Science and Engineering Committee benefited you professionally? If so, what benefits have you gained?**

A. Definitely. The experience I have gained has benefited me greatly. It has helped me keep up with the latest research much better and get an overall perspective of the field.

**Q. How do you balance your volunteer work with other aspects of your job?**

A. This is the hard part. I wish I could devote more time to volunteer work. You have to be organized with your time, but it is very much worth the effort.

**Q. What would you recommend to other potential volunteers who want to become more active in the society?**

A. Organizing symposia is one of the most rewarding activities. It is also very important that we spread the message on how important materials research is for our country and economic development. The society has many rewarding activities.

Kelly Zappas is a contributing writer for JOM.

## TMS Introduces Volunteer Central

Joining a TMS technical committee is one of the best ways to become more involved in society activities. Learn more about how to join a TMS technical committee, organize a symposium or present a paper for a TMS meeting, and many other opportunities at the new Volunteer Central website. Through



the site, TMS members can browse available volunteer opportunities, discover the easiest ways to get involved, and learn more about the professional and personal benefits of becoming a volunteer. Visit the site today at [volunteer.tms.org](http://volunteer.tms.org).