Volunteers Wanted!

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One of the advantages of serving as an editor for a technical journal such as MMA is the exposure you are afforded to the wide variety of topics being researched in our field. When a new manuscript is submitted, it is always interesting to see what the subject matter is—what material is being analyzed, what the application is, or how the material is being analyzed. I am reminded of something that I (and most people in our profession I would wager) heard from several of my professors: that the field of materials science and engineering touches all industries and applications. Parsing through the papers that are submitted to MMA, I see that this is indeed the case.

However, this variety in manuscript subject matter presents a challenge as well—namely, identifying qualified technical reviewers for all of these topics. MMA is very fortunate in that we have been able to build up a cadre of strong reviewers in our six short years of existence. Recently, we have been receiving manuscripts that focus on topics where we have only a handful of reviewers, and we have been relying heavily upon these individuals to do the heavy lifting. Therefore, we are looking to add reviewers in the following areas:

Modeling and Simulation
Wear
Powder Metallurgy
Ceramics
Coatings
Friction Stir Welding

Reviewers are absolutely critical to the success of any journal; the success of the peer review process is built upon the efforts of this volunteer workforce. If you are interested in serving as a reviewer for MMA, please contact me directly at ryan.deacon@asminternational.org. Also, I would be remiss if I didn't acknowledge and thank our existing pool of reviewers for their hard work and dedication to our journal. Without our reviewers, the journal simply wouldn't exist. I, along with the associate editors and editorial advisory board, thank you for your efforts.

Lastly, I'd also like to ask for reader suggestions for our new regular series, Dialogue with Emerging Engineers. This feature, wherein we interview current or recently-matriculated students, provides a way for young people in our field to share a bit of their story. It also helps our readers stay up to date on research currently underway in our field. If you are a current student studying metallography, microscopy, or microstructural analysis, and are interested in being interviewed for this series, please email me. Similarly, if you are an educator and know of a student would be an ideal interview candidate for this series, your suggestions would be welcome.

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