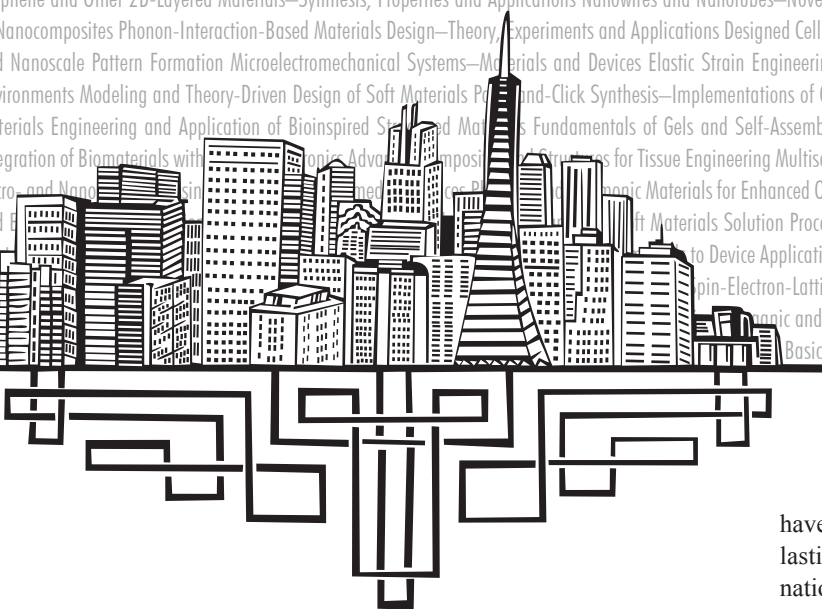






Fundamentals of Fatigue and Fracture Dislocation Plasticity Advances in Scanning Probe Microscopy Neutron Scattering Studies of Advanced Materials Strategies and Techniques to Accelerate Inorganic Materials Innovation Solid-State Chemistry of Inorganic Materials Materials Issues in Art and Archaeology X Advances in Materials Science and Engineering Education and Outreach Large-Area Graphene and Other 2D-Layered Materials—Synthesis, Properties and Applications Nanowires and Nanotubes—Novel Materials, Advanced Heterostructures, Doping and Devices Transport Properties Nanocomposites Phonon-Interaction-Based Materials Design—Theory, Experiments and Applications Designed Cellular Materials—Synthesis, Modeling, Analysis and Applications Self-Organization of Nanoscale Pattern Formation Microelectromechanical Systems—Materials and Devices Elastic Strain Engineering for Unprecedented Materials Properties Nanostructured Materials in Extreme Environments Modeling and Theory-Driven Design of Soft Materials Photoclick Synthesis—Implementations of Click Chemistry in Polymers Advances in Mechanics of Biological and Bioinspired Materials Engineering and Application of Bioinspired Structures and Materials Fundamentals of Gels and Self-Assembled Polymer Systems Synthetic Tools for Understanding Biological Phenomena Integration of Biomaterials with Nanotechnology Advancing Nanomedicine for Tissue Engineering Multiscale Materials in the Study and Treatment of Cancer Materials for Neural Interfaces Micro and Nanofabrication for Nanomedicine Nanophotonic Materials for Enhanced Optoelectronic Performance Large-Area Processing and Patterning for Active Optical Circuit Materials Solution Processing of Inorganic and Hybrid Materials for Electronics and Photonics Emergent Materials for Device Application Oxide Semiconductors Diamond Electronics and Biotechnology—Fundamentals of Spin-Electron-Lattice Phenomena in Functional Materials Enabling Metamaterials—From Science to Applications Hybrid Organic-Inorganic Solar Cells Sustainable Solar Energy Conversion Using Basic Science to Applications Advanced Materials for Rechargeable Batteries Materials



Of course, there are events for which no planner can be held accountable. In the spring of 1992, following the acquittal of the officers involved in the Rodney King incident, many cities erupted in riots. This verdict vindicated police officers of racial profiling and brutality that polarized the country and led to riots in several US cities, including San Francisco. I was strolling through Union Square in San Francisco on my way to the Meeting with a colleague during the Spring Meeting that year, when the riots in San Francisco began. We saw crowds breaking out windows, fires started on the streets, overhead awnings broken down, barricades erected by the rioters, and the police response. We hurried through that to get back to the Meeting location at the San Francisco Marriott before things broke down completely. The Marriott had brought in extra staff and had guards at all of the entrances, so our Meeting went on. At the end of that day's poster session, I came up from the underground part of the Marriott to return to my hotel on Union Square only to find that we were 10 minutes away from an area-wide curfew, and people were trying to persuade us not to leave the hotel. A few of us determined that we needed to get to our hotels and talked an intrepid cabbie into taking us. I remember the wild ride and having to knock on the front door of my hotel (off of Union Square) to get someone to unlock the door and let me in. Regardless of all this, the Meeting continued and was completed successfully.

Now the Fall Meetings have mostly moved into the Hynes Convention Center (with a few symposia in hotels). The 2012 Fall Meeting had 53 symposia. The Spring Meetings have expanded from the Marriott into the Moscone Center. The 2013 Spring Meeting had 57 symposia. It now takes three letters to enumerate the symposia (A to EEE). The coverage of materials research of both Meetings is broad enough to provide a home for most people involved in materials research. These Meetings

have provided a home for me for more than 30 years. I've made lasting friendships with colleagues from academia, industry, national laboratories, and MRS staff. The presentations in sessions as well as discussions in side meetings have filled my plate with ideas for research every time I've attended a Meeting, some of which I've brought back to MRS Meetings in the form of presentations and publications. As a manager, I've found high-quality candidates for jobs with my organization and have hired several of them to work for my company. I eagerly attend the Exhibit Hall at every Meeting to talk to vendors and catch up on advances in materials and instrumentation (and also to get hugs from MRS staffers). Those discussions with vendors have frequently resulted in purchases of instrumentation crucial to my work or that of my staff. I've presented oral and poster papers at a number of Meetings, and have helped to organize a symposium. Because of my long involvement, I have been invited to participate in MRS committees and have made lasting friendships through that process. Among other things, I've served on the Editorial Board of *MRS Bulletin* and served as a Volume Organizer for the *Bulletin* in 2012.

Little did I know when I attended my first MRS Meeting back in the fall of 1981, the long-term impact that MRS Meetings would have on my career. Attendance at Meetings has significantly helped me both as a researcher and as a manager. Over that time, the Society has gone through many changes, including changes in member demographics (industrial versus academic), philosophical debates about whether MRS was a scholarly society or a meetings society (we seem to be both), the growth of international membership, and the transition from print to electronic publication processes, for example. Throughout all of this MRS has remained the premier society for materials research. In closing, I acknowledge that I am an unabashed cheerleader for MRS and encourage all materials researchers to avail themselves of the opportunities inherent in MRS membership, attendance at MRS Meetings, and participation in MRS committee activities.

**Steven C. Moss**