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Out and about

Guilherme Lenz travelled to Brazil to give a presentation at COSIPA steelworks, about recycling of steelmaking wastes on the 2nd December.

Tony West and Gabi Miles have travelled to Malaysia to continue their collaboration on pyrochlores with Professor C K Lee at UPM Malaysia. After spending 3 days at UPM Malaysia, Gabi attended the "Materials 2005" conference. Tony gave a keynote presentation at the First International Symposium on Functional Materials entitled "Pyrochlore phases in the Bi₂O₃-ZnO-Sb₂O₅ system" and also visited the University of Nottingham campus in Kuala Lumpur for discussions with Dr Prabakaran who is visiting the CCL in February 2006.

Tony West visited Toulouse on 28 November for a PhD viva, following which he travelled to Frankfurt for a review panel to discuss proposed 'Centres of Excellence' and 'Graduate Research Schools' in German Universities.

Bill Lee gave a seminar at Sheffield Hallam University to the Materials and Engineering Research Institute, MERI, on "Immobilising the UK's Radioactive Waste" on Monday Nov 28th.

Anita Mistry attended the Technological Plasma Workshop at Herriot-Watt University on the 8th and 9th of December and presented a poster entitled "Plasma Deposition of Alkylsiloxane and Organometallic Monomers on Stainless Steel".

Publications

Beltran H, Cordocillo E, Escribano P, Sinclair DC and West AR, "Oxygen loss, semiconductivity, and positive temperature coefficient of resistance behaviour in undoped cation-stoichiometric BaTiO₃ ceramics", J. Appl. Phys 98 (9): Art. No. 094102 NOV 1 2005

Bill Lee acted as Guest Editor for a special issue of the journal "Advances in Applied Ceramics" in which he has authored the following articles.

W E Lee, "Guest Editorial: The Contribution of Ceramics to Environmental Clean Up," Adv. Applied Ceramics 105 [1] 1 (2006).

W E Lee, M I Ojovan, M C Stennett and N C Hyatt, "Immobilisation of Radioactive Wastes in Glasses, Glass Composite Materials and Ceramics," Adv. Applied Ceramics 105 [1] 3-12 (2006).

P. A. Bingham & R. J. Hand, Vitrification of toxic wastes: a brief review", Advances in Applied Ceramics 105 (2006) 21-31.

Sterianou I, Reaney IM, Sinclair DC, Woodward DI, Hall DA, Bell AJ, and Comyn TP," High-temperature $(1 - x)\text{BiSc}_{1/2}\text{Fe}_{1/2}\text{O}_3\text{-xPbTiO}_3$ piezoelectric ceramics", Applied Physics Letters 87, 242901 (2005).

P. A. Bingham, R. J. Hand, S. D. Forder, A. Lavaysierre, S. H. Kilcoyne, I. Yasin, Preliminary studies of sulphate solubility and redox in 60 P2O5 - 40 Fe2O3 glasses, Materials Letters 60 (2006) 844-847.

PhD success

Congratulations to Tim Adams who successfully passed his viva this month. Tim's PhD was on new barrier layer capacitors based on $\text{CaCu}_3\text{Ti}_4\text{O}_{12}$. Tim is now working as a PDRA for Drs M Gregg and R Bowman at the Department of Physics, Queens Belfast University, Northern Ireland.

CCL Technical Meeting

We will be holding our 3rd Technical Meeting on the afternoon of the 23rd January; you should all try to attend. The meeting will take place in LT21 and will feature talks from several of the group's postdocs. It should provide an interesting opportunity to catch up with some of the research taking place in the CCL. A programme for the meeting will be circulated shortly.

Dates for your diary

Remember you can check for forthcoming CCL meetings on the CCL website. (<http://www.sheffield.ac.uk/ccl/calendar.html>)

<i>In-reach</i> talk on GDOES	January 11 th 3pm in LT21
Technical Meeting	January 23 rd 2pm in LT21

Fire safety training

Can I remind you all to take the time to update your fire training in the New Year? All university staff must undertake this training on an annual basis. If you are new to the University you must attend one of the University's fire training lectures; the dates of forthcoming lectures are given below. If, however, you have already attended one of these lectures you can either attend another lecture or do your annual refresher training on-line at the web address given below.

On-line training is available at <http://www.koocow.com/firetraining/sheff/>

19-Jan-2006	13:15 - 14:45	Sir Henry Stephenson LT1
01-Feb-2006	10:15 - 11:45	NGH PGMEC LT1
14-Feb-2006	13:15 - 14:45	Biology (Alfred Denny) LT2

20-Mar-2006	13:15 - 14:45	Hicks LT1
20-Apr-2006	11:15 - 12:45	Sir Henry Stephenson LT1
15-May-2006	10:15 - 11:45	Crookesmoor LT1
30-Jun-2006	14:15 - 15:45	Hicks LT1

Materials Today competition

Materials Today has launched a news-writing competition that could win you an iPod nano. The competition is open to researchers under the age of 35 who like to communicate science.

To enter the competition you should write a story that explains what work has been done, by whom and where. The piece should explain why the work is of significance and how it furthers understanding of the field. If the work is relevant to current or proposed applications, these should be detailed, along with their feasibility. Comments from authors and/or other experts can be included. Illustrations to accompany the story can be included, but are not essential. A short title or headline should be supplied. Reference to the original research publication should be given. All institutions involved in the research should be named, as should the lead author.

Entry rules:

* Send a 250-350 word news story detailing a piece of recently published primary research of general significance to materials science to materialstoday@elsevier.com by Monday 31st January.

E-mails should be labelled 'Write for Materials Today' and include your full name, date of birth, address, and contact details.

* Entries will be judged by the Materials Today team. The judges' decision is final.



Wishing you a Merry Christmas
Helen
