

Fundraising

Montana Tech

Our primary fundraiser is selling hamburgers and bratwursts at home football games. We do well, averaging about \$800 profit per game. We get our meat from the local Meat Block, which everyone in the town knows as being good, and that helps our sales. We also work with the concession stand to sell bottles of pop, water, and Gatorade at their price, but get to keep the profits.

The other fundraiser we do is lab tours. A couple times each year, particularly in the spring, we have Tech Days. This is where high school and middle school students come to campus and take tours of the different departments. As Club Met, we take each group of students through our labs and perform different demonstrations to inform, and get them excited about, Metallurgical Engineering. We have worked out a deal with the department where they pay us for each tour that comes through. This helps the department by recruiting new students while helping the club at the same time.

Montana Tech

Ashley Carter, President of Club Met

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Iowa State

Fundraising has allowed the Iowa State University Chapter of Material Advantage (ISU MA) to thrive by providing the necessary funds to keep the organization running smoothly, as well as subsidize member costs to attend conferences and industry tours. The main source of income are weekly pizza sales in the materials science building on Wednesdays during lunch. Our group has negotiated a discount rate with a very popular local pizzeria because of the continual high volume of pizza we purchase. On average, we sell 60 pizzas per week. ISU MA sells the pizza for \$1.50 per slice and also offers a special of two slices and a can of pop for \$3.00. This is a fair price that is able to compete with other on-campus meals while also maintaining a solid profit margin. It is an extremely popular event each week due to the convenience for students and faculty. Other considerations are ensuring that an adequate number of members help each week (5 - 10) and that those members comply with the university food safety training and policies.

Outside of pizza sales, ISU MA also sells materials science and engineering t-shirts and polos, designed by members. Our group then sells those shirts to students and faculty in the department.

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Fundraising Co-Chairs
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Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute

During the weeks of September and October, our Material Advantage chapter hosted a bake sale each week where one of our executive board members would bake a material themed item to sell in our department. Some examples include 'Chocolate Chip Dislocation Brownies', 'Composite Krispies', and 'Heterogeneous $C_6H_{12}O_6$ '. They were a big hit and created an excited and good smelling environment around the building. We are also going to look into selling liquid nitrogen marshmallows as a fun way to get students involved as well as raise money for the program.

This spring, our chapter plans to host a silent auction to raise money for our chapter. We will be auctioning off study blocks where we tutor students, senior notes on previous classes, members of our material advantage club themselves, donations that we have received from businesses and on campus clubs such as hockey tickets, gift cards to local restaurants, and also gift baskets that have been donated. We hope to raise a lot of money during this in order to make our trip to the annual MS&T Conference next year easier.



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Virginia Tech

The Materials Advantage chapter at Virginia Tech or MEPS (Materials Engineering and Professional Societies) as we like to call ourselves, had several ongoing fundraising activities.

Typically, we hold a number of bake sales on the nights of football games outside of one of the local restaurants in downtown Blacksburg. These are usually very busy nights so we have many potential customers. We have members of our society prepare baked goods and savory items such as ham biscuits and we sell them between the hours of 10 pm and 2 am. This year, we decided to do a bake sale during the day on Parents' weekend. We were very successful.



Baked Goods Sold at One of Our Bake Sales.

In addition to bake sales, we have decided to use our department sponsored tailgate parties to sell items that we have made in our foundry. Examples of these items are bottle openers, belt buckles, and cast Hokie birds.

Some other fundraising activities that have been successful in the past include raffling a football signed by our team's coach and selling cookies to students, faculty, and staff during business hours.

We intend to expand our fundraising efforts this year by producing a wider variety of items that we make at the foundry, selling snacks to students between classes, and selling t-shirts and car decals with our unique MEPS logo.

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University of Michigan

The Michigan Materials Society (MMS) at the University of Michigan has begun to implement some fundraising ideas. As our main target are the students and members of MMS, we decided to sell items such as coffee mugs (seen below), glasses and T-shirts, that promote Materials Science & Engineering and MMS.

Additionally, one of the main events we host are weekly luncheons where we invite speakers from different companies or researchers to speak to members about how materials and materials science fits into their work. As lunch is provided at these events, MMS requires a lot of support. Many of the companies we invite to come speak generously offer donations to MMS, which go towards providing food at the luncheons.

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