

Congratulations to the Material Advantage 2009 Fall Membership Challenge Winners!

Most Recruited - IIT Kanpur

Most Creative - Boise State University

The Membership Challenge is a recruitment contest between student chapters occurring October 1-31 and March 1-31 each year. This contest is intended to challenge student members to recruit new Material Advantage student members. Contest winners receive recognition and prizes for the most creative strategies and the highest percentage increase in chapter membership. All chapters increasing their membership by a minimum of 15% during the Membership Challenge may be recognized in society publications and at conferences.



Boise State University
Membership Drive Fall 2009



The Boise State University Materials Science Club and Material Advantage Chapter celebrated the Fall 2009 membership drive with a crystallography contest. We held a brief club meeting prior to the event, and then hosted a team contest to create recognizable crystal structures out of marshmallows! Teams of 3 were given large marshmallows, small colored marshmallows, wooden skewers, and toothpicks, and were given twenty minutes to construct the most recognizable crystal structure possible. At the end of twenty minutes, each team was asked to identify the bravais lattice they had meant to create, and our club advisor, Dr. Megan Fray assessed each team's submission or submissions, trying to identify the structure.

About 18 people showed up to the event, which is a huge success for the size of our department and club. Teams of three were formed to help club members get to know each other and to try and help newer members of the department and club become integrated. Much of the advertising for the event was directed at younger materials science and engineering majors to help promote the involvement of students unaware of the extracurricular activities offered in the College of Engineering.



Several teams successfully created structures that were identified by Dr. Fray as the structure that the team intended to create. The winning team comprised of club members Tram Bui, Jared Stein, and Billy Chan. They created four different structures; all of which were correctly identified! We also gave an honorable mention to Chris Stifter and his group for constructing a two-foot tall diamond cubic structure.

To wrap up the two weeks during which we collected Material Advantage membership applications, the club attended a Boise

State football game as a group. It was a lot of fun, and a great opportunity for new and returning members of the chapter to socialize. Not only did the game build spirit for the chapter, but it was a great way to show our school spirit as well.