

Texas A&M

The Texas A&M Materials Science student organization was originally founded in 2005. In the Spring of 2007, this organization officially became the Texas A&M University student chapter of "Materials Advantage" (MA). This chapter is chartered by the Board of Directors of the American Ceramic Society (ACerS), the Board of Trustees of ASM International (ASM) and the Board of Directors of The Minerals, Metals & Materials Society (TMS), three of the most important Materials Professional societies in the U. S.

The purpose of this student organization is to promote the exciting field of materials science and engineering and all its branches; to assist its members in their academic endeavors; and to instill the professional pride in their chosen profession. This student organization caters to both undergraduate and graduate students and any regularly enrolled student, irrespective of his/her chosen major is eligible for student membership with this chapter. One of the great advantages of this student chapter is that, by being member of MA, a student automatically becomes a student member of ACerS, ASM and TMS. Besides the opportunity of becoming active member in some of the most important professional societies in the U. S., Materials Advantage offers great opportunities in terms of scholarships, support to attend scientific conferences, access to online materials-related information resources as well as the opportunity to network with likely-minded materials science and engineering professionals across the U. S.

The local MA chapter at Texas A&M is involved in many activities throughout the year. Every semester, this chapter organizes three materials-related technical presentations offered by distinguished engineers and scientists from industry, academia as well as state and federal institutions. These presentations are held on campus, usually on Tuesday nights. Food and soft drinks are always provided to all the students attending. Next semester, MA will organize a tour to a metallurgy lab in the area.

As of this year, MA is also volunteering at the International Sustainable World (Energy, Engineering & Environment) Program (ISWEEP) Olympiad, which will take place this April in Houston. Later this year, MA will also volunteer at the Materials Camp during the Materials Science and Technology Conference that will take place in October. The Materials Camp, organized on this occasion by the Houston chapter of ASM, is a highly popular outreach activity in which High School students across the greater Houston area will have the opportunity to learn a bit more about the exciting world of Materials.

For more information regarding membership fees (the Texas A&M chapter does not charge membership fee but membership to the national MA organization requires a modest fee set up by ACerS, ASM and TMS' Board of Trustees), current activities and future events, interested students can go to the website for this chapter: <http://materialsadvantage.tamu.edu/>.

