

CMU 2010 FY07 Annual Report

Project Title: The Advanced Materials Research Initiative: Exploiting Synergy to Attain National Prominence in Materials Research at CMU
 Project Leader: Bradley D. Fahlman
 Project Number: 200754 Date of Report: 6/19/07

Refer to your *Outcome Evaluation Worksheet* to complete the information below. Insert additional rows if needed. Rows will automatically expand as you type. You are welcome to attach additional documents to supplement – but **not** substitute for - the information provided below.

	Outcome/Milestone	Status (Complete, in Progress, or Not started)	Date Measured	What are the next steps to achieving this outcome?
1	Design a project website	Complete	6/19/07	We currently have a website, with the URL address http://www.cmich.edu/amr and hosted on the physics server. The Project Coordinator (see below) is working with PR to revise this site to better conform to the CMU website template, so our current website will undergo modifications during the next year (with more professional graphics, etc.). We have contacted David Stairs in Art, who may have time to assist us with a logo/website design in the Fall, as has been done before with other programs at CMU in the Fall Design class. We have also contacted the FACIT office and will work with Dan Bracken and his team this summer on possible new designs.
2	Organize a seminar series	In Progress	6/19/07	We have a current AMR seminar series, and have hosted Joel Miller (Univ. of Utah) last Spring. He is the founder of molecular magnets, and one of the biggest names in organometallic chemistry. Other speakers hosted (or co-hosted with CHM) include: Bruce Bunker (Saginaw Valley State Univ. re materials for water treatment), and Abhjit Sarkar (Michigan Molecular Institute re: fuel cell design

				issues). Other speakers have been contacted/confirmed for upcoming Fall and Spring semesters, as far in advance as Fall '09 (Tim Swager, Chair of Chemistry at M.I.T.)!
3	Recruit/hire a project manager	Complete	6/19/07	We actively recruited a project coordinator (more appropriate title rather than project manager), and interviewed two strong candidates (four total applications; the other two didn't have relevant experience). Jessica Lapp was chosen as the Coordinator, and has relevant experience at ORSP, and working with individual faculty members on grants. She has already been proactive regarding website design, accounting issues, marketing with PR, and assisting with student recruitment.
4	Recruit graduate students	In Progress	6/19/07	We have begun AMR student recruiting; thus far, we have made offers to two students – Li Zhang and Farid Ahmed. A third student is currently being evaluated. The advisors with whom these students wish to work must first fill out a form that indicates the specifics of the particular project (with timelines), as well as provide both student and faculty signatures to acknowledge that the project will result in at least 1-2 peer-reviewed publications and internal/external presentations. We have professional brochures in print that will undergo modifications after the summer, to include the highlights from AMR research activities over the summer months. AMR faculty and others have already handed out these brochures (see attached) at professional symposia and speaking engagements across the country and internationally (e.g., Univ. of Costa Rica). Jessica Lapp has met with Rob Hassen, Coordinator of Graduate Recruiting, to review current materials and develop strategies to build on and expand current recruiting efforts.

What are your plans for sustaining support for your project beyond the CMU 2010 funding period?

The AMR faculty regularly submit grant applications for external funding. As a pre-requisite for receiving AMR funding (for teaching release or RA student support), AMR faculty members must fill out a form that outlines the research project, and which funding agency they will submit a grant to (and when) – including the names/contact info. for the Program Officer(s) they spoke to regarding the project. Hence,

securing external funding is a top priority of the AMR initiative, and each faculty member in the program is well aware of the expectations of this program. As evidence of the program expectations, please find the attached application forms for faculty teaching release and graduate student research assistantships.

It should also be noted that the AMR advisory committee (Profs. Fahlman, Jackson, Howell, Tecklenburg, and Petkov) met regularly throughout the Spring 2007 semester, with an annual meeting held for all AMR faculty members the week prior to the start of the semester. Thus far, the AMR committee has approved teaching release for Petkov (Fall '07 and Spring '08), Mueller (Spring '08), Jensen (Fall '07), and Rakesh (Spring '08).