

CMU 2010 FY08 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: 7/17/08

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 & 5/29/08	An initial website was created and posted to the Physics server during Year 1 of the project. The coordinator, during year 2 of the project, worked with OIT to create a revised site in line with the CMU web guidelines and this was posted on 5/29/08 and replaced the original site. This site, www.cmich.edu/amr , will provide additional information on faculty, students and research to support the developing Science of Advanced Materials doctoral program and the college site dedicated to that program. The coordinator will continue to update the site with new publications, news items, the seminar series, etc.
2	Organize a seminar series	In progress	7/16/08	We have an on-going seminar series during the academic year. So far we have hosted 12 speakers from across the country with an estimated total attendance of 240 just during 2007-2008, including faculty, students and off campus guests (e.g., MMI, Dow Chemical). The speakers include some of the biggest names in materials research. We are currently working on scheduling the seminars for 2008-2009 and expect an additional 8 speakers over the course of the

				academic year.
3	Recruit/hire a project manager	Complete	6/19/07	We actively recruited a project coordinator (more appropriate title rather than project manager), and hired Jessica Lapp, who has relevant experience at the ORSP, and working with individual faculty members on grants. She continues to monitor the AMR account, manage travel arrangements for speakers, update the website, work with Grad Studies on student recruitment materials and outreach, work with faculty to complete and submit materials for the SAM doctoral program request, and assist faculty with grant proposals, cost centers and other paperwork. Currently she is also assisting with the SAM doctoral program.
4	Recruit graduate students	Complete	7/17/08	AMR faculty and the AMR coordinator circulated the AMR brochure and sent materials via email to a number of prospective students over the past year. Faculty also identified students already at CMU for potential AMR assistantships. The AMR advisory committee continued to review AMR fellowship applications over the 2007-2008 academic year and has approved funding for 8 students thus far. This meets the goal set by the AMR proposal.

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

Currently the AMR project has one more year of programming, though we will request an extension to enable students beginning their AMR assistantships this Fall to complete their projects. The AMR advisory committee has approved assistantships for 8 students thus far, with one student unable to attend CMU due to visa issues. Dan O'Brien (PHY) will continue his assistantship for a second year this coming Fall. Walt Partlo (CHM) has left CMU to begin a PhD program. Incoming students include Suneth Kalapugama and Amanda Stuart in Chemistry, and Prabath Wanaguru and Hareesh Dondapati in Physics. Sarfaraz Patel in Chemistry has postponed his arrival to January.

The AMR advisory committee has also approved course releases for 9 faculty thus far, with more applications pending. We are pleased to report that one proposal submitted by Dale LeCaptain (CHM), supported by an AMR course release, has been funded by the Michigan Universities Commercialization Initiative (MUCI). Dr. LeCaptain is continuing his efforts by submitting additional grants for other projects. Other faculty have identified target agencies and deadlines and we will continue to report on the success of these proposals over the next

academic year. Grant writing and ultimately funded proposals will enable the AMR project to impact future research activities as faculty continue to increase their productivity through grant submissions and research publications.

Because the emphasis on materials research will continue with the new SAM doctoral program, a number of AMR efforts will continue beyond the end date of the project. The SAM program budget includes a seminar series and course releases to allow for greater emphasis on faculty research programs. Students entering the SAM program will develop materials-related research projects for their dissertations, which will also lead to increased publications in this area for CMU students and faculty.

How can the ISPC assist you with those plans?

We appreciate the continuing support of the ISPC in recognizing and valuing the materials-related strengths of the CMU faculty. Without the AMR funding, this coordinated effort of the AMR and the new SAM program would not have developed so quickly or successfully.

We ask for permission to carry forward unexpended funds in all budget categories. Because the start date of the project was mid-year during Year 1, our schedule has been delayed for recruiting and admitting students and coordinating release time for faculty, two major budget items. We have 7 students now awarded assistantships and continuing or beginning their research this coming academic year, and we continue to receive applications from faculty for release time for grant-writing efforts. We have attached a budget here indicating the amounts approved in the initial budget and funds we would like to carry forward as we continue the project during the next academic year.

AMRI Project: Carry Forward	Years 1 & 2			
Original Budget Description	Approved Amount		Actual Amount Spent	Requested Carry Forward
Salaries				
Faculty Release Time	\$108,676.00		\$22,542.10	\$(86,133.90)
P&A Salary	\$40,600.00		\$25,627.28	\$(14,972.72)
Other Compensation				
Temporary employees				
Student compensation	\$206,694.00		\$39,422.44	\$(167,271.56)
Benefits	\$62,661.00		\$19,112.67	\$(43,548.33)
Supplies and Equipment				
Seminar	\$11,000.00		\$4,826.80	\$(6,173.20)
Recruitment/Marketing	\$18,218.00		\$1,018.30	\$(17,199.70)
Hardware/Software			\$2,061.49	\$2,061.49
			\$353.45	\$353.45
Office supplies			\$208.81	\$208.81
Total Project Costs	\$447,849.00		\$115,173.34	\$(332,675.66)