

MICROSCOPY TODAY

A monthly newsletter dedicated to the unique interests in microscopy and published at no cost to some 11,000 individuals in North America. We are pleased to have added to our mailing list the attendance from the 1992 EMSA/MAS/MSC Conference plus, of course, the continuing number of individuals who have seen the newsletter and who have requested subscriptions.

We thank the thousands of readers who have advised that they wish to continue to receive the newsletter by completing our questionnaire. Others, should they wish to continue to receive copies, will find a questionnaire in their copy of this issue.

--- Don Grimes, Editor

INDUSTRY NEWS

- ✓ The Oregon Graduate Institute of Science & Technology, Beaverton, OR is in its second year of issuing trading cards for its 125 faculty members - just like baseball players cards! The cards focus on the scientists' educational background, research interests, grants, publications, and hobbies. The apparent point of the cards is to portray scientists and their work as accessible. The cards, at no cost, are available from Mr. Robert Applegate, OGI, 19600 NW von Neumann Dr., Beaverton, OR 97006.
 - ✓ The Department of Energy has announced its 11th annual solicitation for the small-business innovation research (SBIR) program. Grants are available of up to \$75,000 to explore the feasibility of research ideas, and up to \$500,000 in a second phase for those ideas with highest potential to meet SBIR objectives. Technical areas suggested by DOE include environmental control of fossil energy use, chemical products from biomass, applications of novel materials, biotechnology and nuclear medicine, and aspects of chemical and nuclear research. The SBIR program is designed to strengthen the role of small (less than 500 employees), innovative firms in areas of federally funded R&D. More information can be obtained by writing to SBIR Program Manager (FR-16), U.S. Department of Energy, Washington, D.C. 20585.
 - ✓ According to a recent report, the starting salaries for chemical engineering graduates rose 4.6% (from 1991) to an average of \$39,216 - better than any other engineering discipline. Starting salaries for electrical engineers rose 2.5% to an average of \$34,033 while the same for mechanical engineers rose only 1.6% to \$34,546.
 - ✓ The National Technology Transfer Center, a one-stop computerized source for information on current federal laboratory research, patent licensing opportunities and cooperative R&D agreements is now operational at the Wheeling Jesuit College in Wheeling, WV. For information, call: (800)678-NTIC.
 - ✓ For a \$5000 annual fee, small businesses can become part of the Consortium on Automated Analytical Laboratory Systems, managed by NIST. The consortium is defining specifications and establishing standards that will facilitate communication and task integration among instruments used in analytical chemistry labs. For information, call: (301)975-4142.
 - ✓ The deadline for receipt of nominations for the National Science Foundation's 18th Alan T. Waterman Award is December 31, 1992. The award, presented annually to an outstanding young scientist, mathematician, or engineer, consists of a grant for up to \$500,000 over a three-year period. The winner will be announced in May 1993. For further information, contact Susan Fannoney, National Science Foundation, 1800 G St., N.W., Washington, D.C. 20550 (Tel.: 202-357-7512).
 - ✓ The Trends in Cell and Molecular Biology Conference, 18th Annual Program will be held on June 2-4, 1993 at the George Washington University (Washington, DC). The conference will provide clinicians and research scientists with information on the latest trends and methods in cell and molecular biology via morning lectures followed by laboratory demonstrations, workshops and discussion groups.
Topics include immunomicroscopy, in situ hybridization, colloidal gold technology, use of monoclonal and polyclonal antibodies, cryo-preservation and cryo-microscopy, diagnostic microprobe analysis, electron energy loss spectrometry and confocal and electron microscopy. Major commercial firms will be displaying and demonstrating their most recent products and instrumentation. Samples will be welcome for confocal viewing. For further information, contact Fred G. Lightfoot, George Washington University: (202)994-2881.
 - ✓ A **HOT** deal for "suppliers" that are not currently Sustaining Members of the MSA (aka EMSA) Society!!!
Should you care to become such a Sustaining Member, with a membership fee of \$250, *Microscopy Today* will credit you with \$500 worth of advertising to be used during 1993.
You have but to complete an application (available in our November issue or from *Microscopy Today*) and mail with your check for \$250 (payable to the MSA Society) to *Microscopy Today* PRIOR to 15 January 1993. For this offer, a "supplier" is broadly defined as any company or organization that supplies a product (including literature), material or service (including training/education) to the microscopy community.
- PS:** Due to mail delivery difficulty over the holidays, we will not publish a January issue of the newsletter. Our next issue, for February 1993, will be in the mail in late January. Have a **nifty** set of holidays! --- Ed.