The 2010 Applied Superconductivity Conference

August 11, 2010 (HE48). The 2010 Applied Superconductivity Conference, held at the OMNI Shoreham Hotel in Washington, DC, USA, from August 1 through August 6, set a record in attendance with over 1628 persons registered. Conference Chairs (Fig. 1) were Don Gubser of the Naval Research Laboratory (NRL), Washington DC, USA, and Bruce Strauss of the Department of Energy (DOE), USA.



Fig. 1. Bruce Strauss (left) and Don Gubser (right), Chairs of the ASC2010 at the opening plenary session.

The technical program started on Monday, August 2nd, with the IEEE Council on Superconductivity (CSC) Achievement Awards. John Spargo, President of CSC, and Marty Nisenoff, Chair of the CSC Awards Committee, presented these awards. Dr. Bill Sampson of BNL received the Large Scale Award (Fig. 2a). The Award for Materials went to Dr. Jack Ekin of NIST (Fig. 2b) and Professor Archie Campbell of Cambridge (Fig. 3a). Professor Paul Richards received the Award for Electronics (Fig. 3b). Professor Moises Levy received the Max Swerdlow Award for sustained service to the applied superconductivity community (Fig. 4a). Awarded for the first time was the Rosner Enterpreneurship Award for a Young Entrepreneur and this went to Dr. Terry Grimm of Niowave (Fig. 4b). The distinguished Enterpreneur, Carl Rosner, for whom this award is named and Bob Fagaly, Chair of this Award committee, participated in the presentation.

The VanDuzer Prize, awarded to the best contributed paper published in IEEE Transactions on Applied Superconductivity during each volume year, was presented to 2008 and 2009 winners. The best 2008 paper was co-authored by François Roy, Bertrand Dutoit, Francesco Grilli, and Frédéric Sirois. The best 2009 paper was that by Sergey Ryabchun, Cheuk-Yu Edward Tong, Raymond Blundell, and Gregory Gol'tsman. The IEEE made reprints of both these papers accessible free-of-charge so that they are reproduced in Issue 14 of ESNF. Photos of the award presentations may be found in the Van Duzer Prize webpage.

Finally, at the end of the ceremonial session, Bruce Strauss remembered major scientific contributors to superconductivity that passed away recently.

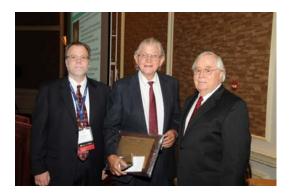


Fig. 2(a). John Spargo (left), and Marty Nisenoff (right) presented the Award to Dr. Bill Sampson (center).

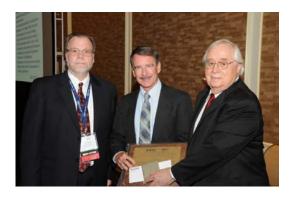


Fig. 2(b). Dr. Jack Ekin (center) receives his Award.

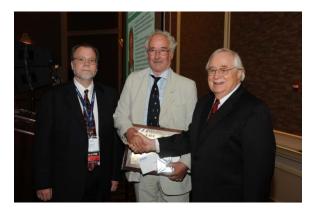


Fig. 3(a). Dr. Archie Campbell (center) congratulated. by Marty Nisenoff.

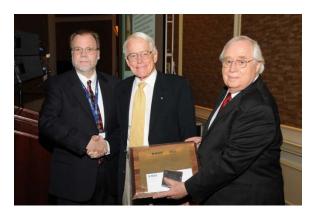


Fig. 3(b). Dr. Paul Richards congratulated by John Spargo.

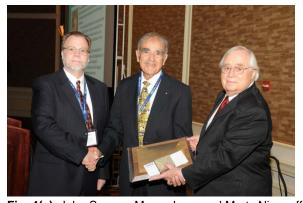


Fig. 4(a). John Spargo, Moses Levy and Marty Nisenoff.

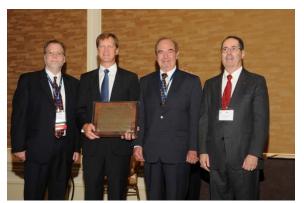


Fig. 4(b). John Spargo, Terry Grim, Carl Rosner and Bob Fagaly (from left to right).

There were three Monday morning plenary talks. Professor Mathias Noe of KIT, Karlsruhe, Germany, talked about power applications of HTS materials and Professor Judith Driscoll of Cambridge University, UK, covered the latest materials science and challenges of third generation HTS Materials. The final plenary talk was by Professor Irfan Siddiqi of the University of California at Berkeley, USA, on quantum computing.



Fig. 5(a). John Spargo, CSC President, introduces the IEEE Awards.

On Friday, August 6th, the US Under Secretary of Energy, Dr. Steven E. Koonin, opened the morning plenary session with a talk entitled "Science, Society and Superconductivity". Subsequently, the conference Chairs each gave short plenary talks on the history of superconductivity in their respective organizations.

Over 1500 abstracts were submitted to the technical program committee chaired by Mike Osofsky. The number of organized oral and poster sessions was similar as at the preceding ASC meetings. The organizers assured a high level of responsivity and flexibility by switching hotel session rooms to best match the observed attendance. The detailed program listing was conveniently available online, but a printed program booklet was not provided this time. In our (ESNF) opinion, this resulted in significant inconvenience to many attendees, especially those who arrived without their laptop computers or other electronic devices with online access. We believe that the availability of a printed hardcopy program (without abstracts) is essential for most attendees and should be assured at future ASC meetings. The 2010 detailed program listing is still accessible at the ASC website www.ascinc.org. The presumably final version of it can be downloaded here. Also the abstracts and the index can downloaded.

There were 28 requests for satellite meetings at ASC. One satellite workshop on "Processing and Applications of Superconducting (RE)BCO Large Grains" (PASREG) was held on July 29th to 31st at the same hotel venue (Omni).

With permission of ASC Chairs, and encouragement by CSC, we plan to soon launch a Preview of those plenary and invited ASC 2010 electronic paper preprints, which were submitted to us by the announced deadline. Most of these will be pre-published in our Issue No. 14 of October 2010. We also opened a contest for a limited number of prepublication spots allocated to contributed ASC papers. The deadline for submission is November 20th, 2010. The panel of ESNF reviewers will select from submitted contributions those deemed best and most timely. These will be pre-published mainly in the Issue No. 15 to be launched in January 2011. Access to the preview of it should be provided already in November 2010. Also a few PASREG papers (not intended for hardcopy refereed journal publication) may be included in our Issue No. 14 or 15.

The next ASC will be held in Portland, Oregon, USA, from October 7th to 12th, 2012. The Chair of that conference will be Steve Gourlay of Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory, Accelerator and Fusion Research Division.