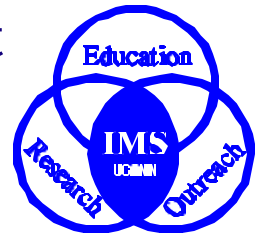




The University of Connecticut Institute of Materials Science

(<http://www.ims.uconn.edu>)

Harris L. Marcus, Director



IMS is regarded worldwide as a model for interdisciplinary materials science research. It was founded by the State of Connecticut in 1965. Its mission is to maintain an outstanding research center in the interdisciplinary fields of materials science, to provide superior graduate research training and to act as a source of advanced technology for the support of industry in the State. Specialized laboratories and funded research programs in polymer science, metallurgy, ceramics, composites, photonics and solid state physics exist within the IMS. Much of the research is initiated after consideration of the needs of industry. A component of



the Institute, the IMS Associates Program, interacts actively with industrial companies to assist them in both short and long term needs. Similarly, the Electrical Insulation Research Center (EIRC) works with electric utilities and manufacturers to advance the science and technology of electric cables and equipment. Many other specialized laboratories exist within IMS.

Many specialty areas have evolved as a result of the interactions between faculty and staff in different disciplines. Research in biomaterials for replacement of body components and biodegradable materials have been initiated in collaboration with researchers at the University's medical

and dental schools. Studies of the adhesion between materials and the modification of surfaces in composite materials containing particles ranging from the macro to nano scale have been applied to a wide variety of materials applications. The development of electrically conducting polymers has resulted through close collaboration of researchers in Physics, Chemistry and Electrical and Systems Engineering. In support of materials research, IMS has state-of-the-art instrumental capability including surface analysis, electron and optical microscopy, rheological and mechanical testing capability, a wide range of x-rays and spectroscopic instruments as well as many approaches for chemical analysis. IMS research teams include faculty from Chemistry, Physics, Molecular and Cell Biology, Pharmacy, Metallurgy and Materials Engineering, and all the other engineering disciplines, and works closely with the Health Center in Farmington.

Graduate students in the IMS get their degrees in Polymer Science, Materials Science and Engineering, and other specialty areas, or from the home department of their advisor. Besides graduate students, IMS has post-doctoral fellows and staff research assistants whose experience and talents can be utilized to satisfy research needs on a flexible, timely basis. Along with extensive support for the operation of instruments and equipment, IMS also has on its premises precision instrument and electronic shops.

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