



The Boise State University Material Advantage Chapter was founded just three years ago. This year, the chapter won the Material Advantage Fall Membership Challenge for most creative recruiting strategy! At the recruiting event, students worked in teams to build crystal structures out of marshmallows and toothpicks. The students wrote down the crystal structure that they were trying to build and at the end of the contest, the chapter advisor tried to guess the crystal structures. The team with the most “matches” was declared the winner! Other recruiting events in the past have included pumpkin carving parties and finals week study sessions where MSE majors are available to help answer questions the night before the “Introduction to Materials Science and Engineering” final.



The Boise State University Material Advantage Chapter is active throughout the year, holding a number of professional, social, and community service projects. In 2007, Dr. Diane Chong, then President of ASM International, visited Boise State to meet with students, talk about careers in Materials Science, and to share her ideas about how students can be involved in professional societies. A number of students from the Material Advantage Chapter traveled to the TMS Annual Meetings in New Orleans (2008) and San Francisco (2009) – and

nine more will be in Seattle this year! Boise State University has won 2nd place in the Materials Bowl for the last two years and is looking forward to participating again this year. Finally, chapter members have been very active in ASM International’s Materials Radio program, developing ten podcasts over the last two years that explain materials science to a middle school audience. The podcasts, focused on the strength of materials and materials processing, are available at www.materialsradio.com.

Every summer, the chapter takes advantage of Boise State’s location by going on a rafting trip on the Payette River. At the university, students are involved in outreach projects such as Discover Engineering Day which hosts thousands of visitors to the College of Engineering and the e-Girls summer camp. The club members also participate each year in Rake Up Boise and in Paint the Town which help care for the property of elderly or disabled community members.

As the Materials Science and Engineering Department at Boise State University continues to grow, the Materials Advantage chapter will grow as well!

