

LOCAL SECTION NEWS

New England

On February 26, the Section, along with the American Chemical Society, held a joint employment search session for both undergraduate and graduate job seekers, as well as currently unemployed chemists. The joint session was held at Northeastern University in Boston, MA. Technical representatives of industry, as well as personnel, attended and briefed the job seekers on details of the recruitment process and the necessary documentation needed. Interview strategies, current trends, resume reviews, and networking were explained, and useful, successful pointers were shared.

The Section held a joint meeting with TMS on March 14 at Northeastern University in Boston, MA. Dr. Harold Strock, of Strock Technology Associates, spoke on "Smart Material Systems: A Five Year Progress Report." The smart materials systems found in today's market were compared with the technologies and applications envisioned in Dr. Strock's 1995 analysis of Emerging

Smart Materials Systems. Success was found in aerospace and automotive applications while some other technologies were proven unsuccessful. Several electrochemical and photonic systems under development were presented and market directions for the next five years were compared to the last five years.

On April 11, the Section held a dinner meeting at Northeastern University in Boston, MA. The featured presenter was John T. Preston, former director of technology at MIT, where he was responsible for the commercialization of intellectual property developed at MIT. Mr. Preston presented "Success Factors in High Technology Startup Companies." The talk focused on the ideal mix of talents necessary, not only to found a startup, but also to keep it running successfully. Pitfalls and perils normally encountered were explained and practical solutions were discussed. Regional and national factors in successful company development were addressed. ■

LOCAL SECTION SERVICES

The Society headquarters offers a number of different services to Local Sections upon request. These include: blank award certificates for use at Local Section fairs and contests, and past chairman pins for retiring Local Section chairmen. Also available are copies of the Council of Local Sections Handbook, which includes the Section Reporting Guidelines and a Directory of Officers for other Local Sections. For more information, contact Elizabeth Brennfleck at Society headquarters, tel.: 609.737.1902, ext. 102.