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The Millennium Café

The Millennium Café began on 5/22/12 and has since grown into a unique event drawing ~100 researchers per week from all over campus. It is held every Tuesday from 10:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. on the 3rd Floor - MSC Café Commons. They invite all to stop by and join the dialogue.

Speakers for Tuesday July 2, 2013:

“The Curious Chalcogenide: Photovoltaic Explorations with Tin Sulfide”

Jeffrey Brownson – Energy & Mineral Engineering

We share the journey to explore a strange, yet rewarding semiconductor candidate for thin film photovoltaic (PV) devices. With all of the discoveries in excitonic PV from dyes, to quantum dots, to organic polymers, one finds that we still have much to learn regarding the process of designing and building a thin film photovoltaic device from new materials. Materials research into tin monosulfide (SnS; herzenbergite) offers clues for assembling new devices from the material properties and beneficial growth conditions, while presenting new challenges to quantify characteristic properties of relevance. And new questions have emerged: do we really "know" tin sulfide, or is this simple binary system more complex upon examination than it seemed at first blush?

“Printing Ferroelectric Materials for MEMS Applications”

Aaron Welsh – McKinstry Group - Materials Science & Engineering

Thin film electroceramics used as sensors, capacitors, actuators, etc. are patterned into specific geometries, typically by either a wet or dry subtractive patterning approach. This research is focused on shifting the paradigm away from
subtractive patterning techniques by exploring direct patterning of complex oxides where an elastomeric stamp is used to transfer a chemical solution precursor directly onto a substrate in a desired pattern. Solutions have also been directly printed and crystallized atop pre-patterned, free-standing structures in order to provide actuation and sensing capabilities for biosensing applications.

Archived presentations are available online at http://www.mri.psu.edu/events/cafe/.

We welcome your input!
In order to make this listserv useful for our subscribers, we appreciate your feedback! Please send your comments/suggestions to Patricia Craig at plc103@psu.edu. Please use “PSIEE listserv” in the subject line. If you have information that you would like us to distribute please send that as well. Thanks!

Thank you for your continued interest in the Penn State Institutes of Energy and the Environment!

Best regards,
Patricia Craig

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