

PREFACE

The Twenty-Sixth Annual International Solid Freeform Fabrication (SFF) Symposium – An Additive Manufacturing Conference, held at The University of Texas in Austin on August 10-12, 2015, was attended by 388 researchers from 19 countries. The organizers are pleased that 175 of the attendees were students, representing 45% of the audience. The number of oral and poster presentations increased to 289 this year, an increase of almost 50% over 2014. The meeting was held on the campus of The University of Texas at Austin in the AT&T Executive Education and Conference Center.

The meeting consisted of a Monday morning plenary, 25 parallel technical sessions and a poster session. This year's best oral presentation was entitled, "Thermographic Measurements of the Commercial Laser Powder Bed Fusion Process at NIST", authored by **B. Lane, S. Moylan, E. Whitenton** and **L. Ma** from the National Institute of Standards and Technology. Selection is based on the overall quality of the paper, the presentation and discussion at the meeting, the significance of the work and the manuscript submitted to the proceedings. Selected from 256 oral presentations, the associated manuscript appears on Page 575. The best poster presentation selected from 33 posters was given by **L.B. Bass, N.A. Meisel** and **C.B. Williams** from Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University. Titled, "Exploring Variability in Material Properties of Multi-Material Jetting Parts", the paper is included in the Proceedings on Page 993. Posters are judged based on the quality and organization of the poster as well as the discussion of the poster by the author during the poster session.

The recipient of the International Outstanding Young Researcher in Freeform and Additive Manufacturing Award was **Dr. Ibrahim T. Ozbolat** from The Pennsylvania State University. **Dr. Richard J.M. Hague** from the University of Nottingham won the International Freeform and Additive Manufacturing Excellence (FAME) Award.

There are 144 papers in the conference proceedings. The proceedings papers are stored individually on a flash drive in pdf format by sequential order in the proceedings, including the first author last name. The Table of Contents file and Author-Attendee file have links to all the papers. We have sequentially numbered the pages of the papers to facilitate citation. Manuscripts for this and all preceding SFF Symposia are available for free download at the conference website: <http://sffsymposium.engr.utexas.edu/archive>.

The editors would like to thank the Organizing Committee, the session chairs, the attendees for their enthusiastic participation, and the speakers both for their significant contribution to the meeting and for the relatively prompt delivery of the manuscripts comprising this volume. We look forward to the continued close cooperation of the additive manufacturing community in organizing the Symposium. We also want to thank the Office of Naval Research (N00014-15-1-0071) and the National Science Foundation (CMMI-1536671) for supporting this meeting financially. The meeting was co-organized by The University of Connecticut at Storrs, and the Mechanical Engineering Department/Lab for Freeform Fabrication under the aegis of the Advanced Manufacturing and Design Center at The University of Texas at Austin.

The editors.