

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

MARCH 27, 2007

Since our last meeting, I attended one NSRP Executive Control Board meeting. The meeting was held in Washington, DC in November. It was at this meeting that I presented the request for funding for the panel selected projects. By now most of you know that we received funding for the three projects the panel prioritized and submitted. There will be a report from each of the project leads tomorrow on these projects.

Also in November, I attended the SNAME Annual Meeting, which includes the NSRP Ship Production Symposium. This was a successful event which included several welding related presentations.

The NSRP also is supported through SBIR projects. ONR requests potential SBIR topics that align with the objectives of the NSRP and when possible, request proposals to address these needs. If you have suggestions for research topics please send them to me as I am periodically requested to submit candidate technology needs.

The ECB held a meeting in January to select the projects to be funded via the most recent Research Announcement. Eleven projects were selected to be funded. One of these, Advanced Gas Metal Arc Welding for Thin Steel and Aluminum, will be presented today.

This report is shorter than typical but as most of the information is to be present separately, I would rather have the project leads do the majority of the reporting.