

American Physical Society March Meeting

Baltimore, 13th-17th March, 2006

Catherine Kealley

Baltimore was in the final stages of winter, however the sunshine peaked through the clouds over a HUGE conference venue. The Baltimore Convention Centre is in the heart of downtown Baltimore, and with 4-storeys of meeting rooms, exhibition halls and ample foyer space, it was an ideal venue for the ~7,000 delegates. The program ran more than 40 simultaneous sessions all day for the length of the 5-day conference, and so it was crucial to use the timetable planner on their webpage before you arrived at the conference.

My oral presentation was in “Session N32: Carbon Nanotubes – Composites and Applications” on Wednesday 15th March, 2006 at 10:12 am. The ten-minute presentation was entitled *Characterisation of a Hydroxyapatite and Carbon Nanotube Bioceramic Composite*, and there were two minutes for questions. I thought that I was well prepared, with a concise powerpoint presentation that finished within the specified time limits. My research (with the specific application of the carbon nanotubes) was unique in the session, and I feel this, along with some high quality electron microscopy images helped to secure the interest of the audience. The response to my presentation seemed positive with one member of the audience thanking me for the “imaginative” research.



Listening to a question from the audience



In front of the Baltimore World Trade Centre at
Inner Harbour, Baltimore

Several researches approached me after the session, with questions and advice, and I have since made several strong contacts in the hope of possible collaboration during 2006. The conference was an excellent networking opportunity, with exposure to world-class expertise in my research field. I'd like to take this opportunity to thank the NSW Branch of the Australian Institute of Physics for their generous financial support.