

## Spring 2014 Meeting of the AVS Hudson Mohawk Chapter

*By David Jung, Hudson Mohawk AVS Chapter Chair*

The AVS Hudson Mohawk Chapter held its Spring 2014 Meeting on April 28, 2014, at the TEC-SMART campus of the Hudson Valley Community College (HVCC) in Malta, New York. This meeting highlighted workforce development in the Hudson Valley-Albany-Schenectady area via a collaboration with HVCC's Malta campus and with the NSF-funded Northeast Advanced Technological Education Center (NEATEC), which works with community college, university, and industry partners in the region to identify essential technician competencies and skills required by the semiconductor and nanotechnology industries in New York State and Western New England.

There were 40 attendees at the meeting, which started with a tour of the TEC-SMART educational facility and with presentations by HVCC faculty about the NEATEC program and HVCC's Semiconductor and Vacuum Training Curriculum, whose graduates frequently find employment at the nearby GLOBALFOUNDRIES semiconductor fab plant. There were two special presentation by students in the latter focus area about characterization of vacuum chamber performance and about a ping pong ball vacuum accelerator (including a dramatic live demonstration).

In the research portion of the program, there were four oral and 11 poster presentations. The chapter gave awards for the best poster presentation and the best oral presentations by graduate students.

- The best poster presentation award went to Eng Wen Ong of the SUNY College of Nanoscale Science & Engineering, for *"Influence of Chemisorbed Oxygen on the Growth of Graphene on Cu(100) by Chemical Vapor Deposition."*
- The best oral presentation award went to P.Y. Zheng of the Department of Materials Science and Engineering, Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, for *"Ni Doping on Cu Surfaces: Reduced Copper Resistivity."*

A catered dinner during the poster presentations was supported by exhibiting vacuum equipment vendors: Vacuum Solutions Group, XL VAC Technologies, T&C Power Conversion, and Electro Tech Sales.

In other news, eight members from our chapter served as judges at a Science Fair which was hosted at Saratoga Academy of the Arts and Sciences, where 69 students presented exceptional posters!

The Fall 2014 chapter meeting is planned for October, prior to the AVS-61 national meeting.



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