

MACHINE COMPUTATION COMMITTEE
November 1, 1976

Present Machine Computation Committee (MCC) membership is 66, as compared with 57 at the end of last year. There have been ten new members and one resignation, due to a change in interests. MCC met in Kansas City (April) and Atlantic City (August) and will meet in Chicago (November). All meetings include lunch with attendance so far this year of 21 and 22, respectively.

This year we have filled out the activities that we have had our sights set on for the last three years. The activities themselves (described below) are still not consolidated but the leadership for each is effective. There is ample room for growth in each, and we have other activities and leaders emerging so that we can continue to attract and absorb many more interested members. This bodes well for the division which has been proposed. MCC officers for 1976 are: Charles H. Ware, Jr., Chairman; Vernon J. Sterba, Vice-Chairman; and Warren D. Seider, Secretary-Treasurer. Charlie Ware is retiring as Chairman and Vern Sterba has agreed to succeed him through 1977 or until division status is achieved.

DIVISION STATUS - Bob Morris has done an outstanding job of generating popular support for the proposed division, putting together a set of by-laws for the proposed division, doing the necessary work to prepare a petition to Council for division status, and obtaining co-operation and support from many others in these efforts. Herb Owens, at National Headquarters, and Bob Weaver, Chairman, Area 2L, National Program Committee (Systems and Process Control) have been particularly helpful. Bob Morris will meet with Council on November 27, 1976, and ask them to approve the formation of a new division to supercede MCC. In response to his questionnaire, 334 AIChE members indicated a desire to join, and the total projected division membership is about 1000.

MEMBERSHIP - Vern Sterba, Membership Chairman, has prepared a new questionnaire to give many AIChE members an opportunity to indicate their professional interests and activities. This has been sent to all Code 76 (process control) and 77 (computers) people. Negotiations are in progress with National to revise its membership questionnaire to permit the designation of interests in addition to the primary ones. Many of MCC's most active members have primary interests other than computers and we would like to identify others.

NATIONAL MEETING PROGRAMS - Warren Seider is our representative to the National Program Committee, Area 1D. Warren was Area 1D Chairman and has been succeeded in that job by Art Westerberg. Ted Petersen is the Chairman of Group 1 and will be Meeting Program Chairman, Atlanta, February, 1978. A total of eight technical sessions are being held in 1976, seven of them in computing and one in applied math. The same schedule is planned for 1977.

PROGRAM PUBLICATION - Charlie Ware is now in charge of the review of computer programs and their description, following Ron Klaus's resignation. The descriptions will appear in a new journal. Computers and Chemical Engineering, to begin publication around the end of this year, The programs will be distributed by National at about reproduction costs to members, with higher prices to non-members. Programs are out for review and MCC members are being organized to review and run the computer programs which are offered.

AIChE JOURNAL REVIEW - Alan Glueck is preparing this review. No date has been set for its submission.

LIAISON - Coleman Brosilow is now Liaison Coordinator, following Ted Leininger's resignation. Liaison with other computer groups is being developed in order to keep MCC and other AIChE members current in this vast field (see Newsletter). Eight MCC members have volunteered for liaison responsibilities and another ten have been asked to participate.

TECHNICAL NEWSLETTER - Sig Lawrence, Newsletter Editor, has gotten out the first issue and the second is being assembled for publication later this year. National Headquarters publishes it and distributes it to Code 76 and 77 AIChE members. It will be the medium by which the readership can follow activities in the field including meetings, papers of special interest, projects, standardization efforts, and general news. It will also call attention to magazine articles, books, concepts, crusades, and opinions of interest.

NATIONAL CENTER FOR CHEMICAL ENGINEERING COMPUTING - Rudy Motard has been co-ordinating the MCC efforts in this area. In a parallel effort, Don Vredevelde and Bob Reid (not MCC members) have sparked interest in a data base for use in chemical engineering design calculations. Following their lead, the National Bureau of Standards (NBS) has developed a proposal to establish such a data base, in cooperation with industrial sponsors. MCC and NBS are hosting an open meeting to discuss the proposal at the Chicago AIChE meeting.

OTHER - Activities which are now emerging are participation in standardization efforts, formulation of guidelines for effective computer programming management, and involvement in AIChE government interaction and publicity efforts.

Respectfully submitted,

Charles H. Ware, Jr.
Chairman
Machine Computation Committee

CHW/pc