

Institute of Textile Science
105th Scientific Session and 52nd Annual General Meeting
April 17, 2009

On April 17, 2009 the ITS enjoyed our 105th Scientific Session and our 52nd Annual General Meeting at the National Defence Quality Engineering Test Establishment building in Gatineau Quebec. *Suzanne Bourget* (National Defence) welcomed us to her facility, a group of more than 30 attendees! It was very encouraging to see another session so well attended – indicating to all of us that textile science is alive and well in Canada!

This particular scientific session focused on the textile research capabilities in both industry, academic and support institutions in our country. We enjoyed six interesting presentations ranging from an overview of all the textile based research projects that are being undertaken nationally to detailed explanations on research projects being carried out at our academic institutions. The variety brings different perspectives, but all strongly supporting our goal as the Institute of Textile Science.

We enjoyed quite a number of different speakers as well; here is a brief summary of the presenters and their topics

- *Patricia Dolez* (ETS Montreal) and *Jacek Mlynarek* (CTT Group) presented, also on behalf of their co-author *Lena Horne* (U. of Manitoba), the work completed by ITS on an *Inventory of Textile R&D in Canada*. It was a treat to see the variety of research being completed and the strong connection that can be noticed between industry and academia in our field.
- *Aldjia Begriche* (CTT Group) presented an interesting review of *Intelligent Textiles*; providing us with solid ground-work as well as some innovative investigations being completed under the direction of herself and her colleague *Olivier Vermeersch* (CTT Group)
- *Patricia Dolez* (ETS Montreal) provided an excellent overview of *Research on Personal Protective Equipment* being completed at ETS under her direction as well as that of her colleague *Toan Vu-Khanh* (ETS Montreal)
- Over lunch we enjoyed a presentation on the development of a new *Consortium on Materials and Technical Textiles for Protection in Quebec* by *Patricia Dolez* (ETS) and *Jacek Mlynarek* (CTT Group), also on behalf of their co-author *Toan Vu-Khanh* (ETS)
- A research paper on *Antibacterial Polyethylene Terephthalate* was presented by *Nan Zhao* (U. of Manitoba) revealing to us the work they have undertaken to develop an inherently antibacterial polyester fabric.
- *Beth Zhou* (U. of Manitoba) also presented her research on *Biopolymer nanofibers for the immobilization of bioactive molecules*; also developing means of adding value into the fibers used in our textiles.

During the day we also took to the opportunity to hold our 52nd AGM where we could reflect on the year past, conduct business for the present and prepare for the year ahead. During this AGM we bid farewell to three members of the board of directors; *Patricia Dolez*, *Francois Simard* and *Catherine Anderson* and we thanked them for their ongoing dedication to ITS and activity on the board. We also welcomed three new board members; *Lena Horne*, *Aldjia Begriche* and *Jane Batcheller* who, we are sure, will continue to make ITS succeed at the mandate we are given.

Directly after the close of our meeting, we enjoyed a short video presentation and an informative tour of the QETE facility by both *Suzanne Bourget* and *Kevser Korhan-Taymaz*. It is always interesting to see someone else's lab and the work that is being done. These opportunities can only serve us well to broaden our scope and perhaps even spark some synergies for future research and development prospects.

I would be very remiss if I did not acknowledge the fantastic effort by *Lena Horne* to organize and spearhead this Scientific Session. She did a great job of pulling it all together and making it a very enjoyable day for all of us. Unfortunately, at the last minute Lena could not make it but we managed to fumble along without her. A sincere "thank you" for your work Lena!

It was great to see that there is still a lot of enthusiasm in textile sciences, let's keep that enthusiasm alive and attend the 106th session at the University of Manitoba in Winnipeg.

On behalf of the ITS Board of Directors,

Kasper Van Veen
President, ITS





Bernard Rose, introduces the 105th Scientific Session



Aldjia Begrache (CTT Group)



Patricia Dolez (ETS Montreal) and Jacek Mlynarek (CTT Group)



Patricia Dolez (ETS Montreal)



Nan Zhao (U. of Manitoba)



Beth Zhou (U. of Manitoba)