

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

by Wei-Chung Wang, SEM President



Wei-Chung Wang,
SEM President,
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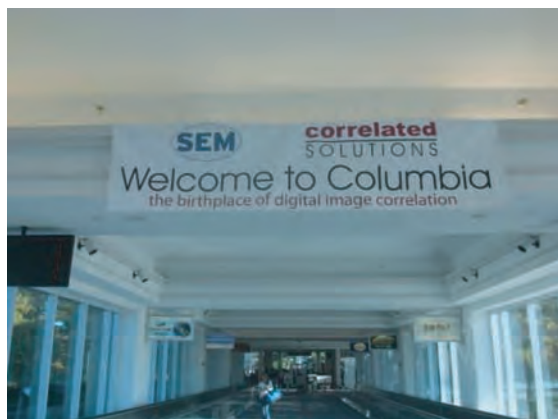
The 2009 SEM Fall Symposium was held at the Hilton Columbia Center in Columbia, South Carolina from October 5–7. The main theme of the Symposium was “Advanced Image-Based Measurement Methods: Recent Developments and Applications in Engineering and Medicine.” Professor Mike Sutton of the University of South Carolina (USC) was the Chair of the Organizing Committee. Mike and the other 22 committee members from 6 countries have worked diligently for over a year to organize this Symposium. In the first two days, twenty-eight invited papers were presented in this unique Gordon Conference-style Symposium. Each paper was allowed 25–28 minutes to present and 2–5 minutes to discuss. Those papers essentially covered research work in fluid mechanics, bio-engineering, medical imaging, fatigue, heterogeneous materials, flapping wings, micro and nano scale mechanical measurement by several major techniques, i.e. digital volume correlation technique, digital image correlation (DIC) method, X-ray microtomography, confocal microscopy, scanning electronic microscopy, multiscale image correlation method, etc. The Symposium was well-attended by 80 participants, including 17 students.

In the Introductory Presentation, Dr. David Stargel highlighted areas of focus in AFOSR with special emphasis on structural mechanics. Three other Plenary Lectures given respectively by Prof. Francois Hild and his co-authors on the recent developments of volume correlation method; Prof. Pablo Ruiz and his co-author Jon Huntley on the 3D optical metrology within semitransparent scattering materials; Prof. Ronald Adrian and his co-authors on the use of ultra high speed systems to elucidate the shock-induced response of polymers. In addition, we had 14 posters on various applications of the non-contacting measurement methods.

On the last day of the Symposium, a special workshop on digital image correlation methods was offered by Correlated Solutions, Inc. In the morning, theory and concepts on the DIC method were reviewed. In the afternoon, we went to the Solid Mechanics Lab of Department of Mechanical Engineering of the USC to view demonstrations on high-speed impact test, carbon fiber test with stereomicroscope, friction stir welding tool oscillation measurement and friction stir weld sample tensile test. The workshop was also well-attended by 57 participants.

The 2009 SEM Fall Symposium has really made a role model on integrating resources from the government (NSF, AFOSR AND SC EPSCOR/IDeA), university (College of Engineering and Computing of USC), companies (Correlated Solutions and Trilion Co.) and societies (EURSEM and JSEM) toward a common goal, i.e. to have a successful conference to exchange ideas and disseminate knowledge of the experimental mechanics.

At the end, I would like to share one thing with all of you. I should have arrived in the afternoon of Oct. 3 so that I could have enough rest to refresh myself to attend the SEM Officer's Meeting held in the morning of Oct. 4. However, there was a serious delay of almost 6 hours at the Narita Airport of Japan. I ended up arriving at the Columbia Airport in the mid-night of Oct. 3. You can imagine how tired I was. To my surprise, I saw a large welcome banner (see the photo below) across the hallway to the exit. All of a sudden, I felt very relaxed. I was really touched by the sentence “the birthplace of digital image correlation” on the banner!



If you have any ideas or suggestions, please feel free to contact me. ■



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