

Manufacturing Division Communications Committee Meeting
Ceramics Expo, Cleveland, Ohio, April 26, 2016

Keith DeCarlo
Ed Reeves
Ana Fredell
Kevin Keefe
Swetha Barkam
Nik Ninos
Mark Mecklenborg
Marcia Stout

Ed Reeves, committee chair, talked about the goals he had been thinking about for the Communications Committee and mentioned:

- A free flow of information back and forth
- Disseminating information and getting information back
- Creating a database linked to the MFG page on ceramics.org. This would be a knowledge database consisting of abstracts, detailed outlines, and technical briefs. Ed wants to make it a quasi-peer-reviewed database. The database would not contain intellectual property or trade secrets.

Ed thinks that some information in the database should be available publicly to non-members, while other materials would be for members-only. Mark Mecklenborg said that the committee needs to draft a concept statement and proposal and submit it to ACerS for evaluation. Mark commented that if the Manufacturing Division could produce such a tool, it would create a lot of value for industry. Swetha Barkam added that it would be useful for students too. Mark said that the content might be able to be associated with ceramicSOURCE.

Ed stressed that the information in the database would be fundamental, practical knowledge as opposed to peer-reviewed technical papers that appear in journals. Mark said it sounds valuable. Ed wants the database to archive and catalog basic information that we are now losing. This would really help young engineers.

Ana Fredell suggested two tracks: one for short papers from companies, but also a forum hosted on the ACerS website for members to have conversations. Mark said that it would be a good place for consultants to hang out. He warned the committee not to make it too complicated. It will probably take several years to create your vision of the database, but start out simply. Kevin Keefe said we need a template and a way to search it with keywords. Kevin will design a form, probably a Word template with a basic structure. Swetha suggested a dos and don'ts set of guidelines be created. Swetha will create a reviewer form.

Ed said that he would write a concept document and send it to Mark. Ed stated that the database needs to be vendor-neutral. Mark suggested that the committee get 2-3 models in advance to send out so people will have something to follow. Ed has 4-5 people who will act as peer reviewers and to make sure that content is reasonably accurate. Only members of ACerS can submit materials for the database. Down the road, we may change this to allow non-members to submit materials.

Ed would like to schedule a call in early June to continue the discussion. He reminded the group that ease of submittal, ease of consumption, and a basic format were key.