



WILLIAM P. BARKER earned his B.S. degree in metallurgy and materials science from Lehigh University, Bethlehem, Pa., in 1973 and began working at National Steel Corp., Great Lakes Div. that same year. During his career at National Steel, Bill progressed through positions in quality assurance, steelmaking operations technology research and hot rolling operations. He last was Area Manager of hot mill slab yards, reheat furnaces and finishing for U. S. Steel upon its purchase of National Steel assets. He served as President of the Iron & Steel Society in 2003 and has served as Chairman of the ISS Steelmaking Div. and the ISS Publications Committee. He was Chairman of the ISS Transition Team, which designed the process for creating and planning ISSTech 2003. Barker also worked as a project engineer in the AIME's Transformation Project and served as Chairman of AIME's Overarching Programs, focusing on electronic publishing.

A Note From the President

Welcome to the inaugural issue of Iron & Steel Technology, the new monthly

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publication of the Association for Iron & Steel Technology.

Although it has been only five months since the members of AISE and ISS voted overwhelmingly to consolidate the two organizations to better serve a revitalized iron and steel community, AIST is emerging as a strong organization focused on serving its membership and the industry. We are in the midst of developing a broader array of products to give greater value to our members.

Inside the pages of this issue you will find biographies and photographs of the initial slate of Executive Officers and Directors of AIST. As explained there, this group will exist under its current format of 32 directors for this transition year. Next year the board will be leaner and comprised of 22 directors from within the leadership of AIST.

Also inside this issue you will find a copy of the bylaws of AIST. You may also download a PDF version of the bylaws from the new AIST Web site at www.aistech.org.

An ad hoc committee of myself and 14 volunteer leaders has worked with members of staff to establish the initial Technology Divisions and Operating Committees, which we believe offer great opportunity for participation from our members. The Operating Committees will serve as the center of activity for most volunteers. Their leadership will organize regular meetings located near various operating facilities throughout the country, where specific topics of current technical interest will be discussed by committee members. These Operating Committees will also be involved in actively soliciting high-quality technical papers for presentation at our annual conferences—AISTech 2004 and MS&T 2004.

Similarly, an ad hoc committee of myself

and 10 volunteer leaders has worked with members of staff to establish the initial Member Chapters in North America by combining geographical areas where appropriate, with Globetrotters becoming a roaming Member Chapter of AIST. AIST will also be going with four non-NAFTA chapters offering local programming for members in Argentina, Brazil and Korea. All Member Chapters will offer regular technical programming and social activities throughout the year. In addition, Student Chapters will be located at 16 universities throughout the world.

Several Standing Committees reporting to the AIST Board of Directors were launched at the first Board of Directors meeting to develop and implement plans for volunteer input regarding continuing education, marketing, membership, publications and conference planning. These committees will work with AIST staff to assure that the products offered will meet the needs of our members.

While the AIST leadership and professional staff can develop structures to afford members the opportunity for involvement in professional development activities and technical exchanges, only active members populating these committees and chapters will make them successful. I strongly encourage you to look carefully at the opportunities for involvement that AIST provides, and to choose to be involved in one or more Operating Committees and Member Chapters. Only your active support in the Association for Iron & Steel Technology will ensure its success.

Sincerely,
William P. Barker