After 2 1/2 years of zoom meetings, we were finally able to have our June meeting in person at UCI’s campus in Irvine, CA. Being together was magical. It was great to connect. Over 65 people attended. Research teams presented their work followed by discussions with the focus groups of each project.

The new ACRC facilities, the foundry, the metal processing laboratory, the Buehler Center for metallography, the Olympus (Evident Scientific) Center for microscopy, the VJT NDE lab (CT scan), and the Arcast vacuum melting facility were showcased during tours of the new labs.

Leslie Garcia and Maisie Ferrer from Cal Poly Pomona, recipients of the Diran Apelian Educational Experience Endowment Fund, attended and participated in the discussions. We were glad to have them.

From Left: Prof. Victor Okhuysen of Cal Poly, Maisie Ferrer, Diran Apelian, Dika Handayani, Brian Lewis, and Leslie Garcia.
And Prof. Alan Luo of OSU received the **M. C. Flemings Award** for scientific contributions to solidification processing. Congratulations!

*From left: Randy Beals, Alan Luo, Diran Apelian and Dave Weiss.*

**Strategic Partnership with Verder Scientific**

We are pleased to announce that Verder Scientific has established a Center of Excellence at ACRC. This strategic relationship is providing cutting edge technologies and equipment to UCI researchers. **Verder Center of Excellence at UCI** includes two Eltra chemical analyzers, one for C and S, and the other for O, N and H; a Microtrac for powder particle characterization; Carbolite Gero three zone tube furnace, Retsch powder sieve shaker and sample riffler, and more.
Georg Shick, President of Verder Scientific Inc.’s North American operations states: “We look forward to this strategic partnership with UCI’s ACRC, enabling collaboration in research and publications, as well as providing firsthand customer interaction at this great Demonstration and Knowledge Center”.