President’s note
Charles Kazilek, AIMS 2006 - 2007 President

Change is in the air at AIMS, even if it seems like it has been a quiet year. For much of the year we have been working to upgrade the look and function of the AIMS web site. I am pleased to announce the new site is up and running. For our members the new site will provide more functions and, I hope, more reasons to visit and bookmark the web address for AIMS. For your records, the AIMS web address is http://azmicroscopy.org. Details about the new look and functions of our web site can be found in the next section.

We are also entering the final year of our three year period that will move us into a non-profit organization. We hope this will help both our regular and corporate members with their membership contributions in 2008. In case you were not aware, as a non-profit organization, your contribution will be tax deductible.

Finally, I want to remind everyone that our 2007 conference will be held March 8th at Arizona State University. Information about the conference can be found on the web site. While you are there, you can also register for the conference. Once you become a 2007 member of AIMS using our new web membership registration you can attend the conference for free, which takes us to our next topic - the new AIMS web site and functions.

New Web look and functions

Have you checked out the new site? If not, you will be surprised by the changes. We now have a member’s registration page that maintains profiles and allows members to update their information and in some cases submit content to the AIMS web site. As a member you can add a web link to a web site of your
choice that links to your name listed on the membership page. The AIMS conference registration now requires each person to be a member before they can register for the meeting. The good news is the conference is free to members. The site also has some new features that should make the site more useful year round. Corporate members may want to take advantage of the Education section where electronic materials, such as PDF files, can be submitted and posted on the site. The site also has a new AIMS discussion board where topics can be discussed between members. There is also a web gallery where members can participate by sending in images. The gallery images are also randomly featured on many of the AIMS web pages. We hope to have members send in their latest cool image along with a short description (50 words or less) and include a web link if it is appropriate. You can contact the AIMS president for more details about the new site and features.

**Newsletter goes online**

Now that the AIMS web site has been enhanced, we will be distributing the newsletter on the web site and through email lists. It will be important for members to keep their email address current in their membership area. We will also be distributing it via emails sent periodically during the year. It is our hope to poll the membership at the 2007 meeting to find out how often emails with the newsletter should be sent during the year. For our corporate members that have a membership level of Platinum or higher there is now an option to advertise in the newsletter. More details on how to submit materials for the newsletter will be discussed in the up coming meeting.
Looking for web link suggestions

It is not our plan to have a large set of related web links; however, we do think it is important to have some of the more useful links to sites that deal with imaging techniques and tips, along with instrument sites. If you have a suggestion for a web link, please submit it to the current AIMS president.

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