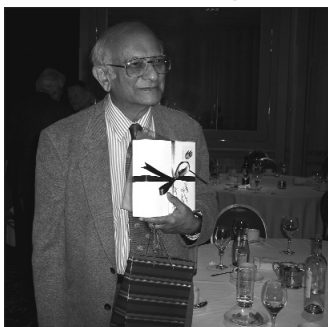


Roy Celebrates 80th Birthday with Reminiscence of Materials, Religion, and Health

"Why don't we try something different?" is a motto that has led Rustum Roy down many creative and mind-broadening paths, and it now has brought him to his 80th birthday celebration. A reception was held for Roy on November 27, 2004, immediately before the start of the 2004 Materials Research Society Fall Meeting in Boston. Mark Mortenson of Friends of Health served as emcee.

Roy, one of the founding members of MRS and a prime architect of the Society's structure, has touched more realms than just materials research. Likewise, people from many walks of life offered comments at the reception, covering materials research and science, MRS, science education, India, religion, socially responsible investment, and whole-person healing. Born in India on July 3, 1924, Roy later came to the United States for graduate school at the Pennsylvania State University and quickly rose in the ranks to full professor there at the age of 33. In 1961, he became a U.S. citizen. Roy established the first Materials Research Laboratory (MRL) and became its director in 1962. He has published over 1000 papers and holds more than 20 patents.

At the celebration, R.P.H. Chang of Northwestern University described Roy's ability to think outside the box in areas such as the integration of research and education, research and industry, inter-



Rustum Roy receives gifts during a reception for his 80th birthday.



(Left to right): Rustum Roy (the Pennsylvania State University); Della Roy (the Pennsylvania State University); R.P.H. Chang (Northwestern University); Jagdish Narayan (North Carolina State University); and John B. Ballance (Materials Research Society).

national collaboration, and technology-driven discovery. John B. Ballance, executive director of MRS, portrayed Roy and the characteristics he brought to MRS as "boundary-less," unceasingly creative, inclusive, and interdisciplinary. As to Roy's pursuit of truth, Ballance described him as the "most creative and original thinker—maybe outrageous." Through his provocative and innovative ways, Roy embraces challenges and turns them into opportunities.

Harvey Cox (Harvard Divinity School) commented on the visionary side of Roy

and his view that people are not living in different realities, but only are looking through different lenses or seeing something from different angles. Most recently, Roy has been interested in bringing diverse groups together in the area of whole-person healing, with the aim of building trust in modern medicine and traditional healing and evaluating healing practices. Marc Newkirk, founder of Lanxide Corporation, summarized developments in this area.

As to his next challenge? Roy looks to bridge the East-West divide. MRS

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