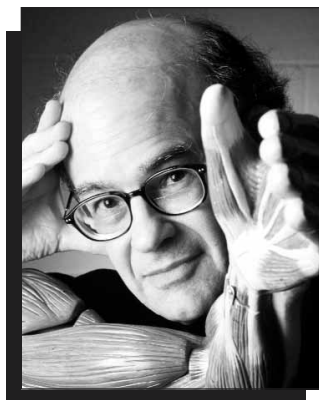


Plenary Speaker Steven Vogel to Discuss Nature as a Guide for Materials Design

Steven Vogel, James B. Duke Professor in the Department of Biology at Duke University, will present the plenary talk at the 2002 Materials Research Society Fall Meeting in Boston on December 2 at 6:00 p.m. in the Sheraton Boston Grand Ballroom. The title of his talk is "Nature May Be Terrific, but Is She Worth Copying?"

Vogel said, "My main research focus has been on biological fluid mechanics, if 'focus' is appropriate for projects involving such matters as how tiny insects fly, how leaves cope with problems of solar heating in very low winds and of drag in high winds, and how burrows can be made to self-ventilate." In particular, he explores the features of organisms that reflect their interactions with moving fluids and how living systems either are constrained by or capitalize upon specific physical phenomena. In 1981, Vogel published his book *Life in Moving Fluids* (Willard Grant Press, Boston), with a second expanded edition published by Princeton University Press in 1994.

His current interest centers on exploring the intersections of biomechanics, technology, and human culture. Aiming for the general reader in his book *Cats' Paws and Catapults: Mechanical Worlds of*



Steven Vogel

Nature and People (W.W. Norton, New York, 1998), Vogel compares the mechanical technologies of nature with those fabricated by scientists.

"Looking at a technology other than the one we've contrived can be instructive, even liberating," he said. Vogel will extrapolate on this topic during his plenary address. *Cats' Paws* has been translated into Chinese, Spanish, German, and Italian.

As a self-proclaimed addict to book writing, Vogel has to his credit, among other books, *Life's Devices* (Princeton University

Press, Princeton, 1988), written to draw in nonscientists as he takes comparative biomechanics as a paradigm for thinking about science; and *Prime Mover* (W.W. Norton, New York, 2002), another trade book, in which Vogel links the biomechanics and physiology of muscle to the role it plays in human activities. Vogel's forthcoming book, *Comparative Biomechanics: The Physical World of Life*, is scheduled for publication in 2003 by Princeton.

Vogel joined the Duke faculty in 1966 following his graduation from Harvard that year with a PhD degree. Among his professional recognitions are the Irving and Jean Stone Prize for Science Writing for Public Understanding (1990) and the Trinity College (Duke University) Distinguished Teaching Award (1986); he was named a fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science in 1983. He has recently been honored as Kieval Lecturer by Cornell University (1999); Richard C. Schultz Lecturer by the Rochester Museum and Science Center (2001); and Donald Haragan Lecturer by Texas Tech University (2001). His professional memberships include the American Society of Biomechanics, and he has numerous publications in peer-reviewed journals. MRS

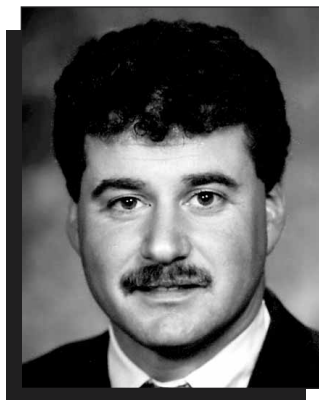
Robert Hull Received 2001 MRS Woody Award

Robert Hull, the Charles Henderson Professor of Materials Science and Engineering at the University of Virginia, received the 2001 Materials Research Society Woody Award. The award was presented to Hull by Martin L. Green, 2001 MRS president, at the MRS Fall Meeting in Boston last November.

The Woody Award recognizes outstanding service and dedication to MRS as exemplified by its namesake, Woody White, 1984 MRS president. The award is bestowed annually by the MRS president to an individual for extraordinary contributions to the Society.

Green said, "The award is traditionally given at the MRS directors' dinner. Robert was so busy with materials science matters both at MRS and Virginia that we had no opportunity to lure him to the dinner. How fitting, then, that I barged into a Government Affairs Committee meeting that he was chairing to surprise him with the award."

Hull has a long and distinguished history with MRS. He has co-chaired five symposia, served as a meeting chair (fall 1990), and was a member of the MRS Council for seven years, culminating as the 1997 MRS president. He has served



Robert Hull

on numerous MRS committees, including Publications, Program, Academic Affairs, and Continuing Education, and has chaired the Public Affairs Committee since 1999.

According to MRS Secretary Alan Hurd, who has worked closely with Hull within MRS, "Robert expertly guided MRS through years of dramatic change with a steady hand. His advice was and is sought because MRS can depend upon his clear thinking. Without his leadership, MRS might very well have less influence and

visibility in Washington than it currently enjoys. He is a true statesman for MRS."

Ron Kelley, head of the MRS Office of Public Affairs in Washington, also knows Hull well. He said, "Robert has always tried to bring balance and see all viewpoints in any debate about public affairs or public outreach. He is willing to listen to all sides of a discussion, even when he has his own very strong opinion. His position is always dictated by member benefits and seeing that MRS stays at the cutting edge of materials research."

Hull moved from Bell Laboratories to the University of Virginia in 1994. He is currently director of the newly established NSF Nanoscopic Materials Design Center there. He has published more than 200 papers and delivered over 60 invited talks nationally and internationally. Hull received his PhD degree in materials science from Oxford University.

Green said, "It should also be pointed out that Robert is a thoroughly delightful person. I am happy to say that Robert and I formed the world's smallest book discussion club when we started exchanging interesting reading at MRS meetings. It's always a pleasure to chat with Robert." MRS