Missouri S&T hosted 46 representatives from 21 steel companies, foundries, and suppliers at the Steel Research Showcase and planning meeting. The event was held at the Havener Visitor Center. We had a great turnout, with industry professionals representing areas of technology, product development, plant operations and human resources.
Dr. Kent Peaslee opened the meeting with a history of steel manufacturing research and education at Missouri S&T, and an introduction to SMRC faculty members.

Dr. Peaslee reviewed the evolution—and in many cases, the dissolution—of metallurgical engineering programs at many universities. In comparison, Missouri S&T’s metallurgical engineering curriculum has remained strong.

Active industry recruitment and exciting research opportunities have kept metallurgical engineering a vital program at Missouri S&T.

Chancellor Cheryl Schrader welcomes steel industry visitors to Rolla and the Missouri S&T campus.

SMRC faculty members provide presentations on areas of past and potential Research.

Dr. Matt O’Keefe discusses characterization research at Missouri S&T

Dr. Jeff Smith reviews refractory research at Missouri S&T
Visitors took a break from presentations to go on a tour of Missouri S&T metal casting, characterization, and materials testing labs.

Dr. Dave Van Aken discusses steel properties and advanced high strength steel research.

Dr. Julia Medvedeva talks about computational materials science—atomistic modeling.

Dr. Von Richards reviews cast steel research at Missouri S&T.

Dr. K. Chandrashekara discusses Thermo-mechanical modeling and experimental validation.

Visitors listen to Von Richards discuss steel and iron casting facilities at Missouri S&T.
On the evening of the 29th, guests enjoyed an informal mixer and poster session, during which Missouri S&T graduate students had the opportunity to meet industry reps and discuss past and present research projects.

Over dinner, Dr. Wayne Huebner, Chair of Materials Science and Engineering, provided a presentation about materials research at Missouri S&T, and the opportunities that students and faculty have had to participate in hands on projects supporting community and state infrastructures, such as bridge and road repairs.

After breakfast, Kent reviewed the proposed business structure of the Center, membership levels, finance, membership agreement and bylaws.

Mr. Keith Strassner, of the Office of Technology Transfer and Economic Development, and Dr. K. Krishnamurthy of the Office of Sponsored Programs answered questions about finance and legal issues.
Next, guests separated into breakout groups to discuss common areas of interest for potential future research. Stickers were used to indicate areas of particular interest. Industry representatives were reformed into new breakout groups to discuss business topics, such as the proposed Center structure, membership agreement, and bylaws.

Kent closed the meeting with plans and a timetable for the Steel Manufacturing Research Center. Lunch was provided, and industry representatives had the informal occasion to discuss opportunities, questions and interests with SMRC faculty and each other.