

A Short Summary of the History of the Multiphase Flow Committee

In 2012 the Multiphase Flow Committee of the Fluids Engineering Division of the American Society of Mechanical Engineering celebrates its 75th anniversary. The committee started with the need to better understand cavitation. During the 1935 ASME Annual Meeting two sessions of the Hydraulic Division were held to discuss cavitation. From that seed the Applied Mechanics and Hydraulic Divisions held a joint meeting in June 1937 to discuss the then current status of cavitation research in the United States and Canada. One result of that meeting was the beginning of the Cavitation Committee. An engineer of the Pennsylvania Water & Power Corporation, Carroll F. Merriam, sponsored the committee, which started in 1937 and on January 1, 1938 the committee elected its first chair, Lewis F. Moody from Princeton University. Through the years the focus of the Cavitation Committee broadened to include other areas of two phase flow and by 1970 the name was changed to the Polyphase Flow Committee to better represent this fact. Since then the committee's areas of interest continued to increase to broaden the scope and membership. In 1982 the name was changed once again to the current Multiphase Flow Committee because of the more prevalent use of the term multiphase.

[Note: This MFTC summary has been condensed from the history assembled in 2005 by Bill Morgan, the 11th chair, and updated in 2010, by Mark Duignan, the 30th chair.]

The following table is the list of MFTC chairs from its inception:

The Committee began as the Cavitation Committee (1937 To 1970) then changed to the Polyphase Flow Technical Committee (1970 to 1982) to its current title of the Multiphase Flow Technical Committee (1982 To Present, 2010).

Chairs of the Multiphase Flow Technical Committee

	<i>Chair</i>	<i>Affiliation During Term</i>	<i>Term Start</i>	<i>Term End</i>
30	Mark R. Duignan, Ph.D.	Savannah River National Laboratory	2010	2012
29	Malcolm J. Andrews, Ph.D.	Los Alamos National Laboratory	2008	2010
28	Dimitris E. Nikitopoulos, Ph.D.	Louisiana State University	2006	2008
27	S. (Bala) Balachandar, Ph.D.	University of Illinois, Urbana	2004	2006
26	Gretar Tryggvason, Ph.D.	Worcester Polytechnic Institute	2002	2004
25	Steven L. Ceccio, Ph.D.	University of Michigan	2000	2002
24	Andrea Prosperetti, Ph.D.	John Hopkins University	1998	2000
23	Efstathios (Stathis) Michaelides, Ph.D.	Tulane University	1996	1998
22	Upendra S. (Kumar) Rohatgi, Ph.D.	Brookhaven National Laboratory	1994	1996
21	Mihail (Mike) C. Roco, Ph.D.	National Science Foundation	1992	1994
20	Jong H. Kim, Ph.D.	Electric Power Research Institute	1990	1992
19	David (Dave) E. Stock, Ph.D.	Washington State University	1988	1990
18	John (Jack) W. Hoyt, Ph.D.	San Diego State University	1986	1988
17	Clayton T. Crowe, Ph.D.	Washington State University	1984	1986
16	Michael (Mike) L. Billet, Ph.D.	Pennsylvania State University	1982	1984
15	Frederick (Fred) G. Hammitt, Ph.D.	University of Michigan	1980	1982
14	Roger E. A. Arndt, Ph.D.	University of Minnesota	1978	1980
13	Christopher Brennen, Ph.D.	California Institute of Technology	1976	1978
12	Blaine R. Parkin, Ph.D.	Pennsylvania State University	1974	1976
11	William (Bill) B. Morgan, Dr. of Eng.	Naval Ship R & D Center	1972	1974
10	Robert Hickling, Ph.D.	California Institute of Technology	1970	1972
9	James M. Robertson, Ph. D.	Pennsylvania State University	1968	1970
8	Frederick (Fred) G. Hammitt, Ph.D.	University of Michigan	1966	1968
7	Milton S. Plesset, Ph.D.	California Institute of Technology	1964	1966
6	J. William (Bill) Holl, Ph.D.	Pennsylvania State University	1962	1964
5	George F. Wislicenus, Ph.D.	Pennsylvania State University	1960	1962
4	James W. Daily, Ph.D.	University of Michigan	1958	1960
3	W. J. Rheingans	Allis-Chalmers Manufacturing Co.	1957 (1)	1958
2	Robert T. Knapp, Ph.D.	California Institute of Technology	1948	1957
1	Lewis F. Moody, Ph.D.	Princeton University	1938	1948
	Carroll Fuller Merriam	Pennsylvania Water & Power Co.	1937 (2)	1938

(1) W.J. Rheingans finished term for R.T. Knapp on his death

(2) C.F. Merriam was not a chair, but the sponsor of the Cavitation Committee while the committee formed and awaited the appointment of its first chair.