

## GENERAL INFORMATION

MAIL AND MESSAGES DURING CONFERENCE:  
*(Please send mail and messages to the Hyatt Regency during the conference week, indicating that the message is for M2S-HTSC-VI Conference Office.)*

Hyatt Regency-Downtown  
1200 Louisiana  
Houston, TX 77002  
Phone: (713) 654-1234  
Fax: (713) 658-8606  
Check-In Time: 03:00 p.m.  
Check-Out Time: 12:00 noon

OTHER CONTACTS:

**George R. Brown Convention Center**  
1001 Avenida de las Americas  
Houston, TX

**DoubleTree Hotel at Allen Center**  
400 Dallas Street  
Houston, TX 77002  
Phone: (713) 759-0202  
Fax: (713) 759-1166  
Check-In Time: 03:00 p.m.  
Check-Out Time: 12:00 noon.

Texas Center for Superconductivity  
at the University of Houston  
3201 Cullen Boulevard  
Houston, TX 77004 USA  
Phone: (713) 743-8200  
Fax: (713) 743-8201

Conference Site: The 6th International Conference on Materials and Mechanisms of Superconductivity and High Temperature Superconductors (M2S-HTSC-VI) will be held in Houston, Texas, from February 20 to February 25, 2000. The Welcome Reception will be held on Sunday evening, February 20 at the Hyatt Regency Hotel. On Monday through Thursday, all formal conference sessions and exhibits will be held in the George R. Brown Convention Center, located ten blocks from the conference hotels. All Friday sessions will be held at the Hyatt Regency for the convenience of participants. Self- or valet parking is available at the convention center, conference hotels and adjacent street lots. Free conference shuttle buses and the Houston METRO Trolley system will be available for M2S-HTSC-VI participants.

Special Needs: Every effort will be made to accommodate special needs of disabled participants. If assistance is required, please contact Centennial Conferences at the conference Registration Counters at the Hyatt (Sunday/Friday) or George R. Brown Convention Center (Monday/Thursday). Contact the Hotel Concierge for information on special transportation needs. At the George R. Brown Convention Center, a passenger elevator is located in each lobby that accesses all three levels. There are three TDD telephones, an infra-red listening system, wheelchair-plus-companion seating in the General Assembly Hall and in all session breakout rooms. Restrooms and the General Assembly Hall are wheelchair-accessible.

Conference Shuttle Bus/METRO Trolley Schedules: **Transportation to/From Houston Airports:** Taxi service is available from both airports to the Downtown area. Fares range from \$18.00 from Hobby Airport (12 miles) to \$35.00 from George Bush Intercontinental Airport (IAH) (25 miles), and passengers can share to lessen cost. Express Shuttle USA offers discounted round trip fares to M2S-HTSC-VI participants from IAH (\$26.00 with discount coupon) and Hobby Airport (\$14.00 with discount coupon). METRO, the city bus service, has routes to and from the downtown area for \$1.50 (Intercontinental Airport), and \$1.00 (Hobby Airport). Currently, the Hyatt Regency can be reached from Intercontinental Airport (Terminal C) by taking the "112 Downtown Direct" bus that runs every 30 minutes (to the Smith Street bus stop), or the "102 Bush IAH" (also runs every 30 minutes, to the Milam/Dallas Bus Stop). The bus from Hobby Airport ("Heights/Harrisburg" bus), runs every 15 minutes to one hour, depending upon time of day, arriving at the Lamar Street Bus Stop. Please check the map in the back of the circular for street locations. Any changes to the bus schedules will be found in the METRO schedules available at the airports, the hotels, and at the Convention Center (3rd Level).

**Transportation to/from Conference Hotels and Convention Center:** Conference Shuttle bus service will be provided for participants from the Hyatt and Double Tree Hotels to and from the Convention Center. M2S-HTSC-VI shuttles will be marked with signage, so be sure to check for M2S-HTSC-VI signs before boarding. The free Houston METRO Trolley cars also stop on Polk Street by the Hyatt, providing additional transportation to the Convention Center and to other locations in the downtown Houston area. The Concierge Desk at the Hyatt can also provide free van transportation to points in the Downtown area and to the Galleria only. Taxi service from the Hotels can also be secured through the Doorman, located at the main entrances/car park areas. **Shuttle and trolley schedules will be posted in each Hotel Lobby, and at the Convention Center.** (See Map in the back of this circular.)

Parking at Convention Center and Hotels: Parking lots are available adjacent to the Convention Center for \$4.00 and \$5.00 per day, depending upon the location (see map in the back of this circular). Hotel Parking is available at the Hyatt Regency Hotel-Self Parking Garage for \$10.00/day maximum, and at the Double Tree for \$15.00 (valet) or \$6.00 (daytime events) and at city lots nearby. Parking at the city street lots ranges from \$3.50-6.00 per day.

Climate/Conference Attire: The Houston climate in late February is usually mild. The temperature may vary between 65 °F (18.3 °C) and 43 °F (7.2 °C); however, sudden changes can occur. The attire for all technical sessions is business casual, and for evening events business casual or a sports jacket is appropriate. Some Houston restaurants require coat and tie, so check with the Concierge or restaurant before making reservations. Participants attending the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo will feel at home in western wear or jeans, or casual clothing.

Local Time: Houston is located in the Central Time Zone, 6 hours behind Greenwich Mean Time.

Foreign Currency Exchange/Financial Services: Foreign currency may be changed to US dollars at both Houston airports 7 days a week, from 7:30 a.m. to 8:30 p.m. Standard fees at both airports are \$2.50/minimum for \$20-\$250 and 1% over \$250. **George Bush Intercontinental Airport** (IAH) (281-230-3000) has two exchange locations in Terminal C (Continental), and 2 locations in (IAB) International Terminal. **William P. Hobby Airport** (713-641-2785) has one location on the Main Floor, at the corner of Terminal A and Terminal B. **American Express Travel Agency**, 1200 McKinney, will also provide currency exchange services and cash travelers checks on Sunday, February 20, from 3:00 - 8:00 p.m. in the M2S-HTSC-VI Registration area at the Hyatt Regency Hotel. Services are also provided Monday through Friday at their office, located in The Park shopping center (ground floor) across the park from the George R. Brown Convention Center.

Participants may easily change back any unused US dollars to foreign currency at the Houston airports when leaving the U.S. All conference hotels and most major establishments in the downtown Houston area accept travelers checks. Major credit cards such as VISA, MasterCard, American Express, and Discover are accepted at most locations in Houston. To receive cash with your credit card, Automated Teller Machines are located at all area banks and in many downtown locations.

Postal Services: The Hyatt Regency Business Center (Lobby area) provides postage and mailing, as well as federal express services. The main downtown Houston Post Office is located at 401 Franklin, and is open from Monday through Friday, 6:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m., and Saturday from 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon. The Hyatt van service can provide transportation if needed (check with the Concierge Desk).

Business Centers at the Hyatt Regency and Convention Center: The **Hyatt Regency Business Center** is located near the Hotel Registration Desk in the main Lobby. Hours of operation are Monday through Friday, 7:00 a.m. until 7:00 p.m., and Saturday from 10:00 a.m. until 12:00 Noon. A wide range of services are available (copy service, fax service, shipping, equipment usage, typing services, laser and color printing, report binding, and supplies). The **AWV Audiovisual Business Center- George R. Brown Convention Center**, located behind the General Assembly Hall next to Room 306F, also offers a wide range of services for conference participants. Rate sheets will be available in the Conference Registration Packets.

Message Boards: **Special Announcements and Notifications:** Information, special announcements and changes to the Program Schedule will be posted daily on the Message Boards located at the Convention Center in the Level 3 Lobby. Please check the boards for the latest information. **General Postings (A-Z):** Participants can post or receive messages on the General Message Board, or turn in messages for posting to the Information Desk in the 3<sup>rd</sup> Level Lobby. **Job Postings and Resumé Board:** Participants should turn in postings to the Information Desk located in the 3<sup>rd</sup> Level Lobby. The Message Boards will move to the Hyatt Regency-Library Room, 2<sup>nd</sup> Level, for the Friday Sessions. Hyatt guests may also use them throughout the week (Sunday-Friday) to leave messages for other guests.

Admittance to Sessions and Social Events: All participants must have a badge for entry to all technical sessions and social events. Some events also require tickets, which are located in the Registration Packets. Full Participant registrations include the Opening Reception on Sunday evening, February 20; attendance at all technical sessions and Exhibit, and conference materials; Exhibitor's Breakfast; Monday Special symposium and evening reception; Conference Banquet at the museum; and morning and afternoon refreshment breaks. The accompanying person fee includes a Welcome Coffee on Monday morning at the Hyatt, the Welcome Reception on Sunday Evening, February 20, and the Conference Banquet. The student fee includes all amenities listed under Full Participants, and the Student Reception on Tuesday.

Social Events: The following social events are included in the cost of the full registration fee, and tickets will be provided in the Registration Packets. Tickets are required for admission. Extra tickets may be available for purchase subject to availability at the Registration-Events Desk.

**Welcome Reception:** Sunday, February 20, 7:00 - 9:00 p.m. [Hyatt Regency Imperial Ballroom-3<sup>rd</sup> Level]. All full participants, student registrants, retirees and accompanying persons are invited to attend the welcome reception.

**Meet the Exhibitors Continental Breakfast:** Monday, February 21, 8:00 - 9:00 a.m. [George R. Brown Convention Center, Hall D]. Full participants, student registrants and retirees are invited to join Exhibitors in Hall D for a continental breakfast.

**Special Evening Symposium and Reception, “The Search for New Materials: A Symposium in Honor of T. H. Geballe”:** Monday, February 21, 8:00 - 10:30 p.m. [Hyatt Regency Imperial Ballroom- 3<sup>rd</sup> Level]. Full participants, student registrants and retirees are invited to a special symposium and reception honoring the distinguished career and 80<sup>th</sup> birthday of Professor Theodore H. Geballe. Sponsors include the Laboratory for Advanced Materials at Stanford University and the Texas Center for Superconductivity at the University of Houston.

**Student Reception:** Tuesday, February 22, 6:45 - 7:45 p.m. [Double Tree Hotel, Granger Ballroom]. All graduate students are invited to attend a get-acquainted reception. Make-your-own taco bar and soft drinks are provided, with a cash bar for beer and wine.

**Dinner Buffet at the Houston Museum of Natural Sciences:** Wednesday, February 23, 7:30 - 10:30 p.m. [buses load at the Hyatt Regency Hotel beginning at 7:00 p.m.] An evening of adventure awaits full participants, student registrants and retirees, and accompanying persons. Ticket includes dinner buffet, two complimentary drink tickets, two special IMAX showings, and two new Planetarium shows. Cash bars are also provided.

Optional Afternoon Tours and Evening Outings: The following Wednesday Optional Tour tickets are included in the Resgistration Packets of those who purchased them during the registration process. A limited number of tickets may still be available at the on-site Registration-Events counter. Early inquiry is advised. Tickets for Other Optional Entertainment may be purchased as well, subject to availability. Sign-up sheets are available at the Registration-Events counter for the TCSUH Laboratory Tour. This tour is limited to 150 persons on a first come/first served basis because of space limitations.

**OT1 Space Center Houston and NASA/Johnson Space Center:** Wednesday, February 23, 12:30 - 6:00 p.m., US\$20.00 adult; \$18.00 child [buses load at the Hyatt Regency beginning at 12:15 p.m.].

**OT2 Museum of Fine Arts & Sculpture Garden:** Wednesday, February 23, 1:00 - 5:00 p.m., US\$15.00 adult; \$9.00 child [participants should meet in the Hyatt Regency Lobby near the valet parking entrance by 12:55 for departure].

**OT3 de Menil Museum Collection & Byzantine Fresco Chapel:** Wednesday, February 23, 2:00 - 5:30 p.m., US\$7.00 [participants should meet in the Hyatt Regency Lobby near the valet parking entrance by 1:55 for departure].

**OT4 Bayou Bend Collection & Gardens:** Wednesday, February 23, 1:00 - 4:30 p.m., US\$16.00 adult; \$14.50/seniors or child [participants should meet in the Hyatt Regency Lobby near the valet parking entrance by 12:55 for departure].

**OT7 Galleria I, II & III Shopping Experience:** Wednesday, February 23, 1:30 - 5:30 p.m., US\$7.00 [participants should meet in the Hyatt Regency Lobby near the valet parking entrance by 1:25 for departure].

**OE1 Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo:** Thursday, February 24, 7:00 - 10:30 p.m., US\$30.00 adult [buses load at the George R. Brown Convention Center beginning at 6:00, with departure beginning at 6:15 p.m.] Note: Participants should plan to leave immediately after the technical sessions end and proceed to the GRB front entrance for loading. Those wishing to leave their conference materials at the hotels should make arrangements to do so during the breaks.]

Please note that the Walking Tours of Downtown Houston were cancelled due to insufficient numbers.

Other Optional Entertainment: Tickets for optional evening entertainment will be provided for purchase at the conference. Some require advance purchase, and others will be available on a first come/first served basis. Interested participants should check at the Registration-Events counter for availability.

**Houston Rockets- NBA Pro Basketball at Compaq Center:** Thursday, February 24, 7:30 p.m., US\$25.00. A limited number of tickets will be available on site during registration until sold out or until 12:00 Noon on Tuesday, February 22. No conference transportation is provided.

**Houston Ballet at Wortham Center:** Thursday, February 24, 7:30 p.m., US\$25.00. Evening performance of *Les Patineurs*. No conference transportation is provided, but the Hyatt Concierge may arrange for van transportation (Hyatt guests only) or may suggest the appropriate Houston METRO Trolley.

**Houston Zoological Gardens:** Saturday through Saturday, 10:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m. Adults US\$2.50, Seniors US\$2.00, Child under 12 years US\$.50. Children 2 and under are free. No conference transportation is provided. Check with the Concierge for city bus schedules, or the Doorman for taxi.

**Laboratory Tour, Texas Center for Superconductivity at the University of Houston:** Friday, February 3:30 - 5:30 p.m. No Charge [buses will depart Hyatt Regency at 3:00 p.m. Meet in hotel Lobby]. This tour is limited to 150 due to space limitations. Sign-up sheets are available at the Registration-Events counter on a first come/first served basis.

Post-Conference Tours: Several post-conference tours for M2S-HTSC-VI participants have been arranged through local travel agencies. If you have booked a tour in advance and have questions, please contact the Registration Desk-Events counter.

Conference Meals and Area Restaurants: Food Courts and Concession Stands with a variety of hot and cold items will be available for Participants at the George R. Brown Convention Center (GRB) near the Cafe and Hall D on Monday through Thursday. For participants attending Brown Bag Sessions, sack lunches (deli sandwich, fruit, drink) may also be purchased in advance for \$6.00. Sack lunches for Monday (and for subsequent Brown Bags Session days, if desired) should be purchased during Sunday Registration at the Hyatt Regency. Sack lunches for Tuesday and Thursday Brown Bag sessions should be purchased at the GRB the day before the respective session. The vendor will accept cash payment (no credit cards or checks). All pre-purchased lunches will be available in the Prefunction foyer before the Brown Bag session begins. As Wednesday afternoon is free time, minimal lunch service will be available at GRB. An Area Restaurant Sheet will be available in the Registration Packet, and there are many restaurants within walking distance.

Session Chairs: Session Chair information will be available in the Registration Packets, and will contain speaker information and any last-minute changes to the schedule. Briefing meetings will be held each morning on Monday through Thursday at the George R. Brown Convention Center in the Speaker Preparation Room (306F- 3<sup>rd</sup> Level) at times posted in the Program. A briefing meeting for Friday Chairs will be held in the Hyatt Regency Speaker Preparation Room (Redbud Room - Level 3) on Friday morning.

Publication Room and Manuscript Status Board: The Publication Room is located at the George R. Brown Convention Center in Room **306A, 3<sup>rd</sup> Level**, from Monday through Thursday, and at the Hyatt Regency Hotel in Arboretum 1&2, 2<sup>nd</sup> Level, on Friday. Computers and laser printers are available for authors to revise their manuscripts during the conference. The review status of papers will be posted on the **Manuscript Status Board** located in the 3<sup>rd</sup> Level Lobby. Authors are advised to check periodically for status, and visit the Publication Room when requested.

Manuscripts and Proceedings: Manuscripts should be submitted to the Sub-Editors in the Publication Room in camera-ready format as specified in the Author Kits. Authors who have previously submitted their disks with final manuscript, or who bring their disks to the conference for corrections, can make revisions in the Publications Room on Monday through Thursday during the posted hours at the George R. Brown Convention Center. The proceedings will be published as special volumes of *Physica C-Superconductivity and its Applications*, in keeping with all previous M2S-HTSC-VI Conferences. In addition to the Sub-Editors, an Elsevier Desk Editor will be in the Publication Room to answer technical questions.

Information for Oral and Poster Presenters: **Program Number:** Be sure you know your unique program number (e.g., 4PO.15) when you arrive at the Convention Center to be able to check the Manuscript Status Board (3<sup>rd</sup> Level Lobby, GRB). **Changes in Speaker Name or Cancellation:** Your session chair needs to know if there is a change of any kind in the scheduled presentation. Contact Kim Bass at the Publication Room Help Desk (GRB, Room 306A) during normal conference hours, or leave a message at the Hyatt Hotel main switchboard (713) 654-1234 for the M2S-HTSC-VI Conference Office, Attention: Kim Bass, during evening hours. Please notify your session chair of your presence just before the start of your session so that he/she knows you are there. There will be no rearrangement of papers within an oral session to accommodate absences or cancellations, so the time you have been assigned within the oral session is fixed.

**Instructions for Oral Presentations:** The time, length, and place of each presentation is contained elsewhere in this publication. Please check the Change inserts in the Registration Packet for any additions or deletions in a given session. Each oral presentation should allow a 5 minute Q&A period. Standard Technical Session Room Arrangements include 1 35-mm slide projector, 2 overhead projectors, 2 screens, 1 laser pointer, 1 lavalier microphone, and a timer.

**Speaker Preparation Room:** The Speaker Preparation Room (SPR) at the Hyatt Regency (Redbud Room, Level 3; Sunday and Friday), and George R. Brown Convention Center (Level 3, Room 306F; Monday-Thursday) will have items for rehearsing oral presentations: slide trays, tray labels, acetates, 35 mm projectors and screens, speaker timer, and lectern. The SPR assistants will help and answer questions. If you are using slides, take the labeled, loaded tray to the projectionist or student assistant in your session room prior to your presentation (Projectionists cannot load slides). Please retrieve your slides after your session ends. If left behind and found during the conference, contact the Registration Help Desk-Lost and Found. If found after the conference, Centennial Conferences will mail them COD to the address given via registration. Contact Centennial Conferences at (800) 345-0696 or (303) 499-2299. M2S-HTSC-VI accepts no responsibility for material that may be left behind, lost, stolen, or damaged.

### REGISTRATION DESK HOURS

The Conference Program and Abstract Book, tickets for social events, name badges and other conference materials will be available at the M<sup>2</sup>S-HTSC-VI Registration Desk. The Registration Desk will be open at the following locations during the indicated times:

Hyatt Regency Downtown  
 Sunday, Feb. 20 ..... 11:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m.  
 Friday, Feb. 25 ..... 7:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

George R. Brown Convention Center  
 Monday, Feb. 21 ..... 7:00 a.m. - 6:30 p.m.  
 Tuesday, Feb. 22 ..... 7:00 a.m. - 6:30 p.m.  
 Wednesday, Feb. 23 ..... 7:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.  
 Thursday, Feb. 24 ..... 7:00 a.m. - 6:30 p.m.

### POSTER SESSION SCHEDULE

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday  
 Full Set-up Time  
 Monday ..... 7:00 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.  
 12:30 p.m. - 1:45 p.m.  
 Tuesday ..... 7:00 a.m. - 10:15 a.m.  
 12:30 p.m. - 1:30 p.m.  
 Thursday ..... 7:00 a.m. - 10:15 a.m.  
 12:30 p.m. - 1:30 p.m.

Presentation Time/Speakers Present  
 Monday ..... 2:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.  
 Tuesday ..... 1:30 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.  
 Thursday ..... 1:45 p.m. - 3:45 p.m.

Removal Time  
 Monday ..... 4:30 p.m. - 6:45 p.m.  
 Tuesday ..... 6:00 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.  
 Thursday ..... 3:45 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.

### PUBLICATIONS ROOM HOURS

The Publications Room will be open at the following locations during the indicated times. Authors wishing to make minor reviewer corrections to manuscripts may use the computers located in the room.

George R. Brown Convention Center  
 Monday, Feb. 21 ..... 8:00 a.m. - 6:30 p.m.  
 Tuesday, Feb. 22 ..... 8:00 a.m. - 6:30 p.m.  
 Wednesday, Feb. 23 ..... 8:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.  
 Thursday, Feb. 24 ..... 8:00 a.m. - 6:30 p.m.

Hyatt Regency Downtown  
 Friday, Feb. 25 ..... 8:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

### EXHIBITION HOURS

Exhibit Installation  
 Sunday, Feb. 20 ..... 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Continental Breakfast with Exhibitors  
 Monday, Feb. 21 ..... 8:00 a.m. - 9:00 a.m.

Exhibits Open  
 Monday, Feb. 21 ..... 8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.  
 Tuesday, Feb. 22 ..... 9:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.  
 Thursday, Feb. 24 ..... 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Dismantling  
 Thursday, Feb. 24 ..... 4:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m.

Oral Presentations will be held throughout the week in 7 concurrent sessions

**Instructions for Poster Presentations:** One horizontal, framed poster board 45 in. x 94 in. (115cm x 240cm) is provided for each presenter. They are double-sided and will be shared by another presenter on the other side. Hanging folders will be affixed to the boards for preprints and preprint requests. Each board is covered with dark brown cloth that will hold Velcro (“male” or hook tabs) or standard pushpins. Tape cannot be used on these boards. It is strongly recommended that presenters use Velcro for hanging their displays as it will give the best results. Velcro will not be provided on-site so presenters will have to bring their own materials. Colorless pushpins will be provided on-site for those who need them. Authors presenting posters may receive assistance on-site from the Student Assistants, located in Hall D during poster set-up, presentation, and removal times. Presenters should be at their posters for the two-hour formal session period.

All sessions will share the same poster space on each of the three days. It is, therefore, essential that presenters in each session clear their booths promptly when their assigned session concludes. Materials left on boards after the removal deadlines will be disposed of by the staff. M2S-HTSC-VI accepts no responsibility for material that may be left behind, lost, stolen, or damaged.

Post-Conference Contact Information:

*Registration, Housing, Exhibits:*

Centennial Conferences  
4800 Baseline Road, Suite A-112  
Boulder, Colorado 80303 USA  
PHONE: (303) 499-2299;  
FAX: (303) 499-2599  
e-mail: m2s@centennialconferences.com  
exhibition e-mail: mpark@gocougs.wsu.edu

*Scientific Program:*

M2S-HTSC-VI Secretariat  
Texas Center for Superconductivity  
University of Houston  
3201 Cullen Boulevard  
Houston, Texas 77204-5932 USA  
FAX: (713) 743-8216 or (713) 743-8201  
e-mail: sbutler@uh.edu

*Proceedings:*

M2S-HTSC-VI Proceedings  
Texas Center of Superconductivity  
University of Houston  
Houston Science Center, Room 202  
3201 Cullen Boulevard  
Houston, Texas 77004 USA  
PHONE: 713 743-9996 FAX: 713 743-9998  
e-mail: ksalama@uh.edu or wlo@uh.edu