

The Packed Column

American Institute of Chemical Engineers - Upper Midwest Section

January 2011

CHAIR'S CORNER

By Christine Kurtz

I hope this newsletter finds everyone happy, in good health, and getting the New Year off to a great start!

I had a great holiday season visiting with family and enjoying some much needed rest and relaxation. Hopefully all of you did as well.

We had some good events in Year 2010. We started with the "Job-Searching" and "Job-Keeping" presentation in January, then moved to the combined meeting with the professional chapter and the U of MN student chapter in February, the MinnTS meeting in March, our chapter's Annual Symposium in April, an almost full turnout summer Board Meeting in July, and finally the Career Discussion with the U of MN ChE Students in November. We had six great professional chapter panelists and an attentive and interested student chapter audience for the Career Discussion. Thank you again to the following professional panelists who volunteered!!:

Martin Bergstedt, Tony Colombari, Aaron Wlaschin, Eric Hockert, Merlin Hunt, and Kevin Michael Lienau.

As we head into the Year 2011, our AIChE chapter group should have plenty going on. In addition to trying to maintain our monthly membership speakers and tours, we will also be in planning mode to assist National AIChE with the upcoming Annual meeting taking place in Minneapolis, October 16 through 21, 2011. They are asking for our assistance and we are the best group to provide that assistance wherever possible. Please see the related article in this newsletter for more information.

Also, our chapter has rejoined MFESTS after an absence since 1997! Please see the related article in this newsletter for more information.

Thank you to all for you continued support of the chapter and I look forward to a productive New Year with you!

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Scholarship Chair	OPEN			
Your Company Chair	OPEN			

<http://www.aichelocal.org/tc>

2011 AIChE Annual Meeting: Minneapolis, MN

October 16 through 21, 2011

Minneapolis Convention Center

Minneapolis, MN

U of MN Professors Alon McCormick and Raul Caretta along with Membership Secretary Jeff Allen recently attended a planning meeting with representatives from the national section to discuss our local MN chapter's involvement with the annual meeting taking place October 16 through-21, 2011 in Minneapolis. Jeff Wood and Steve Schmidt of National AIChE and Vince Grassi of the Executive Board Planning Committee shared their hopes for what local MN members can most usefully contribute. The following is what they are asking of us:

Wanted...

1. Contacts in companies who can:
 - a. help spread news about the meeting to prospective attendees,
 - b. participate in Sat/Sun/Mon events for students, young professionals, and high school teachers (such as judge events [posters, student papers, student designs, ChE car], sponsor student awards, hold company information sessions, coordinate local facility tours, coordinate networking/mentoring sessions/receptions)
 - c. help select and invite local teachers to a special International Year of Chemistry (IYC) Monday mid-day event, with a keynote speech possibly by the DuPont CEO
 - d. be key company contacts for AIChE staff if the company is interested in helping sponsor AIChE special events (e.g., opening reception, award receptions suggest venues for social events and special events)
 - e. host other IYC events, possibly in collaboration with local ACS section, as suggested by IYC website
 - f. if enough local support emerges, help coordinate a selective community college or local high school student outreach opportunity (along the lines of the "session aide" program of bygone days, on a small scale)
2. Local section members interested in hosting a special Wednesday night ticketed social event, perhaps in coordination with the local ACS section – for instance, perhaps a river cruise

The AIChE Annual Meeting is the premier educational forum for chemical engineers interested in innovation and professional growth. A wide range of subjects relevant to latest research and newest technologies in emerging growth areas will be covered. See: <http://www.aiche.org/Conferences/AnnualMeeting/index.aspx> for additional information.

If you, or your company, can provide assistance with any of these, please contact an AIChE MN Board member (remember, all Board members can be contacted through the AIChE MN chapter website at http://www.aichelocal.org/tc/about_us.html). Thank you!!



Minnesota Federation of Engineering, Science, and Technology Societies (MFESTS) Society Leaders

From the MFESTS Society Leaders, December 9th, 2010 Board meeting Minutes:

We had a great turnout at the MFESTS Board of Directors meeting with 17 attendees and a nice presentation on The Works Museum from its President Derek Rucker. Attached are the minutes along with a 2011 calendar that highlights some events along with the MFESTS meetings (see also <http://www.mfests.org/>). We are pleased to announce that The American Institute of Chemical Engineers (AIChE) Upper Midwest Section has rejoined MFESTS after an absence since 1997!

Reminder on nominating for an MFESTS Young and Distinguished Engineer or Science and technology professional that the deadline is fast approaching of Jan 8th, 2011. The details are at the MFESTS website (www.mfests.org) Awards Info tab. Mark your calendar and consider attending the Annual Engineers Awards and Recognition Banquet on Friday, February 25th, 2011 at Target Field and will offer tours and have a silent auction to benefit Youth Programs in addition to an excellent dinner.

Society MFESTS Society Board Directors:

AFE -Robery Heiller, ASCE Tim Lankin, ASME – Rich Heinecke, ASQ – Gary Jing, CIASS- Gary Jing, ECM- Bob Palmquist, ESSP- Suresh Hettiarachchi, HEC – Cory Grabinger, IIE- John Kline, IEEE – Steve Merriman, INCOSE – Ed Anderson, ISA- Bob Kolas, MGS- Paul Martin, MSPE – Dan Pederson, SAME-Jim Mosner, SME-S Tim Lange/Harry Schroeder, SWE Lesley Wycoff, AIChE – Jason Kurdziel

MFESTS 2011 Calendar:

Jan 8th – Award Nominations Due

Jan 15th – Future Cities Competition at University of Minnesota

Jan 19th – 6 pm EC1 Mtg: Ft. Snelling Officers Club; Main Purpose: Review Nominations for Award(s), Status of Dues

Feb 20th – E-Week Sparks, Slime and Speed at Science Museum

Feb 25th – E-Week Banquet at new Target Field Twins Stadium

Feb 26th – E-Week TechFest at “The Works”

Mar 10th – 6 pm BOD1 Mtg: at TBD Main

Purpose: Budget, E-Week Banquet, Status of Dues, Tech Fest

Apr 18th – 6 pm EC2 Mtg TBD

Jun 9th – 6 pm BOD2 Mtg TBD

Jul 18th – 6 pm EC3 Mtg: TBD

July- Aug: All Society Picnic, Program Planning session

Sep 8th – 6 pm BOD3 Mtg: TBD

Oct 17th – 6 pm EC4 Mtg TBD

Dec 8th – 6 pm BOD4 Mtg: Ft. Snelling Officers Club Main Purpose: MFESTS Election for 2012-13 Officers

ANNOUNCING TWO SHORT COURSES OFFERED DIRECT TO YOU AND YOUR ASSOCIATES BY THE UPPER MIDWEST AIChE**Principles of Process Engineering**
Feb 17th and 18th 2011**Principles of Process Scale Up**
Feb 14th and 15th 2011

Registration is limited on a first come basis, no exceptions.

Principles of Process Engineering
Feb 17th and 18th 2011

Everyone working in product or process development encounters process engineering problems whether they recognize it or not. This is the stuff that many new Chemical Engineers say they never saw in school! The 2 day workshop is designed to provide basic and useful process engineering principles for technicians, scientists and engineers at all levels of development. The concepts are presented in a way that minimizes the use of complex engineering formulas and emphasizes practical problem solving in a user friendly manner without sacrificing understanding. This approach has proven successful in building confidence and experience in a hands-on workshop format. The subjects include material and energy balances, fluid flow and viscosity, heat transfer in process equipment and thermal properties of biomaterials.

Instructors

Course instructors are Dr. Ken Valentas and Dr. Leon Levine. Levine is a well known consultant to the consumer products industry with extensive experience at both P&G and Pillsbury. Valentas is the past Director of the BioTechnology Institute at the University of Minnesota and also has had over 27 years experience at Pillsbury, General Mills and Sinclair Oil. They have co-authored a book entitled, "Food Processing Operations and Scale-up". Valentas is co-editor of the "Handbook of Food Engineering Practice".

Cost:***Early Bird (before Jan 31st) Member Price: \$995.00

Early Bird Non-Member Price: \$1,095.00

Early Bird Discount Ends: 1/31/2011

AIChE Member Price: \$1,095.00

Non-Member Price: \$1,195.00

Cancellation fees apply after 1/31/2011

*** This is the lowest cost offered by National AIChE for a two day course without the expense of travel and the time away from home.

To reserve a spot or if you have questions:

Contact Tom Kempf:

thomas.kempf@genmills.com

763-764-2873

Principles of Process Scale Up

Feb 14th and 15th 2011

Scale up of a process can be the ultimate determinate of success or failure in the commercialization of a new product/process. Unfortunately, the successful attainment of this task is not trivial and often ends in complete or partial failure. The goal of this course is to teach product/process development and design engineers the approach that can be used to minimize failure and maximize success.

The first day of the course will introduce the general concepts related to successful product/process scale up and illustrate a technique for scale up of poorly understood unit operations, the types of experimentation required, and some consequences and reasons for poor scale ups.

The second day of the course will cover the use and applicability of dimensional analysis for analyzing and solving scale up problems that are well understood and the design engineering aspects of scale up.

The course will be taught through the extensive examples from the lecturer's experience and the classes participation in class exercises.

Instructors

The course instructor is Dr. Leon Levine. Levine is a well known consultant to the consumer products industry with extensive experience at both P&G and Pillsbury. He has co-authored a book entitled, "Food Processing Operations and Scale-up" as well as numerous journal articles.

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Recruiters Not Calling You? Five Reasons Why—And How To Fix It

You've been hoping for a new job, but your phone is silent. Does this sound like your job search efforts?

- You've sent out hundreds of resumes but received little or no response.
- You've left dozens of voicemails to recruiters—and they never return your call.
- You've tweaked your resume so many times you no longer recognize it.

Many talented, qualified job seekers get ignored by recruiters and hiring managers simply because their resume has one or more of the following problems.

1. Your resume highlights your lack of industry experience

If you lack specific industry experience, try highlighting your transferable skills. Job seekers who lack industry experience can make it past the resume screener by proving their ability with skills they have that transfer from industry to industry. Examples of transferable skills include expertise gained in sales, customer service, finance, accounting, negotiation, cross-functional communications, and/or team building.

2. Your resume shouts "Overqualified!"

Nothing scares off a recruiter faster than a candidate who is obviously overqualified for the job. The two main concerns are (1) that the candidate would soon get bored and leave at his earliest convenience, and (2) that the candidate would be too expensive to hire.

There are many valid reasons job seekers wish to downsize to jobs with fewer responsibilities. Whatever your reasons, tailor your resume to fit your current career objective. This means you'll want to play down your prior responsibilities, list only relevant education (don't list a Ph.D. if you are applying for a mid-level management position!),

and emphasize tactical experience over strategic planning when appropriate.

3. Your resume is crammed with information, but not the right kind

You'll catch the recruiter's attention if you have a clear, easy-to-read resume that highlights your skills and accomplishments, even at a glance. The first rule of resume effectiveness is relevancy, so edit out the past data and redundant facts that aren't relevant to your current career path. Fill your resume only with the skills needed for that particular job.

4. Your resume has too little information

A resume that looks more like an outline just doesn't give the reader enough to work with. Recruiters don't want to guess what you did at your last job. You need to include enough information to give prospective employers a vision of the possibilities if they choose to hire you.

5. Your resume doesn't include accomplishments

Remember, as a job seeker you are selling your talents, and you are competing with many others who have the same qualifications as you do. Accomplishments give recruiters a reason to choose you over others for the interview short list. Highlight how you have saved time, increased efficiency, cut cost and increased client satisfaction. After all, if you don't tell them, nobody else will!

If you use this five-point checklist to restructure your resume, you'll soon hear back from recruiters who appreciate qualified, articulate and confident candidates. The time you spend enhancing your resume could shave off months of fruitless labor and frustrating effort in your job search.

Deborah Walker, Certified Career Management Coach, Read more career tips and see sample resumes at: www.AlphaAdvantage.com; email: Deb@Alphaadvantage.com



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