

May Section Meeting – Transgenic Crops: Methods, Benefits, and Risks

Transgenic (or genetically engineered) crops have transformed agriculture in the U.S., with large proportions of soybean, cotton, and corn acreages sown to transgenic varieties. Although popular with farmers, the public's reaction has been mixed. This talk will describe the current status of transgenic crops in the U.S. and globally, explain the methods of plant genetic engineering, and review the risks and concerns of the technology. Finally, the appropriate role for a land-grant university in dealing with a controversial technology will be discussed.

Dr. Patrick F. ("Pat") Byrne is an associate professor in the Department of Soil & Crop Sciences at Colorado State University, where he teaches and conducts research in plant breeding, genetics, and biotechnology. His research focuses on the genetics of stress tolerance and bread making quality in wheat and disease resistance in dry beans. Several years ago, after seeing the depth of public misunderstanding about genetically engineered crops, he and a colleague established a web site to provide balanced information on the topic (<http://cls.casa.colostate.edu/TransgenicCrops/>). Pat's other biotechnology-related projects are a research study on pollen mediated gene flow in corn and wheat, and a project to evaluate experimental transgenic drought tolerant wheat lines. Before coming to CSU in 1997, he worked on corn genetics for the USDA-Agricultural Research Service in Columbia, Missouri. Prior to that, he spent 10 years in international agriculture development projects in

Mexico, the Cape Verde Islands, and Nepal. He received his M.S. and Ph.D. degrees in plant breeding at the University of Missouri, and his B.S. in Biology at Washington University in St. Louis.

May Section Meeting

Topic: Transgenic Crops: Methods, Benefits, and Risks

Speaker: Dr. Patrick F. ("Pat") Byrne

Date: Tuesday, May 16th

Time: 6:00 Social Hour (Cash Bar)
6:45 Dinner
7:30 Presentation

Location: Jay's Bistro
135 West Oak, Fort Collins
970-482-1876

Menu: Fresh green salad appetizer. Choice of Herb Roasted Chicken, seasoned with garlic, rosemary and cracked red and green pepper with Marsala demi-glace over saffron Roasted Red Potatoes - or - Pork Tenderloin served grilled and sliced with Chipolte BBQ glaze topped with fizzled Tabasco onion rings with garlic mashers and apple and shitake mushroom compote.

Cost: Members: \$20
Non-Members: \$25
Students & Unemployed: \$10

Please RSVP by **Friday, May 12th** (early RSVPs are greatly appreciated!). Indicate your name, phone number, and number of attendees by e-mailing Tom Wellborn at rockyaiche@yahoo.com. Alternatively, you leave a voice mail for Tom at 303-933-0533.

JUDGING RESULTS AND AWARDING OF PRIZES AT 51ST ANNUAL COLORADO SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING FAIR

The 51st Annual Colorado Science and Engineering Fair is now history. Michael Mutnan represented our section as a judge on April 6 and picked four winners who received a certificate and cash prizes for best entries having a chemical engineering theme. The winners are:

Junior Division

1st prize of \$100.00

Jordana Lanoue – 7th grade and Alia Buchholz – 6th grade Genoa-Hugo School

(\$100.00 was awarded to the team and they will split the cash prize)

Project title – Acid Reactivity

2nd prize of \$75.00

Shelby Messer - 8th grade Genoa-Hugo School

Project title – Chromatography of Markers and Powder Drink Mixes

Senior Division

1st prize of \$100.00

McIan Amos and Andres Mahan – 10th grade Centennial High School

(\$100.00 was awarded to the team and they will split the cash prize)

Project title – Fuel to Air Ratios

2nd prize of \$75.00

Andrew West – 10th grade Conifer High School

Project title – The Production of Diesel Fuel from Food Grade Vegetable Oil by a Method of Catalytic Hydrocracking

Congratulations to them all!



Michael Mutnan discussing the Science Fair Results at the April meeting.

Nominations for AIChE Board Members

The following members have been nominated for the 2006-2007 AIChE Program Year:

Kevin Milliman, Director

Tom Wellborn, Chair

Craig Turchi, Vice-Chair / Program

Dan LaRiviere, Treasurer

Craig Wildemuth, Secretary

If you have paid your section dues, you should have received your electronic ballot at your email address. Voting will close on May 1st.



Nominated Officers (Left to Right): Craig Turchi, Kevin Milliman, Tom Wellborn, Dan LaRiviere

NEW MEXICO CORNER

New Mexico members are getting active and organized. Kerrie is searching for volunteers to speak/present an engineering topic, so please contact her if you know of anyone available in the Albuquerque area. For more information about the New Mexico meetings, contact Kerrie Pratt at PrattKL@cdm.com

From the Program Chair

Thank you for allowing me to serve as your Program Chair for the Rocky Mountain Section of AIChE. It has been a privilege to work with you and our local section officers, whose efforts keep our meetings and newsletters on time and on budget. They also coordinate our outreach programs to support Chemical Engineering in our communities. Several officers and members stepped forward to make presentations when I was short on speaker options or cover for me when I was out of town, and for that I am much obliged. Those of you who know I tell a joke at every meeting will be happy that I am term-limited, as I have run out of politically correct humor.

Naturally, because of my background, I strove to increase awareness of the importance of energy to our membership, with presentations on laser drilling, oil reservoirs, tar sands, clean fuels, fuel cells, bioenergy, energy policy and natural resources. It is fortunate (or perhaps unfortunate) that recent events have emphasized my focus on this critical area of our economy. We also had presentations on some tools of Chemical Engineering, namely membranes, solids samplers, and vacuum systems. We had wonderful tours of the National Institute of Standards and Technology, and local research and bone/tendon graft manufacturing facilities. Finally, we gained some insight into our sense of smell and had some fun touring microbreweries. We will end the season with a presentation on crop genetics.

I hope the programs over the past two years have been of value to the membership, and

that you will support our new program chair over the next season. I heartily encourage you to get more involved in AIChE, as I have had way more fun than I ever expected as program chair, and will continue to do so as section chair (if elected).

Kindest Regards,
Tom Wellborn

Pictures From the March Meeting.....



A well-attended meeting at the Denver Athletic Club



Michael Morgan (left) receiving speakers gift from Tom Wellborn

AIChE Meetings

2006

- May 7-12 6th ECI Int'l
Conference on
Boiling Heat Tsfr
Spoleto, Italy
- May 8-10 Advanced Process
Control Applic.
For Industry
APC2006
- June 11-13 Process Develop.
Symposium
Palm Springs, CA
- Sept 5-7 2nd Int'l Conf. on
Bioengineering &
Nanotechnology
Santa Barbara, CA
- Sept 10-14 Safety in
Ammonia Plants
Vancouver
- Nov 12-17 2006 Annual Mtg.
San Francisco, CA

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National AIChE.

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Rocky Mountain AIChE News is published eight times a year by the Rocky Mountain section of AIChE. Opinions expressed herein are those of the authors and are not necessarily those of AIChE nor the officers of this section.

The objectives of AIChE are to advance chemical engineering in theory and practice, to maintain a high professional standard among its members, and to serve society, particularly where chemical, engineering can contribute to the public interest.

How to Place an Ad or Job Posting

Members: Free; Non-members: \$25.00 for each article

Deadline: 1st Tuesday of each month

Email your text to: lauramoes@msn.com

MEETING SCHEDULE

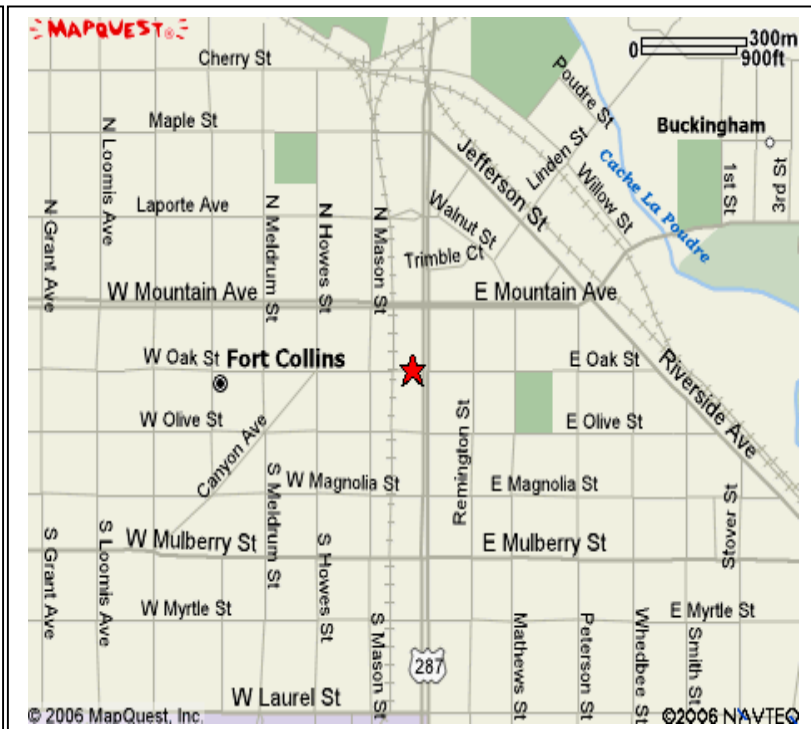
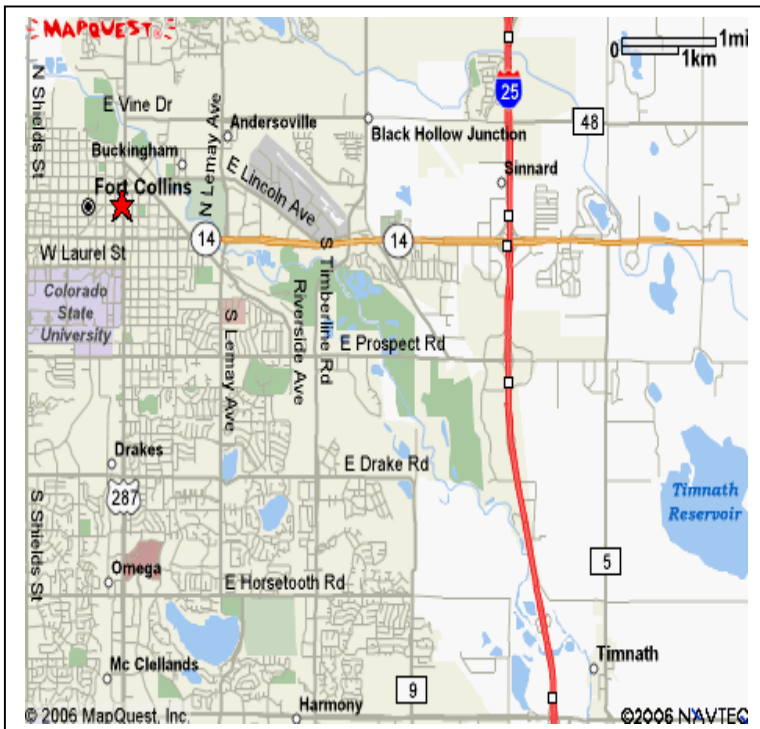
The Rocky Mountain District of AIChE meets the third Tuesday of every month.. No meetings in June, July, or August. See you again in September!

Rocky Mountain AIChE News
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On the Web at:

<http://www.aiche-rm.org>

*Send your E-MAIL address to
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this newsletter electronically!*



DIRECTIONS: Take I-25 North. Take the CO-14 W exit (EXIT 269B) toward FT COLLINS. Merge onto E MULBERRY ST and drive about 4.1 miles. Turn RIGHT onto S MASON ST. Turn RIGHT onto W OAK ST. Stop at 135 West Oak Street at Jay's Bistro.