

"AICHE, Where Y'at?"

Spring Meeting Returns to the "Big Easy"

Nearly a month after Mardi Gras, New Orleans will still be hopping, and AIChE's 2003 Spring National Meeting, to be held at the Ernest N. Morial Convention Center from March 31 to April 4, promises to continue the excitement for engineers. The conference will feature about 140 sessions, on everything from advances in plant safety and security, to novel hydrogen generation processes, and new fuel cell technologies.

The technical program is built around 14 topical conferences, both perennials like the 37th edition of the Loss Prevention Symposium, and brand new offerings, such as "Chemical Entrepreneurism: Financing New Ventures and Corporate Spin-outs." Other topicals include:

- Management: The Engineer in Transition to Management;
- Sustainability of Manufacturing Processes/Environmental Risk Assessment Management;
- Process Plant Safety Symposium
- 15th Ethylene Producers Conference
- 6th Topical Conference on Refinery Processing
- 3rd Topical Conference on Natural Gas Utilization;
- 2nd Topical Conference on Fuel Cell Technology;
- Green Chemical Engineering;
- Distillation
- 2nd Aromatics Producers Conference
- Using Information Technology to Increase Profitability and Productivity in the Process Industries; and,
- Process Intensification & Microreaction Technology

Speakers and Special Sessions

The meeting will also include keynote addresses by internationally renowned speakers, as well as the two new sessions in AIChE's highly successful Critical Issues series described below.

The Free Resource: Water Issues and Management: It is estimated that humanity is currently using half of all available fresh-water—double the amount used 35 years ago. It is also estimated that human water use will increase by another 40 percent in the next two decades. So what are we to do?



New Orleans, home to Mardi Gras, Zydeco, and the French Quarter, will play host to AIChE this Spring.

Is the world running out of water, or are water issues regional and logistical? How should a scarce resource—yet one traditionally free—be priced? Who should own and operate water systems? A panel of four speakers, representing government, engineering, industry and society perspectives, will present the facts, and address the issues involved in the development of more effective water use technologies and practices.

Terrorism: Industry and the Public Respond: It's in the news and on everyone's mind—the possibility that terrorist attacks on petroleum, chemical, and nuclear facilities could cause catastrophic damage and releases of hazardous materials. How vulnerable are these facilities, and what can be done to protect them? How can we balance the public's right to know against the danger that terrorists can easily access critical data? Leaders from industry, government, public interest groups, and others will discuss these and other issues in this very important forum.

Plant security and safety will also be addressed by a number of distinguished speakers. John L. Henshaw, assistant secretary of labor for occupational safety and health, and administrator of OSHA, has been invited to present an update on the role of that agency in plant safety. Rick Williams, security center manager ExxonMobil North America Operations, will speak on Facility Security in a post-9/11 environment. In a more tradition vein, the conference's Ethylene and Fuels and Petrochemical Conferences will feature presentations by Dr. Wenent Pan, president of the Chinese Petroleum Corporation in Taiwan; Dr. Claude Jablon, senior vice president of TotalFinaElf, Paris, France; Keith M. Meyer, vice president of business development, LNG, and supply of CMS Energy Panhandle Companies.

"Lagniappe"*

A full slate of short courses and tutorials round out the program, including: "Introduction to Cybersecurity for Process Control Systems;" "Green Engineering;" "Planning, Preparing, and Delivering Successful Presentations;" "What Went Wrong? Chemical Plant Accidents;" "Refining Overview" and "Inspiration and Influence for Leadership: The Art of Clear Communication."

So, come by plane, train, or streetcar to the AIChE Spring National Meeting and "Laissez les Bon Temps Rouler" (Let the Good Times Roll)." For registration information, see www.aiche.org/conferences/spring/ or call 1-800-242-4363.

* Creole French for "a little something extra."

In the Running?

AIChE members interested in putting themselves, or a deserving friend on the ballot for Vice President, Secretary, or Director, may file as petition candidates with the Office of the Secretary, AIChE, 3 Park Avenue, New York, NY 10016-5991. You can file as a petition candidate by submitting the support, in writing, of 100 or more Fellows, Members, or Associate Members, by signed petition or via e-mail. For more information, please contact Fiona Brennan, Assistant Secretary, at (212) 591-7333 or e-mail fiob@aiiche.org.

Please remember that nominees for Vice President and Secretary must have previously served as a national Officer or Director. **Deadline to file for petition candidacy is May 23, 2002.**

Upcoming Meetings in 2003

The Seventh Annual Green Chemistry & Engineering Conference, will be held June 23-26, 2003, at the National Academy of Sciences in Washington, DC. AIChE and the American Chemical Society are two of the 10 sponsors for the conference, which will feature both oral and poster presentations addressing topics in green chemistry and engineering research, education, or industrial implementation. For more information, go to the conference Web site at chemistry.org/meetings/greenchem2003.html.

AIChE's **Center for Chemical Process Safety (CCPS)** will hold its **18th Annual International Conference and Workshop** from September 23-25, 2003, at the Marriott Camelback Inn Resort & Spa in Scottsdale, AZ. "Management of Reactive Chemistry Hazards and High Energy Release Events in the Chemicals, Petroleum, and Pharmaceuticals Industries" is the theme for the conference, which will address such topics as state-of-the-art methodology in testing methods, inherently safer processes and products, and risk-based inspection for accident investigation and reconstruction. Deadline to submit abstracts is February 28, 2003. For more information, see www.aiche.org/ccps/icw.

Save the Date!

2003 AIChE Leadership Development Conference

June 6-8, 2003

Hosted by: North Jersey Section

"Charting the Future: Creative Leadership Techniques for a Changing World," is the theme for this year's Leadership Development Conference. AIChE invites you to discover ways to enhance the visibility of your section/forum/committee, develop new membership recruitment and retention tools, and learn new techniques to motivate and reward volunteers—all while networking with your peers. For more information, go to www.aiche.org/mag/leadercon.

Delaware Valley Section Hosts CEO Lecture Series on Battleship *New Jersey*



DVS leaders pose with tour guides aboard the battleship after presenting them with certificates.

On September 18, 2002, the Delaware Valley Local Section (DVS) kicked off its year by bringing more than 400 people together on the fantail of the Battleship *New Jersey* for its 6th Annual AIChE CEO Lecture Series. The event drew a record-breaking 430 attendees, representing a variety of organizations—including AIChE, MIT Alumni Club, the American Society of Mechanical Engineers, CDMA, Valero (formerly Mobil Paulsboro), Sunoco, Merck, Jacobs, KEEL, Air Products, and Johnson Matthey—for a moonlit night aboard the massive battleship. It also set a section record for student attendance, with 51 chemical engineering students from Drexel University, the University of Pennsylvania, Rowan University, and Villanova University making the trip.

The *New Jersey*, called the "Big J," completed her final voyage at the Philadelphia Naval Ship Yard on Veterans Day 1999 and



Keynote speaker Paul Brochu of Valero

is now a floating museum on the Delaware River along the Camden waterfront. Attendees were given the opportunity to tour the ship from bow to stern, and enjoy views of the Philadelphia skyline and dinner on the fantail. Later, Paul Brochu, vice president and general manager for the Valero Paulsboro, NJ, refinery, delivered a keynote address, and then Valero's own band, High Octane, provided entertainment.

NATIONAL ENGINEERS WEEK 2003: NEW TALENT AND FRESH FACES



Vitality and diversity will be front and center for National Engineers Week 2003, to be celebrated February 16-23, with the launch of "The New Faces in Engineering." This program spotlights outstanding contributions by America's youngest professional engineers.

For the past several years, National Engineers Week activities have targeted students in an effort to expand the potential ranks of "the engineers of tomorrow." For the National Engineers Week Committee, the coalition of engineering societies and corporations that sponsor the week's activities, the "New Faces" program is a logical extension of those efforts and a chance to showcase the exciting new talents that epitomize the dynamic

innovations and advancements that are engineering.

The "New Faces of Engineering" initiative is sponsored by the American Society of Heating, Refrigerating and Air-Conditioning Engineers, Inc. (ASHRAE) and Lockheed Martin, both co-chairs of National Engineers Week '03. For more information on this program, or for other ways you or your section/chapter can get involved, go to www.eweek.org.

"Honor Roll" Pt. 2: AIChE Committee and Division Award Winners

Continuing our list of 2002 Award Winners started in the December issue, here is a quick round-up of "who won what" Committee and Division awards. *Extra's* list concludes next month with Student award winners.

	Recipient	Affiliation	Sponsor
Best Ph.D. Thesis Award (Particle Tech. Forum)	Himanshu Gupta	Ohio State University	Procter & Gamble
Lectureship Award in Fluidization (Particle Tech. Forum)	Dimitri Gidaspow	Illinois Inst. of Technology	Fluor Daniel Foundation
Particle Technology Forum Award	Brian Kaye	Laurentian University	E.I. duPont de Nemours & Co.
Thomas Baron Award in Fluid-Particle Systems	Darsh Wasan	Illinois Institute of Technology	Shell Development Company
CAST Directors Awards	Hong Chen	University of Kansas	CAST Division
	Kenneth A. Bishop	University of Kansas	CAST Division
	Kyle V. Camarda	University of Kansas	CAST Division
	Yuan He	University of Kansas	CAST Division
Computing in Chemical Engineering Award (CAST)	Manfred Morari	ETH Zurich, Auto. Control Lab	Dow Chemical Company
Computing Practice Award (CAST)	Marshall Rafal	Oli Systems	Elsevier Science Ltd. & Aspen Tech.
Catalysis & Reaction Engineering Practice Award (Catalysis & Reaction Eng. Div.)	Teh C. Ho	ExxonMobil	Merck & Company, Inc.
Charles M.A. Stine Award (Materials & Eng. Sci. Div.)	Richard A. Register	Princeton University	E.I. duPont de Nemours & Co.
Clarence (Larry) G. Gerhold Award (Separations Div.)	Norman N. Li	NL Chemical Technology, Inc.	UOP
Engineering and Const. Contracting Div. Award	Jeet S. Bindra	Chevron Research & Tech. Co	ECC Division
Excellence in Process Development Research (Proc. Dev. Div.)	Ka Ng	Hong Kong Univ of Sci. & Tech.	Pharmacia
Food, Pharm. & Bioeng. Division Award	Bernard Palsson	Univ. of California-San Diego	E.I. duPont de Nemours & Co.
Gary Leach Award	Equip. Test. Proc. Comm.		Executive Committee
	National Capital LS		Executive Committee
Institute Lecturer	Robert S. Langer	Mass Inst. of Technology	National Program Committee
Lawrence K. Cecil Award in Env. Chemical Eng. (Env. Div.)	Subhas K. Sikdar	U.S. EPA	BP America
North American Mixing Forum Award	Ronald J. Weetman	Lightnin	Procter & Gamble Company
Robert E. Wilson Award (Nuc. Eng. Div.)	Rowland E. Felt	U.S. Department of Energy	Fluor Daniel Foundation
MAC Outstanding Scholastic Achievement Award	Jamaica L. Prince	University of Florida	Minority Affairs Committee
Minority Affairs Comm. Distinguished Service Award	Kelly Bryant	U.S. Vanadium Corp.	Minority Affairs Committee
William W. Grimes Award for Excellence in ChE.	Cato T. Laurencin	Drexel University	Minority Affairs Committee

2002 AIChE Fellows

The following individuals were elected to the rank of Fellow in 2002.

Habib Amin, P.E.

Sr. Consultant, Contra Costa Health Services

John C. Berg

University of Washington

H. Bruce Cranford, Jr., P.E.

Retired - U.S. DOE

Dianne Dorland

Dean, Rowan University &
2003 AIChE President

Arthur M. Dowell III

Sr. Technical Fellow, Rohm and Haas Co.

Vasilis Fthenakis

Sr. Chemical Engineer, Brookhaven
National Laboratory

William R. Gustafson

President, Englehard Corp.

William J. Koros

Georgia Institute of Technology

Y.A. Liu

Virginia Polytechnic Inst. & State Univ.

Frank Notaro

Mgr., Technical Assessment, Praxair, Inc.

Mihail C. Roco

Senior Advisor, National Science Foundation

Farhang Shadman

University of Arizona

Joseph A. Shaeiwitz

West Virginia University

Gregory N. Tragitt

Sr. Consultant, KBC Advanced Technologies

Bipin V. Vora

Director/UOP Fellow, UOP, LLC

Walter P. Walawender

Kansas State University

Alfred E. Wechsler

Retired - A.D. Little

Jost O.L. Wendt

University of Arizona

Ronald J. Willey

Northeastern University

Obituaries

Pradeep Agarwal, 46

Laramie, WY

Kenneth S. Barnhill, 74

Albuquerque, NM

Sidney J. Baum, 86

Camarillo, CA

Leonard Cordone, 56

Rochester, NY

Harlan L. Feldkirchner, 71

Fitchburg, WI

Floyd Kallam, 101

Arcadia, CA

Gustave G. Kutzko, 77

Cincinnati, OH

Melvin Lieberstein, 68

Paramus, NJ

Ralph Luebbers, 96

Columbia, MO

Lawrence G. Molique, 87

Sun City West, AZ

Paul R. Moore, 88

Aiken, SC

J. Madison Nelson, 80

Tampa, FL

James B. O'Hara, 80

Oceanside, CA

Charles Peters, 54

Raritan, NJ

Gilbert G. Schneider, 79

Tucson, AZ

In the past, a summary outlining discussions and actions at the Board and Executive Committee Meetings has been printed in AIChE Extra. Because of space constraints, this summary will now instead be posted on our Web site at www.aiche.org/about/precis.htm. If you would like a hard copy of this document, please contact Fiona Brennan at 212/591-7333, fiob@aiiche.org.

Check the AIChE "News Room" at www.aiche.org/newsroom/ for additional information and photographs of award winners, Fellows, and other "members of distinction."

A WORK IN PROGRESS: Continuing the Transformation

by Dianne Dorland, 2003 AIChE President



All right, let's give history its due, acknowledge the obvious, and get it out of the way. I am the first woman elected to the post of AIChE

President. But, I definitely have mixed emotions about being advertised as "the first" for two reasons. For one, in some ways, it shortchanges my accomplishment in reaching this level of leadership—as if my gender was a more important factor in my election than my years of experience as an engineer and my many contributions to AIChE. Even more than that, in the 21st Century, it's a bit embarrassing that a woman holding such a post would be considered "news."

But, the fact is that I am "the first," which gives me an opportunity to address an issue I feel is critical to the advancement of AIChE and, more importantly, to the rapidly morphing profession the Institute serves. That is, the need to encourage diversity in all its forms, be it gender, ethnic background, physical challenges, orientation, or even the subtler differences of geographic regions. We need to encourage innovative problem-solving as we face the challenges ahead of us.

As a bellwether of diversity growth in the profession—at least in terms of gender diversity—AIChE has offered something of a mixed message. It has lagged a bit behind its sister societies in terms of women reaching its top leadership position. The American Society of Mechanical Engineers was led by its first female president in 1986, and the American Chemical Society has already had at least two women serve in that position. Yet, in other ways, AIChE has produced a true reading of women's growing importance. Since the 1970s, the point at which people began to seriously track these numbers, chemical engineering programs have seen a steady increase in the percentage of women making up undergraduate and graduate classes, and the ranks of the Institute. I was the only woman ChemE graduate in my class in 1969, and several years later, AIChE's 1971 *Salary Survey* showed that women made up only 0.5 percent of its membership. Ten years later, the number had climbed to 5.6 percent, and now, based on a recent query of our database, it's at

about 19 percent. And, based on statistics prepared for a Women's Initiatives Committee study earlier this year, women now account for 39.5 percent of the total Institute membership under the age of 25.

Comparing our progress against other engineering disciplines, the chemical route is still, undoubtedly, the friendliest for women. Back in 1981, chemical engineers accounted for 20 percent of all women receiving bachelor's degrees in engineering, while civil engineering accounted for only 9 percent, mechanical for 6 percent, and electrical for 4 percent. Twenty years later, according to the Engineering Workforce Commission of the American Association of Engineering Societies, the percentage is up to 37 percent. Even more heartening, 27 percent of all the master's degrees awarded in chemical engineering in 2001 went to women, and 26 percent of the doctoral degrees.

Why is chemical engineering so much more appealing than the other disciplines? I've heard a number of theories in my time. One goes that while boys grow up tinkering with engines and cars, girls are learning about balances and proportions in the kitchen, an assumption that might contain some truth, despite its rather condescending tone. I, however, think chemical engineering's appeal has more to do with the fact that women seem to be naturally good at "parallel processing," or, in the vernacular of today's business environment, at "multi-tasking." Whether it's nature or nurture, women tend to be very good at juggling multiple projects, budgets, and deadlines, not to mention also balancing their lives between career and family in ways that, for the most part, men are still not really asked to do.

Call it a legacy, not only from our moms and the other influential women in our personal lives, but from the pioneers within our field and within AIChE, such as Margaret

Skilern, the first woman to serve the Institute as a director, and Patsy Chappellear, the first to head a division and to be named a Fellow. Both are still AIChE members and working as consultants in the greater Houston, Texas, area. And, then there's Margaret Hutchinson Rousseau, the first woman to graduate from the Ph.D. program at MIT and the first—and still only—female to be honored with AIChE's Founders Award.

The list could go on, so I'll stop here rather than risk leaving someone out. The point is that, while our journey to gender parity is not ended, we can at least measure some progress. The record of our profession, and our Institute, is not as stellar in other areas of diversity. Recently, the National Organization for the Professional Advancement of Black Chemists and Chemical Engineers (NOBCChE) reported that, in 2001, only 17 out of a total of 335 PhDs awarded in chemical engineering went to African-Americans. I don't doubt that figures for Latinos/as and Native Americans would be similar, if not worse.

I don't think this lag is a "ChemE" thing. I think it's a "math/science" thing that must be solved at the K-12 levels. It's a complicated problem that can only be solved by coalitions and partnerships between industry, universities, and, yes, associations, like AIChE. It's a tall order, but then again the stakes are quite high. It's an issue I chose to raise in my first communication with AIChE members not because of my gender, but because of my ability as a chemical engineer to see a bigger picture. Our profession and our nation are now at a crossroads. The challenges are greater, the resources, at least in terms of the economic picture, are reduced. How can we hope to steer our way through this rough patch unless everyone's oars are in the water?

AIChE SEEKS EDITOR

Process Safety Progress (PSP), an AIChE quarterly sponsored by the Safety and Health Division, is soliciting candidates for the position of Editor. The responsibilities of this non-staff position, which comes with a stipend from AIChE, include soliciting and reviewing articles, leading a diverse and active Editorial Advisory Board, and pursuing readership growth strategies through expansion to emerging sectors. For more information on the position, go to www.aiche.org/safetyprogress/editssearch.htm. To apply or nominate a colleague, contact PSP Editor Search Committee Chair Dr. Michael P. Harold at mharold@uh.edu.