

AIChE Extra

Looking for new ideas and cutting-edge strategies to support profitability? This spring, delve into fresh R&D and revive your professional networks when AIChE presents three meetings under one roof — the AIChE 2006 Spring Meeting, 2nd Global Congress on Process Safety, and the World Congress on Particle Technology, April 23–27 at Disney's Dolphin Hotel in Orlando, Florida.

What's more, participants enjoy access to all sessions in all the conferences for one registration fee. This includes the Energy Critical Issues Series, and sessions in the AIChE Spring National Meeting, 2nd Global Congress on Process Safety, 5th World Congress of Particle Technology (WCPT5), and 18th Ethylene Producers' Conference sessions at no extra charge.

2006 Program Highlights

AIChE's Critical Issues Series on Energy will continue the discussion from the Energy Forum held at the 2005 Annual Meeting, discussing how chemical engineers can best address the world's energy challenges (Box). With broad technical expertise, our members are particularly qualified to explore energy options and sift through the conflicting analyses that sometimes characterize the energy debate.

If your interest is in energy, make sure you also catch the Fuels & Petrochemicals Keynote Michelle Michot Foss, Executive Energy Economist and Head, Center for Energy Economic, Bureau of Economic Geology, University of Texas.

The 2nd Global Congress on Process Safety will examine the global demand for process safety procedures, tools and research. This meeting is a confluence of three: the 40th Loss Prevention Symposium, 21st CCPS International Conference, and the 8th Process Plant Safety Symposium. And what's more, this year the Ethylene Producers Council and the World Congress on Particle Technology will also sponsor safety sessions in conjunction with the Global Congress. It promises to be the largest gathering of process safety professionals in the world.

Global Congress keynotes include Gary Veurink, executive vice president of manufacturing & engineering, The Dow Chemical Co., and John Mogford, executive vice president of environmental health & safety and manufacturing, British Petroleum.

The co-located 5th World Congress on Particle Technology — which occurs only once every four years — offers a concentrated

Three Meetings Under One Roof

AIChE 2006 Spring Meeting • 2nd Global Congress on Process Safety • 5th World Congress on Particle Technology

agenda on powder technology including the latest developments in nanoparticle processing. Visit <http://www.wcpt5.org> for details.

The AIChE Spring Meeting will offer 14 topical conferences which are sub-conferences focused on specific technical areas (e.g., process safety) or specific industries (e.g., refining or petroleum production). All topical conferences are included in the registration fee. Typically, these conferences also offer related short courses and networking events for a small ticketed cost.

This year's AIChE Spring National topical conferences include the 18th Ethylene Producers' Conference as well as topics like micro-reactor engineering applications, natural gas utilization, process intensification, distillation, sustainability and environmental management, refinery processing, energy processes, hydrogen, and more.

When you're not in sessions, network with friends and new contacts at lunches, dinners, receptions, and in the hallways. You'll come home with new contacts and renewed connections.

With an extensive array of sessions and networking events, the 2006 AIChE Spring National Meeting delivers practical information to benefit your bottom line and advance your professional development.

For in-depth descriptions on topical conferences, sessions, and special events, visit the Spring Meeting Web site at www.aiche.org/spring. Have trouble picking from all this great programming? Use the Spring online itinerary planner.

Join us in Orlando Register Today

Early bird registration rates available through March 10. Choose from 3 easy ways to register.

➤ **Online:** Visit www.aiche.org/spring

➤ **Mail/Fax:** Download printer-friendly PDF version of registration form at <http://www.aiche.org/Spring> and fax it to 212-591-8888 or mail to AIChE, 3 Park Ave, New York NY, 10016

➤ **Phone:** Call toll-free 1-800-242-4363 or 212-591-8100 (outside of U.S.)

AIChE Hosts Energy Critical Issues Series: Invites DOE Secretary Bodman

Following the successful Energy Forum held during the 2005 Annual Meeting in Cincinnati, OH, the AIChE Commission on Energy Challenges (CEC) will host a special Energy Critical Issues Series (CIS) at the 2006 Spring Meeting in Orlando, FL. The special session, scheduled for Sunday April 23, will continue the discussion of how chemical engineers address the world's energy challenges.

The session will include discussions on how chemical engineers can help solve our energy problems by:

- Analyzing energy options through an integrated systems approach
- Quantifying metrics to evaluate energy options
- Clarifying the technical barriers to and societal impacts of energy development

Department of Energy Secretary Samuel Bodman, a chemical engineer and AIChE member, is among the invited speakers at this special Critical Issues Series. He leads the Department of Energy with a budget in excess of \$23 billion and over 100,000 federal and contractor employees.

The Energy CIS is among a number technical sessions, keynote addresses, and events at the meeting which underscores AIChE members' focus on timely energy issues. Information is available on AIChE's web www.aiche.org/energy. Any comments and suggestions may be directed to energy@aiche.org.

Upcoming AIChE Events & Deadlines

Local Section Regional Meeting

On February 21, the North Jersey Local Section will host a regional local section meeting for all local section members in New York, New Jersey, Connecticut, and Pennsylvania at NJIT in Newark, NJ. Representatives from AIChE's affiliate benefit partners will be there to speak on:

- Professional Liability Insurance
- Financial products
- Small business and personal insurance products

Bring a colleague and hear how membership in AIChE can help you protect your practice and help you plan for your personal and professional financial future. For more information, please contact Anette Ngijol at anets@aiche.org

Leadership Development Conference

Mark your calendar for June 2–4, for the 2006 Leadership Development Conference in Houston, TX. Hosted by the South Texas Local Section, the conference will provide a venue for networking, professional development, and discussion of AIChE programs for volunteer leaders in local sections, divisions/forums, committees, and operating councils.

Call for Nominations: Awards

2006 Institute and Board Award nominations are now being accepted, with a deadline of February 15. The AIChE Web site contains descriptions and information on how to nominate, see: <http://www.aiche.org/About/Awards/InstituteandBoard.aspx>.

2006 AIChE Conference Calendar

For information and to register visit www.aiche.org/conferences or call Customer Service at 1-800-242-4363 or 1-212-591-8100 (outside the U.S.)

2006 Spring National Meeting and 2nd Global Congress on Process Safety

- 40th Annual Loss Prevention Symposium
- 21st Annual CCPS International Conference
- 8th Process Plant Safety Symposium

Plus, the 5th World Congress on Particle Technology

April 23–27, 2006 • Disney's Dolphin Hotel • Orlando, FL

Offshore Technology Conference — OTC.06

May 1–4, 2006 • Reliant Center • Houston, TX

Process Development Symposium

Learn from the Past, Plan for the Future

June 11–14, 2006 • Doral Desert Princess Resort • Palm Springs, CA

Safety in Ammonia Plants and Related Facilities Symposium

September 10–14, 2006 • Hyatt Regency • Vancouver, Canada

2006 Annual Meeting

November 12–17, 2006 • San Francisco Hilton • San Francisco, CA

Are you in the news?

Tell *Extra* about your recent award or latest research.

Or share information on innovative new programs you think members would like to hear about.

Email us at news@aiche.org.

The World at Your Fingertips: AIChE Electronic Resources

Knovel ChemE Library

In the past 12 months, AIChE members have logged onto Knovel over 17,000 times. Knovel is the leading online library of key engineering and scientific references, handbooks, standards and databases. Unlike other services, Knovel lets you interactively manipulate and search for content across the entire collection. If you're not already taking advantage of this valuable access — exclusively for AIChE members — start today at www.aiche.org/knovel.

Newly Launched AIChE Web Site

Reengineered with constant member input, AIChE's new Web site www.aiche.org features bundles of new features. The site features simpler, three-click navigation and a vastly improved search function. Members can log in for members-only content — like *CEP* articles, documents, and directories, pay their dues online and even update their own contact information. There are also new sites for the Center for Chemical Process Safety (CCPS), Institute for Sustainability (IFS) and Society for Biological Engineering (SBE). Come see the difference at www.aiche.org.

AIChE Call for Papers

2006 Safety in Ammonia Plants and Related Facilities Symposium

May 1, 2006

2006 Annual Meeting

May 1, 2006

22nd Annual CCPS International Conference

September 2006

2007 Spring National Meeting

November 14, 2006

41st Annual Loss Prevention Symposium

November 14, 2006

9th Process Plant Safety Symposium

November 14, 2006

2007 Process Development Symposium

October 14, 2006

*Conference dates may be extended or changed. Please check AIChE's website for the most current dates.

Member News

Glenn Taylor, Former AIChE Executive Director Honored as 2005 Distinguished Graduate

Outstanding professional records, commitment to education, public service and other significant contributions have earned five University of Texas at Austin alumni the honor of Distinguished Graduate of the College of Engineering. Only five of the university's more than 50,000 engineering alumni earned the honor this year.

One distinguished graduate is Glenn E. Taylor, a retired chemical engineer and former executive director of the American Institute of Chemical Engineers. Taylor was honored by the College's Engineering Foundation Advisory Council at the fall commencement ceremonies on Dec. 9.

After receiving a bachelor's degree in chemical engineering from The University of Texas at Austin, Taylor started his multifaceted career at Diamond Alkali. He spent 20 years with the company, which later became Diamond Shamrock Corp. During those years, he served in process engineering and development, as an operations supervisor, a technical manager, a plant manager, and eventually a division operations manager. Five of those years were spent on assignment in Colombia, South America, and in Mexico as part of the International Division.

In the late 1970s, Taylor applied his diverse expertise in leading a privately owned instrumentation company, where he



The 2005 Distinguished Graduates are joined by Dean Streetman at the graduation ceremony. From left to right: Glenn E. Taylor, W.E. Findley Jr., Jack P. Randall, Dean Streetman, Dr. David Fowler, and Jeffery D. Hildebrand. Photo by Jennie Trower.

served as president for four years. He then joined Engelhard Corp. in New Jersey as director of manufacturing in the Pigments Division, eventually assuming overall responsibility for that business unit.

After five years in that position, Taylor became the corporation's vice president of joint ventures and manufacturing services. He was responsible for purchasing, environmental, health, and safety aspects of manufacturing, and for joint ventures the company pursued in Japan and Korea. His leadership skills were also tapped when he oversaw a team that developed a corporate-wide strategy for the company's business in Asia and the Pacific.

He retired from Engelhard in 1996, but his strong work ethic and broad knowledge

led him to assume the position of executive director of the American Institute of Chemical Engineers (AIChE). As director for five years, Taylor implemented a new strategic plan that involved the first major governance change in 30 years. He played an instrumental role in forming the North American Alliance of Chemical Engineers and the World Chemical Engineering Council. And he whetted his appetite for educating young engineers by teaching a course at the University of Virginia on topics that included communications, teams, ethics and intellectual property.

That interest in education continues to this day, while the transplanted Texan who lives in New Jersey helps operate a school for underprivileged children in Honduras, and volunteers with the AIChE and his church. He also maintains an active interest in Longhorn Sports and the College of Engineering as a member of the Engineering Foundation Advisory Committee and in Friends of Alec.

The four other distinguished graduates are W.E. Findley, Jr., an oil service industry executive; Dr. David Fowler, a professor of architectural engineering at the University; Jeffery D. Hildebrand, an oil industry consultant; and Jack P. Randall, a consultant for oil industry mergers and acquisitions.

Member Loo Wins First O'Donnell Award for Cutting-Edge Research

Member Lynn Loo, assistant professor in chemical engineering and a General Dynamics Endowed Faculty Fellow in Engineering at the University of Texas at Austin, received the first annual Edith and Peter O'Donnell Award, recognizing cutting-edge research in Texas.

Sponsored by the Academy of Medicine, Engineering and Science of Texas (TAMEST) the Edith and Peter O'Donnell Award was established to recognize outstanding scientific achievements of the state's up-and-coming researchers. The award is backed by a \$2 million endowment and will provide three annual grants of up to \$25,000 to pioneering academics in the fields of science, medicine and engineering. Award recipients were chosen by a TAMEST selection committee.

In addition to Loo, Gerard Karsenty, Professor of Molecular and Human Genetics, Baylor College of Medicine, and Michael Rosen, Ph. D. Professor in Biochemistry and Pharmacology,



University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center, received the award.

At the University of Texas, Loo's research lies at the intersection of polymer chemistry and physics, materials science, and solid state electronics. Currently, her work focuses on structural development in organic electrically-active materials and how these structures impact macroscopic electrical properties.

Loo has received many awards for her research, including the Camille and Henry Dreyfus New Faculty Award (2002), the DuPont Young Professor Grant (2003), the NSF-CAREER Award (2004) and the Arnold and Mabel Beckman Young Investigator Award (2005). In 2004, Loo was selected as one of the Top 100 Young Innovators Under 35 by MIT's Technology Review for inventing nanotransfer printing — a contact printing technique for establishing efficient electrical contacts to mechanically fragile organic materials.

AIChE Advocate: Edwin Lee Ekhholm

June 28, 1925 – January 2, 2006

Ed Ekhholm, a Fellow of AIChE, former member of the Board of Directors, and winner of the Founders Award, died January 2, 2006. He was 80.

Although having worked primarily for large corporations, including a chemical engineering consulting firm he co-founded, Ekhholm always believed AIChE should be a member's professional home. He remained vigorously active in AIChE throughout a career that spanned the golden age of chemical engineering. W.B. Franklin of Exxon (then Humble Oil) first introduced Ekhholm to the South Texas Section in late 1946. He went on to become Chair of the Section in 1968, a member of AIChE Board of Directors from 1970–1972, and elected a Fellow shortly thereafter.

Ekhholm brought an organizer's zeal to his passions of networking, self-education, and technology. His idea of networking was to do someone a favor. A friend recounts that Ekhholm once called inquiring whether he was interested in a career change, and several days later the friend found himself employed with a new company. With Houston mired in the chemical engineering recession of the 1980s, Ekhholm played the formative role in creating an employment service staffed by volunteers from the South Texas Section. Today, that group has combined forces with the American Chemical Society and has placed literally hundreds of engineers and chemists over the last two decades.

Interested in education, he was a member of the industrial advisory boards at Texas A&M and at Prairie View University. At the age of 74, convinced there existed an unmet desire for refining knowledge,



Ekhholm and colleagues presented a series of lectures on refining that cumulated in the 2000 publication of the "Refining Overview" CD, sponsored by the AIChE Fuels & Petrochemicals Division and the South Texas Section. For their effort, the group was awarded the Gary Leach Recognition Award, which recognizes the activities of a group whose performance shows significant accomplishments toward the Institute's mission.

Ekhholm was born June 28, 1925 in Strawn, TX, and matriculated at Georgia Tech. However, with one term remaining, his college was interrupted by two years in the U.S. Marine Corps. He returned to Georgia Tech for his BS degree in chemical engineering in 1946. He joined Exxon's Baytown Refinery just in time to participate in the explosion of the petrochemical industry, where he worked on chemicals from Fisher Tropsch, butyl rubber, ethylene, and a host of aromatic chemicals and thermoplastics.

In 1958, after 12 years at Exxon, Ekhholm, with three colleagues, left to form The Pace Co., one of the early chemical engineering

consulting firms specializing in refinery and chemical technology and which is now part of the Jacobs Engineering organization. In 1962, he became technical director of Allied Chemical's Union Texas Petroleum Corp., assisting in Allied Chemical's switch to petrochemical technology. In 1966, he joined the Bechtel Corp. where he served in management positions in the U.S. and overseas as director of Bechtel's Technical Assistance Program for the Venezuelan Oil Industry.

Retiring in 1983, he established a private consulting practice specializing in environmental assessments and technical and marketing evaluations. He first became interested in environmental affairs when he participated in the founding of AIChE's Environmental Division. He engaged his consulting practice to help the chemical industry establish a non-profit remediation company, Clean Sites Inc. He also served on the Stringfellow Superfund Site Steering Committee in Southern California.

For his distinguished record of both technical and professional service, Ekhholm was awarded the Founders Award for Outstanding Contributions to the Field of Chemical Engineering in 1990. One of AIChE's most prestigious awards, the Founders Award is presented to a member of AIChE who has had an important impact on chemical engineering.

In 2004, the AIChE South Texas Section established the "Ed L. Ekhholm Award for Distinguished Leadership" to honor Ekhholm for his many years of service. The latter award is to be presented every three to five years to honor demonstrated continued leadership on behalf of the AIChE South Texas Section.

Remembering Curry Ford

Curry Ford, a Fellow of AIChE, passed away Friday, December 16 in New Canaan, CT. A graduate of Purdue University, Ford was vice president and general manager of the Carbon Products Division of Union Carbide and during World War II participated in the Manhattan Project.

Ford received several U.S. and foreign patents, one of the most notable being the original on graphite fibers, which has been used since then in golf clubs, tennis racquets, rocket heat shields and military aircraft. Ford and Charles Mitchell patented a process for making fibers by heat-

treating rayon to temperatures up to 3,000°C. This produced the strongest commercial carbon fibers to date, which led to the entry of carbon fibers into the "advanced composites" industry in 1963.

Ford received numerous honors, including AIChE's Charles M. A. Stine Award for outstanding contributions in the area of materials engineering and science. Professional honors also include being named Distinguished Engineering Alumnus of Purdue University, president of the Federation of Materials Societies, trustee of United Engineering and recipient of the Cleveland Chemical Professional Award.

OBITUARIES

Ed L. Ekhholm*, 80, Houston, TX

Curry E. Ford*, 95, West Redding, CT

James Francis, 78, Houston, TX

Bernard Alvin Hart, 75, Friendswood, TX

Francis E. Keller, 71, Boise, ID

Michael T. Mills, 59, Westford, MA

Willard C. Smith, 90, Cuyahoga Falls, OH

Saleh Witwit, 56, Woodbridge, ON, Canada

Andrew H. Younger, 84, Calgary AB, Canada

* AIChE Fellow