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Editorial



Changes and Additions to CEP

After taking three months of maternity leave, I've finally made my way back into the workforce. And now that I've welcomed the latest addition to my family, it's appropriate for me to update you on the latest additions to CEP:

- One of the first things many readers may have noticed is that *AICHEXtra*, the department that covers Institute and member activities, was missing from the table of contents in the January issue. In fact, *AICHEXtra* has not disappeared, but rather has been moved into the news section, *Update*, and renamed *Institute News*. Member news continues to be vital to CEP, so please share your achievements and activities with us by sending an email to cepedit@aiche.org.

- In leading up to the celebration of AICHE's centennial in 2008, CEP, with the help of the Centennial Committee, has launched the *Centennial Corner*, which made its first appearance on p. 62 of the Nov. 2006 issue. Another one ran on p. 62 of the Dec. 2006 issue discussing the life of Carroll Hochwalt, the developer of the laundry detergent "All." The latest installment is on p. 18 of this issue. It's an interesting anecdote by Richard Snow recalling the days before the computer became a ubiquitous part of the workplace. If you have a story that you'd like to share, please email Barry Tarmy at bltarmy@comcast.net or the editors of CEP at cepedit@aiche.org. If you want to learn more about the planned centennial activities, visit www.aiche.org/about/centennial/index.aspx.

- Starting with this issue, process automation expert, Terry McMahon, will be joining CEP as a contributing editor. Writing a quarterly column, McMahon will be sharing his insights on the process automation industry. In his first contribution, he focuses on the value of roundtable discussions as a tool that can benefit not only the pharmaceutical industry (e.g., Pharmaceutical Automation Roundtable), but all of chemical process industries (p. 25).

- Making a comeback, after a year of absence, is the *Critical Issues Forum*. While we have covered topics from the hydrogen economy to genetically modified foods, this month, we will be discussing how to evaluate futuristic technologies without having to spend thousands or millions of dollars (p. 10). We want to continue to be at the forefront of discussion on subjects that impact society and where chemical engineers can make a difference. A natural subject of discussion continues to be securing our energy future, which we will cover in later issues. Is there a subject that you feel passionately about that fits our objectives for the *Critical Issues Forum*? We want to hear from you.

- And, continuing on our mission to be an essential resource for chemical engineers, we have either launched or revamped three new sections of CEP, which now highlight products and services that are available for purchase. Check out CEP Ad-Lits (p. 53) for informative engineering literature, CEP Showcase (p. 54) for various products and services, and CEP Marketplace (p. 56) for equipment (i.e., boilers, heat exchangers, machinery), software and consulting services.

These new departments will further increase the value of CEP. Plus, I hope that many of you will take the time to write back and share your ideas for the *Centennial Corner* and *Critical Issues Forum*.

Kristine Chin,
Publisher & Editor-in-Chief