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Carrying On the IYC Legacy

In recognition of 2011 as the International Year of Chemistry (IYC), a category on one episode of the popular game show *Jeopardy!* featured answers about a scientist who received the Nobel Prize in chemistry 100 years ago, an exhaled gas identified by Joseph Black, anhydrides, atoms with the same nuclear charge but different masses, and the EELS technique for analyzing solids. (Go to <http://chenected.aiche.org> and search for Jeopardy to watch the video and test your own knowledge. Only 44% of the ChEnected readers who answered our online poll got them all correct.)

An important goal of IYC is to increase public appreciation of chemistry in meeting the world's needs, specifically in addressing the global challenges of clean air, safe water, dependable medicines, advanced materials, and sustainable energy. Long after IYC comes to a close, chemical engineers and chemists will continue working to meet these challenges, with two new Institute programs leading the way.

The AICHE Center for Energy Initiatives was formed last year to help engineers and scientists, working from multiple perspectives, to network, exchange ideas, and collaborate to advance energy efforts. The Center has already undertaken research and education projects, including the coordination of a significant carbon management effort of the leading engineering societies. It has also made awards for K-12 energy education, and developed a Speakers Academy of energy experts. Work is underway on an inter-society, inter-disciplinary project to develop energy metrics for consistent comparison of diverse energy options. And, the Center is developing energy education modules for undergraduate chemical engineers.

The AICHE Water Initiative was launched in late 2010 to advance chemical engineers' contributions to helping a broad range of industries make the most of the water we have today without risking tomorrow's supplies. The Initiative will address the challenges of water quality, security, and sustainability through workshops, conferences, webinars, and educational outreach, spearheading collaboration and advancing shared technology goals.

The AICHE International Year of Chemistry Gala, which will take place on Tuesday, Nov. 15 at Gotham Hall in New York City, will benefit these two important programs. The gala will honor corporate executives whose leadership has been key to the success that chemical engineers have had in meeting society's environmental, energy, healthcare, food, and materials needs. Among those being recognized are: Marvin O. Schlanger, Chairman of LyondellBasell; Sheri S. McCoy, Vice Chairman at Johnson & Johnson; and Stephanie A. Burns, Chairman of Dow Corning. John Televantos, principal of Arsenal Capital Partners, is the gala chair.

Why not join the celebration by becoming a Gala Benefactor, Underwriter, Patron, or Friend, by attending the dinner, or by making a tax-deductible contribution. For more information and to download the early-reservation form, visit www.aiche.org/iycgala.

What better way to wrap up this year-long celebration than by paying it forward through support of the AICHE International Year of Chemistry Gala?

Cynthia F. Mascone
Editor-in-Chief

