



JOHN CHEN, AIChE FELLOW AND FORMER PRESIDENT

John C. Chen, the Carl R. Anderson Professor Emeritus of Chemical Engineering at Lehigh Univ. (Bethlehem, PA), and AIChE's president in 2006, died suddenly on Dec. 30, 2013.

Chen was an internationally known scholar of transport phenomena in multiphase systems and a pioneer in heat transfer theory and practice. His 1966 paper entitled "Correlation for Boiling Heat Transfer to Saturated Fluids in Convective Flow" developed the "Chen Method" of predicting the rate at which heat must be transferred to a liquid to make it boil. The method became the standard for designing vapor-liquid boiling systems used in the chemical, power, refrigeration, petroleum, nuclear, and gas industries.

Chen began his chemical engineering studies at Cooper Union and Carnegie Mellon Univ., where he earned BS and MS degrees, respectively. After completing his PhD in chemical engineering at the Univ. of Michigan in 1961, he worked as a researcher at Brookhaven National Laboratory before joining the Lehigh Univ. faculty in 1970.

At Lehigh, Chen's research interests and expertise enabled him to be a professor of both mechanical and chemical engineering. He chaired the chemical engineering department (1983–1989) and served as dean of Lehigh's P. C. Rossin College of Engineering and Applied Science (1999–2001).

Chen's leadership roles in AIChE were varied and wide reaching. He chaired the Heat Transfer and Energy Conversion Div. in 1983, and in the early 1990s he was a founding member and leader of the Particle Technology Forum. He served as an AIChE director (1994–1997) and was elected Institute Secretary for 2001–2003. The next year, he was elected President-elect, and he served as President in 2006.



Projects launched during his presidency included AIChE's Energy Initiative and the International Committee.

Chen published more than 200 technical articles. Among his numerous honors were the Melville Medal for archival literature and the Classic Paper Award from the American Society of Mechanical Engineers (ASME); the Alexander von Humboldt Senior Research Award; the Max Planck Research Prize; and the Max Jakob Memorial Award. In 2012, he was the inaugural recipient of the World Scientific Award in Boiling and Condensing Heat Transfer.

A Fellow of AIChE, Chen's honors from the Institute included the D. Q. Kern Award, the Heat Transfer and Energy Conversion Division Award, and the Particle Technology Forum's Thomas Baron Award in Fluid-Particle Systems.

As recently as Nov. 2013, Chen served as a plenary speaker at AIChE's Annual Meeting in San Francisco, CA, where he also took part in a video interview about career choices for young chemical engineers. The interview is available at <http://chenected.aiche.org/students>.

Chen was a member of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, and served on the governing boards of the Council for Chemical Research, Engineering Conferences International, and the Chemical Heritage Foundation.

In 2012, after his retirement from Lehigh Univ., the chemical engineering department established the John C. Chen Prize for Professional Leadership, which is awarded to a chemical engineering undergraduate and consists of a multi-year membership in AIChE upon the student's graduation.

Chen is survived by his wife, Kathy; two sons, Chris and Peter; a daughter, Lisa; and eight grandchildren.

Jack Weaver, Former AIChE Director of Technical Programs

Jack Weaver, a former director of AIChE's Technical Programs, including AIChE's Center for Chemical Process Safety (CCPS), Center for Waste Reduction Technologies (CWRT), Design Institute of Physical Properties (DIPPR), and Education, died on Dec. 11, 2013, in Meadowbrook, PA. He was 76.

After earning his PhD in chemical engineering at the Univ. of Delaware, Weaver spent most of his chemical engineering career at Rohm and Haas, starting in research in 1969 and retiring in 1990 as Vice President for Environmental, Health and Safety, and Engineering. He subsequently joined the AIChE staff as director of CWRT, taking on additional responsibilities through the 1990s, and retiring

in 2002. Many of Weaver's notable contributions were made to CCPS and the process safety community at large, including the *Business Case for Process Safety*, which laid the foundation for the acceptance of process safety as a business responsibility.

Upon his retirement from AIChE, Weaver joined the social justice organization Esperanza, Inc., and served as dean of Esperanza College of Eastern Univ. He also volunteered as a science presenter at Philadelphia's Franklin Institute and as a docent at the Philadelphia Zoo, where he shared his enthusiasm for wildlife and the natural environment.

He is survived by his wife of 48 years, Linda, and a daughter, Sonya.