



MeetingPreview

SPOTLIGHT ON A DIVERSE PROFESSION AIChE Annual Meeting, Nov. 16–21, Atlanta, GA

Forward-looking perspectives on the always-evolving chemical engineering field will be framed by examinations of the discipline's fundamentals when AIChE takes its 2014 Annual Meeting to Atlanta, GA. Held at the Atlanta Marriott Marquis and Hilton Atlanta, the Annual Meeting will consist of more than 700 sessions across nearly two dozen program tracks — where speakers will discuss the latest research and technologies in the areas of biological engineering, alternative energy, fuels and petrochemicals, pharmaceuticals, chemical engineering education, separations, materials science, particle technology, nanotechnology, environmental engineering, and much more.

In keeping with this wide spectrum of interests, the meeting will showcase both the diversity of the profession's specializations as well as its practitioners. Professional development considerations, including workplace issues and entrepreneurship, will be explored at a special forum conducted by AIChE's Minority Affairs Committee and at a workshop devoted to Women's Workplace Retention and Re-entry (see related article, pp. 60–61, 64).

On the international scene, AIChE's meeting programmers will collaborate on sessions with Japan's Society of Chemical Engineering, the Korean Institute of Chemical Engineers, and the Chinese Society on Biomass Engineering, among other groups. Representatives from international engineering organizations will also participate at a World Café dedicated to the global challenge at the energy, water, and food nexus.

Highlights of the technical program include the 2014 International Congress on Energy (ICE), which will feature sessions on alternative energy,



hydrogen production and storage, biorefinery technologies for forest-based biomass, biofuels, fossil fuels, and carbon capture and storage.

Among the meeting's 10 topical conferences, new ones will be devoted to sustainable food production and entrepreneurship for startup engineering and technology. These will supplement returning topical conferences that address new developments in nanotechnology and nanomaterials (including environmental aspects and energy applications), advanced fossil energy utilization, innovations in green process engineering, systems biology, and sensors, as well as the annual meeting of the AES Electrophoresis Society.

The Annual Meeting shares the stage with AIChE's Annual Student Conference Nov. 14–17. More than 1,000 undergraduate chemical engineers will participate in career workshops, scholarly competitions, and networking activities. Highlights will include the 16th Annual Chem-E-Car Competition (Sunday, Nov. 16), and a poster session with more than 200 presentations (Nov. 17).

With its emphasis on both technical innovation and the professional growth of chemical engineers, AIChE's Annual Meeting is the foremost educational forum for chemical engineers working in research and development. Organizers are expecting more than 4,000 engineers, scientists, and business lead-

ers to attend this year's meeting to gain insight into developments in the field's growth areas. Poster sessions, plenary sessions, a short course on safety education, and presentations by many of chemical engineering's most distinguished and innovative people round out the schedule of events. A variety of receptions, social events, and networking opportunities — both formal and informal — will allow attendees to make new professional connections and reconnect with colleagues and friends.

For information about conference registration and the complete schedule of events, visit www.aiche.org/annual.

World-class presentations

Attendees will hear some of the profession's thought leaders discuss new developments in their fields of specialization — including some information before it is published in the engineering literature.

The Danckwerts Memorial Lecture, Monday, Nov. 17, 11:15 am – 12:15 pm. Co-sponsored by AIChE, the European Federation of Chemical Engineering (EFCE), the Institute of Chemical Engineers (IChemE), and Elsevier's *Chemical Engineering Science*, this year's lecture will be presented by Nigel Titchener-Hooker, head of University College London's Dept. of Biochemical Engineering and Director of the EPSRC Centre for Innovative Manufacturing of Emergent Macromolecular Therapies. His talk is entitled "Engineering Global Biological Solutions."

Professional Progress Award Lecture, Tuesday, Nov. 18, 11:15 am – 12:20 pm. This presentation will be given by the Institute's 2013 Professional Progress Award recipient, Kelvin H. Lee, Gore Professor of Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering at the Univ. of Delaware. In his lecture, "The Past is



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New Again,” Lee will discuss his work with recombinant protein production, and will reflect on the ways in which technology has impacted the ability to study problems of long-standing interest to biochemical engineers.

James E. Bailey Award Lecture, Tuesday, Nov. 18, 6:00 pm – 7:00 pm. The Society for Biological Engineering’s Bailey Award recognizes outstanding contributions in the field of biological engineering. This year’s award recipient is Douglas Clark, Dean of the College of Chemistry and Professor in the Dept. of Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering at the Univ. of California, Berkeley. He will present “A Personal Perspective on Biotechnology’s Progress in a Golden Era (and How Jay Bailey Saw it Coming).”

The 66th Institute Lecture, Wednesday, Nov. 19, 11:15 am – 12:15 pm. Edward L. Cussler, Distinguished Institute Professor at the Univ. of Minnesota and AIChE’s 1994 President, will deliver this year’s Institute Lecture, entitled “The Future of the Lecture.” Cussler will reflect on changes and challenges faced by the university education system, and discuss alternative methods of delivering effective teaching to today’s students.

Special events

World Café: Energy–Water–Food Nexus, Monday, Nov. 17, 8:30 am – 11:00 am. Distinguished engineers from AIChE and several international chemical engineering organizations — under the auspices of the World Chemical Engineering Council — are co-organizing this session devoted to the Grand Challenge at the nexus of energy, water,



Titchener-Hooker



Lee



Clark



Cussler

and food production. The session will build awareness of this critical issue, as well as the role that chemical engineers can play in systems integration and technology development tied to this interconnected and vital system.

Minority Affairs Committee Chemical Engineering Forum, Monday, Nov. 17, 12:30 pm – 3:00 pm. Designed with chemical engineering students and young professionals in mind, this session will provide orientation and strategies to inspire young engineers to high levels of achievement. A panel of eminent engineers will lead the discussion, and present talks on topics including entrepreneurship, the impact of climate change on the economy, and the space travel experience of a chemical engineer.

Short Course: Safety Education and Practice in the Academic Environment, Sunday, Nov. 16, 8:00 am – 5:00 pm. This session will explain why safety education is needed in the chemical engineering curriculum, and how chemical engineering instructors can use existing resources to tailor a safety program to their own classrooms and research labs. The course will cover key process safety concepts, examine successful university process safety training programs, and introduce attendees to the many available resources. (A separate registration fee of \$75 for professionals and \$50 for grad students applies.)

Workshop: Women Workplace Retention and Re-entry Initiative:

Enhancing Women’s Lives, the Profession, and Company Profits, Monday, Nov. 17, 1:30 pm – 5:30 pm. Organized by AIChE’s Societal Impact Operating Council, in collaboration with the Women’s Initiatives and Minority Affairs committees, this workshop will address career navigation, work/life balance, and other topics. The discussions will contribute to AIChE’s action plan to help women engineers, and their employers, with issues surrounding workplace retention and re-entry to the workforce. (See the related article, pp. 60–61, 64.)

Chemical Engineers with Disabilities Discussion Forum, Wednesday, Nov. 19, 6:00 pm – 7:00 pm. This open session will allow chemical engineers with disabilities to talk about employment-related topics, and discuss ways that AIChE can serve its members who live and work with physical challenges.

Honoring the profession’s leaders

On Sunday evening, Nov. 16, prior to the Annual Meeting’s Welcome Reception, AIChE will recognize some of chemical engineering’s foremost practitioners, researchers, industry leaders, and educators at the Honors Ceremony. Many of AIChE’s technical divisions and forums will present their annual awards at special sessions and dinners throughout the week, and newly elected AIChE Fellows will be recognized at the Fellows Breakfast on Tuesday, Nov. 18.

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Program and registration information is available at www.aiche.org/annual.
Registration fees are discounted through Oct. 6.