



American Institute of Chemical Engineers

The Western Palmetto Informer

September 2021

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Contact Information

Visit our website:
www.aiche.org/wsc

E-Mail us at:
sec@wscaiche.org
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Message from the Chair

Hello Fellow Chemical Engineers,

Welcome to a New Year in Western South Carolina!

As we come out from under the wave of COVID and world-wide political unrest, I am reminded how important organizations such as ours are in bridging the gaps in trust and misinformation by staying in personal contact with each other, allowing each other to have different opinions and viewpoints while staying based in sound, analytical, reproducible, scientific approaches to solving our problems. It is only in the context of common mission, common definition of success and sound application of scientific processes that we can overcome the challenges that face us in both the near and distant future.

My goals for us this year are to:

- (1) Get back to a regular schedule of meetings
- (2) Provide more local plant tour experience as businesses begin to open up.
- (3) Modernize our presentation methods to include the hybrid virtual/in-person format
- (4) Update our roles and responsibilities to match today's technological formats.
- (5) Have fun, enjoy the camaraderie that comes with working towards a common goal together!

I believe if we focus on these goals, while moving forward with our new Outreach and Financial committees, we can set this group up for future influence and success.

I am honored that the section has allowed me to take on this role in this critical year. My thanks go out, in advance, to the folks backing me this year! I have an excellent team backing me: Austin

Crooks has taken on the role of treasurer, Bonnie McCourtie is taking on writing the newsletters, Jacob Lindler is vice-chair, and Tasso Ghionnis is teaming with his son Constantine to take on the secretary role. In addition, we have Don Gurney, Karl McCaleb, Devon Clymer, Bill Thompson and Anil Wagle on the broader Executive Committee. I am also counting on support from the local leadership at Clemson University, Chris Norfolk (faculty representative) and Josh Chong (student chapter chair).

We have many challenges before us as a local community, as a nation and as the world and we all need to be pulling together to solve our common problems together.

Please join us as we move forward -

Conny Walker, Chair, WSC AIChE

NEXT MEETING - September 21, 2021

“Global Trade in a Post-Covid Economy”

Pete Mento, Global Trade, Customs and Economics Consultant

As the world continues to recover from the most devastating economic incident in our lifetime, the way we buy, sell, and move goods across borders is evolving before our eyes. Decisions being made by regulators, manufacturing concerns, and consumers are setting the course for the next century. While these decisions are being made, trade wars rage, transportation infrastructure is in crisis, and financial markets hold a close eye toward issues like inflation and monetary policy. There has never been a wilder time to be involved in global trade. In this session we will explore what this means for the US economy and the broader global environment while also making bold predictions on the future state of trade.

September Meeting Information

TITLE:	Global Trade in a Post-Covid Economy
SPEAKER:	Pete Mento
DATE:	Tuesday, September 21, 2021
EVENT TIMING:	6:00 PM Social 6:30 PM Dinner 6:50 PM Section Business Meeting 7:00 PM Presentation (in-person or virtual)
LOCATION (in-person event):	Innovate Building 148 River Street, Greenville, SC 29681 (We will follow Covid protocols as required)

LOCATION (virtual event):	Zoom Connect via link on the WSC AIChE website (registration in advance is recommended, links may not be available until September 14)
COST:	No charge for members or guests for this meeting.
RSVP Required	For dinner by 5:00 PM Thursday, September 16, 2021

RSVP to Secretary - sec@wscaiche.org - by September 17 if you plan to attend the in-person event.

New Committees - Finance and Outreach

The WSC AIChE Section announces the formation of two new committees to better serve our membership and our community! Any member of the WSC section is invited to join one or both committees.

The **Finance Committee** will oversee the section's investment and banking accounts. The committee will also prepare an annual budget and make recommendations for scholarship amounts, speaker expenses/honorariums, and the like. Please contact Austin Crooks at treasurer@wscaiche.org for more information or to volunteer your time.

The **Outreach Committee** will explore opportunities to support local schools and to make ourselves known in the broader community. Please contact Tasso Ghionis at sec@wscaiche.org if you have suggestions on what we might become involved with or if you would be willing to serve on this committee.

Open Officer Positions

Webmaster - If you have an interest in enhancing communications and even modest computer/technology skills, the Executive Committee would welcome your assistance with our website. The website is hosted by AIChE, and no programming is required. We need someone to take charge of posting information about upcoming meetings and events.

Historian - If you like taking pictures and plan to attend most meetings this year - this is for you! Your photos will ensure all events are well documented.

2021-2022 Officers and Executive Committee

This is YOUR local section of the American Institute of Chemical Engineers. If you have ideas or concerns regarding operation of the WSC AIChE, or if you are a member who would like to help out, please contact any of the Officers or Executive Committee members listed below:

POSITION	NAME	COMPANY	E-MAIL
Chair	Conny Walker	GCSD	chair@wscaiche.org
Vice-Chair	Jacob Lindler	aeSolutions	jllindler@yahoo.com vchair@wscaiche.com
Secretary	Tasso Ghionnis	Omega Chemicals	sec@wscaiche.org
Treasurer	Austin Crooks	Synterra Corp	treasurer@wscaiche.org
Former Chair	Anil Wagle	Retired	Anilwagle123@gmail.com
Newsletter	Bonnie McCourtie	Jacobs	Bonnie.mccourtie@jacobs.com
Webmaster	(open)		
Historian	(open)		
Executive Committee	Karl McCaleb	Mitsubishi	kmccaleb2@bellsouth.net
	Donald P Gurney, Jr., ScD, P.E.	Consultant	degurney@charter.net
	Bill Thompson	Ortec	bthompson@ortecinc.com
	Devon Clymer	Jacobs	Devon.clymer@jacobs.com

2021-2022 Calendar of Events

DATE	LOCATION	TOPIC
October 12, 2021	Clemson	Membrane Filtration Bill Thompson
November 2021	TBD	Platelet Mimetic Strategies Dr. Seema Nanvi
December 2021	TBD	WSCAICHe Holiday Social
January 2022	TBD	PFAS Ruth Albright

DATE	LOCATION	TOPIC
February 2022	TBD	TBD Clemson professor
March 2022	TBD	TBD
April 2022	TBD	Plant Tour
May 2022	TBD	WSCAICHe May Social

aChem Expo 2021

The East Tennessee Local Section has invited our members to [register](#) to participate in **eChemExpo**, which will be hosted from October 19-20 in Kingsport, TN. For more information, please visit the Expo [website](#).

eChemExpo is a multidisciplinary gathering for applied innovation at the plant level. The AIChE East TN Local section has supported this event through close collaboration on PDH certification (up to 10 possible PDH this year!) since it began in 2000. The AIChE East TN Local Section plans to host a reception (sponsored by TLV Corp) at Meadowview's outdoor terrace following the close of the conference on Wednesday, October 20th beginning around 5pm. They will provide a voucher for first drink free for AIChE members, and there will be light appetizers served.

When registering, please note that there is an option to select that you are active with AIChE. This indicator will allow the team to distribute information and invitations to the AIChE member reception for the 20th. They also encourage attendees to consider attending one of the two TLV sponsored lunchbox seminars:

- Track 3 (Oct 19): TLV Corporation - "Optimize Steam Process Equipment Choice"
- Track 7 (Oct 20): TLV Corporation - "Case Study of Steam Hammer Event in an Ethylene Plant"