



THE PIPELINE

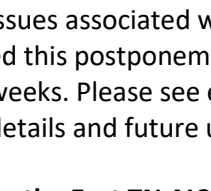
LETTER FROM THE CHAIR

ERIN EKART

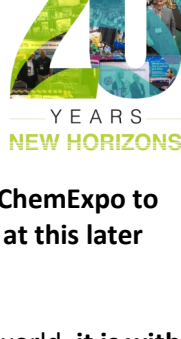
It's been a very eventful and likely stressful couple of weeks in the world and I'm sure most, if not all, of you are going through lifestyle changes in order to exercise social distancing and stay as healthy and safe as possible. As this organization and other organizations react as quickly to the ever-changing situation, it is easy to become overwhelmed and get lost in the things that are out of your control. In times like these, I think it's important to take a step back and look at all of things you can affect.

DiscoverE conducted a [survey](#) of over 10,000 engineers in over 100 countries and asked them what the biggest challenges facing the

world were. The top two answers for chemical engineers were 1) sustaining land and ocean and 2) economical clean energy. While these may also seem daunting, when asked how optimistic they were about solving these problems, there was a high level of confidence in engineers' abilities. Particularly, 18-24 year olds were the most optimistic about finding solutions. Indeed, engineers have long been at the forefront of these issues and it's heartening to see the progress that has been made already. As we continue to work (from home, from a distance, wherever), let's stay optimistic. While we let the virus experts lead the way on this crisis, we should in turn lead the way in the problems in chemical engineering: process safety, energy, water, and many more. I believe in us!



PROGRAMS



eChemExpo 2020 is being postponed from April 15-16 to the month of **October**. The **October** new dates are **October 7-8**. Health and safety issues associated with the coronavirus (Covid-19) concerns have prompted this postponement. These dates will be reconfirmed in the coming weeks. Please see [eChemExpo Coronavirus Update](#) for more complete details and future updates.

As the East TN AIChE Local Section we plan to continue our support for eChemExpo to serve as both the technical program and professional engagement event at this later date.

Following guidelines from Eastman, Global AIChE, and impacts across the world, **it is with much regret that there will not be a Program this April**. As an alternative to traditional programming, we'd like to encourage utilizing webinars through Global AIChE.

There will be a virtual webinar hosted on March 25th, 2020 at 9:00 – 10:00 pm EDT/EST, [Is Your Focus Your Magic! Understand and Build on You Leading to Success and Joy on Your Terms](#). Anyone can join this webinar, regardless of whether they are a member of the Virtual Local Section

Additionally, AIChE offers members access to six free webinars annually. If you are not a member, this would be a great opportunity to register! Listed below are three webinars that we'd like to recommend viewing, and more webinars can be accessed from the site.

Using Ethics to Support Excellence in Reliable and Safe Operations (PDH 1.00)
<https://www.aiche.org/academy/webinars/using-ethics-support-excellence-reliable-and-safe-operations>

Mentoring: What You Need to Know and Do (PDH 1.00)
<https://www.aiche.org/academy/webinars/mentoring-what-you-need-know-and-do>

Advantages of Remote Partial Proof-Testing for Level Control (PDH 0.00 Free for Members and Non-Members)
<https://www.aiche.org/academy/webinars/advantages-remote-partial-proof-testing-level-control>

MARCH PROGRAM RECAP

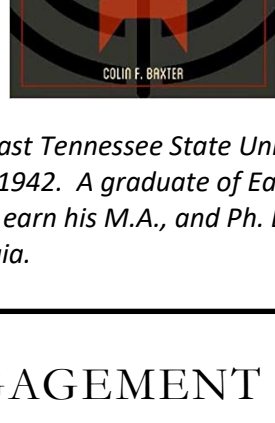
ONE OF THE GREAT CHAPTERS OF THE WAR EPIC: THE SECRET HISTORY OF RDX

DR. COLIN F. BAXTER

Those that attended this informative presentation learned about the chemists, engineers, the employees of Tennessee Eastman Company, and the people in surrounding areas who accomplished one of the most remarkable feats of World War II: the mass production of RDX, the most powerful explosive in the world until the atomic bomb.

development. There were several key discoveries that allowed for mass continuous production of this explosive. If you want to learn more he has published a book "The secret history of RDX" available on [amazon](#).

"RDX" (Research Department Explosive) was invented in great Britain but was brought to the Tennessee Eastman chemists and engineers at the Wexler Bend Pilot plant and later scaled up at Holston Ordnance Works along the banks of the Holston River, in Hawkins County.



Dr Baxter highlighted many bright and hard working people that took part in the

Dr. Colin F. Baxter, Professor Emeritus of History at East Tennessee State University, was born during World War II in Harrow, England, in 1942. A graduate of East Tennessee State University (class of 1961), he went on to earn his M.A., and Ph. D., degrees from the University of Georgia in Athens, Georgia.

PROFESSIONAL ENGAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Due to health and safety concerns with COVID-19, the Brewery Tour & Tasting at Great Oak Brewing will be postponed until further notice. Additionally, the eChemExpo Reception will be postponed due to the rescheduling of the eChemExpo. Please see the Programs section for more information concerning eChemExpo.

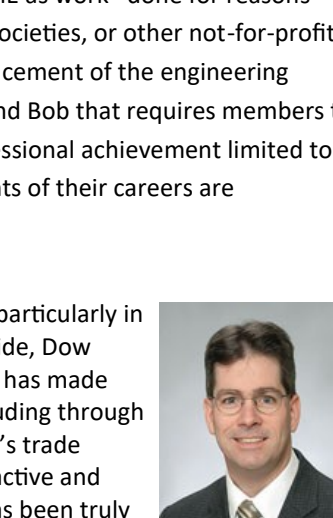
We look forward to hosting more professional engagement events in the future! Until then, we encourage everyone to participate in online professional development via AIChE's webinars!

If you would like to join the Professional Engagement Committee or have an idea for a future event, please contact kaitlin.seay@eastman.com

Beer Brewing Competition

The section is gauging interest in starting a beer brewing team to compete this fall at the AIChE Annual Meeting. 2-5 members are needed, and up to 3 beers can be submitted! For more information, visit [here](#).

If interested in joining the team, please contact Erin Ekart at erinekart@eastman.com.



AIChE Fellows Paul Fanning and Bob Huss

East Tennessee Section members Paul Fanning and Bob Huss were recently elected by Global AIChE's Board of Directors to the membership grade of Fellow. As required for election to Fellow, Paul and Bob have made significant engineering contributions and have provided outstanding service to our profession, which is defined by AIChE as work "done for reasons other than financial compensation for AIChE, other technical societies, or other not-for-profit entities whose efforts benefit chemical engineers or the advancement of the engineering profession." This is a high and well-deserved honor for Paul and Bob that requires members to be well-known outside of their company and is a level of professional achievement limited to only five percent of Global AIChE membership. A few highlights of their careers are summarized below.

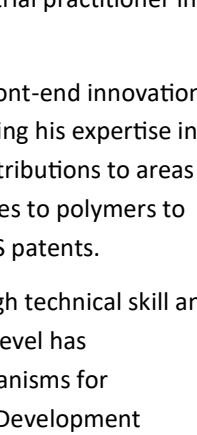
Paul Fanning
Paul has a long track record as a strong technical contributor, particularly in process improvement roles, at AMP Incorporated, Union Carbide, Dow Chemical Company, and Eastman Chemical Company. He also has made significant technical and project leadership contributions, including through his recent three-year assignment of responsibility for Eastman's trade secret and intellectual property protection. In addition to an active and productive technical career, Paul's service to the profession has been truly outstanding, with over two decades of consistent, exemplary, and varied volunteer activities.



Paul has served the profession as an officer in three different AIChE Local Sections -- Charleston, WV, New Orleans, and East Tennessee. Regardless of where his work took him, Paul quickly sought out the local section and became involved in leadership, at various times serving as Secretary (twice), Treasurer, Vice Chair (twice), Chair (twice), and Director. In 2010, while Chair of the East Tennessee Local section, Paul was instrumental in planning and hosting AIChE's Leadership Development Conference. In 2014 and in recognition of his service to the East Tennessee local section, Paul received the Shining Star Award.

At the national level, Paul has served AIChE as a member of the Education Services Subcommittee, where he has also been Vice Chair and Chair. Paul has also served on the Chemical Exam Committee of the National Council of Examiners for Engineering and Surveying (NCEES) since 2003. In this capacity, Paul has helped write exam questions for the Chemical Engineering PE exam.

Bob Huss
Through Bob's work as a project director and lecturer at the University of Massachusetts for thirteen years and then, as an engineer at Eastman Chemical Company, Bob has a consistent history of advancing the field of chemical engineering. His contributions have included teaching, tool development, chemical process design, and untiring support of collaborative chemical engineering initiatives (e.g., AIChE Process Development Division, NSF and DOE workshops on Process Intensification).



While in academia, Bob co-authored over a dozen papers and presentations on topics including reactive distillation, the discovery of a reactive azeotrope (published in *Nature*), numerical methods, and process synthesis/decision making. Since becoming an industrial practitioner in 2008, Bob has continued to present at local and national AIChE meetings.

At Eastman Chemical Company, Bob has been a significant contributor to front-end innovation, design of new processes, and improvement of existing Operations. Leveraging his expertise in process simulation and process synthesis, Bob has worked in and made contributions to areas at multiple Eastman sites -- processes ranging from organic acids to adhesives to polymers to polymer recycling. While at Eastman, Bob has been a co-inventor on five US patents.

Not only has Bob contributed to the chemical engineering profession through technical skill and innovation, but his consistent involvement in AIChE on a local and national level has strengthened the field through vision-setting and through developing mechanisms for collaboration. Bob has served as Programming Chair for the AIChE Process Development Division and as Chair of that division. He has been an effective facilitator of collaboration on process development and process intensification between industry, academia, and government.

AICHE GLOBAL NEWS

	Learn how AIChE is celebrating International Women's Day by recognizing females from our community for their contributions to the field of chemical engineering. More: https://www.aiche.org/chenected/2020/03/celebrating-international-womens-day-2020 https://www.internationalwomensday.com/
	The AIChE 2020 Spring Meeting and 16 th Global Congress on Process Safety has been postponed in response to the global health environment around coronavirus and the COVID-19 pandemic. New dates have been set for mid-August. Learn more here: https://www.aiche.org/spring/2020/postponement
	AIChE is dedicated to helping our members be the best they can be, through sharing knowledge and growing networks that strengthen career paths. There are a wide array of resources available to members. Continue to be a part of the Global Home of Chemical Engineers (60,000+ strong) -- renew today! To learn more about member benefits, visit https://www.aiche.org/membership/benefits

IF YOU HAVE SUGGESTIONS FOR GLOBAL AIChE NEWS THAT YOU WOULD LIKE TO SEE FEATURED IN OUR NEWSLETTER, PLEASE EMAIL TENI BUTLER TRBUTLER@EASTMAN.COM.

2020 LOCAL SECTION OFFICERS, DIRECTORS, AND SUPPORT STAFF

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WEBSITE

<http://www.aiche.org/community/sites/local-sections/east-tennessee>

All past presentations



AIChE East TN



<https://www.linkedin.com/groups/8520379>