

MAC eNews

Volume 2, Issue 1 2015

In this issue . . .

(The New) Minority Faculty Forum
2014 Fall Meeting Minutes
100 Donors in 100 Days
2014 MAC Scholars Announced

Fall Meeting 2014, Atlanta, GA **Congratulations to** **MAC Eminent Engineers**

Welcome Isaac Gamwo



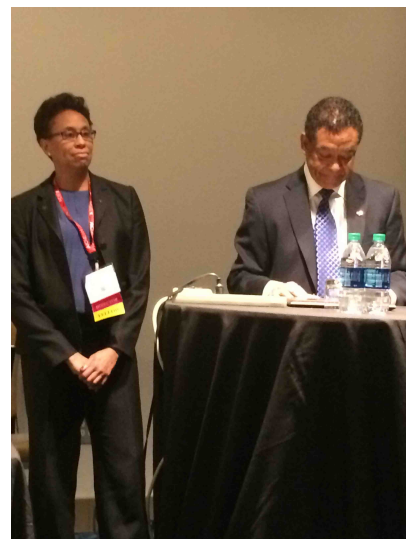
Isaac Gamwo becomes MAC's newest chair. He served as Chair-Elect in 2014. Isaac K. Gamwo is a Fellow of AIChE and a senior research chemical engineer at the National

Energy Technology
Laboratory-U.S.

Department of Energy (Pittsburgh, PA). He was previously in academia serving as faculty at the University of Akron and at Tuskegee University. He is the vice chair of area 2f within the AIChE Separation Division, past chair of the AIChE-SIOC-External Awards Committee, and past ACS, NOBCCChE symposium organizer. He earned his Master and Ph.D. in chemical engineering from the Illinois Institute of Technology, Chicago, Illinois.

At the Fall 2014 conference, MAC was honored by the presentations of eminent engineers Drs. Rosemarie Dawson, Babatunde Ogunnaike, and Dr. Robert (Bobby) Satcher. The session was moderated by Drs. Emmanuel Dada and Thomas Mensah. Biographies for all eminent engineers can be found on MAC's website. Dr. Ogunnaike's presentation centered around a call for more entrepreneurship in educating today's chemical engineer. Dr. Satcher, former NASA astronaut, spoke about his space travel experiences as a chemical engineer. Dr. Dada (presenting on behalf of Dr. Dawson) gave a great presentation on the challenges working through the 2,000 proposals received annually at the National Science Foundation.

AIChE President Otis Shelton was present to make the awards to Dr. Wesson and all these high achieving eminent engineers.





Welcome

Maria Gencoglu

Maria is MAC's newest member. She will serve as Treasurer for 2015-2016. Maria Gencoglu got her BS in Chemical Engineering at University of Los Andes, Bogota, Colombia in 2008. Her graduation project was titled: Optimization of lambda phage to minimize populations of Escherichia coli using stochastic kinetics. This work was done under the supervision of Dr. Andres Gonzalez. In August 2010, she joined the PhD program in the department of Chemical Engineering at Michigan Tech. She worked under the supervision of Dr. Caryn Heldt for four years. Her dissertation is titled: Purification and effectiveness of vaccines and antiviral compounds. Maria is expected to receive her PhD degree in December 2014 and start a postdoc position under the supervision of Dr. Shelly Peyton in the University of Massachusetts, Amherst.

Maria got the opportunity to present her work: Virus flocculation and removal in the presence of osmolytes in the 2014 AIChE Annual Meeting thanks to the Janice Lumpkin Travel Award given by the MAC committee. Maria's future goal career is to join the academia as a professor. Maria hopes one day she will be able to help other students to achieve high education degrees, as she was able to do.

MAC Turns 25- Celebrating our past

We are planning a HUGE celebration for MAC's 25th year. Please join us in the planning.. We will celebrate pioneers of diversity and hearing from past leaders of AIChE and MAC. We are also looking to writing down the history of MAC from our collective memories. If you are interested in participating, Contact Isaac, Kathy, DeMarcus or Rodney.

MAC Future's Fund

MAC was formed 25 years ago in 1989 to promote the well-being of the Institute by increasing the representation of disadvantaged and underrepresented minorities in chemical engineering. For its members, MAC proposed to stimulate an early interest among students in scientific careers and those subjects vital to a career in engineering and to instill an interest in the Institute among engineers who represent a disadvantaged and underrepresented minority group.

This has inspired MAC to create the **MAC Futures Fund**, so-called because all of the funds raised will be used to fund MAC Scholarships. The idea is to create a giving society inspired by the donors developed from the Individual Giving campaign and from the membership. The goal is to replace money lost by the evaporation of Foundation Funds.

100 Donors in 100 Days

The kick-off of the MAC Futures Fund is the "100 Donors in 100 Days" campaign launched in September 2014. This will provide the base for more permanent support of independent scholarship funding. As of December 1, 2014, the MAC Futures Fund has raised over \$6000 for scholarships.

Congratulations Dr. Thomas Mensah

THOMAS MENSAH ELECTED FELLOW OF NATIONAL ACADEMY OF INVENTORS

On December 4, 2014, Dr. Thomas Mensah, a member of MAC was Elected to the Rank of Fellow of the National Academy of Inventors (NAI). They are currently 414 NAI Fellows Worldwide. This group of Fellows in the National Academy has 14,000 issued patents. In addition to his 7 patents in six years on Fiber Optics, Dr. Mensah was recognized for his recent work in nanotechnology-based weapons platforms development conducted in collaboration with the College of Engineering at Florida State University for the United States Air Force.



The Gala was a success!



The Annual AIChE Gala was held on December 5 2014. The Gala focused on increasing Diversity in the Chemical Engineering Profession. Read all about the industry leaders that were honored at the reception. The money raised will support AIChE Diversity efforts including the MAC Scholarship Fund.

MAC would like to thank all of the AIChE staff for their Gala efforts.

Thank you MAC Scholars!

Two MAC scholars were able to attend the Gala event. We are proud that Udochukwu Okorafor and Zeeshan Saroya represented our MAC scholars.

Udochukwu Okorafor is a recent Columbia University graduate currently enrolled in the Cooper Union Chemical Engineering Masters program.

Zeeshan Saroya is a current CCNY undergraduate student and the CCNY AIChE Student Chapter President.

A New Minority Faculty Forum for 2015

The Minority Faculty Forum has formed a new group of new and experienced professors and administrators united to discuss issues concerning under-represented groups in academia. If you are interested in joining the group, contact Isaac.

THANK YOU and farewell to Gbenga Ajiboye for his service as the 2012-2014 MAC Treasurer. Gbenga's service has been appreciated by all of us and he will remain a part of the MAC Executive Committee.

WELCOME BACK to DeMarcus Hunter. He has agreed to continue as MAC Secretary. His service to MAC has revolutionized our communication and helped move us forward.

Calling

UT-Austin Student Chapter and Houston Local Section

MAC is interested in hosting/sponsoring a mixer or speed networking event for the 2015 Spring Meeting in Austin. Please call Kathy if you can offer any help, advice or be a contact.

MAC Leadership 2015

Chair:	Isaac Gamwo	gamwoi@gmail.com
Chair-Elect:	Kathy Lee	kathylee30@comcast.net
Treasurer:	Maria Gencoglu	mftafur@mtu.edu
Secretary:	DeMarcus Hunter	demarcushunter@yahoo.com

Sub-committee Chairs

Scholarships:	Emmanuel Dada	emmanuel.Dada@ymail.com
Archive:	Rodney Dotson	r.dotson@cque.org
MFF:	Lance Collins	LC246@cornell.edu

Meeting Minutes
MAC Fall Annual Business Meeting - Atlanta, GA
Monday November 17, 2014 3:30 – 5:30 p.m.
Imperial Ballroom B, Atlanta Marriott Marquis

Introduction (see bottom for attendance list). Meeting called to order at 3:40 pm

Minutes . The minutes from the 2014 Spring meeting in New Orleans meeting were approved pending revisions to Bette Lawler's name and conference reference.

Diversity Gala. Diversity is the AICHe Gala theme for 2014. We will have approximately \$50,000 from GALA money. The plan is to direct this to scholarships and will free up money for other things. Need strategy for spending GALA money

Waiting for clarity from headquarters regarding the time frame that should be used to spend the Gala funds. The current proposal is to earmark funds for the College Student Scholarship so that MAC can grant multiyear scholarships and guarantee that the funds will be available. It is also proposed that the scholarship include a 1-time \$500 travel award. This aligns with MAC's goal to increase graduation rates and promote membership in AICHe.

Scholarship / Mentorship Program. The MAC Scholarship program is MAC's most successful program. The program is expanding and there is a need for volunteers and changes in processes. There is a short time frame for long range planning with the influx of Gala funds.

Need a better way to stay in contact

Need members for planning committee.

Need a better way to stay in contact with MAC Scholars.

Considering starting a LinkedIn group to track them. Past search has not been productive

Need to revamp scholarship program and fine-tune its analytics.

Need to formulate a database of MAC scholarship reviewers to have more backstops.

Possibly partner with National Minority Recruitment

Members want to see connection of their donations back to MAC

Which is the best path to get the most impact? MAC Futures Fund? Donation checkoff on membership renewal?

In 2015 MAC will turn 25! Same year, WIC will become 15. Looking at joint celebration. Send proposals to Kathy Lee.

Film on pioneers of diversity

Consider seeing what AICHe did for 100th anniversary

SIOC update. Looking more at how AICHe can help with changing/abandoning of urban infrastructure

Funding evolution. We are potentially losing 1/2 of our funding due to not matching funds from foundation. How do we get funding to match that?

Re-launch of Minority Faculty Forum (MFF) went well. Lance Collins is sponsor and will be working with 2 senior faculty and 2 junior faculty to drive for sustainability. Thank you to Lance, Christine Grant and Gilda Barabino for their efforts.

Continue to donate to the MAC Futures fund. If you do so in 2014, you will be recorded as a founding member.

MAC eNewsletter- Send us your good news! We want to print it.

Committee needed to investigate YP / MAC social event at Spring 2015 conference in Austin, Texas

Congratulations to our 2015 – 2016 MAC Board

Isaac Gamwo (elected in 2013)

Chair Elect – Kathy Lee

Treasurer – Maria Gencoglu

Secretary – DeMarcus Hunter (consecutive term)

Meeting adjourned at 5:58pm.

Attendees

Luke Achenie
Belinda Apka
Kathy Lee
Lance Collins
Sipho Ndela
Rodney Dodson
Gordon Ellis
Angelo Perna
Maria Gencoglu
Zenaida Otero Gephardt
Carolyn Reynolds
DeMarcus Hunter
Bette Lawler

Irvin Osborne-Lee
Thomas Marrero
Isaac Gamwo
Emmanuel Dada
Andre DaCosta
Chike Okechukwu
John Erinne
Antonio Estevez
Mariano Savelski
Christine Grant
Michael T. Harris
Steve Smith
Tim Odi