

Rocky Mountain AIChE News

September 2016

Volume 26 Number 1

September Section Meeting: Hot Topics in Oil and Gas Exploration and Development & Introduction to Intellectual Property

This month we will have two presenters from Greenberg Traurig, LLP, speaking on two topics.

Hot Topics in Oil & Gas Exploration and Development will discuss:

- constitutionally and legislatively mandated set-back requirements;
- local authority versus state authority, and
- other contemporary issues impacting oil and gas development in Colorado and around the country.

The second presentation entitled, Introduction to Intellectual Property, will give a brief overview of the legal requirements and the benefits of patents, trade secrets, copyrights and trademarks.



[Heath J. Briggs](#) is a chemical engineer, a registered patent attorney, and has more than 12 years of patent prosecution experience. Heath has significant patent prosecution experience in the chemical area, especially in the areas of material science including

(e.g., metallurgy) oil and gas, and organic chemistry, and Heath represents several Fortune 500 companies in this area, managing their worldwide patent portfolios. Heath also has significant experience in the software and internet fields. He has obtained dozens of U.S. patents for his clients, and has worked with foreign counsel across the globe to obtain foreign patents for his clients. In addition,

September Section Meeting

Topic: Hot Topics in Oil & Gas Exploration and Development
AND
Introduction to Intellectual Property

Speakers: Heath J. Briggs and Robert S. Thompson III of [Greenberg Traurig](#)

Date: Tuesday, September 20

Time: 6:00 - 6:30 Networking
6:30 - 7:30 Dinner
7:30 - 8:30 Presentations

Location: Greenberg Traurig, LLP, [1200 17th Street, Suite 2400, Denver, CO](#)

Cost: Members: \$20
(w/RSVP)* Non-Members: \$25
Unemployed/Students: \$10

Menu: Catered by Illegal Pete's and Corner Bakery including mixed greens salad, marinated grilled chicken and steak, cilantro-lime rice, black and pinto beans, sautéed fajita and primavera vegetables, fresh salsas, cheese and sour cream, flour tortillas and crispy-corn taco shells, and cookies

RSVP REQUIRED by Friday, September 16 at rockyaiche@yahoo.com indicating your name, phone number, number of attendees and pay at the meeting. Or you may RSVP and pay online using [PayPal on our meeting link](#).

*Add \$5 for attending meeting without RSVP

Heath has significant experience with the new U.S. Patent Office post-grant review proceedings, having represented several entities in connection with nineteen inter-parties review proceedings. Since 2005, Heath has served as an Adjunct Professor at the University of Colorado at Boulder, where he teaches engineering students a self-designed course on intellectual property (IP) law. He was also selected by the American Institute of Chemical Engineers (AIChE) to provide online IP training for its chemical engineering members.



[Robert S. Thompson III](#) has broad experience in Indian law and energy and natural resources matters, with a focus on the oil and gas industry. He represents tribal and non-tribal clients in resource development, production, rights-of-way, easements, leases, joint ventures and partnerships.

Rob is experienced in the development of American Indian and public lands natural resources and the statutory and regulatory requirements applicable to such development. Upon graduation from the University of Wisconsin Law School in 1979, Rob was selected for the Solicitor's Honors Program and moved to Washington, D.C., to serve in the Solicitor's Office of the Department of Interior. Following his departure from government service in 1981, he entered private practice and focused on Indian law, federal litigation and natural resource development. Rob is an enrolled member of the Cherokee Nation of Oklahoma.

Updates from our Student Liaison, Cory Jensen

The Sustainable Engineering Forum (SEF) is launching Membership and Education Initiatives respectively. The SEF is also lacking a social media communications Chair, that I anticipate the SEF will be looking to fill in the near future, if you are interested in a volunteer role after graduation please let me know. With that being said, I am looking for those interested in SEF membership activities to represent the RM region. Several regions around the globe are represented by a local champion, however the RM is lacking representation! Please pass on this message to anyone that you know that would like to be involved as

a SEF Membership Champion. I anticipate involvement could be high profile!

SEF Programming

The SEF is also beginning coordinating programming at the spring meeting, with strong partnership with the Young Professional Committee. This would be a great way to get involved and meet industrial contacts for those interested in jobs! Again, reach out to me if you are interested.

AIChE Chemical Engineering 4 Good (ACE4G)

The institute has also recently approved of a competition called AIChE Chemical Engineering 4 Good (ACE4G), requesting proposals for "Toolkits" that could be used for potential Engineers Without Borders (EWB) projects. For those not familiar with the terminology of a toolkit, it is often used to describe information that provides for guidance or basic knowledge to aid in the accomplishment of a task. If you are interested in this competition please let me know and I will be sure to send information your way!

Contacts and Efforts Related to "Focus on Ethics"

Thanks for those that provided feedback on the inequities of student-professor relationships. My efforts to promote better relationships has been met with some resistance, however I have been part of an effort to arrange a new Professional Development technical session at AIChE meetings and would like to gear content towards progressive professional development. The annual meeting in San Francisco will include a speaker from Google and showcase an Institute award!

I have also connected with the American Chemical Society and several involved with Professional development topics. Polls in American Chemical Society (ACS) have found that students do not have some of the ethical views that would demonstrate the effectiveness of ethics education. Therefore, there are multiple needs for student-professional leaders in areas that support ethics.

Student Resources

With that being said, I have to remind everyone, the [Body of Knowledge](#) is now complete and I would like to gather any feedback students have about its content. The BoK project was developed to help guide Chemical Engineers on a career path. Your input is essential!

Final Words

Finally, some Rocky Mountain students were interested in Policy but the RM professional section didn't know how to best incorporate information on this topic into membership benefits. If anyone would like to talk about these topics or volunteer to help establish direction, I am open to ideas-suggestions. Contact [Cory](#).

AIChE Meetings

2016

- Sept 14-15 Writing the W into Engineering
Texas A&M,
College Station TX
- Sept 18-22 61st Annual Safety in Ammonia Plants & Related Facilities Symposium
Denver, CO
- Oct 4-5 2016 Midwest Energy Policy Conference and Laufer Energy Symposium
St. Louis, MO
- Oct 6-7 8th AIChE Southwest Process Technology Conference
Galveston, TX
- Nov 13-18 2016 AIChE Annual Meeting
San Francisco, CA

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The objectives of AIChE are to advance chemical engineering in theory and practice, to maintain a high professional standard among its members, and to serve society, particularly where chemical, engineering can contribute to the public interest.

AIChE Rocky Mountain is a public non-profit 501(c)(3) organizations and thus any and all donations are tax deductible.

Rocky Mountain AIChE News Publication Schedule

October 2016 issue

Articles due Wednesday, Oct 12

Publish on Friday, Oct 14

Meeting on Tuesday, Oct 18

MEETING SCHEDULE

The Rocky Mountain District of AIChE generally meets the third Tuesday of every month, September through November and January through May.