

# AIChE Chicago

May 2025 Newsletter

## Inside this issue:

Centennial Celebration & History – 2

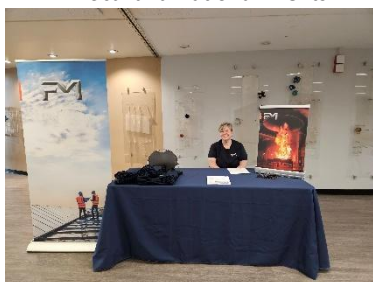
Support Opportunities – 5

April Meeting/MRC Photos – 6

Asian / Pacific American Heritage  
Month and ChE – 12

AIChE ECC/YPC Chicago News – 13

Local and National Events – 14



## AIChE Chicago May Centennial Meeting

Celebrating 100 Years of AIChE Chicago Chapter!

JOIN US TO CELEBRATE

**AICHE CHICAGO**

**CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION**

*since 1925*

we invite all chemical engineers to join us in celebrating the legacy of the AIChE Chicago Chapter. Come reconnect with peers, network with industry leaders, and be part of an event that celebrates the milestones, achievements, and vision for the future of our field.

10 MAY | 2025

THE CARLETON OF OAK PARK HOTEL  
1110 PLEASANT ST, OAK PARK, IL 60302



# Centennial Celebration

**Date:** May 10, 2025

**Location:** The Carleton of Oak Park – 1110 Pleasant St, Oak Park, IL 60302

**Registration and Information:** [Cvent](#)



**Agenda:**

5:45 – 6:30 PM: Check in

6:30 – 7:30 PM: Dinner and Introduction

7:30 – 9:00 PM: Centennial Celebration

9:00 – 11:00 PM: Music and Dancing!

## AIChE Chicago Centennial Celebration

The Chicago Section was the first section in AIChE, and this 2024-2025 programming year will mark its 100-year anniversary! Please view [our website](#) to read more about our past.

The centennial will be recognized throughout the year with special monthly meeting arrangements and of course a big party to celebrate so stay tuned! The newsletter will also feature guest articles and other snippets of history which we hope you will enjoy.

## AIChE Chicago History – 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration

*by Janet Werner*

AIChE Chicago has held a few anniversary celebrations in its history. For the 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration, the section invited 6 members of the first AIChE Chicago meeting to attend the March 1945 meeting, and Harry McCormack served as honorary chairman for the night. For the 30<sup>th</sup> and 35<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, the section held a past chairman's night for the March 1955 and November 1960 meeting, respectively. For the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, the section held a celebration in October 1975 with 220 attendees. This anniversary celebration included dinner, music, cake, and speakers which spoke about the different aspects of the history of AIChE Chicago. For the 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, the section held a Diamond Jubilee celebration in May 2000, including dinner, dancing, and speeches about the history of chemical engineering excellence in Chicago. As we approach our 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration, I wanted to document and highlight the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration.

The 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration was attended by 24 past AIChE Chicago Section Chairs, 2 Chicago area past AIChE National Presidents, and 3 Chicago area past AIChE National Directors.

Planning for the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration in October started around June. The planning committee was headed by former AIChE Chicago Section chair Richard “Dick” Snow and the committee consisted of two additional past chairs, Wilford “Bill” Bair and August “Gus” Winkler. House Committee Chairman Stephen Graef and House Committee member William Bergman helped with securing arrangements for the Midland Hotel for the event. At the time, the board and House committee were setting up meetings at various locations and didn’t have a set “headquarters” like in the 1940s through the 1960s of meetings at the Electric Club, Builder’s Club, or Western Society of Engineers. The Midland Hotel was selected as the venue due to its maximum capacity of 350 people. Although the venue maximum capacity was not reached, the photo of the event certainly shows that the 220 attendees filled the space nicely.



The cost was \$8.50 for members and \$9.50 for non-members. The menu consisted of French onion soup, salad, rolls, sirloin steak, baked potatoes, green beans almondine, and finished with a birthday cake.



Photo of the birthday cake. Person on left is unknown. Person on right is believed to be Robert Zinn (Chicago Section Chair 1940-1941).



Photo from left to right: Larry Tavlarides (Chair 1975-1976), F.J. Van Antwerpen (AIChE National Secretary at the time), John Swearingen (Chair 1945-1946; CEO of Standard Oil of Indiana)

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The evening featured speeches from three past Chicago Section Chairs (the previously mentioned Dick Snow, Bill Bair, and Gus Winkler) about different aspects of the Chicago Section history and a speech from then National AIChE Secretary F.J. Van Antwerpen, who had written the national AIChE 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary history. The Anniversary Committee and the Section made sure to capture this special occasion. A professional photographer was hired to document the event; we have about 10 photos that have survived in the records. A tape recorder was used to record the audio of the speeches. Although we no longer have the tape recording, the recording was transcribed at the time, and the section has still has these transcripts. The transcripts capture not only the historical aspects of the speeches but also the humor and camaraderie of friendships forged over years of service to the organization.

We hope that we can replicate the success and historical relevance that the 1975 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration in our upcoming Centennial Celebration. Please join us and celebrate the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the AIChE Chicago Section – whether you are new to the section or a long-dedicated member, help us contribute to our long section history!



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## Local Section Dues Notice

AIChE national memberships run on a calendar year basis. If you haven't already paid your national membership dues for 2025, please help support us by including Chicago Local Section dues in that national membership payment – our local section dues are only \$20.

We really appreciate your financial support, especially during this Centennial Anniversary year. Without local section dues, we would not be able to hold monthly meetings, plan the Midwest Regional Conference, support local chemical engineering student chapters, or even send out this newsletter by email!

Pay Local Section Dues by following the links on our website: [Join the Chicago Local Section | AIChE](#)

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## Voluntary Member Donation for the Centennial Year

Dear Member:

This year the AIChE Chicago Section, will be celebrating its Centennial Year. This year marks 100 years of commitment, dedication, and camaraderie among chemical engineers in our region and beyond.

Throughout the years, our section has tirelessly worked to serve as a beacon for chemical engineers, facilitate a vibrant community that fosters professional development, keep members informed of the latest technological advancements, address the evolving challenges within our industry, and encourage students to enter into the fields of science and engineering. These goals are accomplished through our Section's monthly meetings, a newsletter, a web page ([www.AIChE.org/Chicago](http://www.AIChE.org/Chicago)), high school science events, our annual student poster competition, and the AIChE Midwest Regional Conference.

Through the years of changes, you, as members, have provided invaluable voluntary support to the section in developing and offering these activities.

On the occasion of our 100th year, we are offering you a unique opportunity to strengthen the Section to carry on its multifaceted activities by making a personal donation. Your donation will help the Section to continue its outstanding activities. Contributions may be done on-line using the following link:

<https://cvent.me/yG5oPw>

Contributors will be recognized in a later edition of the newsletter.

This Voluntary Member Donation for the Centennial Year is different from a nominal sponsorship by companies for individual programs and separate from the cost for the one-day Centennial Celebration event on May 10th, 2025.

Your generous support for the section, as well as past and continued contribution through your presence and participation all these years is greatly appreciated.

Respectfully,

Chicago Section Officer Board

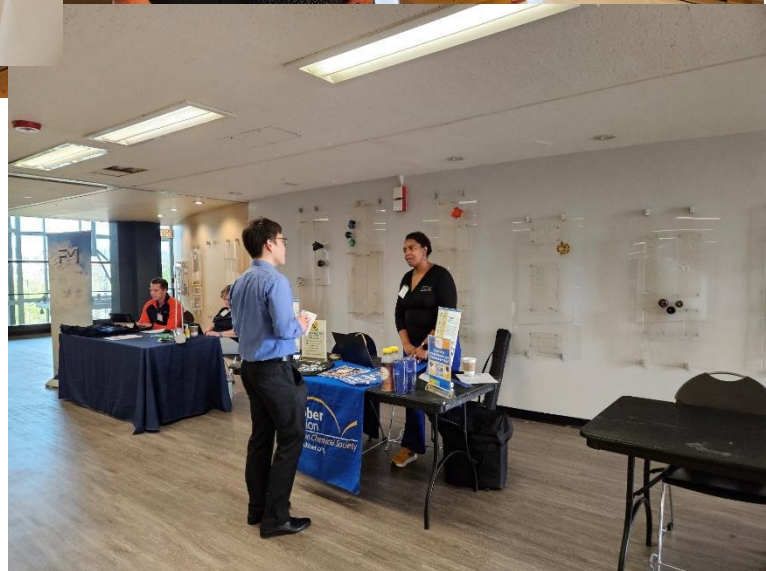
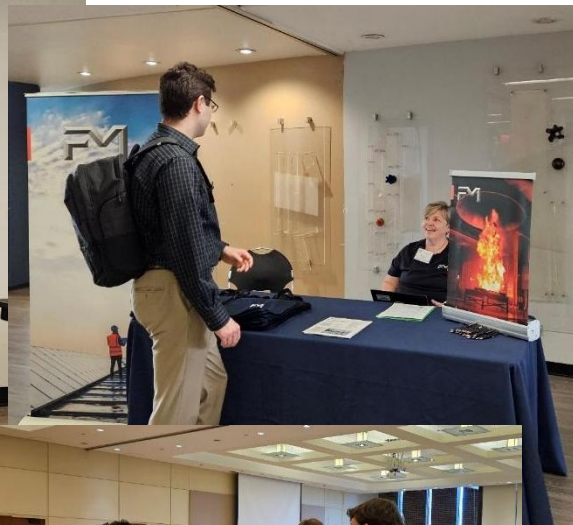
## April Meeting and Midwest Regional Conference Photos







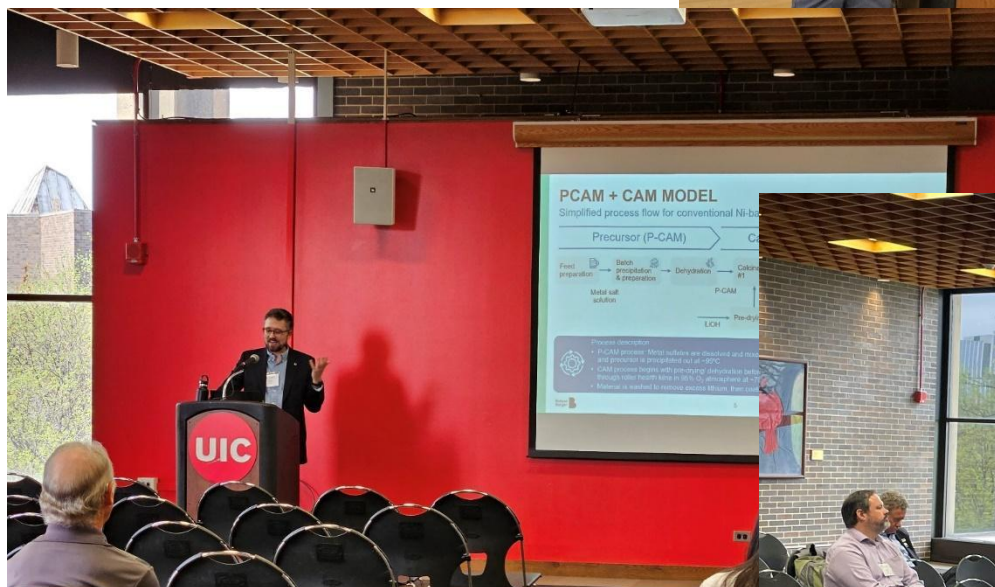














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## **Conference Sponsors**

The Chicago Section of the AIChE is grateful for the generous support of our Conference Sponsors!

### **SILVER LEVEL**



### **BRONZE LEVEL**



Thank you to our generous sponsors for supporting the 2025 MRC!

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**May is Asian / Pacific American Heritage Month** The Library of Congress, National Archives and Records Administration, National Endowment for the Humanities, National Gallery of Art, National Park Service, Smithsonian Institution and United States Holocaust Memorial Museum join in paying tribute to the generations of Asian and Pacific Islanders who have enriched America's history and are instrumental in its future success. [Read More »](#).

### May Is Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month – Connection with ChE

In honor of Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month, notable honorees with chemical engineering backgrounds who were among the first Asian American men and women to be elected to the National Academy of Engineering (NAE) are highlighted:



Morgan Chuan-Yuan Sze (1916-2015)

NAE election: 1976; citation: "Contributions to the technology of petroleum refining and petrochemical process design and manufacture."



Rong-Yu Wan (1932–2009)

NAE election: 2000; citation: "For accomplishments in metallurgical research and industrial practice, and for teaching, supervising, and inspiring students,



Ann L. Lee (1961-)

NAE election: 2007; citation: "For innovation and development of large-scale, cost-effective production of vaccines that have saved lives worldwide."

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## **Why renew your AIChE Membership?**

Renew your membership now to keep learning and growing.

**Stay connected to 40,000+ international members who take advantage of:**

- Subscription to AIChE's flagship publication: CEP
- Education – Access to e-learning courses and instructor led training which can offer Continuing Education Units and PDHs.
- Access to CareerEngineer – a comprehensive job site tailored to chemical engineers
- Access to the AIChE eLibrary – a wealth of information from Knovel Life Sciences and the McGraw-Hill AccessEngineering Library collections

[View more benefits here!](#)

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## ***Early Career Community (ECC) / Young Professionals Committee (YPC) Chicago Section***

AIChE's Early Career Community (ECC) / Young Professionals Committee (YPC) Chicago Section was created to start and maintain young professionals' involvement in AIChE after graduation and to ensure that students retain their membership through their transition into the work force.

We enthusiastically welcome all people with a degree in Chemical Engineering, including those currently working in industry and academia, recent graduates, and those pursuing other paths. We also welcome current students, both undergraduate and graduate students to our events.

The Chicago YPC exists as a subset of the AIChE Chicago Section.

Our goal is to provide technical, career, and networking opportunities to young Chemical Engineering professionals in the Chicagoland area. To accomplish this, we seek to provide a variety of technical and social activities, provide outreach and volunteering opportunities, and to create programming that will appeal to ChemE's under 35.

*General ECC Website:* <https://www.aiche.org/community/sites/committees/early-career>

*ECC/YPC Chicago Website:*

<https://www.aiche.org/community/sites/local-sections/Chicago/young-professionals>

*Email us at* [yp.aichechicago@gmail.com](mailto:yp.aichechicago@gmail.com)

*Connect with us on Facebook! Search for 'YPC Chicago'*

*Join our mailing list! Find our Google group under 'ypcchicago'*

Join Our GroupMe and become a part of the Chicago Chemical Engineering Young Professional Community:

[https://groupme.com/join\\_group/99685952/GrFycymv](https://groupme.com/join_group/99685952/GrFycymv)



Connect with members and participate in discussions on [Engage](#)!

Check out AIChE's member benefit, AIChE Engage. Use the robust directory search to find and connect with members. Participate in technical, career, and academic discussions about chemical engineering.



## Upcoming AIChE Conferences, Meetings, and Webinars

AIChE Conferences	
May 5-8, 2025	<a href="#">2025 Offshore Technology Conference</a> , NRG Park, Houston, TX, USA
May 6-7, 2025	<a href="#">PD2M Conference on the New Frontiers in Pharmaceutical Drug Substance and Drug Product CMC for Novel Modalities</a> Takeda, 200 Shire Way, Lexington, MA USA
May 13-15, 2025	<a href="#">7th Commercializing Industrial Biotechnology</a> , MIT Samberg Conference Center, Cambridge, MA, USA
June 8-13, 2025	<a href="#">The 29th North American Catalysis Society Meeting (NAM29)</a> , Hyatt Regency Atlanta, GA USA

Chicago ACS Meetings	
May 16, 2025	<a href="#">2025 Willard Gibbs Award Celebration: Chad A. Mirkin</a>

## Volunteers needed for Chicago Local Section

How many opportunities can you find to learn project management, delegation, and leadership skills for free? Volunteering with the Chicago Section of AIChE is such an opportunity. While you're learning new skills, your professional network grows. Just about all of us are undergoing a career change, contemplating a career change, or are wondering if our career will be changed for us. Volunteering with AIChE is a way to add skills and accomplishments to your resume.

Volunteers are needed to help with:

- Programming – arrange speakers for monthly meetings and arrange catering/venues.
- Logistics – arrange catering and venues
- Newsletter Editor – prepare and publish ten monthly newsletters
- Newsletter Contributors – write meeting summaries, contribute photos, and more
- Engineering Outreach – coordinate three annual K-12 outreach events with high schools and colleges
- Professional Development and Sponsorship – arrange companies to sponsor pre-meeting talks to help fund student dinners
- Awards and Scholarship Committees – Review applications for local Section awards and scholarships
- Midwest Regional Conference – various roles with programming, logistics, website work, advertising, sponsorships, high school outreach, poster session, and more!
- Young Professionals – plan socials and programming for young professionals (under 35)

If you are interested in any of these positions, please contact us at [aichechicago@gmail.com](mailto:aichechicago@gmail.com)

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## AIChE Volunteer and Meeting Attendee Conduct Guidelines

AIChE's volunteers are the core of the Institute and make all of its programs, conferences and educational efforts possible. These offerings provide excellent opportunities for AIChE members and meeting attendees to gain greater technical expertise, grow their networks, and enhance their careers. AIChE events provide engineers, scientists, and students a platform to present, discuss, publish and exhibit their discoveries and technical advances. At all times, volunteers and meeting attendees should act in accordance with AIChE's Code of Ethics, upholding and advancing the integrity, honor and dignity of the chemical engineering profession. AIChE's Board of Directors has developed these guidelines to foster a positive environment of trust, respect, open communications, and ethical behavior. These guidelines apply to meetings, conferences, workshops, courses and other events organized by AIChE or any of its entities and also to volunteers who conduct other business and affairs on behalf of AIChE.

### Specifically

1. Volunteers and meeting attendees should understand and support AIChE's Code of Ethics.
2. Volunteers and meeting attendees should contribute to a collegial, inclusive, positive and respectful environment for fellow volunteers and attendees, and other stakeholders, including AIChE staff.
3. Volunteers and meeting attendees should avoid making inappropriate statements or taking inappropriate action based on race, gender, age, religion, ethnicity, nationality, sexual orientation, gender expression, gender identity, marital status, political affiliation, presence of disabilities, or educational background. We should show consistent respect for colleagues, regardless of discipline, employment status, and organizations for which they work, whether industry, academia, or government.
4. Disruptive, harassing or other inappropriate statements or behavior toward other volunteers, members, and other stakeholders, including AIChE staff, is unacceptable.
5. Volunteers and meeting attendees should obey all applicable laws and regulations of the relevant governmental authorities while volunteering or attending meetings. Volunteers and meeting attendees taking part in any AIChE event, including the ChemECar Competition™, should also comply with all applicable safety guidelines. Violations of this conduct policy should be reported promptly to the AIChE President or Executive Director.

## AIChE Chicago Section

AIChE Chicago Section  
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[aichechicago@gmail.com](mailto:aichechicago@gmail.com)

<https://www.facebook.com/AIChEChicagoSection>

<https://www.linkedin.com/groups/4538581>

<https://www.aiche.org/community/sites/local-sections/chicago>

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Chair Elect	Lance Baird
Past Chair	McKay Rytting
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Awards Committee	Azita Ahmadzadeh
Cvent Manager	Rishabh Jain
Newsletter Editors	Ethan Caesar
	Robert Tsai

We welcome email submissions for our monthly newsletter. Commercial announcements are subject to a fee. News stories, editorials, technical, or career related non-commercial contributions are always welcome for no charge. We consider job postings, announcements of for-free training courses, expositions, and conferences as commercial. Categorization of announcements is at the sole discretion of the Chicago AIChE Board of Directors. The AIChE Chicago Section may publicize activities of interest to our members by cooperating professional societies and other non-profits without charge.

Please submit your material to [aichechicago@gmail.com](mailto:aichechicago@gmail.com) with 'Newsletter Article' as a subject line.



### We want you for AIChE Chicago!

AIChE is committed to promoting a fair, just, and equitable profession and society. AIChE believes that all who wish to be a part of the chemical engineering community should have equal opportunity to pursue and achieve success. We work toward a better future for all through our technical expertise; through how we inspire, engage, retain, and advance future talent; and through how we treat each other within and beyond the profession.

[AIChE Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Statement](#)

### Submitting Articles to AIChE Columns