



**AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF CHEMICAL ENGINEERS** ...Serving Chemical Engineers Who Serve the World

*Mid-Michigan Section Newsletter*

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### ***Words from the Editor... Mid-Michigan AIChE Newsletter Going Electronic!***

As all of our readers know, economic times have been less than ideal. The AIChE Mid-Michigan Section executive committee, having discussed at length, has recommended that we begin a transition to an **electronically distributed newsletter**. While this issue is being distributed both electronically by e-mail and by post, our **next newsletter will be primarily distributed via e-mail**. This important transition will result in a cost savings of nearly \$700 per newsletter for our section and will ensure that a greater percentage of the local AIChE dues can go to education and outreach programs. **For those individuals who would still like to receive a paper copy of our newsletter, we would still be happy to send you one. Please contact me ONLY IF you wish to continue receiving paper newsletters.**

Best Regards,

Eric Stangland  
Newsletter Editor, Mid-Michigan AIChE  
(989-636-0517, [estangland@dow.com](mailto:estangland@dow.com))

### ***Words from the Chair... New Year Brings New Opportunities***

Happy New Year! I wish that all our readers and section members are happy, healthy, and professionally successful in 2003.

It's been kind of a quiet start to our 2002-2003 program year, but the pace of activity is going to be ratcheting upward. **Meetings are planned for January, February, and March**, and there will be more activity on the education outreach front as well. The notice for the January meeting is in this newsletter. Read on for more information.

With the new year often comes a variety of resolutions. I hope that many of you will resolve to become more involved in our section activities. Consider attending a meeting or two, or **participate in Engineers Week** by visiting a local classroom and sharing your knowledge and experience with our community's children. AIChE is a sponsoring member of the 2003 National Engineers Week, February 16-23. For more information, visit <http://www.eweek.org/>. Perhaps you could plan an activity or become a committee chairperson. We have opportunities for involvement ranging from small to large. Trust me; I'm Mikey. I just know you'll like it.



As always, contact any of our section staff for more information or to give feedback to us. You'll find our phone numbers and e-mail addresses at <http://www.mmaiche.org/> (aka <http://www.egr.msu.edu/aichemm/>).

Mike Durisin  
Chairperson, Mid-Michigan AIChE  
(989-638-7291, [durisinm@dow.com](mailto:durisinm@dow.com))

**AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF  
CHEMICAL ENGINEERS****The American Institute of Chemical Engineers  
Mid-Michigan Chapter**

Cordially invites you to a dinner meeting on  
**Tuesday, January 21, 2003**

**Keynote Speaker: *Peter Lord, Hershey Foods Corporation***

Peter Lord was the design leader and start-up manager for a new \$130 million grass-roots chocolate plant commissioned in Hershey, PA, in 1993. His talk and accompanying slide show will cover the product research and development needed to allow the new plant to match the product quality and flavor from an 80-year-old process. It will also discuss the design, construction, and start-up of the new plant.

A special highlight of the meeting will be a tasting session of a variety of chocolate samples, many of them provided by Hershey, after the presentation. (Thanks to Sue Benjamin of Hershey for obtaining the samples for us.)

Peter is a 1975 graduate of Clarkson University with a B.S. ChE degree. He has worked at Hershey Foods since 1976 in various positions within Corporate and Plant Engineering.

**Date:** Tuesday, January 21, 2003

**Time:** 6:00–6:30 p.m. - Social Time with Cash Bar  
6:30–7:45 p.m. - Dinner  
7:45–9:15 p.m. - Keynote Speaker Followed by Chocolate Tasting

**Location:** Holiday Inn of Midland  
1500 W. Wackerly St., Midland, MI 48640-2775

**Menu:** Buffet-style meal

- roast beef bordelaise and stuffed shells for entrees
- fresh vegetables, mashed potatoes, and herb rice as side dishes
- tossed salad bar with five salads
- vegetable tray, fresh fruit display, bread and butter, bar cheese, and garlic toast
- coffee and iced tea

**Cost:** \$20.00 per person

**RSVP\*:** By 5:00 p.m. on Thursday, January 16, to Mike Durisin (989-638-7291, [mdurisinm@dow.com](mailto:mdurisinm@dow.com)).

\*Cancellations must be received by this date; otherwise, Mid-Michigan AIChE will charge you to cover the cost of your dinner.

## ***WE NEED YOU!***



**AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF  
CHEMICAL ENGINEERS**

### **SPE and AIChE Classroom Demonstration... Volunteers Needed**

The Mid-Michigan Sections of the **Society of Plastics Engineers (SPE)** and **American Institute of Chemical Engineers (AIChE)** are once again teaming up to promote an interest in science and technology by providing training and resource materials to conduct **classroom demonstrations** in local area schools.

This one-day experience is an effective and fun way to spread your enthusiasm for science, technology and engineering. We provide detailed experimental write-ups and training, link you with a partner engineer and a teacher, and help you obtain the materials you need to deliver a winning demonstration. Based on past experience, students, teachers, and volunteers alike have a good time and learn something new.

A **training session** will be held on **January 20, 2003**. At that time we will provide you with teacher contact information and your partner engineer. You may choose your own partner if you so desire. The training session will be held at Grace A. Dow Library:

#### **Training Session**

**January 20, 2003**

**4:30– 6:00 p.m.**

**Lounge - Grace A. Dow Public Library**

This is a great opportunity for *you* to make a difference in developing a child's interest in science, technology, and engineering. We always have fewer volunteers than interested teachers and classrooms. Unfortunately, that means we can never fill all of the classroom requests. The more volunteers, the more classrooms can be visited. If you are interested in participating, please **call or email the information below** to **Bill Burk** (989-832-9453, [Orangetruck68@aol.com](mailto:Orangetruck68@aol.com)) or **Sarah Ratcliff** (989-496-5675, [sarah.ratcliff@dowcorning.com](mailto:sarah.ratcliff@dowcorning.com)).

Name:

Email:

Company:

School Preference (write in school name or "none"):

Phone number:

Partner Preference (write in partner name or "none"):

FAX number:

Will attend training session (Yes or No):

**Volunteer to spread the fun of science!**

## University of Michigan Extension Programs, Winter 2003

The **University of Michigan (UM)/Ann Arbor**, in cooperation with **The Dow Chemical Company** and **Dow Corning Corporation**, offers a unique opportunity to further one's education through **graduate-level courses in chemical engineering** taught in Midland. A University of Michigan ChE Professor teaches each semester-long course. Credits earned through the program can be applied toward a Masters Degree from the University of Michigan. This semester, two courses are offered.

Tuition reimbursement is available subject to approval by your management. Information on the courses offered in this Winter Semester is included below. Additional information can be obtained through **Ray Wright** (989-638-1334, [rawright@dow.com](mailto:rawright@dow.com)) or the graduate office at the University of Michigan.

### Winter 2003 - Extension Credit Courses in Chemical Engineering Midland, Michigan

**ChE 697/Mfg 599 Introduction to Chemoinformatics (2 credits)**  
**ChE 596 Video Seminars in Pharmaceutical Eng. (1 credit)**

#### Instructors:

**Professor David J. Wild**  
(734-769-5237, [wildd@umich.edu](mailto:wildd@umich.edu))

**Professor Henry Wang**  
(734-763-5659, [hywang@umich.edu](mailto:hywang@umich.edu))

**For More Information: Contact Susan Hamlin** (734-763-1148, [hamlins@engin.umich.edu](mailto:hamlins@engin.umich.edu))  
University of Michigan Chemical Engineering Graduate Program Office

**Dow Contact: Ray Wright** (989-638-1334, [rawright@dow.com](mailto:rawright@dow.com))

**When: January 6 - April 21, 2003, Mondays, 5:00–8:00 PM**

**Where: Rose Conference Room, 47 Building at The Dow Chemical Company**

**Prerequisites:** Basic chemistry background

**Textbooks:** None required; background material will be posted on website and/or provided in form of handouts

**Description:** This course will cover a wide range of computational methods for post-genome drug discovery, including representation and application of 2D and 3D chemical structure information, molecular modeling, web-based tools, industry "hot topics" and careers in chemical information.

**Registration: Register during class, January 6, 2003. If you still desire to register, the course is already started. Please register and start attending ASAP.**

**Fee:** \$2583 for 3 credits. Instate status (Residency application must have been approved or be approved by the residency office before January 31. For more information please visit the website at: <http://www.umich.edu/~regoff/resreg.html>)

## Thanks Andrew Liveris for AIChE Kick-off Support

Many thanks to Andrew Liveris!

The Mid-Michigan Section gratefully thanks **Andrew Liveris, Dow Chemical Business Group President, Performance Chemicals**, for his generous support of our kick-off meeting in September. Andrew paid the tab for our food and drinks at the traditional start to the section's program year. Not only do we appreciate the financial support, which helps to keep our expenses down, but also actions like this by a management leader encourage activity by our members in section events.

Thanks again, Andrew, and we hope to see you at some of our events this year.

## Norm Lake New Mid-Michigan AIChE Director-at-Large

**Norm Lake** has agreed to serve a two-year term as our new **Director-at-Large**. The Director-At-Large acts as a representative of the section membership and helps guide the leadership of the executive committee. The executive committee is please to have Norm aboard. Norm can be reached at:

Norm Lake  
Process Engineering, 633 Bldg.  
The Dow Chemical Company.  
Midland, MI 48667-0001  
989-638-7081, [nelake@dow.com](mailto:nelake@dow.com)

A complete list of AIChE Mid-Michigan Section officers and executive committee members can be found at our website at <http://www.mmaiche.org/Officiers.html>. We would love to hear from you concerning any suggestions or comments you have regarding your local organization. There are several positions on the executive committee that remain open. If you are interested in volunteering for the executive committee or any other service opportunity within AIChE please contact me, Eric Stangland (989-633-2809, [eestangland@dow.com](mailto:eestangland@dow.com)), or our Chairperson, Mike Durisin (989-638-7291, [durisnm@dow.com](mailto:durisnm@dow.com)).

## Jonathan Molloy Wins AIChE Student Design Competition

**Jonathan Molloy**, currently working in the Specialty Intermediates Process Engineering Department, **Dow Corning Corporation**, received the **A. McLaren White Award for First Prize** in the American Institute of Chemical Engineers (AIChE) **2002 National Student Design Competition**. Jon presented his winning submission and received this award at the AIChE Annual Meeting in Indianapolis, Indiana in November 2002.

Jonathan joined Dow Corning in June 2002 after graduating from **Michigan Technological University**. He was previously an AWS co-op at Dow Corning, working in Research & Development, Corporate & Regional Engineering Services and the Core Products Supply Chain. Congratulations, Jonathan.

## SciFest 2002...Chemistry Keeps Us Clean

Mid-Michigan AIChE involvement at SciFest 2002 was literally a sparkling success. Volunteers from AIChE ran a table for this year's **SciFest at Delta College** on October 18, 2002 where the theme was **Chemistry Keeps Us Clean**. SciFest was sponsored by the **Mid-Michigan Technician Group** and the **Midland Section of the American Chemistry Society**. It was an opportunity for students K-12 to participate in hands-on science activities and find out about science opportunities in their area. Approximately 1000-1500 students attend SciFest every year.

In keeping with the theme, AIChE conducted a hands-on oil spill clean-up demonstration. In this exhibition, children and parents explored methods for oil spill clean-up including skimming, absorbents, and surfactants. This was an opportunity for our volunteers to discuss the environmental and financial impact of oil spills with students. Thank you to AIChE members **Mike Durisin, Julie Eaton, Kevin Fransen, Tami Heilman, Mike Molnar, and Sarah Ratcliff** for making the AIChE display at SciFest a success.

## Advice Concerning Tax Deductibility of AIChE Meetings

'Tis the season...for income tax preparation. Several members of the Mid-Michigan AIChE executive committee had questions regarding the **tax deductibility of AIChE technical events**. We recently inquired of the AIChE National Organization its opinion regarding the tax deductibility of AIChE meetings and/or technical sessions. We received the following advice from the **Sr. Director, Finance and IT&S, Ken Gruber**:

"If in the opinion of the member the function (in this case a technical session) is business related it's deductible as a business expense. A business expense is one that is ordinary and necessary in the business. Ordinary is defined as common in the business and necessary is defined as helpful and appropriate. The expense does not have to be indispensable to be considered necessary. The AIChE invoices address the deductibility of AIChE dues. Whether or not the technical meeting fee is reimbursable by the employer is a matter between the member and his/her employer. But if in the opinion of the member it is a business expense it would be deductible as a business expense or a miscellaneous itemized deduction if not reimbursed by the employer."

If you need to discuss this matter further, you can contact Ken directly:

Ken Gruber  
Sr. Director, Finance and IT&S  
American Institute of Chemical Engineers  
212-591-7174, [keng@aiche.org](mailto:keng@aiche.org)



## New AIChE CareerEngineer Website and Local Job Postings

National AIChE has unveiled a **new web service** at <http://careerengineer.aiche.org> for **job seekers and hiring employers**. AIChE members get full access to a system that can:

- Search job postings.
- Conduct targeted job searches and apply directly to employers.
- Build and maintain up to five resumes and cover letters.
- Set up "Job Scouts," alerting you to newly posted jobs that match your credentials and interests.
- Place your resume in the new "Premier Resume Database," so that employers can find you for all types of positions -- full-time, part time, consulting, and/or expert witness assignments.



**CareerEngineer**

For job seekers & hiring employers

A special **CareerEngineer** feature permits **confidential job searches** if you prefer to be an anonymous job seeker. AIChE encourages members to visit the service and place their resumes in the database - by name or anonymously. The more traffic the site receives, the more employers will use it.

Locally, the **Mid-Michigan AIChE Section posts job announcements** for the local area (Great Lakes) as it receives them. Please visit our website at <http://www.egr.msu.edu/aichemm/JobPostOtherLinks.html> for more information.

## CEP Needs Help Identifying Women ChEs with Unique Careers



AIChE National needs your help in identifying **women chemical engineers** for **feature stories** in **Chemical Engineering Progress (CEP)**. CEP is looking for women with interesting, unusual, or non-traditional jobs, careers, or assignments. Non-job related human-interest stories involving ChE women are also invited for submission. Stories of interest include such examples as interesting career guidance work with students, the use of engineering in/with a hobby, a member of a long line of family engineers, etc. They need not be high-profile women or highly upwardly mobile women.

Please send your suggestions to **Cynthia Mascone**, AIChE's Technical Editor of CEP, at [cyntm@aiche.org](mailto:cyntm@aiche.org). Note that self-nominations are welcome. This is an ongoing project, as CEP publishes a profile every other month.

## AIChE 2002 Salary and Employment Survey...Where do you fit in?

AIChE Mid-Michigan Section has just been issued a copy of **National AIChE's 2002 Salary and Employment Survey**. The information can be viewed or downloaded as a PDF file by visiting our website <http://www.mmaiche.org>. The report is a comprehensive survey of the **salary status of chemical engineers** in varied specialties and industries. Salaries are also reported according to education, experience, and size, location, and business of the employer.



## Nominations Needed for Founders and Van Antwerpen Awards

The Board of Director's Awards Committee is soliciting nominees for the Founders and Van Antwerpen Awards.

If you know of someone who has made great contributions to our organization and to our profession, National would like to hear from you. To submit a nomination, complete the downloaded nomination form found on AIChE's website at <http://www.aiche.org/resources/pdflibrary/mag/awardnomform03.pdf>. Be as specific as you can about why you are nominating this person. Please include supporting information (e.g. a list of their publications and a Curriculum Vita) for the nominee. You will need to collect no more than four brief supporting letters from colleagues (peers) or former students to accompany your nomination. Nominations must be postmarked by **February 15, 2003**. For more information on these awards, please visit the AIChE website at <http://www.aiche.org/awards/>.

The **F. J. & Dorothy Van Antwerpen Award for Service to the Institute** recognizes a chemical engineering member of AIChE for outstanding contributions to the chemical engineering profession and service to the Institute. These contributions should emphasize achievements in both the professional and technical areas of Institute activities. The recipient will have contributed to innovative approaches to meet both perceived and unperceived membership needs. The award, sponsored by **The Dow Chemical Company**, consists of a plaque and \$5,000, plus a \$500 travel allowance.

The **Founders Award for Outstanding Contributions to Chemical Engineering** recognizes outstanding contributions in the chemical engineering field. It is presented to a member of AIChE who has had an important impact on chemical engineering and whose achievements, either specific or general, have advanced this profession in any of its aspects. The recipient should have a long and distinguished record of service to the profession, including both technical and professional activities. The award consists of a gold medal, a plaque, and \$3,000.

Please contact Dianne Dorland, Ph.D., P.E., Vice President, AIChE, [xpress@aiiche.org](mailto:xpress@aiiche.org) or Alexis Geier, Development Manager/Awards Administrator, [alexg@aiiche.org](mailto:alexg@aiiche.org), for additional help regarding the requirements of these awards.

Don't Forget...

[2003 Spring AIChE National Meeting](#)

March 30 - April 3

Ernest N. Morial Convention Center

New Orleans, Louisiana

