...Serving Chemical Engineers Who Serve the World

Mid-Michigan Section Newsletter

AIChE Mid-Michigan Section Mission: To provide opportunities to continuously develop our members professionally while working with the community to provide a positive view of science and engineering.

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Newsletter Highlights...

The Mid-Michigan Section is proud to have one of our own, Hank Kohlbrand, as a newly-elected AIChE Director. In this newsletter on pages 4–5 Hank provides personal anecdotes on the benefits of AIChE membership. Hank would like to hear your comments as our organization forges into the New Year. Please read on and use this occasion to voice your opinions and suggestions. It is not often a Section has the ear of a Director so close to home.

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Words from the Chair…

So far the 2004–2005 program year has been great for the local chapter of AIChE. We have offered several popular programs with record attendance. We were also able to offer a process controls class. In addition, several members showed up at the science fair to help spread the word about chemical engineering to elementary-age students.

After the first of the year, the local chapter will offer several more programs including a presentation on Imbiber Beads, and an informational session on how to prevent identity theft. There will also be another opportunity to volunteer with the school-age children in the community. Every year the local chapter works with the Society of Plastic Engineers to bring engineers into local classrooms to do experiments with the kids. It is both a fun and rewarding experience.

In the New Year, please take some time out to participate in a local section event. If you don’t see one that interests you, contact a member of the executive committee and let us know what you want for programming. Hope to see you soon at an event. Happy New Year!

Sarah Radcliff
Mid-Michigan AIChE Section Chair

Mid-Michigan Meeting Schedule for 2005

Contributed by Mike Durisin, Mid-Michigan Section Program Chair

January: Presentation by Richard Hall on Imbiber Bead technology
February: Professional development and workforce recruiting
March: To be determined
April: Joint presentation by the FBI, Secret Service, and Michigan State Troopers on Internet fraud and identity theft.

One can never have enough lip balm... Vernal Talcott (l.) and Sarah Ratcliff will make sure of that. Read more on page 7.
American Institute of Chemical Engineers
Mid-Michigan Section
Cordially invites you to a lunch presentation
Thursday, January 20, 2005 in the
Dow Corning Conference Room 166

Dr. Richard Hall, Imbibitive Technologies Corporation

January Meeting Focuses on Imbiber Bead™ Technology

Join us for a presentation by Dr. Richard Hall on the unique properties of Imbiber Beads™, a product of Imbibitive Technologies Corporation. Imbiber Beads™ are spherical plastic particles that absorb a very broad cross section of the organic chemical spectrum. Once they come into contact with a compatible liquid, the beads drink it into their solid structure. The beads won't release the liquid through compression, gravitational pull, or even when cut in half. These properties make Imbiber Beads™ well suited for many challenging applications; they may be a solution for one of your applications.

Dr. Hall is one of Mid-Michigan AIChE's newest 50-year members, an accomplishment for which he was recognized at the section's last awards banquet. He had a long and productive career with The Dow Chemical Company and is now the president of Imtech R&D in Midland.

This meeting is scheduled for Thursday, January 20, in Dow Corning's conference room 166 near the cafeteria. Lunch—buy it from the cafeteria or bring your own—will begin at 11:30 a.m. The presentation will begin at noon and run until 12:30 p.m. with 15 minutes for questions afterward. Attendees who aren’t Dow Corning employees will have to press the buzzer button at the cafeteria entrance and tell the guard that they are attending the AIChE meeting.

Please RSVP to Mike Durisin (989-631-5677, durisinm@umich.edu) so that the section can plan for seating and notify the cafeteria about the number of people to expect.
Newly-elected Hank Kohlbrand Speaks on AIChE Membership

Editor’s Note: Hank Kohlbrand, a newly-elected Director of the National AIChE organization, submitted the following contribution for publication. The editor thanks Hank for his meaningful letter to our local membership.

AIChE Membership: Benefits & Opportunities
H.T. Kohlbrand

Well over 30 years ago, I had the opportunity to attend my first AIChE meeting. It was a national meeting in Chicago. At the time, I was a student and had a somewhat narrow view of chemical engineering. During this meeting, I attended sessions which ranged from the theoretical to the practical, from existing to new technology. I was hooked. Since that time I have participated in a wide variety of AIChE activities and benefited greatly both personally and professionally. Value for me has come from understanding what the AIChE has to offer and then taking advantage of it. I have enjoyed attending technical meetings and training courses, and taking advantage of financial offerings; at times I have gotten involved to influence and even change what is being offered.

In June of 1908, a small group met at the Engineers’ Club in Philadelphia and formed AIChE. Over the years AIChE has grown from its 19 founders to over 50,000 members. Chemical engineering has changed a lot during that time and so has AIChE. Today, AIChE is committed to being a global leader of our profession, being a lifetime center for professional and personal growth, and being a catalyst in applying chemical engineering expertise to meet societal needs. There are many benefits you can get out of each of these areas. In the end, AIChE is nothing more or less than its members and it is the membership which will determine the direction we will take. AIChE is at a crossroads today, making important decisions which will shape its future. Through some poor leadership decisions, our institute has been on the brink of financial failure. Action has been taken to make us healthy (we now have a balanced budget), but we now have to define what is essential to our success as we move forward.

These are challenging times for professional societies. A recent study by the National Society of Professional Engineers has shown that only 20% of recent graduates of engineering programs joined any professional society. In my recent campaign for the AIChE board it became evident to me that the AIChE has to do a better job of listening to its stakeholders—chemical engineers, employers, members and potential members. As a challenge to you—I would like to hear what you have to say. What do you like/dislike about AIChE? What could we offer that would help you to feel good about the value of your membership? What do you think that we could do that would make membership and participation in AIChE more attractive to people who currently are not members? You can send your comments to me at hank4836@yahoo.com or call me at 989-636-4846.

In my 30+ years of membership, I have benefited greatly from my involvement with AIChE. I have been able to attend a number of national meetings, presented papers, led programming areas, organized symposia and worked in the sponsored research areas. I have been able to grow my technical skills and my leadership skills. The experiences from my leadership roles have had a very positive impact on my career at Dow. These leadership skills have also transferred into other activities, such as serving in various non-profit and community organizations. I have also developed friendships with a wide variety of people at other companies which has been personally fulfilling and has given me an excellent network to work with when tackling particularly tough technical challenges. Twenty-five years ago I was frustrated by the lack of industrially relevant programming offered by AIChE at national meetings. I, along with many others, worked to change things (the result of which is now the Process Development Division).

Whether we recognize it or not, we all benefit from the technology leadership and sponsored research of the institute. CCPS [Center for Chemical Process Safety] guidelines capture the experience of industry,
academia and government to make it possible to design and run chemical plants more safely. The individual programming groups have provided us with resources to use in our roles to advance the state of the art of chemical engineering. Work products from DIERS [Design Institute for Emergency Relief Systems] have allowed us to reliably design plants with safer emergency relief systems. DIPPR [Design Institute for Physical Properties] has provided access to a wide variety of physical property data which are key to the accuracy of simulation and modeling software that many of us use in our daily activities. CWRT [Center for Water Reduction Technologies] projects have allowed companies to pool knowledge to address a wide variety of environmental challenges.

The institute provides us with opportunities to learn and grow our skills. This can come from attendance at meetings, participation in training programs, reading journals and publications, personal involvement in leadership positions, or activity on technical committees. AIChE also provides us with resources to help us meet career goals through the employment clearinghouse and coaching and mentoring for people looking for new opportunities. Access to portable medical and life insurance (as well as professional liability insurance for those in consulting roles) can also be important to some of the members. All of these are great reasons for chemical engineers to be members of AIChE.

I would encourage those of you who are members of AIChE to become more engaged. You will benefit greatly. You can increase your technical knowledge, have an opportunity to develop your leadership skills, and even have fun. For those of you who read this and are not members, please consider how membership can benefit you. If you have not recently looked at the AIChE Web site http://www.aiche.org I think you will find a lot of useful information and maybe even a few surprises.

Henry T. (Hank) Kohlbrand is R&D Director for Engineering Sciences & Market Development at The Dow Chemical Company and a Fellow of AIChE. He is also a member of the board of directors of AIChE. He has been a member of the Mid-Michigan section since 1974.

### Renew your 2005 AIChE Membership On-line

AIChE is pleased to offer online dues payment, an easy and secure way to pay your 2005 dues. The system is programmed to provide you with an accurate dues invoice as well as the ability to add subscriptions, change delivery options, add local sections or divisions, join a technological community and pay on-line. All you need is your AIChE membership number, which can be found on your membership card.

Please note: You will not be able to adjust the Institute Dues shown on your invoice. If your circumstances warrant a dues reduction or waiver, please contact customer service using the telephone number or e-mail address provided below.

AIChE Customer Service
American Institute of Chemical Engineers
3 Park Ave, New York, N.Y., 10016-5991, U.S.A.
Tel. Toll Free: 1-800-AICheM, (1-800-242-4363),
Tel. International: (212) 591-8100, Fax: (212) 591-8888
E-mail: xpress@aiche.org
AIChe and SPE Classroom Demonstrations Are Gearing Up!

WE NEED YOU!

SPE and AIChE Classroom Demonstrations!

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 for their members 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 experiment 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 17, 2005 (see below for more information). At that time we will provide you with teacher contact information and your partner engineer (if desired). We always have more requests for demonstrations than volunteers to provide the demonstrations. Your participation does make a difference!

Training Session

January 17, 2005
5:30 - 7:00 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. If you are interested in participating, please send the information below to Verna Talcott (989-496-6066, v.b.talcott@dowcorning.com). Online submission is available at our Web site.

Name:
Company:
Phone number:
FAX number:
Email:
School Preference (write in school name or “none”):
Partner Preference (write in partner name or “none”):
Will attend training session (Yes or No)

Your local section Web site at http://www.mmaiche.org/ has a collection of experiment descriptions and supplemental material. Review all the potential experiments at your leisure!

http://www.mmaiche.org/ page 6 http://www.aiche.org/
On October 23, Tami Heilman-Adams, Rosalia Brown, Kevin Fransen, Joshua Hicks, Vicky Hsu, Jennifer Korn, Sarah Ratcliff, and Verna Talcott greeted more than 300 students and parents at the Mid-Michigan AIChE booth focused on protecting skin and lips from harmful UV rays. The annual event was held at Delta College as part of the 17th anniversary celebration of National Chemistry Week.

Students were given the opportunity to make their own UV-detecting beaded bracelets that interact with UV-light. The bracelets change from a neutral color to various primary colors when exposed to UV-light. The bracelets serve as a reminder to students and parents to protect their skin and lips with personal care products that contain sunscreen or sun block. The UV-detecting beads cycle into the different colors up to 50,000 times and can be worn all year round. In addition, students were provided the opportunity to create their own lip balm. The students were asked to mix various vegetable-derived emollients and flavors while the Mid-Michigan AIChE volunteers explained to them that they were emulating a mini-scale chemical process. This was a great opportunity to plant the seed of chemical engineering as a potential career for them to consider in the future. Overall, the experiments were a wonderful success.
Call for Papers—2nd Annual International Conference on PEDAC

Contributed by the Detroit Section of the AIChE

The Second Annual International Conference on
Power Electronics for Distributed and Co-Generation
June 27 - 29, 2005
Sheraton Detroit in Novi, Michigan

This three-day international conference will serve an audience of decision makers who are interested in learning about and contributing to the latest commercial advancements and anticipated future developments related to power electronics for DCG systems. Speakers will have an opportunity to present to top executives and technical professionals of leading DCG equipment companies as well as key technical and management professionals in the power conversion and utility industries, and leading researchers from industry, academia and government laboratories.

Submissions sought for:

1. DCG Sources (including fuel cells, micro turbine generators, photovoltaics, wind turbines, etc.) Power Monitoring, Communications & Instrumentation Control, Energy Source Electrical Characteristics, Mechanical & Thermal Packaging Considerations, Interface with Renewable Energy Sources

Submission Guidelines:

Proposals and submissions will be accepted only electronically by e-mail. Send your proposal as an attachment to your e-mail to Jeff Shepard, jshepard@darnell.com.

Deadline for Proposals: February 4, 2005

Notification and Acceptance Requirements:

Acceptance notification will be announced on or before February 18, 2005. Acceptance will not be complete until at least one of the authors has registered to attend the conference and present the paper.

Final submission:

The formal paper will be included in the proceedings and consist of a maximum of six pages in a two-column format or a maximum of 12 pages of PowerPoint slides (2 per page).

Deadline for Final Submissions: April 29, 2005

Please see PEDAC Web site for presentation types and more specific submission guidelines: http://pedac.darnell.com/pedac
THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN
Winter 2005 - Graduate Credit Course
in
Chemical Engineering- Midland, MI

ChE 527 – Fluid Flow, 3 credit hours

Instructors:
Professor Robert Ziff, rziff@umich.edu, 734-764-5498, cell phone: 734-905-4477
Dr. Ray Wright, raywright@dow.com, 989-638-1334 (Dow Chemical Company contact)

For more information:
Contact Susan Hamlin
U-M Chemical Engineering Graduate Program Office
Phone: 734-763-1148
Email: hamlins@umich.edu

When:
Lectures: Mondays, 5:00 – 7:00 p.m. 1/10/05 – 4/18/05

Problem/Workshop/Exam sessions:
Thursdays, 5:00 - 6:00 p.m.

Where:
Rose Conference Room – 47 Building, Midland, MI

Textbooks:

Description:
From the departmental catalog: Application of fluid dynamics to chemical engineering systems. Theory and practice of laminar and turbulent flow of Newtonian and non-Newtonian fluids in conduits and other equipment. Multi-phase flow. Introduction to the dynamics of suspended particles, drops, bubbles, foams and froth. Selected topics relevant to chemical and other engineering disciplines.

Registration:
Register during class, 1/10/05

Fee:
$2923.69/course with instate status*. Non-resident tuition is $5182.69/course. Residency application (due 1/31/05) must have been approved or be approved by the Residency office. See Web site at http://www.umich.edu/~regoff/resreg.html.

Organization:
Weekly homework (20% of grades), Midterms (2 x 25%), Final Examination (30%)

12/23/04RZh
Local Section to Participate in Future City Competition

Contributed by Verna Talcott, Education Outreach Chair

Last year was the first year that several of the Mid-Michigan Chapter of the AIChE members participated in the judging of the Future City Competition. The National Engineers Week Future City Competition is designed to provide a fun and exciting educational engineering program for seventh- and eighth-grade students. The program is combined with a stimulating engineering challenge and a "hands-on" application to present students’ vision of a city of the future. Students are required to design their city using SimCity 3000™ software and also build a 3-D model. In addition, the students are required to write an essay and present their city to the judges. The design problem and competition focuses on the competencies of math, science, language arts, and social studies.

The Engineering Society of Detroit (ESD) holds the regional competition to find the winning team to represent the state of Michigan at the national competition in Washington D.C. The theme for this year’s competition is the use of aggregates. The research essay question that the students specifically need to answer is, "How can futuristic transportation systems efficiently use aggregate materials as a basic construction product?" The research essay explores, develops and discusses the uses or production processes for products produced by the crushed stone, sand and gravel (“construction aggregates”) producing industry that will increase transportation efficiency of their future city. Mike Durisin, Erin Lacher, and Verna Talcott are among those judging the essays for this year’s Future City Competition. For more information regarding the Future City Competition, go to http://www.futurecity.org/.

From the Future City Web site:

The mission of the National Engineers Week Future City Competition is to provide a fun and exciting educational engineering program for seventh- and eighth-grade students that combines a stimulating engineering challenge with a "hands-on" application to present their vision of a city of the future.
Wayne State Offers New MS Programs in Engineering

Editor’s Note: This letter was received by a local AIChE colleague from Kenneth Chelst, Ph.D., Department Chair and Professor of Operations Research Industrial and Manufacturing Engineering, Wayne State University.

The Industrial and Manufacturing Engineering Department is proud to announce three exciting and newly revised Master of Science (MS) programs that may be of interest to you, your co-workers, or family members.

These degrees were redesigned so as to spur careers by providing immediately relevant skill sets and knowledge that will benefit both the students and their employers.

The degrees are the MS-Industrial Engineering, the MS-Manufacturing Engineering, and the MS-Engineering Management. Specializations such as Quality Engineering and Lean Operations Management within the specific degree programs help further focus these degrees and link the education to specific career paths.

We would appreciate your sharing of the brochure found at http://mie.eng.wayne.edu/graduate/documents/MSflyer.pdf with others who might be interested in pursuing a Masters degree. If you would like, we can send you printed copies of the material. We would also encourage you to check out our Web site http://mie.eng.wayne.edu/ to find out more about the department.

Annual Meeting Conference Proceedings CD-ROM

Editor’s Note: This is the most recent information we have from the national organization concerning the proceedings on the Annual Meeting in Austin, TX in November. Typically, a more in depth announcement and Web details for ordering proceedings are available in the spring.

The 2004 Annual Meeting in Austin is over, and you could not attend. But have no fear, the critically acclaimed Annual Conference CD-ROM is back, featuring all papers submitted from topical conference and non-topical related sessions. Mac and Windows compatible, the CD is searchable using key words and phrases. The CD cost is $100. Order today by calling 1-800-242-4363.
ASME and AIChe Continue Joint Educational Offerings

ASME/Education & Training

Mechanical & Chemical Engineering Courses

ASME and AIChe provide the training you need in a wide range of courses for chemical and mechanical engineers.

Learn real-world solutions to on-the-job problems in subjects like:

- Chemical/Petroleum Process, Fundamentals For Non-Chemical Engineers
- Flow of Solids in Bins, Hoppers, Chutes, and Feeders
- Pneumatic Conveying of Bulk Solids
- HAZOP Studies, and Other PHA Techniques for Process Safety and Risk Management
- Process Safety Management: Design & Evaluation of Process Safety

See the complete list of course offerings in such cities as Las Vegas, Houston, San Francisco, Chicago, and Toronto.

IN-COMPANY PROGRAMS

Chemical Engineering & Biotechnology short courses are available for in-company programs.

Contact David Tonn
(800) 843-2763 x 7303
tonnd@asme.org

Start Saving for College with AIChe 529 Plans

Save for college with AIChe 529 Plans. AIChe, with its partner, Education Financial Services, offers you unparalleled access to 529 plans. Your money grows free from federal tax, and you may also benefit from other tax incentives as well. The easy-to-use 529 Advisor Questionnaire helps you select the right plan. The 529 Advisor Questionnaire is a fee-for-use program. Regularly $30, the plan is available to AIChe members for only $10 for a single use. Visit http://www.efs529.com/aiche/ or call 516-899-6090.
The Spring 2005 AIChE National Meeting will focus on workable solutions to the challenges confronting the chemical industry. Competition is fierce. Resources are more finite. Safety and sustainability must support profitability. There’s never been a greater need to work "faster, cheaper, better."

Join us in Atlanta as we explore solutions to these concerns in a new format. The 2005 Spring Meeting will feature a new track structure that will reach across specialties to focus on workable solutions applicable to all industries.

Take advantage of many diverse technical sessions, panel discussions, conference keynotes, short courses, and networking events designed for all chemical engineering professionals.

**2005 Spring Tracks include:**

- Global Congress on Process Safety (CCPS, LPS and PPSS)
- Operational Excellence in the Petrochemical Industries (including the Ethylene Producers Conference)
- Operational Excellence in the Specialty/Fine/Pharma/Food Industries
- Tools for Commercial Success
- Profitable Paths for New Process Technology (including IMRET 8)
- Enabling Energy Strategies

**Keynote:**

Rich Marcogliese, Senior Vice President of Refinery Operations at Valero, will be the keynote speaker for the 2005 Spring Plenary Session.

Additional Information can be found at [http://www.aiche.org/spring/](http://www.aiche.org/spring/).
# AICHe Mid-Michigan Section 2004–2005 Officers and Committee Chairpeople

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<td>Publicity/New Hire</td>
<td>Lisa Callender</td>
<td>Dow Chemical Co. 1400 Building, #205</td>
<td>Callender, Lisa (LL)</td>
<td><a href="mailto:lcallender@dow.com">lcallender@dow.com</a></td>
<td>636-7167</td>
<td>638-6671</td>
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<tr>
<td>MTU Scholarship</td>
<td>Erin Lacher</td>
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<td>EDLACHER</td>
<td><a href="mailto:Erin.lacher@dowcorning.com">Erin.lacher@dowcorning.com</a></td>
<td>496-1664</td>
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<tr>
<td>Co-chair</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fund Raising Chair</td>
<td>Mike Molnar</td>
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<td>MJMOLNAR</td>
<td><a href="mailto:michael.molnar@hscpoly.com">michael.molnar@hscpoly.com</a></td>
<td>642-5201</td>
<td>642-7360</td>
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<td>Education Outreach</td>
<td>Verna Talcott</td>
<td>Dow Corning Corp. Process Industries</td>
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<td><a href="mailto:v.b.talcott@dowcorning.com">v.b.talcott@dowcorning.com</a></td>
<td>496-6066</td>
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<td>AIChe Scholarship</td>
<td>David Tascarella</td>
<td>Dow Corning Corp. Mail# 128</td>
<td>DSTASCAR</td>
<td><a href="mailto:david.tascarella@dowcorning.com">david.tascarella@dowcorning.com</a></td>
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<td>Continuing Education</td>
<td>Brett Birchmeier</td>
<td>Dow Chemical Co. 438 Building</td>
<td>Birchmeier, Brett (BM)</td>
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<td>636-1916</td>
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<tr>
<td>School Donations/</td>
<td>Joe Anderson</td>
<td>Dow Chemical Co. 845 Building</td>
<td>Anderson, Joe (J)</td>
<td><a href="mailto:janderson2@dow.com">janderson2@dow.com</a></td>
<td>636-2045</td>
<td>636-3939</td>
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<tr>
<td>Newsletter Editor/</td>
<td>Eric Stangland</td>
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All telephone numbers listed above are in the 989 area code unless otherwise specified.