

## DALLAS SECTION AIChE APRIL 23, 2013 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE & GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

A Dallas Section AIChE Executive Committee Meeting and General Meeting were held on April 23, 2013 at Two Guys from Italy Restaurant.

### A) EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

The attendees were as follows:

Chair: José Ramiro Rodríguez Perazza  
Vice Chair: Donald B. Miller  
Treasurer: Fernando J. Aguirre  
Secretary: Fred Eisen  
Director: Lacy Bishline

Absent and excused were: Directors Nancy Garnett, Keith Miller, and Neal Abernathy.

Below is a brief summary of the meeting.

- 1) Grants from National – We have again submitted a request for a grant to reach out to the young professionals by inviting them to outreach activities such as happy hours and meal invitations. No response back from National yet.
- 2) Officer Succession – We still need to identify possible candidates for the 2013-2014 Chair and other officer positions. Anyone interested in running or who wants to nominate someone else, please contact the Chair or one of the other officers. Election of new officers is scheduled for the June meeting.
- 3) Local Sections Leadership Workshop – This year's LSLW will be held on April 27 and 28 in San Antonio. Director Lacy Bishline and Vice Chair Don Miller are planning to attend. We have received grants from National to cover their trip expenses, up to \$500. for each one of them.
- 4) 2012-2013 Programs – The Vice chair is still working on a possible plant trip on a Saturday this spring, possibly a combined cycle power station in Forney on a Saturday in May. If anyone wants to volunteer to give a talk, has a suggestion for a speaker or topic, or plant to visit, etc., please contact the Vice Chair or one of the other officers.
- 5) Prior Meeting Minutes – The March 26, 2012 meeting minutes were approved.
- 6) Treasurer's Report – The Treasurer gave his report to the Executive Committee and it was later presented at the general meeting.
- 7) Other – It was decided that chemical engineering students living in the Section area can become Section members at no charge.

## **B) GENERAL MEETING**

Attendance at the general meeting was 30.

The Chair made some welcoming remarks including introduction of the first time attendees. The Treasurer gave his report. Currently, the budget is roughly on track and we now have \$10,686 in the bank. The Treasurer's Report was approved. The Vice Chair reported he was working on the possible plant visit to a combined cycle power station in Forney. He polled the attendees on which Saturday in May was preferred. The 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday won.

The speakers for the evening were Andrew (Andy) S. Moore of Windward Engineering PLLC and Krishnaveni (Kittu) Makkina of Lexington Group International. Their topic was "Benchmarking a Gas Processing Facility".

The speakers described how they answered the question, now that it's constructed and operating on real world feeds and in real world conditions, is the facility operating at the performance level it should?...or could?

The adage of "What gets measured, gets done" is true. Benchmarking in our lexicon is nothing more than using a consistent set of optimum operating data and measuring how well the observed plant performance matches the corresponding parameters. This time the tool used was computer simulated "perfect world" performance. The utility of such a tool is manifold. Process improvements, incremental profitability, equipment capacity measurement, and maintenance forecasting are a few uses of benchmarking tools.

Robust, field grade simulation models were developed using the Aspen HYSIS process-modeling environment in order to benchmark two existing trains of straight refrigeration gas plants in Kazakhstan. This presentation detailed the overall scope and details of such a benchmarking exercise.

The meeting was adjourned at about 9:00 PM.

Fred Eisen  
Secretary

4/28/13