



Baton Rouge Newsletter

Year 26, Number 4

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November 29, 2015

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The *AIChE Baton Rouge Newsletter* is published monthly, from September to June, by the AIChE Baton Rouge Section, 110 Chemical Engineering, LSU, Baton Rouge, LA 70803. It is distributed free of charge to members of the Baton Rouge Section of the American Institute of Chemical Engineers.

Membership Fee: \$15.00/yr.

December 2015 Meeting...

- Date:** Thursday, December 3rd, 2015
- Place:** King Buffet, 6230 Bluebonnet Blvd., Baton Rouge, LA 70809
- Speakers:** Todd Jaco, Business Development Engineer, MYNAH Technologies
- Topic:** *"Let's Talk Simulation"*
- Agenda:**
5:30 PM – Social hour as guests arrive and order dinner
6:00 PM – Chapter announcements and 2016 officer elections begin
6:30 PM – Speaker presentation begins
7:30 PM – Meeting adjourns
- Cost:** \$10 per AIChE member (\$15 per guest; \$8 per AIChE student member)
- Menu:** A Chinese food buffet, so eat to your heart's content!

RESERVATIONS

Please make your reservation with chapter secretary, Ryan Schexnaydre, **by 5:00 PM on Tuesday, December 1st, 2015** at valed1980@gmail.com or by calling 337-412-1727.

If you don't, you'll still be welcome at the door, so bring your coworkers too!

Professional Engineering Certification

The subject of this meeting is an acceptable activity for continuing Professional Development as defined by LAPELS and is **approved for one (1) PDH unit**.

The Baton Rouge AIChE chapter is NOT responsible for individual record keeping of PDH credits. Certificates must be obtained at the meeting by the individual.

Upcoming 2016 Events / Speakers...

- 01/21:** 4th Annual AIChE Industry Panel with LSU AIChE
- 01/28:** Presentation – TBD (tentative date)
- 02/18:** Presentation – TBD (tentative date)

If you or your colleague(s) would like to give a technical presentation at an upcoming chapter meeting for 2 professional development hours (PDHs), please contact Chapter Chair, Stephen Reilly, at stephen.reilly@prosys.com to schedule a meeting date and time.

December Meeting Abstract...

The topic of simulation is one that is of interest to many engineers from many backgrounds. However, it is very deep and often an individual's exposure to simulation is narrow and shallow. Advancements in technology also make it a field that is difficult to keep up-to-date with while also staying on top of your daily duties and long-term goals.

This presentation aims to arm you with the high-level understanding necessary to know what types of simulations are out there today, when they can be useful to you, and how they can fit into your resource and budget planning for major projects or general operations.

December Meeting Speaker Biography...

Todd Jaco is a business development engineer with MYNAH Technologies. His areas of expertise include designing custom operator training and control system testing solutions, process simulation development, and platform virtualization.

Previously, Todd worked as a Process Engineer at the Monsanto Company and a Simulation Project Engineer at MYNAH, specializing in process simulation for debottlenecking studies and operator training system development.

Todd has a B.S. in Chemical Engineering with an emphasis in Biochemical Engineering from the Missouri University of Science & Technology and is a candidate for a M.S. in Chemical Engineering from North Carolina State University.



The 4th Annual LSU AIChE Industry Panel Wants YOU

to represent your company for our annual dialogue with LSU AIChE students on Thursday, January 21st, 2016, on campus. Reflect on your collegiate days, share career wisdom and advice, and gain the perspective of what new hires seek in their careers over a complimentary dinner!

If interested, please e-mail chapter chair, Stephen Reilly, at stephen.reilly@prosys.com to RSVP!

AIChE Fall 2015 Seminar Recap...

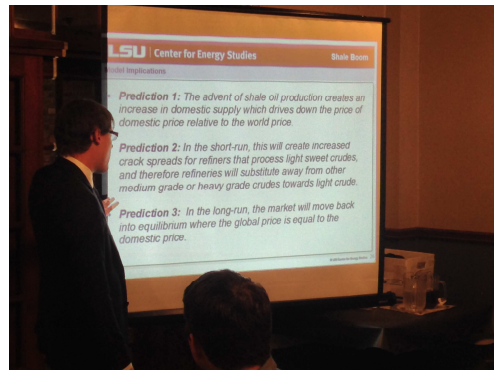
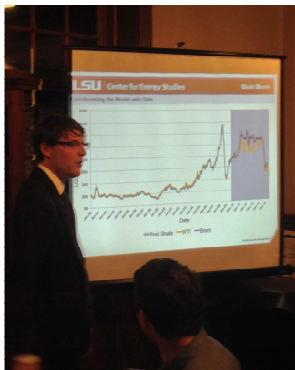
The Fall Seminar was held Friday November 13, 2015 at the Holiday Inn South. Topics included

- Gas Separations in Oil & Gas Industry (Dave Kolstad - Pentair Oil & Gas)
- Polarex Extractive Separation Technology (Sharon Maydak - Pentair Filtration & Process)
- Gas Seals for Pumps & Compressors (Joe Delrahim – John Crane)
- Steam Applications in the Process Industry (Brian Kimbrough – Louisiana Steam)
- LAPELS Enforcement & Disciplinary Procedures (Christopher Knots – LAPELS Board)

58 engineering professionals from the Baton Rouge area registered for the event, and seven (7) PDH credits were awarded for attendance. The Seminar is a fundraiser event for the chapter held twice a year, supporting our High School Chemistry Grants program and other chapter initiatives.

- **Jimmy Orr**, Seminars Committee Chair

November 2015 Chapter Meeting Recap...



The November meeting was held at Drusilla Seafood in Baton Rouge. We packed the room once again! Attendance at recent meetings has been exceptional; the Section really appreciates all the support from our members and friends. And those of you who attended this meeting certainly enjoyed those famous Drusilla hushpuppies. After some important announcements from our Section Chair, the recipients of this year's High School Grants were announced and awards were presented. More details and photographs will be available in the next edition of this newsletter.

As you are most likely aware, the crude oil "export ban" that was implemented by the U.S. government in 1975 in the midst of a worldwide energy crisis exists still today. However the crude oil market is drastically different today than it was 40 years ago, especially due to the shale boom and hydraulic fracturing. To gain an economic understanding of the continuing export ban, we invited Dr. Greg Upton, Assistant Professor at LSU's Center for Energy Studies, to present his work entitled "Unconventional Oil and Gas Activity and Crude Export Restrictions. A discussion of U.S. policy of restricting crude oil exports." Dr. Upton presented his theories, predictions and data (which of course, because he is an economist, included a few supply and demand curves) in support of these conclusions: There are clear winners and losers, especially in the short-run, by maintaining the export ban. But the benefits and concerns that both proponents and opponents present are over-blown in the long-run. And for Louisiana specifically, lifting the ban, although not without risk, has the potential to turn Louisiana into a world trading hub for oil and gas.

- **Brandon Lithgoe**, *Communications Committee Chair*

From the Chapter Chair's Pen...

Mid-twentieth century American politician, Walter Judd, once claimed, "People often say that, in a democracy, decisions are made by a majority of the people. Of course, that is not true. Decisions are made by a majority of those who make themselves heard and who vote – a very different thing."

With Louisiana's election cycle recently wrapped up and the inundation of the presidential election coverage on the 24-hour news still crowding our TV screens, the general apathy I see from a significant number of my peers plus the low voter turnout that the newspapers have reported in recent years really irks the engineer in me. I mean, think of the inefficiency of the process! When other nations get better results (higher voter turnout) in a shorter election cycle, why stick with outdated models and not update our political processes?

If we want better results on a massive scale though, we must take the engineer's approach and validate our pilot-scale processes first. So on that note, I encourage as many members as possible to attend our upcoming chapter meeting and vote in our 2016 officer elections. I also hope we'll have newer members step up with ideas on how to improve and grow the chapter in 2016, as nominations for positions will be accepted right up until the voting begins. So, I hope you make your voice heard soon!

Stephen Reilly



Do you have what it takes? Do you want to make a difference?

Tired of going to the same place each day? Seeking a change in your routine? Make your voice heard – Join us.

ProSys is hiring!

We're looking for:

- Experienced chemical / process / control engineers
- Control system (DCS, PLC) experts
- Engineers who challenge themselves and mentor others
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No experience in alarm management or control systems? Don't worry.

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ProSys, Inc. delivers high-quality, cost-effective, innovative Process Control Systems consulting services and product solutions to the international refining, chemical and petrochemical industries. ProSys' expertise and experience cover the full range of modern control system technology, including basic control, advanced control, dynamic configuration, alarm management and optimization.

Spooky Science Saturday Recap...



Photo Credit: George Stanley

Volunteers from both the local Baton Rouge and LSU chapters helped to man a booth at Spooky Super Science Saturday at the LSU PMAC this past Halloween. Super Science Saturday was originally planned to occur on October 10th, but after the LSU vs South Carolina football game moved to occur in Baton Rouge, it was changed to October 31st. The change in the date helped to add some additional excitement to the event since attending families and volunteers alike were able to dress up in costume.

The AIChE booth was one out of 18 groups at the event that helped to increase the awareness and excitement about science in the Baton Rouge community. We chose a fun classic experiment, vinegar and baking soda, to help explain acids, bases, and chemical reactions to visiting families. In the experiment, kids filled a sandwich bag with vinegar and released a napkin capsule of baking soda into the liquid from the top of a closed bag. The reaction's carbon dioxide gas filled the bag and eventually exploded the plastic sandwich bags to the satisfaction of all!

This year, over 1,000 K-12 students and over 2,000 parents/adults attended Super Science Saturday, so it can be by far considered a success! Thank you to all of the volunteers who helped to come out to make the event fun and exciting. Next year's Super Science Saturday is tentatively set for either October 8th or October 29th, so be sure to keep those dates open!

- **Donna Bryant**, Education Committee Chair

2015 Section Contacts

Officers

Chair:	Stephen Reilly, Stephen.Reilly@ProSys.com
Vice Chair:	William Buck, William.Buck@Willbros.com
Secretary:	Ryan Schexnaydre, valed1980@gmail.com
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Committees

Awards:	Dal Dalferes, Joseph.Dalferes@jacobs.com
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High School Grants:	W. Clark Snyder, WClarkSnyder@hotmail.com
Newsletter:	Armando Corripio, Corripio@LSU.edu
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Communications:	Brandon Lithgoe, blithgoe@yahoo.com
Professional Development:	Randy Goodman, Randy.Goodman@LA.gov
Seminars:	Jimmy Orr, Jimmy.Orr@Jacobs.com
Membership:	Glenn Bryson, BGBryson@BellSouth.net

Why Should You Join the Local AIChE Chapter?

1. It is a welcoming presence to new chemical engineers in the area.
2. It provides a neutral ground mentorship toward career directions and other life topics.
3. It facilitates a better understanding of local, state, and federal policies related to our professions.
4. It offers a smooth transition for graduating chemical engineers from LSU, ULL, and other nearby universities who start working in the area.

150 years



We create chemistry