

# *The South Texan*



**Thursday, May 7, 2020**

AICHE STS May Virtual Monthly Meeting

2:00PM - 4:00PM TIEPP Texas Water Forum

4:00PM - 5:00PM STS Announcements and Presentation

[Register Here](#)

Check us out on [YouTube!](#)

## Inside this issue:

<a href="#">Meeting Details</a>	1
<a href="#">Water Forum</a>	2
<a href="#">Letter from the Chair</a>	3
<a href="#">Sponsors</a>	4
<a href="#">STS Opportunities</a>	5
<a href="#">STS Awards Nomination</a>	6-8
<a href="#">Upcoming Events</a>	9-13
<a href="#">Volunteer Outreach</a>	13-14
<a href="#">Past Events</a>	15
<a href="#">Season Pass</a>	16
<a href="#">STS Corporate Liaison Program</a>	17
<a href="#">Contact Information</a>	18
<a href="#">Subscribe/Unsubscribe</a>	

## May Virtual Monthly Meeting

May 7th, 2020 Presentation: The 2021 Region H Water Plan: Long-Range Planning for the Greater-Houston Area

**Abstract:** Texas has been in an ongoing battle with the climate to balance the surplus and shortage of water to promote its continued economic growth. In response to the drought of 1996, the State of Texas passed comprehensive legislation to address the state's water planning needs. A key element of this legislation was the creation of the regional water planning process. In this process, the state is divided into 16 different regions overseen by Regional Water Planning Group, which consists of stakeholders representing various interests in the region. These stakeholders drive the development of Regional Water Plans on a five-year cycle that are intended to identify strategies to meet projected water needs over a 50-year planning horizon.

The Region H Water Planning Group has recently completed the Initially Prepared Plan for the 2021 planning cycle. This document contains plans for how the greater-Houston area will meet the water needs of its projected 11.7-million inhabitants in the year 2070, as well as the demands of agriculture, industry, and commercial enterprise to support this growth. The plan identifies more than \$20-billion in capital projects over this time to meet identified needs, including water conservation, reuse, transmission, treatment, and desalination. This plan will be receiving public comment through June 28th to be finalized for inclusion in the Texas Water Development Board's 2022 State Water Plan.

**Speaker: Jason Afinowicz, PE, Practice Leader for Water Resources Planning**

Jason Afinowicz is an associate for Freese and Nichols, Inc., a full-service innovative consulting firm offering engineering, architecture, environmental science, construction and planning services. He is the firm's practice leader for water resources planning. In his over 15 years of planning experience, he has managed or participated in the four rounds of regional planning for the Region H Water Planning Group as well as the water plans for Regions C, I, K, and P. In addition, he has been engaged in the development of innovative and comprehensive water supply plans for water providers throughout Texas including the use of surface water, groundwater, and reclaimed sources as well as the efficient management of water through conservation initiatives.

## Registration

Please register with the TIEPP Water Forum. The same virtual format will be used for both events. The AIChE portion of the meeting will begin at 4:00pm.

[Register Now](#)



## May Events

### Texas Water Forum Webinar!



The Texas Industrial Energy Efficiency Program is delighted to present the **2020 Texas Water Forum Webinar, 2:00 to 4:00 pm, May 7, 2020**. Register [here](#). The Water Forum will be followed by the **STS-AIChE Monthly Technical Meeting**. **PDH certificates** for licensed engineers are available for both events.

Water Forum Sponsor:

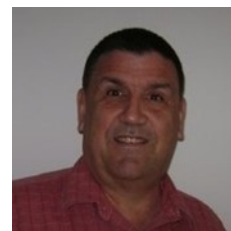


#### Water Forum Program

Theme: *Save Energy While You Save Water – Better Equipment and Better Strategies*. Water and energy are both essential in the process industries, and in all aspects of modern life. They require diligent management, and they are closely interconnected. Technology advances in water management have created opportunities to reduce the consumption of both of these resources simultaneously. Our Forum will explore new equipment and engineering approaches to accomplish this double objective. Confirmed speakers:

#### Jim Wark – Culligan. *Advancements in Water Treatment*

For decades, salt-based water softeners have been used to save households and businesses costs associated with scale build up. Boilers and hot water heaters are basic examples. This presentation introduces a new technology that offers a very different option. Could this be the future of water treatment?



#### Somnath Basu and Paul Sun – Headworks International. *Petroleum Refinery Wastewater Treatment: Principles and Case Studies*

Treatment of refinery wastewater streams can be challenging, due to the variability of their characteristics. This presentation will explain refinery wastewater treatment principles with the help of three case studies.



#### Juan Miguel Pinto – Energy Recovery Inc. *Energy Consumption and Desalination*

Desalination has become an important water source not only for several countries, but also for some private companies. However, the cost of energy use in desalination can be prohibitive (> 50–60% of water total cost). The presentation will discuss a range of approaches to reducing energy consumption in desalination systems.



Register [here](#). Additional details [here](#).

**PDH certificates** for licensed engineers are available for both the **Water Forum** and the **STS-AIChE monthly meeting**.

## May 2020 STS-AIChE Chair's Letter – Mark Harkness

Hello South Texas Section,

I hope this find everyone safe and sound.

We are presently operating in virtual mode, but we do have events scheduled for May.

The TIEEP 2020 Texas Water Forum is scheduled for 2:00 PM until 4:00 PM online. Registration is via Eventbrite at <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/texas-water-forum-sts-aiche-monthly-meeting-tickets-95451190079>. A special thanks to Alan Rossiter for making this happen.

Directly after the water forum, from 4:00 to 5:00 PM, will be the monthly meeting presentation. Mr. Jason Afinowicz, PE, an Associate and Water Resources Planning Practice Leader at Freese and Nichols, will be giving a presentation titled “2021 Region H Water Plan: Long-Range Planning for the Greater-Houston Area”. Jason has been involved with regional water planning for several years, and his presentation I think will well as a follow-on to the water forum. The registration for the Water Forum will register you for the monthly meeting.

The Ship Channel Cruise is still tentatively scheduled for June 6<sup>th</sup>. A decision will be made in the next couple of weeks to proceed or not; information will be communicated as it becomes available.

A resource available to us online is the AIChE Academy (<https://www.aiche.org/academy>), which has numerous archived webinars, as well as a list of upcoming live webinars. This is a great resource for learning, as well as a great resource for those needing continuing education. Please give it a try.

As we continue to be impacted by the coronavirus, and with uncertainties around possible opening times, the Executive Committee has been working on plans to continue to have meetings normally as well as virtually in the event restrictions continue into the fall. This would include the First Thursday meeting as well as First and Third Friday networking. Details will be communicated when they are available. The ExCom is also looking at how we can help members with employment as economic conditions continue to change. We hope to have some granularity on this soon.

The leadership of the Section is committed to providing service to the membership during these uncertain times. If I can be of assistance, please feel free to email me at [mark.s.harkness@gmail.com](mailto:mark.s.harkness@gmail.com), or call at 713-819-6981.

Be safe, and I hope to see you all soon!



## Call for Sponsors for 2020!

### STS-AIChE Monthly Dinner Meeting Sponsorship Package

Does your company or organization want to reach out to decision-makers and engineers in the process industries in the Greater Houston area? STS-AIChE (South Texas Section – American Institute of Chemical Engineers) now offers corporate sponsorships for its monthly technical dinner meetings. Attendance at the meetings is typically between 80 and 120 people, most of whom are practicing chemical engineers and managers. Meetings are generally held on the 1<sup>st</sup> Thursday of the month (2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday in January). Our dinners are held on all sides of the greater Houston metro area – west, east, north and south – to serve the membership of one of the largest local sections of the AIChE. We also webcast and record our meetings, providing access to additional audiences in different locations.

We offer 3 standard rolling 12 month sponsorship packages:

	Bronze	Silver	Gold
Benefits at one STS dinner meeting			
• Present at AIChE STS Monthly dinner meeting			X
• Plaque with sponsoring company logo			X
• Skirted table/table-top display booth		X	X
• Company/organization promotional talk or video	1 minute	2 minutes	5 minutes
• Complimentary dinner tickets	2	4	8
Additional promotional benefits for 12 months (8 meetings)			
• Recognition during each STS dinner meeting social hour	X	X	X
• Recognition from the podium at STS dinner meetings	X	X	X
• Promotion on social media (FaceBook, Twitter, LinkedIn)	X	X	X
• Sponsor Logo displayed in the monthly STS newsletter	X	X	X
Donation to the South Texas Section	\$500	\$1,500	\$3,000

STS-AIChE uses a substantial part of the monies obtained for sponsorships to lowering the admission price for the dinner meeting. This is designed as an incentive to increase attendance at these events, and also as a way to highlight the sponsor's donation.

#### Notes for Gold Sponsorships:

- Sponsor and STS leadership will jointly agree on the date and topic of the presentation.

Some sponsors prefer to customize their meeting – e.g., by using a particular venue. We are happy to work with you to make arrangements to meet your needs, although naturally the cost of the event and the size of the sponsorship donation may be affected by any changes to the standard arrangements.

We look forward to working with you in advancing chemical engineering in the Greater Houston area.

For more information, or to sign up as a sponsor, please contact Mark Harkness at [mark.s.harkness@gmail.com](mailto:mark.s.harkness@gmail.com) or mobile 713-819-6981 .

## **2020 STS Opportunities**

---

### **2020 STS Speaking Opportunities**

In 2020, the South Texas Section and our partners will continue very successful events:

- Networking lunch programs, on the east and west sides of town, two per month;
- Monthly dinner meeting workshops;
- A stand-alone workshop evening in December 2020;
- The Energy Forum in April 2020;
- The Water Forum in May 2020; and
- The Southwest Process Technology Conference in October 2020.

If you would like to speak at any of these events, please contact Mark Harkness at [mark.s.harkness@gmail.com](mailto:mark.s.harkness@gmail.com).

### **2020 Exhibit Opportunities**

There are exhibit opportunities at the Energy Forum, the Water Forum, and the Southwest Process Technology Conference (SPTC). If you choose to be a South Texas Section Sponsor, we can work out a discount arrangement for exhibiting at these three events.

---

## STS AIChE Awards Nominations — Extended!

---

### It's STS Awards Nomination Time!

*Due to complications created by the Coronavirus 19 pandemic, the nominations deadline has been extended to May 29, 2020.*

Nominations are being accepted thru May 29, 2020 for the following STS Annual Awards:

- 2019 STS Best Applied Paper Award
- 2019 STS Best Fundamental Paper Award
- 2019 STS Best In Practice Paper Award **\*\*NEW!!\*\***
- 2019 STS Outstanding Young Professional Award **(Under 40)**
- 2019 STS Distinguished Service Award (Over 36)
- 2019 STS Special Service Award(s)

Nomination Forms are available in ***The South Texan***, The STS – AIChE web-site (<https://www.aiche.org/community/sites/local-sections/sts/forms/sts-award-nomination-form> ~~ Click on “HERE”), or by contacting:

Matt Christiansen	281-544-6476	Matthew.Christiansen@shell.com
Tom Menn	281-485-3719	<a href="mailto:ThomasMenn@SBCGlobal.net">ThomasMenn@SBCGlobal.net</a>
Ryan Stephens	281-544-8447	Ryan.Stephens@Shell.com



## 2019 STS-AIChE Annual Awards Nomination Form

South Texas Section – AIChE 2019 Annual Awards Nomination Form  
THIS NOMINATION FORM MUST BE RECEIVED BY **MAY 29, 2020** TO BE ACCEPTED!

Mail the completed form to:

Thomas E. Menn Or  
Awards Chair  
P. O. Box 458  
Pearland, Texas 77588-0548

Matt Christiansen, PhD Or  
Best Papers Judging Chair  
Shell Projects and Technology  
Technology Center  
3333 Highway 6 South  
Houston, Texas 77082

Ryan Stephens, PhD  
Best Papers Judging Co-Chair  
Shell Global Solutions (US) Inc.

Tel.: 281-485-3719

Tel.: 281-544-6476

Tel: 281-544-8447

[ThomasMenn@SBCGlobal.net](mailto:ThomasMenn@SBCGlobal.net)

[Matthew.Christiansen@shell.com](mailto:Matthew.Christiansen@shell.com)

[Ryan.Stephens@shell.com](mailto:Ryan.Stephens@shell.com)

Following receipt of the submitted nomination, you will receive an e-mail from the STS Awards Committee confirming receipt of the nomination after AIChE & STS Membership is verified. **All Best Paper Nominees not Members of AIChE and/or STS – AIChE may wish to join AIChE and/or STS – AIChE before May 31, 2020 in order to be eligible for the recognition due a STS – AIChE Member Best Paper Award Recipient.**

**NOTE: ONLY ONE PERSON OR PAPER MAY BE NOMINATED PER FORM!**

NOMINATOR'S NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

STREET: \_\_\_\_\_

CITY: \_\_\_\_\_ STATE: \_\_\_\_\_

ZIP CODE: \_\_\_\_\_

TELEPHONE NUMBER: AC: \_\_\_\_\_ NO: \_\_\_\_\_

E-MAIL ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

I wish to nominate \_\_\_\_\_

(Enter Name of Nominee or Title of Paper on the above line.)

ENTER CONTACT INFORMATION FOR NOMINEE OR AUTHOR:

NOMINEE or AUTHOR'S NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

STREET: \_\_\_\_\_

CITY: \_\_\_\_\_ STATE: \_\_\_\_\_

ZIP CODE: \_\_\_\_\_

TELEPHONE NUMBER: AC: \_\_\_\_\_ NO: \_\_\_\_\_

E-MAIL ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

TYPE OF NOMINATION: (PLEASE CHECK ONLY ONE SPACE BELOW.)

2019 STS – AIChE Outstanding Young Professional Award (Under age 40) \_\_\_\_\_

2019 STS – AIChE Distinguished Service Award (Over age 40) \_\_\_\_\_

2019 STS – AIChE Best Fundamental Paper Award \_\_\_\_\_

2019 STS – AIChE Best Applied Paper Award \_\_\_\_\_

2019 STS – AIChE Best In-Practice Paper Award \_\_\_\_\_

2019 STS – AIChE Other \_\_\_\_\_ Award \_\_\_\_\_

For STS Outstanding Young Member or Distinguished Service Awards, please state the reason you feel that this person is deserving of this award back of this form and ignore the rest of the form. You may attach any supporting documentation to this form.

For Best Paper Nominations, please continue and complete page 2 of this form.

## 2019 STS-AIChE Annual Awards Nomination Form

Please enter the name of the nominated 2019 Best Paper again:

(Sorry to trouble you but this is in case the sheets get separated.)

Enter the contact Author's name again:

(Sorry to trouble you but this is in case the sheets get separated.)

Check Best Paper Category Again:

Fundamental \_\_\_\_\_

Applied \_\_\_\_\_

In Practice \_\_\_\_\_

FOR BEST PAPER NOMINATIONS, LIST THE NAMES OF THE AUTHORS AND CHECK ALL BLANKS THAT APPLY:

### MEMBERSHIP

Note: At least one (1) author must be a STS Member.

AICHE STS

Co-Author # 1: \_\_\_\_\_

Co-Author # 2: \_\_\_\_\_

Co-Author # 3: \_\_\_\_\_

Co-Author # 4: \_\_\_\_\_

Co-Author # 5: \_\_\_\_\_

Co-Author # 6: \_\_\_\_\_

Co-Author # 7: \_\_\_\_\_

Co-Author # 8: \_\_\_\_\_

Co-Author # 9: \_\_\_\_\_

[Add addition Co-Authors on an attached sheet as necessary.]

For Best Paper Nominations, please provide following information:

NAME OF PUBLICATION: \_\_\_\_\_

DATE OF PUBLICATION: \_\_\_\_\_

VOLUME NO. (If known): \_\_\_\_\_ PAGES: \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_

PLEASE ATTACH A COPY OF THE ARTICLE FROM THE PUBLICATION TO THIS FORM OR IF THIS IS NOMINATION IS TENDERED BY E-MAIL, PLEASE ATTACH AN ELECTRONIC VERSION OF THE PUBLISHED ARTICLE. **(NO MANUSCRIPTS, PLEASE.)**

Following receipt of the submitted nomination, you will receive an e-mail from the STS Awards Committee confirming receipt of the nomination after AIChE & STS Membership is verified. **All Best Paper Nominees not Members of AIChE or STS – AIChE may wish to join AIChE and/or STS – AIChE before May 31, 2020 in order to be eligible for the recognition due a STS – AIChE Member Best Paper Award Recipient.**



---

## Upcoming Events

---

### First and Third Friday Networking Lunches — Postponed until further notice

---

### 2020 Offshore Technology Conference

---

## 2020 Offshore Technology Conference in Houston Cancelled

Thursday, April 02, 2020

**Houston, Texas, USA (2 April 2020)** – After significant consideration and in light of the COVID-19 pandemic, the difficult decision was made to cancel the 2020 Offshore Technology Conference. Amid continued health and travel concerns during this uncertain time, the OTC Board of Directors felt this decision was the most feasible and responsible for staff, exhibitors, partners, attendees, and the Houston community.

“As we navigate these difficult and uncertain times, it is with a heavy heart that the OTC Board of Directors has determined that it is in our best interest to cancel OTC 2020. Our priority is the health and safety of our attendees and exhibitors, and we have taken federal, state, and local guidelines into account in making our decision,” states Cindy Yeilding, OTC Chairperson.

Yeilding continued, “On behalf of the OTC Board of Directors, we would like to thank the staff, authors, partners, volunteers, students, teachers, and all involved with OTC for the dedication and hard work they have contributed to the 2020 event. As we face this uncharted territory, we remain confident of OTC’s critical role in the offshore industry’s future and eagerly anticipate a robust OTC 2021.”

To preserve the significant work of the program committee and authors, the technical papers and presentations will be made available at a later date on OnePetro.org.

Plans will commence for OTC 2021, bringing leading-edge technical information, the industry’s largest equipment exhibition, and valuable professional contacts from around the world to Houston. The Call for Papers will open on 28 May 2020. Join us 3–6 May 2021 as OTC will continue to drive the offshore energy sector forward into the next decade.

Since 1969, OTC has played a major role in connecting people from more than 100 countries to encourage collaboration and discussions on the challenges and successes encountered in the offshore sector. Its large international participation provides excellent opportunities for global sharing of technology, expertise, products, and best practices. OTC brings together industry leaders, investors, buyers, and entrepreneurs to develop markets and business partnerships.

---

## Upcoming Events

### The Climate Solutions Community Annual Symposium — Rescheduled!



The Engineering, Science and Technology Council of Houston (ECH), and Climate Solutions for Texas, a local initiative of The Climate Solutions Community of the American Institute of Chemical Engineers, invite you to a Climate Solutions Symposium.

Saturday, August 22, 2020, 9am-noon

University of Houston Student Center Theater, 4455 University Drive, Houston

### Paths to Texas Zero GHG Emissions: Electricity, Transportation and Industry

9:00-9:10am	Tom Rehm, Chair Climate Solutions for Texas Humble TX	Opening comments
9:10-9:30am	Sylvia Dee, Climate Science Professor Rice University	Climate Change: Simple, Serious, Solvable
9:30-10:00am	Jeremy Friesen, NET Power	A gas-fired power plant with zero emissions
10:00-10:30am	Gene Preston, PhD Electrical Engineer, Austin TX	Electrification of transportation Max renewables using gas to fill in the gaps Max renewables using nuclear and storage
10:30-11:00am	Pavel Tsvetkov, Nuclear Engineering Professor, Texas A&M University	Nuclear energy: Zero emissions and safe
11:00-11:15am	Larry Kremer, PhD Physical Chemist, Citizens Climate Lobby	The paramount importance of a price on carbon
11:15-11:25am	Symposium Gold Sponsors	Our sponsors keep the cost of the symposium down and allow students free registration. Two minutes at podium per Gold Sponsor.
11:25am~noon	Panel Q/A from Audience	

Registration: <https://stsaiche.regfox.com/ech-climate-solution-community-symposium>

\$10 unless you're a student. Students may attend free by entering the student code of ECH202044.

## Upcoming Events

### The Climate Solutions Community Annual Symposium — Rescheduled!

Sylvia Dee, Climate Science Professor, Rice University

Sylvia is the developer of the water isotope-enabled, fast-physics atmospheric dynamical model, SPEEDY-IER, and a public platform for proxy system modeling development, PRYSM. This modeling platform allows for multi-centennial simulations of common era climate with water isotope physics, which, coupled with proxy system models for proxy records, facilitates the comparison of model output to paleoclimate data.



Jeremy Friesen, Director, Business & Corporate Development, NET Power

Mr. Friesen has two decades of experience in energy and commodity markets starting with work at Canada's central bank and fifteen years of experience as a senior strategist on commodity trading floors in New York and Hong Kong, where he helped set up commodity-focused initiatives within Morgan Stanley and Société Générale. Jeremy left banking in 2016 to work on clean energy project development, including a near net-zero carbon project in Canada. He also started a VC-funded technology company in San Francisco called Banyan Infrastructure, which focused on improving clean energy infrastructure financing. Jeremy, with a master's degree in economics from McGill and a career focused on commodity markets and strategy, is now focused on helping NET Power become the essential technology for a growing CO<sub>2</sub> market place and future net-zero carbon economy.



Gene Preston, PhD Electrical Engineer

Dr. Preston is CEO of Transmission Adequacy Consulting, which performs transmission grid interconnection studies for large wind and solar developers. Gene retired from Austin Energy in 1998 with 28 years of experience in generation, transmission, and distribution planning. Gene has been working to improve the speed and accuracy of grid reliability studies as a part of his PhD, which he received from the University of Texas in 1997. He recently chaired an IEEE task force updating the IEEE RTS (reliability test system) wind model working closely with the NREL (National Energy Renewable Laboratory). That model and program is posted on-line as open access. Gene has developed software for assessing grid reliability with wind and solar added to Texas and California grids and has written a paper with NERC (North American Electric Reliability Corporation) about how wind and solar affects ERCOT (Electric Reliability Council of Texas) reliability. Gene is currently working on a home project to power his Tesla Model 3 from sunlight.



## Upcoming Events

### The Climate Solutions Community Annual Symposium — Rescheduled!

Pavel Tsvetkov, Nuclear Engineering Professor, Texas A&M University

Pavel V. Tsvetkov, Ph.D., is an Associate Professor in the Department of Nuclear Engineering, Texas A&M University. Dr. Tsvetkov's research program is focused on novel energy systems meeting global growing needs in sustainable resources, particularly looking for environmentally benign sustainable energy solutions. The project portfolio since 2005 includes direct energy conversion, waste management efforts to dramatically reduce nuclear waste via irradiations in high temperature reactors and fast spectrum systems, novel reactor designs, used fuel options evaluations, and instrumentation and control efforts to develop intelligent autonomous control algorithms and novel sensors, full scope simulators for security assessments, data analysis and reconstruction for nuclear security applications, and nuclear criticality safety. Dr. Tsvetkov is a member of ANS, ASME, ASEE, Alpha Nu Sigma and Phi Kappa Phi. At A&M, he serves as the graduate program advisor for Nuclear Engineering. He published over 300 papers in peer journals, conference proceedings and reports as well as served as an editor and major contributor for 12 books on energy, environment and nuclear energy. Dr. Tsvetkov has 2 patents pending on reactor design and energy conversion.



Larry Kremer, PhD Physical Chemistry, Citizens Climate Lobby

Larry was born in Austin TX in 1946 and grew up in Dallas TX. Larry has 20 US patents and over 50 publications in various areas of chemistry. He obtained his BS in Chemistry at UT Austin and his PhD in Physical Chemistry from the University of Utah. He then did a post doc at Yale University. His industrial career started at BASF in Detroit and finished at Baker Hughes in Houston where he developed numerous chemical products. At BASF his first job was to reformulate cleaning products to work at lower temperature in response to the OPEC oil boycott. At Baker Hughes he developed products such as fuel additives, process additives, corrosion inhibitors for carbon capture units, and products around utilization of biomass for energy. Since retiring from Baker Hughes, he has been a volunteer mentor for startup companies in the energy sector. As a Global Energy Mentor (GEM) he attends weekly meetings at St Thomas to find and develop entrepreneur with novel ideas about energy. He is also a volunteer with Citizens Climate Lobby which promotes a fee and dividend approach to climate solutions.



Tom Rehm, PhD Chemical Engineering

Founding Member, The Climate Solutions Community, AIChE

Founding Member, Climate Solutions for Texas

Tom spent his career in the oil industry, beginning in 1972 with UOP in the Chicago area and retiring from Saudi Aramco in 2009. Tom served as Chair of the AIChE South Texas Section in 2019 and Director of the AIChE Safety and Health Division from 2017 to 2019.



## Upcoming Events

### *CONSIDERING A UH CHEMICAL ENGINEERING GRADUATE DEGREE?*



There is still time to apply. Deadlines have been extended and the **GRE REQUIREMENT HAS BEEN WAIVED FOR SUMMER 2020, FALL 2020 AND SPRING 2021** applicants. Applicants to our master's programs who meet the requirements will receive **AUTOMATIC ADMISSION**. Don't put your engineering career on hold. **APPLY TODAY!**



**Extended Application**  
**Deadline:** May 15th, 2020  
 (GRE requirement waived)  
**Admission to PhD program:**  
 includes tuition waiver  
 and a competitive stipend.



**Learn from the world's leading researchers** at one of the highest ranked\* chemical and biomolecular departments in the country.  
*(Top 20 department based on NRC study)*



**Fellowships available** for qualified applicants:  
*(Presidential Fellowship, the Houston Endowment Fund, and Special Foundation Department Fellowships)*

UNIVERSITY of **HOUSTON** | ENGINEERING

WEBSITE: [WWW.CHEE.UH.EDU](http://WWW.CHEE.UH.EDU)

EMAIL: [GRAD-CHE@UH.EDU](mailto:GRAD-CHE@UH.EDU)

## Volunteer Outreach

### 2020 Offshore Technology Conference

#### Notice to Volunteers

Any person who registered for the 2020 Offshore Technology Conference as a Volunteer should have received notifications from Meetings OTC <[meetingsotc@spe.org](mailto:meetingsotc@spe.org)> and OTC Customer Service <[email\\_confirm@confmail.experient-inc.com](mailto:email_confirm@confmail.experient-inc.com)> stating that the 2020 Offshore Technology Conference has been canceled.

The South Texas Section – AIChE wishes to extend its gratitude for those who volunteered on behalf of AIChE and STS – AIChE.

If there are any questions, please feel free to contact:

Tom Menn @ [thomasmenn@sbcglobal.net](mailto:thomasmenn@sbcglobal.net)



## Volunteer Outreach

---

### 12th Southwest Process Technology Conference, Call for Volunteers

---

October 1-2, 2020

#### Sugar Land Marriott Town Square

The South Texas Section of the American Institute of Chemical Engineers, in partnership with the AIChE HQ, is hosting its 12th Annual AIChE Southwest Process Technology Conference at the Sugar Land Marriott Town Square, October 1 & 2, 2020. The conference provides technical sessions, industry solutions in process technology, and networking opportunities for the nearly 500 chemical engineers and students that attend, as well as exhibits, a career fair, a happy hour reception and a student program.



#### **CALL FOR 2020 SPTC VOLUNTEERS:**

Volunteer duties typically include working at registration, as session aides for the technical presentations, assisting exhibitors, working meals and collecting event tickets.

**Volunteers will receive free registration for the day or days they volunteer. If you are interested contact David Silarski at [sts-membership@aiche.org](mailto:sts-membership@aiche.org) and let him know if you can work one or both days.**

Further information including confirmation and a schedule will be sent out later. It will be a greater conference because of your assistance.

---

### **STS– AIChE Houston Food Bank Volunteering Event – Postponed**

---

STS AIChE will still be volunteering at the Houston Food Bank, postponed for later in the year.





## STS Past Events

### STS AIChE University Scholarship 2020

The South Texas Section (STS) of AIChE continues to support the development of our area student chapters. The STS AIChE University Scholarship, 2020, was awarded to 11 chemical Engineering scholars from four different Universities of the Greater Houston Area during the March Monthly Dinner Meeting at The Bougainvilleas. The scholarship is to recognize students' academic achievements in chemical engineering and long-term volunteerism in the local section. Congratulations to the outstanding Chemical Engineers.



2020 STS AIChE University Scholarship awardees. 2020 STS – AIChE Chair Mark Harkness (R) and Outreach Dr. Nabila Shamim (L).

#### List of Awardees

<u>Name</u>	<u>University</u>
Abeshai Bernad	Prairie View A & M University
Caleb Myers	Prairie View A & M University
Kayla Danae Randal	Prairie View A & M University
Alexander Curylo	Rice University
Jonathan Bloom	Rice University
Catherine Seelig	Texas A & M University
Henry Jones	Texas A & M University
Nicholas Sims	Texas A & M University
Aya Hasan	University of Houston
Fran Tumajan	University of Houston
Rafael Cervantes	University of Houston

**STS-AIChE 2020 Season Pass****2020 STS-AIChE Patrons**

First Name	Last Name	Company Name
Yurika	Diaz Bialowas	Chemstations, Inc.
Tom	Rehm	The Climate Solutions Community
George	Vourazeris	Airgas Merchant Gases
Travis	Fixmer	LyondellBasell
William Paul	Waits	Unemployed
Ravindra	Saxena	ANR Consulting
Dale	Embry	ConocoPhillips
Jack	Chosnek	KnowledgeOne LLC
Thomas E.	Menn	
Jordan	Pearce	OLI Systems, Inc.
Joseph	Ramey	Westchase Design LLC
Trevor	Rice	Chemstations
Mark	Harkness	Harkness Engineering and Consulting
Matthew	Kolodney	
John	Middleton	Worley Parsons
Jim	Brigman	Ingenero, Inc.
Victor	Edwards	Vic Edwards Associates
Carol	Schmidt	Wood Group

## South Texas Section Corporate Liaison Program

The intent of the program is to have a liaison contact at companies in the region that employ a large group of Chemical Engineers, so that the liaison can pass on information on upcoming events, and encourage attendance at STS-AIChE Events.

This program will make it easier for Chemical Engineers to learn about meetings and events that may interest them, and by providing a “personal touch” and intra-company networking opportunity, overcome potential fears or objections to participating. The program will also provide a potential opportunity for employees to be recognized as leaders within their company.

Responsibilities and benefits are listed in the table below.

STS-AIChE	Liaison	Company
<b>Responsibilities</b>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✦ Provide meetings and events</li> <li>✦ Maintain list of liaisons</li> <li>✦ Send out special emails to liaisons</li> <li>✦ Advertise program and recognize liaisons and companies</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✦ Forward STS-prepared emails to department/group</li> <li>✦ Create meeting invitations for coworkers</li> <li>✦ Try to set up carpools where able</li> <li>✦ Attend meetings where possible</li> <li>✦ Interface with Company Management on STS activities and sponsorship opportunities (as applicable)</li> <li>✦ Provide feedback to STS Officers on company interests and comments</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✦ Support the liaison</li> <li>✦ Advertise where applicable</li> </ul>
<b>Benefits</b>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✦ Higher attendance</li> <li>✦ Better corporate relations</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✦ Personalized Nametag for meetings</li> <li>✦ Demonstrated leadership within company</li> <li>✦ Increased networking ability within corporation</li> <li>✦ PDH credits/technical education</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✦ Recognition at meetings</li> <li>✦ PDHs / education for employees</li> <li>✦ Networking/team building opportunities</li> </ul>

In early 2016, Travis Fixmer, a Process Optimization and Design Engineer with Huntsman Performance Products, developed an intranet website which promotes our Section and its activities within Huntsman. He offered to be a resource to individuals who would like to do the same. If you would like to promote our Section, Travis can provide you with guidance on how to proceed.

Others in our section send intra-company emails promoting the South Texas Section. This can be easily done by simply forwarding the STS monthly meeting notice email to employees in your company.

There is no cost for liaisons or companies to participate. Participation as a liaison is completely voluntary, and companies can transition to a new liaison or end their participation at any time.

If you have any questions, please contact Tom Rehm at [tom@tomrehm.com](mailto:tom@tomrehm.com) or 832-331-6491.



## South Texas Section AIChE

STS-AIChE  
P.O. Box 421373  
Houston, TX 77242

*2020 Officers and Contact Information*

### Officers

**Chair** Mark Harkness  
[sts-chair@aiche.org](mailto:sts-chair@aiche.org)

**Chair Elect** Dr. Ramanan Krishnamoorti  
[sts-chairelect@aiche.org](mailto:sts-chairelect@aiche.org)

**Past Chair** Tom Rehm  
[sts-pastchair@aiche.org](mailto:sts-pastchair@aiche.org)

**Secretary** Joseph Hernandez  
[sts-secretary@aiche.org](mailto:sts-secretary@aiche.org)

**Treasurer** Yurika Díaz Bialowas  
[sts-treasurer@aiche.org](mailto:sts-treasurer@aiche.org)

### Executive Committee

**Position 1: Education**  
Babak Rafienia  
[sts-position1@aiche.org](mailto:sts-position1@aiche.org)

**Position 2: Outreach**  
Nabila Shamim  
[sts-position2@aiche.org](mailto:sts-position2@aiche.org)

**Position 3: Communications**  
Meghan Spivak  
[sts-position3@aiche.org](mailto:sts-position3@aiche.org)

**Position 4: Human Resources**  
Dr. William Pittman, Ph.D.  
[sts-position4@aiche.org](mailto:sts-position4@aiche.org)

### Volunteers

**Arrangements:** [John Middleton](#)  
**Awards:** [Tom Menn](#)  
**Membership:** [David Silarski](#)  
**Webmaster:** [Talia Sanchez](#)  
**Young Professionals:** [Emily Jackson](#)  
**Advertising:** [Mickey Reeves](#)

### SOUTH TEXAS SECTION MISSION STATEMENT

As a section of AIChE, we serve chemical engineering professionals in the South Texas region through education, professional development, and networking.

### Vision 2020

We will become an organization with strong and active membership. We will accomplish this through:

1. Increasing awareness
2. Improving relevancy of our programs
3. Improving our governance
4. Hospitality/Welcome/Social

### — SUBSCRIBE/UNSUBSCRIBE INFORMATION —

Our newsletter subscription list is by invitation only.

**Subscribe:** Click on the following link: [Subscribe](#).

**Unsubscribe:** Click on the following link: [Unsubscribe](#). Your email address will be removed from the subscriber list.

### — MAINTAIN YOUR CONTACT INFORMATION WITH STS —

Maintain your contact information with the South Texas Section using the online community: <http://www.aiche.org/>

Contact the AIChE for PERMANENT ADDRESS CORRECTIONS:



<http://www.aiche.org/contact/form>



1-800-AIChemE (1-800-242-4363)



AIChE Home Office  
120 Wall Street, FL 23  
New York, NY 10005-4020

AIChE Customer Service Center  
100 Mill Plain Rd 3rd Fl  
Danbury, CT 06811

## The South Texan Newsletter Crew

WHAT DO YOU THINK OF THE NEWSLETTER? We want to know!

Contact us at [sts-newsletter@aiche.org](mailto:sts-newsletter@aiche.org) with comments, questions, suggestions, and ideas for next month.

### Newsletter Editor

**Meghan Spivak**  
[sts-position3@aiche.org](mailto:sts-position3@aiche.org)

### Submit an article! Contact:

**Matt Kolodney**  
713-471-8956  
[MKolodney1@comcast.net](mailto:MKolodney1@comcast.net)

### Reserve your ad space! Contact:

**Yurika Diaz Bialowas**  
[sts-treasurer@aiche.org](mailto:sts-treasurer@aiche.org)

