

# The South Texan

2003 Marx Isaacs Award for Outstanding Large Section Newsletter



## Special Notes

- Location: Clear Lake Hilton
- Workshops 5:30 PM-6:30 PM
- Networking 6-7 PM
- Dinner 7 PM
- Speaker 8 PM

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## Monthly Meeting February 1, 2007 Location: Clear Lake Hilton

### Entrepreneurship at American Universities

**Speaker: Ernest J. Henley, Professor of Chemical Engineering at the University of Houston**

**Abstract:** The past fifteen years have witnessed a rapid escalation in entrepreneurial activities at American (and foreign) engineering schools. These activities include:

- Academic and Continuing Ed courses
- Financing of "Incubators"
- Raising venture capital funds
- Routine involvement of staff and students in commercial development projects
- Establishment of technology transfer and patent support offices



It is safe to predict that, as with universities' football programs, there will be many more losers than winners.

**Bio:** Ernest J. Henley is Professor of Chemical Engineering at the University of Houston. He received his B.S. degree from the University of Delaware and his Dr. Eng. Sci. from Columbia University, where he served as a professor from 1953 to 1959. Henley also has held professorships at the Stevens Institute of Technology, the University of Brazil, Stanford and Cambridge Universities, and the City University of New York. He has authored or coauthored 72 technical articles at 12 books, the most recent being *Separation Process Principles*.

For 17 years, he was a trustee of CACHE, serving as President from 1975 to 1976 and directing the efforts that produced the seven-volume set of "Computer Programs for Chemical Engineering Education" and the five-volume set, "AIChE Modular Instruction."

An active consultant, Henley holds nine patents, and has served on the Board of Directors of several companies. In 1998, he received the McGraw-Hill Company Award for "Outstanding Personal Achievement in Chemical Engineering." In 2002, he received the CACHE Award of the ASEE for "recognition of his contribution to the use of computers in chemical engineering education." He is the President of the Henley Foundation.

## February Workshops (More detail, see page 2)

<b>CAST</b>	Physical Property Information Sources and Industrial Consortia (postponed from January)	Dale L. Embry, ConocoPhillips
<b>PSM</b>	Layer of Protection Analysis (LOPA) for Improving your HAZOP	Randy Freeman, President and Principal, Safety & Property Protection Consulting, Inc.
<b>PE/PO</b>	Measurement of Level, Interface, and Density	John Welker, Lyondell Corporation
<b>Environmental</b>	The Use of Cameras To Detect Fugitive VOC Leaks	Vince Lara, President of Acro Technologies

## Workshop Details: Workshops begin at 5:30 PM

### C.A.S.T. (Computing And Systems Technology): Physical Property Information Sources and Industrial Consortia

**Speaker:** Dale L. Embry, ConocoPhillips

**Abstract:** Many practicing engineers are unaware of the numerous available resources containing physical property data. This talk will discuss the various sources that are available for locating previously measured data and highlight the current areas of research of several industrial consortia such as AIChE's DIPPR.

**Bio:** Dale Embry is a Principal Engineer for ConocoPhillips. He has served as a technical representative to several industrial consortia for physical property data collection, measurement and correlation. His primary work focus is in property correlation and prediction for process simulation and evaluation. He has a B.S. and M.S. in Chemical Engineering from Texas A&M.

### Process Safety: Layer of Protection Analysis (LOPA) for Improving your HAZOP

**Speakers:** Randy Freeman, President and Principal, Safety & Property Protection Consulting, Inc.

**Abstract:** Layer of protection analysis (LOPA) is a process safety tool which is used to organize and evaluate the protective features in process plant operations. The tool is a semi-quantitative risk analysis that uses order-of-magnitude estimates of frequency and consequences of an event to define the risk. The risk reduction of protective layers such as SOPs, relief systems, safety instrumented systems, etc., is evaluated against risk tolerance criteria to determine if additional safeguards are needed. Recommendations are developed to reduce the risk of operations by the provision of additional protective layers.

This workshop is intended to give the participant a working understanding of the benefits of conducting a LOPA study. Participants will learn how LOPA may be used with other Process Hazards Analysis tools such as HAZOP. Organization of a typical LOPA team will be discussed. A simple problem will be used as part of the workshop to demonstrate the concepts.

**Bio:** Randy Freeman is President and Chief Consultant for S&PP Consulting of Houston, TX. He has over 30 years industrial process safety experience at Monsanto/Solutia, where he was responsible for process safety technology, risk analysis for all Monsanto/Solutia facilities on a worldwide basis, and at ABS Consulting where he was a Senior Consultant on Process Safety. He is a Fellow of AIChE and an emeritus member of the Center for Chemical Process Safety (CCPS). He is a past chairman of the Safety and Health Division of AIChE and is an emeritus member of the AIChE Loss Prevention Symposium national planning committee. He was the chair of the 2003 Process Plant Safety Symposium (PPSS). Randy holds BS, MS and PhD degrees in Chemical Engineering from the University of Missouri at Rolla and is a registered professional engineer in Texas and Missouri.

### Process Engineering/Plant Operations (PE/PO): Reactor Mixer Selection

**Speaker:** John Welker, Lyondell Corporation

**Abstract:** The presentation is a brief selection on mixing technology that discusses liquid blending, equipment design, and gas-liquid mixing issues considered in reactor design. The gas mixing discussion will also cover the prediction of mass transfer for bubble and agitated reactors and the uses of CFD in mixing design studies. These are selections from a more extensive 4 hour course that Mr. Welker has given internally to Lyondell engineers.

**Bio:** John Welker is a Senior Advisor Process Engineer with Lyondell Chemical Co. He has supervised the design of several of Lyondell's Process Plants in PO technology including BDO, MTBE, Propylene Glycol and Ethers. He also works in the areas of Fluent CFD simulation, and consults internally on mixing and reactor design. He has a BSChE from Washington Univ in ST. Louis and a MSChE from Univ of So. California and is a member of NAMF section of the AIChE.

### Environmental: The Use of Cameras To Detect Fugitive VOC Leaks

**Speaker:** Vince Lara, President of Acro Technologies

**Abstract:** A short DVD presentation of the Pacific Advanced Technologies (PAT) Hyperspectral Sherlock Camera will be shown. This presentation provides a brief summary of the derivation of the Sherlock camera technology and its many uses. The presentation will briefly discuss the cameras' use in the current EPA Smart Leak Detection And Repair (SLDAR) program and briefly discuss the applicable regulation. It also provides a summary of uses and examples.

**Bio:** Vince Lara received a B.S. in 1983 from Texas State Technical College. He then went to work for Radian Corporation (now URS) for 10 years, achieving the level of Research Associate. He then had a short stay at Western Environmental Services and Testing (WEST) as Technical Director before moving on to Rosengarten, Smith & Associates, Inc. (RSA). His tenure at RSA began as a Senior Program Manager and Director of Air Quality Programs. He left RSA as a Senior Associate and Director of Air Quality Programs in January 2006 to form Acro Technologies, Inc. where he is currently President.

Acro Technologies, Inc. provides technical solutions and services to the chemical and petro/petrochem industries in every environmental matrix areas worldwide.

**Coming in March!** At the STS March 1 monthly meeting, there will be a single two-hour workshop by Murray Nadler, Patent Attorney (January's main speaker) on patents and dealing efficiently with patent attorneys. This special workshop will begin at 4:00 PM. There will be no cost to attend, and there will be no other workshops in March. Mark your calendars now! You can review information about Mr. Nadler in January's newsletter at <http://www.sts-aiiche.org/newsletter/news2007/news0107.pdf>.

## Dinner Registration Information

Make your dinner reservation online at:

<http://www.sts-aiche.org/sts-aichereservation.htm>

Reservations are accepted until 4pm the Tuesday of meeting week.

You may also **cancel a reservation** using this link. Please cancel your reservation if you have made one and find that you are unable to attend.

Phone reservations are not accepted.

The cost for this meeting, per person, is:

Regular/Retired	\$25 pre-registered	\$35 at the door
Student/Unemployed	\$15	\$25

Workshops are free to attend.

## Meeting Location - Hilton Houston NASA Clear Lake

The February meeting will be held at the Clear Lake Hilton. To use your own mapping program for directions, the address is 3000 NASA Parkway, Houston, 77058. Their phone number is (281) 333-9300.

An online interactive map may be found [here](#).



## Workshop Chairs

Do you have a suggestion for a Workshop? Would you like to present a workshop, and get 1 hour of CE credit for it? Contact one of the following:

General Workshops	Chris Knudsen	<a href="mailto:workshopinfo@sts-aiche.org">workshopinfo@sts-aiche.org</a>
Computing and Systems Technology (CAST)	Todd Wilman	<a href="mailto:cast_chair@sts-aiche.org">cast_chair@sts-aiche.org</a>
Process Safety (PSM)	Jack Chosnek	<a href="mailto:psm_chair@sts-aiche.org">psm_chair@sts-aiche.org</a>
Process Engineering/Plant Operations (PE/PO)	Steve Haynie	<a href="mailto:pepo_chair@sts-aiche.org">pepo_chair@sts-aiche.org</a>
Environmental	Mike Bradford/Bruce Beneke	<a href="mailto:environ_chair@sts-aiche.org">environ_chair@sts-aiche.org</a>

(Those are underscores "\_" in the email addresses)

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## Volunteer Opportunities

Would you like to volunteer to help out with South Texas Section AIChE activities?

Our Volunteer Coordinator is Matt Kolodney, and he knows about all the possible ways you could help out with your professional organization.

Please phone Matt at (713) 767-3752 or send him an email to [mkolodne@tceq.state.tx.us](mailto:mkolodne@tceq.state.tx.us).

## Engineers' Week is Here!

National Engineers' Week is February 18-24, 2007. Engineers' Week is an annual event sponsored by the Texas Society of Professional Engineers. The local Houston chapter organizes the myriad of events that are held throughout the week. It is a great opportunity to meet with other engineers, not just chemical engineers, in the local area, and have a great time as well.

Information about the events for the week are posted on the TSPE Houston website <http://www.tspehouston.org>.

The week's major events in Houston are:

Monday	2/19	Young Engineer of the Year Award Banquet (Dinner)
		Winner: Jolene Eulett, P.E. <a href="http://www.tspehouston.org/en/art/?79">http://www.tspehouston.org/en/art/?79</a>
Tuesday	2/20	Outstanding Engineering Student Recognition Lunch
Thursday	2/22	Engineer of the Year Award Banquet (Dinner)
		Winner: James Pappas, P.E. of Devon Energy <a href="http://www.tspehouston.org/en/art/?78">http://www.tspehouston.org/en/art/?78</a>

The banquets are great opportunities to network with other engineers in the area. Visit the website above or contact Matt Kolodney at [mkolodny@hal-pc.org](mailto:mkolodny@hal-pc.org).

## Calendar of Upcoming Events

Mark your calendars! Information is subject to change as the year progresses.

Date	Tentative Location	Tentative Speaker	Tentative Subject
February 18-24	Engineers' Week, Texas Society of Professional Engineers		
March 1	Brady's Landing		
April 13	Deadline for Awards Nomination Forms submission		
April 22-26	George R. Brown Conv. Ctr.	<b>National Meeting</b>	State of the Union/Ship Channel Tour
April 30-May 3	Reliant Center	2007 Offshore Technology Conference	
May 3	Sheraton Brookhollow	Awards Night	

## Thank you to Murray Nadler, P.E. for January Meeting

January Speaker Murray Nadler begins his presentation on "Current Issues in Patent Law" in the photo below.



See the special announcement on Page 2 for our March workshop with Mr. Nadler!

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## South Texas Section Young ChemE of the Year

The South Texas Section of the American Institute of Chemical Engineers is pleased to recognize Ms. Wendy C. Young as its 2006 Young Chemical Engineer of the Year. Wendy is a Senior Account Manager for Baker Petrolite, providing process treatment chemicals and technical service to petrochemical plants in the Houston area. She obtained her B.S. in Chemical Engineering from Texas A&M University in December 1997. Her experience includes positions in chemical manufacturing, pharmaceutical manufacturing, and technical sales.

Wendy has held many leadership positions in AIChE, both locally and nationally. She revived the Young Professionals Group of Houston's South Texas Section in 2002 and served as its Chair until 2006. Her efforts locally led to working with a broader audience as Chair of the national Young Professionals Advisory Board from 2003-2005. Most recently, she was elected to the national Board of Directors to a 3-year term beginning in 2007.

Wendy represented AIChE as Co-chair of the 2006 Next Wave Program, a new part of the Offshore Technology Conference (OTC) specifically for young professionals. This program consisted of two panels of high level executives giving presentations on specific early career topics and answering questions from the attendees. Feedback from this program was very positive and is planned to continue and expand in 2007.

In addition to AIChE activities, Wendy was a member of the advisory board for the Pearland School District Pre-Engineering Program, which developed a focused secondary curriculum for students interested in pursuing engineering in college. She is a member of the Bay Area Unitarian Universalist Church in Clear Lake and also enjoys participating in a wide variety of sports including figure skating.



## Appreciation Awards from January Meeting



As ARAMCO Services Company has provided excellent meeting facilities for three of the past four meetings free of charge and provided food and refreshments for two of these meetings, the South Texas Section of the American Institute of Chemical Engineers presented a plaque expressing the appreciation of the STS. Shown accepting the plaque from STS Chair David Karesh is S. Henry Martinez of ARAMCO Services Company.



The person instrumental in making the arrangements with ARAMCO Services Company possible was S. Henry Martinez. In appreciation of his efforts, the South Texas Section of the American Institute of Chemical Engineers presented Mr. Martinez with a Valued Friend Of The South Texas Section - AIChE Plaque.

**The South Texas Section of the AIChE extends our gratitude to the ARAMCO Services Company for their continued support of our section's activities.**

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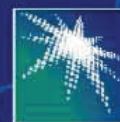
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## 2006 Annual Awards Nomination Form (Page 1 of 2)

It's awards time! Use this form to nominate a member for the Outstanding Young Professional Award, Distinguished Service Award, or the Best Fundamental or Applied Paper Award. Print out this page, complete it, and mail to one of the addresses shown. Submissions should be sent via email.

### South Texas Section – AIChE 2006 Annual Awards Nomination Form

**THIS NOMINATION FORM MUST BE RECEIVED BY APRIL 13, 2007 TO BE ACCEPTED!**

*E-mail the completed form to:*

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

281-485-3719

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

or  
Chen Ramachandran, Ph.D.  
CRI U.S. LP  
Westhollow Technology Center  
3333 Highway 6 South  
Houston, Texas 77082  
281 - 544 - 7589  
281 - 544 - 7817 (Fax)

[chen.ramachandran@shell.com](mailto:chen.ramachandran@shell.com)

Once the nomination is submitted, you will receive an email from the STS Awards Committee confirming receipt of the nomination.

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

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

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

CITY: \_\_\_\_\_ STATE: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP CODE: \_\_\_\_\_

TELEPHONE NUMBER: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL 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: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

\_\_\_\_\_ 2006 STS Outstanding Young Professional Award (Under age 35)\*

\_\_\_\_\_ 2006 STS Distinguished Service Award (Over age 35)\*

\_\_\_\_\_ 2006 STS Best Fundamental Paper Award (*Please complete page 2*)

\_\_\_\_\_ 2006 STS Best Applied Paper Award (*Please complete Page 2*)

\*For STS Outstanding Young Member or Distinguished Service Awards, please provide a supporting document stating the reason you feel that this person is deserving of this award. E-mail the completed form and recommendation to one of the addresses above.

Page 2 of the Nomination Form may be found on Page 8 of this newsletter.



## 2006 Annual Awards Nomination Form (Page 2 of 2)

Please enter the name of the 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.)

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

		MEMBERSHIP	
		AICHE	STS
Note: At least one author must be an STS Member.			
Co-Author #1:	_____	_____	_____
Co-Author #2:	_____	_____	_____
Co-Author #3:	_____	_____	_____
Co-Author #4:	_____	_____	_____
Co-Author #5:	_____	_____	_____
Co-Author #6:	_____	_____	_____
Co-Author #7:	_____	_____	_____
Co-Author #8:	_____	_____	_____

[Add additional authors on an attached sheet if necessary.]

For Best Paper nominations, please provide following information:

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

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

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

PLEASE ATTACH AN ELECTRONIC VERSION (\*.PDF) OF THE PUBLISHED ARTICLE.

Once the nomination is submitted, you will receive an email from the STS Awards Committee confirming receipt of the nomination.

Main South Texas Section site: <http://sts-aiche.org>

National AIChE website: <http://www.aiche.org/> (Needs Flash Plug-in)

Earn CEP credits at AIChE functions: [http://www.sts-aiche.org/Texas\\_PE\\_CEP\\_Rule.html](http://www.sts-aiche.org/Texas_PE_CEP_Rule.html)

Download the CEP log form: [http://www.sts-aiche.org/STS-AIChE\\_CEP\\_Log.xls](http://www.sts-aiche.org/STS-AIChE_CEP_Log.xls)

Previous Newsletters (PDF format): <http://sts-aiche.org/newsletterArchives.htm>

Link to THIS newsletter: <http://sts-aiche.org/newsletter/news2007/news0207.pdf>

Vital Links

## 2007 Spring National AIChE Meeting—Call for Presentations

The Spring 2007 National AIChE meeting will be held in Houston April 22-26, 2007. Division 12, "Process Development," of the AIChE is actively recruiting practicing plant and process chemical engineers to participate in this meeting and in the national organization. Section D, "Manufacturing," of Division 12 is sponsoring the following sessions at the Spring 2007 National AIChE meeting at Houston:

1. To Toll or Not to Toll: That Is the Question
2. Trace Chemistry Contamination at Production Plants
3. Heat Exchanger Fouling: A Messy Business
4. Process Safety and Runaway Reactions

The goal of these sessions is to provide a forum for discussing common plant problems and for identifying practical solutions to such problems.

Jon Worstell, chairperson of "Manufacturing," is recruiting presentations for the above sessions. Please contact him at [Jon.Worstell@Shell.com](mailto:Jon.Worstell@Shell.com) or 281-544-7907 for details about these sessions.



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## Course Available: Applications of Heterogeneous Catalysis March 12-16, 2007

A five-day short course "Applications of Heterogeneous Catalysis" will be given by the Department of Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering at the University of Houston on March 12-16, 2007.

The course is designed to match the needs of industrial chemists and chemical engineers engaged in the practice of heterogeneous catalysis, either as beginners or individuals who are experienced in certain areas but wish to acquire an overview of the field. Although research methodology is included, the emphasis is on applications.

The course has been given fifty-eight times in Houston since 1971, fifteen times at various locations in Europe, and adapted many times for in-house courses at major companies. Many companies routinely send their personnel to us for training, a fact that testifies to the success of the course.

For more information and registration material, contact Professor James T. Richardson at [jtr@uh.edu](mailto:jtr@uh.edu).

## 2007 Offshore Technology Conference

This is an early reminder that the 2007 OTC will be held April 30 thru May 3, 2007 at its usual location, the Reliant Center in Houston, Texas, USA.

While the AIChE and the STS have no formal conduct committee role in the 2007 OTC, we see if arrangements may be made for STS members to volunteer to assist one or more of the local sections of the other sponsor societies that have committee roles in the 2007 OTC as we have done before.

For more information, please contact Tom Menn at 281-485-3719 or e-mail [thomasmenn@sbcglobal.net](mailto:thomasmenn@sbcglobal.net).

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## 2007 Officers and Contact Info

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[chair@sts-aiiche.org](mailto:chair@sts-aiiche.org); 832-351-6944

**Chair Elect** David Silarski  
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## Executive Committee

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**Position 2: Outreach**  
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**Position 3: Communications**  
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## Volunteers

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**Membership** Jerry Gresham, Gresham & Gresham

**Young Professionals** Susan Kerr  
Peter Strasser

**Awards** Tom Menn

## 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 2008

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

1. Increasing awareness of the South Texas Section of the AICHE
2. Improving relevancy of our programs
3. Improving our governance
4. Hospitality/Welcome/Social

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