

AIChE Fellows Newsletter

Fellows Breakfast—Boston, November 2021

In person Monday, November 8, 6:30–8:00 AM EST
Sheraton Back Bay - Grand Ballroom

Virtual Fellows Council, Monday, November 8, 11:30-12:30 pm EST

Virtual Fellows Gathering during November 15-16.
Fellows—YPC Networking, Monday, November 15, 6:00—7:00 PM EST
Fellows “Breakfast”, Wednesday, November 17, 10:30-11:30 am EST

If you have already registered for the 2021 Annual Meeting and wish to add the breakfast ticket event to your registration, please contact Customer Service at 800.242.4363 or customerservice@aiiche.org.

Note that there have been several changes to Fellows events.
[Click the links on the right](#) to jump to features on the following pages.

Of special interest! The Fellows and the Young Professionals Committee (YPC) will be holding another virtual interaction during the Virtual Annual Meeting. Connection information will be emailed to the Fellowship once details have been finalized.

See: www.aiiche.org/community/fellows/events

From the Fellows Council

This edition of the Fellows Newsletter continues our fifth year of communicating information & features to the AIChE Fellows. Our goal remains to involve you in furthering the mission of AIChE!

The Fellowship and AIChE are looking forward to greeting you at our gatherings, to considering your proposals for Fellows activities, and to receiving your thoughts about issues important to the Fellowship.

Best regards, Robert Ofoli, Chair; Annette Johnston, Vice Chair; John O’Connell, Anthony Fregosi, Secretaries

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Special points of interest

Come to Breakfast!

Fellows Events

Boston: November 8, 2021
San Antonio: April 12, 2022

Get Active with Students! **Student Conferences**

Meet our future professionals at the Annual meeting in Boston

Find Student Chapters

Get involved with a student chapter at a university near you

Useful Links

[Fellows Leadership](#)

FC organization and leadership

[Fellows Directory](#)

Where to find an AIChE Fellow

[Fellows By-Laws](#)

Current Governance Document

[Fellows Volunteer Service](#)

Register your interests & availability to volunteer AIChE service

[AIChE Academy](#)

Education & training for chemical engineers & their companies

[AIChE Foundation](#)

Doing a World of Good

[AIChE 2020 Annual Report](#)

Complete information about AIChE activities, organization, and people

[Contact Us](#)

Email the Fellows Council

From the Chair of the Fellows Council



“I am excited about the opportunity to see people whose faces I have only seen on small screens over the last few months”

Fellows Council Activities

The AIChE Fellows Council oversees the organized activities of the Fellows. The FC meets at least four times per year to discuss Fellow activities and policies.

Two meetings are face-to-face at the fall (Annual) and spring (National) AIChE meetings; virtual meetings occur most other months.

Fellows interested in being considered for FC service should [contact us](#).

It has been a distinct honor for me to serve as your Chair for the last year and four months. I will be leaving you in the capable hands of Annette Johnston when I transition into the role of Past Chair on January 1, 2022. Annette has been an outstanding member of the Fellows Council, and has accomplished a great deal during her tenure this year as Vice Chair. I would also like to express my sincere appreciation for John O’Connell, who has served the Fellows as Secretary for many years. John is an outstanding member of the Fellows Council and will be sorely missed. He has a level of institutional memory that has been invaluable to the Fellows Council, and particularly to me as Chair. To enable us to continue utilizing John’s extensive knowledge of Council operations, I requested that he continue to work with us as a non-voting member. Luckily, John has agreed to do so. I am also happy to report that Anthony Fregosi will officially take on the role of Secretary for the Fellows on January 1. Anthony has been working with John the last few months, and is primarily responsible for producing this edi-

tion of the newsletter. We have a slate of outstanding chemical engineers joining the Fellows Council on January 1, 2022. Lori McDowell will take over as FC Vice Chair. Linda Bergeron, Dorothy Bukoski, Laura Dietsche, and Diane Spencer will also begin service on the Council through 2024. Clearly, the Council will be in very capable hands for the future.

I am looking forward to AIChE stepping off the virtual platform we have had to use the last few months, and meeting in person in Boston for the Annual Meeting. I am excited about the opportunity to see people whose faces I have only seen on small screens over the last few months. For those who are unable to travel to Boston, there are virtual sessions planned for the week after, including a joint session with the Young Professionals. The schedule of activities for the in-person and virtual sessions is published elsewhere in this newsletter. I wish you all safe travels.

2020 Fellows Council Officers:

Chair: Robert Y. Ofoli; Vice Chair: Annette A. Johnson; Secretaries: John O’Connell & Anthony Fregosi

AIChE Annual Meeting, Boston November 7—11, 2021



Building the Bridge in 21st Century Education: Chemical Engineering Industry + Academia

The in-person Annual Meeting will be held at Boston’s John B. Hynes Convention Center, the Marriott Boston Copley Place, and Sheraton Boston, Nov. 7–11. Additional virtual programming will be during Nov. 15–19. The Annual Student Conference takes place in-person from Nov. 5–8 and online from Nov. 13–14. In-person sessions at both conferences will be recorded and made available for viewing on the virtual platform for all attendees. Registrants will have access to both formats and can choose which parts of the meeting they would like to attend.

Visit www.aiche.org/annual for the latest program information and registration.



New Fellows were celebrated with a video highlighting their contributions to the profession. [Congratulations New Fellows](#)

Moment of Silence

Our departed colleagues were given a moment of silence:

Theodore R Beck
R Byron Bird
David E Gushee
Darwin A Novak Jr
Stanley I Proctor.

Fellows Virtual Gathering April 20, 2021

A virtual Fellows Gathering was held in place of the usual early morning Breakfast in conjunction with the AIChE Spring Meeting. The Gathering was from 12-1 PM CDT. Gina Gatto arranged for individual Zoom connections using information in individuals' Zoom registrations. There was no charge with registrants being invited to donate to the Fellows Endowment. The total is now nearly \$8000. There were ~ 100 attendees.



Robert Ofoli chaired the program. Reports were given by AIChE Executive Director June Wispelwey and by 2021 President, Deb Grubbe. Key takeaways were: 1) All major AIChE activities of 2020-21 have been virtual; 2) FOSSI and ILI were launched; 3) RAPID goals were achieved; 4) the Center for Hydrogen Safety has been expanded; 5) assets reached a record \$43MM from diverse revenue sources; and 6) membership levels have stabilized.



New Fellows: Raymond M Sowak, Kelly Teresa Visconti, Richard P Paluzzi, Karen A McDonald, Delmar "Trey"

Morrison, Raghubir Gupta, Robert J Davis, Ah-Hyung Alissa Park were recognized.

Around 12:40, participants were moved to one of three Zoom breakout rooms on:

Fellows Task Force on Student Chapters led by Greg Yeo (19 attendees)
Tools for Fellows Volunteering led by Anthony Fregosi (18 attendees)
Fellows Nominations led by Annette Johnston (21 attendees).

Online surveys were taken during the breakouts. Responses indicated that all Fellows remain active in service such as Committees, Local Sections, Mentoring, etc., though not all are aware of how to become more involved. All believe that Fellows can make a difference in developing ChE students and are interested in engaging with student chapters. Most are very interested in supporting ACE4G and being involved with career guidance and presenting seminars to students.



Later that day, a Fellows Get Together with no agenda was held for virtual Fellowship.

AIChE Foundation

Fueling the Extraordinary – AIChE Foundation Fall 2021

FUELING THE EXTRAORDINARY



Thank you to our growing community of 6,500+ dedicated donors. The AIChE Foundation is funding critical programs under the Doing a World of Good campaign, positively impacting our profession, and creating a safer and sustainable world.

In the [2021 AIChE Foundation Fall Newsletter](#), you will read powerful stories on how the chemical engineering community is developing innovative solutions to address some of the world's greatest challenges. We provide process safety education, inspire future STEM innovators, and recognize blue sky ideas with the potential to transform our society. Our global community and profession are fueling the extraordinary.

AIChE is also dedicated to developing and fostering an equitable, diverse, and inclusive workforce. Donor-funded programs are nurturing an inclusive and welcoming environment where all people are valued and respected, enabling them to achieve their full potential as chemical engineers.

Every gift to the AIChE Foundation does a world of good. Your generosity will support chemical engineers who never stop inventing, innovating, and reimagining ways to make our lives better.

Join us in making the extraordinary possible. Together, we will make a positive global impact.

Thanks to the generosity of donors to the Annual Fund, in 2021, we have funded eight transformative community driven projects with grant awards totaling \$173,290.



2017 Interview

Henry Brown on the Future of Chemical Engineering Education

Henry Brown is one of the original advocates for under-represented minority chemical engineers in AIChE. AIChE's Gordon Ellis sat down with him to discuss the endowment in his name and the future of chemical engineering education.

Applications for the FOSSI Class of 2022 Open at the HBCU Week College Fair



On October 1, the Future of STEM Scholars Initiative (FOSSI) participated in the HBCU Week College Fair and announced the opening of the application process for the second class of FOSSI scholars.

The application for the FOSSI Class of 2022 has opened! The announcement was made on October 1, at the annual HBCU Week College Fair in Wilmington, DE, in remarks by FOSSI Founding Chairman, Mark Vergnano. The event was hosted

by fellow FOSSI Founding partner, HBCU Week Foundation, with participation from 56 HBCUs and over 5000 high school students, parents, and school counselors, among others.

With support from FOSSI Founding Partners AIChE, Chemours and the American Chemistry Council, FOSSI had a significant presence at the fair, including a virtual and in-person booth as well as a Lunch & Learn Session, "Unleash your Superpowers with a STEM Degree." The Lunch and Learn, moderated by Dr. Kimberly Wise White (American Chemistry Council), featured Alexandra Pierre-Charles (Chemours) and Taylor Hines (Exxon Mobil), who shared perspectives with more than 200 student attendees on how a STEM degree can lead to an impactful and rewarding career in the chemical industry.

As we look to 2022, we hope to have your support and investment in our next class of scholars. Let's keep this great momentum going so that we can reach our ultimate goal of funding 1000 extraordinary FOSSI scholars by 2025!

[Click here to see a video introducing the FOSSI Scholars "Class of 2021"!](#)

FOSSI is a core initiative of the AIChE Doing a World of Good campaign and its All for Good: Engineering for Inclusion priority, which is driving industry-wide improvement in equity, diversity and inclusion.

Would you like to become involved in FOSSI?

[Learn more about FOSSI online](#)

Our IDEAL Commitment



“AIChE believes that all who wish to be a part of the chemical engineering community should have equal opportunity to pursue and achieve success.”

AIChE Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Statement

Board approved January 2021

AIChE is committed to promoting a fair, just, and equitable profession and society. Groups that have faced discrimination continue to encounter challenges when entering into or participating in engineering and science professions. We encourage inclusion and intentional representation of people from diverse backgrounds and experiences because it is ethical and honorable, and it enhances the innovation and creativity necessary to find solutions to current and future challenges. We aim to eliminate disparities in treatment, racism, and any form of discrimination from our profession — recognizing that specialized strategies will be required for distinct groups, and that long-standing narratives will need to be combated. As members of our AIChE Community, we have an obligation to support and celebrate our advancement along an IDEAL path.

I (Inclusion) D (Diversity) E (Equity) A (Anti-Racism) L (Learning)

AIChE believes that all who wish to be a part of the chemical engineering community should have equal opportunity to pursue and achieve success. We work toward a better future for all —through our technical expertise; through how we inspire, engage, retain, and advance future talent; and through how we treat each other within and beyond the profession. Solutions to 21st century problems require innovation and creativity, which are accelerated through diverse teams and by ensuring that spaces are inclusive.

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[Read the full statement](#)

Fellows-Student Chapter Task Force Update & Input Request

*“One of our aspirations is to connect
Fellows with every AIChE Student Chapter”*

The Fellows-Student Chapter Task Force is actively pursuing its mission of building relationships and actions that make Fellows an active and helpful resource to students of Chemical Engineering and Student Chapters of the AIChE. The task force meets monthly and has developed a set of strategies that move us toward that goal.

One of our aspirations is to connect Fellows with every AIChE Student Chapter, offering an experienced voice and advisor to students in a way that fits both the student chapter needs and the interests of the Fellows. This could include career/technical advice, seminars, introduction of students to networks of experienced engineers or even discussions with students about challenging student projects. These relationships will form a foundation for a number of other strategies that the task force is developing.

We want to hear from you! **Please drop us a note at** aichefellowswithstudents@gmail.com

- If you are a Fellow with an existing relationship with chemical engineering students, let us know so we can include you in our early pilot and benefit from your experience. Tell us the student chapter / school you are (or have been) connected with, along with a description of what activities/roles you have been involved with. We are interested in all of the connections and activities you have been involved with, regardless of frequency or scale.
- If you haven't yet engaged with students and you're interested in joining us, let us know via the link above! And if there is a school that you have a particular interest in, let us know that as well. Your interest could be the result of past affiliation, geographic location, or just the knowledge that you have something to offer.

Thanks so much for your help! We will keep you up to date with our progress in each issue of the Fellows Newsletter.

Fernando J. Aguirre, Harold Conner, Jr.
Annette Johnston, Stephen Martin
Robert Ofoli, Greg Yeo, Chair
Gina Gatto, AIChE Staff

Save and [download](#) the new AIChE Fellow ribbon and add it to your email signature to show your pride in belonging to AIChE!

A blue ribbon graphic with the text "AIChE FELLOW" in white, bold, sans-serif capital letters. The ribbon has a slight 3D effect with shadows on the sides.

AIChE FELLOW

Notes from Virtual Fellows Council Meetings June 29, 2021; July 26; August 23 and October 12 & 25, 2021

The AIChE Fellows Council oversees the organized activities of the Fellows and meets four times per year to discuss Fellow activities and policies. Two meetings are at the fall (Annual) and spring (National) AIChE meetings, and virtual meetings are held most months. Summaries of the meetings are below; full notes are posted on the Fellows website blog. Fellows are encouraged to contact any of the FC leaders directly or by sending an email to fellowscouncil@aiche.org about issues that should be considered.

FC zoom meeting held on **June 29, 2021**, The following items were discussed:

- Status of Fellows Newsletter
- Plans for Annual Meeting
- Ensuring Fellow voices in uses of Fellows Endowment
- Language and stipulations in Fellow Nomination packet: domestic and international nominees
- Fellows Video

FC zoom meeting held on **July 26, 2021**. The following items were discussed:

- Plans for Annual Meeting
- New thoughts on the ACE4G program, Ensuring Fellow voices in uses of Fellows Endowment
- Options for YPC- Fellows Event at Annual
- Fellow nomination video; status and dissemination plans
- New Fellow nominations
- Update on Student Chapter Task Force
- 2022 FC elections
- Fellows Council Bylaws

FC zoom meeting held on **August 23, 2021**. The following items were discussed:

- Discussion of response from email to Fellows from Student Chapter Task Force
- Plans for Fellows at Annual
- Options for YPC-Fellows Event at Annual Meeting
- Fellow nomination video; status and dissemination plans.
- New Fellow nominations
- ACE4G program: Ensuring Fellow voices in uses of Fellows Endowment
- FC elections

FC zoom meetings held on **October 12 & 25, 2021**. The following items were discussed:

- Moment of silence for departed FC colleague Jo Rogers
- Student Chapter Task Force Review – ACE4G
- FC election results
- FC report to CEOC
- Update on programs at Annual Conference
- Plans for YPC-Fellows Event at Annual Meeting
- Monica has resigned from AIChE – going to be a “stay at home mom”
- Fellow nomination video
- Membership on EDI Task Force
- Newsletter before Annual
- Promotion of Fellows contributing to the Foundation Fellows’ Endowment
- Promotion of nominating someone for Fellow