AIChe’S STRATEGIC PLAN: 2018 & BEYOND

Since its inception 110 years ago, AIChe has been dedicated to its vision to provide value as:

- The global leader of the Chemical Engineering (ChE) profession.
- The lifetime center for professional and personal growth and security of ChEs.
- The foremost catalyst in applying ChE expertise in meeting societal needs.

Over the last decade, AIChe followed a path which enabled it to see triple-fold growth in revenue and a doubling in its net assets. At the same time, AIChe added new programs such as the AIChe Academy for education, new journal publications, conferences, industry/technology groups and the RAPID Manufacturing Institute. AIChe continually works to create greater value for its members, the profession, and society as a whole. However, more work needs to be accomplished, and the new strategic plan will lead the way.

THE PLANNING PROCESS

In 2017, the AIChe board decided to reassess its direction and core strategies for the Institute’s future success. In November of 2017, the AIChe Board undertook a strategic planning process designed to develop a new Strategic Plan which would cover the next 5 years. This initiative was led by AIChe Executive Director June Wispelwey and a Steering Committee comprised of five current Board Members, two Past Presidents, and three additional representatives.

THE PROCESS WAS ORGANIZED IN THREE PHASES:

This process led to the identification of several themes, including leadership with members and stakeholders, technical communities, transformational knowledge delivery, education and lifelong learning, and societal issues. AIChe’s Board, Board Committees, and work groups will ultimately develop specific initiatives to address these strategic priorities over the next five years. AIChe will also assess whether its governance and staff are positioned to ensure the success of this plan.

PHASE 1
GATHER FACTS
- From all stakeholders
- Board
- OCs
- Key committees
- Industry leaders
- Members
- Identify issues

PHASE 2
PERFORM ANALYSIS
- SWOT
  - Strengths
  - Weaknesses
  - Opportunities
  - Threats
- Competitors
- Industry

PHASE 3
DEVELOP STRATEGY
- Review inputs
- Define the plan
- Gather feedback
- Communicate
- Develop roadmap

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LEADERSHIP
AIChE will enable the success of all members and stakeholders as the leader in advancing the chemical and related engineering professions. AIChE will:
• Continue to advance the profession, globally.
• Be broad, diverse and inclusive of all constituents and stakeholders.
• Explore alternate models for engagement.
• Strive to be the best.
• Act nimbly.

COMMUNITIES
AIChE will strengthen existing and create new, relevant communities. AIChE will:
• Strengthen existing communities, by representative constituency (i.e., industry, academic, government), by technical/topical/social interest, or by committee (i.e., division, ITG, WIC, MAC, local section).
• Develop new communities in emerging and underserved areas.
• Grow in advanced manufacturing areas, while strengthening and sustaining the RAPID Manufacturing Institute.

CONTENT
AIChE will enhance the academic curriculum and promote lifelong learning across the profession by developing trusted content. AIChE will:
• Develop and curate timely content across all delivery methods, with global reach, delivering through multiple media and venues.
• Address workforce and professional development gaps to benefit industry and members along the entire career in areas such as safety, digitization and advanced manufacturing.
• Develop and implement competency assessment programs covering specific skills.

DIVERSITY & INCLUSION
AIChE will expand the diversity and inclusivity of the profession. AIChE will develop initiatives to engage and retain diversity across the profession. AIChE will:
• Begin early for engagement (i.e., middle and high schools).
• Explore alternative entryways to ChE, e.g., community colleges.
• Promote inclusion programs.
• Leverage partnerships (e.g., organizations, universities, corporations and funding agencies).

SOCIETAL
AIChE will address important societal issues by utilizing the expertise of the profession.
AIChE will discuss and engage with key constituencies such as the government, industry, academia and the public on important issues. Those issues may include safety, sustainability, public health, education, manufacturing, and the environment. AIChE also will perform societal outreach, demonstrating how ChEs can, and do, make the world a better place.

TRANSFORMATIONAL TECHNOLOGIES
AIChE will proactively innovate and deliver products and services through transformational technologies. AIChE will:
• Deliver content using state-of-the-art platforms, providing global impact and accessibility.
• Utilize more interactive and collaborative delivery methods.
• Develop and deploy new tools for educational training.