

LOCAL SECTIONS COMMITTEE QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

December 2015



Email: localsections@aiche.org

Letter from the Chair

By Brian Daly, Local Sections Committee Chair

Season greetings everyone! The holidays are upon us and I'm sure many of you are well into your programming year so far. As 2015 draws to a close, I've been astonished by what the [Local Sections Committee](#) has been able to accomplish over the year.

In 2014, we released the revamped Annual Report to all local section leaders and the result was an improved response rate. The report was modified to greatly reduce the number of questions asked and it was also the first time the report used metrics to help quantify the health of a section. These metrics provided both the LSC and the individual local sections a chance to see where they stood in terms of how well they were doing in comparison with other Sections. In addition, the committee shared the results of this Annual Report survey with local leaders for the first time. In 2015, the Committee listened to feedback on the new Annual Report from section leaders and incorporated that feedback into the 2015 Annual Report. The 2015 Annual Report will be released in late December or early January.

Second, we organized the grants process and launched a new grant as well. The [New or Reviving Local Section Support Grant](#) was created to assist newly formed or reviving sections that do not have the benefit of existing funds or membership dues to fund programs or events. The grant will give these sections seed money to start their endeavors and get their section off the ground. In addition to the new grant, the committee has started posting the awarded grant summaries to the LSC newsletter to help other leaders get ideas for events in their section or events to apply towards the grant.

Also, the Committee with the [AIChE Operating Councils](#) (OC's) determined how they could best serve the local sections; it was decided to invite the OC's representatives to listen in on the regional calls. This way OC's could hear about some of the issues the local sections face so the OC's have a

better idea how to shape their programs to help out the sections. So far it seems the operating councils got some good insight and they look forward to joining the calls in the future to learn more of the sections' needs as well as offering programs that could help them.

The Committee updated the [Shining Star Award](#) criteria to emphasize local section service and make the review process of applicants much more transparent. Thanks to the help of Angie Perna, the criteria were changed to a rubric system similar to what is used by the Fellows Council and will have a greater weight for local section service. The new criteria will be used for 2016 nominations and the committee will see how things go from there. Overall we are pleased with how it turned out.

Lastly, the Committee has been able to fill some volunteer leadership positions, notably the Vice Chair positions. I would really like to thank all of the local section leaders and members who stepped up and volunteered to help out the Local Sections Committee. Your assistance will go a long way to helping fortify the stability of all local sections.

And as I look into the future, I see a lot of good potential for the health of local sections. The committee has several other projects it is working on, the most of important of which is revising the [Resources for Local Section Leaders website](#), and the continued development of the [AIChE Academy](#) leadership development training program. Based on the results of the Annual Report as well as the general consensus from the regional calls it seems that local sections are making progress and finding stability. The committee's work is far from finished but I think as we work together to achieve the common goal of strong local sections, we will insure the health and growth of AIChE as a whole.

Thank you for all your hard work and be safe this holiday season. It was a pleasure serving you as your chair.

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AICHE LOCAL SECTION EVENTS TOOL

By: Monica Stowe, AIChE Staff

Per the request of our local section leaders to have a single place where all local section events can be listed and shared, AIChE staff have created an [Upcoming Local Section Events website](#). This website compiles all local section events from our individual local section [community websites](#). We hope that sections will refer to this page to learn what activities other local sections are hosting to generate ideas for their own local sections.

It should be noted that this page only uses AIChE community website events. If your local section is not using AIChE's community website platform, your events will not be included on this page. Staff is also unable to manually enter events to be included on this page.

We look forward to seeing local sections' continued use of their community websites to post event information, allowing this new webpage to be as robust and informative as possible. If you are interested in switching to the AIChE community website platform, please fill out the [Request a Community Website form](#).

UPDATING YOUR LOCAL SECTION OFFICER ROSTER

By: Monica Stowe, AIChE Staff

At this time of year many of our local sections are holding elections to fill the section's leadership positions for next year. As you complete these elections, please take a moment to update AIChE with your officer roster. You can see who we currently have listed for your local section by clicking on [this link](#) and searching for your local section. Please submit any changes to your officers through [this form](#). Even if you think we are up to date we ask that you double check. Please submit all updates as soon as you are able.

If your section has alternative titles for certain positions, please choose the title in the drop down menu that most closely describes the title of your section's position. If there is a position you have within your section that is not included in the drop down menus, please add the person as an "officer" and include their officer title/position in the text box that appears.

We expect all local sections to let AIChE know when people rotate in and out of positions at any time of the year. Please save the link to the officer update form for future use. This form can also be found on the [Resources for Local Section Leaders website](#).

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HIGHLIGHTED LOCAL SECTION – NORTH JERSEY LOCAL SECTION

By: Robert Lucas, Past Chair, North Jersey Local Section

Last November (2015), the North Jersey Local Section decided to try out a new way of attracting Young Professionals to get them more involved: hosting a 'Happy Hour' event. By simply advertising via email and Facebook that the local section was sponsoring a happy hour where they would be providing the appetizers, we were able to attract 17 chemical engineers who had not previously been involved with the local section. After the success of our November happy hour, it was an easy decision to make this an ongoing event. Since then, we've hosted eight happy hours typically on the last Thursday of the month for young professionals (and the young at heart) and have had participation from over 50 local chemical engineers. In order to reach out to as many people as possible, the happy hours rotate between Jersey City, Morristown, and New Brunswick, NJ.

With each event costing the local section on average about \$75 in appetizers, this has been a low cost way of letting young professionals know what the North Jersey Local Section is all about. It also has given them a more relaxed way of getting to know other members, making attending a dinner meeting a bit less intimidating. Plus everyone who attends gets a chance to chat about their jobs, seek advice from other chemical engineers, and let the local section's Board know about what type of topics they would like to hear about at future dinner meetings. One attendee was quoted as saying, "The YP happy hours have been relaxing events where I met engineers from the local section, both young and experienced. I really enjoyed gaining valuable career insight, discussing my ideas, and sharing a few beers with new friends." Chair Elect Bob Rossi added "The monthly YP events have proven to be an excellent venue to engage younger members who can potentially infuse new thinking into a long-established local section. We have already seen some increased regular dinner meeting attendance due to the YP events."

If you are interested in contributing to future newsletters, being a highlighted local section or have general updates for the good of all local sections, please email localsections@aiCHE.org.

As part of its ongoing marketing efforts, the North Jersey Local Section intends to continue to host Young Professional and Student Chapter events with a variety of themes to share the benefits of AIChE and to encourage active membership. A few attendees inquired about deeper involvement in the section, which we hope leads to participation in section committees. Director Pete Sibilski summarized by stating, "The Young Professional Happy Hours have become a pleasantly informal way of meeting the younger members of AIChE, and introducing them to the Section, and those of us who run it. This is an effective way of 'breaking the ice' with those members in order to make them more comfortable with the group and more likely to attend other events; and hopefully, become generally more involved with the Section." The North Jersey Local Section looks forward to the continued success of the YP Happy Hours in 2016 and would like to thank Kate Gawel, Rob Lucas, and Sonali Bhatnagar for their initiative, leadership, and commitment which have made the YP Happy Hour so successful.



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TEXAS GULF COAST LOCAL SECTION'S PROGRAM PLANNING GRANT SUMMARY

Program Summary	We attended a painting class where an instructor guides a class through a painting. We had a special painting created for the class which included the state of Texas with the flag colors inside and the star. A special twist was to include beakers with a little "reaction" over the Gulf Coast section of the state. The attendees could also design their own background, giving the somewhat rigid minds of engineers a chance to be creative! Appetizers and beverages were also provided and we also created a little handout on the makeup of paint to add a little technical element to the event.
Was the program organized in conjunction with another society or AIChE group?	We organized the event ourselves but advertised to our local ACS group (Brazosport section) as well.
Did your Section have previous experience implementing this kind of program?	This was the first time our section put on an event like this, even though a few of our members had participated in classes like this before (but not with a sheet of fun facts about paint!)
What makes the program innovative to your local section? What were the benefits of this program?	This was one of the first times we have done an event with an activity like this. Normally the events are networking happy hours or seminars, so the active element of getting to do a painting was very new to us. We had people participate at this event that had never been to our local section events before, so having an option other than the normal happy hour was great for those new participants.
How did you promote the activity?	We started advertising the event 3 weeks before, sending a flier out to our mailing list. Reminder e-mails were sent 2 weeks and 1 week before the event. Word-of-mouth from our members also helped advertise.
What was the total cost of the event?	\$848.71
What were the benefits of this program? Is your Section interested in planning a similar event in the near future? If so, will you need additional funds?	As mentioned above, getting new people to participate was a great benefit. Also, being able to do a hands-on event like this was new to our group and very fun. We would certainly consider planning similar events, depending on what is available in our area. The funding for this event allowed us to almost completely subsidize the painting activity (which would normally cost \$30-40 per person). Having the minimal cost for people to attend helped get a bigger crowd, so having funding for an event like this in the future would certainly continue to help attendance.

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KANSAS CITY LOCAL SECTION'S PROGRAM PLANNING GRANT SUMMARY

Program Summary

The speaker series "Energy R&D: Capture, Permit, Control" was a great success with an average attendance of 33. The Program Planning Grant allowed for the success of this speaker series by enabling our plans to include a venue that caught the attention of young professionals. At each of the events at least 20% of the attendees were interns who were in the Kansas City area for the summer. The opportunity to gain the attention of these students before starting as young professionals is important for the continued growth of our local section.

Was the program organized in conjunction with another society or AIChE group?

The program was only organized by our AIChE Local Section.

Did your Section have previous experience implementing this kind of program?

Yes. We have been successful with this event over the last few years. We try and modify the subject matter each year, but we've used the same venue for the last two years.

What makes the program innovative to your local section? What were the benefits of this program?

The speaker series features professionals at varying experience levels and current job descriptions. The series featured the following speakers: A professor from the University of Kansas was the speaker for the April meeting. In May a representative from Trinity Consulting Group LLC provided an in-depth explanation of permitting and regulations for Missouri and Kansas. Finally, the June meeting featured Pentair Valves & Controls.

How did you promote the activity?

The event was promoted with our digital newsletter, facebook event notifications, Twitter, and in-house meeting notifications at the largest of the two companies where attendees come from. The entire series is organized a month in advance and we begin promotions for the set of events a few weeks before the first event of the series.

What was the total cost of the event?

\$2745

What were the benefits of this program? Is your Section interested in planning a similar event in the near future? If so, will you need additional funds?

We plan to host a similar series of events again next year during the months of April, May and June. We will apply again for funding to assist in the cost of the events.

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HIGHLIGHTED RESOURCE FOR LOCAL SECTIONS

Financial/Tax Reporting Information

With the end of many local sections' fiscal years in December it is important to remember over the next several months to file your section's tax reports with the IRS by the May 15 deadline. Be sure to check out the [financial/tax reporting information](#) available on AIChE's Resources for Local Section Leaders website to ensure your sections' compliance with the IRS.

2016 LSC CONFERENCE CALLS

February 11 - 2pm Eastern

April 11 - 12:30pm Central at [Spring Meeting](#)

June 9 - 3:30pm Eastern

August 9 - 2pm Eastern

September 27 - 3:30pm Eastern

November 14 - 12:30pm Pacific at [Annual Meeting](#)

All local section chairs, vice chairs, secretaries and treasurers are invited to attend these calls.

Other Resources for Section Leaders

Speaker's Corner

The [Speakers Corner](#) provides local sections with a list of experts and outstanding communicators who are interested in presenting on their work and the state of chemical engineering. This is a great tool for planning programming at your section's meeting!

Funding for Sections Available

Apply today for a [Program Planning Grant](#) or a [Project Connect Grant](#)! Awards available to assist local sections with membership outreach efforts. Next deadline is for the Project Connect Grant is December 30, 2015. Next deadline for the Program Planning Grant is March 30, 2016.

Shining Star Award

Recognize outstanding volunteerism within your local section by nominating someone for the [Shining Star Award](#). Deadline for nominations is November 30, 2016.

Update Your Officer Roster

You can see who AIChE has listed as officers of your local section by clicking on your section name in the [Find a Local Section website](#). If this listing is out of date, [complete the officer update form](#).

Website Platform Available at No Charge

Whether you're using AIChE's old platform or are using a third party platform, learn more about [AIChE's web platform](#), [see examples](#) of sections already using them, and [request your new, free website today](#).

More resources available at the [Resources for Local Section Leaders](#) website.



Calendars

AIChE Meetings Calendar

For information and registration details, visit www.aiche.org/conferences or call Customer Service at 1-800-242-4363 or 1-203-702-7660 (outside the U.S.).

JAN. 5–7, 2016	International Conference on Biomolecular Engineering (Organized by the Society for Biological Engineering) Singapore
FEB. 29–MAR. 2, 2016	FDA–AIChE Workshop on Adopting Continuous Manufacturing (ACM) Bethesda North Marriott Hotel and Conference Center • Bethesda, MD
MAR. 3–4, 2016	8th Annual Midwest Regional Conference Illinois Institute of Technology • Chicago, IL
MAR. 3–4, 2016	Offshore Technology Conference Asia Kuala Lumpur Convention Centre • Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
APR. 10–13, 2016	12th Global Congress on Process Safety Hilton Americas and George R. Brown Convention Center • Houston, TX
APR. 10–14, 2016	AIChE Spring Meeting Hilton Americas and George R. Brown Convention Center • Houston, TX
APR. 11–13, 2016	Frontiers in Particle Science & Technology (FPST) Hilton Americas • Houston, TX
MAY 2–5, 2016	Offshore Technology Conference NRG Park • Houston, TX
JUNE 1–3, 2016	3rd CCPS China Conference on Process Safety Howard Johnson Kangda Plaza • Qingdao, China
JUNE 7–9, 2016	2016 Process Development Symposium Boston, MA
JUNE 26–30, 2016	Metabolic Engineering 11 (Organized by the Society for Biological Engineering) Awaji Yumebutai International Conference Center and Westin Awaji Island • Japan
JULY 18–21, 2016	2016 Synthetic Biology: Engineering, Evolution & Design (SEED) (Sponsored by SBE) Hilton Chicago • Chicago, IL
AUG. 2016 (DATES TBA)	7th CCPS Latin American Conference on Process Safety Lima, Peru
SEPT. 18–22, 2016	61st Annual Safety in Ammonia Plants and Related Facilities Symposium Grand Hyatt Denver • Denver, CO
NOV. 13–18, 2016	2016 AIChE Annual Meeting (Student Conference, Nov. 11–14) Hilton San Francisco Union Square • San Francisco, CA

AIChE Academy Calendar

Public Courses

For more information, and to register, visit www.aiche.org/academy.

DEC. 7–9, 2015 ATLANTA, GA	Essentials of Chemical Engineering for Non-Chemical Engineers Course # CH710 • Instructor: Jack Hipple
DEC. 7–11, 2015 NEW YORK, NY	Combo Course: HAZOP Studies AND Concepts for Process Hazard Analysis (CH157 & CH754) Course # CH759 • Instructor: Robert Johnson
DEC. 7–9, 2015 NEW YORK, NY	HAZOP Studies and Other PHA Techniques for Process Safety and Risk Management Course # CH157 • Instructor: Robert Johnson
DEC. 10–11, 2015 NEW YORK, NY	Advanced Concepts for Process Hazard Analysis Course # CH754 • Instructor: Robert Johnson
DEC. 8–10, 2015 HOUSTON, TX	Combo Course: Flow of Solids AND Pneumatic Conveying (CH032 & CH033) Course # CH757 • Instructor: Thomas Troxel
DEC. 8–9, 2015 HOUSTON, TX	Flow of Solids in Bins, Hoppers, Chutes and Feeders Course # CH032 • Instructor: Thomas Troxel
DEC. 10, 2015 HOUSTON, TX	Pneumatic Conveying of Bulk Solids Course # CH033 • Instructor: Thomas Troxel
FEB. 22–25, 2016 LOS ANGELES, CA	Process Safety Boot Camp Course # CH900 • Instructors: Jerry Jones, Louisa Nara
FEB. 29–MAR. 4, 2016 SAN DIEGO, CA	Combo Course: HAZOP Studies AND Concepts for Process Hazard Analysis (CH157 & CH754) Course # CH759 • Instructor: Robert Johnson
MAR. 1–3, 2016 ATLANTA, GA	Combo Course: Flow of Solids AND Pneumatic Conveying (CH032 & CH033) Course # CH757 • Instructor: Eric Maynard

Webinars

Register and view live and archived webinars at www.aiche.org/webinars.

DEC. 9, 2015 2:00–3:00 PM ET	Introduction to Surfactants Presenter: Chris Tucker
JAN. 13, 2016 2:00–3:00 PM ET	Battery Basics Presenter: Donald Sadoway
JAN. 20, 2016 2:00–3:00 PM ET	Molecular Simulations of Surfactants, Lipids, and Polymers Presenter: Ronald Larson
JAN. 27, 2016 2:00–3:00 PM ET	When the Only Thing Consistent About Your PHAs is Inconsistencies (Sponsor: Provenance Consulting) Presenter: Patrick Fisher
FEB. 3, 2016 2:00–3:00 PM ET	Geographic Information Science Presenter: John Cirucci