

AIChE®

Chicago Columns

Chicago Section e-newsletter

September 2006

CHAIR'S CORNER

ANNETTE JOHNSTON AND BRIAN GAHAN

September 1:

CHICAGO 2006 Fall Symposium Reminder -Early Registration Deadline

September 12:

How to start, develop, and improve your career

September 24:

Changes to the Patent System Being Considered by Congress and Their Impact on Engineers (YPAB Event)

October 9-10:

Refinery Processing and In-Plant Energy Conservation and Optimization, AIChE-Chicago Symposium 2006

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Chair's Corner	1
Energy and Refining Symposium	2
September Meeting	3
YPAB Fall Meeting	3
State of the Section	4
National Update	4
Call for Liaison Committee	5
Call for Volunteers	5
Future City Competition	6

Welcome to the new season of AIChE Chicago Section Programming! Promise yourself that you will build your network and advance your career by attending at least one of the events this year.

Start with the September program, "How to start, develop, and improve your career", which is all about networking. This program on September 12, which I call the "Speed Date" is the perfect opportunity for students, and anyone not familiar with local members to meet many engineers in a short period of time. If you are interested in being one of the "dates" - that is, one of the professionals that the group will rotate to speak to - please send your information in as instructed. Your CV or resume will make a good conversation starter during the rotation. I have committed to working with Brian Daly at National to develop a program like this for students at the Spring Meeting in Houston, and many national meetings thereafter. I am very interested to see how it goes this fall. If you are interested in making a program like this work as a National AIChE standard at student meetings, please contact me.

Clear your calendar to attend the Symposium at IIT on October 9 and 10. If you need continuing education in order to maintain your PE license, this is a perfect opportunity for that. Energy and Refining are big topics in the news, and have always been important topics for AIChE. The community of practice in the area for energy and refining is part of a large national group. The Ethylene Producers and the Fuels and Petrochemicals Division are typically very significant contributors to programming at the Spring Meeting. Recently, I suggested that the AIChE Spring Meeting be held in Chicago in 2009. The location for that meeting has not yet been set by National. I strongly encourage you to call your contacts at the Fuels and Petrochemicals Division, the Ethylene Producers, the Process Safety Division, the Executive Board Programming Committee, or the Executive Board itself to support this idea. It has been ten years since a national AIChE meeting has been in Chicago. Our local section members need the national exposure that comes with planning such a meeting. Take time to support this idea as soon as you are done reading this.

Finally, extend a warm welcome to our new executive board. They are all committed to providing venues, programming and communication to advance your networking and training opportunities. When you are called to work with the Liaison team in your company, agree to help. Understanding our industrial and academic "customer" is a priority this year.

I'm looking forward to seeing you. This is an exciting time to be in the Chicago Section. We have strong local programming with national exposure.



AIChE – Chicago Symposium 2006

Refinery Processing and In-Plant Energy Conservation and Optimization

October 9-10, 2006, Illinois Institute of Technology, Chicago IL

<http://www.aiche-chicago.org/symposium>

Register NOW at <http://www.aiche-chicago.org/symposium/registration.htm>

Early Registration Deadline is Sept 1, 2006 (Save \$25).

This event will focus on real world applications & technical advances in plant energy improvements of general interest to the chemical processing industry and on advances in refining technology.

Day 1: In-Plant and Commercial Energy Generation, Conservation and Optimization:

Energy Efficiency Opportunities

- Changes & Trends in the Energy Industry
- No/ Low Cost Savings, Successful Capital Projects
- Effective Energy Management Practices

Process Support Systems

- Lighting, Motors & Drives, Boiler & Steam Systems
- Compressed Air Systems, Combined Heat & Power Systems
- How to Internally Sell Energy Projects

Emerging R&D

- Clean Coal, Bio Refining, Nuclear Sourced Hydrogen

Also, the US Department of Energy will conduct a session for in-plant cost and energy savings technology.

Day 2: Refining Technology:

- Overview of Recent Refinery Trends
- Processes for Refining Opportunity Crudes
- Modifications to Equipment, Operations and Maintenance to Process Opportunity Crudes.
- New Catalysts and Chemicals Useful in Opportunity Crude Processing

This symposium will also include poster sessions covering energy needs and novel refining technology developed in academia and industry. This event will be a premier symposium on the latest developments in energy conservation and refining and will highlight new technologies that will help answer energy concerns of the future.

“Three strategic initiatives are in place for AIChE: program relevancy and membership, international developments, and energy challenge.”

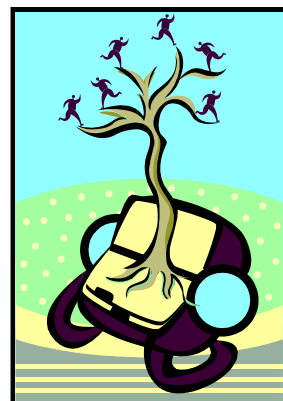
SEPTEMBER MEETING ANNOUNCEMENT - NETWORKING OPPORTUNITY
 "HOW TO START, DEVELOP AND IMPROVE YOUR CAREER"
 SEPTEMBER 12, 2006

Location: Giordano's Pizza Greektown (815 W. VAN BUREN ST., Chicago IL 60607)

Afternoon Session: 3:00 PM - 5:00 PM

The topic for this session will be "How to Start, Develop and Improve Your Career", where experienced members of the Chicago section, and Human Resources professionals talk and answer questions. Since Giordano's is close to UIC and IIT and we are starting in the afternoon, we hope to attract more students than before. Scheduled speakers are:

Jerry Bard	Consultant in Career and Human Resources Management
Alan Zagoria	UOP Senior Consultant
Jeffrey McGill	Career Specialist IIT Career Development Center
Roger Elliott	UOP Human Resources Department



We will have each speaker talk for 5-10 minutes then answer questions from the audience. Participants will accumulate one professional development hour credit for 50 minutes of instruction or participation in the afternoon session. There is no cost to attend the afternoon session.

Evening Session: 5:00 PM - 8:00 PM

Dinner will be the first "Speed Meet" meeting where people talk to each other and tell them about themselves. We ask everyone to bring many one page resumes with them. We will divide into two groups, and then everyone will rotate, as many times as time allows, and talk to someone new each time. The dinner will be buffet style served between 5:00PM and 8:00PM consisting of a combination of appetizer platters, house salad trays, various pizzas, soft drinks, and water. The cost for the evening session will be \$20.00 for members, \$25.00 for non-members, and \$5.00 for AIChE student chapter members.

Late Night Session: 8:30 PM - 10:00PM

UIC Bowling and Billiards Center, (UIC Student Center East, 750 S. Halsted, Chicago IL 60607)

For interested attendees Bowling at the UIC Bowling and Billiards Center will be an option after dinner. The cost will be \$2.00 per game plus \$1.25 shoe rental.

Event details may change, please refer to <http://www.aiche-chicago.org> for current information.

FALL YPAB MEETING ANNOUNCEMENT:
 "CHANGES TO THE PATENT SYSTEM BEING CONSIDERED BY
 CONGRESS AND THEIR IMPACT ON ENGINEERS"
 - ROGER MASON, PE JD
 SEPTEMBER 24, 2006

Location: Goose Island, 1800 N. Clybourn, Chicago IL 60614

Afternoon Session: 3-4PM

Roger Masson, PE JD is an intellectual practice attorney with the firm of Ryndak & Suri LLP specializing in US and foreign patent prosecution, freedom-to-practice opinions, licensing and patent, trade secret, and trademark litigation. Representative scientific fields include food, beverages, chemical processing and information technology. Before becoming an attorney, he practiced as a chemical engineer in chemical, petroleum, and environmental fields for over a decade. He was an active member of the Chicago Section as webmaster, student relations chair, and house chair. He is licensed to practice in Illinois and before the US Patent and Trademark Office.

Event details may change, please refer to <http://www.aiche-chicago.org/YPAB> for current information.

Evening Session: 4PM -?

Enjoy socializing with other professionals after the technical session

RSVP: ypab@aiiche-chicago.org

Cost: \$5.00 for students, \$10.00 for professionals



STATE OF THE SECTION ANNETTE JOHNSTON

This has been a very upbeat year for the Chicago Section of AIChE. The Technical Programs were high quality and well attended. We usually had to add chairs at these events. The graduate student winner of the student poster contest recently took a position in Chicago due to contacts made at that meeting. We had the first of many socials with the Young Professionals Advisory Board (YPAB). We reactivated the Industrial Liaison Program, and curbed our spending on newsletters in order to keep the budget balanced. Also, our first e-newsletters were developed.

The biggest need for improvement within the section is communication. That is, we need to improve communication about meetings and activities to the membership, and we need to communicate with the companies our members work for. By understanding their expectations, we can provide activities

they will encourage their employees to attend.

If you have not already, you will soon receive a postcard inviting you to consider volunteering for remaining open positions in several committees. When all of these committees are working, participants will have instantly grown their networks, and the section will know what it will take to be most effective. Please consider volunteering.

In the following article you will find Tom King's notes from a presentation at the Leadership Conference, held in Houston early in June 2006. The Chicago Section is part of a much larger, soon to be very international, network. Read his report and consider: What can you do to increase program relevancy and develop the excellent start of the YPAB? The local section is working on the Energy initiative with our Symposium this

fall. Send in your papers, or plan to volunteer to work on the meeting itself.

Finally, I invite you to welcome Brian Gahan, our new Chair. He has a lot of experience in various roles in the Chicago section, and a lot of energy industry contact. He has a big vision for the future of the section.

-Annette A. Johnston



UPDATE FROM NATIONAL AIChE BOARD: AIChE NATIONAL PRESIDENT DR. JOHN CHEN AND AIChE NATIONAL MEMBERS

At the 2006 Leadership Development Conference in Houston TX, Dr. Chen (AIChE National President) described the current state of national AIChE. He presented the national chapter's initiative to restructure operations in 2002 to balance the budget. Programs were cut such as continuing education, speaker's bureau, among others. Under the new structure, the AIChE national has positive net assets for the second consecutive year. AIChE currently has the lowest staff to member ratio of any of the engineering societies (1staff / 1000 members). There are four groups of members within AIChE: academic developers (professors, grad students, etc.), industrial developers (R&D engineers), industrial users (engineers), and recent graduates. The academic developers were identified as the most well served because of their strong presence at the national conference to present their research and collaborate with other academic professionals. The industrial users and recent graduates

were identified as the most underserved groups. The bulk of the members of AIChE are industrial users. The issue of the national conference being predominantly attended by academic professionals and the spring conference attended predominantly by industrial professionals was addressed. There are desires to integrate the academic and industrial professionals by making both conferences appeal to both audiences, but there are some very difficult obstacles to overcome before this will happen. Also, electronic tools like webinars are being addressed to integrate industrial and academic professionals.

Three strategic initiatives are in place for AIChE: program relevancy and membership, international developments, and energy challenge. Program relevancy is being rethought to capture more of the interest of the industrial users. This is being done by bringing

the national conference to appeal to the industrial users. Also, the under representation of recent graduates in AIChE was addressed and tools like YPAB to bring in more recent graduates to AIChE are in place. International developments are in place to both collaborate with international organizations like IChemE (UK) and organizations in China. Energy developments are being fostered by offering research fellowships in energy research and innovation. These strategic initiatives will help build a stronger chemical engineering community and bring our society to the next level.

-Tom King



CALL FOR VOLUNTEERS

AICHE CHICAGO SECTION CALL FOR LIAISON COMMITTEE CHAIRS AND MEMBERS

Liaisons serve as the human point of contact between the Chicago Section AIChE and our members at large. AIChE Chicago has split its membership into three distinct groups:

1. Industry
2. Academia
3. Government

All three groups have varying program needs and the liaisons serve at their respective companies/schools/labs/agencies to:

1. Make AIChE members aware of upcoming programs and events through emails, postings or direct contact
2. Obtain feedback from members and their management as to supportable programming needs
3. Welcome new engineers and invite them to join the Chicago section (work through membership)

The attached Organization chart indicates that it is the immediate past chairs responsibility to watch over the three liaison groups. Total liaison committee membership could easily number 20-30 in Chicago and each liaison group, i.e., industry, academia and government, has its own chair. Members of the liaison committee perform the outlined functions where they work. The liaison committee should meet periodically to discuss results and share ideas, and the chair should report to the AIChE Board during Board Meetings.



Chicago Section AIChE Liaison Committee Positions presently open are:

Industrial Liaisons:
Chair
Individual Members

Academic Liaisons:
Chair
Individual Members

Government Liaisons:
Chair
Individual Members

To volunteer please contact:
Jeffery P. Perl, PhD, PE, CHMM President
14 N. Peoria Street Suite 2C
Chicago Illinois 60607
312-543-2322 Mobile
312-226-2436 Work
312-226-8886 FAX
jefferyperl@chichem.com
<http://www.chichem.com>

We want you for AIChE-Chicago!

We need your help!

How many opportunities can you find to learn project management, delegation and leadership skills for free? Becoming an officer in the Chicago Section of AIChE is such an opportunity. While you're learning new skills, your local network grows. Just about all of us are either undergoing a career change, contemplating a career change, or are wondering if our career will be changed for us. Volunteering with AIChE is a way to add skills and accomplishments to your resume. aichechicom@aiche-chicago.org

<http://www.aiche-chicago.org/volunteerrequest.htm>

NOMINATIONS REQUESTED FOR THE ERNEST W. THIELE AWARD

The Ernest W. Thiele award is sponsored by BP and recognizes the outstanding contributions to our profession by a Midwest region chemical engineer. This award was established by the AIChE Chicago Section and is presented annually to a Midwest region AIChE member. This internationally recognized award consists of an engraved plaque and \$1000 honorarium presented at our sectional meeting.

Nomination forms and additional information can be obtained from the Thiele Committee Chair.

One of the highest honors a distinguished chemical engineer can receive is our Chicago Section Thiele award. Please consider nominating a deserving engineer for this prestigious award.

Jim Simnick
BP Amoco Complex, J-8
150 W. Warrenville Road
Naperville, IL 60566

Ph 630-420-5936
fax 630-420-4832
email: simnicj@bp.com

More info at: <http://www.aiche-chicago.org/awards.htm>



2007 National Engineers Week™ Future City Competition™

WANTED: ENGINEER MENTORS & JUDGES

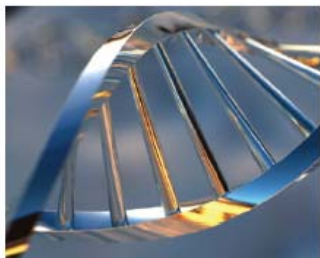
The 2007 Future City Competition™ is once again being held in over 30 cities across the country. This annual competition is held for 7th and 8th grade students to foster interest in engineering, math and science through hands on computer modeling, essay writing, oral presentation and model building of the students Cities of the Future. Schools from Chicago and the suburbs annually participate in this event.

Volunteers are needed to help plan the competition, be an engineer mentor to a school or be a judge for the competition in January. Planners are needed to work with the schools, help sign up volunteers and help with mailings and press releases. Engineer mentors will work with the students in an advisory role. They will visit their school 6-10 times throughout the competition, answer questions and guide the students. Judges are needed for two Saturdays in January to score the students work. Information sessions will be held to assist the engineer mentors and judges in their responsibilities and to answer questions.

Please call Don Wittmer at (312) 930-9119, email dwittmer@hntb.com or Aruch Poonsapaya at aruchp@sbcglobal.net to sign up or to get more information. This is a great opportunity to influence and encourage the engineers of the future.

We hope you can help!

For additional information including sponsorship opportunities go to www.futurecitychicago.org



**ENGINEERING
PROGRAMS TAILORED
TO YOUR NEEDS**

**IIT's Department of Chemical and Environmental
Engineering Introduces Two NEW Programs:**

- **Professional Master's degree program in Biological Engineering**
- **Graduate Certificate and Professional Master's degree specialization in Pharmaceutical Engineering**

Full-, part-time, and internet options available

**ILLINOIS INSTITUTE
OF TECHNOLOGY**

www.chee.iit.edu | 312.567.3043 | inquiry.grad@iit.edu

Paid Advertisement by IIT



SEPTEMBER 2006 - EVENTS CALENDAR

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
					1 Symposium Early Registration Deadline	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12 How to start, develop and im- prove your career Networking op- portunity	13	14	15 Symposium Poster Abstracts Due	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24 Patent Law— YPAB	25	26	27	28	29	30 Registration Deadline for Symposium Oct 1

SUBMITTING ARTICLES TO AICHE COLUMNS

We are now initiation a regular Newsletter and are welcoming people to e-mail any material they would like to appear on the newsletter. These can be job postings, advertisements for upcoming committee meetings, articles, general advertisements or anything else you may want to submit. To submit material e-mail your material to aichechicom@aiche-chicago.org with “newsletter article request” as a subject heading.

www.aiche-chicago.org

