

2004 Election Results:

Jeff Siirola Voted President-Elect

An active AIChE member and leader for over 35 years, Jeff Siirola has been elected AIChE president-elect.

"It is an honor to serve," Siirola told *AICHEExtra*. "I believe it is an awesome responsibility, especially during challenging times such as these. And I am very excited by this opportunity."

Siirola's vast AIChE leadership experience includes leadership positions on the Board of Directors, CTOC Operating Council, numerous committees such as Publications, Education and Accreditation, and National Program committees, the CAST division, and the East Tennessee Local Section.

Siirola is a technology fellow at Eastman Chemical Company, where he has worked for 32 years in process design and evaluation, among other areas. Actively involved in education and accreditation issues, Siirola has visited half of the country's chemical engineering programs and many around the world.

He is a member of ABET, the Chemical Sciences Roundtable, and CACHE (Computer Aids for Chemical Engineering), an organization that promotes the development and distribution of technology-based



educational aids for the chemical engineering profession. He is also a member of the National Academy of Engineering.

With his broad AIChE leadership and professional experience that bridges industry and academia, Siirola uniquely understands the issues facing chemical engineers and the Institute today. In his campaign and discussion with *AICHEExtra*, Siirola emphasized the need to improve

Sustainability and Society for Biological Engineering—both launched in 2003—as important examples of AIChE's continuing outreach to engineers in emerging fields, and as an added value to all members.

"When I was on the Board of Directors, we worked on member value creation. We wanted to make sure people's interaction with the Institute was a positive one. We worked with staff and we put in electronic systems. We stressed continual improvement."

"Today we have to redouble our efforts to make sure that everything is value-

added. At the same time we are making difficult decisions, we have to continue to grow. Essential AIChE is a leaner, more efficient organization. There are things we have to scale back, but there are also things we are adding in strategic areas like biological engineering and sustainability."

As a volunteer leader for so many years, Siirola recognizes the success of the Institute will depend on the

efforts of AIChE volunteers, and the careful leadership of its directors. "We will need to rely on our volunteers. But we will need to earn their trust. We will do that by being careful stewards of the Institute."

Siirola is confident in a strong future of AIChE. "Although our financial challenges are great, I am optimistic we will have a stronger, more vibrant organization that is more responsive to the needs of chemical engineering professionals and to society."

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services and programs, even in challenging financial times.

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Siirola pointed to AIChE's Institute for

Jeffrey J. Siirola

Professional Background:

Technology Fellow, Eastman Chemical Company
Industrial Trustee, CACHE
Engineering Accreditation Commission, ABET
Chemical Sciences Roundtable
AIChE Fellow
National Academy of Engineering

AIChE Service:

Board of Directors
Chemical Engineering Technology
Operating Council
Publications Committee Chair, Education and Accreditation Committee Vice Chair
National Program, Continuing Education, Research and New Technology, and Awards Committees
Chemical Engineering Program Evaluator
Director, Chair, and Programming Coordinator, CAST Division
Director, East Tennessee Local Section

2004 AIChE Board of Directors Election Results

In September, AIChE members elected a new president-elect, secretary, and four directors from a strong slate of candidates. All of the elected officers will serve a three-year term, beginning January 1 of next year.

President-elect Jeff Siirola will succeed Bill Byers as president in 2005. Outgoing officers and directors elected in 2000 include Past President Sidney

Sapakie, Secretary John Chen and directors Barbara Hacker, Dennis Hendershot, James Hill and Michael Shuler.

President: William D. Byers

President-Elect: Jeffrey J. Siirola

Secretary: Otis Shelton

Directors: Maria Burka, Dale L. Kearns, Christine S. Grant, Kimberly L. Ogden

Lehigh University Celebrates Centennial With a Look at Past, Present and Future

Lehigh University's department of chemical engineering celebrated the centennial of its founding this fall with two days of festivities, and then returned to what department chairman Anthony McHugh calls the 'O' revolution that is sweeping the field.

"Chemical engineering education, like engineering education in general, is undergoing an 'O' revolution in **bio**, **opto**, **nano** and **info**," says McHugh, referring to bioengineering, optical technologies, nanotechnology and information technology.

A highlight of the two-day symposium was a panel discussion, led by McHugh, in which four noted engineers discussed the future of the field.

Panelists included Gerard Tarzia, vice president and worldwide director of Rohm and Haas Co.'s monomers business; and AIChE members Louis Hegedus, senior vice president for research and development of ATOFINA Chemicals; Morton Denn, the Albert Einstein Professor and director of the Levich Institute for Physico-Chemical Hydrodynamics at the City University of New York; and Matthew Tirrell, the Richard Auhl Professor and dean of engineering at

the University of California at Santa Barbara.

The panelists agreed that chemical engineering will become even more multidisciplinary, requiring engineers, as Tirrell put, to navigate between "nano-hype" and "nano-phobia."

Tarzia cited ethics, integrity, critical thinking, a global perspective and enthusiasm as some of the traits needed to succeed in the field. He said chemical engineers are uniquely prepared to collaborate with biologists, "because the processes in a cell are really just chemical processes occurring inside a living organism."

Lehigh's chemical engineering faculty is a vital part of the university's new interdisciplinary research centers in optical technologies, advanced materials and nanotechnology, and bioengineering and life sciences. Lehigh faculty also operates such established centers as the Emulsion Polymers Institute, the Polymer Interfaces Center, and the Center for Chemical Process Modeling and Control.

Lehigh began granting degrees in chemical engineering in 1902. The chemical



Mayuresh Kothare (right), associate professor of chemical engineering and co-director of Lehigh University's Center for Chemical Process Modeling and Control, works in Lehigh's Integrated Microchemical Systems Laboratory with (l-r) Ashish Pattekar, Samrat Mukherjee and Leonidas Bleris.

engineering department was established half a century later, in 1951. As it hits the century mark, Lehigh's chemical engineering department enrolls 125 undergraduate majors, 61 full-time graduate students and 64 part-time graduate students. The faculty numbers 15. Research grants in the department total almost \$2 million a year.

NPC MEETING FOCUSES ON CONFERENCE GROWTH

AIChE's National Program Committee (NPC) will hold its annual meeting at the Hyatt Regency Hotel in Houston on Saturday February 7.

This meeting, formerly called the NPC Programming Retreat, includes representatives from all of AIChE's 23 programming groups as well as the executive leadership of the National Program Committee and senior staff from the programming and meetings departments.

"This year's meeting will be especially important in light of the organizational changes occurring throughout AIChE," says George Liebermann, 2004 chair of the National Program Committee. "Our major goal is to continue the growth of the AIChE meetings program as exemplified by the record attendance at the recent San Francisco Annual Meeting."

Participants will work together to map out a course to maintain the growth

of AIChE meetings while streamlining costs, and finalize the initial planning for the 2005 Spring National Meeting in Atlanta and the 2005 Annual Meeting in Cincinnati.

The key volunteers involved in planning and organizing this year's meeting are Liebermann (Xerox), and Phil Westmoreland (University of Mass.) who will be first vice chair. Representatives from all the programming groups and areas and affiliated co-programming organizations will work with programming chairs, Cheryl Teich (Rohm and Haas) and D.B. Bhattacharyya (University of Kentucky), for the Atlanta and Cincinnati meetings, respectively.

For more information on the meeting please contact Joe Cramer, director of Technical Programming at josec@aiiche.org or 212.591.7950.

LIQUID NATURAL GAS FEATURED AT 2004 SPRING MEETING

The acclaimed Natural Gas Topical held annually at the AIChE Spring Meeting has been expanded this year to include an international symposium on Liquid Natural Gas (LNG). The 2004 Spring Meeting, April 25–29, 2004, New Orleans, LA, created the LNG symposium to address the unstable natural gas supply and price fluctuations in the US.

Other regions, including the Middle East and Asia, are more advanced in their use of LNG. In rare US appearances, international LNG companies including PT Badak, Sumitomo, Qatar LNG, and Chiyoda will discuss the LNG supply chain issues including potential applications in the US. Specific content will include upstream production of natural gas, gas clean-up and liquefaction, shipping, receiving and regasification, and gas transportation.

For more information on the AIChE 2004 Spring Meeting, visit www.aiiche.org/spring, or call 1.800.262-6646.

AIChE "Essential" to Your Career

With critical input from thousands of members, the AIChE Board of Directors has developed "Essential AIChE," a plan that focuses on essential services and programs and provides a firm financial foundation for the future growth of the Institute.

The Board's aim is to make the Institute essential to the careers of chemical engineers and allied professionals. Essential AIChE focuses on the services and products that members have told AIChE are important to them:

- The latest and most accurate technical information
- Concise, targeted award-winning publications
- Meetings that set industry standards
- Attractive/affordable insurance programs
- Expanded networking opportunities



To implement this plan, AIChE has made significant cost reductions including staff restructure. There is also an effort to reduce real estate costs by subleasing 75 percent of its office space, and explore additional efficiencies through outsourcing of administrative functions.

Next year, *AICHEXtra* will cover in depth the key elements of this plan and how it impacts members. For more information, visit www.aiche.org/changes.

19th ANNUAL CCPS INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE CALL FOR PAPERS OPEN UNTIL JANUARY 15

The 19th Annual CCPS International Conference will convene at a new, earlier date in 2004. Mark your calendars now for **June 29 – July 1, 2004**, at the Caribe Royal Resort in Orlando, Florida. The 2004 conference is titled *Emergency Planning: Preparedness, Prevention and Response*. The program will focus on how to prepare for, prevent and respond to an emergency. Sessions will include everything from scenario development and planned response to case histories of real-world incidents.



Speaking and Sponsorship Opportunities are Still Available

If you would like to present a paper or session at this industry-leading event, go

to www.aiche.org/ccps/icw for details. Abstracts of 200-300 words must be received no later than January 15, 2004. To submit your abstract, please e-mail ccpsicw@aiche.org. Exhibit and event sponsor opportunities are also described on the web site. For more information, call Karen Person at 212.591.7319 or e-mail Karen at karep@aiche.org.

TAX-DEDUCTIBLE CONTRIBUTIONS TO SUPPORT REAL ESTATE EFFORT

The AIChE Foundation's 2003 Annual Campaign is raising funds for the specific purpose of supporting an effort to sublease 75 percent of the Institute's New York office space. Subleasing the space is a direct result of member input.

When AIChE President Dianne Dorland asked members for their suggestions for working through the Institute's financial challenges this year, she received over 5,000 responses from AIChE members. While the responses varied, many people suggested moving to another office space or relocating from New York.

After considerable negotiations, the Institute has received an offer to sublet three-quarters of its space. Because of the soft real estate market, any successful transaction of this nature would require significant up-front.

So important is this effort, that a number of AIChE's corporate partners have stepped forward with financial gifts and interest-free loans to facilitate this sublease. While this support is critical, it is not enough to close the deal. That is why the AIChE Foundation Board of Trustees is asking that every member make a contribution of \$100 or more to this effort. By helping to make this real estate transaction possible, AIChE members will play an important role in shaping the Institute's future.

All contributions to the AIChE Foundation are tax-deductible. Please send your contribution to: AIChE Foundation, 3 Park Avenue, NY, NY 10016-5991.

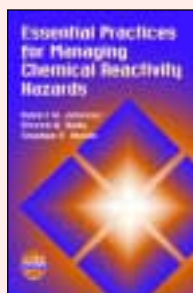
CCPS OFFERS FREE CHEMICAL SAFETY BOOK

CCPS has teamed with US OSHA, US EPA, the American Chemistry Council, the Synthetic Chemical Manufacturers Association, and Knovel Corporation to make the new CCPS concept book *Essential Practices for Managing Chemical Reactivity Hazards* available for free on the Internet.

Essential Practices helps organizations identify, address, and manage chemical

safety hazards at their facilities. The book helps analyze the potential a chemical reactivity incident, and recommends resources to manage that risk.

Essential Practices is valuable for engineers, chemists, and safety managers, particularly those



involved in process scale-up and can be used by small and large organizations alike.

Permanent, free access is available through the Knovel Web site, along with productivity tools to help the user implement preventative plans. For information and to read the free book online, visit <http://info.knovel.com/ccps/>.

MEMBER HONORED AS DISTINGUISHED EDUCATOR

Ruth E. Baltus, AIChE member and Professor of Chemical Engineering at Clarkson University, was awarded the 2003 Society of Women Engineers (SWE) Distinguished Engineering Educator Award in October of this year.



Clarkson University Professor of Chemical Engineering, Ruth E. Baltus (center) discusses Chemical Engineering Thermodynamics with students Charlotte Okwudi (left) and Tu Trinh Tran. Baltus is the recipient of the 2003 Society of Women

Engineers (SWE) Distinguished Engineering Educator Award.

The award recognizes Baltus' excellence in teaching and dedication to her students, mentoring of graduate engineers, and contributions to membrane science and engineering research.

"As an educator, I believe one of my most important functions is to help students develop problem-solving skills," Baltus explained. "While the technical content of the courses that I teach is certainly important, none of that will matter unless the students can apply that knowledge to new and increasingly complex problems."

"Women bring a unique sensibility and set of interpersonal skills and talents to the engineering profession and the importance of these skills is being increasingly recognized by industry and academia," said Baltus. "But girls and young

women need to feel there is place for them in engineering."

"Role models are very important—but they don't necessarily always need to be women," added Baltus. "Students need to receive messages that they 'fit in' to whatever major or profession they have selected and these need to come from women as well as men. They come from the atmosphere in the classroom as well as individual interactions with faculty."

A member of AIChE, Baltus is also a member of SWE, the American Chemical Society, the North American Membrane Society, the American Society of Engineering Education and the Association for Women in Science. She received her doctorate in chemical engineering from Carnegie-Mellon University in 1982.

**\$.5M PRIZE
RECOGNIZES
EDUCATION
INNOVATION**

Recognizing the potential to revolutionize engineering education, the National Academy of Engineering recently announced they will annually award the prestigious Bernard M. Gordon Prize for Innovation in Engineering and Technology Education annually, starting in 2004.

The prize is given to engineering and technology educators whose programs cultivate student leadership and communication skills, creativity, and ability to work in a team.

"The primary purpose of the Gordon Prize is to encourage and recognize the development of techniques that inculcate leadership characteristics in engineering students," said Bernard Gordon, chair of Analogic Corp., who pioneered analog-to-digital conversion and high-precision medical instrumentation.

The Bernard M. Gordon Prize identifies groundbreaking programs that have shown beneficial impact on engineering and technology education. The prize consists of a \$500,000 cash award and a gold medallion. Half of the cash award is granted to the recipient and half to the recipient's institution to support the development, refinement, and dissemination of the recognized innovation. The next Gordon Prize will be awarded on Feb. 24, 2004, in Washington, D.C.

"I hope that the annual awarding of the Gordon Prize will motivate professors to revolutionize engineering instruction in ways that attract more students who have the potential to become engineering leaders, said Gordon"

The recipient of the first Gordon Prize was Eli Fromm, professor of electrical and computer engineering and director of the Center for Educational Research in the College of Engineering at Drexel University in Philadelphia. Fromm developed a collaborative program called Gateway Engineering Education Coalition, which fosters student interest in engineering by providing them with cutting-edge technologies to address practical engineering problems.

For additional information about the Gordon Prize, contact Leila Rao at 202.334.1237. More information is also available at www.nae.edu/awards.

OBITUARIES

John Atwood, 91
Colorado Springs, CO
Edward P. Cass, 70
Irvine, CA
George W. Coleman, 87
Gladstone, OR
Charles W. Cunningham, 82
Oak Ridge, TN
Joseph C. Dunmyer, 72
Livingston, NJ
Robert L. Emery, 79
Union, NJ
Robert C. Fear, 60
Barnhart, MO
John N. Goulias, 78
Columbia, MO
Sidney J. Guttman, 67
Boynton Beach, FL
Erwin G. Hernried, 82
San Francisco, CA

William G. Juhl, 79
Hot Springs, AR
Stanley Kanarowski, 91
Sandy Spring, MD
James E. Kinard, 81
Chattanooga, TN
Allen Latham, 95
Jamaica Plain, MA
Leonard M. Lojek, 67
Germantown, MD
John H. Lutz, 87
Bremen, ME
Howard P. Milleville, 91
Corvallis, OR
William R. Morehead, 60
Marietta, GA
Arthur P. Moss, 92
Boulder, CO
Charles J. Muhlenforth, 61
Houston, TX

Milan Nad, 58
Winterhur, Switzerland
Vincent J. O'Grady, 64
Phoenixville, PA
Leon Y. Sadler, 60
Tuscaloosa, AL
Kenneth B. Screech, 77
Sierra Madre, CA
Jerry E. Sinor, 68
Niwoot, CO
Martin J. Tierney, 88
Catonsville, MD
Alberto Urbina, 93
Mexico City, Mexico
Glenn A. Whan, 73
Beaver Falls, PA

* Fellow member