



American Institute of Chemical Engineers

The Western Palmetto Informer

February 2022

Volume 2021-22, Issue 5

In This Issue:

- Message from the Chair
- Next Meeting:
February 15
- Committees
- Open Officer Positions
- 2021-22 Officers and Executive Committee
- 2021-22 Calendar of Events

Contact Information

Visit our website:
www.aiche.org/wsc

E-Mail us at:
sec@wscaiche.org
chair@wscaiche.org

Message from the Chair:

Here we are in February already!

We regret that we had to cancel the Tuesday, January 18, meeting at Clemson University, as well as the Solvay plant tour due to COVID.

This month we will be meeting, in person, in downtown Greenville, SC at the offices of Synterra Corporation. Ruth Albright will be addressing a class of drinking water contaminants: PFAS Polyfluorinated Alkyl substances. There will be dinner and time to socialize before the meeting begins. We will offer dinner free of charge to all attendees that RSVP through the website www.aiche.org/WSC or by emailing sec@wscaiche.org.

This meeting will be held in hybrid form with a ZOOM link and will include time to conduct chapter business which, this month includes awarding two scholarships to rising senior Clemson students majoring in Chemical Engineering, or closely related field.

Our speaker for the January meeting, Dr. Alba-Rubio, is scheduled for March 8, 2022. We are still targeting the Solvay tour for April.

We look forward to seeing you soon!

Conny Walker, Chair, 2021-2022 WSC LS AIChE

February 15 Meeting— PFAS, an Emerging Contaminant

Per- and poly- fluorinated alkyl substances are a broad class of chemical compounds that have, in recent years, come under scrutiny as emerging contaminants for regulation under Federal and State regulations. In this presentation, Ruth Albright of Synterra Corporation will speak briefly to the definition of PFAS, discuss some of the industrial and consumer-product uses, and highlight developing regulatory programs.

Speaker for February 15, 2022 Meeting:

Ruth A. Albright graduated from Clemson University with a B.S. in Chemical Engineering and holds professional engineering licenses in multiple states. She has also completed graduate coursework in both chemical engineering and business administration. Ms. Albright worked for The Dow Chemical Company for more than nine years and has been in the environmental engineering consulting business for more than 26 years. Her areas of expertise include development of air- and water- emissions inventories, off-site air emissions modeling, and regulatory compliance in diverse programs such as RCRA, CERCLA, TSCA, the clean air act, and clean water act.

Ms. Albright was an avid whitewater kayaker for many years and held instructor certifications for both swift water rescue and whitewater kayaking. Ms. Albright is now an avid triathlete and duathlete, preferring short-course racing. She is a member of Team USA as an age-group athlete and has competed in international competition. She is also a certified Level 1 USA Triathlon and USA Track and Field coach.

February Meeting Information

TITLE:	PFAS, an Emerging Contaminant
SPEAKER:	Ruth Albright
DATE:	Tuesday, February 15, 2022
EVENT TIMING:	6:00 PM Social 6:30 PM Dinner/ZOOM Room opens 7:00 PM Presentation (in-person or virtual) 8:15 PM (Upon conclusion of presentation,) Chapter Business & Presentation of Scholarships
LOCATION (in-person event):	3 rd Floor Synterra Corporation - Innovate Building 148 River Street, Greenville, SC 29601 Enter from Hammond Street for Synterra offices Phone contact will be posted on website
LOCATION (virtual event):	ZOOM Connect via link on the WSC AICHe website (registration in advance is recommended)
COST:	No charge for persons who RSVP for this meeting.
RSVP	by 5:00 PM Sunday, February 13, 2021 click here for RSVP form

Contact Secretary (sec@wscaiche.org) if you have trouble with the RSVP form.

Finance and Outreach Committees

The WSC AIChE Section is looking for members to join two committees to better serve our membership and our community.

The **Finance Committee** oversees the section's investment and banking accounts. The committee also prepares an annual budget and makes recommendations for scholarship amounts, speaker expenses/honorariums, and the like. Austin Crooks, Anastase (Tasso) Ghionis and Anil Wagle are current members. Email treasurer@wscaiche.org for more information or to volunteer your time.

The **Outreach Committee** will explore opportunities to support local schools and to make ourselves known in the broader community. Please contact Tasso Ghionis at sec@wscaiche.org if you have suggestions on what we might become involved with or if you would be willing to serve on this committee.

Open Officer Positions

Treasurer - Anil Wagle has taken on the role as interim treasurer, and we are seeking a candidate with on-line banking skills and a strong sense of business to keep us on-track financially and stay current with federal banking and non-profit regulation changes as they impact our organization.

Webmaster - If you have an interest in enhancing communications and even modest computer/technology skills, the Executive Committee is looking for assistance with our website. The website is hosted by AIChE, and recent modifications leave the door open for reprogramming and web-based design. We are looking for someone willing to work on this with our national representatives while sustaining the basic functionality of posting meeting information, uploading pictures and files in support of our local chapter activities.

Historian - As the technology has changed, so has this role of historian - whereas the past historian only had photographs to document activities, this new age has the ZOOM meeting platform and a myriad of other ways to stay on top of our meetings and activities. This role requires a creative forward-thinking individual with sufficient on-line skills to create a finished package summary of each meeting. We will need recommendations how to disseminate and store records of each meeting.

All of these positions offer personal development opportunities that can have lasting impact not only on our organization, but your personal career. As members of the executive committee you will also become part of the process of selecting training and materials in support of our chapter. These positions will be what you make of them.

2021-2022 Officers and Executive Committee

POSITION	NAME	COMPANY	E-MAIL
Chair	Conny Walker	Independent	chair@wscaiche.org
Vice-Chair	Jacob Lindler	aeSolutions	jllindler@yahoo.com vchair@wscaiche.com
Secretary	Tasso Ghionis	Omega Chemicals	sec@wscaiche.org
Treasurer (Interim)	Anil Wagle	Retired	treasurer@wscaiche.org
Former Chair	Anil Wagle	Retired	Anilwagle123@gmail.com
Newsletter	Bonnie McCourtie	Jacobs	Bonnie.mccourtie@jacobs.com
Webmaster	(open)		
Historian	(open)		
Executive Committee	Karl McCaleb	Mitsubishi	kmccaleb2@bellsouth.net
	Donald P Gurney, Jr., ScD, P.E.	Consultant	degurney@charter.net
	Bill Thompson	Ortec	bthompson@ortecinc.com
	Devon Clymer	Jacobs	Devon.clymer@jacobs.com

2021-2022 Calendar of Events

DATE	LOCATION	TOPIC
February 15, 2022	Innovate Bldg Greenville, SC	PFAS Ruth Albright
March 2022	Earle Hall, Clemson	Catalysis Dr. Ana Alba-Rubio
April 2022	TBD	Plant Tour
May 2022	TBD	WSC LS AIChE May Social