



The Western Palmetto Informer

American Institute of Chemical Engineers

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Contact Information

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Message from the Chair

If you're reading this 2024 is already 17% past, that also means there are only 280 shopping days until Christmas. Our February meeting was great. My thanks to Dr. Melvin and Dr. Norfolk who put in the work to make it go well. Ryan Grimaldi and Annie Buck did an excellent job getting things organized and arranging the food for the meeting. I'd like to congratulate all our scholarship applicants. You all have a great future as ChE students and professionals. Seize the moment while you can and chase your dreams, the journey will pass faster than you think. As I said there's only 280 days left until Christmas.

For those of you who couldn't attend in person or virtually, you missed an excellent presentation from Dr. Adam Melvin. His work on better understanding how cancer metastasizes is quite amazing. I lost my dad to cancer 40 years ago and I've considered it a personal enemy ever since. I'm grateful for creative people like Dr. Melvin who are committed to beating it. I never imagined chemical engineering could play a role in taking out cancer.

Our March speaker is our very own Jim Young, our local Vice Chair, who will be speaking on plastics recycling. I'm sure everyone has heard of the great North Pacific garbage patch where plastic washing in the ocean from countries all around the Pacific accumulates. They exist in all the oceans now. Work is on-going to try to pull the plastic out of the ocean and some progress is being made; however, it's a monumental task and much of the plastic has degraded to a point that it exists as tiny particles that don't lend themselves to capture. The more plastic we can recycle, the less there will be for the ocean and landfills to accumulate. Recycling technology continues to advance and open more doors to recycling and recovery. I personally look forward to hearing Jim's presentation. I'm sure it will be fascinating. So, if you can, come

out to Jacob's Engineering on March 12th for a good meal and presentation. I hope to see you there.

Bill Thompson, Chair, WSC AIChE

NEXT MEETING - March 12, 2024

The Circular Economy And Plastics Recycling

Plastics have become ubiquitous throughout our lives and the world around us. They are marvels of chemical engineering and fulfill many roles in our lives where no other materials are viable, yet the vast majority are only used once before being discarded.

There are many efforts underway to change this and move toward a circular economy where the value in the materials that have been produced are maintained and recovered. We will look at how the circular economy is developing with several specific examples and unique aspects from traditional processes.

Meeting Information

TITLE:	The Circular Economy And Plastics Recycling By Jim Young
DATE:	Tuesday, March 12th, 2024
Event timing:	6:00 PM Social 6:30 PM Dinner 7:00 PM Presentation
LOCATION (in-person event):	Jacobs Engineering 1041 E Butler Rd, Greenville, SC 29607
LOCATION (virtual event):	Zoom Connect via link on the WSC AIChE Website
COST	No Charge for Dinner
RSVP by 3/11/24	RSVP HERE if you plan to join us for Dinner

RSVP [\[HERE\]](#) - by March 11th if you plan to join us for dinner.

2024 WSC AIChE Clemson Scholarship Winners

The WSC AIChE committee would like to congratulate our two 2024 WSC AIChE Clemson Scholarship winners: Annie Buck and Erica Wood!

We had a fantastic turnout in applications, and we are all left excited by the quality of the next group of Chemical Engineers coming into the world.

Opportunities to Assist

We welcome your participation on any level in this organization. Please reach out to Devon Clymer, sec@wscaiche.org, if you have any feedback on any of the following:

- You or someone you know would like to give a technical presentation at an upcoming meeting.
 - Provide meeting topic or location recommendations to the leadership team.
 - Provide recommendation or access for a plant tour (usually in the spring).
 - You have interest in joining our Officers or Executive Committee.
 - Any general question or comments on meeting times, locations, and topics
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2023-2024 Officers and Executive Committee

POSITION	NAME	COMPANY	E-MAIL
Chair	Bill Thompson	Ortec	bthompson@ortecinc.com chair@wscaiche.org
Vice-Chair	James Young	Fluor	James.H.Young@fluor.com vchair@wscaiche.org
Secretary	Devon Clymer	Jacobs	Devon.clymer@jacobs.com sec@wscaiche.org
Treasurer	Kevin Pait		kipait100@gmail.com treasurer@wscaiche.org
Former Chair	Conny Walker	Independent	connyw@earthlink.net
Newsletter	(open)		
Webmaster	(open)		
Historian	(open)		
Executive Committee	Karl McCaleb		kmccaleb2@bellsouth.net
	Donald P Gurney, Jr., ScD, P.E.	Consultant	degurney@charter.net

POSITION	NAME	COMPANY	E-MAIL
	Anil Wagle	Retired	Anilwagle123@gmail.com
	Anastase (Tasso) Ghionis	Omega Chemicals	

2023-2024 Calendar of Events

DATE	LOCATION	TOPIC
October 11, 2023	Clemson	Tolling Manufacturing
November 2023	Spartanburg Community College	Complexes with M-M bonds. Joint meeting with ACS
December 13 th 2023	Think Tank Brew Lab	WSCAICHe Holiday Social
January 7, 2024	Jacobs Office	Compressed Air Systems
February 13, 2024	Clemson	Engineering Preclinical Tumor Models to Study Cancer Drug Resistance and Metastatic Spread Clemson professor
March 12, 2024	Jacobs office	The Circular Economy And Plastics Recycling by Jim Young
April 2024	TBD	Plant Tour
May 2024	TBD	WSCAICHe May Social
