

LOCAL SECTIONS COMMITTEE QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER



Email: localsections@aiCHE.org

Letter from the Chair

By Brian Daly, Local Sections Committee Chair

Spring is in the air! Hopefully your corner of the world is getting a little warmer during this time of year.

It's only been one quarter and already the Local Sections Committee has been very busy. First, the committee welcomed Amanda Scalza from the Virtual Local Section as the Secretary. Then the Grants Subcommittee added Todd Jaco from the St. Louis Section who will assist both Jim Klein (Project Planning) and Karen Bard (Project Planning Grants) in reviewing grant applications.

Also the three operating councils, Societal Impact (SIOC), Chemical Engineering Technology (CTOC), and Career and Education (CEOC) have organized a task force called LS2OC (shorthand for connecting local sections to operating councils) in order to connect the various activities and programs being run by the operating councils and their committees to local section activities and programs where they overlap. For example, SIOC has a committee devoted to strengthening AIChE's K-12 outreach programming while several sections have very strong and robust K-12 outreach programs in their area. Both groups could benefit from collaboration but neither have an efficient means of communicating with each other. Currently the task force is made of representatives from all three operating councils, the LSC, and a few local sections and they have been meeting about once a month since January. I'd like to thank Lane Daley from East Tennessee and Laura Dietsche from Mid-Michigan for their help on this task force.

In addition, the LSC has begun its efforts to improve content on the [LSC Resource webpage](#) for local leaders starting with revising the recruitment

documentation. Input from various sections ranging in size and location will go into the new recruitment documentation to be useful to any local leader no matter the section they are running. There's been one meeting so far and the volunteers have made a few really good suggestions. It is hoped the task will be completed before the end of the year. Special thanks to the local section volunteers Fernando Aguirre (Dallas Section), Lin Li (Northern California Section), Michelle Piry-Haines (St. Louis Section), and Sonali Bhatnagar (North Jersey Section) for assisting in this effort.

Once the effort to revise the recruitment documentation is finished the LSC will need more section volunteers to provide valuable input for the other resources on the LSC Resource webpage.

Finally, I'd like to encourage all section leaders to attend the regional teleconferences occurring over the next few weeks. The regions have been restructured by size and then by geography in order to make it easier for sections to find common ground with their fellow regional neighbors. The regional calls give you a chance to reach out to other local leaders and the committee about concerns specific to your section as well as share any lessons or advice you've learned as your time as a section leader. If you can't make the call, anyone on your executive committee is welcomed to call in and participate. Please join in and help us strengthen the local section community.

As always thanks for all your hard work!

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VISION FOR AIChE LOCAL SECTIONS

By: Joe Deneault, Kansas City Local Section, and Dan Lambert, AIChE Board of Directors

Did you know that there are over 90 local sections worldwide within AIChE? And all of these AIChE local sections exist to serve members like you! The AIChE website introduces local sections with the tagline “Stay Connected Close to Home.” Local sections are truly the medium through which chemical engineers can connect and network locally.

As the number of AIChE local sections has grown, the need to create a cohesive vision statement to guide all local sections has become apparent. This past year, the President’s Blue Ribbon Task Force on Local Sections crafted a local section vision statement in order to unite all local sections, throughout the world, under specific guiding principles.

AIChE Local Section Vision

AIChE Local Sections serve as the lifelong professional home for AIChE members in all sectors of chemical engineering anywhere in the world. Each AIChE member is affiliated with one or more Local Sections, and for many, the Local Section is the most personal and accessible point of contact for professional support from AIChE. Local Sections, with the oversight and guidance of the Local Section Committee, exist to provide support in the areas of career and leadership development, continuing education, networking, and supporting the local community. Every Local Section provides the best support possible by taking into account the local interests and needs of its members. In turn, Local Sections depend on dedicated volunteers to support programming and pay dues. With this support, Local Sections can remain active and thriving and provide benefits to members that far outweigh the costs of membership such that all AIChE members will participate in Local Sections. As Local Sections continue to grow, all Local Sections will strive to be self-sustaining, highly relevant to all AIChE Members, and advanced in the use of information technology (web and social media) to reach more members with more value.

Although the vision is new, many currently active local sections are a testament to this vision. Emily Ferner, a local section leader, graciously offered a testimonial as to how her local section is living this vision today.

Emily Ferner, a young professional and the current Chair of the Kansas City local section, has been involved with AIChE for the past three years. She is currently a process engineer at Burns & McDonnell, an engineering consulting firm, headquartered in Kansas City. Here is what she had to say about how her local section is living the vision.

“The Kansas City local section keeps me connected to the profession. At our local AIChE meetings, the industry in the area is represented well, and I get to network with other ChemEs and gain exposure to different sectors of the industry. We have people from all across town coming to our meetings, from companies such as DuPont and Bayer, and I don’t think I would have the opportunity to meet these people if not for our local section. In KC, we tailor to our members particularly well and are always trying to increase the amount of people we reach. Last year, we were successful in planning a speaker series focusing on non-technical professional development, which attracted a diverse group of ChemEs. I see great value in being involved with my local section, and I feel like my local section dues pay off every year. Those members paying dues get reduced pricing at meetings, and experienced professionals can get PDH credits at many of our meetings. In the end, you just can’t put a price on personal or professional development and making connections in the industry.”

This testimonial offers the opinion of just one local section member. Many local sections are already operating under the vision’s guiding principles, and the hope going forward is that all local sections, in the U.S. and abroad, will operate under these principles and strive to continuously improve. We will try to add a similar testimonial to all future local section committee newsletters. Send any comments or your testimonial to Joe Deneault or Dan Lambert. Note that this article will also be posted on the [AIChE’s ChEnected website](#). Feel free to join the conversation there.

For any questions about the local section vision, contact Joe Deneault (jdeneault@burnsmcd.com) or Dan Lambert (dan.lambert@srnl.doe.gov).

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HIGHLIGHTED LOCAL SECTION – CHICAGO LOCAL SECTION YOUNG PROFESSIONALS GROUP

By: Jon Haughton, Ingredion, Chicago Local Section YP Group Past Chair

The Chicago Young Professionals Committee (YPC) is one of the most active YP groups in the country. With over 50 young professionals attending events in the past year, we offer numerous opportunities for people under the age of 35 to get involved - to network, increase their professional and technical skills, give back to the community, and have fun. Here is a brief summary of what we do.

Activities

The Chicago YPC puts on their own events that engage the Young Professional population in Chicago.

• *Monthly Events & Socials*

The Chicago YPC tries to focus on events gearing toward a young professional audience. We have had a tour of a local process safety company, a tour of a local brewery run by a Chemical Engineer, beer brewing and wine tastings, and many other events in the Chicago area.

• *Professional Development & Local University Involvement*

In the past we have had specific meetings and roundtables to discuss events unique to a young professional audience. Such events include international travel and searching for your next job. We have also done outreach events with local universities, including Illinois Institute of Technology and University of Illinois at Chicago, focusing on professional development for undergraduate students.

• *K-12 Outreach*

The Chicago YPC handles many K-12 outreach events for the Chicago section. From the DuPage Area Engineers Week Expo, where schoolchildren of all ages come and learn about what it is to be a Chemical Engineer (The ages can lead to some hilarious interactions), to the Fermilab STEM Career Expo, focusing on high school students interested in college majors, we try to explain how cool Chemical

Engineering is. Some demos - including kinetic sand, having kids dress up in PPE and having parents take a picture in front of a poster of a chemical plant, explaining a board of Chemical Engineering and different industries that they can go into - are always included and engaging.

• *Sports*

No discussion of the Chicago YPC would be complete without discussing Whirlyball. If you haven't heard of it, think a cross of basketball, hockey, and lacrosse on bumper cars. It's wild. Usually taking place in January, this is usually our most popular event, and we've got more than 30 people attending in the past.

Organization

The Chicago YPC exists as an almost completely autonomous subgroup within the Chicago Local Section. We have our own executive policies, a small operating budget, and our own elected board, including a Chair, Vice Chair, Past Chair, Administrator, Webmaster, and Membership and Programming Committees. This gives us the freedom to organize our own events and keep members engaged.

How to get involved

Check out our [Facebook group](#) and our [Google listserv](#) for upcoming 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.

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FEDERAL TAX RETURNS FOR AIChE LOCAL SECTIONS

By: AIChE Accounting Department

It is everyone's favorite time of the year, tax season! Below is important information that all local section leaders should take note of. For additional information review the Reporting section of the [Resources for Local Section Leaders webpage](#).

The IRS has recently been mandated by the Pension Protection Act to revoke the tax-exempt status of any organization that fails to file a **Form 990, 990-EZ, or 990-N** for three consecutive years. A nonprofit that loses its exemption because of failure to file will have to reapply to the IRS for exemption.

Each Local Section must file its own federal tax return. AIChE's fiscal year is the calendar year and the deadline for filing tax returns is **May 15** of the following year (or the 15th day of the 5th month after your section's fiscal year). AIChE cannot file tax returns on behalf of Locals Sections because AIChE doesn't control the finances of the Local Sections, and Local Section revenues and expenses are not reflected on the national organization's financial statements.

The IRS guidelines for which form to file depend on the group's gross receipts (total amount received from all sources, without subtracting any costs or expenses) for the tax year, as follows:

1. If gross receipts are less than \$50,000, the group must file **Form 990-N**. This is a simple electronic filing using an "e-postcard" which should only take a few minutes to complete.
2. If gross receipts are between \$50,000 and \$200,000, and total assets are less than \$500,000, the group may file **Form 990-EZ**.
3. If gross receipts or net assets exceed the limits in (2) above, the group must file **Form 990**.

Local Sections are also required to file a 990-T if their gross income from unrelated business (gross receipts minus cost of goods sold) is in excess of \$1,000.

IRS website: <http://www.irs.gov/charities/index.html>

HIGHLIGHTED RESOURCE FOR LOCAL SECTIONS

Career Resources for Local Leaders and Members

We thought it would be of great value for the members of your AIChE section to know of some career development resources available, all of which are free of cost! Please see details below.

- Attend a **Virtual Career Fair**, a hot, new way to connect with employers that is quickly gaining popularity! Travel expenses have been eliminated and time commitments are greatly reduced for both recruiter and job seeker by connecting you via live chat discussions for a focused period of time. [Click here](#) for our website details or [click here](#) to register for our next event (**April 9th**) and for a good overview video.
- Post a resume to our **Job Board** and look through the jobs posted there by employers. [Click here](#) to go to our job board.
- Enroll to receive our weekly e-newsletter **AIChE SmartBrief** which has a career section with tips, in addition to many other sections with news relevant to the field. [Click here](#) to sign up.
- Other resources can be found in the **Career Section** of our website. [Click here](#) to visit our site.

We greatly appreciate your efforts, and hope you will let us know if any improvements could add more value. Email: Nathan Lott- nathl@aiche.org

UPCOMING LSC CONFERENCE CALLS

- April 27, 2015 at the [AIChE Spring Meeting](#)
- May 12, 2015 at 1:30 p.m. Eastern
- June 8, 2015 at 12:30 p.m. Eastern
- July 7, 2015 at 3:30 p.m. Eastern
- August 5, 2015 at 2:00 p.m. Eastern
- September 3, 2015 at 3:00 p.m. Eastern



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.).

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| MAR. 16–17, 2015 | Engineering Strategies for a Sustainable Food Supply Chain Workshop Princeton Univ. • Princeton, NJ |
| MAR. 18–19, 2015 | Engineering Solutions for Sustainability: Materials and Resources Symposium (Co-sponsored by IfS) Orlando, FL |
| MAR. 23–25, 2015 | Arctic Technology Conference (An OTC Event) Bella Center • Copenhagen, Denmark |
| APR. 26–30, 2015 | AIChE Spring Meeting and 11th Global Congress on Process Safety Hilton Austin • Austin, TX |
| MAY 4–7, 2015 | Offshore Technology Conference (OTC2015) NRG Park • Houston, TX |
| MAY 19–21, 2015 | CCPS Middle East Process Safety Conference Ritz Carlton • Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates |
| MAY 26–29, 2015 | 4th International Congress on Sustainability Science and Engineering (ICOSSE '15) Balatonfüred, Hungary |
| JUNE 2–4, 2015 | Process Development Symposium: Emerging Trends in Process Research The Westin Houston, Memorial City • Houston, TX |
| JUNE 10–13, 2015 | Synthetic Biology: Engineering, Evolution, and Design (SEED) Boston Park Plaza • Boston, MA |
| JUNE 21–24, 2015 | 5th International Conference on Accelerated Carbonation for Environmental and Materials Engineering (ACEME) Columbia University • New York, NY |
| JUNE 28–JULY 1, 2015 | 12th International Conference on Gas-Liquid and Gas-Liquid-Solid Reactor Engineering (GLS12) Crowne Plaza Times Square • New York, NY |
| AUG. 30–SEPT. 3, 2015 | 60th Annual Safety in Ammonia Plants and Related Facilities Symposium The Westin Copley Place • Boston, MA |
| SEPT. 27–29, 2015 | 4th Conference on Constraint-Based Reconstruction and Analysis (COBRA 2015) (Organized by IMES) Heidelberg, Germany |
| OCT. 1–2, 2015 | 7th Southwest Process Technology Conference Moody Garden Hotel and Convention Center • Galveston, TX |
| NOV. 8–13, 2015 | AIChE Annual Meeting and Student Conference Salt Palace Convention Center • Salt Lake City, UT |
| NOV. 11–13, 2015 | Sustainable Packaging Symposium (SPS) '15 Salt Lake City, UT |

AIChE Academy Calendar

Instructor-Led Training

For more information, and to register for AIChE Instructor-Led Training courses, visit www.aiche.org/academy.

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| MAR. 24–25, 2015 ATLANTA, GA | Flow of Solids in Bins, Hoppers, Chutes, and Feeders Course # CH032 • Instructor: Eric Maynard |
| MAR. 24–26, 2015 ATLANTA, GA | Combo Course: Flow of Solids AND Pneumatic Conveying (CH032 and CH033) Course # CH757 • Instructor: Eric Maynard |
| MAR. 26, 2015 ATLANTA, GA | Pneumatic Conveying of Bulk Solids Course # CH033 • Instructor: Eric Maynard |
| APR. 13–16, 2015 HOUSTON, TX | Process Safety Boot Camp Course # CH900 • Instructors: Brian Kelly, Ellen Lenz |
| MAY 4–6, 2015 LAS VEGAS, NV | TRIZ: The Theory of Inventive Problem Solving Course # PD513 • Instructor: Jack Hipple |
| MAY 12–13, 2015 PHILADELPHIA, PA | Crystallization Operations Course # CH110 • Instructor: Wayne Genck |
| MAY 12–14, 2015 CHICAGO, IL | Distillation in Practice Course # CH004 • Instructor: John Farone |
| JUNE 1–2, 2015 NEW ORLEANS, LA | Conceptual Development and Capital Cost Estimating Course # CH139 • Instructor: John Williams |
| JUNE 1–4, 2015 NEW ORLEANS, LA | Combo Course: Cost Estimating (CH139 and CH140) Course # CH758 • Instructor: John Williams |
| JUNE 1–4, 2015 CHICAGO, IL | Process Safety Boot Camp Course # CH900 • Instructors: Jerry Jones, Albert Ness |
| JUNE 3–4, 2015 NEW ORLEANS, LA | Project Evaluation: Operating Cost Estimating and Financial Analysis Course # CH140 • Instructor: John Williams |

Webinars

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

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| MAR. 11, 2015 2:00–3:00 PM ET | Introduction to Maintenance and Reliability Presenter: David Rosenthal |
| MAR. 18, 2015 2:00–3:00 PM ET | Pressure Relief Systems Effluent Handling Presenter: Aubry Shackelford |
| MAR. 25, 2015 2:00–3:00 PM ET | Water-Energy Nexus Report Presenter: Diane Bauer |
| APR. 22, 2015 2:00–3:00 PM ET | Technical Relief Systems (Sponsored by Provenance Consulting) Presenter: To be determined |