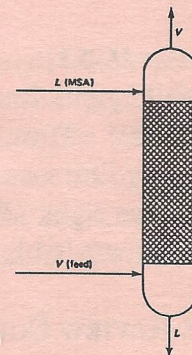




# Chicago Section Columns



Chicago Chapter - American Institute of Chemical Engineers - June 2000  
[www.aiche-chicago.org](http://www.aiche-chicago.org)

## JUNE MEETING NOTICE

### SATURDAY FAMILY PICNIC



**When:** Saturday, June 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2000  
11 A.M. – 4:00 P.M.  
Rain or shine

**Where:** Busse Woods Forest Preserve  
Higgins/Illinois 53  
Near Woodfield Mall

#### Agenda:

**Annual Election:** 11:45 – noon  
**Lunch Served Starting at noon**  
**Games Starting at 1:00 pm**

#### Menu (Provided by Corky's Catering)

- ▶ Fried Chicken
- ▶ Italian Beef with Sweet Peppers
- ▶ Portobello Mushroom Lasagna
- ▶ Grilled Vegetable Kabobs
- ▶ Homestyle Potato Salad
- ▶ Crunchy Cole Slaw
- ▶ Rotini Pasta Salad
- ▶ Confetti Jell-O
- ▶ Fresh Buns

Bring your family to the Chicago Section's summer social event. We will have various games for all ages, with prizes for kids' games. We will have clowns and face painting. This will be an excellent opportunity to socialize with friends.

Busse Woods is a Cook County Forest Preserve located in the Woodfield area. It has clean modern bathroom facilities and drinking water. Busse Woods has walking paths around several little lakes. Our Grove #11 will have picnic tables and a shelter.

#### Cost:

12 years old and above	\$6.00
6 to 12 years old	\$4.00
Under 5 years old	free

#### Registration Deadline:

Make your reservations by calling the ACS office at 847-647-8405 by Tuesday, May 30 before noon.

#### DIRECTIONS TO BUSSE WOODS FOREST PRESERVE – GROVE 11

Parking is free and near our Grove #11. Look for the AICHE Picnic Signs.

#### From I-90

Exit Arlington Heights Road (South); Turn Right (West) on Higgins Road; Turn Left (South) at the first entrance. Grove 11 is fourth picnic area on your right. Parking is in the Grove 11 area. Look for AICHE signs.



### **From IL-53**

Exit Higgins Road (East); Go a couple miles on Higgins; Turn Right (South) at second Busse Woods Entrance. Grove 11 is fourth picnic area on your right. Parking is in the Grove 11 area. Look for AIChE signs.

### **PE REVIEW COURSE**

**When:** Tuesday and Thursday evenings  
August 1, 2000 through October 13, 2000  
6:30pm – 9:30pm

**Where:** Wilbur Wright College.  
4300 N. Narragansett Avenue  
Chicago

**Cost:** \$ 495 for members (includes textbooks, solutions manual and practice exam)

Registration to be sent to:  
Raja Venkateswar  
Raja\_Venkateswar@earthtech.com or  
630-574-3724

Class subject to cancellation if less than 10 students are registered prior to July 25, 2000.

The examination for P.E. Licensure does not ask questions related to derivation of equations or correlations. The questions, which are multiple choice, are designed to test the candidate on the practice of chemical engineering. These questions have been developed from industrial experience. In teaching this course, faculty members will review theory to get the student oriented, but will focus on solving problems from the book, and provide tips based on individual experience. The course will be a perfect forum for students to ask questions.

Please advertise this course to your friends so that we may get the necessary minimum quorum.

### **FROM THE CHAIR ELECT**

Suzette Wick, Dedert Corporation  
Chair-Elect Chicago Section, 1999-2000

Well, this is exciting. After many years of toiling in the ranks, I am finally almost there. I have worked with some great Chairs through the

years. They have all left their stamp on the Chicago Section. I have been reading some of the Chairman's Corner articles written by my friends, and it is quite inspiring to see how some of their visions have turned into fantastic programs for the section. Programs like Student Outreach and the web site that are now staples to our line-up. As they say in the advertisements, "We've come a long way baby."

But enough of being retrospective. Let's look ahead. Wow! We have some great things lined up for next year. The volunteers that have signed on are ambitious. The programs that they intend to put out next year will be phenomenal. Of course we will be managing on our annual Seminar next February. We will also be running a P.E. Review Course in the fall. In addition to that, we will be hosting a Job Fair with National in the spring of 2001. What else could we possibly take on next year? Stick around, we are just getting started.

You know, I love my job at Dedert. I get the opportunity to sell equipment, use my chemical engineering background to design that equipment, and to travel around the world to work on equipment that I designed myself. What a great variety. But they don't give the checkbook (probably a good thing too). And they don't let me write our newsletter. But AIChE has given me these opportunities and a whole lot more than that. I really have fun with AIChE work. Sometimes I get a little nervous about standing up in front of a room full of people, and having to balance the budget has caused me to pull out a few hairs, but these are challenges that make me feel really good about myself when I've completed them successfully.

So, if you can relate to this and would like to give a little something back to AIChE and get something for yourself in the process, give me a call or drop me a few lines by email. Don't feel like you are signing your free time away for a year by volunteering. Our group has lots of opportunities for you guys who are looking for just a little challenge.



## CHAIRMAN'S CORNER



**Rebecca Abshire**  
**Chair 1999/2000,**  
**Chicago Section AIChE**

This has been a year full of challenges and opportunities. I had three major goals on which I had wanted to focus – continue to build our student outreach program, improve our government interaction and improve our job / career assistance program.

Annette Johnston and her team did an outstanding job by attending several local career fairs, helping judge science fairs and giving presentations in elementary schools. Although the majority of the presentations were given to suburban schools, our section is starting to build a relationship with the Chicago Public Schools to give presentations in inner city schools. We had section volunteers giving presentations to inner-city kids, who have limited contact with Chemical Engineers. I was one of the volunteers who went to an inner city school and want to report back that it is a very rewarding experience. Both the teachers and students were appreciative.

Bill Palm took on the task of trying to determine what direction our section should go for government interaction. He did an outstanding job of putting together a survey to poll how you the members felt. He found that people are concerned about their quality of life and particularly their quality of their drinking water.

Jerry Bard and his team continue to improve our job assistance program. They provided a format for members to post abbreviated resumes on our website and in our newsletter. We had a limited number of employers posting their openings with us. Please let your management know that we provide this service.

The Chicago Section turned 75 years old. Considering we are a volunteer organization, this

is a major feat. Alan Levine did an excellent job of leading the Diamond Celebration planning team. We decided to do more than just have a party to celebrate; we decided to recognize individuals who impacted Chemical Engineering in the area. I appreciate the team's efforts in coordinating this major event.

In addition, Ann Dougherty and her team created a Waste Trading Game that increases the knowledge of chemical and physical characterization of industrial by-products and unit operations for students and working professionals.

Ganesh Venimadhavan, our Vice-Chair of Programming, did an excellent job of coordinating this past year's program. We had a diverse program which ranged from touring Abbott Labs, learning about the new EPA requirements and hearing about the future of fuel cells to name a few. Also, I want to thank George Jarvi and Becky Patrick for assisting Ganesh with the arrangements and handling our meeting registration.

Ganesh Venimadhavan and Dennis O'Brien did an outstanding job at coordinating our second technical seminar. I was pleased that the Chicago Section could provide this type of service to its members. The high turnout shows that this is a service we need to continue providing.

Kimberly Worthington, Jerry Fountain, Ralph Iovinelli, Lisa Alexander and Mark Kuehne did an excellent job working as a team to get the newsletters out to the members.

Roger Masson, our Webmaster, did an excellent job of getting information on the web in a timely fashion.

Also, I would like to congratulate two Chicago Section members for becoming Fellows. They are Alan Zagoria of UOP and Dr. Norman F. Brockmeier of Argonne National Lab.



As you can see, we had a full year, and I appreciate everyone's time and efforts to make the Chicago Section successful. I know that Suzette Wick and her team will do an excellent job of leading us into the new century.

## STUDENT OUTREACH 2001 COMMITTEE MEETING

by Annette Johnson

The Student Outreach Committee will meet to plan for the next school year on June 13 at 6pm at Abbott Laboratories, North Chicago. If you are interested in joining the committee, Contact Annette Johnston at one of the following:

- [annette.johnston@abbott.com](mailto:annette.johnston@abbott.com)
- [annette.johnston@juno.com](mailto:annette.johnston@juno.com)
- (847)935-5120
- (847)433-7738

As you have seen in past newsletters, our main focus is on school visits and occasional weekend displays about Chemical Engineering. In the past school year, we were contacted by 30 schools. A little over half of those schools were actually visited. Almost every school that was visited requested another visit. Some requests were for career day visits or science fair judging, which did not match the schedules of the volunteers available. Other requests went unfulfilled.

This program will continue next year. Come to the meeting with your suggestions. We will also be talking about the other activities for the year.

- Mentoring for Engineer's Week
- Seminar about Chemical Engineering Careers for Students? Teachers?
- CICI Presentation
- Chemistry Day Presentation
- Coordinating with Other Engineering Societies for Student Outreach

If you are interested in coming, please contact me. I need to plan for a room that is an appropriate size. If the location, time or date is a problem, let me know.

## GRADUATE STUDENT POSTER CONTEST

The annual graduate student poster contest was held at the April AIChE Chicago Section meeting at Northwestern University. Graduate students from Chicagoland universities presented seven posters. Ned Haubein was awarded the prize for Best Graduate Student Poster Presentation. His poster was entitled Computational Study of Liquid Phase Carbonylation. He is a third year graduate student studying with Professor Linda Broadbelt at Northwestern University.

## JOBS BULLETIN

### JUNE 2000

When our members submit their résumés to the Job Posting Committee, we will publish recaps on the web and in the Newsletter. We will try to monitor confidentiality; it would be embarrassing to apply for one's own job. Send in your résumés if you are looking to change jobs.

AIChE JOB POSTING COMMITTEE*	
Gerald Bard Matthew Benjamin & Bard W799 Myrtle Road Genoa City, WI 53128 (414) 279-6394 Fax (414) 279-7851 <a href="mailto:geraldb102@techheadnet.com">geraldb102@techheadnet.com</a>	Larry Feder P&I Consulting 1699 Wall Street Mt. Prospect, IL 60056 (847) 734-5400 Fax (847) 734-5406 <a href="mailto:lfeder@sprynet.com">lfeder@sprynet.com</a>
William Palm 6200 Mulford Niles, IL 60714 (847) 581-1749 Fax (847) 581-1764 <a href="mailto:wpalm@rich.com">wpalm@rich.com</a>	N. Sankaran UOP 25 East Algonquin Rd Des Plaines, IL 60017 (847) 375-7893 Fax (847) 391-2758 <a href="mailto:nsankara@uop.com">nsankara@uop.com</a>

**S-0010 Senior Process Engineer** Chemical Engineer with 14 years of experience in process optimization, design and startup seeks a senior production related position in Northern Chicagoland or Southern Wisconsin. Willing to travel up to 30%. Contact [swilk32922@aol.com](mailto:swilk32922@aol.com)

**A 0021 Process & Senior Process Engineers** Search firm has openings for chemical engineers with 2+ to 10+ years of experience in the chemical industry. Need in-plant, hands-on experience for troubleshooting, optimizing, modifying and improving processes. Projects include



process improvement, increasing capacity and reducing costs. Contact: Scott Harned @ (616) 396-9600

**A 0022 Senior Project Engineer** Agricultural Chemical Company in Chicago Suburbs seeks B.S. Chemical Engineer with 5+ years of experience with large scale engineering/construction project management. Professional Engineering license a plus. Position includes total project responsibility for evaluation, analysis and design of system modifications and field management. Contact Search Firm: Scott Harned @ (616) 396-9600

**A 0023 Project Group Leader** Chemical manufacturer in Cincinnati, OH seeks chemical engineer with 5+ years of experience in operations. Company looking for a change agent & problem solver reporting to the Operations Manager. Duties include managing operations for 1 of 3 product groups for a \$ 40 Mil, privately held profitable chemical company. Contact Search Firm: Cyndi Gillings @ (513) 469-9881

## **NOMINATIONS FOR OFFICERS FOR 2000/2001**

The annual election of officers will be held at the June meeting. The nominating committee of Gloria Fountain, Rebecca Abshire, and Suzette Wick has proposed the following slate:

### Suzette Wick – Succeeding to Chair

Suzette has been an officer of the Chicago Section for the last four years and previously a member of various committees. She has been with Dedert Corporation as a Process Design Engineer for the last ten years. Dedert Corporation is a major supplier of custom-designed systems worldwide. Her work includes the sales, design and service of evaporator systems around the world. Suzette received her Bachelors Degree in Chemical Engineering from West Virginia University.

### Allan Fluharty, nominated for Chair-Elect

Allan has been involved with the Chicago Section for four years during which he has held the positions of Vice Chair of Programs, Treasurer and Secretary. Allan is an Ambassador for National's career development office and last year he helped train Kingsport, TN area engineers on job search strategies. Allan is also a member of National's Membership

Committee. Allan has over eight years of experience as an engineer, including two years as a Plant Manager. He is currently a Project Manager for The C.P. Hall Company and he recently designed and installed a thermal oxidizer at their Bedford Park facility. Allan is a Commander and an Engineering Duty Officer in the Naval Reserve and the commanding officer of a unit that supports the U.S. Navy shipyard in Yokosuka, Japan.

### Ganesh Venimadhavan, nominated for Vice Chair-Programs

Ganesh is an R&D Specialist in the Engineering Science Skill Center at UOP LLC, Des Plaines, IL. His work involves developing fundamental models for UOP processes. He has a BE(Hons.) in Chemical Engineering from the Birla Institute of Technology and Science, Pilani, India and a Ph.D. in Chemical Engineering from the University of Massachusetts at Amherst. His area of specialization is reactive distillation. Ganesh's other interests include movies and books. He took over as the Vice-Chair Programs from Shel McGee in November 1999. He was also the Co-Chair for the Distillation and Heat Transfer Seminars organized by the Chicago section.

### Alan Levine, nominated for Treasurer

Alan is an active member in the local section. As chair for this year's Diamond Celebration he has gained an appreciation for the financial issues which affect the section. He is a Naperville resident, is married and has a 10 month old son. When not working on AIChE activities, he enjoys running his own engineering design firm.

### Dennis O'Brien, nominated for Secretary

Dennis is a graduate of the University of Tulsa (BSChE-"71) and Roosevelt University (MBA-79). He has worked for UOP for the last 26 years. Dennis joined AIChE in 1969 and has been active in student, local and national functions. He has co-chaired the Seminar series the last two years; he was active on the Employment committee for the last National meeting in Chicago. He will be a co-chair at the Spring 2001 meeting Fractionation tutorial.



Dennis has been active in community building activities and worked with groups to reduce racism.

Gloria Fountain, nominated for Director-at-Large  
Gloria is Past Chair of the Chicago Section (1999) and has had extensive experience as a leader in numerous positions with the Section. She served as a Director this year and is looking forward to a second year. Gloria also serves on National AIChE's Career and Education Operating Council. Gloria has worked for several years at Unilever Home & Personal Care plant on North Avenue where she is currently a senior engineer and project manager. Gloria is a registered Professional Engineer in Illinois.

### **HARRY MCCORMACK AWARD WINNERS**

Annually, the AIChE Chicago Section recognizes three outstanding undergraduate students with the Harry McCormack Award. The students were selected for their outstanding scholarship, extra-curricular activities, character, and potential development in the field of chemical engineering.

#### Jeffrey Endelman

The recipient of the McCormack Award from Northwestern University this year is Jeffrey Endelman. Jeff has excelled in both academics and leadership during his four years on campus. He has a 4.0 GPA and was both the AIChE student chapter president and the vice president for Tau Beta Pi this past year. Jeff is a member of Omega Chi Epsilon and was the president and secretary of his fraternity. He was the recipient of the Donald Othmer Sophomore Academic Excellence Award given by AIChE, an AIChE National Scholarship, a Goldwater Scholarship and a National Merit Foundation Scholarship. Jeff will graduate in June and plans to attend graduate school.

#### Jennifer Evans

The recipient of the 2000 Harry McCormack Award of the AIChE Chicago Section from Illinois Institute of Technology is Ms. Jennifer E.

Evans. Jennifer is graduating this semester from IIT with an almost perfect GPA after having completed the requirements for a B. Sc. in Chemical Engineering, the ROTC Air Force Aerospace Studies program, a specialization in Biomedical engineering, as well as all requirements for pre-medical studies. She is also involved in a multitude of extracurricular activities that include serving as an AIChE student chapter officer and her membership in the IIT cross-country running team. Jennifer has always been a leader and a role model on campus as she seems to have found the perfect balance of academic and extra-curricular activities that many students thrive to achieve. Upon graduation, Jennifer will go on to attend the Rush Medical School.

#### Pooja Pathak

Pooja Pathak is the recipient of the Harry McCormack Award from University of Illinois at Chicago. In addition to having a strong academic background, she has been involved in various activities both professional and service based. She is the president of the student chapter of AIChE at UIC. She is also the president of PESC (Professional Engineering Societies Council at UIC) which encompasses all the engineering societies on campus. For the past two years, she has served as teaching assistant for Engineering 100, a class that acquaints new students to the college and their major. Being active in various events has given her a chance to come in contact with the professional society as well, especially the AIChE Chicago Section. She is a graduating senior, and next year will be attending graduate school.

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Chicago Section Columns is published eight times a year by the Chicago Section AIChE. Opinions expressed herein are those of the authors and are not necessarily those of the officers of the Chicago Section. Copy for inclusion in the next Chicago Section Columns must be received no later than August 2, 2000.

The objectives of the AIChE are to advance chemical engineering in theory and practice, to maintain a high professional standard among its members and to serve society, particularly where chemical engineering can contribute to the public interest. If you have any questions or comments regarding the newsletter please contact Ralph Iovinelli at Landrum & Brown, 1021 W. Adams Street, STE 200, Chicago, IL 60607; Phone (312) 491-4273 fax: (312) 491-4276; Internet: [riovinelli@landrum-brown.com](mailto:riovinelli@landrum-brown.com).

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