

# AIChE Process Development Division Summer Newsletter 2023



For more information, visit

<http://www.aiche.org/community/sites/divisions/process-development>

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# Summer Issue



# AIChE Process Development Division Summer Newsletter 2023

## Summer Issue:



Welcome to the Summer 2023 edition of the Process Development Division Newsletter. Our summer issue is an opportunity to share division activities apart from the annual spring and fall meetings, which tend to command a lot of attention in our other newsletter issues.

In this issue, you will have the opportunity to read about updates on the division bylaws, nominations for leadership positions, 2023 award winners and nomination processes for future awards, division webinars, and deadlines for upcoming events.

We encourage you to be involved in the division's activities. If you are looking for ways to be more involved, please reach out to any of the division leaders listed in the back of this issue.

### **Please Join: Process Development Division (PDD)**

The Process Development Division promotes networking and communication amongst engineers and scientists interested in process development. The division sponsors meetings, dinners, seminars, technical programming, and publications. The division provides a forum for the engineer and educator to exchange information and ideas related to process development. Please join or encourage your colleagues to join if you are not already members.

**Chartered 2000, Annual Dues: \$10**

## **AICHE PDD Webinar Series**

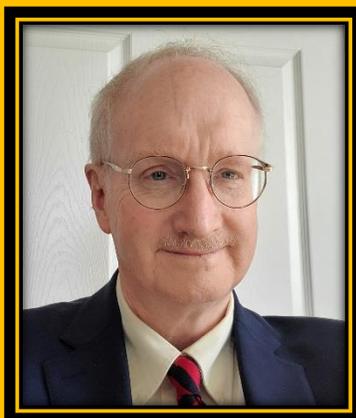
PDD is pleased to extend their webinar series with a presentation from distinguished PDD member, Joe Powell in September. Mark your calendars and plan to join the division for what should be another great session in this series.

### **A Career in Process Development**

**September 26, 2023**

**2:00 PM Central, 3:00 PM Eastern Time Zones**

**Joe Powell (Joseph B. Powell, PhD)**



**AICHE Fellow, Process Development Division  
Former Shell Chief Scientist – Chemical Engineering  
University of Houston Energy Transition Institute**

Process Development is a key skill for industry in translating ideas and opportunities into commercial reality, including today's grand challenges in achieving Net Zero Emissions by 2050 and a Circular Economy for chemicals and materials. This seminar will provide an overview of the industrial role, including examples that led to commercialization of major technologies. Specific topics include use of shortcut methods to fast-track development, de-risking to optimize technology portfolio management, impacts of AI, machine learning and digital computation on optimal future approaches, and the importance of stakeholder engagement, including life cycle assessment with sustainability as critical drivers for innovation. Process development leadership roles have the advantage of a wide breadth of engagement, visibility, and impact that transcends specific technology and economic fads, and hence is a great way to make a meaningful career contribution.

**Registration is Free:**

[https://aiche.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_E1wy9JtsS6CboChVgcYiEQ#/registration](https://aiche.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_E1wy9JtsS6CboChVgcYiEQ#/registration)

## In Case You Missed It

Cheryl Teich presented the 2<sup>nd</sup> webinar in the PDD series in June. Cheryl's slides can be viewed on the AIChE website at the link at the bottom of the page.

### **RAPID RACER AMPD: Back to the Future**

**Presented June 7, 2023**

**Dr. Cheryl Teich**



Teich Process Development LLC  
The Dow Chemical Company (ret.)  
2015 AIChE President

The RAPID RACER AMPD (Accelerated Modular Process Development) program kicked off in March 2022 with the following goals:

- Develop and disseminate an accelerated process development (PD) framework based on standardized modular process operations.
- Setup and operate a modular process development Center of Excellence (COE) at AVN (formerly MATRIC) in South Charleston, WV.
- Demonstrate the accelerated process development framework for a currently offshored API precursor specialty chemical.

A key step in developing the framework was assessing historical best practices in process development. The assessment revisited the contributions of the AIChE Process Development Division in charting and sharing industrial best practices. In retrospect, the Division's first Process Development Symposium (Split Rock, PA, June 2003) established the high bar for process development best practices. The webinar will show how learnings from the 2003 PDS provided a starting point for the RAPID RACER AMPD work and how they informed the full development of the PD framework.

RAPID RACER AMPD is funded under the financial assistance award 70NANB22H006 from the U.S. Department of Commerce, National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST).

**A replay of the webinar is available at:** <https://www.aiche.org/ili/academy/webinars/rapid-racer-ampd-back-future> It should be free to PDD members, but we are currently working on that on the website.

# Congratulations to our 2023 Process Development Division Award Winners

## Process Development Practice Award Sponsored by Zeton



**Dr. Kishori Deshpande**  
Senior Research Scientist  
The Dow Chemical Company  
Packaging, Specialty Plastics & Hydrocarbons R&D

Dr. Deshpande was recognized at the 2023 Spring Meeting

## Excellence in Process Development Research Award Sponsored by Pfizer, Inc.



**Dr. Masoud Soroush**  
Department of Chemical and Biological Engineering  
Drexel University

Dr. Soroush will be further recognized at the upcoming 2023 Annual Meeting and in the Fall Newsletter

## Student Paper Award Sponsored by the Linde Group



**Ying Liu**  
Lamar University

Ying will be further recognized at the upcoming 2023 Annual Meeting and in the Fall Newsletter

## Award Nominations:

**Interested in nominating yourself or a colleague for a PDD award in the following areas?**

- Excellence in Process Development Research Award

Recognizes individuals who have made significant technical contributions to the advancement of process development within research, teaching or regulatory activities. Activities must be disseminated by means of well-documented materials.

- Process Development Practice Award

Recognizes individuals with outstanding contributions in the practice or application of chemical engineering related to process development. This award focuses on applicants from industrial settings where documentation of contributions is not as readily provided.

- Process Development Division Student Paper Award

Presented to a full-time graduate or undergraduate student who prepares the best technical paper describing the results of process development studies within chemical engineering.

Jay Miller is the Awards Chair and can help with additional eligibility requirements.

**Nominations can be made by filling out the Division Award nomination form at the address below and sending it to [Jay.F.Miller@gmail.com](mailto:Jay.F.Miller@gmail.com)**

<https://www.aiche.org/awards/awards-provisions-eligibility#division-forum-nomination>

## Volunteer Opportunity:

Aaron Sarafinas has resigned his position as Process Development Symposium (PDS) Liaison. We appreciate Aaron's contributions, but we are now looking for a volunteer to fill this role.



The PDS is one of the division's highest profile events. The event is coordinated through AIChE with key input from PDD members and requires coordination between the two organizations. This is an opportunity to make a key contribution to an important PDD activity while working with central AIChE contacts.

If interested, please contact Qiang Xu, Kishori Deshpande or other members of the leadership team.

## Bylaws Update

PDD Leadership, led by Kishori Deshpande and Mary am Ende, have been engaged in updating the division bylaws for the past year. The review was initiated to ensure the incorporation of AIChE IDEAL guidelines (Inclusion, Diversity, Equity, Anti-Racism, and Learning). During the review, it became clear that the document created in 2002 needed updates in several areas and was past due for periodic evaluation.

The first revision of the bylaws was drafted in July 2022 with input from the PDD Leadership Team and the Chemical Engineering Technology Operating Council (CTOC). CTOC is responsible for ensuring the bylaws comply with AIChE requirements and assist with consistency across divisions.

The most recent revision was submitted to CTOC for review in August 2023. Ultimately, the proposed revised bylaws will be distributed and voted on by the division membership for approval.

If you are interested in receiving a copy of the most recent draft ahead of formal distribution, you may request a copy by contacting Qiang Xu or Kishori Deshpande.



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## 2023 Annual Meeting

November 5 – 10, 2023

Hyatt Regency Orlando

Orlando, Florida



The upcoming Annual Meeting will be held in Orlando, Florida in November 2023. Join us for another chance to meet and share ideas.

### **PDD Division and Programming Meeting**

Come and learn about activities within the division and about opportunities to chair or co-chair future technical sessions. Area Chair and Area Program Coordinator positions will also be transitioning this year and the division will be seeking volunteers.

### **PDD Division Dinner**

Don't miss out on this division highlight of every fall and spring meeting. Join us for a night out and get to know others in the division in a fun and informal setting.

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## 2024 Spring Meeting

March 24 – 28, 2024

New Orleans Ernest N. Morial Convention Center  
New Orleans, Louisiana



The 2024 Spring Meeting will be held in March 2024 in New Orleans, Louisiana in conjunction with the 20<sup>th</sup> Global Congress on Process Safety.

### Call for Abstracts

Put your expertise and accomplishments on display. Please consider submitting an abstract to present at the Spring Meeting. Abstracts may be submitted online through Wednesday, October 25, 2023.

<https://aiche.confex.com/aiche/s24/cfp.cgi>

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## Leadership Changes

The position of Division Chair rotates every two years with the next rotation taking place just prior to the Annual Meeting in November. This year, the Chair Elect, Dr. Kishori Deshpande, will assume the role of Chair taking over for outgoing chair, Dr. Qiang Xu.

Nominees for the Chair Elect position are made by the PDD Leadership Team. The sole nominee for this cycle is Mr. Rob Nunley.

### Nominee for Chair Elect:

**Rob Nunley**

Director of Manufacturing  
AVN Corporation  
South Charleston, WV

**Education:**

M.S., Engineering Science - ChE Focus, Marshall University  
B.S., Chemical Engineering, University of Rochester

**Contact:**

[rob.nunley@AVNcorp.com](mailto:rob.nunley@AVNcorp.com)

Office: 304.720.6707

Cell: 304.881.4719

**Background:**

Rob Nunley is the Director of Manufacturing for AVN Corporation, responsible for managing the Manufacturing Business Unit and overseeing the implementation and execution of chemical manufacturing opportunities. He joined MATRIC (acquired by AVN Corp) in 2013 as a pilot plant project manager and pilot plant engineer. He moved into the role of Pilot Plant Manager shortly thereafter and oversaw the development of the Pilot Plant Business Unit until assuming his current position. Prior to joining AVN, Rob worked in the Hydroxyethyl Cellulose Plant for The Dow Chemical Company for 10 years in roles as project manager, capital program coordinator, improvement engineer, operations engineer and production coordinator. Prior to that, Rob spent 10 years with Union Carbide as a process engineer supporting a variety of projects including retrofits, grassroots conceptual design, and early process development.

Rob is active within the PDD Leadership Team and is the acting Newsletter Editor. He previously served as Area Chair for 12 C/D, Technology Transfer and Manufacturing. He has chaired many technical sessions, presented numerous technical papers at AIChE meetings, and has continuously pursued increased engagement since joining the division.

## Process Development Division Leadership Team

	<p><b>Chair</b> Qiang Xu Lamar University (409) 880-7818 Qiang.xu@lamar.edu</p>		<p><b>Chair Elect</b> Kishori Deshpande Dow Chemical (979) 238-5868 KDeshpande@dow.com</p>
	<p><b>Fall Program Chair</b> Vinod Kumar Venkatakrishnan Shell (281) 544-7567 v.venkatakrishnan2@shell.com</p>		<p><b>Spring Program Chair</b> Juben Chheda Shell (281) 544-8232 Juben.chheda@shell.com</p>
	<p><b>Membership Chair</b> Johnathan Lekse NETL (412) 386-7312 Jonathan.Lekse@NETL.DOE</p>		<p><b>Awards Chair</b> Jay Miller Arkema (610) 359-2092 Jay.f.miller@gmail.com</p>
	<p><b>Treasurer</b> Raymond Rooks AVN Corp (304) 720-1037 Raymond.Rooks@avncorp.com</p>		<p><b>Webmaster</b> Pat Heider Dow (989) 636-1923 plheider@dow.com</p>
	<p><b>Past Chair</b> Anthony Cartolano Retired arcartolano@gmail.com</p>		<p><b>Newsletter Editor</b> Rob Nunley AVN Corp (304) 720-6707 Rob.Nunley@avncorp.com</p>

## PDD Area Leadership

Name	Position	E-Mail Address
<b>12A Process Research and Innovation</b>		
Raymond Jian	12A Chair	rjian@sabic.com
Ben Yang	12A Chair Elect	xyang116@umd.edu
Mo Jiang	12A Area Coordinator	mjiang2@vcu.edu
James Marek	12A Past Chair	james.marek@abbvie.com
<b>12B Pilot Plants</b>		
Madhav Ghanta	12B Chair	madhav.ghanta@sabic-hpp.com
Pratik Bhisikar	23B Chair Elect	pbhisikar@zeton.com
Ida (Xue) Chen	23B Area Coordinator	chen2c7ab2@dow.com
Mike Trainor	12B Past Chair	mtrainor@zeton.com
<b>12C/D Technology Transfer &amp; Manufacturing</b>		
Ha Dinh	12C/D Chair	ha.dinh@honeywell.com
Michael Telgenhoff	12C/D Chair Elect	michael.telgenhoff@dow.com
Mrunmayi Kumbhalkar	12C/D Area Coordinator	mkumbhalkar@dow.com
Rob Nunley	12C/D Past Chair	rob.nunley@avncorp.com
<b>12E/F Process Intensification &amp; Microprocess Engineering</b>		
Robert Broekhuis	12E/F Chair	rbroekhuis@sabic.com
Patrick Heider	12E/F Chair Elect	plheider@dow.com
Jing Luo	12E/F Area Coordinator	jluo2@dow.com
Matthaeus Siebenhofer	12E/F Past Chair	m.siebenhofer@tugraz.at
<b>12G Product Design</b>		
Mu Wang	12G Chair	wang.m.13@pg.com
Shaibal Roy	12G Chair Elect	shaibal.roy@fmc.com
Pranav Karanjkar	12G Area Coordinator	pranav.karanjkar@dow.com
Kishori Deshpande	12G Past Chair	kdeshpande@dow.com

## PDD Liaisons

Ahmed Youssef	YP Liaison	ahmed.youssef@sabic.com
OPEN POSITION	PDS Liaison	SEEKING VOLUNTEER(S)
Mary T. am Ende	CTOC Liaison	mary.t.amende@nalasengineering.com