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The *AIChE Baton Rouge Newsletter* is published monthly, from September to June, by the AIChE Baton Rouge Section, 110 Chemical Engineering, LSU, Baton Rouge, LA 70803. It is distributed free of charge to members of the Baton Rouge Section of the American Institute of Chemical Engineers.

**Membership Fee:** \$15.00/yr.

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## *May Meeting—Canceled*

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**Date:**

**Place:**

**Speaker:**

**Topic:**

**Agenda:**

**Menu:**

**Cost:**

**Our former BR Section Chair  
Donna Bryant is running  
for Director of National AIChE**  
See her note on page 3



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## *Other Upcoming 2020 Events / Speakers*

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**Nov 6** Seminar at Oak Lodge. Topics TBA and ethics.

*If you or a colleague(s) would like to give a technical presentation at an upcoming chapter meeting for 2 professional development hours (PDHs), please contact Chapter Vice-Chair, **Chelsea Bourdon**, at [CBourdon@Hargrove-epc.com](mailto:CBourdon@Hargrove-epc.com) to schedule a meeting date and time.*

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## *From the Chair's Pen*

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With the end of the stay at home mandate in sight, we wanted to send out the May newsletter to give everyone an update on what is going on with the AIChE community. AIChE Nationals is planning to have a meeting in Houston in August. The former chair, Donna Bryant, is running for a National Director post. While it is hard to predict what the future holds, we have tentatively rescheduled some of our big spring events, like the Seminar and Coates Award Banquet, for the fall. We will not be holding any events or issuing newsletters over the summer as is typical for our section, but look out for the newsletter in August for announcements about the fall schedule. As we prepare to get back to normal, I want to remind everyone to remain vigilant in our efforts to practice safe distancing and good hygiene to keep yourself and others safe.

*Chelsea Bourdon*, Chair

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## *From the editor's desk*

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I thought you might be interested to know how this COVID-19 affected teaching at the chemical engineering department at LSU. As I have done for the last 28 years I taught the plant design course, although for the past two years I have been helping a young professor, Dr. Craig Plaisance, to teach the course. This year we scheduled most of my lectures during the latter part of the semester, so they were cancelled. Instead of using Zoom as did other professors, I decided to make my Power Points presentations available to the students with recorded narrations on the important slides. I also made the ethics and communications lectures into slide shows in which I narrate from beginning to end as I advance the slides. (The slide shows are in the Cloud. I can send you the links if interested.)

I also prepared videos of two demonstrations I do in class. One shows me lighting a candle without touching the wick with the match. It demonstrates that liquids and solids do not ignite directly. It is the vapor that ignites and the meaning of the *flash point*. The other video is of the demonstration I used to do at SuperScience Saturday of collapsing a plastic bottle by trapping steam and letting it cool. It was fun to do this.

The design project this year was of a plant to produce ethylene by cracking ethane and propane. The students did a very detailed simulation of the process including the hot side and cold-side heat integrations. We let the project account for the grade in the course. It took us ten days of continuous grading of the progress reports and final reports. The final report included a discussion of treating continuous emissions and haz-op analysis of the C2 splitter. Neither the students nor Craig nor I had any problem with boredom doing this stay at home period. Most of the students did a good job.

We are ready to go back in action in the fall. We will have dinner meetings, a seminar on November 6 (save the date), and a Coates Memorial Award banquet. See you there.



*Armando Corripio*, editor

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***Kissing don't last: cookery do.***

***--George Meredith***

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## *A note from Donna Bryant*



My name is Donna Bryant and I was the 2018 Baton Rouge Local Section Chair. At the end of last year I moved up to Boston, Massachusetts. Since then, I have been nominated to be on this year's ballot for AIChE Board of Directors in August.

As many of you know, during the time I lived in Baton Rouge, I was very involved in the local section- holding various positions including Education Committee leader, Secretary, Vice Chair, and Chair. Throughout those years, I was able to organize many of the monthly meetings, recruit new members, and plan/attend Super Science Saturday events. I enjoyed this time networking and continuing to learn about Chemical Engineering.

In addition to being involved in the Baton Rouge Local Section, I have also been involved at the National level with the Young Professional Committee (YPC) and Management Division. I was the YPC Chair for 2019 and also helped to program sessions at both the Spring and Annual conferences. The Professional Photo Booth is one of the ideas that I was most excited to see put into action, first seen at the 2019 Annual Meeting. This idea originated during a YPC brainstorming session to provide both students and professionals a current photograph for their LinkedIn profile. After designing the program and highlighting the benefits to leaders throughout the AIChE organization, I was able to facilitate making it a component of the conference. Based on its 2019 success, it will be at this year's conference as well.

As a member of the Board of Directors, I would like to continue to move AIChE forward by doing several things:

- 1) Promoting programs and ideas that help make AIChE a more attractive organization to graduating students and increase their participation in AIChE
- 2) Ensuring that all members feel supported by AIChE throughout their career
- 3) Continuing to develop an atmosphere and platform that is adaptive to ever-changing technology and global issues; such as developing an increasingly virtual platform to support members during the COVID-19 pandemic.

I am writing in this newsletter to encourage you all to vote for the AIChE Board of Directors in August. I would be honored for your vote because I feel like from my experiences I would be able to help lead the AIChE organization into the future.

Please let me know if you have any questions. You can contact me at [Donna.Bryant@Matthey.com](mailto:Donna.Bryant@Matthey.com).

Thank you for your vote!

*Donna Bryant*

## 2020 Section Contacts

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### Why Should You Join the Local AIChE Chapter?

1. It is a welcoming presence to new chemical engineers in the area.
2. It provides a neutral ground mentorship toward career directions and other life topics.
3. It facilitates a better understanding of local, state, and federal policies related to our professions.
4. It offers a smooth transition for graduating chemical engineers from LSU, ULL, and other nearby universities who start working in the area.

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