



The Western Palmetto Informer

American Institute of Chemical Engineers

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Contact Information

Visit our website:

<http://www.wscaiche.org>

Email us at:

sec@wscaiche.org

January Meeting Thank You

The Western South Carolina Section of AIChE would like to thank Dr. Phil Caruso for presenting a very intriguing talk on gas turbines. Dr. Caruso was very inventive in his style of presentation. He garnered audience participation. Phil simulated the operation of a gas turbine using props and audience members.

February Meeting: Biofuels A Switch of the Century



Renewable energy will ultimately power humans into the future much like it has done for the past 20,000 years. Only since until starting in the mid 1800s where we have experienced a brief period of time powered by non-renewable sources, such as fossilized fuels and uranium. These sources are rapidly depleting and the world has paid a hefty price in terms of global climate change and the future of many species. Where will the renewable sources come from to power our future? The answer may occur somewhere between the renewable energy that originally powered our ancestors and what we've learned during this brief age of fossil fuels.

Dr. Terry Walker has over 15 years of experience in bioprocess engineering. He obtained his Ph.D. in Biosystems Engineering in 1997 at the University of Tennessee in cooperation with the Chemical Technology and Life Science Divisions at Oak Ridge National Laboratory.

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His research interests are primarily in biofuel and co-products from fungal and algal fermentation, bioproduct separations and bioavailability studies. He has worked specifically on integrated bioconversion of feedstock materials to bioenergy components (e.g. fuel ethanol and biodiesel esters), biopharmaceuticals, nutraceuticals (essential lipids with emphasis on ω -3 fatty acid metabolism), and hydrolytic enzymes. He has co-authored a recent book entitled "Bioprocess Engineering for Biofuels Production."

FEBRUARY MEETING SUMMARY

DATE: Tuesday, February 17, 2009
TIME: 6:00 PM Social
6:30 PM Dinner
7:00 PM Presentation
LOCATION: Hilton, Greenville
45 West Orchard Park Drive
Greenville, SC 29615
DIRECTIONS: I-385 @ Haywood Road Exit #39
COST: \$12 for Members (less \$5 instant rebate)
\$15 for Non-members
Free to Attend Presentation Only

Please reply to Secretary David Laursen at sec@wscaiche.org by Friday, February 13, 2008.

Note that the dinner portion of the meeting is not mandatory. Arrive by 7:00 pm if you want to attend the presentation without dinner.

Only RSVP if you plan to dine with us.

Getting to Know...

In this recurring feature in the *Informer* we get to know our Section leadership and others who contribute to our profession. This month meet Teresa Cheung, one of our Executive Committee Members.



Teresa Cheung,
Executive Committee
Member

Teresa Cheung was the Vice Chair and Chair of WSCAIChE in 2006-2008. She is currently an Executive Committee Member. Teresa is a senior process engineer in Fluor's Power Group. She has been with Fluor for about 7 years. She has worked in many industries, which includes commercial power and numerous chemical manufacturing facilities. Teresa received her BS in chemistry and chemical engineering from University of South Carolina. After working for 6 years, she decided to return to school and received her MS in chemical engineering at Clemson University.

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She loves being a process engineer. Every manufacturing process is unique and different. A chemical engineer has the opportunity to play different roles in both manufacturing and consulting. It is not surprising to see them involved in process manufacturing, controls and automation, project engineering, engineering management, quality and safety, and consulting.

Teresa is a mother of 2 boys: John and Daniel, ages 3 and 5. She is married to another engineer, John B. Rowell, Jr. She likes to workout and enjoys going to Barnes and Noble. After the boys are in bed, she will pick up a good book and relax before another whole new day begins.

2008-2009 Calendar of Events

DATE	LOCATION	TOPIC
14 Feb 2009	Roper Mountain Science Center	Second Saturday - Kids' Engineering Day
17 Feb 2009	Hilton	Dr. Terry Walker - Biofuels, A Switch of the Century
24 Mar 2009	Hilton	Tim Yerby - Lean Six Sigma: What is it? How can it help your company and career?
14 Apr 2009	Milliken	Plant Tour
15 May 2009	Fluor Field	Greenville Drive Baseball Game Social

Active participation in professional societies as well attending our professional and technical presentations count towards Continuing Professional Competency requirements for Licensed Professional Engineers. Upon request, the Section Secretary can provide attendance verifications for this purpose to our members.

2008-2009 Officers and Executive Committee

Many thanks to the continued efforts of those in providing leadership to our Section. Members with a desire to serve can contact any Officer or Executive Committee member.

POSITION	NAME	EMAIL	PHONE
Chair	Oren Webb	oren.webb@fluor.com	864-281-8106
Vice-Chair	Austin Crooks	austin.crooks@fluor.com	864-281-4635
Secretary	David Laursen	sec@wscaiche.org	864-281-5981
Treasurer	Rick Vogel	rick.vogel@fluor.com	864-281-6702
Webmaster	Eugene Gill	eugene.gill@fluor.com	864-281-8627

Other Executive Committee Members are: Teresa Cheung, Mary Ferris, David Harshbarger, Ann Marie Jones, John Moore, and James Young.

Reminder: Roper Mountain Science Center - Second Saturday, February 14th KIDS ENGINEERING

For Engineering Day, February 14, 2009, we will again do our workshop entitled "**Kids Engineering - Making It Matter**" It will be again sponsored by AIChE and Fluor.

The activities to be covered will be:

1. Learn what Engineers do
2. Polymer Possibilities
3. Label Checks
4. Basic Facts
5. Make an electrical circuit
6. Make a block and tackle
7. Materials, Structures and Bridges
8. Computers in Engineering
9. Learn How Electricity gets to your house
10. Draw a floor plan of your house

These will fulfill requirements for Junior Girl Scout badge, **Making It matter**; and Webelos Cub Scout activity badge, **Engineering**.

We've averaged about 300+ kids for each of the last 3 years and know that everyone has had a great time. Please volunteer to help.

**SAVE THE DATE: May Social
- Greenville Drive Baseball Game -
May 15th, 2009**

The great turnout from last year's WSCAICHe family night brings us back to another great social at Fluor Field at the West End to watch a Greenville Drive baseball game and fireworks. The Rome Braves will play at Fluor Field versus the Greenville Drive on May 15th at 7:00 pm. WSCAICHe has reserved seats and will help provide dinner for members and their families. The Treasurer will provide each attendee \$10 towards dinner for the night. Pretty good deal!!