

The Packed Column

American Institute of Chemical Engineers - Upper Midwest Section

September 2009

CHAIR'S CORNER

by Nathan Johnson

Welcome to another year of events for your local section of the AIChE! As the new Upper Midwest Section Chair, I would like to introduce you to our newest local section officers.

First off, Christine Kurtz is taking over for me at Vice Chair. Christine just moved to the Twin Cities and joined our section this spring. She impressed Elizabeth and me with her enthusiasm to get on the board and start helping out in a leadership position. I know I am personally looking forward to working with her this year, and I am sure that all of us will soon be benefitting from her efforts. Welcome aboard, Christine!

Secondly, Jason Kurdziel will be joining the board as Symposium Chair. I know our annual symposium has always been one of the highlights of the year for me, and the Symposium Chair is key to making sure that our 50th Annual Symposium is as special as the previous 49. I am sure our Symposium Committee will be working hard to make this year's anniversary milestone an unforgettable event. Thanks for helping us out, Jason!

Ryan Birkenholz will be taking over our local section website as Webmaster. We are working on plans to update our website, but we will always need someone to maintain it and post new newsletters as they are issued. Thank you, Ryan!

Finally, I would like to thank all our returning officers this year: Justus Hendrickson, Cameron McDaniel, Steve Head, Tom Kempf, Professor Raul Caretta, and Elizabeth Willkom. Thanks again, everyone, and keep up the great work!

Now that you know the board, I would like to invite you to one of our upcoming local section events. We have a great year of activities shaping up already, with a tour of the 3M Innovation Center planned for September, and a guest speaker on "Job Searching" and "Job Keeping" planned for October. In December, we will be hearing from special guest speaker and author Joseph M. Shuster. Of course, we will also have our usual staple of events, including the Minnesota Technical Society event in March of 2010. Other than our own Symposium, I thought the MinnTS Symposium was the most exciting event I attended last year. The topic of the 35W Bridge was a great idea, and made for a fascinating event. I am sure they will follow it up with another great topic this year.

All these events happen because of the great efforts of our volunteers. We wouldn't have a section without them! If any of you would like to get involved in planning our activities or guiding our section into the future, contact any one of our officers, and we would be happy to bring you on board. The help of our volunteers is always appreciated.

Looking forward to seeing you at an upcoming meeting!

Chair	Nathan Johnson	Pace Analytical	doc_curtis@rocketmail.com	651-737-0144
Vice Chair	Christine Kurtz	H.R. Green	ckurtz@hrgreen.com	651-659-7716
Past Chair	Elizabeth Willkom	3M	eegwillkom@mmm.com	651-778-4237
Symposium Chair	Jason Kurdziel	OSI Soft, Inc.		
Recording Secretary	Justus Hendrickson	Fluor Global Services	justus.hendrickson@fhr.com	651-438-7282
Membership Secretary	OPEN			
Treasurer	Cameron McDaniel	Fluor Global Services	Cameron.McDaniel@fhr.com	
Webmaster	Ryan Birkenholz	Golder Associates Inc.	rbirkenholz@golder.com	612-810-0124
U. M. Chapter Liaison	Prof. Raul Caretta,	University of Minnesota	caretta@umn.edu	612-625-8066
General Mills Chair	Thomas Kempf	General Mills Corporation	thomas.kempf@genmills.com	763-764-2873
Young Professionals Chair	Steven Head	Ulteig Engineers	steve.head@ulteig.com	763-259-7827
Scholarship Chair	OPEN			
Publicity Chair	OPEN			
Your Company Chair	OPEN			

<http://www.aichelocal.org/tc>

SEPTEMBER MEETING

Tour of 3M Innovation Center

When: Thursday, September 24, 4:00-5:00pm

Where: **3M Innovation Center**

RSVP: We need to submit names of attendees so please [RSVP](#) to Christine Kurtz at ckurtz0887@gmail.com by [Monday, September 21](#) with [Name & Company](#)

Tour: The 3M Innovation Center's entrance reflects an international theme reinforced by multilingual "think maps" of the innovation process, which are etched into the sidewalk and emphasized by background music and a voice-over track welcoming guests in 24 languages. An interactive video wall introduces visitors to the people of 3M, including past and present innovators while a three-dimensional interactive theater featuring video testimonials from customers capitalizes on 3M partnerships to improve their businesses. The Vision Dome Theater, the first permanent installation of a 3-D, 360° domed theater, showcases an original film, "The Spirit of Innovation" to convey the center's image of innovation and partnership. At the film's conclusion, an illuminated platform that surrounds the audience reveals each of 3M's 45 core applied sciences. Outside the theater, two interactive "Innovation Stations," 84 "technology platform" exhibits and 10 product walls give visitors the opportunity to connect with 3M's processes and products.

Special Note: PLEASE [BE AWARE THAT BUSINESS ATTIRE IS REQUIRED FOR THIS EVENT](#)

Directions: Parking is in front of the building and all spaces are available for AIChE-MN

Traveling East on Interstate 494 from Mpls/St. Paul Airport
Follow Interstate 494 East to Interstate 94 (about 17 miles).

Go West on Interstate 94.

Take McKnight Road Exit (this will bring you directly in front of the 3M Center campus).

Take a right on McKnight Rd.

Go to Minnehaha Ave. (< 1 mile) make a right

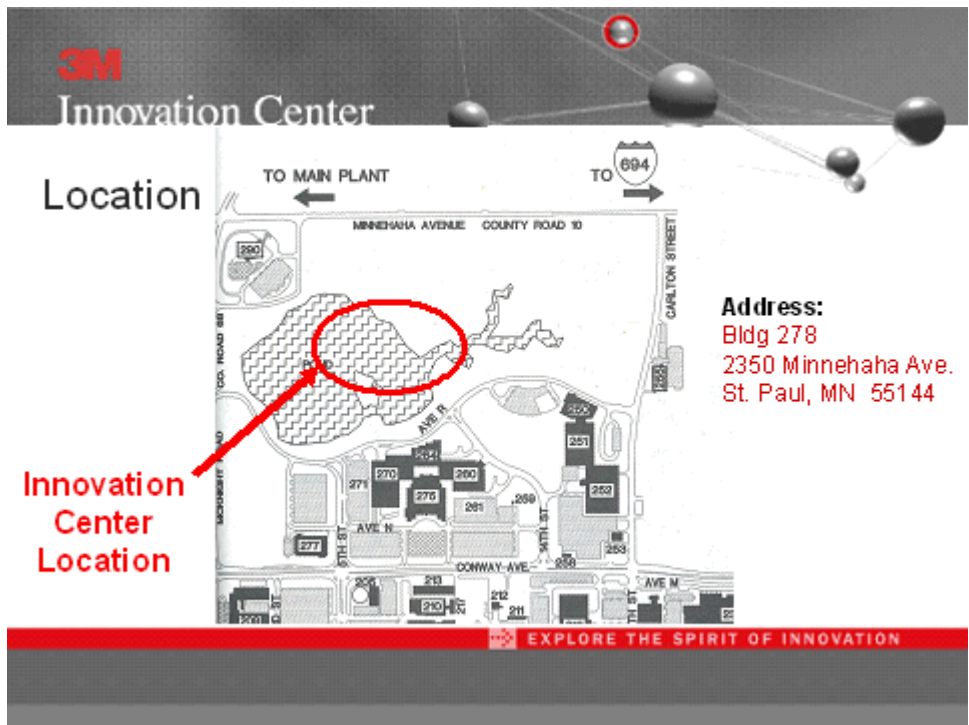
The Innovation Center will be on your right.

Traveling East on Interstate 94 from Mpls

Traveling east on Interstate 94, take the second McKnight Road exit which will wind around heading north on McKnight Road (the first exit would take you south).

Go to Minnehaha Ave. (< 1 mile) make a right

The Innovation Center will be on your right.



Place an ad here and get results! Reach over 700 chemical engineers!

**Nathan C. Johnson, doc_curtis@rocketmail.com
651-737-0144**

OCTOBER MEETING
“Job-Searching” and “Job-Keeping”
presentation by
Jeff Holcomb, President of GRN of the Twin Cities

When:

Thursday, October 29

5:00-5:30pm Tour of Howard R. Green Company offices, Suite 400N – Take North Tower elevators to 4th floor.

Exit elevators and enter doors into Howard R. Green lobby

5:30-6:30pm Presentation, Conference Room 150S, 1st floor

6:30-7:00pm Networking

Where:

Court International Building

2550 University Ave W

St. Paul, MN 55114

RSVP: Please [RSVP](#) to Christine Kurtz at ckurtz0887@gmail.com for courtesy to the speaker, however, RSVP is not required for attendance.

Presentation Overview

Jeff will provide insights into the job market and into the “job of finding a job” in this marketplace. He brings a unique perspective into this effort as a hiring manager in the engineering field and now as a recruiter in the engineering field. Relationships are the key in today’s economy and this will be a key topic of the presentation.

Jeff Holcomb-Bio

Jeff Holcomb, President of GRN of the Twin Cities, is an accomplished executive with extensive experience in the Architecture, Engineering, Environmental and Construction (AEC) industries. He has expertise in operations, business development, sales and marketing of professional services to both the private and public sectors.

Prior to starting GRN of the Twin Cities, Jeff was president of the leading engineering-design-build firm focused on designing and building renewable energy (ethanol and biodiesel) facilities across the United States. Before this, he was senior vice president of business development/marketing at a nationally ranked engineering consulting firm. He has held various other positions in business development and operations in the AEC industry during his 25-year career including starting a successful environmental consulting practice.

Jeff received his B.S. in chemistry from Alma College (Alma, MI); his MS in chemical engineering from Arizona State; and his MBA from The University of St. Thomas (Minneapolis, MN).

Directions: The Court International Building is immediately off Hwy 94. From East or West take exit for Hwy 280. However, rather than proceeding on Hwy 280, you will turn off on University Ave. You will see the Court International building to the left. You can also Mapquest directions. There is a free visitor parking lot.

ANNOUNCING TWO SHORT COURSES OFFERED DIRECT TO YOU AND YOUR ASSOCIATES BY THE UPPER MIDWEST AIChE

Registration is limited on a first come basis, no exceptions.

Principles of Process Engineering

Oct 12th and 13th , 2009

Everyone working in product or process development encounters process engineering problems whether they recognize it or not. This is the stuff that many new Chem E.s say they never saw in school! The 2 day workshop is designed to provide basic and useful process engineering principles for technicians, scientists and engineers at all levels of development. The concepts are presented in a way that minimizes the use of complex engineering formulas and emphasizes **practical problem solving** in a user friendly manner without sacrificing understanding. This approach has proven successful in building confidence and experience in a hands-on workshop format. The subjects include material and energy balances, fluid flow and viscosity, heat transfer in process equipment and thermal properties of biomaterials.

Instructors

Course instructors are Dr. Ken Valentas and Dr. Leon Levine. Levine is a well known consultant to the consumer products industry with extensive experience at both P&G and Pillsbury. Valentas is the past Director of the BioTechnology Institute at the University of Minnesota and also has had over 27 years experience at Pillsbury, General Mills and Sinclair Oil. They have co-authored a book entitled, "Food Processing Operations and Scale-up". Valentas is co-editor of the "Handbook of Food Engineering Practice".

Cost:***

Early Bird (before Oct 2nd) Member Price: \$995.00

Early Bird Non-Member Price: \$1,095.00

Early Bird Discount Ends: 10/2/2009

AIChE Member Price: \$1,095.00

Non-Member Price: \$1,195.00

Cancellation fees apply after 10/2/2009

*** This is the lowest cost offered by National AIChE for a two day course without the expense of travel and the time away from home.

To reserve a spot or if you have questions:

Contact Tom Kempf:

thomas.kempf@genmills.com

763-764-2873

Principles of Process Scale-up

Oct 15th and 16th, 2009

Scale-up of a process can be the ultimate determinate of success or failure in the commercialization of a new product/process. Unfortunately, the successful attainment of this task is not trivial and often ends in complete or partial failure. The goal of this course is to teach product/process development and design engineers the approach that can be used to minimize failure and maximize success.

The first day of the course will introduce the general concepts related to successful product/process scale up and illustrate a technique for scale-up of poorly understood unit operations, the types of experimentation required, and some consequences and reasons for poor scale-ups.

The second day of the course will cover the use and applicability of dimensional analysis for analyzing and solving scale-up problems that are well understood and the design engineering aspects of scale-up.

The course will be taught through the extensive examples from the lecturer's experience and the class's participation in class exercises.

Instructors

The course instructor is Dr. Leon Levine. Levine is a well known consultant to the consumer products industry with extensive experience at both P&G and Pillsbury. He has co-authored a book entitled, "Food Processing Operations and Scale-up" as well as numerous journal articles.

Cost:***

Early Bird (before Oct 2nd) Member Price: \$995.00

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Early Bird Discount Ends: 10/2/2009

AICHe Member Price: \$1,095.00

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