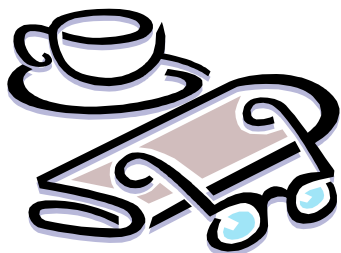


# The Reactor Turnaround

New Orleans Section -  
American Institute of  
Chemical Engineers

Volume 1, Issue 2  
June 2005



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Editor

"Send comments to  
Anthony.Fregosi@cytec.com"

By the time you read this edition of **"The Reactor Turnaround"** the section will have sponsored its first ever continuing education class. The class was held in conjunction with the Baton Rouge Section and was put together with the help of Wink Engineering. A special thanks goes out to J. Nicole Miller with Wink who did most of the "leg work" in putting this program together. The topic of the class was Combustion Technology and it was held in LaPlace.

Please see Page 2 for more information about the seminar and how you can help us plan the next one.

Also in this issue, is an Institute update published by AIChE this past February. It shows that the Institute has turned the corner with

regard to its financial crunch. It looks like as a result of making some tough choices, the national leadership has put the organization on a sound footing.

Program planning is the hot topic for the section officers.

It is during this "in-between" time, that the program for next year is developed. The process is one of guessing (what the section membership may find of interest), locating (speakers of interest) and logistics (when, where, etc. to hold the meetings). See some early ideas and how you can be of help by looking at Page 2, "Section Programming is in the Planning Stages".

Page 4 has information about the 6th Annual Tulane Engineering Forum. This year's theme is "Engineering in a Coastal Environment". Check it out — You may want to attend.

## "Summer Puns"

Evidence has been found that William Tell and his family were avid bowlers. However, all the Swiss league records were unfortunately destroyed in a fire.

Thus we'll never know for whom the Tells bowled.

A man rushed into a busy doctor's office and shouted "Doctor! I think I'm shrinking!!"

The doctor calmly responded, "Now, settle down. You'll just have to be a little patient."

## Inside this issue:

*Combustion Seminar & Section Planning* 2

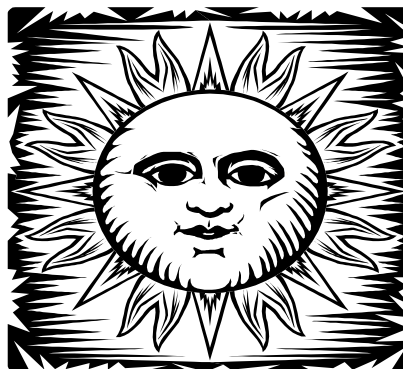
*Section Officers & Company Contacts* 3

A thief broke into the local police station and stole all the toilets and urinals, leaving no clues.

A spokesperson was quoted as saying, "We have absolutely nothing to go on."

## Future Meeting Programs

If you have any suggestions for programs that you would like the section to schedule— Please contact Michael Waguespack at:  
[mwaguespack@midrid.com](mailto:mwaguespack@midrid.com)



## Combustion Seminar a Success!



The May 20th seminar on Combustion Technology was a success

By all accounts, we had a great attendance at the combustion seminar of about 120. It really went well. The Quality Inn was excellent, and would

be a good place to have another seminar.

Special thanks go out to Nicole Miller at Wink. Without her help, the seminar would not have been as successful. Michael Waguespack of our section and Randy Goodman with the Baton Rouge section are also to be congratulated. It was quite an effort, and the results speak for themselves!

While the final financial data has not been

compiled, early indications are that the two sections will enjoy a good profit from the seminar.

Future seminars will certainly be a topic of discussion at the next officers meeting.

Here is where you can help. Please contact any of the officers listed on Page 3 with suggestions as to future seminar topics. If we can get a clear indication of what our members would like—we will work toward bringing it to you.

We believe we can deliver better value and accessibility for many topics of interest.

This is an important service, given tightened budgetary constraints and time limitations we all are facing. Locally provided seminars provide an opportunity for obtaining training without the need for expensive travel and multiple days away from work.

Please let us know so we may meet the needs of our members.

## Section Programming is in the Planning Stages

The first meeting will probably be hosted by Valero—St. Charles. Valero was our Environmental Award this past year and this meeting will give them and us a chance to hear about their award winning work.

Also, given the success of the programming last year, lead by Ron Odenchek and Dr. John Prindle, we are likely to have one or more events with the Tulane Chemical Engineering Department and Chemical Engineering students. Plant tours, meetings with the students, help sessions, etc. are only

a few of the options.

Another joint sponsorship of a seminar is another activity that the section will be looking at very carefully. See our success story above.

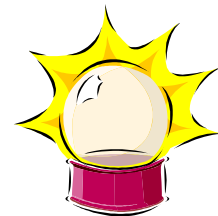
Your voice can be heard regarding programming—if you speak now. Michael is our Vice-Chair and Programming Chair for our upcoming year. He is just now beginning to seek out contacts with various individuals and companies to provide programming.

He would welcome your ideas, comments and suggestions. In the event we get more ideas than we can use, he and the officers will prioritize the offerings to bring you a cohesive and broad ranging program. What we do not use this year, we may be able to use the next year. The more people that give us their ideas, the more likely we will know what the section membership is interested in seeing. Which means it is more likely we will program what you want.

Don't forget the 6th Annual Tulane Engi-

neering Forum. The theme for this year is "Engineering is a Coastal Environment"

More information about the upcoming Forum may be found on Page 4.



Do you have an idea for programming? If, so, contact us now!

**New Orleans Section Officers 2005-2006**

Anthony Fregosi—Cytex Ind.—431-6598	Chair
Michael Waguespack—Middleberg, Riddle & Gianna—207-7340	Vice-Chair & Program Chair
Rachel Wiggins—Albert-Garaudy and Associates—846-6581	Secretary
Dr. John Prindle, P.E.—Tulane University—865-5774	Treasurer
Dr. Paul Fanning, P.E. (Relocated to West Virginia)	Immediate Past Chair
Bill Boutall—Wink—243-4539	Membership Chair & Director
Jim Dean— Entergy—576-7174	Finance Chair & Director
Ron Ondechek —237-2085	Education Outreach Chair
Anthony Fregosi—Cytex Ind.—431-6598	Newsletter Editor
Dr. Brian Mitchell—Tulane University—862-8257	Web Master

**Company Contacts**

Albert-Garaudy and Associates—Rachel Wiggins <b>846-6581</b>	Nalco/Exxon—Joy Usener <b>1-800-366-2526 (Ext. 1285)</b>
Chevron Chemical—Christopher Day <b>391-6584</b>	Occidental Chem.—Linda Bergeron <b>783-7365</b>
Cytex Industries—Anthony Fregosi <b>431-6598</b>	Shell Chemical— <b><u>Contact Needed</u></b>
DEQ (B.R.)—Freddie Touro <b>225-219-3122</b>	Tulane Univ.—Dr. Brian Mitchell <b>862-8257</b>
Entergy—Jim Dean <b>576-7174</b>	UCC/Dow—Courtney D. Frawley <b>985-783-4303</b>
EDG, Inc.—Leon Barnett <b>455-0858</b>	URS (Walk)—Jay Hendrickson <b>599-4926</b>
ExxonMobile—Tom Doolin <b>281-6154</b>	W.H. Linder—Herb Roussel, P.E. <b>835-2577 (Ext. 3143)</b>
KBC Advanced Tech.—Don Hoppens <b>837-9228</b>	Wink Engineering—Bill Boutall <b>246-7924</b>
Monsanto, Luling—Ralph Zamora <b>785-4580</b>	



# 6th Annual Tulane Engineering Forum “Engineering in a Coastal Environment”

Friday, September 30, 2005

New Orleans Hilton Riverside

8:30 a.m.—5:00 p.m.

Registration fee will apply

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For more information, please contact Event Coordinator,  
Jenny Kottler, at 504-891-1044 or [jkottler@bellsouth.net](mailto:jkottler@bellsouth.net).

Or visit the Forum Website at:

[www.eng.tulane.edu/tef](http://www.eng.tulane.edu/tef)



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the World*

# InstituteUpdate

AIChE

A financial turnaround complete with ahead-of-schedule budget surplus. Significant cuts in operating costs. Strong meeting and conference attendance. Valuable new services that make life easier for you. Growing media coverage.

In 2004 AIChE made dramatic strides in both operational improvements and membership service all in the face of tough challenges from the previous year.

In this report, you'll learn more about our progress and plans to make your membership more valuable in 2005 and beyond.

## TURNING THE CORNER

IMPROVEMENT ACTIONS YIELD REMARKABLE RESULTS

A year ago, the struggling economy forced financial challenges on AIChE and many other organizations. We responded with an aggressive turn-around plan that envisioned a steady, multi-year revitalization process.

Today, after just one year of effort, we've stabilized operations, turned a deficit into a budget surplus and emerged in a strong position to expand and improve services.

This remarkable improvement—ahead of schedule—means AIChE has turned the corner and emerged with new strength and purpose.

### The Improving Bottom Line

While 2003 saw a budget deficit and 2004 was initially forecast as a deficit year, operating results have improved dramatically.

As a result of aggressive reductions in expenditures, we now expect the final audited financials will show an operating surplus of about \$800,000 (the audit will be released in April). Plus, we've added another \$500,000+ to the surplus from our Permanent Fund investment return for the year. Looking forward to 2005, we're forecasting a more modest surplus still in excess of \$300,000, as we add services and introduce new programs (such as Knovel, see next page).

Disciplined cost management included staff reductions and other expense controls. By subletting our New York office space, AIChE will save \$1.4 million a year for nearly a decade.

But there's still work to do. Your association is moving forward, by continuing to become more efficient, more responsive and more creative in meeting the needs of members like you.

2003 operating deficit:  
**\$2.2 MILLION**

2004 projected operating surplus:  
**\$800,000**

Number of years since last budget surplus:  
**7**

Savings from sublease of office space:  
**\$1.4 million/year**

Technological communities  
introduced in 2004:

**2**

SBE members:

**670**

IfS members:

**349**

NSEF members:

**458**

Biotech industry employees:

**198,300**

Chemical industries impacted  
by sustainability:

**Virtually all**

Nanotech researchers in the US:

**20,000**

Reason for creating new communities:

**Continue our response to trends  
and growth areas**

## RESPONDING TO GLOBAL TRENDS

HELPING YOU STAY AHEAD

The pace of change, in engineering and science and global societies, has never been greater. That's why AIChE is creating innovative technological communities focused on growth areas to help you stay on the cutting edge of developments in emerging fields.

The Society for Biological Engineering (SBE) was created to serve engineers and applied scientists integrating engineering with biology. SBE is dedicated to connecting people, cultivating knowledge and catalyzing the future of biological engineering.

Sustainability has emerged as a driving force transforming business practices and public policy. The Institute for Sustainability (IfS) promotes the societal, economic and environmental benefits of sustainable and green engineering. IfS will serve the needs of engineers and scientists in industry, academia and government.

The Nanoscale Science and Engineering Forum (NSEF) was created as a forum for the combined community of engineers and scientists developing and applying nanotechnologies.

In 2005 and beyond we'll work hard to nurture new communities, promote existing technical divisions and forums and serve members in more traditional areas such as the chemical process industries. Helping you respond to developments within the profession is AIChE's number one priority.

Chemical engineering online reference  
tools for members:

**350+**

Average time, manual research  
versus Knovel:

**8 hours versus 20 minutes**

Members who see big value in Knovel:

**Everyone who's used it**

Full details:  
[www.aiche.org/knovel](http://www.aiche.org/knovel)

## RESOURCE FOR LEARNING: ANNOUNCING KNOVEL

ENHANCING MEMBERSHIP VALUE

Because giving you the latest and most accurate technical information is so important, AIChE has arranged for free member access to leading-edge learning through Knovel, a leading online technical resource.

The AIChE/Knovel partnership brings hundreds of engineering and scientific references, handbooks, standards and databases right to your desktop. Knovel expands the traditional eBook paradigm by adding the ability to interactively manipulate and search for content.

The new chemical structure-searching feature allows you to even draw the chemical compound before searching. Users have the flexibility of navigating page-by-page or to search across the site. Highly interactive, Knovel lets you manipulate interactive tables, graphs, equations, spreadsheets and more.

Adding Knovel as a new member benefit is an important step forward in 2005. Look for more detailed information at the AIChE members only online community, linked to [www.aiche.org](http://www.aiche.org).

## CONNECTING OUR PROFESSION

NEXT GENERATION [www.aiche.org](http://www.aiche.org) TO EXPAND TIES, ENHANCE CONTENT VALUE

With so many members in nearly 100 countries, it's a challenge to keep in touch. The AIChE Web site serves as a critical hub in connecting members – and we plan to make it even better.

As part of our overall plan to improve member services, the site will undergo a major enhancement for fall 2005. Site revisions, being planned now, include:

- Intuitive navigation features to speed your online experience and save time.
- Updated, reorganized and expanded content to give you easy access to get technical information.
- A powerful search function.
- Enhanced features for community building and connecting with colleagues.
- Convenient interactive marketplace features for ordering publications, conference registration and many other e-commerce functions.

By fall 2005, you'll be accessing information and staying in touch with fellow members like never before.

AIChE will be surveying members about what capabilities they would like to see in an improved Web site. Look to your e-mail in the next few weeks for your opportunity to share your thoughts.

AIChE members:  
**40,000+**

Countries represented:  
**93**

Days until launch of new, whiz-bang version of [aiche.org](http://aiche.org):  
**<250**

## BECOMING A LEADING VOICE

ADVANCING THE STATURE OF CHEMICAL ENGINEERING

AIChE has traditionally served as a strong public advocate for our members, but in 2004 scored new successes in reaching the public with news about our profession.

Media outreach included placing an AIChE expert, Scott Berger, CCPS director, in a key commentary role in "Modern Marvels: Engineer Disasters," a History Channel documentary on the 1984 Bhopal disaster.

A letter to the editor on Bhopal by President Jeff Sirola also appeared in the Sunday, December 5 edition of the *NEW YORK TIMES*, reaching a wide international audience. A number of other newspapers across the country ran AIChE-written editorials on the disaster.

The 2004 ChemECar Competition at the 2004 AIChE Annual Meeting in Austin generated coverage in newspapers and TV stations across the nation. These stories reached millions of readers and viewers with coverage of the chemical engineering profession in action.

Promoting the value and importance of chemical engineering to the public will be a key focus in 2005.

Major news stories appearing on ChemECar Competition:  
**24**

Total *History Channel* Neilson subscribers:  
**87,000,000+**

Circulation of the Sunday *New York Times*:  
**1.7 million copies**

Cost of half-page ad in the Sunday *New York Times*:  
**\$96,000**

Getting news info to us:  
**[news@aiche.org](mailto:news@aiche.org)**

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## **HELP KEEP US ON THE MOVE**

For 2005 and beyond, AIChE will work to become more efficient, more responsive and more creative in meeting your needs.

Let us know how we're doing and what we can do better. Drop us a line at [iupdate@aiiche.org](mailto:iupdate@aiiche.org).



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Institute of Chemical Engineers**

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Serving Chemical Engineers....Who  
Serve the World

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***New Orleans Section, Winner of:***

***1995 "Randall D. Sheeline Award", for excellence in public relations activities.***

***1999 "Catalyst Grassroots Award", for support of the grassroots advocacy program.***

***2001 "Marx Isaac's Award", for excellence of a small local section newsletter.***