



AIChE Orange County

NEWSLETTER OF THE ORANGE COUNTY SECTION, AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF CHEMICAL ENGINEERS

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May, 2002

MAY DINNER MEETING

Planning Your Career

Dave Colvin,
Vice President of Business Development
Lee, Hecht, and Harrison

Wednesday, May 29, 2002
6:00 to 9:00 PM

Dave Colvin is the world's leading expert on career management, outplacement, coaching, leadership development and other work-related issues. Since 1974, Lee Hecht Harrison has successfully partnered with organizations to assist individuals and groups in managing their careers, transitioning into new fields or positions, and developing important skills to lead their organizations to future success. In addition to the insight he has gained from his work at Lee Hecht Harrison, Dave has an extensive background in sales and marketing, having previously managed key accounts for organizations in the technology, healthcare and retail industries. Today, Dave will speak about "How to Manage Your Career in the 21st Century." Whether you are looking to gain more power in your current organization or to explore more entrepreneurial opportunities, you'll find that the key is to create and work toward a plan that not only ensures your happiness, but your success in today's business world as well.

Reservations: Please make a reservation at (800) 274-3847 by voice. Or, you may email your reservation to gsmith@well.com. Please specify your preference for either the main menu (chicken marsala) or the vegetarian menu when making your reservation. Vegetarian reservations must be made by **May 24**.

Cost: Members, \$20 with a reservation, Non-Members \$25 with reservation, Unemployed/Retired \$15 with reservation, Students \$5 with reservation, and \$5 extra for no reservation.

2002 Orange County AIChE Officers

President	(Position Vacant)
President-Elect	Erik Pearson – England Geosystem (949) 453-8085, Fax: [949] 453-0733 e-mail: epearson@englandgeosystem.com
Treasurer	Janice West – GE Energy and Environmental Research (949) 859-8851, Fax [949] 859-3194 e-mail: janice.west@ps.ge.com
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Webmaster	Cheryl Zheng – GE Energy and Environmental Research (949) 859-8851, Fax [949] 859-3194 e-mail: cheryl.zheng@ps.ge.com

**Place: Petroleum Club, 3636 Linden Ave.,
Long Beach**

Directions: From Interstate 405, go north on Long Beach Blvd., turn right on 36th Street, then left on Linden Ave. For a map or general information about the club, go to their web page www.lbpetroleumclub.com.



FROM THE OUTGOING PRESIDENT



For those of you who have not heard, I will be resigning from my position as President of the Orange County AIChE. This has come up recently and rather quickly, but an amazing job opportunity has come my way that has relocated me to Northern California. Since I will no longer be in Orange County, it is not possible for me to continue with my role as President.

I have been told, and I am now beginning to understand, that only you are in control of your career. You can't leave it up to someone else to manage. This career move was not something I was planning, especially since I had taken the position as President. I was really looking forward to being your President and continuing to make the Orange County AIChE a great place to get together with fellow Chem E's and to learn something new at our dinner meetings. Unfortunately, there comes a time when one wonders where their career is heading and if there is a better opportunity out there, especially when people have been encouraging you look. I have a long career ahead of me and I need to start managing it. So one day when the recruiter called I gave in, just to "see what he had". Normally I tell them I am happy where I am and that I am not interested at this time. Well, it turns out he had an opportunity that I could not turn down. This is one of those opportunities, that had I not taken it, I would have looked back on and regretted it. Everyone told me, who knew I was considering this,

no matter what I choose, just "Don't have any regrets". Moving to Northern California will be a big adjustment for me, I'm born and raised Southern California. My family is also in Southern California, but they all fully support me and agree this is a good opportunity. I hope I have made a good decision, a good career move, but only time will tell. I have been extremely busy and as a result, not a lot of time to spend "thinking" about what I have done, but it still feels like a good move. I am now the crude unit engineer for Ultramar Diamond Shamrock at the Golden Eagle Refinery in Martinez, California (and for those of you in the know, this is the old Avon Refinery), soon to be owned by Tesoro. I am looking forward to touring wine country, hiking Mt. Diablo and just enjoying the beautiful coast line and rolling hills. And yes, I will miss the Southern California beaches, but we all have to make sacrifices at some point in our life ☺. I feel confident in my decision to accept this position, but if it doesn't work out or I am not happy, I am young enough that I can bounce back and even move back to Southern California.

I would like to apologize for having to put the chapter and the executive board members in this position. The executive board has been amazing and has already started planning how to manage the rest of the year. I would like to wish you all the best and I know you'll have a great year, I am leaving you all in great hands. And yes, the NorCal section has already been in contact with me, looking for a volunteer for their committees.....

Thank You-Jeannie Kirstein
Work No: (925) 370-3677
E-mail: jeannie_kirstein@udscorp.com

New Web Page

As a service to local engineering schools and interested members, we have added an education page to the OC AIChE web site www.aiche-orangecounty.org. Look there for news about continuing education. To add information about ChE classes at your school, contact Cheryl Zheng, webmaster.

Southern California AIChE Meetings

The Southern California Section has a dinner meeting in LA County on the third Tuesday of the month at the Quiet Cannon Restaurant in Montebello. See their website at http://www.geocities.com/aiche_sc. If you are a paying member of the OC Section, and you want to attend SC Section meetings, but the OC newsletter doesn't give you enough notice, contact Bob Deshotels to be placed on the SC e-mail list.

KEEPUS by Bob Katin

In addition to CE's claiming exclusive expertise, it appears that the geologists are also claiming that ChE's are not the appropriate discipline to conduct environmental work. SB 1958 proposes that civil, mechanical, and electrical engineers or geologists are the only people capable of conducting environmental work.

This arbitrary restriction of who can perform work is legally preventing ChE's from conducting activities that they have the formal education or experience to conduct. I have recently received four e-mails from fellow ChE's advising that they were restricted from conducting work, including: preparing a piping layout for a City Building Department (who wanted a CE); conducting a Spill Prevention and Countermeasures Plan for RWQCB (who wanted a CE even though Federal regulations place no restriction on the engineering discipline); and designating an illegal drug manufacturing facility as clean for a City (that wanted the report signed by a Certified Industrial Hygienist).

Has anyone else been told they were not allowed to conduct work because they were a ChE? Does anyone know a lawyer that would be willing to take on a lawsuit, pro bono? The Fire Protection Engineers have filed suit and won relief from some of these arbitrary restrictions. Please contact me at (925) 755-1150 or rakatin@pacbell.net if you have more examples to share or know a lawyer that can help our cause.

We may not see relief anytime soon. The Board of Professional Engineers and Land Surveyors (BPELS) governs the implementation of laws affecting engineers. BPELS is composed of 13 members (6 licensed members and 7 public members). Five of the six licensed members' terms have expired. Two of the public members' terms have expired. When Governor Davis first got elected, I wrote a letter on behalf of the five CA AIChE sections offering to support him in identifying candidates to fill vacancies at BPELS. He did

not contact me when he re-appointed one licensed member and appointed three new licensed members who have connection to CalTrans.

For the latest information on this dynamic topic, please check the website:
<http://www.aiche-norcal.org/Government/keepus>

LOOKING FOR ChE SUPPORT

To whom it may concern: I am working with the American Insurance Association to organize a California based coalition in support of reform for the asbestos litigation process. I would like to know if AIChE has an individual and/or chapter in California who works on government relations/public affairs on behalf of AIChE whom I might contact to send information regarding the matter. If you could send me their contact information, it would be very appreciated.

Thank you for your time and assistance.

Jeremy Rye
PG Communications
(916) 737-9331

Engineer Joke

This joke is from the April issue of Discover magazine. Although it's not very funny, I include it because engineer jokes are a rarity.

What do engineers use for birth control?
Their personalities.

Professional Engineering Employment Update

Job Seeking Members can now receive a list of web sites of area companies that sometimes hire chemical engineers. Special thanks to Ron Ambrosini, Alexandre Dokoutchaev, Edgar Lara, and Dung Phan, who volunteered to help with this list. Contact the Newsletter Editor to receive this list by e-mail as an Excel or Word file.

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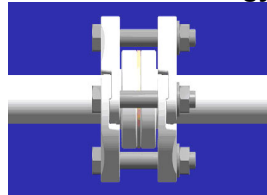
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Job Opportunities

Criterion Catalysts & Technologies has an urgent need to fill a student Co-op Ed. position, listed at the OC AIChE web site, www.aiche-orangecounty.org

American Institute of Chemical Engineers
ORANGE COUNTY SECTION
P.O. Box 19362
Irvine, CA 92623

DATED MATERIAL

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

