



AICHE Orange County

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

No. 121

<http://www.aiche-orangecounty.org>

April 2004

Los Angeles and Orange County Joint Meeting APRIL DINNER MEETING

Global Sustainability: A Balancing Act for Economic Growth and Environmental Protection

Yam Y. Lee

Tuesday, April 27, 2004
5:30 PM

This presentation discusses one of the most daunting challenges to the well-being of the human community: "Global Sustainability". How should we live in a world in which all nations and people can achieve industrial progress and economic growth, while, at the same time, preserves our world for the future generations? Dr. Yam Lee, April's speaker will focus on one aspect of this problem: a balancing act for protecting the environment while meeting the electricity demand of a growing world population.

Dr. Lee will present a research study, which used China as an illustrative example, aimed at enabling more sustainable development of the world's largest and fastest-growing economy. This three-year, multi-disciplinary "China Energy Technology Program" (CETP) was sponsored by ABB, a Swiss-Swedish power and automation technology company, in conjunction with the Alliance for Global Sustainability (AGS). The goal of the study was to develop a globally-applicable methodology for analyzing the "true",

cradle-to-grave impact of electric-power generation. The CETP took into account energy technologies and their entire environmental impact, using one province (Shandong) in China as a case study. The CETP involved some 70 scientists, engineers and academics from three continents. It was also a pioneering effort in cooperation between industry and academia. The project was managed and run by the industrial partners. Dr. Lee was the program manager.

Dr. Lee is the principal of Y.Y. Lee Consulting Services and the founder of Global Success Inc., which has provided consulting services in the areas of energy, environmental control and management since 1996. He has extensive research experience in both industry and academia. Dr. Lee received his B.S. degree from the University of Wisconsin-Madison and his Sc. D. degree from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, both in chemical engineering. During his five-year teaching career in the Department of Chemical Engineering at the University of Mississippi, Dr. Lee was the recipient of the Outstanding Engineering Faculty Member of the Year Award.

With nine years of industrial experience at Ahlstrom Pyropower, Inc., Dr. Lee has gained an international reputation for his contribution to the field of circulating, fluidized-bed combustion. Dr. Lee holds six U.S. patents and has over forty publications in books, journals and conference proceedings. In addition, he has been active in AICHE and served for three years as a Director of the Heat Transfer and Energy Conversion Division. He is currently the College Relations officer of the AICHE Orange County local chapter.



Meeting Schedule:

5:30 p.m.	Social Hour
6:30 p.m.	Dinner
7:20 p.m.	Break
7:30 p.m.	After-Dinner Program

Place: Khoury's Restaurant, Long Beach

Directions: 110 Marina Dr., Long Beach, CA 90803. Visit <http://www.khourys.net/> for directions

Reservations: *Please make a reservation at (949) 261-2622 by voice by Friday, April 23, 2004. Or, you may email your reservation to west@research.ge.com.*

Cost: Members, \$20 with a reservation, \$25 at the door; Non-Members, \$25 with reservation, \$30 at the door; **Students Free with reservation**, Unemployed/Retired, \$5 with reservation, and \$10 at the door.

.....

Starting with the month of January 2004, every third meeting a member attends is FREE with reservation

STUDENT SCHOLARSHIP AWARD

The OC and LA local chapter have co-sponsored a student scholarship award program for a chemical engineering student who excels both in academics and extra-curricular activities. The criteria for selection are as follows (with % of weighting factor):

1. Academic excellence: 60%
2. Extra-curricular activities: 25%
3. Involvement in AIChE: 15%

The scholarship consists of \$200 and a certificate. We have invited the participation of seven universities in the LA and OC area (in alphabetical order: CIT, CSLB, CS-Pomona, UC-Irvine UCLA, UC-Riverside, USC). The

selection of the nominee is decided by the department of each school. These nominees will be presented the awards at the dinner meeting. Since we do not have all the names of the nominees at press time of this issue of newsletter, their names will be published in the next issue.

Society of Women Engineers (SWE) Orange County Section - Upcoming Events

1) 20th Anniversary Planning Meeting

Thursday, 4/22/04, 5:00 p.m.

Location: Meet at Sutton Place (lobby): 4500 MacArthur Blvd., Newport Beach, CA 92660.

5:30 p.m. Meet at Atrium, start in the lobby, 18700 MacArthur Blvd., Irvine, 92612

6:30 pm - Dinner and meeting at the Atrium.

RSVP: Charlotte at Charlotte.Wagner@swe.org for logistical details

2) 3rd Annual SWE-OC/SWE-LA Professional Development Conference - "Moving Above and Beyond"

Sat, 04/24/04, 8:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Location: Sea Port Marina, 6400 E. Pacific Coast Highway Long Beach, CA 90803

Cost: \$40 Members, \$50 Non-members, \$50 at the door. Payment can be made with check or via PayPal.

Contact: Jennifer Wong at jenwong@water.ca.gov or (818) 543-4712

3) New Member Involvement Dinner

Wednesday, 4/28/04, 6:30 p.m.

Location: Mimi's cafe at Irvine 4030 Barranca Parkway Irvine, CA 92714,

Phone: 949 559 8840

Cost: Pay for what you order

RSVP: Sonalee Myneni at sonalee.myneni@altair.com or 949 378 6907 by 4/ 26 /04

4) May Member Recognition Banquet

Thursday, 05/20/04, 6:30 p.m.

Location: Café Hidalgo 305 North Harbor Blvd. Suite 111 Fullerton, CA 92832

(714) 447-3202

Cost: \$25 for Members and Non-members, Free for students but RSVP is required

RSVP with meal selection before Monday, May 17, 2004 to Trish Cabrera at trishcab@earthlink.net or (562) 945-6898



Legal Corner

Federal Government Sued Over Withholding Of Perchlorate Information

Peter Hsiao and Siegmund Shyu, Morrison & Foerster LLP

On March 24, the environmental group Natural Resources Defense Council filed suit in federal district court in Los Angeles alleging that the White House, the Department of Defense, and the EPA withheld evidence of the health effects of perchlorate, a primary component of rocket fuel. (Natural Resources Defense Council v. U.S. Dep't of Defense, Case Number 2:04cv2062 (U.S. District Court, Central District of California)). Perchlorate is also used in fireworks, road flares, and munitions. Studies have shown that perchlorate may have adverse effects on the thyroid and is especially dangerous for infants. The suit contends that the government violated the Freedom of Information Act ("FOIA") by failing to turn over documents in response to requests for perchlorate-related records. The records requested included the nature of industry's involvement in EPA health studies on perchlorate and White House lobbying on behalf of the industry. The suit asks the federal district court to compel the government to turn over these documents as required under FOIA. Said NRDC attorney Aaron Colangelo in the group's press release, "This is likely the latest example of the Bush administration scheming with its industry friends behind closed doors to undermine safeguards for our children's health." As reported in the Los Angeles Times, an EPA official commented that the agency was "actively working on" the environmental group's information request.

California Sets Recommended Standard For Perchlorate

On March 11, the California Office of Health Hazard Assessment ("OEHHA") recommended that the maximum level of perchlorate in drinking water that would not pose a significant risk to human health is 6 parts per billion ("ppb"). OEHHA had been considering a recommended level as low as 2 ppb. The Department of Health Services will now be required to establish an enforceable drinking water standard for perchlorate as close to the recommended level as economically and

technically feasible. OEHHA had been studying a public health goal for perchlorate for years, and in 2002 proposed a similar 6 ppb standard. However, the proposed standard had to be put on hold until a second round of peer review was conducted in response to an industry lawsuit, Lockheed Martin Corp. v. OEHHA, Case No. BS-077063 (California Superior Court). As reported by the Bureau of National Affairs, environmentalists and public health groups criticized the recommendation as "not acceptable," pointing out that the recommendation was the highest level considered. Conversely, Department of Defense and some industry officials commented that the recommendation was too strict.

Something Completely Different

Continuing with the perchlorate theme, rocketeers are now facing the increased public scrutiny over perchlorate. As reported in the Milwaukee Journal Sentinel, recent court decisions and the post-September 11 homeland security laws have made the purchase and use of a common model rocket propellant, ammonium perchlorate composite propellant ("APCP"), increasingly difficult. Previously, APCP has been considered a "low explosive" with few regulatory requirements. However, a court decision determined that APCP is an explosive and rocketeer hobbyists were not exempt from the designation. These days, rocketeers are required to be fingerprinted, submit to background checks, and pay for licenses to purchase larger quantities of APCP. Rocketeers decried the new rules at a recent convention at the University of Wisconsin-Parkside. Said one, "Doesn't the ATF have enough to do without taking the time to watch and inspect us?" The government apparently disagrees, recently submitting to a Congressional subcommittee that APCP was used in 53 bombings and 33 attempted bombings around the country.

Legal Corner reports on recent news, and is not intended to be legal advice. The reader should consult an attorney about the specific facts before acting upon this information.



Newsletter Contributors Wanted

The newsletter editor would like to hear from you if you have one or more brief articles to contribute, especially a review or brief discussion of a good website, technical book, etc.

Professional Engineering Employment Update

Job Seeking Members can receive a list of web sites of area companies that sometimes hire ChEs. Contact the Senior Member Everett Knell at EWKnell@aol.com to receive this list by e-mail. Put "OCAICHE Company List" in the subject line of your email request.

Job Opportunities

- ① If you have an employment opportunity in Southern California for a chemical engineer, the newsletter will advertise it for free.

2004 Orange County AIChE Officers

President England Geosystem	Erik Pearson – (949) 453-8085, Fax: [949] 453-0733 e-mail: epearson@englandgeosystem.com
President-Elect	(Position Vacant)
Treasurer	Janice West – GE Global Research (949) 859-8851, Fax [949] 859-3194 e-mail: west@research.ge.com
Program Chair	Dominic Meo III, P.E. – Meo & Associates (714) 377-8887, Fax [714] 377-8957 e-mail: dmeo@socal.rr.com
Secretary	Parag P.Kulkarni – GE Global Research (949) 859-8851 x146, Fax [949] 859-3194 e-mail: kulkarpa@research.ge.com
Newsletter Editor	Kris Ip – Edwards Lifesciences phone (949) 250-3807 e-mail: Kris_ip@edwards.com
Senior Member	Everett Knell – AFLAC (562) 596-0215, Fax [562] 596-0215 e-mail: ewknell@aol.com
College Relations Services	Dr. Yam Lee - Y.Y. Lee Consulting e-mail: YamYLee@aol.com
Webmaster Cheryl Zheng	– GE Energy and Environmental Research (949) 859-8851, Fax [949] 859-3194 e-mail: cheryl.zheng@ps.ge.com



Advertisements

ENGLAND GEOSYSTEM

ENVIRONMENTAL ENGINEERING

- Comprehensive, cost-effective environmental services
- Extensive, demonstrated experience
- Ability to meet condensed schedules
 - Assessments, investigations, and remediation
 - Data management/computer modeling/geographic information systems
 - Air, soil, and water

15375 Barranca Parkway • Suite F-106 • Irvine, California 92618-2207
(949) 453-8085 • FAX (949) 453-0733 • www.EnglandGeosystem.com

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

DATED MATERIAL

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

