

DVS AICHE April 6th Meeting and Student Awards Banquet Review

Our April meeting was hosted at Widener on April 6th, 2004 and was a student award night. Our speaker that evening was Mr. Ray W. Miller from DuPont. He is the Program Director, Bio-refinery and Business development. He gave an upbeat assessment of new opportunities for young engineers and discussed a very novel approach that DuPont has taken by substituting petrochemical based raw materials by renewable agriculture based raw materials. His topic was Building Sustainable Growth via Bio Based Materials.

He briefly discussed the rich heritage of DuPont as a science company. It is the "grand daddy" of most chemical companies at 201 years young. Most of us know that it is headquartered in Wilmington, DE and boasts presence in 70 countries and 79,000 employees. The company has over 35,000 US patents and 2,000 trademarks and brands. Their core values are:

- Safety & Health
- Fair and Respectful Treatment of People
- Highest Ethical Standards
- Environmental Stewardship

Their global sales are 48 percent in US, 26 percent in Europe and 16 percent in Asia and the balance in the Rest of the World (ROW).

The table below provides DuPont Growth platforms, revenues, core markets and the number of people employed in that area. Until now DuPont has been

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Speaker Mr. Ray W. Miller from DuPont is the Program Director for Bio-refinery and Business development.

Tour Date: June 24th, 2004

Tour Time: 3:00 to 5:00 pm

Location: Lonza - Riverside
900 River Road,
Conshohocken, PA 19428
Directions on Mapquest

Appropriate dress (no shorts and open shoes)

Champs Restaurant and Bar
Cash bar/Networking : 5:30-6:30 pm
Dinner 6:30-8:30 pm
Price \$ 25

RSVP: Ajit Ghorpade, By June 18th, 2004; Email (preferred):
ajitghorpade@verizon.net;

Phone: 610 337-8525

See Page 4 for info on Lonza.

A Letter From AICHE President William D. Byers

The following are portions of an email from AICHE President William D. Byers.

April 2004:

Dear Colleagues,

Spring is finally here, and I'm energized by the growth and vitality I see in AICHE. It's my pleasure to continue my predecessor Dianne Dorland's commitment to open communication and share with you some news about AICHE's most recent developments.

Let me begin by announcing that we have subleased 75% of our office space to the New York State Society of Certified Public Accountants. Long term, this arrangement will save AICHE over \$1 million a year. It is a critical element in our plan to reduce costs and achieve a balanced budget.

I am also happy to share with you news of a strategic partnership with the American Chemical Society (ACS). After a year of discussions between working groups from our respective boards, AICHE and ACS have agreed to pursue cooperative programs in areas of mutual interest. This will not be a merger. Our boards and councils will remain separate and autonomous. However, by working together in some key areas, we can make a greater difference to our members and to the chemical enterprise at large. Areas of synergy include: government relations, sustainability, green chemistry, biological engineering, chemical safety and health, and meeting programming. Moving forward, career development, K-12 outreach, and minority and women's

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Chair's Chat

by William C. Youngblood, Esq.

As this is my final Chair's Chat as the Delaware Valley Section Chair, I want to thank all of you who participated by attending one or more of our meetings over the last year. I hope you enjoyed the meetings and found them worthwhile.

As I reflect back, I categorize AIChE-DVS's year as both challenging and rewarding. Thanks to the hard work of a core group of members who regularly attended our monthly planning meetings, the Section was able to provide monthly meetings which included such interesting speakers as AIChE President Dr. Dianne Dorland, Ray Miller of DuPont, and long-time AIChE National member Dennis Hendershot. Additionally, two plant tours were offered to our members (including one this month) and AIChE-DVS staff members once again reached out to AIChE Student Chapters in the area by participating in career path discussions with students at both Rowan University and the University of Pennsylvania. Like many other professional organizations, AIChE-DVS has noticed a decrease in attendance by its members over the past several years. As a result, AIChE-DVS also scheduled two very successful joint meetings with the South Jersey Section of ISA.

Over the last year, I am proud to report that AIChE-DVS's meeting attendance has improved. I believe there are two major reasons for this – the hard work of a core group of our members (as already mentioned) and interesting meetings at a reasonable cost. Everyone enjoys an interesting plant tour! However, as a result of 9/11, local companies have been extremely reluctant to provide plant tours to outside groups. Thankfully, corporate policy of not providing tours has recently been relaxed at a few chemical plants in the area – hopefully this trend will continue. Our guest speakers, and their timely presentations, have also made AIChE-DVS's meetings this year very successful. For example, Dr. Dorland did an outstanding job presenting, not only the present state of AIChE, but also the "Essential AIChE" path for the future. Ray Miller presented AIChE-DVS with fascinating insight into DuPont's future – a future without its textile-and-fibers business in favor of the production of industrial materials from renewable resources. Many publications, including the May 27, 2004 edition of *The Philadelphia Inquirer*, recently reported on

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From left to right: Sue Falcone, Production Superintendent; Dave McDyer, Production Engineer; Rob Rowe, EH&S Manager; Therese Corbo, Production Engineer CDP; Steve Wood, AIChE (former APCI employee); Artis Williams, Plant Manager.

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April Meeting Review

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mainly a polymer company. The US demand for polymers is slowing down and Genomics is rapidly growing. By year 2010, DuPont would like to earn 25 percent of revenues from businesses not requiring deplete-able raw materials and 10 percent of energy needs will be derived from renewable resources. This lead to DuPont's new vision of BioRefinery that will use agricultural based products and convert them to product line that uses deplete-able resources at present.

Mr. Miller's presentation addressed three main areas. They were:

- Sustainable Materials - Chemicals & Energy
- Applied BioSurfaces and
- Biocompatible Adhesives & Materials

Mr. Miller discussed various scientific disciplines needed for the BioRefinery concept and also presented new material "Sorona - a Nylon like polyester, that DuPont is manufacturing using these concepts. Then he discussed DuPont's proprietary antimicrobial technology "Chitosan". Finally, he discussed biocompatible adhesives and materials wit medical applications that will help the US aging population.

It was a very refreshing presentation from a major Chemical manufacturing company that will be every day discussion topic 5-10 years from now.

Professional Development - By Mark DeLuca

Over twenty Local Section members are looking for work. Many have been out now for over a year. Most are looking at other professions. One is going back for a teaching certificate. Another is going in home remodeling. Yet another is trying to sell imported handcrafts on E-bay. Nursing is another career option being looking at.

These are people that, at minimum, have graduated as BS Chemical Engineers. Many have gone on to acquire PhDs, MBAs, and PEs. Some are past officers for our local section of AIChE. These are people that are smart and career minded. That have invested a significant amount of time becoming good at chemical engineering, only to find the current economy does not have room for so many chemical engineers.

Back in January, I asked for positive news about our industry. One person wrote back with a job opening in the environmental field. Many more people wrote to say they would want their sons and daughters to pursue careers other than chemical engineering.

This summer, two people will be spending a billion of dollars fighting for one job opening to be filled in November. While this job will last only 4 years, but it has some great perks. Both people seeking this job have asked me for money to help them get or keep that job. I am tempted to write back asking them for money to help our members get or keep our jobs. Enjoy the summer.

Until September . . .

Plant Tour June 24th LONZA Chemical

Lonza is a life sciences driven company, headquartered in Switzerland, which generated sales of CHF 2.24 billion in 2003. It operates 18 production and R&D facilities in eight countries and employs 5,660 people worldwide. Lonza is one of the leading custom manufacturers of chemical intermediates and active ingredients as well as biopharmaceuticals for the pharmaceutical and agrochemical industries. In addition, Lonza also offers organic intermediates for a wide range of applications and provides antimicrobial and associated products as well as polymer intermediates and compounds.

The Lonza Riverside facility in Upper Merion manufactures intermediates and active ingredients for the pharmaceutical industries. Lonza Riverside also has an on-site wastewater treatment facility that includes thermal and biological treatment.

From the President

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issues provide fertile ground for collaboration.

Under the heading of 'new business,' AIChE and ASME (the American Society of Mechanical Engineers) have formed a partnership to deliver the Institute's continuing education courses. Starting in August, ASME will present AIChE's professional training in conjunction with its own education offerings. AIChE members will now enjoy discounted access to a greatly expanded portfolio of courses at a more extensive network of training sites. While we will continue to guide content, assuring that it meets the needs of chemical engineers, ASME will integrate the costs for marketing, logistics, and administration of the programs, significantly improving the financial performance of our training activities.

Thanks to the work of our volunteer leaders and your continued support, AIChE is entering a new season of growth. Together, we're building an AIChE that is vital, focused and essential to you, your professional development, and to the needs of chemical engineering professionals around the world.

Sincerely,

William D. Byers
AIChE President

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Engineer's Week Chair	William Celenza, PE Phone: 856-853-6362 ext. 1142 Fax: 856-853-8308 Email: bill.celenza@jacobs.com	Student Chapter Relations & Awards Coordinator	Rob Madayag Phone: 610-688-3926 Phone (Cell): 404-664-3381 Email: rmadayag@law.villanova.edu
Membership Chair	Richard Kral, PE Phone: 856-853-6362 ext. 1141 Email: Richard.Kral@jacobs.com	Webmaster	Charles Rudolph, PE Email: webmaster@aiche-philadelphia.org

Chair's Chat

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DuPont's commitment to renewable resources.

In closing, I would like to say that there are plenty of opportunities for those of you considering becoming active members of AIChE-DVS. The Section is financially stable but needs continued support from its members to be able to provide interesting meetings in the future. Please take a moment to contact an AIChE-DVS Executive Officer or Section Committee Chair to express your interest in becoming an active member of AIChE-DVS. Also, do not forget to visit our website at www.aiche-philadelphia.org. Finally, I hope all of you have an enjoyable, relaxing and safe summer!

Members seeking positions:

Environmental Engineer with experience managing environmental projects (CERCLA, RCRA, TSCA, ESAs, etc.), marketing, proposal development, and technical review seeking opportunity to contribute his expertise where necessary. Contact Alan Kaufman at kaufman_alan@hotmail.com.

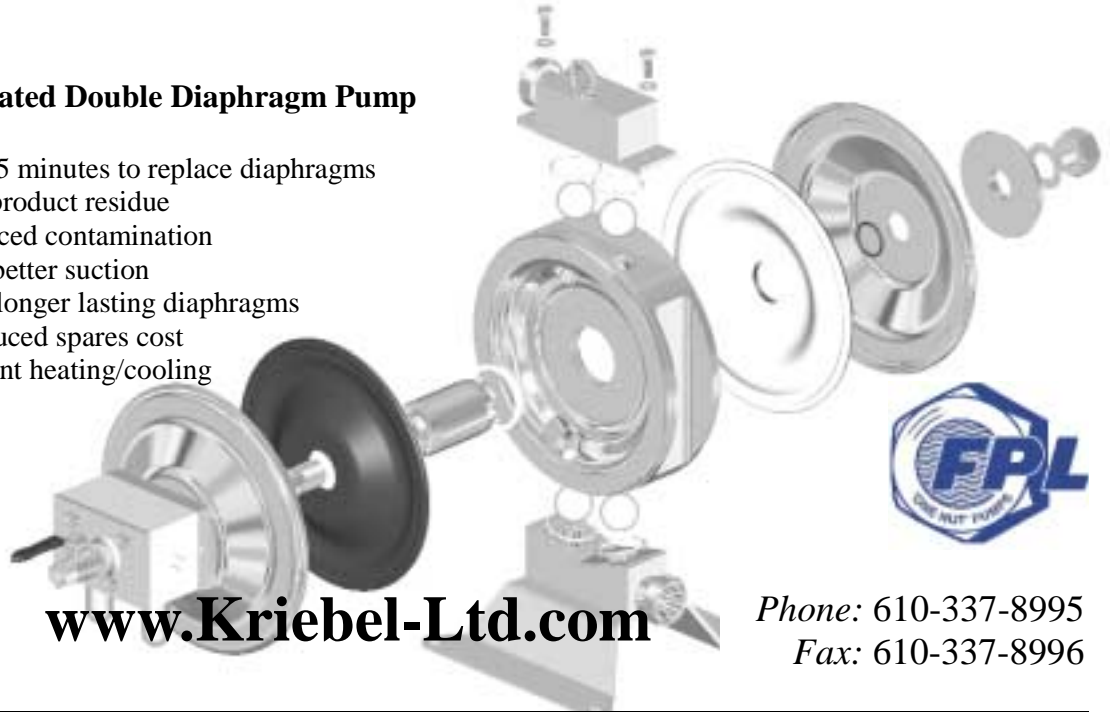
Eric Swanberg is a 2001 graduate of the South Dakota School of Mines and Technology with a major in chemical engineering. He has over a year of experience in biochemical research and is looking for a position in the pharmaceutical industry.
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**AIChE Newsletter
Delaware Valley Section**

Richard Kral,
Section Database Manager
Jacobs Engineers
Three Tower Bridge
2 Ash Street
Conshohocken, PA 19428-2074



Mail address corrections to Data Base Manager at above address .

Our Files are continually updated with your input and membership information from AIChE Headquarters.

AIChE Headquarters: AIChExpress
telephone: 800-AIChEme; e-mail: xpress@aiche.org

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