

The University of Kansas School of Engineering

Chemical and Petroleum Engineering Department



Hall of Fame Awards

April 28, 2018

Honoring

Richard Hoover

Chemical and Petroleum Engineering Hall of Fame

In 1996, The University of Kansas Department of Chemical and Petroleum Engineering established the Alumni Hall of Fame to honor its outstanding graduates. The goal of this award is to seek out individuals who have made important contributions to the Chemical or Petroleum Engineering professions, the Chemical and Petroleum Engineering Department, or the School of Engineering, or have been outstanding role models for current and future engineering students.

Each nominee is a graduate of the KU Chemical and Petroleum Engineering department, and has made noteworthy contributions to the theory or practice of engineering. Each have given substantial service to our profession, or the University of Kansas.

The Chemical and Petroleum Engineering department is proud of the remarkable contributions made by each Hall of Fame Recipient. We are honored by their commitments to excellence, and their presence this evening.

Richard Hoover



2018 C&PE Hall of Fame Inductee

Richard earned a BS degree in Chemical Engineering at KU, graduating in 1971. His professional career was almost entirely with Dow Corning and involved a very diverse set of responsibilities in different management positions. His successes and personal recognition from the company, as demonstrated by his appointment to several positions of very significant responsibility, exemplify what can be accomplished in professional work by a chemical engineer. Notable positions which he held with Dow Corning are described in what follows.

Early in his career he served as President and CEO of Dow Corning, Mexico, an introduction to management of a chemical

company in the international sphere. Then in 1992 he was named Executive Director for Health and Safety, a role in which he served for two years as the Dow Corning point person interacting with the FDA and EPA during company lawsuits involving silicone breast implants. In this position he was a key person in decisions involving billions of dollars.

A following very notable appointment was as Corporate Vice President, and President and CEO of Dow Corning Asia, a position which he held for six years. This company was active in the People's Republic of China and South Korea. The very large company, approximately 700 employees, had a revenue stream on the order of one billion dollars. During this period, he also served as Board Chairman of Hemlock Semiconductor, the world's largest producer of polycrystal silicon for the chip industry (joint Dow Corning venture with 2/3 ownership).

In a final phase of his work, he was a member of the Dow Corning Investment Committee which has fiduciary and investment responsibility for benefit and pension plans with a value on the order of two billion dollars.

Following retirement, since 2013 Rich has served on the Leelanau County, Michigan Conservancy Board, Executive and Finance Committees which advises on land purchases and development easements for watersheds, farmland and animal migration corridors. This is a notable public service activity.

Rich hails from a large KU family starting with his grandfather in 1928. Rich's dad was a KU Chemical Engineering (1945) as is one of his niece. His mother was also a KU graduate from College of Science and Liberal Arts (1945). His wife Beth, graduated from KU with a Chemistry BS degree (1971). Rich has two children, a son Richard graduated from KU Biology Department (1998), and a daughter Ginger who "escaped" to MSU. His sister Alicia, and his brother-in-law Roger Rieder (both are here) are also KU graduates. In retirement, Rich and Beth reside on the Leelanau peninsula in Northwest Michigan.

Based on his many professional accomplishments as a leader in the chemical industry, on a worldwide scale, and his public service, Richard H. Hoover is inducted to the CPE Hall of Fame.

The Chemical and Petroleum Engineering Hall of Fame

Inducted 1996

David R. Boylan, Jr. '43
(Iowa State Univ.)
B.S. Chemical Engineering

Paul Haney '33
(Black and Veatch)
B.S. Chemical Engineering

Charles R. Clark '68
(Conoco)
B.S. Chemical Engineering

Roy M. Knapp '63,'69,'73
(University of Oklahoma)
B.S., M.S., Ph.D. Chemical
Engineering

Joseph W. Davison '43
(Phillips Petroleum)
B.S. Chemical Engineering

Dale R. Laurance '71,'73
(Occidental)
B.S., M.S., Ph.D. Chemical
Engineering

William C. Douce '42
(Phillips Petroleum)
B.S. Chemical Engineering

Paul M. Pancratz '55
(Dow Chemical)
B.S. Chemical Engineering

Thomas F. Edgar '67
(Univ. of Texas)
B.S. Chemical Engineering

James Russell
(Russell Petroleum)
B.S. Petroleum Engineering

Inducted 1997

Stanley M. Englund '50
(Dow Chemical, Midland
Engineering Ltd.)
B.S., Chemical Engineering

William M. Nofsinger '55
(Nofsinger, Inc.)
B.S. Chemical Engineering

George W. Swift '53, '57, '59
(Univ. of Kansas)
B.S., M.S., Ph.D. Chemical
Engineering

Inducted 1998

Russell B. Mesler '48
(Univ. of Kansas)
B.S. Chemical Engineering

Charles E. Sturgeon '51
(Vulcan Chemical Co.)
B.S. Chemical Engineering

Inducted 1999

Paul L. Hellman '59
(Mobil Oil Co.)
B.S. Petroleum Engineering

Kyle D. Vann '69
(Koch Industries)
B.S. Chemical Engineering

Inducted 2000

John A. Davis '58, '63
(Marathon Oil Co.)
B.S., Ph.D. Chemical Engineering

Robert H. Smith '64, '70
(Black & Veatch-Pritchard)
B.S., M.S., Chemical Engineering

Inducted 2002

Allyn W. Risley '72
(Phillips Petroleum Co.)
B.S. Petroleum Engineering

Inducted 2003

Linda Z. Cook '80
(Shell Oil - Canada)
B.S. Petroleum Engineering

Linda S. Ellis '78
(Exxon-Mobil)
B.S. Chemical Engineering

Inducted 2004

Christine Ehlig-Economides '77
(Univ. of Houston)
B.S. Petroleum Engineering

Michael J. Economides '74, '76
(Univ. of Houston)
B.S. Petroleum Engineering

Inducted 2006

Elmer L. Dougherty '50
(Univ. of Southern California,
Maraco, Inc.)
B.S. Chemical Engineering

Inducted 2007

Stanley T. Myers '60
(Semiconductor Equipment and
Materials International)
B.S. Chemical Engineering

Inducted 2009

Edmund H. Fording, Jr. '59
(Synthetic Organic Chemical
Manufacturers Association)
B.S. Chemical Engineering

Frank Komin '78
(Occidental Petroleum)
B.S. Petroleum Engineering

John E. McElhiney '61 & '63
(20/20 Reservoir Resources)
B.S., M.S. Chemical Engineering

Inducted 2010

Dawood M. Al-Dawood '88
(Saudi Aramco)
B.S. Petroleum Engineering

Inducted 2011

Al Self '43
(Allen Financial, Tioga
International)
B.S. Chemical Engineering

J. Bert Ladd '49
(Ladd Petroleum Corporation)
B.S. Petroleum Engineering

J. T. (Tim) Hood '62
(Lockheed Martin)
B.S. Chemical Engineering

Inducted 2012

Mark F. Heinrich '79, '89
(Naval Supply Systems
Command (NAVSUP))
B.S. Petroleum Engineering, M.S.
Business Administration and
Petroleum Management

Lanny G. Schoeling '83, '93
(Kinder Morgan CO₂ Company)
M.S., Ph.D. Chemical Engineering

Inducted 2013

Kyle A. Mathis '90
(Chevron Phillips Chemical
Company)
B.S. Chemical Engineering

Inducted 2014

James C. Remsberg '57
(Conoco, Argent Energy)
B.S. Petroleum Engineering

Patrick R Oenbring '74
(Hawkwood Energy, LLC)
B.S. Chemical Engineering

Inducted 2015

Lance Lobban '81, '87
(University of Houston)
(CBME Chair, University of
Oklahoma)
B.S. Chemical Engineering
Ph.D. Chemical Engineering

David Zornes, '76
(Phillips, Conoco Phillips)
B.S. & M.S. Chemistry/Physics
Education (Emporia State)
M.S. Chemical Engineering

Inducted 2016

Carlos Rocha, '90
(Baxalta)
B.S. Chemical Engineering
(Universidad Nacional de Mar
del Plata)
Ph.D. Chemical Engineering

Inducted 2017

Gary Gould
Guy Green