



News from C&PE | Upcoming Events | New Publications | Quote of the Month

October 9th, 2017

Major CPE Related Events in October

Not only is Halloween and fall break coming, but October is also the month for annual conferences. The annual Society of Petroleum Engineers (SPE) conference will begin next Monday, October 9th in San Antonio, Texas, and the department will be hosting an Alumni Function that evening. The banquet will be located at the Grand Hyatt Hotel in the Sequin B room on the 4th floor. It is scheduled from 5:30-7:30pm. Food will be provided and there will be a cash bar. [Here](#) is a link to the event flyer.

At the end of the month, the annual American Institute of Chemical Engineers (AIChE) we will also be hosting an evening reception. On Sunday, October 29th, from 7:30-9:30pm, we will be hosting a Hospitality Suite in the Hilton Minneapolis on the 3rd floor in the Duluth room. Please join us for drinks and light appetizers and desserts. [Here](#) is a link to the event flyer.

If you plan to attend either conference, we would love to see you at the respective reception, and please feel free to extend an invitation to other friends of the department.

Sofia de la O awarded ACS Scholarship



Chemical Engineering Senior, Sofia de la O (left), recently received notice that she will be a 2017-2018 recipient of the American Chemical Society's Scholars Programs. This renewable scholarship is awarded to underrepresented minority students who want to enter the fields of chemistry or chemistry-related fields, such as environmental science, toxicology and chemical technology. In her major, Sofia has a concentration in pre-medicine. She was born and raised in Mexico, but her family currently lives in Bel Aire, KS. She decided to major in chemical engineering because she was fascinated by the application of engineering principles in medicine, specifically the study and treatment of disease. After graduation, she hopes to spend a year performing research at the National Institutes of Health (NIH) before pursuing an MD/PhD to prepare for a career as a physician scientist.

Sofia is currently working in Professor Mark Shiflett's lab studying ion-exchange materials for the development of a drug to treat hemochromatosis, an iron overload disease. In her free time, she serves as a Discover Coordinator for the Center for Community Outreach, Engineering Ambassador, and Honors Peer Mentor. She has a passion for mentoring younger students and helping increase minority representation in STEM.

For more information about the ACS scholarship program, click [here](#).

Mark Shiflett Celebrate 15 years of Collaboration with Hiden Isochema

Professor Mark Shiflett, Foundation Distinguished Professor in the Department of Chemical and Petroleum Engineering at the University of Kansas, recently visited the head office of Hiden Isochema, to mark 15 years of successful collaboration (pictured below). This year also saw the opening of the Shiflett Foundation Laboratory at the University of Kansas in the School of Engineering. The laboratory specializes in separations and reaction chemistry, and is equipped with a range of Hiden Isochema gravimetric sorption analyzers.

During his visit to Hiden Isochema, Professor Shiflett said "Hiden has been an excellent company to work with and offers outstanding equipment and technical service. His students are accurately measuring gas and vapor solubility in advanced materials such as ionic liquids, zeolites and carbons using Hiden's instruments which are leading to new discoveries."

Professor Shiflett's research interests include the development of sustainable products and processes, novel gas separations, ionic liquids and green chemistry. His research efforts at DuPont led to the development of three environmentally benign refrigerant mixtures which have generated more than \$1 billion in revenue.

To read more about this, click [here](#).



To read more about Prof. Shiflett's other recent news and achievements, click [here](#) and [here](#).

Prajna Dhar now a Faculty Fellow for CTE

The Center for Teaching Excellence (CTE) invited Dr. Dhar to serve as a Faculty Fellow, and she has accepted. This appointment is for three years, and she plans to take on several different projects as she becomes more involved with the center. One of her immediate projects will be to interact with new faculty as they embark on their teaching careers. She is also the current Faculty Ambassador for our department this academic year. For more information about her duties and the center, see their [website](#).

Professor Xiaoli (Laura) Li | Upcoming Conference Presentation

Xiaoli (Laura) Li will be presenting on the "Characterization of Nanoscale Gas Transport in Shale Formations" in December. This presentation is based on her paper of the same title. The conference is the American Geophysical Union (AGU)'s fall meeting which will take place between December 11-15th in New Orleans, LA. For more information, see their [website](#).

Professor Juan Bravo Edits Special Issue of Catalyst

Juan Bravo-Suarez was invited to be a guest editor for the upcoming issue of *Catalyst*, a journal that focuses on research in catalysis. For more information, see their [website](#).

Department Chair Invited to Lodz University in Poland

Dr. Laurence Weatherley has been invited to represent the Department at the Lodz University of Technology, Poland to celebrate the 25th Anniversary of the establishment of the International Faculty of Engineering during the week October 22-26th, 2017. Since 2006 the IFE at Lodz has hosted numerous KU Study Abroad students from C&PE for international experience and summer research projects in the Faculty of Process and Environmental Engineering and in the Faculty of Food Science and Biotechnology. Dr. Weatherley is a visiting professor at the Lodz University of Technology and has regularly hosted seminars and lectures for Master's and PhD students in the area of Green Chemical Engineering. This collaboration has been instrumental in the development of the new 700 graduate elective Green Chemistry and Engineering which Dr Weatherley introduced at KU in fall 2015 and is now running for a second time in fall 2017.

[The International Faculty of Engineering](#) (IFE), a unit of Lodz University of Technology was founded in 1993 with all the courses taught entirely in English and French. Since its beginning, the mission of IFE is to educate future engineers, skilled in professional competences, languages and soft skills. Soon after its establishment, IFE became a nationally and internationally recognized academic center, attracting students as well as first-rate teachers and research workers from across the world.

////////// News from the CEBC \\\\\\\

CEBC Post-Doc Named 2017-2018 Staff Fellow

[Dr. Julian Silverman](#), who works as a Post-Doctoral Researcher for Distinguished Professor Bala Subramanian, was recently selected as a University Staff Fellow. The Staff Fellows Program strives to make KU a stronger institution by providing unclassified professional and university support staff members with opportunities to take part in a structured professional development program. The program includes skill and leadership development and the opportunity to gain broader knowledge of the university. It also provides each staff fellow with a mentor from KU's senior leadership to broaden the experience, knowledge and resources available to each of the fellows. During the course of the yearlong program, the fellows work together on a complex assignment with potential to better the institution. This year staff fellows will shape an employee value proposition model that promotes positive employee engagement at KU. Staff fellows will also recommend how to implement this model within the organization. For more information about the program or to see a full list of this years' fellows, click [here](#).

////////// Time for a Deep Breath and Fall Break \\\\\\\

Fall Break, October 16th and 17th, can't come fast enough. Classes are ramping up, due dates are looming on the horizon, and there never seems to be enough hours in the day to write papers and study for quizzes and exams. As the season changes and daylight hours fade more quickly than we'd like, it's always good to remember to take each day one-at-a-time. When you can, stop and take a deep breath. Think of all you have accomplished with your education so far. If you could make it past your previous obstacles, then you know you'll be able to get beyond these new ones too. But, it never hurts to seek help. Sometimes we can't do it alone, and that is okay too. If you're struggling in any way, please reach out to somebody for help: a friend, classmate, staff member, or teacher, or anybody who can help you re-center or just give you a shoulder to cry on or a nice hug.

For academic challenges, the [AAAC](#) and [the Writing Center](#) are available to help you excel in your test taking, and studying techniques. Maybe it's time to start a study group if you haven't already done so? If you need a space to be quiet and meditate for a few minutes, stop by [Mindfulness Time](#) on Monday or Fridays. We are also adding more non-academic resources to our website [here](#). And if you are really worried about yourself or somebody close to you, [CAPS](#) or [Bert Nash](#) are nearby to help. With the recent deadly shooting in Las Vegas and here in Lawrence, it is perfectly understandable that you may be feeling extra distracted, unsafe, or generally concerned. Know that you are not alone. We are all concerned about the state of the world, and now is time to be there for ourselves and each other. It is amazing what one person can accomplish alone, but it is even more amazing what we can accomplish when we work together toward the same goal!

UPCOMING EVENTS

- Oct. 9** Alumni Function at the SPE conference
- Oct. 10** Breakfast with Women in Science and Entrepreneurship, 8-10am at the Kauffman Foundation in Kansas City. Tickets [here](#).
- Oct 16-17** Fall Break!
- Oct. 19** Lecture on the "2-Hour Job Search Process," 5:30-7:30pm in Capitol Federal Hall, Room 1111. Tickets [here](#).
- Oct 29** Hospitality Suite at the AIChE conference
- Nov. 7** Network BioE, 5:30-8pm in LEEP2, Room 2415. RSVP [here](#).
- Weekly** Spahr Librarian Rebecca Orozco offers research help hours every Tuesday and Wednesday, 1-3pm. Specific dates posted at research help desk.

NEW PUBLICATIONS

- Juan J. Bravo-Suárez & Priya D. Srinivasan.** "Design characteristics of in situ and operando ultraviolet-visible and vibrational spectroscopic reaction cells for heterogeneous catalysis." *Catalysis Reviews: Science and Engineering*. Pages 1-151, 2017. [Link](#) to full abstract/article.
- L.R. Weatherley, J. Petera, Z. Qiu,** Intensification of Mass Transfer and Reaction in Electrically Disturbed Liquid-Liquid Systems—*Chemical Engineering Journal* 2017, 322 115–128.
- Lau D, Lan LY, Andrews SF, Huang M, Huang Y, **DeKosky BJ**, Rojas KT, Henry C, Neu KE, Palm EI, Ippolito GC, Georgiou G, Wilson PC, "Low CD21 expression defines a population of recent germinal center graduates primed for plasma cell differentiation." *Science Immunology*, 2(7), 2017

QUOTE OF THE MONTH

"The first step is to establish that something is possible; then probability will occur."

-by Elon Musk



C&PE Department

4132 Learned Hall | 1530 W 15th St | Lawrence, KS 66045 | 785-864-4965

[WEBSITE](#) | cpe@ku.edu | cpegrad@ku.edu

This newsletter was designed by Grace Lamar and distributed by the C&PE department representative, Martha Kehr: mkehr@ku.edu. Photo of Sofia de la O ©2017 University of Kansas/Marketing Communications/Meg Kumin. Other photos courtesy of KU and/or article authors.

If you would like to be removed from our mailing list, please contact cpe@ku.edu.