

KU Chemical & Petroleum Engineering integrates teaching excellence and research innovation to educate students and produce future leaders.



The University of Kansas

School of Engineering

Chemical & Petroleum Engineering



Department Awards Banquet

The Oread Hotel

May 6, 2023

Dr. Laurence Russell Weatherley
Albert P. Learned Distinguished Professor



Dr. Laurence Weatherley received his B.S. degree in Chemical Engineering from the University of Newcastle upon Tyne, England with 1st class honors. He received his Ph.D. from the University of Cambridge in Chemical Engineering for research on ion exchange kinetics in macroporous resins. He has published over 250 research papers, articles, conference papers and other

contributions. Dr Weatherley is a chartered professional engineer (UK), is a Fellow of the Institution of Chemical Engineers, United Kingdom, and is a Fellow of the Institution of Professional Engineers of New Zealand. He is currently a member of the editorial advisory boards of Chemical Engineering and Processing, and the Chemical Engineering Journal. He was executive co-editor of the Chemical Engineering Journal for 10 years until 2010. Dr. Weatherley has been a faculty member for 44 years in Scotland, Ireland, New Zealand, and at KU. He was chair of the CPE department for 16 years.

2022-2023 Graduates

Graduate Students

Abdullah Zeyaid Abdlelah Al Saffar	Saabiq Sharief Mohammad
Dana Khalid Almansour	Simon Velasquez Morales
Kalin Renee Baca	Dinuka Rajapakse
Ethan Abraham Finberg	Murilo Toledo Suekuni
Steffan C. Green	Fahad Iqbal Syed
Brandon Kinn	Anoop Uchagawkar
Julia Emilia Espinoza Mejia	

Undergraduate Students

Kaitlyn Adami	Alex Hardinger	Rushi Patel
Muhab Akif	Kathryn Harlow	William Phachanla
Juan Alega	Adam Hassiba	Cole Qamar
Nicholas Bender	Page Haynes	Anika Radadiya
Madelyn Bennett	Michael Hemme	Parker Ramirez
Jenna Boggs	Alexander Henne	Madeline Ruf
Cameron Boydston	Hallie Hutsell	Alejandro Santos
Emma Carbary	Maria Ianc	Mary Sevart
Caleb Carter	Anna Jasko	Nasrin Shahlari
Kayla Castillo	Olivia Johnson	Ashley Sherrow
Laura Chavira Molina	Melvin Loo	Perse Shipley
Daniel Cho	Aidan Lopez	Marah Shulda
Jake Comstock	Joseph Lozenski	Seth Siemens
Cristhian Consuegra	Brian Lu	Kathryn Speckin
Addison Coppinger	Lucia Matamoros	Jacob St John
Emily Cords	Joe McClain	Robert Stark
Georgia Crawford	Corey Mcdowell	James Sturgill
Bryce Debok	Zachary Merkley	Sophia Terian
Meaghyn DeValk	Griffin Minter	Charly Wang
Seth Dibble	Alyssa Morrell	Steven Winkler
Katie Donnelly	Spencer Mouron	Lauren Wolf
Ashley Eichelberger	Angela Mundakkal	Jadyn Yoder
Miracle Emenuga	Evan Nelson	Zahrh Ashour
Riley Foltz	Thi Nguyen	Turarbek Bazarbayev
Samuel Garretson	Ife Oduniyi	Aly Khalil
Eric Gawlick	Nathan Ohl	Serge Mafuta
Mylee Godwin	Alexandra Osborn	
Abigail Haas	Peyton Panovich	

2023 Hall of Fame Inductee



Dana Wreath received his B.S. in Petroleum Engineering from KU in 1987 and went on to complete an M.S. (University of Texas) in 1989. He then went to work for Mobil Oil based in Houston for 3 years working in reservoir engineering in the SE TX and SW LA division focused on drilling economics and acquisitions. In 1992, he left Mobil and began work at

Berexco, an independent oil and gas production company in Wichita, Kansas.

At Berexco, he has worked on many drilling, acquisition, waterflood unitization and other reservoir engineering projects across the mid-continent US. He also has been the lead industry engineer for collaborative research projects involving TORP and KGS focused on CO₂ and chemical flooding EOR, seismic, and deep basement research supporting both engineering and geology graduate students.

Dana also served as Chair of the Nebraska Petroleum Producer's Association from 2016-2018 and will serve as Chair of the Kansas Independent Oil and Gas Association for 2023-2025. Dana is married to JoAnn Erickson, and they have four children: Eric, Alex, Stuart, and Colin.

2022 Hall of Fame Inductee



Dr. James H. Edgar earned his B.S. in chemical engineering from KU in 1981. His favorite courses were Physics III (quantum physics), Physical Chemistry (he received the 1980 Outstanding Student in Physical Chemistry Award) and Electronic Devices and Properties of Materials.

He next earned his Ph.D. at the University of Florida, studying the application of chemical engineering principles to the processing of electronic, optoelectronic, and photonic devices - the subsequent focus of his research.

In 1988, he joined the Tim Taylor Department of Chemical Engineering at Kansas State University. He rose through the ranks becoming a University Distinguished Professor (2013) and serving as the head of the department from 2009 to 2019. He most frequently taught Thermodynamics and Materials Science and Engineering. Dr. Edgar spent sabbaticals at the Naval Research Laboratory, Washington, DC, and Radboud University, the Netherlands, and was a director in the Electronic and Photonic Materials program at National Science Foundation (NSF) from 2019-2022.

His research was supported by the NSF, Office of Naval Research, and the Department of Energy, among others. As of 2022, he has co-authored more than 230 papers and advised 17 MS and 22 PhD students.

2022 Hall of Fame Inductee



Frank Tsuru co-founded Momentum Midstream in 2004 and currently serves as its CEO. In addition to his executive role at Momentum, he was the President and CEO of Indigo Natural Resources, an E&P company operating primarily in North Louisiana prior to its sale in 2021.

Upon graduating from the University of Kansas, Tsuru joined TXO Production Corp as a drilling and production engineer. In 1991, he co-founded Southwestern Production Corp. producing coal bed methane in SW Colorado. In 1995, he was asked to be President and COO of Red Cedar Gathering Co.

In 2004, Frank Tsuru founded Momentum and then was asked to serve as the President of Indigo Natural Resources in 2016. Tsuru is involved with the community, especially national and international philanthropic organizations. He currently serves on the boards of several non-profit and for-profit boards.

He continues to be very active in the Boy Scouts of America serving as the President of the National Eagle Scout Association. Frank is married to Stephanie Tsuru, and they have three children and three grandchildren all living in Houston with their families.

2023 Hall of Fame Inductee



Dan McCartney received his B.S. in Chemical Engineering from KU in 1969 and has 50 years of varied engineering experience, principally in gas processing. Experience includes both managerial and staff engineering work, special assignments, and plant operations. Early career experience included working for operating companies in field and design roles

and was followed by 20 years working for engineering contractors in both design and internal consulting roles. Contributions include developments in gas processing, LNG liquefaction and gas treating. Currently principal of McCartney Gas Advisors, providing consulting to the midstream industry.

Complimenting experience in gas processing is a number of carbon capture projects. These include flue gas amine scrubbing using proprietary amine solvents as well as new and developing processes. Dan's work ranged from conceptual design validation for innovative processes to detailed design for more mature technology. He is a licensed Professional Engineer in Kansas, Oklahoma & Texas

Through the long history of experience, continuing highlights are contributions to technology and the energy industry and its people. Dan has served as a teacher and mentor to well over 50 less experienced engineers – many newly graduated.