Please WRITE TO US!!  We want to know where life has taken you since you left West Virginia University. Complete and return this form with your news and comments. Also, pass this Newsletter on, or let us know any alumni who are not receiving *The Major*.

Send to:
Department of Chemical Engineering • West Virginia University
403 ESB, PO Box 6102 • Morgantown, WV 26506-6102

Or, email updates to linda.rogers@mail.wvu.edu.

Name: ____________________________________________
Degree(s): _______________________________ Year ________
Home Address: ____________________________________________________________
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Business Phone _______________________________________
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Brief News of Professional and Family Activities for Future Newsletters: __________________________________________
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For more information, visit our Department web site at http://www.cemr.wvu.edu/~wwwche/
Changes are in the offing. Fortunately, when engineers think of change, they associate it with sayings like, “There is no constant except change,” rather than, “The more things change, the more they stay the same.” But more on that later. An obvious change is the one you hold in your hand right now. We had been thinking of upgrading our modest little effort for some time now, but it was the initiative of Susan Case, our new College Relations Director, that moved us (and a few other departments) into action. We hope you are pleased with the results – let us know.

In the column labeled “Staying the same,” put down the name of this publication. There was a move to make a clean break from the past, to name this something inspiring, such as, “The Chemical Engineering Newsletter.” But we held firm. The Major in senior design, we said, is what alums talk about when they meet, years after graduation. It defines the Department, as former faculty member Wallace Whiting said when he proposed the name nineteen volumes ago. There was no further discussion then, and there was no further discussion now.

The graphic you see above falls in the column, “Constant change.” We picked this because the micrograph illustrates in an ambiguous way both the past and the future of chemical engineering. But let us know if you have another graphic that does the same thing (and that we can legally use). Susan assures us that we can change the banner at will.

Changes have also had to be made in the content of this issue. Because printing and other features can no longer be carried out within the Department, deadlines for the text are well in advance of those to which we have been accustomed. This means that reports on items like student performance in the Annual AIChE Meeting will have to be put off till next spring, and reports on the Mid-Atlantic Regionals will have to wait till next winter. But we should soon come to steady state on this.

Finally, staying the same are our pleasure in hearing from you, and our pride in our students and our alumni. Keep those letters and emails coming. Those who have never communicated before, start now.

Other changes are also in the works, substantial changes that will alter the way the Department functions. More of that when things are more definite, next time.

Dady Dadyburjor, Chair
WVU Department of Chemical Engineering
DEPARTMENT NEWS

Dow/Union Carbide Bannister Distinguished Lecture


Dr. Gaffney is the vice president of the Technology Development Center for ABB Lummus Global Inc. in Bloomfield, NJ. She received a B.A. in chemistry and mathematics from Mount Holyoke College and a Ph.D. in physical organic chemistry from the University of Delaware in 1981.

Dr. Gaffney was the Meeting Chair of the 19th North American Catalysis Society Meeting (2005) and the 1999 recipient of the Catalysis Club of Philadelphia Award. She is the author/co-author of 174 patents/patent applications and the author/co-author of 63 publications.

Check out the Summer 2007 newsletter for information on the companion seminar in this series, the Dow/Union Carbide Reaction Engineering Seminar Series honoring Jean B. Cropley.

Professional Development Courses at WVU-ChE?

Thomas Beer (B.S. ’78), currently Manufacturing Technology/Manufacturing Platform Leader at Clorox Services Company, writes, in part:

“I have not received any flyers for Professional Development courses from WVU. I am wondering if there are professional development courses offered by WVU, as there are from schools such as DELETED (seems like I get a mailing from them every couple of weeks). Anyway, if there is no … [such] … Professional Development, it might be good to consider forming one, as both a funding mechanism (DELETED charges $1295 per course) and as pure professional development. CEUs [Continuing Education Units] are offered, and the courses are offered at alternate locations. The DELETED courses are taught by both academics as well as industry people. I assume you have seen their flyers, but the courses have a pretty wide range of applicability … Of course, depending on the expertise of your faculty and the industry resources available, many more types of courses could be offered. Just a thought. Let me know what you think.”

The university is set up to do this, but it has to be on a strictly bottom-line basis. Some of the larger departments do offer such courses, on-campus, off-campus or on the web; some are for professional development, and others are summer-type courses. This department attempted to establish distance-learning courses at the graduate level some years back, for chemical engineers working throughout the state, but with very few takers.

Maybe it’s time to revisit the situation, and this newsletter represents a good vehicle for a survey. So, tell us –

• Would you be interested in a professional development course?
• What kinds of topics?
• What format? 2 to 3-day on-site, web-based, etc.?
• Would you have to pay, or would your company?
• A few words about your background would be helpful. Any other comments?

Please use the reply form at the end of the newsletter to send us your comments on these questions. When we have a significant response, we will report the results back to you. Obviously, we will keep individual responses private, unless explicitly told otherwise. Thanks!

Faculty News

Professor Rakesh Gupta was selected by the Society of Plastics Engineers to receive the Best Paper Award at a recent meeting.

Professor Dady Dadyburjor was recently elected to a two-year term as counselor for the Pittsburgh Local Section of AIChE.

Professor Edwin Kugler moved to the presidency of the Pittsburgh-Cleveland Catalysis Society, after serving as president-elect last year.
Bill McCartney, BS ’95 presented the College Distinguished Lecture in October.

COLLEGE NEWS

New Mining Engineering Chair
Dr. Syd Peng stepped down as chair of the WVU Department of Mining Engineering after more than 28 years on the job. Dr. Chris Bise assumed the post on September 1, 2006. Dr. Bise comes to WVU from Pennsylvania State University where he was chair of the Mining Engineering and Industrial Health and Safety programs. Dr. Bise is a Philadelphia native and earned his bachelor’s degree in mining engineering from Virginia Tech, and his master’s and doctoral degrees in the same field from Penn State. In 1998, he added a master’s degree in environmental health engineering from Johns Hopkins University to his list of degrees. We welcome Dr. Bise to campus and to the College!

Corporate Relations and Career Assistance
Are you looking for experienced chemical engineers? Or, are you experienced and looking for a job? The College has launched a new alumni jobs website to help. The website is located at www.cemr.wvu.edu/~jobs/alumni. Send an e-mail to cemralumnijobs@mail.wvu.edu for log-on instructions. For more information, contact David Durham at david.durham@mail.wvu.edu, or call Dave at (304) 293-4821 ext. 2201.

College Distinguished Lecture
The latest Distinguished Lecture in the College was given by Bill McCartney on October 12. Bill received his B.S. in chemical engineering in 1995. Bill’s topic was “Engineer to Entrepreneur: An Alternative Career Path for Engineers.” Bill started at CNG Transmission (now Dominion Transmission), moved to CNG Energy Services, and currently manages more than $250 million in natural-gas storage and transportation assets for Vitol S.A. Bill holds the distinction of being the youngest graduate of the College to provide (along with his wife Christie, a WVU alumna) an endowment for an undergraduate scholarship.

Extension and Outreach Director Returns
Dr. James Dean returned to Morgantown after seven months in Charleston as the acting director of the state’s Office of Miners’ Health and Safety and Training. From February to August 2006, Dean led the state’s investigations into the recent mining disasters and developed plans to implement new regulations. Joe Spiker served as acting director in Jim’s absence.

UNIVERSITY NEWS

WVU Named ‘Tier One’ School
WVU has been named a “Tier One” school by Milliken and Company as part of its Engineering Excellence program.

The designation is a result of two years of raising the College’s awareness of the Milliken reputation and infiltrating Milliken’s workforce with WVU engineering students. Milliken currently has WVU engineering students working with them from the Chemical, Industrial, Mechanical, and Electrical Engineering programs.

President Hardesty to Step Down
WVU President David Hardesty has announced his plan to step down effective September 20, 2007. President Hardesty has served as WVU’s president since 1995. When he steps down, he will have served as the longest permanently appointed president in WVU history. President Hardesty will continue to stay active at the University, and to continue teaching at the WVU College of Law.

A search committee is already in place and the search for a new WVU president is under way.

REMINDEERS

For those who have sent contributions to the Department this past year, OUR MANY THANKS!! These funds are used to support many undergraduate and graduate activities, and to help enhance the overall academic and learning environments in the Department. Your support is greatly appreciated.

Please remember to designate your tax deductible gifts for use by the Department. The best way to support WVU Chemical Engineering is to write your check out to the WVU Foundation and designate it for use by Chemical Engineering on the memo line. Also, please check with your company – many will provide matching gifts.
Scholarships Announced

In addition to the Academy scholarships that were identified in the Summer 2006 edition of The Chemical Engineering Major, the following scholarships were awarded for the 2006-2007 academic year:

Steven L. Akers ('10), Robert E. and Loraine R. Pyle Scholarship
Morgan F. Ames ('09), Lester Kincaid Memorial Scholarship
Jeffrey Boyczuk ('08), Williard W. Hodge Chemical Engineering Scholarship
Curtis S. Brown ('09), Lester Kincaid Memorial Scholarship
Sandra L. Bruce ('09), Williard W. Hodge Chemical Engineering Scholarship
James Cooper, Jr. ('07), Chemical Engineering Scholarship
Julia J. Demnard ('08), Georgia Nash and James Wimer Memorial Scholarship
Cameron S. Kouns ('08), Chemical Engineering Scholarship
Fletcher P. Loder ('08), Dow Chemical Scholarship
John N. Maxim ('09), Williard W. Hodge Chemical Engineering Scholarship
Bradley W. May ('09), Camden Coberly Memorial Scholarship
Tristan J. McQuain ('09), Camden Coberly Memorial Scholarship
Marissa J. Morphis ('08), Albert J. Monack Scholarship
Jason T. Peluchette ('09), Georgia Nash Memorial Scholarship
Elliot A. Roth ('08), H.S. Muralidhara Scholarship

Victor J. Shafer ('09), B.G. McGuire Scholarship, H.S. Muralidhara Scholarship, and James Wimer Memorial Scholarship
Troy F. Shutler ('08), Lester Kincaid Memorial Scholarship
Tyler D. Simmons ('07), Chemical Engineering Scholarship
David A. Smith ('07), James Wimer Memorial Scholarship
Alexander Stanton ('09), Chemical Engineering Scholarship
Christopher W. Thomas ('07), Dow Chemical Scholarship

Other Student Awards and Accomplishments

Preetanshu Pandey (Ph.D. 2006) was selected as one of three recipients of the 2006 AAPS Outstanding Graduate Student Research Award in Pharmaceutical Technologies. Dr. Pandey is employed by Shering Plough in NJ.

Huifang Shao (Ph.D. 2006) won the First Place Award for her student presentation at the Pittsburgh-Cleveland Catalysis Society Spring Meeting in June 2006.

David Statler, a doctoral student in chemical engineering who works with Dr. Rakesh Gupta, will undertake a semester-long internship with GE Plastics in Mount Vernon, IN. David will be part of the Ultem research group. This is the first time that a graduate student will be an intern at this GE site.

Erica Trump ('08) is the recipient of the AIChE Sophomore Academic Excellence Award for 2005-2006.

The May 2006 issue of the JETS Pre-Engineering Times spotlighted West Virginia University and Chemical Engineering's Tirzah Mills ('07) was pictured with the article. JETS promotes engineering and technology-related careers to high-school students.
Plans are well underway for the next annual Academy of Chemical Engineers meeting and banquet to be held on April 27, 2007. Academy nomination of new members will begin shortly. The Academy was formed to recognize and honor WVU Chemical Engineering alumni who have had distinguished careers. New members must have graduated at least fifteen years before they are considered eligible for election. If you know of alumni deserving of such recognition, please let us know. Your input is appreciated.

Dr. Robert H. (Doc) Foglesong (B.S. ’68, M.S. ’69, Ph.D. ’71) was sworn in on October 6 as president of Mississippi State University, the state’s land-grant institution. Present at the ceremony (and at the football game the following day) was WVU’s president, David C. Hardesty, Jr., who received his undergraduate degree from WVU the same year as Doc. Scheduled to appear at the swearing-in was BARK, the all-volunteer rock band assembled by the new president, with himself as the lead singer. (Those wondering at the origin of the band’s name may need to know that the mascot at MSU is the bulldog.)

INDUSTRIAL VISITING COMMITTEE

The departmental Industrial Visiting Committee met on October 11-12, 2006 for the Annual Meeting. The following members were present and provided valuable advice and counsel to the Department.

Dr. Steven R. Auvil, Air Products and Chemicals, Inc.
Dr. Gary L. Brown, New Carbon, Inc.
Dr. Kevin DiGregorio, IMPACT Professional Services
Dr. George Keller, MATRIC
Dr. Valerie Patrick, Bayer Corporation
Dr. Larry Headley, U.S. DOE
Ms. R. Ingrid Warren, GE Advanced Materials-Silicones

Members of the Industrial Visiting Committee (left to right) Steve Auvil, Ingrid Warren, Gary Brown, Kevin DiGregorio, Valerie Patrick, Larry Headley, and George Keller, II.
We don’t want to say anything to jinx Rich Rodriguez’s football team, but subscribers in this area saw players Schmitt, Slaton, and White on the cover of the August issue of *Sports Illustrated*. The team is 5-0 and in the Top 5 of both polls, but Big East play has yet to start ...

Counts us among those who believe that non-revenue sports get less support than they deserve. At this point, women’s soccer is ranked No. 7 and boasts a record of 11-1-2 (4-1-1 in the Big East). Men’s soccer is up there too, ranking No. 5 in the SoccerTimes.com poll and No. 6 in the NSCAA/Adidas poll, with a record of 10-1-2 (6-0-1 in the Big East).

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**CLASS NOTES**

1950  
Raymond S. Eagle (B.S.) retired from the M.W. Kellogg Company in 1996 after 42 years. At the time of his retirement, he was a project director. Raymond resides in Houston, TX.

1962  
D. David Randolph (B.S.) recently retired from Northrop Grumman Corporation after 21 years as a senior engineer on the B-2 Stealth Bomber program. Dave previously retired from the U.S. Air Force after 22 years of active duty. He and his wife, Mary Rice, who also attended WVU, reside in Santaquin, Utah, and are the parents of seven children.

1979  
Robert Wampler (B.S.) commutes weekly from PA to CT in his position as commercial director, Americas, for Chemtura Corporation. As for his family; Bobby is a Penn State graduate, Todd is playing soccer for Drexel, and Julie is in high school. Rob thinks a Class of 1979 reunion would be fun! *(Editor’s Note: Fellow members of the Class of ’79 who are similarly interested can get in touch with Rob directly, or through the Department.)*

1984  
Craig A. Lynch (B.S.) is vice president, Energy Delivery, for New Jersey Natural Gas Company. Craig has been with NJ Natural Gas Co. for 22 years. Craig is married to Donna France (B.S. in education, WVU 1983) and they have three children. Craig and family reside in Lakewood, NJ.

1987  
Steve Alford (B.S.) was recently promoted to Global Director of Quality for Airbag Restraint Systems for Miliken. Steve has been named senior corporate sponsor for West Virginia University as a Tier One recruiting school. Steve has two children. The Alford’s reside in LaGrange, GA.

1992  
Walter M. Hart (Ph.D.), after 14 years with Carbide/Dow, left in the spring to join Purvin & Gertz, an international energy consultancy. He consults as a part of the Liquefied Petroleum Gases group, but the firm also serves the oil, gas, chemicals and power generation industries. Walter is based at their Houston headquarters, and he would like to hear from fellow WVU alumni in south Texas by e-mail, at wmhart@purvingertz.com. Walt, wife Tina, and their

**SPORTS**

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children (Mary Katherine and Sean) reside in Houston, TX. They all love Houston and are happy finally to be around some family.

1994

Xiu Xiu Cheng (Ph.D.) was promoted to the position of senior vice president, Research and Development for Andrx Pharmaceuticals. In this role, Xiu Xiu will lead efforts to continue to increase Andrx's industry leadership position in the development of modified-release dosage forms.

1994

Michelle (Wilson) Dougherty (B.S.) and husband, Rich, had a son, Colin, on March 20, 2006. Michelle is the director of technology transfer at the National Technology Transfer Center in Wheeling, WV.

2002

Jason Gaspar (B.S.) moved to Utah in June 2003, where he did graduate work in an HIV lab at the University of Utah. After obtaining his M.S. in Biochemistry, he returned to chemical engineering and is now working at Kennecott Utah Copper, the largest open-pit mine in the world.

2006

James V. Alford (B.S.) has accepted a position with Monsanto in Luling, LA as a process engineer for Formulations and Packaging of Roundup Herbicide.