

INform

Department of Chemical and Environmental Engineering Newsletter

Meet the new leadership of the ChEE department



Fouad Teymour,
Chairman and Johnson
Polymer Professor
(appointed Oct. 1, 2003)



David C. Venerus,
Associate Chair,
graduate affairs
and professor
(appointed Nov. 1, 2003)



Javad Abbasian,
Associate Chair,
undergraduate affairs and
GTI professor
(appointed Nov. 1, 2003)

A Message from the Chairman

Dear Chemical, Environmental and Gas Engineering Students, Faculty, Staff, Advisory Committee, Alumni and Friends,

It is my pleasure to write to you for the first time on behalf of the chemical and environmental engineering (ChEE) department. Through *INform*, you have experienced, along with us, the exciting ChEE developments of the last decade during the tenure of Professor Hamid Arastoopour. Hamid has left a legacy that will certainly be a challenge to duplicate. Now that he moves on to establish the same tradition of excellence across engineering at IIT as Dean of Armour College, the rest of us are looking forward to carrying the department torch, into its second century, continuing on the path towards the rise to prominence.

We live in truly awe-inspiring times at the dawn of the new millennium, as the frontiers of scientific research are rapidly expanding towards nanotechnology, miniaturization, smart materials, sustainability and biotechnology. I am certain that most of you have experienced some of the effects of the rapidly spreading wave of “biologification” of the chemical engineering profession. Some of you may have had to rediscover the principles of biology and bio-processing—probably on your own—as your company starts to diversify its activities into several biological routes for the production of chemicals. Others are probably engrossed in a redefinition of curricula and academic programs as your university or department undergoes a transformation both in name and in scope.

Human society seems finally ready to harness the vast powers of biological systems to create a better living environment, and the chemical engineering discipline is poised to take a leading role in this regard. To quote Professor Gregory Stephanopoulos, who will deliver the 2004 Ralph Peck Lecture at IIT on Oct. 8, 2004: “As biology, at the molecular level, is mostly a chemical science, it should, along with chemistry, become a foundational science of a chemical and biological engineering paradigm to support an exciting new area of engineering education and research.”

The ChEE department at IIT is dedicated to providing the best possible preparation for its students to excel in their future careers. Since our students will increasingly be involved with

biological systems, we have started planning several initiatives aimed at maintaining the high quality of education that we provide at both the undergraduate and graduate levels. We have been continuously expanding into bioengineering through the strategic hiring of new faculty to complement the efforts of some of our existing faculty. We are currently involved in developing new courses, in addition to our existing electives in biotechnology, and in designing new curricula and programs. Two new graduate courses have already been offered in biomaterials and tissue engineering and one undergraduate course, in the foundation of biological sciences for engineers, will be offered in the spring 2005 semester.

The next few years promise some exciting changes in the department and we will keep you updated through our continued communications. In facing these welcome challenges, the department looks to the lasting involvement of its alumni and friends; I hope that you will continue to lend your support. Finally, with all the changes occurring around us, do not be surprised if the CSTR is dethroned off its perch as the prototypical chemical paradigm by a horde of cellular microorganisms busy converting chemicals in a process we habitually refer to as “Life.”

—Fouad Teymour

Renaming the ChEE Newsletter

After 10 years of news and updates through *INform*, the ChEE department has decided to update its newsletter in 2005.

Get involved—help us rename the newsletter

We are looking for a title that is significant to ChEE and helps readers connect to the content of the newsletter.

Please send your suggested newsletter title by Jan. 10, 2005 with your contact information, graduation year and/or current or past ChEE position to: Renée Mercuri, Communications Director, mercuri@iit.edu (for fax or snail mail, please see the back page).

This contest is open to all alumni, students, and current or past faculty and staff. The contestant with the winning newsletter title will receive an IIT gift package and be featured in the new department newsletter in September 2005.

Faculty Achievements

The ChEE department faculty was active during the 2003/04 academic year, publishing numerous papers (view faculty publications at www.chee.iit.edu) and participating in various professional activities. During the 2003/04 fiscal year, 28 research grants were awarded to ChEE department faculty. Sponsored research totaled approximately \$2.1 million.



Said Al-Hallaj

Said Al-Hallaj was featured in a July 14, 2004 *Chicago Sun-Times* story about IIT's involvement in Illinois' hydrogen highway renewable energy program. He was quoted in the Nov. 17, 2003 *Chicago Sun-Times* about the Illinois Technology Enterprise Center investment in IIT's All-Cell Technologies' prototype of a rechargeable battery.

Paul Anderson organized and presented, in conjunction with Friends of the Chicago River and the IIT Environmental Management Program, the eight-seminar series, "The Chicago River and the Environment" from Feb. 10 to May 4, 2004.

Ali Cinar was the recipient of the Thiele Award on October 8, 2003. He was quoted in the July 30, 2004 *Chicago Sun-Times* in a story about tighter government controls on international students studying in the U.S.

David Gidalevitz presented work on anti-microbial peptides interactions with bacterial membranes at the annual meeting of the Biophysical Society in February 2004 in Baltimore and was a guest speaker at the Argonne National Laboratory in July 2004. He was also awarded synchrotron beam time in the European Synchrotron Radiation Facility in Grenoble and Advanced Photon Source in the Argonne National Laboratory.

Dimitri Gidaspow was invited to speak about "Hydrodynamics of Fluidization in a Riser Using Kinetic Theory" at the Harbin Institute of Technology in Harbin, China, the Multiphase Reaction Laboratory in Beijing, China (both in July 2004) and at the University of Leeds' Frontiers in Particle Science and Technology 2004 seminar series on May 17, 2004.

Henry R. Linden was quoted in the Feb. 18, 2004 edition of the online magazine *Reason Online* regarding the future of world oil supplies. He was also quoted in the April 20, 2004 edition

of *The New American* on why U.S. gasoline prices are rising.

Demetrios Moschandreas was named a fellow of the International Society of Indoor Air Quality and Climate in 2004.

Allan Myerson and P. Robinson received patents for a method for reclaiming constituents from an industrial waste stream and a method for the purification of zinc oxide controlling particle size. Myerson also received patents for controlled nucleation of protein crystals and molecular crystals of controlled size.

Victor Perez-Luna was invited to speak about his research on surface analysis and biosensors at several seminars and conferences including the Third Annual Conference of the Chicago Universities Bioengineering Industry Consortium (CUBIC), Jan. 29–30 2004 for which he also chaired a session on sensors and diagnosis in medicine. Breakthroughs on the collaborative IIT research he has done to develop a new sensing device that can identify dangerous bacteria in air, water, and food were featured in the April 13, 2004 issue of IIT's *TechNews* and the May 4, 2004 edition of IIT's *Contact*.

Jai Prakash received the 2004 Hamid Arastoopour Excellence in Teaching Award.

Jay Schieber was named the director of the Center of Excellence in Polymer Science and Engineering in early 2004. He was the University of Wisconsin's 2004 Olaf A. Hougen Scholar and spent the spring semester at the Madison campus collaborating with Juan de Pablo on a new undergraduate textbook in thermodynamics. In July 2004, Schieber was plenary speaker at the Second Annual Meeting on Non-Newtonian Fluid Mechanics in Rio de Janeiro.

David Venerus presented his work on "Anisotropic Thermal Conductivity in Deforming Polymers" at a number of invited lectures in Europe during the summer of 2004. His tour included the University of Leeds in the United Kingdom, University of Bayreuth in Germany and ETH Zuerich in Switzerland.

Darsh Wasan was quoted in the Feb. 15, 2004 issue of the *Chicago Tribune* in a story regarding the death of former IIT chemistry Professor Esber Shaheen. Wasan was the recipient of the Langmuir Lectureship Award from the American Chemical Society in August 2004.



Hamid Arastoopour (l) and Jai Prakash (r), winner of the 2004 Arastoopour Excellence in Teaching Award

2003/04 Statistics

Enrollment:
81 undergraduates
185 graduates

Conferred Degrees:
18 BS
42 MS/MAS
14 PhD

Honors and Awards

Wasan Elected to National Academy of Engineering

With notes from NAE press release, Feb. 13, 2004 and IIT news release, Feb. 19, 2004

Darsh T. Wasan, Motorola Chair professor and vice president for international affairs, was elected to the National Academy of Engineering (NAE), considered among the highest professional distinctions for engineers.



In naming Wasan, the academy cited his pioneering research, inspirational teaching and the development of novel technology in colloidal processing and interfacial rheology. He is among 75 new

members and 11 foreign associates elected in February 2004 and among a handful of IIT professors to achieve this professional distinction. He will be inducted into the NAE on Oct. 3, 2004 in Washington D.C.

Other NAE members from IIT include Professor Henry R. Linden, retired Professors Thomas Martin and Mark Morkovin along with longtime trustees and benefactors Robert Pritzker and Robert Galvin.

Wasan joined the IIT faculty in 1964 and has served as chairman of the department of chemical engineering, dean of engineering, vice president for research and provost.

New Gas Facility Named for Linden With notes from GTI press release, Dec. 4, 2003

In December 2003, Chicago-based Gas Technology Institute (GTI) dedicated its new Flex-Fuel Test Facility for Thermo-Chemical Conversion of Fuels in Des Plaines, Ill. in honor of Professor Henry R. Linden, a prominent figure in shaping and leading research and education programs for the U.S. natural gas industry for more than 50 years.

In a ceremony at GTI's headquarters, GTI president and CEO, John F. Riordan, noted that Linden began his career in the gas industry in 1947, with the Institute of Gas Technology (IGT). He became IGT's research director in

1956, vice president in 1968, and president in 1974. He currently serves on GTI's Strategic Advisory Council.

"Henry Linden is truly one of the giants of our industry," Riordan said. "He brought a broad strategic vision to the planning and conduct of gas-related research at a time when it was sorely needed. He also championed collaborative research as an effective way to leverage funding and sharing insights from all stakeholders in resolving complex technical challenges affecting the entire gas industry and its customers."

Linden is also ChEE's Max McGraw Professor of Energy and Power Engineering and Management, and director of the Energy and Power Center at IIT.

Advisory Board Member Receives AIChE Award

With notes from UOP press release, Jan. 22, 2004



Bipin Vora, a member of the ChEE advisory committee (CEEDAC) since 2002 and a senior corporate fellow with UOP in Des Plaines, Ill., was presented with the 2003 Chemical Engineering Practice Award at the American Institute of Chemical Engineers (AIChE) annual meeting in San Francisco in November 2003. The award cited Vora's outstanding contributions in industrial practice

of the chemical engineering profession as exemplified by his development of catalytic dehydrogenation processes and related technologies. Vora, who holds 76 patents and is the author of more than 100 published articles, shares credit for the many successes in his 37-year career. "It was not me alone doing it," he says. "It was a team of people. I just happened to be the vehicle to move it forward."

Vora came to work for UOP in 1967 as a development engineer. In 2001 he achieved the title of senior corporate fellow, the highest technical honor at UOP.

Alumni News

Byron Dunn (BS '80) rejoined, on Dec. 11, 2003, the board of directors of Harvest Natural Resources, an independent energy corporation based in Houston, Tex., which has been engaged in the development and production of oil and gas properties since 1989. Dunn is currently vice president of business development for National Oilwell.

Hans Maru (MS '70 PhD '75), was named Energy All Star in October 2003 by Mass High Tech in Boston, part of a series of awards that recognize achievements by individuals in New England's technology and engineering community. Maru has been with FuelCell Energy since 1977. Currently, he is executive vice-president and chief technology officer.

James Oldshue (BS '47, MS '49, PhD '51) whose distinguished career in mixing technology resulted in the development of key new technologies and a standard industry reference tool, discussed "The Role of Macro Scale and Micro Scale Mixing in the Scale Up of Fluid Mixers" at a special ChEE department seminar on May 5, 2004, in the Perlstein Auditorium. A resident of Rochester, NY, Oldshue is now president of Oldshue Technologies International. He was elected president of the Inter-American Confederation of Chemical Engineering Societies in 1995 and is a member of the National Academy of Engineering.

Student Awards & Activities

ChEE Honors Departing Seniors

Graduating senior **Cari Youngblood** praised the department's positive effect on student learning and growth in her graduation address at the ChEE Awards Ceremony and Graduating Class Farewell Reception on May 7, 2004. Alumnus Benjamin Cacace (BS '02) provided real-world insight for the new engineering professionals.

Professor **Demetrios Moschandreas** presided over the awards ceremony during which the department honored its numerous Camras and Venema scholars. The latter distinction was established during the 1990/91 academic year and is awarded based on outstanding academic performance.

The 2004 Hamid Arastoopour Excellence in Teaching Awards were presented to **Jai Prakash** for teacher of the year and **William Mustain** for teaching assistant of the year.

Mohammad Umar Rabbani was honored as an Energy/Environment/Economics Scholar. Staff members **Marilyn Birden**, **Peggy Murphy** and **Nima Nemaei** all received the Excellence in Service Award. **Kristina M. Felfe**, **Farai Mauchaza** and **Youngblood** were all recipients of the Clinton E. Stryker Distinguished Service Award for their campus leadership and contributions. **Felfe** received

the department's leadership award and the 2003 American Institute of Chemical Engineers, Chicago Section Harry McCormack award. This latter award is given to a senior chemical engineering undergraduate who exhibits outstanding scholarship, extracurricular activity involvement, character and potential as an engineer. The award is named after Professor Harry McCormack, one of the first chairmen of IIT's department of chemical engineering, in recognition of his vast contribution to the discipline in Chicago.

Camras scholars 2003: **Kristina Felfe**, **Kenneth Milam**, **Shannon Phillips**, **Erin Sawardecker**, **Cari Youngblood**

Venema scholars 2003: **Abdoulaye Diao**, **James Sheridan** and **Minh Tran**



Fouad Teymour presents ChEE student Cari Youngblood with one of the many awards she received.



Hamid Arastoopour congratulates William Mustain, 2003 teaching assistant of the year.

IIT Student Wins Prestigious Award

The American Institute of Chemical Engineers (AIChE) awarded **Alfred Lee**, an IIT chemical engineering PhD candidate, the Separations Division Graduate Student Research



Award in Crystallization and Evaporation. The global award, sponsored by BP and the AIChE Separations Division, represents the highest academic merit in the field. Lee received the award at the Separations Division dinner during the AIChE Annual Meeting on Nov. 17, 2003, in San Francisco, Calif.

AIChE Student Chapter at IIT Hosts Regional Conference

With notes from IIT TechNews, April 13, 2004

In spring 2004, the IIT student chapter of the American Institute of Chemical Engineers (AIChE) took on the challenge of hosting the AIChE North Central Regional Student Conference. Over 140 students from more than 10 Midwest universities came to IIT from April 1-4, 2004 to address current issues



and learn about chemical engineering outside the classroom. A team of about 20 volunteers, under the guidance of conference chair Katie Gwozdz, raised roughly \$9,000 to fund the event. Visiting students toured Corn Products, BP and W.R. Grace, as well as the city of Chicago. Students listened to speakers from the IIT biomedical engineering department, Middough Consulting Corp., Argonne National Laboratory and recent chemical engineering graduates. The event concluded with the third annual Evening with Industry Dinner and Career/Graduate School Fair, which was incorporated into the conference to give students the opportunity to meet company representatives and to hear IIT's Robert F. Anderson, former ChEE advisory committee chairman, deliver an inspiring speech about career planning. The AIChE student chapter at IIT wishes to thank everyone who participated in and helped organize this year's events. For more information visit, www.iit.edu/~aiche.

Annual Ralph Peck Lecture and Advisory Committee Meeting

The 2003 Ralph Peck Memorial Lecture and annual meeting of the ChEE department advisory committee (CEEDAC) were held on Oct. 10, 2003.



Liang-Shih (L.-S.) Fan

The 2003 Peck Lecture was presented by Liang-Shih (L.-S.) Fan, distinguished university professor and former chairman of the department of chemical engineering at The

Ohio State University. Professor Fan's lecture, titled "Toward Clean Fossil Energy Conversion Systems," called for the development of technologies to enable zero emission fossil fuel-powered plants. His presentation described the overall energy outlook of these possible new clean coal technologies.

Earlier in the day the department held the annual meeting of its advisory committee. The CEEDAC members received a 2002/2003 academic year activities update and the ABET (Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology) undergraduate program review. Small group discussions in the afternoon focused on the roadmap to "biologification," reform of the graduate program, bridging the generation gap in the undergraduate classroom and the economics of business and systems in engineering.

Distinguished Alumni Award for Arastoopour

A traditional feature of the Peck Lecture is the announcement of the department's Distinguished Alumni Award winner. The 2003 winner was Hamid Arastoopour (MSGE '75, PhDGE '78), who was appointed Dean of Armour College of Engineering in June 2003. He is also the Max McGraw Professor of Energy, Environment and Economics and the previous chair of the ChEE department.



Hamid Arastoopour (l) accepts the distinguished alumni award from IIT President Lew Collens.

The award honored Arastoopour for more than 30 years of contributions to the department as a student, alumnus, faculty member and department chairman. The award was presented by IIT President Lew Collens who expressed appreciation for all of the years Arastoopour has dedicated to IIT. Professor Dimitri Gidaspow, Arastoopour's PhD advisor, added his reminiscences.

Honoring CEEDAC Leadership

At the 2003 annual CEEDAC meeting, Robert F. Anderson was honored for his 10 years of dedicated service and visionary leadership as chairman of the CEEDAC. He has since joined the Armour College of Engineering advisory board as a representative of CEEDAC. In Anderson's place, Henry T. Kohlbrand, research and development director for engineering sciences and market development for



Robert F. Anderson

The Dow Chemical Company, was appointed the new CEEDAC chairman. Kohlbrand received his BS in chemical engineering from IIT in 1973 and has worked for Dow since 1974. He has served as a director of the Mid-Michigan Section of the American Institute of Chemical Engineers (AIChE) and is a fellow of AIChE. He is also a member of the American Chemical Society. In 1997, he was the Ralph Peck Distinguished Lecturer.



Henry T. Kohlbrand

ChEE Department Advisory Committee Members

AY 2003/2004

- Robert F. Anderson — *Robert F. Anderson and Associates, Inc. and IIT*
- Hamid Arastoopour — *(ex officio), IIT*
- David J. Armstrong — *USFDA, NCFST*
- Bernard S. Baker (b.1936 – d.2004) — *Fuel Cell Energy, Inc.*
- Richard Chylla — *S.C. Johnson Polymer*
- Costas A Coualaloglou — *Exxon Research and Engineering*
- J. Larry Duda — *Pennsylvania State University*
- Jay A. Fisher — *IIT*
- Dimitri Hatzivramidis — *Consultant*
- Henry T. Kohlbrand — *The Dow Chemical Company*
- Henry R. Linden — *IIT*
- Thomas W. Peterson — *The University of Arizona*
- G.V. Reklaitis — *Purdue University*
- John P. Sachs — *Great Lakes Carbon Corporation*
- William Schertz — *Argonne National Laboratory*
- John R. Sheaffer — *Sheaffer International, LLC*
- Jeff Sirola — *Eastman Chemical Company*
- Subhas Sikdar — *NRMRL/USEPA*
- Charles E. Sizer — *National Center for Food Safety and Technology, IIT*
- Robert A. Stokes — *Gas Technology Institute*
- Bipin Vora — *UOP LLC*
- Thomas A. Weil — *BP Amoco Chemical Company*

ChEE and Canadian Consulate General Present Canada-Illinois Energy Partnership Seminar

Though many are not aware of it, Canada is the United States largest supplier of natural gas, electricity and uranium. Illinois is a prime beneficiary of this relationship, with a natural gas pipeline connecting Joliet and the province of Alberta, and more than \$4.5 billion in imports of crude petroleum and natural gas from Canada in 2002.

To inform and educate the public on the nature and economics of energy trade with Canada, the Canadian Consulate General and the ChEE department at IIT presented a daylong seminar, "The Canada-Illinois Energy

Connection," on March 26, 2004, in the McCloska Auditorium in The McCormick Tribune Campus Center.

Anne Charles, Consul General of Canada in Chicago and ChEE department chairman Fouad Teymour kicked off the seminar which featured speakers from academia and energy companies to discuss the history, policies and benefits of the energy partnership. The seminar educated and informed attendees about how Canadian energy affects their lives, their economy and their future. The seminar also addressed Canada's contributions to a safe and secure supply that contributes to U.S. energy security and national security.



Renewable Energy Programs get a Big Boost

With notes from IIT news release, May 24, 2004

IIT's Renewable Energy Program, affiliated with the ChEE department, will play a key role in helping develop the state of Illinois' first hydrogen fueling station powered by renewable resources. The program's personnel will work in partnership with the Illinois Coalition, through a grant from the Illinois Clean Energy Community Foundation. The project, to be powered in part by solar and wind energy, will be housed at

can be successfully harnessed to fuel vehicles and power facilities," said Dr. Said Al-Hallaj, ChEE research associate professor and coordinator of IIT's renewable energy programs.

On June 24, 2004, the university hosted a Hydrogen Highway kickoff conference in partnership with the Illinois Coalition and other organizations. Part of the program included the opportunity to test-drive a hydrogen-powered vehicle, developed by Michigan-based Texaco Ovanics.

IIT researchers will design a system whereby the hydrogen generated by solar panels and wind turbines is optimally distributed to provide stationary heat and power for an airport building and transportation fuel for zero emission airport vehicles.

Rockford's Greater Northwest Chicagoland Regional Airport and represents the foundation's first investment in fuel-cell technology.

"We are thrilled to be on the leading edge of this technology and demonstrate to the world that renewable energies from the sun and wind



2004 Peck Lecture

The 2004 Ralph Peck Memorial Lecture and Distinguished Alumni Award presentation will be held on Friday, Oct. 8, 2004 in the Perlstein Hall auditorium at IIT.

The featured speaker is Professor Gregory Stephanopoulos, Bayer Professor of Chemical Engineering at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. His lecture is titled: "Chemical and Biological Engineering: A New Dimension to a Successful Paradigm."

Department Suffers the Loss of Student

On October 28, 2003, members of the ChEE department and IIT community gathered in the campus chapel to remember Amy Wiese, 18, a ChEE freshman and IIT women's soccer team member from West Bloomfield, Mich., who passed away on October 5, 2003. Campus minister Eric Schwister welcomed those gathered for the memorial, including Amy's parents Dave and Katie. Speakers at the memorial included Doug Geiger, dean of students, Wiese's soccer teammates and Fouad Teymour, her IITP instructor. "I knew your daughter Amy for a fairly short

time," Teymour said to her parents in front of those gathered in the chapel. "Yet, no one who met her could fail to detect her vibrant enthusiasm, her good-natured disposition and the sharp intelligence gleaming from her eyes." Teymour added he deeply regretted that "we will never get to watch her bloom."

Wiese died after falling unconscious at a gathering with several students at the Pi Kappa Phi fraternity house on the IIT main campus. The ChEE department's thoughts and prayers continue to be with Wiese's family and friends.

Distinguished ChEE Alumnus Bernard Baker Dies in Connecticut

With notes from IIT Contact, June 28, 2004

Members of the ChEE department are among those mourning the death of Bernard S. Baker, a chemical engineering alumnus whose research sparked development of large stationary fuel cells for industry. Baker died June 21, 2004 at the Bethel Health Care Center in Bethel, Conn. He was 67.

Baker, who received his PhD in chemical engineering in 1969, was the leading champion of efforts to develop a high-temperature fuel cell to be used as a reliable, economical power source for buildings and the electrical grid. He was the chairman and chief executive of Fuel

Cell Energy of Danbury, Conn., a company he founded in 1970 with other researchers. Today, the company is the major vendor of fuel cells.

Baker was an active supporter of IIT, serving as a Ralph Peck Distinguished Lecturer and member of the ChEE department advisory committee. He was also awarded the IIT Alumni Medal and Professional Achievement Award. He is survived by his wife, Cornelia, four children and three grandchildren.



Alumni Awards

With notes from the IIT Alumni Relations web site, <http://www.iit.edu/alumni/>

The following ChEE alumni were honored on Nov. 1, 2004 for their outstanding contributions by the IIT Alumni Association:

Jonathan P. Atwood (BS' 96) – Outstanding Young Alum Award

As an IIT student, Jonathan P. Atwood received several honors and awards for the leadership and abilities he displayed as a member of the ROTC program. Upon graduation in 1996, he began his service in the United States Army as a mechanized infantry platoon leader and was placed in charge of platoon training. While serving as a captain in the infantry, he completed his MBA in finance at the University of Colorado.

In 2001, Atwood began work for General Electric Company and currently works in the medical systems arm of GE. He has overseen more than 30 projects that have led to a company savings of more than \$30 million.

Atwood is a certified commercial pilot and volunteers as a youth football coach, as well as a member of the GE Global Organization of Volunteers.



President Lew Collens (l) and alumnus Jonathan Atwood

Victor A. Morgenstern (BS' 64) – Award of Merit

After graduating from IIT, Victor A. Morgenstern went on to receive a J.D. from American University School of Law in 1968. He is based in Chicago, Ill. and currently serves as chairman of the board of trustees for The Oakmark Family of Funds and also serves as chairman of Valor Equity Partners, a small-business investment corporation.

Morgenstern has continued his involvement with IIT: he was a member of the Class of 1964 25th Reunion Committee, served on the

Executive Committee, formerly chaired the investment committee and was elected to the Board of Trustees in 1994. He currently sits on the College of Architecture Board of Overseers; Finance, Budget and Audit Committee; and the Board of Overseers of the Pritzker Institute of Biomedical Science and Engineering. He was named to the Top Stewardship List for 2002 and has made significant financial contributions to IIT, including the Victor A. Morgenstern Expendable Athletic Scholarship Fund and the Victor A. Morgenstern Family Visiting Chair in Architecture.

In Memory

The ChEE department mourns the loss of the following alumni:

John F. Humiston ('35), Homewood, Ill.; Leslie Burns, (MS '56), Naperville, Ill.; John Heidler ('63), McHenry, Ill.; Howard P. Melville ('36) Corvallis, Ore.; Manuel A. Kanter, (MS '49) Chicago, Ill.; John Vincent Roach ('47), Riverwoods, Ill.

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What's New

Hatziavramidis Named Director of PTCC

The Particle Technology and Crystallization Center (PTCC) announced the appointment of research professor **Dimitri Hatziavramidis** as its new director at the end of July 2004. Hatziavramidis replaces Provost and Senior Vice President Allan Myerson, who will continue to serve on the center's board.

The PTCC—a collaboration of IIT, MIT, Purdue and several major pharmaceutical companies—performs work in areas such as nucleation, crystallization, particle technology and characterization. These efforts speed the delivery of new pharmaceutical compounds to market, improve manufacturing processes and ensure public health and regulatory compliance.

Hatziavramidis returns to IIT after a 20-plus-year career in private industry, during which he was an engineering and research adviser and manager at ARCO, Mobil and General Electric. He previously worked for the ChEE department in the early 1980s as an

assistant professor. He received a PhD in chemical engineering from the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign. He earned bachelor and masters degrees in chemical engineering from the National Technical University in Athens, Greece, and the University of Manchester, United Kingdom, respectively.

New director for the NCFST

Dr. Martin Cole, the International Association for Food Protection's 2004 International Leadership Award winner, joined the National Center for Food Safety and Technology (NCFST) in June 2004 as its new director. Cole brings 15 years of international experience in food industry and government research and development management.

The ChEE department welcomes Cole as a new member of CEEDAC and is looking forward to working with him on strengthening collaboration between ChEE and the NCFST.



Welcome to New Assistant Professor

Vijay Ramani will join the ChEE department in January 2005 as assistant professor of chemical engineering. Ramani has a PhD in chemical engineering from the University of Connecticut and BE in chemical engineering from the

Annamalai University in Chidambaram, India.

His research interests are geared towards establishing "structure – processing – property – durability" relationships in organic/inorganic hybrid materials. Applications for these materials include sustainable energy technologies such as fuel cells and organic photovoltaics. Ramani is a member of the Electrochemical Society and the American Institute of Chemical Engineers.

New ChEE Staff

Two new staff joined the ChEE department over 2004, while a current staff member assumed new responsibilities.

ChEE alumna **Lolita Thompson** joined the department in January 2004 as coordinator of education, research and computer laboratories. A native of Chicago, Thompson has both her BS and MS in chemical engineering from IIT.

Renée I.A. Mercuri, a Canadian and native of Toronto, Ontario, joins ChEE as department coordinator and communications director. Mercuri has a BS from the University of Waterloo and a journalism degree from the University of King's College in Halifax,

Nova Scotia.

Bennetta Garrison was promoted to budget coordinator and research center support. Garrison has been with ChEE since 1989 and with IIT since 1972.



(l. to r.) Lolita Thompson,
Bennetta Garrison, Renée I.A. Mercuri