

**DR. PABLO DEBENEDETTI • 2008 HUNTER HENRY LECTURER
MARCH 25, 2008**

Dr. Pablo Debenedetti is the Class of 1950 Professor in Engineering and Applied Science at Princeton University's Department of Chemical Engineering, which he chaired between 1996 and 2004.

Pablo Debenedetti's research interests include the glass transition, water and aqueous solutions, nucleation, metastability and protein thermodynamics. The author of one book, *Metastable Liquids*, and more than 160 scientific articles, his work has helped define the current state of basic knowledge on metastable liquids and glasses, in particular supercooled and vitreous water, and has brought this vast field to the mainstream of chemical engineering thermodynamics.

He is a member of the National Academy of Engineering and currently serves on the National Academies' Board on Chemical Sciences and Technology and is Associate Editor of the AIChE Journal.



**From the Director
Dr. Mark White**

It is a pleasure to write to you as the Director of the Dave C. Swalm School and the Earnest W. Deavenport, Jr. Endowed Chair. I have mentioned the names of two alums who along with others, such as Hunter Henry, Jr. and Bobby Shackouls, have helped to make our School well known among chemical engineering departments in the Southeastern USA. The limited space here does not allow me to list the names of all of you who have contributed to our reputation but please know that we are aware of your service and contributions. I hope that you will come to MSU on Homecoming Saturday to help us celebrate ChE's Golden Anniversary + 2 the weekend of October 25, 2008.

MSU Football-CHE Tailgates . . . A Winning Combination!

The 2008 football season will be here before you know it and we are expecting you to come home to MSU and enjoy the fall season with us. The home schedule:

September 6
September 13
October 11
October 25

SE Louisiana
Auburn
Vanderbilt
Middle Tennessee State
(Golden Anniversary +2
Celebration – tailgate information
may change.)
Kentucky
Arkansas

November 1
November 22

The tailgates will begin 2½ hours prior to game time and will shut down 1 hour before the game to allow everyone time to get to the stadium and seated before the opening kickoff. Dr. Elmore and the students will be cooking up something good and there will be plenty of ice cold soft drinks! You'll find the tent immediately to the west of Swalm in the grove of trees. Ya'll come!

Go Dawgs!

ChE News

Mississippi State University • Dave C. Swalm School of Chemical Engineering • Summer 2008

ENGINEERING FOR THE NEXT 50 YEARS
DAVE C. SWALM SCHOOL OF
CHEMICAL ENGINEERING

THE ANNUAL CHE NEWSLETTER IS BACK AND BETTER THAN EVER!
WE HOPE THAT YOU WILL ENJOY THE HIGHLIGHTS OF 2007 - 2008.



*MSU Tradition:
Outstanding Student Chapter*

The MSU chapter was again selected as an Outstanding Student Chapter and was recognized at the 2007 AIChE National Meeting in Salt Lake City, Utah. 25 students and advisor, Dr. Bill Elmore, were on hand for the presentation. MSU has been recognized an Outstanding Student Chapter for the last 7 years.

CHE Faculty Member recognized by ASEE and NSF

Dr. Adrienne Minerick, member of the CHE faculty since 2003 and director of the Medical Micro-Device Engineering Research Lab, was recently honored by the American Society for Engineering Education (ASEE) Southeastern Section with the ASEE-SE New Faculty Research Award. The award recognizes her for creative ability in transferring her innovative research techniques into effective, hands-on classroom experiments. In addition to the ASEE award, Dr. Minerick is also the recipient of a 2007 National Science Foundation (NSF) CAREER Award, an award that provides supports career development in research and education for five years.



CHE Receives EPA RARE Grant

During a recent ceremony on the MSU campus, Mr. Jimmy Palmer (2nd from left), Region 4 Director of the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), presented a grant from the EPA's Regional Applied Research Effort (RARE) Program, to Dr. Sarah A. Rajala, Dean of Engineering, and ChE faculty members, **Dr. Rafael Hernandez, Dr. Todd French and Dr. Mark Bricka**. This grant supports their work that chemically transforms sludge and wastewater collected from a Tuscaloosa, AL, treatment facility into a feedstock for producing biodiesel.

Dave C. Swalm School of Chemical Engineering
Box 9595
Mississippi State, MS 39762

In Memoriam – Dave C. Swalm

November 8, 1932 – April 14, 2008

The faculty of the Dave C. Swalm School of Chemical Engineering and the Bagley College of Engineering regret the passing of a good friend, alumnus, and colleague, Dave C. Swalm. Mr. Swalm was a 1955 graduate of the chemical engineering department who went on to become a highly successful engineer and businessman in the State of Texas. After the successful sale of Texas Olefins and Texas Petrochemicals, Mr. Swalm continued a life dedicated to philanthropy and helping others who were in need.

Mr. Swalm will be remembered by the citizens of Mississippi for his dedication to the University that he loved: Mississippi State University, where he began his professional life as an undergraduate chemical engineering student. He gave to the University freely of his time, his talents, and his treasure for the enrichment of all who he met. Dave will be remembered by the administrators of Mississippi State University for his wise counsel and tireless dedication to the planning for a bright future for the University. Many chemical engineering graduates will remember Dave as the man who helped to pay for their education through the Swalm Scholar's Program. Through his generosity a large number of chemical students were able to complete their education and enter the work force as Mississippi State graduates. The faculty members and staff of chemical engineering will remember him as the person who endowed the only School in the Bagley College of Engineering at that time through a large gift that was used to build the Swalm Chemical Engineering Building. But more importantly, we will remember him as a true friend and fellow Mississippian!

Dave C. Swalm School of Chemical Engineering • • • Dave C. Swalm School of Chemical Engineering

ChE Curriculum Changes Approved

The University Committee on Courses and Curricula approved changes to the Chemical Engineering curriculum that allows students to focus their elective choices toward careers in industry, medical/veterinary school, or graduate school. Three concentration areas will be available to students beginning with the Fall 2008 semester:

- Chemical Engineering Practice (traditional - industry)
- Biomolecular Engineering (medical school/vet school)
- Research and Development (graduate school)

The ChE core remains in place and regardless of the concentration area selected, the curriculum leads to the BS in Chemical Engineering.

Faculty Changes

Faculty changes since our last newsletter in 2005

Dr. Bill Elmore

Associate Professor and Henry Chair
joined faculty in August 2005



Dr. Keisha Walters

Assistant Professor
joined faculty in August 2005



Dr. Mark White

Director and Deavenport Chair
joined faculty in January 2006



Dr. Todd French

Assistant Professor
joined faculty in August 2006

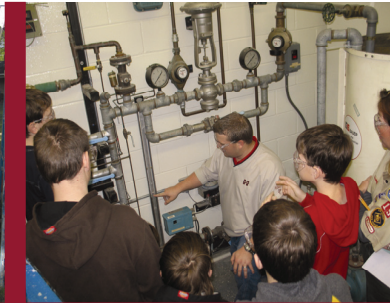


Dr. Cliff George

Professor and Associate Director
retired December 2007



Habitat for Humanity



Merit Badge Day

The MSU AIChE Chapter has developed a strong record of community service and outreach by working with a number of organizations in the area. They have worked on a number of Habitat for Humanity projects as well as hosted a Boy Scouts Merit Badge Day. In addition they raised more than \$700 for St. Jude Children Hospital through cookouts, private and corporate donations.



23 MSU-CHE students attended the AIChE Southern Regional Conference at the University of Auburn in April 2008.

Dave C. Swalm School of Chemical Engineering • • • Dave C. Swalm School of Chemical Engineering

Distinguished Fellows

George A. Newbill, a 1965 alumnus, was named at ceremonies in March as the 2008 Chemical Engineering Distinguished Fellow by the Bagley College of Engineering. Mr. Newbill served as Executive Vice President – Manufacturing Operations of Albemarle Corporation in 2007 and prior to that had served in numerous positions with the company.

During the same reception, ChE hosted **Randy J. Cleveland**, the 2008 Petroleum Engineering Distinguished Fellow. Mr. Cleveland who received his BS in petroleum engineering in 1983 is the U.S. Production Manager for ExxonMobil Corporation. He has served in a number of positions with the company, both here in the U.S. and abroad.

Student Awards

- **Kaela Leonard** – 1st Place in the American Electrophoresis Society Poster Session at the Annual AIChE meeting in Salt Lake City.
- **Erin Smith** – 3rd Place at the AIChE Undergraduate Poster Competition in Salt Lake City.
- **LeKeith Terrell** – Inducted into the Bagley College of Engineering Student Hall of Fame.
- **Tracy Benson** – Outstanding Student Abstract by the 2008 Committee of the Industrial Oil Products of the American Oil Chemists' Society.
- **Sheena Reeves** – 1st Place in Graduate Student Presentations in Chemistry, Chemical Engineering and Pharmacy at AGEM Winter Scholar Symposium.
- **Will Sumerford and Jeremy Jarmon** – 2nd Place at the AIChE Mid-South Section Student Design Competition held at Ole Miss.
- **Tracy Benson and Darrell Sparks** – Tracy Benson received 1st place in the 2008 MSU Chemical Engineering Graduate-Student Paper Award. Darrell Sparks placed 2nd in the annual contest.
- **Aytug Gencoglu** – 2nd Place in the Physical Sciences Poster Competition at the 6th Annual Research Symposium, MSU campus.
- **Sheena Reeves** – 2nd Place in the Physical Sciences Oral Presentation Competition at the 6th Annual Research Symposium, MSU campus.
- **Kaela Leonard** – 3rd Place in the Physical Sciences Oral Presentation Competition at the 6th Annual Research Symposium, MSU campus.
- **Jeremy Johnson** – George R. Lightsey Leadership Award, MSU.
- **Caleb Tash** – Atly and Bette Jefcoat AIChE Outstanding Senior Award, MSU