

AICHE NEWSLETTER

AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF CHEMICAL ENGINEERS

Professor Interview

WRITTEN BY SHEREE CLENDENING

Dr. Wiesner has been a professor in the chemical engineering department since 1996. He graduated with a BS in chemical engineering from Kansas State University. After graduation, he gained industry experience at Exxon and Bayer for a combined total of 10 years. Ultimately, Dr. Wiesner made the decision to return to academia and received his Ph.D. in Chemical engineering from Georgia Institute of Technology. He primarily teaches students at the junior and senior level of chemical engineering, but has experience teaching from freshman level to graduate level courses. Currently, Dr. Wiesner teaches mass transfer, senior design, and process controls. He expects students to work hard in his classes but has open office hours to assist students especially in the senior courses when he is not working on his research.

Carbon dioxide mitigation and clean energy are the focus of Dr. Wiesner's research. Instead of mining fossil fuels and bringing them to the surface to be burnt, Dr. Wiesner is focusing on keeping the carbon dioxide emissions underground and harnessing the energy of the CO2. His goal is to make sure that the carbon never makes it to the surface. Solar thermal energy is hard to harness, so Dr. Wiesner and his graduate student, Bosong Lin, are working on improving the process control of solar panels to optimize the collection of solar energy. He hopes to utilize the energy in endothermic reactions to produce solar fuels such as hydrogen and ammonia. logos, photos, and other brand materials to make sure everything is clean and consistent.

EVENTS

2/19 MARATHON INFO SESSION

2/20 ENGINEERING JOB FAIR

2/25 P2P MENTORING: CHALLENGES IN COLLEGE PANEL

2/28 EQ BOOK CLUB

JOKE OF THE WEEK

Internship Experince

WRITTEN BY ISHPINDER WALIA

Caleb Wright is a senior member of AIChE and will be graduating in the Spring of 2019. He completed an internship with Anadarko Petroleum in Midland, Texas over the summer. Caleb was an upstream facilities engineering intern, which allowed him to deal with raw material extraction and manage his own project. Though initially unfamiliar with his project, Caleb attributes his success to his chemical engineering courses and on the job mentoring.

The major project that Caleb worked on was retrofitting pumps and dealing with control system changes. "Pumps haven't changed much in the last 50 years," says Caleb so he relied on knowledge from Transport Lab as this class was some of the first application of ChemE knowledge that he had seen. He managed this project mainly in the office space. He spent half his week in the fields talking to operators to get their perspective on how the process worked for them, and coordinating with other engineers by running safety meetings and getting approvals for ideas. Caleb's biggest takeaway was that even if a process is making money, that doesn't mean it's working correctly. Make tweaks as you see fit and even though you're an intern, other engineers, managers, and operators will make time to listen to the project you worked on with your own hands.

Applying online, through Job Grid or the company directly washow Caleb landed his interview with Anadarko. He then succeeded in earning an internship by not speaking about everything on his resume, but rather choosing 1 or 2 points on it and telling a mountain of details about them to show evidence of your success. After graduating from in the Spring, Caleb will be starting a career with Anadarko in Denver, Colorado as an Upstream Production Engineer starting July 2019.