

News



The Society of Plastics Engineers

ENGINEERING PROPERTIES
& STRUCTURE DIVISION

August 2014

Chairperson's Report



Greetings Fellow EPSDIV Members!

As I write this note, I am watching the sun as it rises from my patio. The morning dew is slowly disappearing only to be replaced with the scent of a new day, a new beginning. For me, and I hope for many of you, this dawning of a new day will represent our 2014-2015 EPSDIV year. I know that by working together, we will be able to improve the value of our membership and make the upcoming year one of our best.

SPE membership trends indicate that people are looking for more out of their yearly dues. Simply attending ANTEC does not seem to carry enough weight for the next generation of members. In an attempt to reverse the sliding trends, we will be offering academic tutorials regarding a variety of topics relevant to our industry in the coming year. These tutorials will be web based and will only take an hour

Web Based Academic Tutorials Coming

of your time. They are a great way to train new employees in the fundamentals of our industry or for seasoned veterans to brush up on their skills. The sessions will be free for all members and are meant to say thanks for choosing EPSDIV. In addition to this, we will explore means of improving our website, awards, recognition for members and networking skills. Keep an eye open and if you have any ideas, I strongly encourage you to reach out to me so that we can discuss them.

Finally, I would like to thank Brian Landes for serving as our Councilor for nearly six years. He has been an amazing asset and ambassador for EPSDIV. Unfortunately, Brian's term will end in 2015 and we will need to vote in the next Councilor. We have two candidates, whose bios you can read in this newsletter. Please send your vote directly to me by September 26, 2014.

I am looking very forward to serving as your Chairman and I want nothing more than to maximize the value of your membership. Thank you very much! I am also looking forward to getting to know all of you on a more personal basis.

Jason Lyons

Save the Date!
Wednesday,
November 12, 2014

FREE Tutorial on
**Thermally
Conductive Polymer
Compositions**

Details to Follow

ANTEC 2015

MARCH 23-25, 2015
ORANGE COUNTY CONVENTION CENTER
ORLANDO, FLORIDA USA



THE
INTERNATIONAL
PLASTICS
SHOWCASE

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Engineering Properties and Structure Division

BALLOT

Councilor Nominees

(Please Vote for One of the Following Two Candidates)

EMAIL your choice for Councilor by **September 26, 2014**

to Jason Lyons at jason.lyons@arkema.com

Mridula (Babli) Kapur, PhD



Babli Kapur is a Fellow in the Materials Science Group, Packaging and Specialty Plastics, the Dow Chemical Company (TDCC). She has been with Dow for 23 years, gaining global experience based in Tarragona Spain, Terneuzen the Netherlands, and currently Freeport Texas. During her career at Dow she has been involved in the design, development, and collaboration with business teams, commercialization of enhanced performance polymers for applications ranging from food packaging, industrial and consumer films, to rigid packaging and pipe. Babli has led several multi-functional platform project teams to successfully deliver against targeted objectives. The development of a comprehensive quality control tool used in all Dow solution polyethylene manufacturing plants is an example. She has 6 granted US patents, and over 20 external publications and presentations. Babli is a certified Six Sigma green belt project leader. She holds a Ph.D. degree in Chemistry from Texas A&M University.

Babli served on the SPE Blow Molding (BM) Division board of directors until 2012. She received the SPE BM Division ANTEC 2009 best paper award and her presentation was recognized as one of the "Best of ANTEC 2009". In 2013 she was elected to the Engineering Properties and Structure Division (EPSDIV) board. She co-chaired the technical program committee responsible for organizing the EPSDIV technical sessions at the ANTEC 2014 conference. Babli shows a bias for action. She is passionate about problem solving and uncovering novel intersection points leading to new technology-product discoveries.

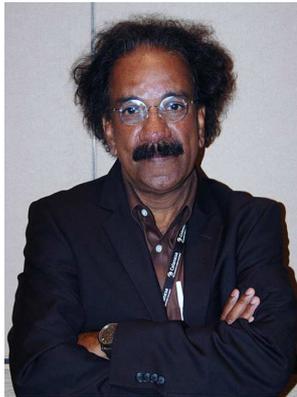
Regarding her candidacy for the Councilor position, Babli intends to build on the value delivered to SPE members by raising the technical content level of the ANTEC conference and by making SPE more relevant to younger researchers and engineers. An additional goal is to increase the exposure and public profile of SPE Fellows and special award winners.

Shriram Bagrodia, PhD



Dr. Shriram Bagrodia has been an active member of SPE and EPSDIV since 1986 and has served the EPSDIV Board as its Chairperson, TPC-Chair, and Treasurer in the past. He also served on the SPE New Technology Forum committee. Shriram has been associated with the plastics industry over the last 28 years and is a strong proponent of the benefits of plastics to mankind. Shriram promises to provide strong linkages to EPSDIV membership and keep them informed of the new developments at SPE. As Councilor he promises to represent EPSDIV's interest at the Councilor's meetings. He looks forward to serving EPSDIV as Councilor. Shriram is currently a Technology Leader at Toray Resin Company.

ANTEC 2014 TPC Report



TPC Co-Chairpersons
Kaan Gunes, Oomann Thomas and Rishi Kumar
(not pictured)

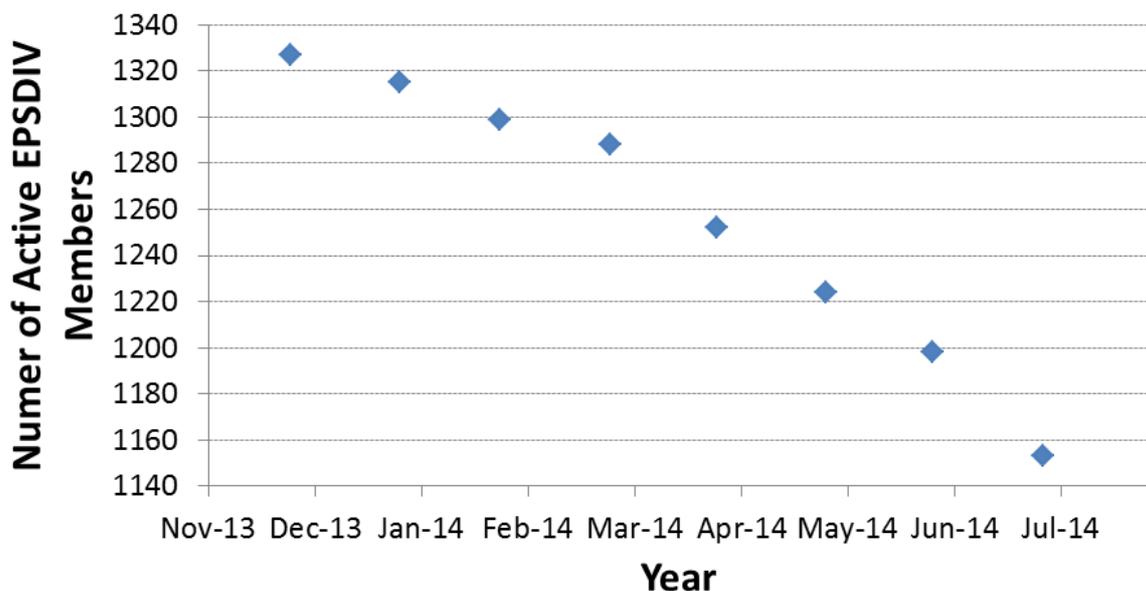
The paper submission deadline for ANTEC 2015 is rigidly set for September 26, 2014. This deadline has been defined and will not be revised. Authors should note that while they must meet the initial paper submission deadline, opportunities for further revisions will exist. The Engineering Properties and Structure Division's call for papers was released on July 21, 2014. Some world renowned speakers will be delivering keynote addresses in the EPSDIV sessions at ANTEC 2015. TPC co-chairs continue to represent EPSDIV at regular SPE TPC meetings. We are looking forward to an exciting program, and welcome your paper submissions.

The best paper presented in the SPE® Engineering and Properties Structure Division will be recognized.



Brian Grady – Membership Chair

Membership is the lifeblood of EPSDIV and SPE as a whole. Recently, data was gathered for the EPSDIV membership over the last 8 months (we were unable to obtain data from before that). Note that the overall SPE membership has dropped by 400 over the same time frame (from ~13,700 to 13,300). Overall, I can say that SPE membership has been in a slow decline since the economic crisis of 2008-2009; roughly 15,000 to 13,000 over that time frame. The division will be e-mail recently lapsed members, but anything that you can do to attract new members to EPSDIV please feel free to e-mail me at bpgrady@ou.edu. I will be keeping track of this number in the future, and will provide you with future updates.



Engineering Properties and Structure Division Call for Papers – ANTEC 2015, March 23-25 Orlando, FL

Topics:

- New Materials: Polymers, Blends and Composites; Smart Materials
- Novel Polymer Processing/Fabrication Techniques and Performance Benefits
- Progress in Nanomaterials: Processing, Properties and Applications
- Polymer Morphology, Structure, and Property Relationships
- Fibers and Nonwovens
- Polymer Characterization and Testing
- Failure Analysis and Prevention
- Technological Progress in Sustainable Materials
- Polymer Stabilization, including Flame Retardants
- Polymer Modeling

Paper Submission Deadline: September 26, 2014—5 p.m. Eastern (*absolute deadline*)

Authors must submit a Paper (saved as .pdf) and Abstract by the Paper Deadline in ANTEC® format. Further information may be found at www.antec.ws.

Papers will be reviewed by the Technical Program Committee and Authors notified of status or required revisions by October 24, 2014.

Two submission formats: Technical; Commercial

Two presentation styles: Podium; Poster

Submit your abstract and manuscript via website: <http://antec2015.abstractcentral.com/>

Questions? Contact us:

Dr. Kaan Gunes

EPSDIV ANTEC® 2015 TPC co-chair

email: kgunes@eastman.com

Tel: +1 423-229-4792

Dr. Rishi Kumar

EPSDIV ANTEC® 2015 TPC co-chair

email: rk19@zips.uakron.edu

Tel: +91 96 43 20 85 20

Dr. Thomas Oomman

EPSDIV ANTEC® 2015 TPC co-chair

email: Oomman.Thomas@kcc.com

Tel: +1 770-587-8562

Barbara Spain

Events Program Manager

email: bspain@4spe.org

Tel: +1 203-740-5418

Dr. Mark A. Spalding

Chairman of TPC

email: maspalding@dow.com

Tel: +1 989-636-9849

Dr. Joseph Golba

Technical Program Chair 2015

email: joseph.golba@polyone.com

Tel: +1 440-930-1782

Financial Report from July 1, 2013 to August 18, 2014



Emmett Crawford, Treasurer

ANTEC 2014 Images



FINANCIAL REPORT FROM JULY 1, 2013 TO AUGUST 18, 2014

BALANCE as of July 1, 2013 **\$ 30659.24**
(cash, checking, savings, investments)

INCOME	ACTUAL
ANTEC RECEPTION FROM OTHER DIVISIONS	4700.00
SPE Rebate	8450.93
ANTEC Sponsorships	6944.90

TOTAL INCOME \$ 20095.83

EXPENSES	
UCONN SPE Student Sponsorship	500.00
Newsletter Production	1584.00
Awards	1570.51
Councilor Travel	1322.23
ANTEC	8079.19
Bank Fees	42.00

TOTAL EXPENSES \$ 13097.93

CASH FLOW \$ 6997.90

ENDING BALANCE as of August 18, 2014 **\$ 37657.14**

Submitted by Emmett Crawford, EPSDIV Treasurer 2014-2015





Brian Landes, Councilor

For my children, next gen might be exciting if it were coupled with a phone or a gaming console. For my peers, next gen might be more interesting if it were describing an automobile or workout facility. My parents may really be drawn to the next gen in health care. The point is... there is a draw, a curiosity and a desire to be a part of the movement to the next generation – or your business or organization is left behind and will probably quickly become “Forgot-Gen.”

In the past year my interest has been piqued within our Society... not because of a next gen process, technology or material, but rather because of next gen plastics professionals and students. I have been purposefully interacting more with this community and they are social, excited, bright, capable and creative. This is the portion of our membership that will craft and become our Next Gen Society.

The Next Generation Advisory Board (NGAB) are students and young professionals who are taking the lead in contacting, engaging, energizing, and positioning next gen members into active, meaningful roles within our society.

NEXT GEN....

The mere mention of the phrase evokes curiosity and intrigue.

They are developing a strategy to drive increased membership and provide for a healthy pool of future scientific leaders through:

- Operations (IT, collaboration, data mining)
- Marketing (social media, communications)
- Finance (fundraising, awards)
- Programs (Technical, Career, Leadership, Social)

What are some examples of the resulting next gen activities?

1. **The Big Event:** An event that provides a platform for significant technical and social interaction combined with entertainment and engagement among students and young professionals (e.g. the Plastics Race at ANTEC 2014).
2. **Celebration Night:** A fun social reception to celebrate success and to recognize achievements and contributions (e.g. NextGen Night at ANTEC 2014, KICK-off Night 2015).
3. **Mission Possible:** A professional workshop that fosters discussions and collaborations leading to out-of-the-box solutions (e.g. Mission Possible 1.0 ANTEC 2014).
4. **YoungPro Source:** Opportunities for companies to meet and recruit young professionals (e.g. Speed Interview, Panel Discussion ANTEC 2014, Career Fair ANTEC 2015).
5. **NGAB University:** Convenient, compressed opportunities to enhance the technical and business knowledge of young professionals (e.g. Plastics 101's, MiniMBA offered year round).

6. **Technology Patrol:** Forum to share and advise the broader society on new and optimal trends for communication (e.g. article of the month published year round for all gens).
7. **NGAB Link:** A network that promotes and encourages communication between student chapters, young professionals, and companies (e.g. Student Activities Committee ANTEC 2015).

Perhaps now you can see why my interest has been piqued. The energy and creativity that is leading this charge is exciting, yet successful implementation of the strategy will require more than excitement and curiosity. We all have a role to play in EPSDIV! What are your passions and your talents? Finance, technical, business, communications, leadership, mentoring. These abilities and expertise are needed and so are you. This is your next gen opportunity too. As your councilor, I issue this appeal, and offer a guaranteed reward. Match your skills and your passions to the needs of NGAB and e-mail me or call me to get involved. As we help NGAB to engage the next generation of students and professionals, and encourage them to make SPE their next gen Society of choice, we become Next Gen too! Now isn't that intriguing?

- Brian Landes

EPSDIV Board of Directors 2014-2015

CHAIR

Jason Lyons
Arkema Inc.
610-878-6604
jason.lyons@arkema.com

CHAIR ELECT

Luyi Sun
University of Connecticut
860-486-6895
luyi.sun@uconn.edu

TREASURER

Emmett Crawford
Eastman Chemical Company
423-229-1621
ecrawford@eastman.com

SECRETARY

Stephen Driscoll
U. Massachusetts/Lowell
978-934-3431
Stephen_Driscoll@uml.edu

PAST CHAIR & EDITOR

John Trent
S.C. Johnson & Son, Inc
262-260-4943
jstrent@scj.com

COUNCILOR

Brian Landes
The Dow Chemical Company
989-638-7059
BGLandes@dow.com

Shriram Bagrodia (Sr. Senate)
Toray Resin Company
(317) 398-7833 (x-167)
shriram_bagrodia@torayresin.com

Sadhan C. Jana (Sr. Senate)
University of Akron
330-972-8293
janas@uakron.edu

Murali Rajagopalan
Acushnet
508-979-3405
murali_rajagopalan@acushnetgolf.com

Richard Bopp
NatureWorks, LLC
952-562-3314
Richard_C_Bopp@natureworkslc.com

Mridula (Babli) Kapur
The Dow Chemical Company
979-238-5684
mkapur@dow.com

Paul Rothweiler
Aspen Research Corporation
651-341-5427
paul.rothweiler@aspenresearch.com

Frank Cangelosi
Unimin Corporation
203-442-2319
fcangelosi@unimin.com

Daniel Liu
MC10, Inc.
979-739-4624
danieljliu@gmail.com

Daniel Schmidt
University of Massachusetts at Lowell
978-934-3451
Daniel_Schmidt@uml.edu

Jeff Gillmor (Sr. Senate)
Eastman Kodak
585-588-7415
jeffrey.gillmor@kodak.com

Pierre Moulinie
Bayer MaterialScience
412-777-2332
Pierre.moulinie@bayer.com

Duane Simonson
US Naval Research Laboratory
703-200-5806
d3podd@gmail.com

Brian Grady (Sr. Senate)
University of Oklahoma
405-325-4369
bpgrady@ou.edu

Rajen Patel
The Dow Chemical Company
979-238-2254
rmpatel@dow.com

Oomman Thomas
Kimberly Clark Corporation
770-587-8562
Oomman.Thomas@kcc.com

Kaan Gunes
TPC Co-chair
Eastman Chemical Company
423-229-4792
kgunes@eastman.com

Hoang Pham (Sr. Senate)
Avery Dennison Corporation
440-534-6386
Hoang.Pham@averydennison.com

(Josh) Shing-Chung Wong
University of Akron
330-612-1149
swong@uakron.edu

Paul Hans
PolyOne Corporation
440-930-3216
Paul.Hans@polyone.com

Sreekumar Pisharath
Energetics Research Institute,
Nanyang Technological University
65-65921808
Sreekumar@ntu.edu.sg

Sharon Wu
The Dow Chemical Company
979-238-2604
XSWu@dow.com