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DETROIT SECTION - SOCIETY OF PLASTICS ENGINEERS - "THE CHARTER CHAPTER"

November 2016

TRENDS & TOPICS



Society of Plastics Engineers
Detroit Section

**2016
OUTSTANDING
MEMBER**



Robert V. Petrach Jr.



President's Message

Wayne M. Hertlein
President

Hello, Detroit Section Members:

I would like to thank everyone who attended the TPO conference, which was held from Sunday, October 2, 2016 – Wednesday, October 5, 2016 at the Detroit Marriott in Troy. This was the 18th year for this event. The Conference was well-attended with 750 registered attendees and 150+ walk-in registrations.

I would like to personally thank Betsy Jackson, from General Motors, who was the Conference Executive Chair, along with Dr. Sasson Tarahomi, David Okonski, and Dr. Norm Kakarala as the TPO Conference Co-Chairs for planning and executing such a wonderful technical conference. I would also like to recognize and thank all of the session co-chairs, committees and staff members that it took to plan this event. Most people do not realize that there are over 50+ people involved with the planning and running of a conference of this size.

I would also like to thank the five keynote speakers and their employers for sharing the latest industry insights from their perspectives, specifically Betsy Jackson (General Motors North America), Rob L. Morgan (Advanced Composites North America), Heinrich Lingnau (A. Schulman), Tom Pilette (Magna Exteriors) and Laurie Harbour (Harbour Results, Inc). I received a lot of positive feedback from the attendees on each of the keynote topics.

This type of conference would not be possible without the support from our sponsors. This year's platinum sponsors were Advanced Composites, Sumitomo Chemical, Trinseo, and Washington Penn Plastics Company, Inc. This

year's conference also yielded 21 gold sponsors, 75 exhibitors, 81 technical papers within 3 concurrent sessions, 3 lunches, and 3 receptions. If you were not able to attend this year, please make sure to add it to your calendar in 2017.

Following the TPO Conference, there was a Technical Dinner at the American Chemistry Council on Monday, October 17. The speakers were Chris Darrow and Alex Showalter, from Darrow Mustafa PC, who focused on Intellectual Property Law.

The next Detroit Section BOD meeting will be held on Monday, November 21, at the American Chemistry Council, 1800 Crooks Road just north of 15 Mile Road in Troy. Everyone is invited to attend and get involved.

Another upcoming event is the SPE Automotive Innovation Awards Competition & Gala will be held on Wednesday, November 9, at the Burton Manor in Livonia. Please purchase your tickets early. Click [here](#) for registration information: **(SPE Innovation Awards Competition & Gala)**

I am also proud to announce that this year SPE Detroit will distribute the 1,000,000th Christmas Toy! The material is being donated by Chevron Phillips Chemical. American Plastic Toys will manufacture the toys for us, and JK Transport will handle our transportation once again. Congratulations to Dawn Cooper and her team for a great job done.

We are looking forward to seeing each of you at our upcoming events.

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2016-2017 are being made
now.



Coming Events

November 9, 2016
*Automotive
Innovation Awards*

November 21, 2016
*SPE Detroit Section
Board Meeting*

February 6, 2017
*SPE Detroit Section
Board Meeting*

February 27, 2017
*Lightweighting for Automotive
Engel Technology Center*



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**Society of Plastics Engineers
Detroit Section**

**2016
OUTSTANDING
MEMBER**



Robert V. Petrach Jr.

Robert V. Petrach Jr., has been a long time member of SPE. In fact his passion for plastics started when he joined SPE as a student member.

Bob is currently serving as the secretary of the SPE Detroit Section and has served in this position for the last 3 years. Prior to his current position, Bob has served as an Executive Board member since 2009 as the First Vice President, President Elect, President and Past President. Bob has also served as the Membership Chair for two years, Advertising Chair, and House Co-Chair for several years.

During his Presidency of the SPE Detroit Section, Bob focused on having more technical events, plant tours as well as expanding joint efforts with other SPE Divisions and other technical societies such as SAE and SME.

Bob has been a long time member of SME and has served two terms as Chair of SME Oakland - Macomb Chapter and was Chair of SME Plastics, Composites and Coatings Technical Community in 2010.

Bob has received the SPE Past President Award on September 17, 2012 and the SME Award of Merit in 2011.

Bob is a graduate of GMI with a Bachelor of Science degree in Mechanical Engineering with a focus in polymer processing. Bob started his career as a co-op student at Fisher Body Elyria Ohio facility and eventually assumed the role of the tool room supervisor with responsibilities for maintenance of progressive dies, line dies, roll mills and benders which manufactured a variety of steel and aluminum automotive components.

A few years later, Bob moved to the position of manufacturing engineer in the injection molding area and eventually assumed the supervisor position in the same area. Bob's versatility is one of his key strengths and has helped him to adapt to new position very quickly. Bob became the Reliability Engineer at the Fisher Guide plant for several years and even joined the ASQC.

In 1988 Bob transferred to the GM Inland Division in Troy and started the next chapter of his career as a product engineer designing and developing interior door trim systems.

Bob's expertise in injection molding process and tooling landed him his next position as an interior trim engineer for the Camaro / Firebird program with the GM / Delphi

in 1991. Bob served on several interior trim programs at GM /Delphi with increasing responsibility as an in-house consultant in plastic processing and even assisting Delphi Supplier Quality in resolving challenging problems.

In 1996 Bob became a member of the Delphi Corporate Injection Molding Center of Expertise and then served as a Sr. Manufacturing Project Engineer in the latch area and ended his career with Delphi as the Product Engineer on Hyundai Veracruz Power Tailgate drive unit upon his retirement from Delphi on 2008.

Bob also served as a member of the Resin Review board of Delphi Thermal and Interior business unit for two years.

In 2010 Bob joined Safety Technology International in Waterford, Michigan and set up the injection molding area. He currently is the Manufacturing Manager responsible for the injection molding operation and all aspects of injection mold tool design and development. As an extended responsibility, Bob oversees the design engineers and runs the Safety Committee and Safety activities which includes compliance and hazardous waste disposal. Bob is a Certified Manufacturing Engineer and a Certified Manufacturing Technician. Bob is also a long time member of SAE and ESD.

Bob currently lives in Troy with his wife of 33 years, Mary Lou, and two very bright mechanical engineer daughters, Emily and Rachel. Emily is employed at Ford Motor Company and Rachel is employed at MGA Research. His oldest daughter Elaine has earned her Ph.D. in Mechanical Engineering and employed at Fiat Chrysler Automobiles (FCA US LLC) as an Engineering Liaison to USCAR and is happily married to Brian Herbon, Calibration Engineer at FCA. They have a son Derek and a daughter Elise. Bob's son Rob Petrach, III has also earned his Ph.D. in Mechanical Engineering and is a Research Engineer at Borg Warner and is happily married to Jess, a senior Transportation Design student at the College for Creative Studies.



Bob is dedicated to his family and proud of their roles improving our world with their diverse talents and hard work.

Bob loves the outdoors, especially time on Lake Huron in his all plastic kayak.

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2016 - 2017 Detroit Section Awards Presented at September's Technical Dinner

Outstanding Member Award – Bob Petrach



The criteria for this award are exceptional contributions to the Detroit Section for a minimum of seven years, significant contributions to the plastics industry, and participation in the greater society (SPE).

Bob Petrach receives his award from President Wayne Hertlein

Star Awards – Irv Poston and Eve Vitale



The criterion for this award is Detroit Section individual achievement over two or more years. There is a maximum of two recipients per year. This award is decided by a vote of the Board. Repeat winners possible after a five year lapse.



Irv Poston (above) and Eve Vitale (at right) as they receive their awards.

Lifetime Achievement Award – Tom Pickett



The criteria for this award are: “SPE members who have had long productive careers and belong to the Detroit SPE Section.” It has also been called the “Unsung Hero” award.

Tom Pickett has provided 30 years of continuous service to the SPE Detroit Section and the SPE Automotive Division.

He has served in several key positions for the SPE Detroit Section – President, President Elect, 1st Vice President, 2nd Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, Technical Committee Chair, and Inter- Society Chair. His service includes work on several Detroit Section Committees – Education, Auto EPCON, TPO Conference, Material Auction and Program Committee. He has also chaired and organized several Topical Conferences.

Tom has served in several key positions for the SPE Automotive Division – Chair, Chair Elect, Secretary, Technical Program Chair for ANTEC, and Innovations Awards Program Member. He served as the SPE Councilor for the Automotive Division. He was awarded Honored Service Member from SPE International for years of dedicated service and contributions to SPE.

Tom has enjoyed 30 years at General Motors in plastic materials & processing, publishing numerous technical papers on plastics. He holds four patents, two trade secrets and three defensive publications. He received an MBA from the University of Detroit Mercy in 1996, an MS in Plastics Engineering from the University of Massachusetts at Lowell in 1986, and a BA in Chemistry from the College of the Holy Cross in 1983.



Left to right: Norm Kakarala, Tom Pickett- Lifetime Achievement Award Winner, Nippani Rao, & Sassan Tarahomi at the TPO Conference.

Lifetime Achievement Award – Sandra McClelland



The criteria for this award are: "SPE members who have had long productive careers and belong to the Detroit SPE Section." It has also been called the "Unsung Hero" award.

Sandra has been the Detroit Section Councilor since March 2012 arranging for the CEO of SPE International, Wim DeVos, to visit the Detroit Section three times and two SPE Presidents, Jon Ratzlaff and Vijay Boulini to visit as well. The Executive Manager, Russ Broome, came the first week he was in the position to visit the board. She has been elected numerous times to chair the International Council Committee of the Whole.

She currently serves on the SPE Foundation board which administers grants, scholarships, and PlastiVan™ and is responsible for the team that is improving and expanding the PlastiVan™.

She is currently the Detroit Section education committee chair. In the last three years this committee has had a substantial increase in student chapters in our section from zero to six. Financial support has also increased for students and student activities substantially. She is the co-chair for AutoEPCON and the Technical Chair for that conference. She worked with Pete Grelle and Adrian Merrington to successfully merge the Mid-Michigan section and the Detroit Section. This helped increase programs in the Mid-Michigan area especially in the area of education.

She is currently employed by Solvay Specialty Polymers which purchased the Chevron Phillips Engineering Polymer business. She is a graduate of Purdue University with a degree in Chemistry and attended Princeton University for graduate studies.

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2016 Reg Bell Memorial Scholarship Winner - Dillon Frost

This scholarship is given to honor Kettering University Professor Reginald Bell, who passed away in 2015 after 52 years of unprecedented commitment to his students and the plastics industry. The Scholarship Committee presents this award on an annual basis to one student who presents exceptional credentials while demonstrating a commitment to excellence in the classroom and outstanding leadership as a student member of the SPE Detroit Section.



**2016-2017 Reg Bell Memorial
Scholarship Winner**

Dillon Frost, Kettering University
Senior, Chemical Engineering
\$5,000

I am enrolled in Kettering University's Chemical Engineering program with an interest in materials science and processing. I cooperatively work at Asahi Kasei Plastics North America in Fowlerville, MI and have completed six terms, equivalent to 1.5 years of work. The manufacturing techniques, potential for possibilities, and engineering involved in the industry is very fluid and open for improvement and refinement which is something I find engaging.

Unfortunately, Kettering no longer has many polymer science/ processing classes so we sort of gain experience with it wherever we can. There is a fully functional Polymer Processing Lab here with a single screw extruder, idle twin screw extruder, thermoformer, two injection molding machines, and now a micro blown film tower as well. The micro blown film tower, arrived just about 4 months ago at the end of my previous academic term, is a very neat piece of equipment that will allow us to shed some light on how different commercial

products are manufactured. In my opinion, the way that most things are manufactured can be equally and is usually more interesting than the products themselves.

My first experience with plastics manufacturing and testing was when I came for a plant tour at Asahi Kasei Plastics in Fowlerville, MI. I was confused and in awe of the large machinery gushing out pellets of plastic and the spaghetti strands running from the end of the extruder barrels into the pelletizers. After this, I began thinking critically about why the types of machinery we had were being used and what were the benefits of them. I think working in the industry itself for 3 years now has given me a very unique perspective as a student which will heavily influence what I do after graduation. I would definitely be keen to working in the industry longer after experiencing what I have because I have the gut feeling that moving through other roles in the company as an engineer, I'll be able to make a big impact on what companies do.

Career Aspirations with Plastics: Since the industry is ripe for innovation, I hope to one day expand capabilities for product manufacturing to one day revolutionize processes of my own to help bring sustainability and novelty to the field. There are many facets to plastics: injection molding, thermoforming, bioplastics, additive manufacturing, polymerization, compounding, testing, and many more which opens up all of the possibilities I've been referring to. With all of the buzz about recycling, sustainability, treating the environment properly, I think that this industry has a long way to go to achieve environmental equilibrium and that's something that interests me very much because I'm a strong advocate for not only human sustainability but also environmental.

2016 Delta Achievement Award Winner - Morgan Arnold

This scholarship is given to honor Delta Polymers and the tremendous amount of support it has given to SPE over the years. The criteria for the scholarship are active SPE involvement and support, professional scholarship application, internship/co-op experience and a commitment to academic excellence.



2016-2017 Delta Polymers Achievement Award Winner

Morgan Arnold, Saginaw Valley State

Junior, Material Science

\$2,500

On May 7th, 2016 I crossed Mid-Michigan Community College's stage receiving not only my very first college degree but the first college degree ever received in my family. Having received my associate's degree in Plastic Engineering Technology I have decided to continue my education at

Saginaw Valley State University. My educational goals at SVSU include receiving my bachelor's degree in Engineering Management Technology, expanding on volunteer opportunities, and upholding my position as president of the student chapter for the Society of Plastic Engineers. After SVSU I plan to join the plastic industry in the areas of becoming a solutions engineer or R&D specialist for plastic materials.

My previous studies have inspired me to look into the field of material science. Along with fulfilling the requirements for my bachelors in Engineering Technology Management from SVSU I will be taking elective courses in material science. I believe that giving back to

your community is a vital part of any learning experience. While enrolled at SVSU I would like to involve myself in as many volunteer opportunities as my schedule allows. I have had the honor of receiving the title as president of the student chapter for the Society of Plastic Engineers for Mid-Michigan Community College. Together as a chapter we have been working on ways to excite local youth about the opportunities in engineering and manufacturing of plastics.

I'm often asked "why plastics" as if metals or wood are more appealing career choices, sure the industry's work together often but my answer to this question is rather simple... I have chosen a career in plastics because it has shaped modern healthcare, the automotive industry, created packaging solutions, and so much more. Growing up in the heart of the world's Thermoforming Capital also known as Beaverton Michigan, plastic provided me with a strong community and interest in developing new innovative ideas. My career aspirations in the plastic industry are in the areas of becoming a solutions engineer or R&D specialist for plastic materials. I am dedicated to help develop sustainable polymeric materials that can exhibit innovative mechanical properties. I understand that I have rather ambitious goals but truly believe that I will make them happen. Currently I'm a college co-op at Dow Chemical Company I have really enjoyed my time here and look to onboarding full-time upon the completion of my Bachelor's degree. Although at that time I will be keeping my options open to joining other companies within the plastics industry.

2016-2017 Detroit SPE Scholarship Recipients



Shane Alexander, Kettering University
Senior, Mechanical Engineering
\$1,000



Kevin Anthony, Michigan Tech University
Sophomore, Mechanical Engineering
\$1,000



Demetri Blackwood, Kettering University
Sophomore
\$1,000



Seth Carncross, Ferris State University
Senior, Polymer Science & Plastics Engineering
\$2,000

Jeffrey Cahn, Oakland University
Freshman, Undecided
\$500
[Photo Unavailable]



Antonia Chin, Kettering University
Freshman, Mechanical Engineering
\$750

Samantha Chouinard, Michigan State University
Junior, Package Engineering
\$1,500



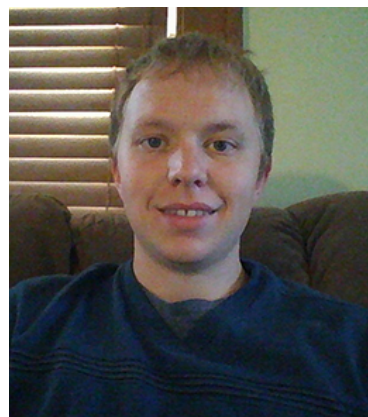
Nicole Francis, University of Michigan
Junior, Chemical Engineering
\$1,500

Samantha Fox, University of Michigan
Sophomore, Material Science
\$1,000





Karl Finkbeiner, University of Michigan
Freshman, Mechanical Engineering
\$750



Paul Kizer, Kettering University
Senior, Mechanical Engineering/Applied Physics
\$2,000



Charles Mancino, Kettering University
Senior, Industrial Engineering
\$2,000



Anthony Mauri, Kettering University
Sophomore, Mechanical Engineering
\$1,000



Maryam Memon, Kettering University
Senior, Chemical Engineering
\$2,000



Kaitlyn Money, Central Michigan University
Junior, Product Design & Engineering
\$1,500



Alexander Payne, Ferris State University
Junior, Polymer Science & Plastics Engineering
\$1,500



Daniel Pisarski, University of Michigan
Freshman, Mechanical Engineering
\$750



Thomas Plegue, University of Michigan
Senior, Chemical Engineering
\$2,000



Calloway Salmon, Kettering University
Sophomore, Mechanical Engineering
\$1,000



Jake Stevens, Kettering University
Senior, Industrial Engineering
\$2,000



Caitlyn Ulinski, Kettering University
Junior, Electrical Engineering
\$1,600

Honored Service Member Award



President Dick Cameron presents an Honored Service Member Award to Bill Windscheif

Bill Windscheif was awarded an Honored Service Member Award by SPE President Dick Cameron at SPE ANTEC® Indianapolis 2016. To be elected an Honored Service Member, a candidate shall have been awarded the President's Cup or have demonstrated long-term, outstanding service to, and support of, the Society and its objectives; shall be sponsored, in writing, by the Board of Directors of at least one Section or Division, or by a Committee of the Society organized for this purpose; and have been a member in good standing for six years. Honored Service Members shall be elected by a two-thirds majority of a committee established for that purpose. The level of Honored Service Members shall at no time exceed one-twentieth of the voting members in good standing of the Society. Congratulations Bill!



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SPE Detroit Secretary and Technical Program Co-Chair

Bob Petrach – Safety Technology International

Dear Fellow Detroit SPE Members,

I hope everyone enjoyed the tour of the labs at Schoolcraft College in September and was pleased with the progress they have made on the Plastics Lab.

By the time you read this, you also should have learned something about patent, trademark, copyright, licensing, contracts involving technology and intellectual property, and litigation from the presentation “Intellectual Property Law Presentation” by Christopher G. Darrow and Dr. Alex Showalter Ph.D.

The next scheduled program is not until February 27, 2017 – “Lightweighting for Automotive.” It will be at the Engel Technical Facility in Livonia.

“Carbon Fiber for Automotive” will be at ACC on May 15, 2017.

Then we will have a tour and presentation at the CMG America Plant in Clio on June 12, 2017. CMG America are experts in granulators, conveying and de-dusting with recycling systems tailored to extrusion, thermoforming, extrusion and blow molding. This tour is a result of contact we made at the Vantage Plastics tour in April.

But as you can see Sassan and I are still trying to fill the calendar. Feedback on past events and suggestions for future events are welcome. (I can't say that enough!)

We can still schedule November, we know December is busy so we'll probably skip that month, but January, March, and April are empty. Given our wide geographic area, Sassan and I are ready to

schedule multiple events in a month to serve as many of our members as we can. Please give us ideas and contacts. Web events are something we also can explore; we are open to your support and ideas.

Watch the ESD calendar as well; there probably will be some events worth taking advantage of there. The September meeting at the 2016 ESD Construction & Design Award winning Wayne State University, Integrative Biosciences Center and presentation by Dan Doyle, CMP National Sales Manager for the Detroit Metro Convention & Visitors Bureau was an excellent event. And SPE was thanked by Dan for the 2019 ANTEC which will be in Detroit.

Also remember EVERYONE is welcome at Board meetings (November 21, 2016, February 6, 2017, April 10, 2017, May 22, 2017, and June 26, 2017) – just RSVP to Karen at karen@spedetroit.com so she can plan the meal.



Auto-TPO 2016 Conference Highlights

Jill Bahm & Sassan Tarahomi

The 18th Annual TPO Conference began Sunday, October 2 with two afternoon workshops. The facilitators, Jim Keller of United Paint & Chemicals Corp. and Susan Kozora of IAC Group, along with approximately 60 attendees participated in engaging conversations about automotive coatings and navigating the OEM approval process.



Workshop award winners and presenters

While the workshops were underway, most of the 82 exhibitors were working hard to construct backdrops, lay out informational materials, and fill their candy bowls.



Braskem booth set-up – Sunday afternoon

The afternoon concluded with an enjoyable reception, sponsored by Trinseo.



Trinseo team



Sunday reception in full swing

The conference was in full swing by Monday morning.





Monday morning kick-off speech by Sassan Tarahomi – IAC

Two interesting keynote speakers shared their thoughts on the future of TPO's. Betsy Jackson, Director, Exterior Trim, General Motors N.A. spoke about GM's focus areas, specifically on technology advances. She noted the increasing use of TPO's and the progress made in terms of material capabilities. She called upon the conference attendees to continue innovating and improving materials and their applications.



Betsy Jackson – Keynote Speaker



Rob Morgan – Keynote Speaker

Rob Morgan, Sr. Vice President, Advanced Composites, N.A. expressed his optimism at the continued positive forecast for automotive growth and the strength of the global automotive market. He described the rise in TPO's over the past twenty years and also looked to the future, citing continued growth and innovation.

Throughout Monday, 30 session speakers shared their thoughts on advances in TPO's. Session topics included: Interior Soft Trim: Skins, Foams & Components; Lightweighting Polyolefin Parts; Surface Enhancements; and Process Enabling Technologies. Lightweighting was a common theme throughout the day, and speakers noted the cost savings, increased efficiency, and reduction of environmental impact associated with lighter parts. Advances in foaming technologies were highlighted as improving the strength and weight of TPO's. In addition, the significance of the global economy was addressed by many of the speakers, as they noted new opportunities as well as challenges. TPO design and processing seek to respond to the climate demands around the world as well as offer color choices that appeal to various age groups and cultures.



Packed Monday morning technical session



Rob Morgan, Sassan Tarahomi, and Scott Aramian at Monday night's reception.

The Tuesday morning keynote addresses both highlighted new opportunities and advancements for TPO's. Heinrich Lingnau, Sr. V.P. / G.M. Europe, Middle East & Africa, A. Schulman talked about automotive trends, including the sensory components of the driving experience. He noted the opportunities for improvements to driver comfort and safety, fuel economy, mechanical longevity and reliability, and sustainability. He challenged the automotive industry to move forward at a faster pace to continue to reduce the density of material. Tom Pilette, Global Vice President Product & Process Development, Magna Exteriors, noted these are "exciting times," and echoed many of Heinrich Lingnau's points about innovation and lightweighting. He, too, challenged attendees to continue to make cars, smarter, cleaner, safer, and lighter.



Sumitomo Chemical - Platinum sponsor

Following Tuesday's keynotes, the conference committee took the opportunity to thank all the conference sponsors, and offered special recognition to two key sponsors that have contributed to the conference's continuing success: Trinseo and PolyOne. Innovation award winners for exterior, interior, and underhood applications were also recognized.

SPE Detroit, the conference host, held a fun and lively reception on Tuesday night. Strolling appetizers and live music brought attendees, speakers, and sponsors together for a chance to unwind after a full day of networking and learning. The band had people on their feet and dancing almost as soon as they started playing.

Wednesday was the final morning of the conference and began with a keynote by Laurie Harbour, President & CEO, Harbour Results Inc. While earlier conference keynotes focused on new opportunities for TPO's, this keynote frankly addressed the challenges in automotive manufacturing in the coming years. Ms. Harbour noted that although sales growth of new automobiles is likely to be less dramatic than in the past few years, there will likely be a higher mix of vehicles made at lower volumes. For supplies, this means more complexity. New launches, including new entries and redesigns, are projected to be considerable, with a peak of 45 new launches predicted for 2018. As many are probably aware, there is a current capacity problem with tooling in North America. Canadian tool shops are completely full and yet shops that were closed over the past years find it difficult to adapt to the rapidly changing parts. Ms. Harbor suggested that it will be crucial for OEM's and suppliers to anticipate how capital investment, training, supply chain management, labor, cash flow, buildings, equipment, and software can be adapted for this changing marketplace. Good leadership is key, as well as effective communication at all levels. She particularly stressed the need for evaluating the age of the labor force within companies and hiring well in advance of the retirement of experienced and skilled people.



Advanced Composites Platinum Sponsor

The remainder of the morning was filled with informative and interesting papers under the categories of Interior Soft Trim: Skins, Foams & Components, Adhesives & Coatings for TPOs; TPOs for Vehicle NVH Control; and Sustainability & Biobased Materials. The conference concluded with box lunches provided by Trinseo.

Overall, the conference attracted over 900 people from around the world, featured 82 exhibitors, and offered papers from 84 speakers. Thanks go out to the conference committee members, our exhibitors, sponsors, and especially our "platinum" sponsors: Advanced Composites, Sumitomo Chemical, Trinseo, and Washington Penn.



Sponsor Advertising Guidelines

We need sponsors for the **Trends & Topics** Newsletter!

To reach our members SPE Detroit Section distributes an electronic Newsletter 6 times a year. All ads are full color and copies of the newsletter are posted on the Detroit Section website. A limited number of copies will only be printed to promote the section at various shows.

Acceptable file formats for advertising include:

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2016 Dow Great Lakes Bay STEM Festival

Todd Hogan, Detroit SPE Education Committee

The Dow Chemical Company

The SPE Detroit Section participated in the 2016 Dow Great Lakes Bay STEM Festival on September 23rd-24th held at Delta College. The event was hosted by the Michigan Technological University Mind Trekkers and Delta College. SPE was one of 46 organizations participating in the STEM Festival that featured over 150 demonstrations. The SPE booth included hands-on science demonstrations related to polymers and plastics that were organized by instructors from the SPE PlastiVan™ program. On September 23rd, middle school students from across the Great Lakes Bay region were bussed to Delta College to take part in the STEM Festival and over 3,665 students participated with the total number of attendees estimated at 4,103 including teachers and chaperones. On September 24th the event was open to the public where an estimated additional 3,000 people attended.



A special thanks to the SPE PlastiVan™ Instructors: Elizabeth Egan and Robin Thomas, who organized and provided all the supplies for the hands-on demonstrations. The SPE booth would not have been possible without the support of the following SPE members and student chapter volunteers:

Mid-Michigan Community College: Steven Fosgard (Faculty Advisor), Jennifer Servis, Kristopher Dickinson, Morgan Arnold, and Dan Richmond

Kettering University: Dylan Hett, Michael Murray and Zachary Coblentz

Ferris State University: Chris Begick and Aaron Dise

The Dow Chemical Company: Sam Crabtree and Todd Hogan

Many thanks to all who helped make this day a success!





Students and teachers were surveyed after Mind Trekkers to assess the event's impact.

100% of teachers felt the format of this event promoted learning and student engagement

100% of teachers this event offered activities and resources to them and their class that normally wouldn't be able to be provided.

75% of students are **more interested** in attending college

60% of students are **more interested** in science

58% of students are **more interested** in technology

47% of students are **more interested** in engineering

70% of students think about what scientists and engineers do in a different way

100% of attending schools have access to an engineering kit containing all the supplies needed to complete several Mind Trekkers demonstrations back in their classrooms.



SPE Student Chapter Mid-Michigan Community College

Jennifer Servis, 2016 Secretary, President-Elect for 2017

The MMCC student SPE chapter is currently working on several things. We are working on a wall that will be displayed at the Beaverton Activity Center in the Catalyst room that displays what we are doing as a class. We have also volunteered at several different events. We recently had a few students volunteer at the Great Lakes Bay STEM Festival that took place at Delta College, and we attended the Central Michigan Manufacturing Association (CMMA) Block Party, where we got to tour a few factories and learn about upcoming events and current issues. We are planning more activities throughout the year. We have meetings regarding our chapter every month to go over

ideas of what we can do. Our chapter went from having 11 student members to 24 in a year. A big congrats to two of our very own chapter members Morgan Arnold and Katie Money who received Scholarships from Detroit SPE this year.

President- Morgan Arnold

Vice- President- Dean Schunk

Secretary- Jennifer Servis

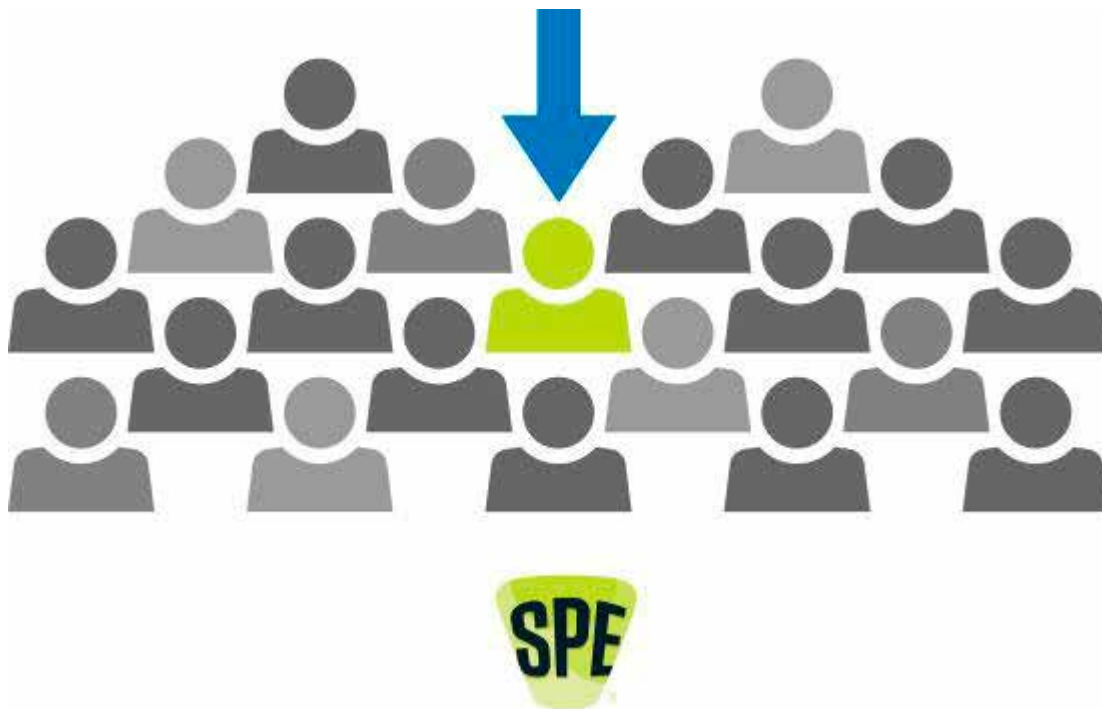
Treasurer- Katie Money

Student Liaison- Kevin Finkbeiner

Other founding members- Isaac Ireland, Jeff Baker, Mallory Johnson, Roger Warmack, Sean Robison, Daniel Richmond, and Kris Dickinson.



Mid Michigan Community College SPE Student Chapter with Detroit SPE Guests



Contract Outreach Educator for the PlastiVan™ Program Society of Plastics Engineers

Reports To: Outreach Director
FLSA Classification: Contractor
Location: Midwest Region, United States

General Summary: Duties include travel throughout the Midwest portion of USA (primarily Eastern Michigan) educating students in grades 5-12, teachers, and general public about the chemistry, history, processing, environmental issues and social impact of plastic. Contract Outreach Educators must enjoy teaching all levels of students in an informal and enthusiastic manner.

Essential Functions:

- Prepare materials for class demonstrations
- Teach up to six classes per day, using provided curriculum
- Market and book the program for the next school year
- Schedule **PlastiVan™** visits
- All communication to/with the scheduled schools
- Drive to various locations within assigned region
- Maintain a positive public image for the plastics industry and the SPE
- Occasional trade shows
- Market to regional or divisional Society of Plastics Engineers (SPE) & Society of the Plastics Industry (SPI) meetings
- Some media and public relations
- Track daily expenses
- Other duties as assigned
- Have fun!

Job Standards:

- Adhere to all SPE policies and procedures
- Provide excellent service to members and staff
- Telephone, written and face-to-face member communications are a central part of SPE's day-to-day business. Contract educator will be expected to treat member communications as a top priority.

Relationships:

- Internal: Outreach Director/Coordinator, SPE Foundation Director, SPE Staff
- External: Members, prospects, vendors, other trade/industrial groups and the public

Job Qualifications:

- Education: College degree
- Experience: 2 years of teaching or training experience preferred. Knowledge of the plastics industry or general science preferred.
- Job Requirements: Valid driver's license with a clean driving record
- Special Knowledge, Skills and Abilities: Excellent verbal and written communication skills; ability to handle multiple projects; ability to travel extensively, possibly a full week at a time; ability to work some evenings and weekends. Customer service and team player skills essential.

Contact:

Eve Vitale

SPE Foundation Director

+1 810.814.6412 | evitale@4spe.org

www.4spe.org/plastivan



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The Society of Plastics Engineers (SPE) presents the 21st annual “Wonders of Plastics” essay contest. Open to all middle/junior high and high school students, the essay must meet the requirements outlined below. **Deadline is February, 28, 2017!**

Essay Contest Application: [Detroit SPE Essay Contest 2016-2017](#)

Topics to Consider:

Advantages of Plastics in Food Packaging
Creative Use of Recycled Plastics
How Plastics Benefit Humankind
Myths about the Bad Reputation of Plastics

Plastics in the Environment
Plastics Usefulness in Society
What Plastics Have Done for Me
How Plastics Improve our Lifestyle

Cash Awards for 1st – 5th Place from both North and South Sections:

1st Place: \$500 and publication in the SPE Detroit Section Newsletter for both sections
2nd Place: \$300
3rd Place: \$200
4th Place: \$100
5th Place: \$ 50

Submit Essays Electronically (MS Word or pdf files preferred) by 2/28/17 to:

SPE Detroit Section North

Todd Hogan – Contest Chair
The Dow Chemical Company
(989) 636-5303
tahogan@dow.com

SPE Detroit Section South

Tom Miller – Contest Chair
BASF Performance Materials
(586) 291-5289
Thomas.Miller@basf.com

Requirements for Submission:

Between 500 – 1,000 words; typewritten in English on 8 ½ x 11 paper, title to appear as heading on each page; no name on any page except the entry form that must accompany each essay; 1-inch margins minimum on all sides.

The organization structure of the essay should be “logical,” including the following considerations: Introduction, Development, Thesis and Conclusion.



e-Communications

Irv Poston – General Motors (retired)

Be a Friend of Detroit SPEaker

About a year ago we revealed that Detroit SPEaker, who is our Social Media coordinator, is none other than Adrian Merrington, past President of our Section. He posts the activities and meetings of the Detroit Section and announces the availability of newsletters when they are posted on the web.

Get Notified

Detroit SPEaker encourages all of you to join and follow the Detroit Section on Social Media. Configure your accounts to send email and smartphone notification when new postings are made. Bookmark the sites as favorites and put the apps on your phone.

Like and Comment

Be sure to “like” the postings and make comments since this extra action on your part will keep the postings popular and active.

Post New News

Feel free to start new discussions and to “Tweet” your feelings. You are the key to making Detroit SPEaker’s efforts meaningful and worthwhile.



[LinkedIn](#) gives a preview of the webpage where a click will take you. There are photos and names of members of the LinkedIn Group

<http://www.linkedin.com/groups/Society-Plastics-Engineers-Detroit-Section-4404194>



[Twitter](#) provides a link for you to click to find the information on the web. It also has photos of some of our activities.

<http://www.twitter.com/DetroitSPEaker>



[Facebook](#) lets you click on a link for complete details that are on the web. Add Detroit SPEaker to your own account.

<https://www.facebook.com/detroit.speaker>

Questions, Comments, Suggestions?

If you have any questions, comments, or suggestions about e-communications, please contact Irv Poston, 248-646-9574, ieposton@juno.com



Detroit Section
SOCIETY OF PLASTICS ENGINEERS, INC.
 1800 Crooks Road
 Troy, MI 48084



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