

## Jason Keith

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**From:** Sherre Denson  
**Sent:** Monday, November 26, 2012 3:08 PM  
**To:** Sherre Denson (sherre@che.msstate.edu)  
**Subject:** October / November 2012 newsletter

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Dave C. Swalm School of Chemical Engineering E-Newsletter  
October / November 2012

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### Director's Report:

A year ago, we went through ABET Accreditation. One main theme from this process is continuous improvement. One way of measuring our program and then making adjustments to the curriculum is to obtain information from our graduates about how they are achieving the department's program educational objectives (PEO's). These 4 PEO's are:

- 1) Successfully enter the chemical engineering profession as design, process and research engineers (and related designations) with prominent companies in the chemical process industries, petroleum and petro-chemical , environmental, government agencies, consulting or other related industries.
- 2) Demonstrate an ability to address unstructured problems specific to chemical engineering technical specialties by identifying and implementing solutions using the proper tools, practical approaches and flexible thinking.
- 3) Pursue and earn post-baccalaureate degrees in chemical engineering and related fields, business and professional programs including medicine and law.
- 4) Demonstrate proficiency in chemical engineering practice and leadership development by advancing in their chosen fields to technical leadership, supervisory and management positions.

Please take a moment to respond to our email with this information.

- 1) First and Last Name
- 2) Date of Graduation
- 3) Current Employer
- 4) Email address
- 5) Specific comments on how you are achieving the department PEO's

Stay informed about news in the Swalm School of Chemical Engineering at our website at <http://www.che.msstate.edu>, the facebook page at <http://www.facebook.com/msuswalmche>, and the director's Twitter updates at [http://twitter.com/msu\\_swalm\\_dirac](http://twitter.com/msu_swalm_dirac).

If you have any comments or questions, or would like us to publish any of your accomplishments, feel free to call me at 662-325-2480 or send an email to [keith@che.msstate.edu](mailto:keith@che.msstate.edu). Your updates and feedback are very important to us and also help us evaluate the success of our program.

Go Bulldogs!

Jason Keith  
Professor and Director  
Earnest W. Deavenport, Jr. Chair

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Student and Alumni News Items:

- Congratulations to the student chapter of AIChE for winning the Outstanding Student Chapter Award for the 12th year in a row! This is a tremendous accomplishment and we are grateful for the support from the Henry Family as well as the leadership of chapter advisor Dr. Bill Elmore.
- CHE graduate student Erick Vasquez applied to be the Study Mississippi International Student of the year award and his application was selected and nominated by MSU for the statewide competition.

School News Items:

- The Hunter W. Henry, Jr. Family has established 4 endowments for sustained support of CHE initiatives:
  - o The Atly and Bette Jefcoat AIChE Student Leadership Awards Fund to support students in recognition of their excellence in service and leadership (\$37,500).
  - o The AIChE Support Fund Honoring Dr. Jefcoat and Dr. Elmore to support the AIChE student chapter (\$150,000).
  - o The Henry Lecture Series Fund to support an external industrial speaker to talk about their career path and inspire CHE students (\$100,000).
  - o The Hunter W. Henry, Jr. Memorial Teaching Fellowship to provide teaching support for the chemical engineering program and for educational based scholarship (\$500,000).
- We are proud to receive a gift of \$9,000 from ExxonMobil - to be used to maintain the high quality of our teaching programs.
- Citgo has donated \$5,000 for CHE student scholarships.
- Twenty-four students from the chemistry class of Mr. Howard Ryals from Louisville participated in a day-long outreach event to learn about alternative energy. The event was hosted by Dr. Rafael Hernandez, Dr. Todd French, and Mr. Bill Holmes.
- Dr. Rafael Hernandez has received \$40,000 from the Mississippi Development Authority for a project on KiOR biofuels development. The project is titled "Use of Kenaf to Remove Organics from Waters Generated During Bio-oil Production."
- Dr. Todd French has been selected to chair the 2012-2013 Energy Working Group at Mississippi State University. This group is composed of researchers from several colleges at the university, including several members from chemical engineering.
- Dr. Bill Elmore coordinated a student recruiting event at Holmes Community College.
- Dr. Rafael Hernandez has been selected to serve on the search committee for the Dean of the Graduate School and Associate Vice President.
- Dr. Jason Keith worked with a MSU student-run business, Nimbus Mobile, owned by Read Sprabery and John Gazzini, to develop a free app for the iPhone and iPad, called "Heat Transfer for Students." The app focuses on visualization of one-dimensional unsteady-state heat conduction.

Regards,

Jason

Jason M. Keith

Professor and Director  
Earnest W. Deavenport, Jr. Chair

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