We would like to thank all of our speakers this semester and their companies:

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<th>Company Name</th>
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<td>Stifel-Nicolaus &amp; Company</td>
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<td>Brewer Science</td>
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<td>Cargill</td>
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Table of Contents:

- Semester in Review………..2
- AIChE Fall Outing A Splash……………………….3
- Who Will Have the Last Laugh?……………………….3
- A Day in the Life………..…...4
- Interviewing Tips and Choosing a Company………..6
- Its All in the Money………..7

Success at Nationals
By Jake Barrows

The AIChE national conference this year was held in Austin Texas and was co-hosted by University of Texas, Austin and Texas A&M University AIChE student chapters. It was a very large conference again this year, with more than a 1000 chemical engineering undergraduate students in attendance.

There were many workshops and conferences to attend that made a huge impact on most of us. The student chapter workshops included topics such as industry sponsored events, co-op programs, symposia, chapter Web sites, and more. Other useful informational sessions included Job Search Strategies, Tips for after Graduation Success, Becoming a PE, Careers in Patent Law, and Graduate/Professional School.

The UMR representation at the conference was impressive this year and our achievements were noticed by all. We had seven undergraduates, one graduate student, and eight professors attend. PhD candidate Kevin Martin presented his research on fuel-cell technology. Senior undergraduate Jake Armstrong received a first-place ribbon for participating in the Undergraduate Student Poster Competition. His poster represented his undergraduate research on “Depletion of Ozone in the Polar Stratosphere.” Most importantly, our UMR chapter received the “Outstanding Student Chapter Award” this past year. We were one of only 14 schools in the country to earn this award. The award is presented every year to student chapters who show excellence in student participation, enthusiasm, program quality, professionalism, and involvement in the university and community. For this, I congratulate the entire chapter for their hard work and participation. Our goals for next year involve an even higher level of participation including entry in the National Student Paper competition and the National “Chem-E-Car” competition.

If you have any suggestions on speakers or if you know a company that would like to come and talk at a meeting please email any information to aiche@umr.edu. Or you contact the WS05 president Ernesto Rodriguez at emmr5@umr.edu or the retiring WS04 president Jake Barrows at jbarrows@umr.edu. Please contact them ASAP if you would like to speak at a meeting.
AIChE STUDENT NEWS

Semester in Review
By Trina Dickmann

AIChE has had a busy and exciting fall semester! However, if you were so unfortunate that you were unable to attend some of our events, here is a recap of what you missed:

The first meeting of the semester was on September 1st and AIChE welcomed Jeff Brummet from Stifel, Nicolas & Co. He spoke about how to plan for a comfortable retirement by investing wisely to earn millions of dollars.

On September 11th, several AIChE members traveled to the Current River for the fall outing. Good times were had by all who attended, especially the cliff jumpers, rope swingers, and canoe tippers!

The September 15th meeting was well attended by freshmen interested in Chemical Engineering. Our very own Dr. Ludlow spoke about the versatility of a career in chemical engineering and bragged a bit about our department. Hopefully he persuaded some students to choose Chem E....

The next meeting was on September 29th and AIChE was joined by Allen Kaiser and Brady Moore from Coffeyville Resources Refining and Marketing. They gave a presentation titled “My life as an Engineer” and spoke to interested students about Coffeyville’s summer intern program.

October 9-10 was a special weekend for AIChE. Brian Donley (Tyco Healthcare), Jason McHaney (Arkema), and David Hayden (Tyco Healthcare) sacrificed their weekend to travel to Rolla and teach a hazardous materials emergency response awareness course. Several students from the Chemical Engineering, Environmental Engineering, and Chemistry departments participated.

On the October 13th meeting Brian Groff from Cargill spoke about the corn milling process at their Blair, Nebraska plant. We were all excited when he gave away free food and prizes!

October 18th was the 2nd annual barbecue in the Chancellor’s backyard. All freshmen interested in Chemical Engineering were invited to eat lunch and socialize with other Chem E students and faculty.

On October 27th Ryan Buschjost, Kevin Schwalje, and Katie Walton from Brewer Science joined us at our meeting to speak about the production their coatings, wafers, and specialty chemicals... all made right here in Rolla MO!

AIChE members performed community service on November 2nd by cleaning up our Adopt-A-Highway section of I-44.

(next page)
We held elections at our November 10th meeting. Congratulations to all the officers for the 2005 Winter Semester! President: Ernesto Rodriguez, Vice President: Lauren Sisel, Treasurer: Josh Meyer, Secretary: William Ruzicka, EAC: Valerie Doss, Reporter: Trina Dickmann, Soda Boy: Kris Schmoll, Historian: Jake Barrows.

The last meeting of the semester was held on December 1st. We concluded the semester with a fundraiser. The officers willingly auctioned themselves off to the highest bidder in return for an hours worth of personal labor.

We hope everyone had a great semester! Happy Holidays!

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**AIChE Fall Outing A Splash**  
By Kris Schmoll

This semester AICHE decided to try something new for our fall outing. Instead of the traditional picnic we held a float trip with picnic included. Bringing a grand total of about $80 in food we felt we were well prepared. We had a good turnout with 14 members going down the current river on our 9 mile float in mid-September. Because of the dues increase this semester we were able to offer students to get reduced prices on the already low priced canoe rentals. Overall the trip went well and we were able to see some great scenery. A few of the highlights included my own “short” jaunt down a side stream that took me about one mile downriver. We traveled along further and enjoyed the crystal clear streams and found a cave which we were able to float all seven canoes into and we discovered a small beaver’s nest. A little bit further downstream we found a rope swing and a rock cliff wear we were able to test our courage and leap into the semi-frigid spring water below. A few of us decided to jump but none could outdo Matt Lenzner’s stunning back flip. After this was finished we continued on the rest of the trip and completed our journey in a little less than five hours and were pleased to head home and get some well-deserved sleep.

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**WHO WILL HAVE THE LAST LAUGH?**  
By Jake Armstrong

Over the semester, I have had the pleasure of making many of you laugh, cry, and even feel offended through my various reports. My greatest aspiring hope as an officer was that by raising the bar and pushing the envelope of appropriateness, future Soda Personnel presentations will continue to shock you in a similar manner. The one thing I did learn is although you can’t necessarily please everyone, you can shock them with your candidness over the course of a semester.

A 25 year-old Pennsylvania man named William was a professional contractor doing some home remodeling for his boss in January of 2001. He slipped while using a miter saw, and sliced off his hand at the wrist. In a panic, he proceeded to shoot himself in the head a dozen times with a nail gun to end his misery. Later that day, the boss stopped by to find William whimpering in a corner of the basement, nails protruding from his scalp. William was taken to St. Luke’s hospital, where they removed the 1.5” nails and reattached his severed hand. The moral of the story: just when you think you’ve got it nailed, your boss will come along and change everything.

Source: [http://www.darwinawards.com](http://www.darwinawards.com)
While lying peacefully on his UMR bed, staccato buzzing of the alarm clock triggers Joe Miner’s subconscious routine: SLAM! After ensuring the clock has survived another violent retaliation, Joe hauls his carcass to the bathroom and tries to remember what he didn’t finish last night...Oh yeah, heat transfer problem set 5. And then there’s thermodynamics test directly after. There’s so much to keep track of! It’s alright, Joe thinks to himself, I still have an hour before classes start for today. The semester is only half over and he is already eyeing Christmas break,...

Joe wrapped up the final heat transfer problem pretty quickly before going down to breakfast. Like any UMR ChemE student, Joe is proficient in mathematics and knows how to solve problems. Nussel number? No problem. After a bowl of Sugary Sweet Sugar Puffs and a slice of night-old pizza, our Miner heads up to Schrenk Hall on what is shaping up to be a fine midwestern fall day. He strolls into Strunk Study Lounge with about 10 minutes to spare before the first class and sees a group of friends. Johnny and Suzy Miner are cramming for the Thermo I test, as expected. In fact, practically everyone in there was. There were a few scattered chemistry and biology majors, but all in all fugacity was the word most found tumbling through the air.

“Which example problem did he say number 3 is going to be like?” Johnny spouted out.

“Like number 7.6 in the notes,” Suzy shot back, “but it won’t do you any good. We’ve only got like 5 minutes before class and there’s no way you can learn departure functions in five minutes.”

“Oh, I’ll study during heat transfer or something,” Johnny replied, knowing full well that this desperation effort wouldn’t help that much if at all. Johnny knew his paper would undoubtedly have some red ink coating it upon its return.

Joe sat and crammed Thermo I with his friends for the next 4 minutes or so, then meandered to room 140 and tossed his recently completed homework on the front desk. It went by quicker than expected. Dr. Miner is good lecturer, but more so than captivating speech, Joe realized that the impending Thermo test pushed the minute hand a little faster than normal.

“Alright, let’s get this thing over with,” Joe mumbled softly while putting away the tools of his trade, save his calculator and an equations sheet. He didn’t have to leave his seat since both heat transfer and Thermo I were held in the same room, the department’s “smart” classroom. Joe really likes the interactive board that teachers use to scribble on the overheads with, pointing out key points and equations. Just too bad the magic white board wouldn’t be on for the next hour or so.

The test destined to bear his name was passed down the row, and he now opens it with hesitant anticipation,...Did we get one like homework question 7.18b? Awww expletive, he gave it to us. Where’s that Matlab icon again?

After going about 7 minutes over the officially allotted time, Joe reluctantly turned in his test. It went less than perfect, but better than expected. He went through an entire eraser on the “nasty” problem, but trial-and-error Matlab iterations eventually spit out something that resembled a reasonable answer. Partial credit will again serve as his close friend,...Now on to lunch!

The bustle of the University Center cafeteria was a welcome sight for Joe’s print-fatigued eyes. He tracked down Suzy and Johnny with minimal effort, being that they sit in the same corner of the café everyday. They had both finished the test early, but for different reasons: Suzy was finished with 10 minutes to spare and rechecked her work; Johnny gave up with about 3 minutes to go. (next page)
Joe sat across from his two friends and slowly started to forget about the troubles of the past hour. They discussed some plastic-cup politics to get things going, but quickly turned to some more serious matters.,

“What do you mean you’ve never seen Goonies! That’s un-American!” popped Johnny.

Joe, newly revitalized from the change of pace, replied nonchalantly, “It’s just a movie Johnny Boy. I pride myself on not being a product of the pop-80’s social machine.”

“I’ve seen it, and I honestly don’t know what all the fuss is about. It’s a pretty average movie,” Suzy said.

“I can’t believe you uncultured peons!” cried Johnny. This invigorated exchange went on over pasta and cola for about an hour or so. Joe loved these talks with his friends. Nothing special about them. In fact it was precisely their commonplace-ness that attracted him. Finally, Joe got up to leave the battlefield.

“See you both later tonight, I’ve got class now until 3:00 or so,” Joe said while stretching his back. “Time to go to work.”

“Talk to later Joe,” the remaining pair replied in unison as Joe Miner made the hike back over to Schrenk Hall. Joe had two more classes that afternoon: organic chemistry and reactor design. These went by quickly, especially on account of a few structural failures in Joe’s eyelids. Eh, he got most of the notes, he reassured himself. In reality, Joe is a great overall student. Of course he gets a little stressed (like on days like these), but he embraces the daily ChemE grind as his ticket to success and puts forth an honest effort.

And his life is not without respite, which is the case at the moment as he heads over to the UMR recreational facility to lift some weights, take a run around the track. As Joe bends over to take a well-appreciated sip from the water fountain, he starts to wonder, “So by what type of system was this water cooled?,,This is definitely turbulent flow,,squiggly bar,,,”

“Oh stop it!” Joe thinks to himself. “I need to leave ChemE in the classroom.” But by and by, he realizes that he is honestly starting to like that kind of stuff. A long jump from the freshman that stepped into Chem1 but a few years prior.

Joe cleans up and heads home for an hour or two. A makeshift meal of instant mashed potatoes and some rice should give him enough get-up-and-go for an evening of studying, Joe ponders. He can always bum some food off Suzy: he and Johnny will both be heading over to her apartment tonight to work on some homework problems.

The evening goes reasonably well, witness to the completion of 1 whole problem set and half of another. The pizza man stops by and drops off a pepperoni present, revitalizing the trio and sparking more intelligent conversation:

“Next time we’re getting pineapple on our pizza, whether you two like it or not,” stated Suzy with resolution.

“Oh is that so,” replied Johnny with blatant sarcasm.

“Here we go again,” Joe mumbles to himself.

The day saw a large amount of work accomplished and Joe draws satisfaction from this. (next page)
How different, he wonders, will it be when he goes out into the “real world”? The 8 hour work days,, those sound unappetizing,,,but there is no homework,,,but you don’t get the summer off,,,but you get paid,,,

Joe’s crowded head subconsciously directs him towards the door after he haphazardly collects his papers. While Johnny and Suzy still bicker about the social indecency of fruit on pizza, Joe finds his way to the entry hall.

“How you both tomorrow. Thanks for everything,” Joe tries to slip into their crossfire.

“Thanks Joe. See you tomorrow at 8:00?” questions Suzy.

“Yes, tomorrow at 8:00. Dark and early.”

Joe drives back to his apartment at a reasonable speed, only to crash into his bed at a million miles an hour. He has a full day tomorrow.

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**Interviewing Tips and Choosing a Company**

By Scott Clodfelter

The first tip I can give anyone is to try to give yourself an easy schedule your last semester. Having only twelve hours this semester and having Wednesdays and Fridays off was a big help when trying to schedule interviews and plant trips (It also gave me some time for my golf game.).

The second tip is to not limit yourself. When the Career Fair comes around, look up every company that is hiring your major. Don’t limit yourself to a specific company or even a specific industry. It is always nice to have options if your top choices don’t work out. Talk to as many of those companies as possible, and get your face out there because if you get an interview with them later, they will most likely remember you.

My third tip is to be honest with them. It’s always important to sell yourself as well as possible. However, you should never beat around the bush when it comes to what you want in your career. This should especially be true when on second interviews and plant trips. On second interviews, it will typically be other engineers interviewing you. It is always good to ask them what their experiences have been throughout their career. Face it; most people love to talk about themselves. It is also important to ask them what an entry level engineer would be doing for that company. If you don’t like what you hear, make sure you make a mental note.

My fourth tip is to not turn anyone down for a second interview. It is always good for your personal experience. Sometimes companies will surprise you. You may go on a plant tour and realize that you didn’t have as good an idea about that company as you thought you had. Give everybody at least a chance to sell themselves to you. Besides, it’s normally a free trip to someplace you’ve probably never been before.

My last tip is to stay in constant touch with each company you interview with until you hear back from them. If you sit around and wait until you have a deadline, they will most likely do the same thing with you.

From then on it’s up to you. Everyone has something different that they look for when comparing offers. The only advice that I have is that you should lay out your priorities before you even receive any offers. Then the decision is yours. Good Luck!!!
It’s All in the Money
By Lauren G. Sisel

This semester has been a financially remarkable one for the students here at the UMR chapter of AIChE. Despite loosing considerable amounts of funding from the department and waning support from industry, the chapter has succeeded in ending the semester with approximately over 250% more money than we had begun with in August.

Although it was passed to change bylaws to raise dues to $10.00 per semester, the chapter has been successful in raising considerable amounts of money as well as being able to participate in additional social and organizational events. Our main fundraiser this semester was a leaf-raking project that started in early November.

We sent out fliers and emails to advertise to professors and other campus faculty for students to come and rake the leaves on their property for a donation of their choice. The response was overwhelming! We had professors from almost every department asking for our services. The demand was so great that we could not – by far – meet the requests of all who contacted us with an interest. This could definitely become an annual tradition for AIChE.

Our fall outing this semester was also a huge success despite limited funds. Several of the officers and many of the students went on a day long float trip early in the fall. It was a first for the chapter – despite the usual BBQ or picnic. This was all made possible by coordination of the awesome officers we had this semester and a generous personal donation from our Vice President.

Lastly, our officers along with two other student members were able to travel to Austin, TX in early November for the AIChE national conference. We were able to stay in a great hotel – not too far from the convention center, and had the luxury of a 12 person van. Nationals is always a great experience for the chapter, and it is a special treat each time that we are able to afford to attend without great cost to the student.

Overall, we have had an excellent semester here; and hopefully from all of our great efforts we can continue a legacy in AIChE and further strive for Outstanding Chapter Award. Please do remember, we graciously thank the support that we receive from our alumni – without whom none of this would be possible. So if you ever catch yourself day-dreaming back about the days here in Rolla, and wonder how you can send some love back; just remember that monetary gifts to our chapter are much needed and greatly appreciated!

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