

EUROPEAN FEDERATION OF CHEMICAL ENGINEERING

News and Events

EFCE EXCELLENCE AWARD 2006 IN RECOGNITION OF OUTSTANDING PhD-THESIS ON CAPE

Dr Marta Dueñas Díez, who completed her PhD-Thesis on 'Population balance modelling and passivity-based control of particulate processes, applied to the Silgrain process' from the Norwegian University of Science and Technology (Telemark University College) under the supervision of Professor Bernt Lie, is the winner of the EFCE Excellence Award 2006 in Recognition of Outstanding PhD-Thesis on CAPE. Dr Dueñas Díez is currently employed at the Hydro Oil and Research Centre, Porsgrun, Norway.

Dr Dueñas Díez's PhD is directed at an industrial process for the production of silicon from ferrosilicon based on hydrometallurgical leaching. Her research work included the development of a new population balance model, its computer implementation including discretization, and extension of an advanced control strategy suitable for a high order, complex model with few measurements. All this was supported by extensive experimental work on batch leaching, both at laboratory scale and on the real process at Elkem. The research led to several innovations in process modelling and control. Through this multifaceted approach, Dr Dueñas Díez demonstrated outstanding command of several disciplines of computer aided process engineering. The coverage of the thesis, including experimental work and mathematical modelling, model analysis and advanced control techniques, and operational implementation on Elkem's Silgrain process, was quite exceptional, which was also testified by the publications resulting from it.

The winner received a certificate, a cash award of Euro 4000, travel expenses to receive the award and deliver a short presentation of her work. The PhD-theses of Dr Pinky Dua (Imperial College of Science, Technology & Medicine, UK) and Dr Loic d'Anterrosches (Technical University of Denmark), were judged as joint runner's-up. The next award in this series will be given in 2008 during ESCAPE-18 in Lyon, France.

CAPE-WP RECENT INNOVATIVE ACHIEVEMENTS AWARD 2006

Dr Bertrand Braunschweig (IFP, France) & Dr Michel Pons (CO-LaN, France) are the winners of the CAPE-WP Recent Innovative Achievements Award 2006 in recognition of their pioneering work related to the definition and maintenance of open interface standards for chemical engineering software. Dr Braunschweig coordinated the two EU-funded CAPE-OPEN projects, was the chief

architect in taking the project further and establishing the CAPE-OPEN interface standards for plug & play of chemical engineering software and the first president of CO-LaN for the first three years. Dr Michel Pons has been responsible for keeping the ideas of CAPE-OPEN standards alive through the CAPE-OPEN Laboratories Network (CO-LaN) and is currently its chief technology officer. Because of their work, interfacing different software is now a reality.

CAPE-WP WORKSHOP AND BUSINESS MEETING—9 JULY 2006

As part of the CAPE-WP activities, a CAPE-WP Workshop on the 'Status of CAPE methods and tools' was organized with two speakers from the CAPE community. Dr Konrad Triebeneck (Bayer) talked on 'Needs and challenges in the world of CAPE-tools – an industrial view' and Professor Costas Pantelides (PSE Enterprise and Imperial College) talked on 'Needs and challenges in the world of CAPE-tools – academic-vendor views'. The workshop was followed by the CAPE-WP business meeting for 2006, where more than 30 delegates from the EFCE member societies participated. It was decided at this business meeting to accept the proposal from Poland to host ESCAPE-19 in Cracow, Poland, in 2009.

ESCAPE-17, BUCHAREST, ROMANIA, 27–30 MAY 2007

ESCAPE-17 will take place in Bucharest from 27–30 May 2007. The call for papers is now open. For more details on the scientific program and registration, please visit the ESCAPE-17 website (<http://www.escape17.upb.ro>).

6th EUROPEAN CONGRESS OF CHEMICAL ENGINEERING (ECCE-6), 16–21 SEPTEMBER 2007, COPENHAGEN, DENMARK (CALL FOR PAPERS)

The abstract submission is now open for the 6th European Congress of Chemical Engineering, to be held in Copenhagen, 16–21 September 2007. The deadline for abstract submission is 30 November 2006. The organizers are looking for submissions in all areas of chemical engineering and from participants from all parts of the world. More details on the main themes, topics, special symposiums and special keynote sessions can be found on the conference website (<http://www.ecce6.kt.dtu.dk/>). Instructions on how to submit abstracts and register are also given on the website.