



CONNECTION

Greater Kansas City Chapter #92

May 2009

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1 - MAY MEETING

Help IIE Make a Difference! IIE will have a workday at Union Cemetery on Saturday, May 16th at 9:30 a.m. We will work from 9:30-11:30 am, followed by lunch. Feel free to bring along any family members or friends. This is a great way to meet fellow IIE members, get some exercise, and help a worthwhile cause—all for just a few hours of your time!

The Union Hill Historical Society is still prioritizing their wish list, but whether it be cleaning tombstones, helping with digital photography needs, database support, or re-organization of one of their storage vaults, they are looking forward to our help.

IIE began work with the Union Cemetery Historical Society in 1999, when we received a \$5,000 grant from the KC150 Project. The cemetery was started in 1857 and got its name because it was established to be a “union” between the cities of Westport and Kansas City. It is the burial site for approximately 55,000 former Kansas City residents.

- When: Saturday, May 16th ; 9:30am
- Where: Union Cemetery located just south of Crown Center at approximately 28th and Grand.
- Cost: None
- RSVP: Please RSVP by Wednesday, May 13th to Beth Kelley at (913) 599-2384 or bethkelley@hotmail.com. Directions will be e-mailed after all RSVP’s are received.

2 – SUMMER MEETING PREVIEW



VS



Please join us for some fun and laughs at an IIE Baseball Game
The Kansas City T-Bones take on The Winnipeg Goldeyes

Current members and their families, along with prospective members, are invited to attend!

- When: Game time is 7:05 pm on Wednesday, July 29th
- Where: Community America Ballpark; Legends at Village West (Kansas City, KS)
- Cost: Tickets are \$8.50 each (bleacher select) ; Children under 2 years get free admission
- RSVP: RSVP by Friday, June 26th to Liz Fine at lfine2@hallmark.com

3 – PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE

Greeting members of the Greater Kansas City Chapter of IIE! In last month’s newsletter, I’ve welcomed the beginning of the Spring Season and the fact that I was running into some snow everywhere that I went. As I sit here and type this letter today, I had to turn up the heat in my home as I think that we have temperatures in the low 50s outside once again (it sure does feel like it anyway)... We decided to switch up gears a little bit this past month and we conducted a couple of events that were aimed to acquaint each of us a little better, as well as, celebrate the election of our own Jay Christensen, as he got appointed as the Region Vice President of the South Central region. Thank you, Anita Ranhotra and Doug Gill for spearheading those events.

We also just closed out another successful month for our Chapter as we received the Gold Chapter Award recognition based on our CAR results from 2008 activities. Thank you and congratulations to all officers and our past-president Liz Fine for all of her leadership and servitude.

On a personal note, April has been a fantastic month for my family and I. We just welcomed a new addition to our family, my beautiful son Jarrison, and I just received an Outstanding Young Engineering Alumni Award from the University of Arkansas. The award ceremony was very special and informative. There were four others engineers who got such award as well, two civil and two computer science engineers. The interesting piece was when peoples’ bios and key projects were read to the crowd. The civil engineers worked on highways and developing housing complexes. The computer science engineers worked on new computer systems and more complex and fast data systems. Myself as an IE worked on making things more efficient. Words such as revenue optimization, continuous improvement, reduction of cost and waste were used throughout my bio presentation. Just as IIE says, Engineers make things, IEs make things better!

This month’s efforts goes back to our servitude objective to increase our exposure and impact in the community by participating in further community service related activities. We are planning a clean up at the Union Cemetery. This activity started back years ago as our chapter partnered up with the Historical Society in an effort to preserve and maintain the cemetery grounds and its historical marquee status.

Did you know that the Union Cemetery historic graveyard is the city's oldest cemetery and the final resting place for many Civil War soldiers? Several of Kansas City's founding fathers are buried in there as well (you'll recognize their names from driving the city's streets.)

Please don’t forget to let us hear your feedback about the Career Development session of the Newsletter and feel free to share any meaningful tips and tools that we can share with our members and let us know about job leads as well.

Until the next time, have a great, allergy free, and warm Spring???

Sincerely,
Jairo deJesus
President



4 - MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

Region: South Central Chapter: 92 Membership: 95

Welcoming new member: Gene Russell

Welcoming returning member: Xinwei Shen



Gene Russell came to Kansas City from Baltimore in 1995 after completing his Masters work in Environmental Engineering at Johns Hopkins University. He also holds a Masters degree in Business Administration from Johns Hopkins and an undergraduate degree in Industrial Engineering from Kansas State.

Gene was with Aquila, a multistate electric and gas utility, from 1995 until July 2008. While at Aquila, he was Director of Environmental Services. In this role, he oversaw all of the company's environmental issues. Gene's primary work was to establish an "Environmental Management System" built on the ISO 14000 guidelines. This involved not only policy, standards, and work procedures but also oversight of many environmental projects such as pollution controls for power plants and remediation of historical contamination.

Before working at Aquila, Gene worked in manufacturing where his focus on waste management got him into the environmental field. He worked for Noxell best known for Cover Girl cosmetics and then Procter and Gamble in Baltimore, MD after they purchased Noxell. Prior to work in Baltimore, he worked for Frito Lay in Lubbock, TX.

Currently, Gene is in between jobs. While he is concentrating on re-employment in Kansas City, he also has co-founded a nonprofit organization, called "Environmental Education Resource Foundation". The intent of this foundation is to provide a systematic business approach to environmental issue management. Training as a green belt in Six Sigma at Aquila re-aligned Gene to traditional Industrial Engineering approaches to projects and project management since he thinks six sigma builds on IE concepts.

Gene's father is a civil engineering professor emeritus at Kansas State. He didn't work on his masters degree or PhD until after Gene was born, so the campuses of Iowa State and Purdue were sometimes weekend playground with his siblings. Gene is one of 10 kids, and his father didn't get anyone into Civil Engineering although three of them ended up with Industrial Engineering degrees. The story of the Gilbreths time motion work with their 12 children was very easy to understand and apply to the Russell household.

Gene was active in the Baltimore IIE Chapter for several years when he first started working there. He think the professional organization is a great resource when you are new to an area or looking for others to collaborate on ideas and projects that come up. It also helps to see what others are doing in work outside your job assignments.

5 – NEWS FROM HEADQUARTERS

Chapter Recognition Awards



Congratulations to the KCIIE Senior Chapter for being one of one of five chapters to be awarded the GOLD award, the highest level of recognition based on the 2008 Chapter Activity Report!

6 – CAREER DEVELOPMENT

*Are you looking for a position or looking to post a job opening?
Did you know about the resources available to you through IIE?*



Here are just a few:

For Employers/Recruiters – post a job opening or review resumes <http://www.iienet2.org/Details.aspx?id=914>

For Job Seekers – view jobs or post an anonymous resume <http://www.iienet2.org/Details.aspx?id=913>

Students/Recent Graduates – participate in IIE’s mentoring program <http://www.iienet2.org/Details.aspx?id=806>

Professionals – serve as a mentor in IIE’s mentoring program <http://www.iienet2.org/Details.aspx?id=806>

7 – CHAPTER UPDATE

CAR stands for the IIE Chapter Activity Report. IIE uses it to track the progress and trends of all chapters. Each month, we will take a look into what the CAR program means to our local chapter.

Last month, we reviewed the points awarded in the Chapter Strategic Plans & Operations section of the CAR. We were pleased to report that the KC Chapter was awarded the full 15 points possible and has put measures in place to continue our strong performance in this area. This month, we take a look at the Chapter Program section of the CAR by reviewing the points awarded for 2008 and discussing the impact that you as a member have on this important section.

Local chapters are measured based on the number, quality and attendance of their programs. A chapter can only count a program if it is accompanied by a survey to collect attendee feedback. The surveys are then used to measure the quality of the program. And finally, attendance points are awarded based on a ratio that measures the percent improvement over the previous year in both member and non-member attendance. You will find the breakdown of points as awarded for the 2008 calendar year below.

Number of Programs – Points 6/6; *The KC Chapter held 10 events in 2008*

Quality of Programs – Points 4/5; *Survey results indicated an average response of four on a point scale.*

Attendance for Programs – Points 5/9

Member – Points 5/5; *Experienced ~60% increase in member attendance from 2007*

Non-Member – Points 0/4; *Experienced ~35% decrease in non-member attendance from 2007*

As a result, the KC Chapter was awarded a total of 15 out of 20 points possible for the Chapter Programs section of the CAR for 2008. This provides an opportunity for improvement for 2009!

You can see from how the points are awarded that you as a member have a strong influence on the performance in this section of the CAR. There are several ways that you can help to improve the performance for 2009. Below are a few that we ask that you consider.

- Attend monthly meetings scheduled by the KCIIE chapter. Next month is a great time to start!
- Invite colleagues who are members or non-members.
- Provide ideas for events that you would be interested in attending or think would spark interests.
- Provide feedback to surveys for the events that you have attended. Honest feedback is important for us to improve long-term performance.

Next month, we will provide a mid-year review of the programs hosted thus far for 2009 and outline the programs scheduled for the remainder of the year. Stay tuned!

Sincerely,

Kyle Grabill

President – Elect

7 – CHAPTER NEWS CONT.

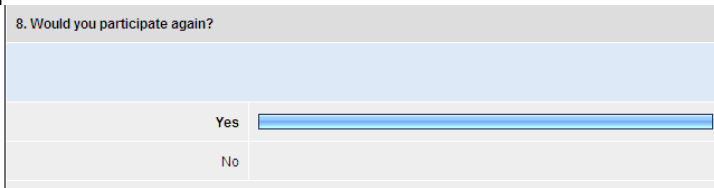
April Events Recap

Thank you to those who attended our April Lunch and Learn and Social/Networking event!



The Lunch and Learn at Pierponts provided an opportunity for some of our members to interact and discuss various projects that they work on at their companies. We were also joined by some students from KState and we thank them for making the trip to Kansas City!

Below is a brief summary of the survey responses from the meeting:



At the Social/Networking event, we welcomed some new and prospective members and congratulated Jay Christensen on being elected as our Regional Vice President (RVP) for our South Central region.



April Social/Networking event

8 – STUDENT CHAPTER SPOTLIGHT

Kansas State University

On April 2nd, the chapter elected its new officers for the 2009-2010 school year:

<u>President</u>	<u>Vice President</u>
Stacey Ahern	Kathryn Davis

<u>Secretary</u>	<u>Treasurer</u>
Keira Masters	Carrie Beyer

<u>Historian</u>	<u>Open House</u>
Sam Marin	Katy Wittich Ed Zuiss

<u>Chapter Development</u>	<u>Intramurals</u>
Ashley Dohrmann	Aaron Kuhlmann
Robbie Richards	Brian Krueger

On April 30th, the chapter also held their annual awards banquet. At this event, the chapter's IIE Hardcharger awards were presented. The KCIIE chapter funds these awards and they are given out based on points earned by IIE student chapter members, as they participate in events.

Alpha award (\$350) – Stacey Ahern
Beta award (\$250) – Sam Marin
Gamma award (\$150) – Mark Neier

University of Missouri

The MU chapter also recently elected new officers:

<u>President</u>	<u>Vice President</u>
Zach Freeman	Daniel Sewell

<u>Secretary</u>	<u>Treasurer</u>
Nichole Smith	Richard White

Conference Planning Head
Lori Hofsess

Are you looking for a way to get more involved in your local IIE chapter? Do you want to give back to the community and to the profession? If you answered "YES" to either question, we have an opportunity for you! The KCIIE chapter has initiated committees for various projects and is currently looking for volunteers to help with Community Service and the Fall Conference.

If you are interested in serving on a committee, please contact:

Beth Kelley (bkelle1@hallmark.com) for Community Service

Kyle Grabill (kyle.grabill@garmin.com) for the Fall Conference!

Congratulations!

The KCIIE chapter is happy to announce the recipients of a \$25 VISA check card for attending the recent IIE meetings!

Feb. FritoLay tour – Doug Gill

April Lunch & Learn – Sam Marin

9 – OFFICER LISTING

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KSU Student Chapter Liaison(s)

Kyle Grabill and

Anita Ranhotra

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