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Chemical Engineering: Past, Present and Future

Dr. K. Nandakumar
Professor of Chemical Engineering
University of Alberta

ABSTRACT

I will trace the historical evolution of chemical engineering as a profession from its early industrial chemistry stages, through the chemical engineering science stage and the present evolution to the next stage that involves adding a new dimension of biochemical processes to the discipline. The strength of chemical engineering lies in its ability to reinvent itself and the profound influence of leading educators and innovators in that process will be discussed. We will end by speculating the typical tasks that a future chemical engineer might be engaged in!

BIOGRAPHIC NOTE

Dr. K. Nandakumar is currently a Professor in the Department of Chemical and Materials Engineering at the University of Alberta, Edmonton, Canada. He is a member of APEGGA. Dr. Nandakumar received his B. Tech from Madras University in 1973, M. Sc from University of Saskatchewan in 1975 and his PhD from Princeton University in 1979.

He has received the *Alexander von Humboldt research fellowship* from the German government in 1989-90 and the *Albright & Wilson Americas Award* from the Canadian Society of Chemical Engineering in 1991 for distinguished contributions to chemical engineering before reaching the age of 40.

Dr. Nandakumar was elected as Fellow of the Chemical Institute of Canada in 1991. He has received, from the University of Alberta, the *McCalla Professorship* (1992), the *Killam Annual professorship* (2001) for excellence in research and the *Rutherford Award* (2001) for excellence in teaching. He has also received the *Excellence in Education award* (2002) from APEGGA. Recently, he has received the *Sartorius India's Chemcon Distinguished Speaker Award* in 2003 from the Indian Institute of Chemical Engineers and the Prof .B. D. Tilak's distinguished visitor award from UICT, Mumbai. Currently he is the Editor of The Canadian Journal of Chemical Engineering.

Monday, May 29, 2006, 6:00PM - 7.30PM

VENUE

Riverbend Library

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