



Director's Corner

In my last Director's Corner, I introduced you to the, "Workshop on Process Safety Research Agenda for

the 21st Century," convened by the Center in October 2011. Hot off the presses - we have just released what we are convinced is a roadmap, "Process Safety Research Agenda for the 21st Century." This is the product of the two-day workshop in October 2011 and a lot of follow-up hard

work during the next six months. I extend my heartfelt gratitude to all the international experts who traveled from all over the world to participate in this unique effort. I sincerely believe these individuals represent the best-of-the-best in the field of process safety research. This publication is the product of a unique gathering and deliberations of some of the top authorities in the world who are studying various aspects of process safety. It provides a roadmap that outlines the process safety research and needs that will be critical in the coming years and the 21st century.

I invite all of you to read this extraordinary document. The Center has published an electronic copy of the book in its entirety at:

http://psc.tamu.edu/wp-content/uploads/Process_Safety_Research_Agenda.swf

We have also produced an introduction video as part of the press release announcing the release of the book located at:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NdC-cGHJ8sk&list=UUTag-jXqBaGTKEsU8MAIcOA&index=1&feature=plcp>.

For those of you who would like to get a hard copy, please contact the Center and we will be happy to oblige as long as the printed copies last.

Also being released at the time this newsletter goes to press is the, "2012-2013 Research Highlights." This document highlights the research of the Center's talented, dedicated, and ambitious graduate students. Areas of research included are: dust explosions, LNG vapor dispersion modeling, predictive model for stress-corrosion cracking, aerosol cloud explosion and droplet dispersion, offshore facility siting and layout optimization and many others. As you can see from this list of research, our students are applying sound science to the real-world issues that are so important to the process industries and help address many of the issues raised in the, "Process Safety Research Agenda for the 21st Century."

In this vein of looking at process safety from a global perspective, the Center and the Dwight Look College of Engineering met recently to discuss the Center's work. Shortly after our discussions began, it was evident that the Center is doing research that touches on many areas of engineering and not solely in the area of chemical engineering. Therefore, the Dean approved the Mary Kay O'Connor Process Safety Center to be classified within the University System as a Tier 1 Center. A Tier 1 Center maintains interdisciplinary activities in several thematic areas, generally operating across multiple divisions. We are very pleased and appreciate the recognition for the research of the Center and the importance of this work across disciplines and to industry.

M. Sam Mannan

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