

Know Before You Go: Important information for conference participants

Polymer Reaction Engineering XI

December 5, 2022

To: Participants – Polymer Reaction Engineering XI
From: Barbara Hickernell, CAE, ECI Executive Director

On behalf of Engineering Conferences International, the conference chair, Tim McKenna (Université de Lyon, France) and the conference co-chairs, we are looking forward to your participation in this conference. **Bill Sachs** will represent the ECI Conferences Committee and I (**Barbara Hickernell**) will be the ECI on-site staff. This note conveys several items that need to be brought to your attention.

HOTEL

[The Scottsdale Plaza Resort \(7200 N Scottsdale Road, Paradise Valley, AZ 852253; Phone: 1-480-948-5000\)](#)

COVID-19

Our community thrives by engaging with each other face-to-face (or now mask-to-mask) but we wish to be safe in doing so. Thus, as safety is our first priority, we require proof of Covid-19 vaccination prior to registration for participants and guests and strongly suggest getting the available boosters.

In addition, we strongly suggest:

- All conference participants and guests self-test prior to the conference to assure as safe a conference environment as possible.*
- All participants and guests wear KN95 masks at conference functions (except when eating or drinking or making a presentation) to protect the most vulnerable among us and have included in each conference packet one KN95 mask. Additional ones are available. The meeting and poster rooms will be spaced out as much as possible to allow for social distancing. In addition, we have asked the hotel to provide optional outdoor seating for meals. If you are part of the most vulnerable population, please see the ECI staff so that we can arrange special accommodation.*
- That you bring some Covid home tests with you. Should you test positive or feel unwell at any time during the conference, please contact me (+1-914-484-7349) so that I can assist you and notify the hotel.*

We cannot make guarantees but we can assure you that ECI will follow the health and safety guidance of health authorities, consult best practices in the meetings community, and try to provide as “normal” a conference as possible during these circumstances.

If you test positive once you arrive home, please contact us so that we may inform fellow participants.

AIRPORT TRANSFER AND DRIVING INFORMATION

Transportation from [Phoenix Sky Harbor Airport](#) to the hotel

The estimated cost of riding an Uber / Lyft / Taxi to the resort is approximately \$20-\$25 one way (20-30 minutes depending on traffic). Pick up locations for ride shares and taxis for the various terminals are listed on the airport web site (link above, go to “[Parking and Transportation](#)”).

We suggest that you check with the car rental agency to learn the best route as traffic conditions vary on your time of arrival.

CONFERENCE CHECK-IN AND OPENING CONCERT/RECEPTION/DINNER

Conference check-in (and hanging of posters) will be from 16:30 – 18:00 on Sunday, December 11. That will be followed by a welcome reception and dinner.

Reminder: Please wear your conference badge throughout the conference as this identifies you to other conference participants, hotel staff, and will also admit you to meals.

SPEAKERS

Our standard equipment is a computer projector and a PC laptop for PowerPoint presentations. Please bring your presentation on a USB key/flash drive. Our audio-visual graduate student is **Kusuma Kulajanpeng** who will assist speakers in loading their presentations on the conference laptop.

Be sure that you have provided your session chair with a *brief* biography for introductions.

It is essential to the conference schedule that you keep to your given time, allowing enough time for questions/discussion. Keeping in the tradition of these conferences, please be available during the conference for discussion and questions. Meals and social hours are perfect times for discussion and questions.

INTERNET ACCESS

Complimentary high-speed wireless Internet access (via password) is in guest rooms, meeting rooms and public areas of the hotel.

WEATHER

You can expect sunshine each day and high temperatures to be in the low to-mid 60s F (17°C) and lows to be around 40°F (4.5°C). Check www.weather.com for the latest forecast. It cools down quickly when the sun goes down and thus bring appropriate clothing.

PHOENIX ELEVATION

Phoenix lies at a mean elevation of 1,086 feet (331 meters), in the northern reaches of the Sonoran Desert. It's topography is generally flat.

EARLY ARRIVALS

ECI does not make pre/post conference reservations - that is the responsibility of the participant. Please contact [Kathy Chan](#) for instructions.

PHOENIX TOURISM

Check the visitphoenix.com for tourism information.

MISCELLANEOUS:

- If you have any special dietary needs (e.g., vegetarian, allergies, etc.) that you didn't communicate to us on your registration form, please be sure to inform Kathy Chan immediately so that she can update the information that has been sent to the hotel (Kathy@engconfintl.org)
- ECI conferences are informal and we discourage suits and ties. Casual dress is preferred.
- An electronic conference evaluation/questionnaire will be sent out Thursday. Please complete and return it as your comments will be very useful to ECI and the chairs of future conferences. Please use this form to suggest topics for other conferences which may benefit from the ECI format.
- Smoking is not allowed at any conference functions.
- We ask you to turn off (or turn to vibrate) your cell phone during technical sessions.
- Audio taping, videotaping and photography of presentations are prohibited.

I wish you all an intellectually stimulating, productive and enjoyable conference!