



March 2011

**Department of
Chemical Engineering**

1280 Main Street West
Hamilton, Ontario,
Canada L8S 4L7

Phone 905.525.9140
Ext. 24957/24292
Fax 905.521.1350
<http://www.chemeng.mcmaster.ca>
Email chemeng@mcmaster.ca

Dear Alumni

Please join us for a reception book launch on the history of Chemical Engineering at a very special event on Saturday, April 30, 2011 from 2:00 to 5:00 p.m. at the CIBC Hall, McMaster University Student Centre.

Authored by Cameron Crowe, Malcolm Baird, Archie Hamielec, Terrence Hoffman, Les Shemilt and Don Woods, "Chemical Engineering at McMaster, The Formative Years: A Brief History 1958 – 1982", represents a comprehensive documented history of the early days of the Department. The launch in 2011 significantly marks the 50th anniversary year of the first McMaster University graduating engineering class of 1961.

The authors will be on hand at the book launch to discuss and sign copies of the book. This will be of interest to all who studied, worked, taught or visited the Department of Chemical Engineering. When our chemical engineering emeritus, the five original surviving members decided in 2008 to write a history of the Department, they were inspired by the Faculty-wide 50th anniversary celebration of the start of engineering at McMaster in 1958.

The book is centred on the formative years of the department, beginning with the founding Dean of Engineering, Dr. John W. Hodgins, former Professor of Chemical Engineering at the Royal military College in Kingston, Ontario who was recruited in 1955 by Harry Thode, then President of McMaster, to a professorship in Chemical Engineering and Director of Engineering studies, and in 1958, became the first Dean.

The future of our Department, and the Faculty were built on a solid foundation with outstanding scholars, educators and world-renowned scientists. We look forward to seeing you on April 30th as we share with you our early Chemical Engineering history, a legacy celebrating 5-decades of success. Kindly RSVP to Lynn Falkiner, (email: falkiner@mcmaster.ca) 905.525.9410 ext. 24957 by April 22, 2011 if you wish to attend.

Best regards,

Dr. Shiping Zhu

Chair, Chemical Engineering

