

## **Engineering in a Post Modern World**



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John Prausnitz, Professor of Chemical Engineering, is considered the "father of molecular thermodynamics in chemical engineering." He has published over 650 articles, 5 textbooks and research monographs, and has received numerous awards, including two Guggenheim Fellowships and the National Medal of Science from President G.W. Bush. He is a member of the National Academy of Engineering, the National Academy of Sciences, and the American Academy of Arts and Sciences.

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Like every profession, chemical engineering must adjust to changing times. Chemical engineering has done so by broadening its range of technical concerns, by giving increased attention to new developments in chemistry, biology and material science. However, that is not enough. To serve society, chemical engineering must also adjust to cultural developments, to changes in public perception of the world around us and to changes in the way we live. A useful way to recognize these changes is to look at art and architecture. Some examples are shown to illustrate our postmodern world. This world requires cultural enhanced awareness in the practice of chemical engineering and in the education of future chemical engineers.

Wednesday, April 3, 2013 GCIS W301 2:00 PM - 3:00 PM