

**63<sup>RD</sup>**

**PETERSEN ASPHALT**  
RESEARCH CONFERENCE

2026

# AGENDA

**JULY 13-16**  
**2026**

**LARAMIE,**  
**WYOMING**

**Western Research**  
INSTITUTE

[PetersenAsphaltConference.org](https://PetersenAsphaltConference.org)

# 2026 CONFERENCE AGENDA

Conference Venue: Marian H. Rochelle Gateway Center, Laramie, WY

## MONDAY, JULY 13

6:00PM

Welcome Reception (at the conference venue) with drinks and appetizers

*Note: Registration/Check-in & Badge pick-up available at the reception desk*

## TUESDAY, JULY 14

7:00AM

Registration/Check-in & Badge Pick-up

8:00AM

Opening Remarks

8:20AM

WRI History

**John Waggener &  
Erin Shadrick**

*American Heritage Center,  
University of Wyoming*

8:40AM

**KEYNOTE SESSION: Durability and PMA for the Future of  
Asphalt Pavements**

8:40AM

From Niche to Mainstream: The Growth in Understanding  
and Use of Polymer Modified Asphalt Since the 1990s

**Mike Anderson**

*Asphalt Institute*

9:05AM

Driving Sustainability in European Asphalt Mixtures: From  
Circularity to Decarbonization

**Juan Jose Potti**

*ASEFMA (Spanish Association  
of Asphalt Mixture  
Manufacturers)*

9:30AM

Break

10:00AM

**SESSION 1: Asphalt Chemistry**

10:00AM

Research progress on safer solvent extraction and  
asphalt recovery

**Ramez Hajj**

*University of Illinois Urbana-  
Champaign*

10:30AM

A Chemical Framework for Predicting the Storage  
Stability of SBS-Modified Asphalts

**Koorosh Naderi**

*Colas*

11:00AM	Linking Lignin Chemistry to Asphalt Binder Performance: Advanced Characterization, Blending Pitfalls, and Evidence of Intermolecular Interactions	<b>Anand Sreeram</b> <b>Stefan Werkovits</b> <i>University of Nottingham</i>
11:30AM	Assesment of Chemical Fingerprinting Techniques for Asphalt Binders Used in Louisiana	<b>Moses Akentuna</b> <i>Louisiana Transportation Research Center</i>
Noon	Lunch provided	
1:00PM	<b>SESSION 2: Asphalt Emulsions</b>	
1:00PM	Bituminous emulsions: State of the Art and Future	<b>Frederick Delfosse &amp; Didier Lesueur</b> <i>Delfosse (Independent Consultant), Lesueur (Western Research Institute)</i>
1:30PM	Assessing the unique impact and effectiveness of a post additive to an emulsion for enhancing the properties into a significantly less-tracking tack coat.	<b>Michael Jenkins</b> <i>Zydex</i>
2:00PM	<b>SESSION 3: Asphalt Rheology</b>	
2:00PM	Development of a Plasticity-Based Fatigue Damage Model for Asphalt Binder	<b>Haifang Wen</b> <i>Washington State University</i>
2:30PM	Considerations on the development and validation of asphalt binder Mastercurves	<b>David A. Anderson</b> <i>Pennsylvania State University</i>
3:00PM	Capturing the Benefits of Polymer Modification: A Critical Review of Intermediate-Temperature Binder Performance Parameters	<b>Richard Blackwell</b> <i>Kraton Corporation</i>
3:30PM	Break	
4:00PM	<b>SESSION 4: Asphalt Aging</b>	
4:00PM	Development of the coupled diffusion-kinetics aging model (CDKAM) with hourly pavement temperatures for asphalt pavement performance prediction	<b>Kun Zhang</b> <i>California State University, Chico</i>
4:30PM	Investigating Photochemical Degradation of Asphalt Binders under Field-Representative Temperature Conditions	<b>Yusra I. Alhadidi</b> <i>Al-Balqa Applied University (BAU)</i>
5:00PM	Impact of Aging and Volatility on the Durability of Asphalt Binders Modified with Recycling Agents	<b>Behnam Jahangiri</b> <i>Turner-Fairbank Highway Research Center (TFHRC)</i>
5:30PM	Poster Session with drinks and appetizers	
7:30PM	Dinner on your own	

# WEDNESDAY, JULY 15

<b>8:00AM PARC 2026 Special Roofing Session</b>		
8:00AM	From Roof to Road and Back Again: Recovering and Rejuvenating Asphalt Shingle Binder for Circular Roofing and Pavement Applications	<b>Ana Rodrigues</b> <i>Soylei Innovative Products</i>
8:25AM	Northstar's Recycling Technology	<b>Gord Johnson</b> <i>Northstar Clean Technologies Inc.</i>
8:50AM	Case Studies Using a Recycled Pellet Asphalt Replacement	<b>Phillip Blankenship</b> <i>Blankenship Asphalt Tech and Training</i>
9:15AM	Advancing the Use of Recycled Asphalt Shingles (RAS) in Paving through Practical Strategy	<b>Courtney Rice &amp; Toni Newsome</b> <i>Owens Corning</i>
<b>9:40AM Break</b>		
10:00AM	Advancing the Future of Roofing Asphalts: A Report From the Asphalt Institute Roofing Technical Advisory Committee	<b>Wes Cooper</b> <i>Asphalt Institute</i>
10:25AM	Towards Rheology-Based Specifications for Impact-Resistant Coating Asphalt	<b>Punit Singhvi &amp; Saleh Yousefi</b> <i>Crafco</i>
10:50AM	Q&A and Panel Discussion	
<b>11:20AM SESSION 5: Asphalt Additives</b>		
11:20AM	Reactive Elastomeric Terpolymers as Alternative Pathways to Durable High Polymer Asphalt Binder Performance	<b>Roxanne Jenkins</b> <i>Dow</i>
<b>11:50AM Lunch provided</b>		
1:00PM	Modified systems with high SBS content for low temperature climate	<b>Martin Jasso &amp; Brett Lambden</b> <i>Jasso (University of Calgary), Lambden (Cenovus Energy)</i>
1:30PM	The effect of order of addition of reactive isocyanates on asphalt binder properties	<b>Keara Saud</b> <i>BASF</i>

<b>2:00PM</b> <b>SESSION 6: AI in Asphalt</b>		
2:00PM	<b>Fundamentals of Artificial Intelligence: Asphalt Application examples for Machine and Deep Learning Algorithms</b>	<b>Chait Bhat</b> <i>Asphalt Institute</i>
2:30PM	<b>AI at the Bench: Introducing DORA, an Intelligent Research Assistant for Asphalt Technology</b>	<b>Raj Dongre</b> <i>Dongre Laboratory Services Inc.</i>
3:00PM <b>Break</b>		
<b>3:30PM</b> <b>SESSION 7: Asphalt Mixtures</b>		
3:30PM	<b>Assessment of Durability in Recycled Bituminous Asphalt Mixtures Through Evaluation of Blend Homogeneity</b>	<b>Fayçal Lahjiri</b> <i>Vinci Construction SP</i>
4:00PM	<b>Examining Effects of Specimen Fabrication and Preparation Variabilities on Balanced Mix Design Tests</b>	<b>Aaron Leavitt</b> <i>Federal Highway Administration</i>
4:30PM	<b>Balanced Mix Design and Life Cycle Assessment of Asphalt Mixtures with Recycled Asphalt Shingles</b>	<b>Suri Gatiganti</b> <i>National Center for Asphalt Technology</i>
5:00PM	<b>Performance characteristics of asphalt mixtures modified with recycled plastic</b>	<b>Mansour Solaimanian</b> <i>Pennsylvania State University</i>
5:30PM	<b>Dismiss, rest, and drive to Banquet Venue: BR Infinity Event Center</b> <i>704 Herrick Ln, Laramie, WY 82070</i> <i>Note: Attendees are encouraged to carpool to the banquet venue due to limited parking availability</i>	
6:00PM <b>Drinks and Banquet Dinner</b>		

# THURSDAY, JULY 16

<b>8:00AM</b> <b>SESSION 8: New Methods &amp; Tests in Asphalt</b>		
8:00AM	Responsible Asphalt Production	<b>Pavel Kriz</b> <i>Kriz Asphalt Technology</i>
8:30AM	From Bending to Torsion to Tension: Multi-Fixture DMA Characterization of Asphalt Shingles	<b>Yuanchen Cui</b> <i>Anton Paar USA, INC</i>
9:00AM	A New Approach to UV Ageing: Chemistry and Performance of Realistic Thin Bitumen Layers	<b>Anand Sreeram</b> <i>University of Nottingham, United Kingdom</i>
9:30AM	Evaluating Low-Temperature DSR Testing Methodology: Challenges, Data Quality, and Recommended Practices	<b>Collin Pekol</b> <i>Paragon Technical Services</i>
10:00AM	Modification of Asphalt Mixture Cyclic Fatigue Analysis	<b>S. Farhad Abdollahi</b> <i>Genex Systems   TFHRC</i>
10:30AM	Break	
<b>10:45AM</b> <b>SESSION 9: Case Studies &amp; Field Performance</b>		
10:45AM	From Farm to Flexible Pavement: A Rural Iowa Demonstration of Soy-Enabled High-RAP Asphalt and Preservation Strategies	<b>Eric Cochran</b> <i>SoyLei Innovations</i>
11:15AM	Field Performance of Reactive Isocyanate Asphalt Binder Modifications: Case Studies from Kentucky and NCAT Trials	<b>Phillip Blankenship</b> <i>Blankenship Asphalt Tech and Training</i>
<b>11:45AM</b> <b>SESSION 10: Alternative Binders</b>		
11:45AM	The next generation of 100% biobased asphalts: A multi-scale design	<b>Susie Guehenneux</b> <i>INSA Lyon-IMP and Eiffage INFRASTRUCTURES</i>
12:15PM	Update on WRI's Coal to Asphalt research	<b>Jeramie Adams</b> <i>Western Research Institute</i>
12:45PM	Closing remarks and dismiss	
1:00PM	Box Lunch	
2:00PM	Tour of Western Research Institute	
2:45PM	Outdoor Hike Activity start: <i>Details to be announced</i>	

# POSTER PRESENTATIONS

Tuesday July 14, 5:30PM–7:30PM

Author & Affiliation	Title of Poster Presentation
<b>Jack Youtcheff</b> <i>Federal Highway Administration</i>	<b>Physico-Chemical Impacts of Fines on Asphalt Performance</b> <i>Jack Youtcheff, Raj Dongre, Behnam Jahangiri, Adrian Andriescu, and Aaron Leavitt</i>
<b>Richard Blackwell</b> <i>Kraton Corporation</i>	<b>Clarifying MSCR and AASHTO M332: What the Parameters Really Tell Us About Modified Binder Performance</b> <i>Richard Blackwell</i>
<b>Bradley Seats</b> <i>Colorado State University Pueblo</i>	<b>Beyond Scalar Aging Indices: A Trajectory-Based Analysis of Asphalt Binder Master Curves</b> <i>Bradley Seats, Evelyn Malakowski, Aly Romero, Md Islam, and Saqib Gulzar</i>
<b>Kenichi Sato</b> <i>Fukuoka University</i>	<b>Material Properties of Asphalt Mixtures Using Agricultural Waste Plastic</b> <i>Kenichi SATO, Takuro Fujikawa, Chikashi Koga and Riku Yotsumoto</i>
<b>Bruno Tiago Angelo da Silva</b> <i>Federal University of Ceará</i>	<b>Mechanical Behavior of High-Reclaimed Asphalt Pavement Cold Mixes with Fly Ash and Plant-Based Rejuvenators</b> <i>Bruno Tiago Angelo da Silva, Suely Helena de Araújo Barroso, and R. Christopher Williams</i>
<b>Zifeng Zhao</b> <i>University of Minnesota</i>	<b>Investigating Tree Shade Effect on Pavement Temperature</b> <i>Zifeng Zhao, Ethan Rossow, Nahum Yelizarov, Xue Feng, and Mihai Marasteanu</i>
<b>Anneliese Jakisa Owor</b> <i>University of Missouri-Columbia</i>	<b>Evaluation of Hamburg Wheel Tracking Test Analytical Methods Against TSR for Moisture Susceptibility Characterization of Asphalt Mixtures</b> <i>Anneliese Jakisa Owor, Punyaslok Rath, and William G. Buttlar</i>
<b>Eric Cochran</b> <i>SoyLei Innovations</i>	<b>Monetizing the Bottom of the Barrel: Reactive Bio-Oil Upgrading of Solvent-Deasphalting Pitch to Paving-Grade Asphalt Binder While Increasing DAO Recovery</b> <i>R. Chris Williams, Baker Kuehl, and Michael Forrester</i>
<b>Yuefeng Zhu</b> <i>California State University, Chico</i>	<b>Techno-Economic and Environmental Assessment of Grape Pomace Valorization as a Bio-modifier in Asphalt Pavements</b> <i>Yuefeng Zhu, Tirupathireddy Dodda, Samuel Paul Lowenhar, Clayton S. Jeffryes, Selina C. Wang, Jian Fang, Liv M Haselbach, and Kun Zhang</i>
<b>Moises Saca</b> <i>Texas A&amp;M Transportation Institute</i>	<b>Thick Lift Paving</b> <i>Bryan Wilson, Moises Saca, and Darlene Goehl</i>

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**Ahmed Oda**  
*University of Idaho*

**Multi-Stage Fatigue Testing (MSFT) for Asphalt Mixtures:  
Dual-Mode Stress- and Displacement-Controlled SCB  
Characterization**

*Ahmed Oda and Emad Kassem*

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**Awais Zahid**  
*Arizona State University*

**A Practical Oven Aging Protocol for Evaluating Long-Term  
Cracking Performance of Asphalt Mixtures in Arizona**

*Awais Zahid and Hasan Ozer*

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**Moises Saca**  
*Texas A&M Transportation Institute*

**Current Methodologies for Ensuring Acceptable Friction  
Performance During Asphalt Mix Design Validation in Texas,  
Their Gaps, And Ways to Improve Them**

*Moises Saca, Darlene Goehl, and Bryan Wilson*

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**Jim Nevin**  
*Unique Chemical Solutions, LLC*

**Novel Formulation and Process for the Ionic Charge  
Conversion of Polymer Latex**

*Jim Nevin*

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