

63RD

PETERSEN ASPHALT
RESEARCH CONFERENCE

2026

AGENDA

**JULY 13-16
2026**

**LARAMIE,
WYOMING**

WesternResearch
INSTITUTE

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	Anand Sreeram Stefan Werkovits <i>University of Nottingham</i>
11:30AM	Assesment of Chemical Fingerprinting Techniques for Asphalt Binders Used in Louisiana	Moses Akentuna <i>Louisiana Transportation Research Center</i>
Noon	Lunch provided	
1:00PM	SESSION 2: Asphalt Emulsions	
1:00PM	Bituminous emulsions: State of the Art and Future	Frederick Delfosse & Didier Lesueur <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.	Michael Jenkins <i>Zydex</i>
2:00PM	SESSION 3: Asphalt Rheology	
2:00PM	Development of a Plasticity-Based Fatigue Damage Model for Asphalt Binder	Haifang Wen <i>Washington State University</i>
2:30PM	Considerations on the development and validation of asphalt binder Mastercurves	David A. Anderson <i>Pennsylvania State University</i> Geoff Rowe <i>Abatech</i>
3:00PM	Capturing the Benefits of Polymer Modification: A Critical Review of Intermediate-Temperature Binder Performance Parameters	Richard Blackwell <i>Kraton Corporation</i>
3:30PM	Break	
4:00PM	SESSION 4: Asphalt Aging	
4:00PM	Development of the coupled diffusion-kinetics aging model (CDKAM) with hourly pavement temperatures for asphalt pavement performance prediction	Kun Zhang <i>California State University, Chico</i>
4:30PM	Investigating Photochemical Degradation of Asphalt Binders under Field-Representative Temperature Conditions	Yusra I. Alhadidi <i>Al-Balqa Applied University (BAU)</i>
5:00PM	Impact of Aging and Volatility on the Durability of Asphalt Binders Modified with Recycling Agents	Behnam Jahangiri <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

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

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

THURSDAY, JULY 16

8:00AM	SESSION 8: New Methods & Tests in Asphalt	
8:00AM	Responsible Asphalt Production	Pavel Kriz <i>Kriz Asphalt Technology</i>
8:30AM	From Bending to Torsion to Tension: Multi-Fixture DMA Characterization of Asphalt Shingles	Yuanchen Cui <i>Anton Paar USA, INC</i>
9:00AM	A New Approach to UV Ageing: Chemistry and Performance of Realistic Thin Bitumen Layers	Anand Sreeram <i>University of Nottingham, United Kingdom</i>
9:30AM	Evaluating Low-Temperature DSR Testing Methodology: Challenges, Data Quality, and Recommended Practices	Collin Pekol <i>Paragon Technical Services</i>
10:00AM	Modification of Asphalt Mixture Cyclic Fatigue Analysis	S. Farhad Abdollahi <i>Genex Systems TFHRC</i>
10:30AM	Break	
10:45AM	SESSION 9: Case Studies & Field Performance	
10:45AM	From Farm to Flexible Pavement: A Rural Iowa Demonstration of Soy-Enabled High-RAP Asphalt and Preservation Strategies	Eric Cochran <i>SoyLei Innovations</i>
11:15AM	Field Performance of Reactive Isocyanate Asphalt Binder Modifications: Case Studies from Kentucky and NCAT Trials	Phillip Blankenship <i>Blankenship Asphalt Tech and Training</i>
11:45AM	SESSION 10: Alternative Binders	
11:45AM	The next generation of 100% biobased asphalts: A multi-scale design	Susie Guehenneux <i>INSA Lyon-IMP and Eiffage INFRASTRUCTURES</i>
12:15PM	Update on WRI's Coal to Asphalt research	Jeramie Adams <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
Jack Youtcheff <i>Federal Highway Administration</i>	Physico-Chemical Impacts of Fines on Asphalt Performance <i>Jack Youtcheff, Raj Dongre, Behnam Jahangiri, Adrian Andriescu, and Aaron Leavitt</i>
Richard Blackwell <i>Kraton Corporation</i>	Clarifying MSCR and AASHTO M332: What the Parameters Really Tell Us About Modified Binder Performance <i>Richard Blackwell</i>
Bradley Seats <i>Colorado State University Pueblo</i>	Beyond Scalar Aging Indices: A Trajectory-Based Analysis of Asphalt Binder Master Curves <i>Bradley Seats, Evelyn Malakowski, Aly Romero, Md Islam, and Saqib Gulzar</i>
Kenichi Sato <i>Fukuoka University</i>	Material Properties of Asphalt Mixtures Using Agricultural Waste Plastic <i>Kenichi SATO, Takuro Fujikawa, Chikashi Koga and Riku Yotsumoto</i>
Bruno Tiago Angelo da Silva <i>Federal University of Ceará</i>	Mechanical Behavior of High-Reclaimed Asphalt Pavement Cold Mixes with Fly Ash and Plant-Based Rejuvenators <i>Bruno Tiago Angelo da Silva, Suely Helena de Araújo Barroso, and R. Christopher Williams</i>
Zifeng Zhao <i>University of Minnesota</i>	Investigating Tree Shade Effect on Pavement Temperature <i>Zifeng Zhao, Ethan Rossow, Nahum Yelizarov, Xue Feng, and Mihai Marasteanu</i>
Anneliese Jakisa Owor <i>University of Missouri-Columbia</i>	Evaluation of Hamburg Wheel Tracking Test Analytical Methods Against TSR for Moisture Susceptibility Characterization of Asphalt Mixtures <i>Anneliese Jakisa Owor, Punyaslok Rath, and William G. Buttlar</i>
Eric Cochran <i>SoyLei Innovations</i>	Monetizing the Bottom of the Barrel: Reactive Bio-Oil Upgrading of Solvent-Deasphalting Pitch to Paving-Grade Asphalt Binder While Increasing DAO Recovery <i>R. Chris Williams, Baker Kuehl, and Michael Forrester</i>
Yuefeng Zhu <i>California State University, Chico</i>	Techno-Economic and Environmental Assessment of Grape Pomace Valorization as a Bio-modifier in Asphalt Pavements <i>Yuefeng Zhu, Tirupathireddy Dodda, Samuel Paul Lowenhar, Clayton S. Jeffries, Selina C. Wang, Jian Fang, Liv M Haselbach, and Kun Zhang</i>
Moises Saca <i>Texas A&M Transportation Institute</i>	Thick Lift Paving <i>Bryan Wilson, Moises Saca, and Darlene Goehl</i>

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

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

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

Jim Nevin
Unique Chemical Solutions, LLC

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

Jim Nevin
