

*Student  
Seminar*

# *Pi Mu Epsilon*

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**& GAMECOCK MATH CLUB**

## The Role of a Mathematics Undergraduate in Industry

by Jean Keita  
Product Industrialization  
Materials/Chemical Engineer



Jean Keita

Polymeric materials represent the most complex fluids that an engineer will encounter. These materials are still a mystery to most chemical engineers and our ability to explain their behavior requires the help from the more mathematically inclined amongst chemical engineers. An undergraduate degree in mathematics can go a long way towards helping to make sense of rheological data that are frequently discussed in industry. There are early indicators suggesting that mathematicians are steadily becoming thought leaders in the polymers industry. Some of us who brought a degree of mathematical skill to the polymer industry are reaping the rewards of our investment. This informal session is intended to give undergraduate students a feel for how they can best prepare to fit comfortably within this thriving industry.

Jean Keita is an alumnus of the University of South Carolina's mathematics program. He has also formally studied biology, chemistry, physics and materials engineering at Erskine College, USC, and the University of Cambridge, respectively. Jean has been a visiting scholar at Oxford University, and worked for Professor Eric Kandel, Nobel Laureate in Medicine and Physiology. There, Jean learned about learning and memory, and he uses this knowledge both in teaching engineers in industry, as well as in his own learning.

Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> September 2019  
7:00 pm  
LC 310

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