



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Columbia University Fellows Mr. Shah Karim and Dr. Austin Evans appointed to the Board of Directors of Chemical Marketing & Economics, Inc. (CME-STEM.org)

Board strengthens CME's Space Age STEM and ESG leadership

New York City – January 26, 2022 – The Chemical Marketing and Economics, Inc. (CME) announced the appointments of two Columbia University Fellows Mr. Shah Karim and Dr. Austin Evans as members of the Board of Directors. The CME Board, in collaboration with NASA Associate Chief Scientist Dr. Tara Ruttley—the NASA Liaison with CME—shapes pinnacle programs covering topics from space exploration to environmental social governance (ESG).

Established in 1954, CME is a leading business, investments and technology group dedicated to accelerating diverse STEM talent leadership for sustainable innovation. The signature 2022 CME NASA Symposium and Sustainability Conference™ is slated for August 22-23 in Chicago, and the CME STEM Leadership Awards™, honoring Air Products Chairman and CEO Seifi Ghasemi, will take place on December 6 at the NY Metropolitan Club. The monthly CME STEM Talks by Thought Leaders™ include McKinsey's approach to sustainable growth on February 10.

Mr. Shah Karim is CEO of SafeRock and Innovation Fellow at Columbia Business School. He has sector-specific experience on strategy, M&A and digital transformation of Fortune 500 companies and Private Equity firms in the chemical, pharma, industrial, ecommerce, food, consumer and energy sectors. He was selected in 2020 as a Digital Transformation Thought Leader by Innovation Research Interchange (IRI). Mr. Karim was elected an Executive Member of Yale's Graduate School Alumni Association for 2018-21. He co-founded 'Friends of Yale from Industry' to promote Industry-Yale University partnerships across science, healthcare, engineering and the humanities. He is a judge for the MacArthur Foundation's \$100 million global competition for bold solutions to critical social problems.

"Shah Karim is an innovation expert with vast experience and access to global industry networks. His focus on the advancement of women and underrepresented minorities in STEM will strengthen CME's industry engagement," said CME Co-Chair Ms. Ksenia Takhistova. "I am thrilled to join an organization with distinctive bonds to proactive multinational corporations and world-leading institutions focused on Space Age events and awards to inspire future STEM talent and ESG leaders," Mr. Karim noted.

Dr. Austin M. Evans is a Post-Doctoral Schmidt Science Fellow at Columbia University exploring electron dynamics in single-molecule electronics and extended organic solids. He is named in five patents involving nanoparticles, polysulfides, polymers, thin films and covalent organic frameworks. He is Program Chair of the American Chemical Society Division of Industrial & Engineering Chemistry. He was



a winner of the CME-sponsored 2021 ACS Global Outstanding Student Award in Polymer Science & Engineering organized by the ACS Division for Polymeric Materials: Science and Engineering. His awards include industry awards in science and engineering from IUPAC-Solvay, Chevron, Merck, and Henkel as well as NSF and Ryan Fellowships. He holds a PhD in Chemistry from Northwestern University.

“Austin Evans brings a brilliant skillset of cutting-edge scientific knowhow, excellent communication skills, and academic foresight. His dedication to making diversity and sustainability integral to STEM student programs reinforces the mission of CME,” said CME Co-Chair Mr. Steve Barnett. “It is a privilege to become a Director of this STEM pace-setting organization involved with other sectors of society in creating effective science-fostering programs that address complex global challenges,” Dr. Evans added.

“I look forward to working with Shah and Austin on bringing together industry, government and academia to expand the pool of diverse STEM leaders and boost environmental stewardship,” noted CME Program Producer and ACS Fellow Mr. George Rodriguez.

Receive up-to-date program information from CME via the LinkedIn Group:
<https://www.linkedin.com/groups/2092067/>

About CME, Inc.

With roots that date back to 1954, Chemical Marketing & Economics, Inc. (CME) is a forward-looking 501(c)(3) non-profit dedicated to accelerating diverse Space Age STEM talent and ESG leadership for sustainable innovation in energy, materials and life sciences. CME brings together Nobel Laureates and the leaders of industry, government, academia, philanthropy, and the public to share cutting-edge insights through exciting events and award-winning programs, such as the CME STEM Leadership Awards™ and the CME NASA Symposia™. www.cme-stem.org ###



Mr. Shah Karim



Dr. Austin Evans