

Los Angeles Basin Section Society of Petroleum Engineers

Recipient of the 2011 SPE President's Section Award for Excellence

A Message from the Chair

Golf, BBQ, Annual Report & Survey Coming



Dear Fellow SPE Members,

I would like to start out by thanking all of you that participated in, and supported, the LASPE Annual Golf Tournament at Los Serranos Country Club, May 5th, 2012. Special thanks go to Rich Manuel, the Golf Committee Chairman, and the team of volunteers that worked very hard to make it an enjoyable event for all. I am extremely

pleased to let everyone know that we are "on-track" to having net proceeds from the event exceeding \$22,000. I would also like to thank Weatherford for the great BBQ, our corporate sponsors for their financial support, and grant of employee time to participate in this most worthy cause. Please enjoy the brief report and photos included later in this newsletter.

The funds from the golf tournament provide the main financial support for our scholarship program, student assistance for SPE events, and those most important community outreach activities. For the 2012 - 2013 school year we will be awarding 20 scholarships for a total level of support at \$17,500. The scholarships include 17 university and 3 high school grants. A detailed list of the awardees is provided in the announcement later in the newsletter. Our scholarship recipients will be recognized and receive their awards at the next monthly forum on June 12th, 2012. I would like to give special recognition to Mr. Jack Smith, our Scholarship Chairperson, who under very difficult circumstances, and without hesitation, again volunteered to take-on the responsibilities of the program.

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www.LASPE.org

PETROLEUM TECHNOLOGY FORUM PROGRAM, JUNE 12, 2012

The next Petroleum Technology Forum will be held Tuesday, June 12 at the Long Beach Petroleum Club. The speaker is Jalal Abedi, University of Calgary *Abstract and speaker bio follow on page 3.*

<u>Location:</u>	<u>Time:</u>	<u>Cost:</u>
Long Beach Petroleum Club 3636 Linden Avenue Long Beach, CA 90807	Registration: 11:30 AM Buffet Lunch: 11:30 AM Presentation: 12:00-1:00 PM	\$20.00 members, \$25.00 non-members, Free for students

Message from the Chair...*continued from page 1*

By the time you read this Newsletter, the LASPE Section Annual Report will be in the hands of our parent organization, SPEI. This year the report took on a somewhat newer format which broke the mold used in previous years. The change most certainly increased the effort on the part of the board and committee members making contributions to the content. In particular, I must thank our two previous Chairpersons, Mike Utt and Vanessa Perez, for having to rely heavily on their past experiences in preparing this document, and also our treasurer, Rick Finken, for preparing the financials. LASPE's financial report was audited by SPEI on May 21 - 22, 2012. The auditor, Mr. Wayne Avellanet, concluded that our financial records were correct in all material respects. I would like to thank all the contributors for their help in making our 2011 - 2012 Annual Report an excellent documentation of the accomplishments we made last year, and an expression of our plans for the future.

Summer is upon us and section activities at the general membership level taper-off until September. For example, luncheon forums will not be held in July and August. Behind the scenes, however, your board and officers continue their work and act upon plans for the upcoming year. To guide our planning and focus on value for our membership, you will soon receive a brief survey giving you the opportunity to express your opinion on our future programs. The survey was proposed by your Vice Chairperson Steve Cheung, and your responses will provide very valuable information for shaping the 2012 - 2013 technical program. Please be on-the-lookout for the survey, as your timely response will be very much appreciated.

I hope that many of you will be able to join us at the June 12th Forum. It will be a time of recognition for all our scholarship recipients, and give you an opportunity to meet and congratulate these great students who represent the future of our industry. And speaking of congratulations (again), don't miss the recent JPT article (May 2012, p. 141) on the Western Regional Meeting that features a photo of the Regional award recipients including Mike Utt and Dr. Fred Aminzadeh (unfortunately, Vanessa Perez could not be present).

Have a great summer!

Eric Withjack
Chairperson 2011-2012
dremmw@yahoo.com

FORUM FROM PAGE 1 . . .

PETROLEUM TECHNOLOGY FORUM JUNE 12, 2012

Next-Generation Heavy Oil Recovery Methods

Jalal Abedi

University of Calgary

Abstract:

In-situ heavy oil recovery from oil-sand formations has become economically successful in the past two decades. Inventions and developments of recovery processes utilizing steam injection such as cyclic steam stimulation and steam assisted gravity drainage have contributed to this success. However, the major weak points of the current steam-based processes are their high-energy consumption, large emissions of greenhouse gases and large consumption of fresh water. It has been found that the compounded effects of solvents and heat on the viscosity of heavy oil can provide heavy crude production rates that could be equivalent to or higher than those from the injection of steam alone. In addition, solvent-assisted processes can also contribute to in situ upgrading, due to formation of two liquid phases, in order to produce higher grades of oil than the original heavy oil. Thus, it is essential to determine the conditions that could potentially lead to situ upgrading.

Numerous schemes to utilize solvent and heat have been invented and patented. Each solvent based process showed promising results in laboratory-scale tests. However, there is a distinct lack of basic phase behavior data and mechanistic knowledge relevant to the solvent/heat-assisted - recovery processes. Even the most fundamental experimental data such as solubility of commonly used solvents to bitumen are not available. Quantitative effects of solvent on bitumen viscosity, phase behaviors and transport mechanisms are also not well understood.

The objectives of this talk are to describe the solvent assisted processes, to characterize the phase behavior of heavy oil/solvent systems, and to provide quantitative mechanistic insights relevant to the solvent-assisted heavy oil recovery processes. This knowledge is a prerequisite to the optimization of the solvent composition for the solvent injection processes and successful oil recovery.

Biography:

Dr. Jalal Abedi is an Associate Professor of Chemical and Petroleum Engineering at the University of Calgary. Dr. Abedi has also served as a petroleum consultant in the North America and the Middle East. His current research focus includes experimental measurements of heavy oil/solvent phase equilibrium and EOS modeling. He leads a world-class phase equilibrium research facility and a 20-person research group that is involved in research related to solvent solubility in heavy oil and phase behavior and modeling and simulation of transport processes. He is the principle investigator of SHARP (solvent/heat assisted recovery processes) Research Consortium at the University of Calgary. He has authored or co-authored more than 80 papers.

Leila Rashedi Vlasko
Forum Chairperson



THE SURVEY IS HERE !

As we mentioned last month, LASPE Section has formed a Committee that has been working on a survey in order for the Section leadership to hear your voice and feedback as the main input for us to plan the Section's future activities! After investigating different options, we had decided to use the Google Doc software on the internet to write the survey because it is free and provides automatic tabulation and charting of the survey results. The Survey Form is the final draft, and will be sent to you shortly through the email. If you do not receive the survey form within next two weeks, please send an email request to LASPEsurvey@gmail.com, or contact one of the Section officers.

When you receive the survey, we strongly encourage you to use the online option by clicking on the short-cut. The reasons are that it will be easier for you to complete and submit and, more importantly, it will be a lot easier for us to summarize the survey results as the software will tabulate and chart the inputs automatically. So please use the online option if at all possible, thanks!

The main sections in the survey form are: (1) Demographic Information, (2) Meeting Information, (3) Logistics and Cost of Participation, (4) Other Activities, and (5) Volunteerism.

In the Demographic Section, if you provide your name and email address and submit the completed survey before the deadline, you will be eligible for a drawing of \$100. This is to encourage more participation.

In the Meeting Information section, you can tell us whether you are satisfied with the current meeting arrangements. You will be also asked your level of interest in a list of general topics and meeting formats. There will also be a space for you to tell us about a particular speaker or a specific topic you would be interested to learn from.

In the Logistics and Cost of Participation Section, we are interested to know your perception of the reasonable cost range of one full-day and multiple-day workshops. We are also interested in knowing your employer's attitude towards your participation in SPEI activities.

In the Other Activities, we are trying to gauge your interest in non-technical activities, such as social networking, and community outreach activities.

In the Volunteering Section, you will have the opportunity to tell us whether you want to be actively involved in the LASPE section organization. We will have several Committees, such as those on Awards, Membership Drive, Technical Meetings, Outreach, Golf, Scholarship, Student Chapter Liaison, Young Professionals and many more. There will also be a space for you to tell us whether you are interested in participating in panel discussions or presenting talks to the Section.

During the summer, the Section Leadership team will review the results of the survey to plan activities for next year. Your prompt response will have an impact on the type of activities we will offer that will benefit you!

Please look out for the survey! Let us hear your voice so we can offer activities which you will be interested in participating.

2012 ANNUAL SPE GOLF TOURNAMENT REPORT



This year's tournament continued the tradition of a fun day for all, an excellent banquet with terrific raffle prizes. The weather was perfect. The pre-tournament Weatherford BBQ was great. And thanks to the excellent turn-out the 2012 LASPE Annual Charity Golf Tournament provided a cash surplus of over \$22,000. Although LASPE has additional sources of funding, the Annual Golf Tournament is by far the main source. So far this year, LASPE has provided or earmarked nearly \$24,000 for High School, college and graduate school scholarships, Los Angeles County, Orange County and California Science Fair support and student prizes and for other community outreach supported by LASPE.

Thanks to the Tournament Committee chaired by Rich Manuel closely supported by Scott Walker and Juan Santillan and all the rest of the Committee volunteers.

We'll do it again next year. Mark your calendars for another great day early May 2013.

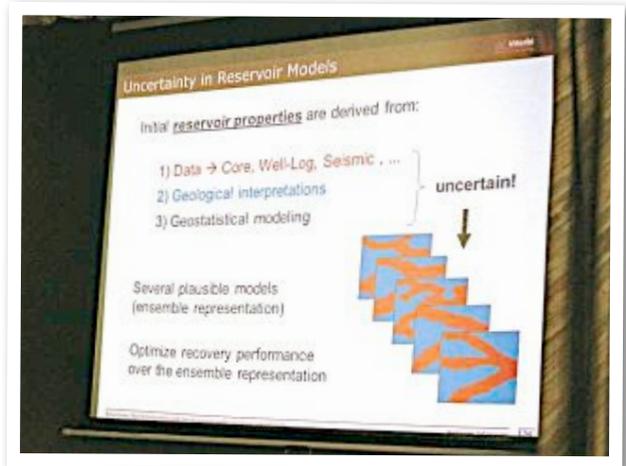


PHOTOS FROM MAY 8TH FORUM PRESENTATION



RESERVOIR CHARACTERIZATION AND DEVELOPMENT UNDER GEOLOGIC UNCERTAINTY: AN INTEGRATED SYSTEMS APPROACH

Dr. Behnam Jafarpour, Assistant Professor of Petroleum and Electrical Engineering from the University of Southern California



ANNOUNCEMENT OF 2012-2013 LASPE SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS

At the May 8, 2012 Board Meeting, The Scholarship Committee presented its recommendations for the award of Dr. Bruce W. Davis Memorial (USC), Graduate, Undergraduate, and Mei Chang scholarships. A total of \$17,500 is being awarded for the 2012/2013 school year. The LASPE is pleased to announce the following scholarship award winners:

Dr. Bruce W. Davis Memorial (USC):

Hasan Shojaei	USC	\$1000
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Robert and Elly Visser:

Tayeb Ayatollahy Tafti	USC	\$1000
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Graduate:

Shahram Farhadi Nia	USC	\$1000
Hamid Reza Jahangiri	USC	\$1000
Apoorv Jain	USC	\$1000
Mohammad Javaheri	USC	\$1000
Arman Khodabakhshnejad	USC	\$1000
Siamak Koloushani	USC	\$1000
Minoo Malek	USC	\$1000
Sanaz Norouzi	USC	\$1000
Asal Rahimi Zeynal	USC	\$1000
Sami Sidhik	USC	\$1000
Diego A. Vasquez	USC	\$1000
Mohammad Evazi Yadecuri	USC	\$1000
Qiao Xing	USC	\$1000

Undergraduate:

Sagar Chandrashekar	CSU Long Beach	\$500
Jason Wetterich	CSU Long Beach	\$500

Mei Chang Scholarship:

Melissa Gillette	CSU San Diego	\$500
Thomas Peterson	Caltech	\$500
Kyle Walker	Univ. of Arizona	\$500

Scholarship awards will be presented to the students at the LASPE Monthly Technology Forum on June 12th, 2012 at the Long Beach Petroleum Club.

LASPE's Scholarship program is financed by the golf tournament proceeds plus some reimbursement from SPE International.

2012 STATE SCIENCE FAIR NEWS

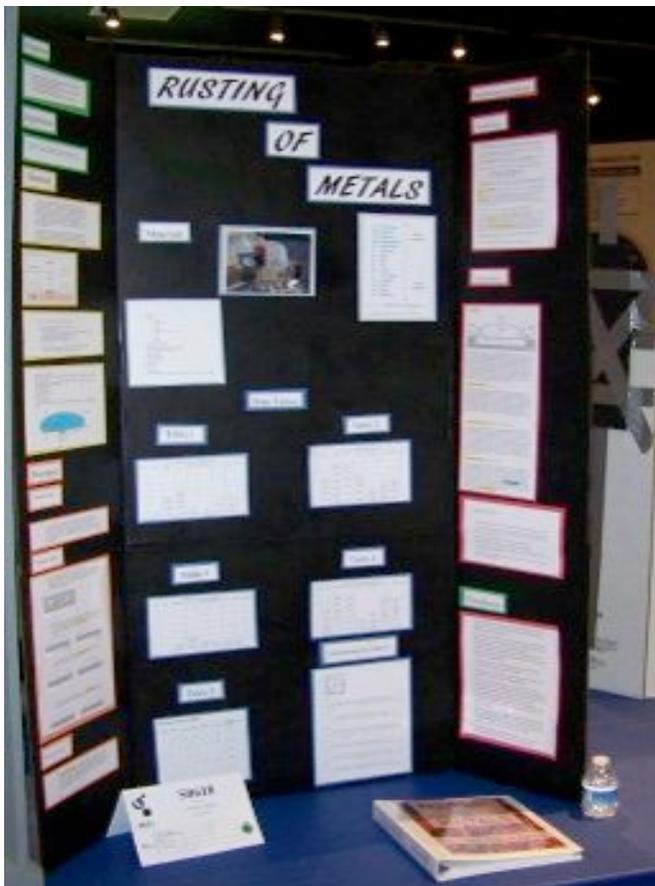
2012 State Science Fair

The 61st Annual California State Science Fair was held on May 2nd, 2012, at the California Science Center in Los Angeles. The winners were chosen on their outstanding technical achievement in projects relating to the development of oil and/or gas resources, mechanics, subsurface fluid flow, and production of those or other energy resources through wellbores. Jack Smith and Neil Escalante awarded the students with a LASPE certificate and \$300 check.

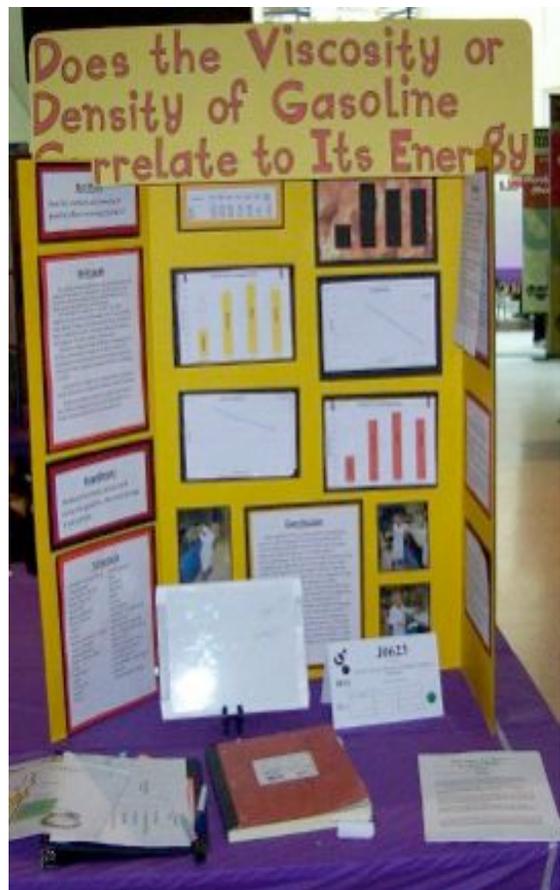
LASPE would like to congratulate the California state science fair winners:

Irfan S. Habib- “Corrosion of Metals”

Callista E. Schoettmer- “Does the Viscosity or Density of Gasoline Correlate to its Energy?”



Irfan S. Habib- “Corrosion of Metals”



Callista E. Schoettmer- “Does the Viscosity or Density of Gasoline Correlate to its Energy?”

SCIENCE FAIR THANK YOU LETTERS



Los Angeles County SCIENCE FAIR

Excellence in Science, Engineering, Mathematics, and Technology
9300 Imperial Highway, Downey, CA 90242-2890

April 18, 2012

Vanessa Perez
Los Angeles Society of Petroleum Engineers
200 Ocean Gate, 12th Floor
Long Beach CA 90802-4531

Dear Vanessa :

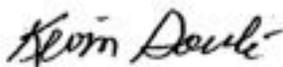
I want to personally thank you for providing a Special Award for the 62nd Annual Los Angeles County Science Fair.

Because of your support, these select Science Fair participants had an opportunity to be recognized in a very special way for their achievements. Just to see the look on some of their faces, when their names were announced, was indeed rewarding.

We hope to count on your organization to sponsor a Special Award next year at the 63rd Annual Los Angeles County Science Fair, scheduled for March 21-23, 2013.

Again, my thanks on behalf of the Science Fair Committee, for your continued support of the Los Angeles County Science Fair. Please feel free to contact me at (626) 485-2302 for further Science Fair information.

Sincerely,



Kevin Soule
Special Award Chair

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SCIENCE FAIR THANK YOU LETTERS - CONTINUED

April 23, 2012

Vanessa M. Perez
LASPE Science Fair Chairperson
www.laspe.org

Dear Ms. Perez,

Thank you for supporting the Los Angeles County Science and Engineering Fair. My family and I are so excited that I received a special award from the Los Angeles Section of the Society of Petroleum Engineers (LASPE). I am honored by the recognition and am thankful for the nice certificate and the \$100 award.

I hope to one day use the knowledge and experience I have gained through the Science Fair to make big contributions to society. This gets me motivated to work harder in school and to do an even better Science Fair project next year.

Thank you again.

Sincerely,



James Harroum II
7th grader, Nativity Catholic Elementary School

Project J1318 – Materials Science
“The Effect of Metal Type and Environment on Rust”

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SCIENCE FAIR THANK YOU LETTERS - CONTINUED



57th Annual Orange County Science & Engineering Fair

April 5 – April 15, 2012

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MARK SCOTAG
Intra Unified School District
SHARON WITTES
California State University, Long Beach

April 26, 2012

Mr. Jack Smith
Scholarship & Science Fair Chairman
Society of Petroleum Engineers
200 Oceangate, 12th Floor
Long Beach CA90802

Dear Mr. Smith:

On behalf of the Board of Directors, I would like to thank you for your participation in the 57th Annual Orange County Science & Engineering Fair. We sincerely appreciate your support. Your donation of Special Awards builds enthusiasm for an abiding interest in science in the students who receive them and adds prestige to the OCSEF.

I am enclosing a copy of our 2012 Awards Program which lists the recipients of all the Board and Special Awards. During the Awards Ceremony, Special Awards receive a prominent place in the program. They add a large measure of excitement and success to our Awards Ceremony since the students are always thrilled to be singled out for their "special" projects.

Please check our Special Awards section on our Internet Site at www.ocsef.org. If you would like us to change any information about your award and/or include a link to your local or national organization's web site, please send an e-mail to dbhattacharyya@yahoo.com.

Again, we thank you for your support of our 2012 Fair, your very generous award and your members' donation of their time and expertise to judge the projects. We look forward to our continued association in the 58th OCSEF.

Very truly yours,

Deba Bhattacharyya
Chair, Special Awards

P. O. Box 1361, Huntington Beach, CA 92647
Website: www.ocsef.org

YOUNG PROFESSIONALS UPDATE



Society of Petroleum Engineers – Young Professionals – Los Angeles Chapter

We have had several successful social events this year which were organized to bring the young professionals in oil and gas industry together. Our most recent social event was held at Wokcano in Long Beach. This event was sponsored by Black Gold and Schlumberger.

It was a great night with great attendance and there was obvious interest in continuing the social events. We also had several students from USC seeking career advice from young professionals; some have been offered an internship and some were in the process of applying for full time positions.

The main purpose of these social events is to exchange ideas, socialized and have a great time.

According to our survey results last year, most of the participants were interested in social events including an activity. In response to their request and to continue our effort of bringing the young professionals together at least once a month, we are organizing events with activities such as bowling, bbq, etc.

Please see the these pictures taken during our last event.



LASPE BOARD MEETING MINUTES
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING, MAY 8, 2012

Attendance:

Vanessa Perez, Sr. Past Section Chair
Mike Utt, Jr. Past Section Chair
Dr. Eric Withjack, Section Chair
Dr. Steve Cheung, Section Vice Chair
Serge Baghdikian, Board Member through 2014
Baldev Gill, Board Member through 2012
Leila Rashedi Vlasko, Forum Chair, Board Member through 2012

Dr. Sam Sarem, WNAR Director
Rick Finken, Treasurer
Rachel Spitz, Secretary
Robert Visser, Assistant Treasurer
Scott Hara, Community Outreach Chair
Dr. Jalal Torabzadeh, Membership Committee Chair
Ryan Kwong, Young Professionals Committee Co-Chair
Jovy Kroh, Young Professionals Committee Co-Chair
Devon Shay, Student Chapters Liaison

Proceedings:

1. The meeting was called to order at 10:32 AM. A quorum was met.
2. The proposed agenda was approved.
3. The minutes of the April 10, 2012 meeting, as published in the LASPE Newsletter, were approved.
4. Reports:
 - 4.1. Treasurer's Report – Rick Finken: For April 2012, income exceeded expenses by \$29,308. Golf Tournament reservations led the way with \$27,210 followed by Forum receipts of \$675, the annual SPEI Student and Scholarship Support plus the Section membership rebate (\$5,909) and \$200 in newsletter ad income. Expenses consisted of the April Forum invoice (\$771), Science Fair prizes (\$800), CSULB Student support at the 2012 WRM (\$798), newsletter and website costs (\$344), office supplies (\$19), Golf Tournament expenses (\$1,390) and Young Professional event expenses of (\$565).
 - 4.1.1 The audit of LASPE's finances for the SPE Fiscal year starting on April 1, 2011 is scheduled for May 21, 2012. The report to the Board by the auditor, Wayne Avellanet will take place on May 22nd. It is currently planned to do the audit and the report to the Board at State Lands offices in Long Beach.

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...LASPE BOARD MEETING MINUTES CONTINUES

- 4.2. Golf Committee Report – Rick Finken: 56 foursomes played in the tournament. Raffle prizes were a big hit! Nice day (weather) for event. Thank you to all the sponsors!
- 4.3. Scholarship Committee Update – Vanessa Perez: Applicants being reviewed. Voting will be conducted by the committee and board. Additional funds are needed. The committee is asking the board for money for this year or next. Mike Utt moved to up funds to cover all applicants. Baldev seconded the motion. All approved.
5. Old Business:
 - 5.1 Ad Hoc Committees – Steve Cheung: Survey Committee – 2 meetings have been conducted. A draft survey form has been completed. A final draft will be send to BOD via e-mail by Monday. Once approved it will be sent to all LASPE members. Options for getting survey to members: e-mail and hand distribution. There will be a prized raffled off for completing the survey. Mike Utt moved, Leila Vlasko seconded the motion for completing and sending final approved survey next week.
6. New Business:
 - 6.1. SPE Annual Report – Eric Withjack/BOD: BOD are encouraged to complete assigned sections of final annual report which is due June 1, 2012.
 - 6.2. Discussed proposal from Golden Gate Section for Profit & Loss Sharing for Western Regional Meetings – Mike Utt/Sam Sarem. Mike Utt moved in favor of Golden Gate proposal contingent on the following limits: host takes 50% of loss, LA SPE will contribute up to \$7500. Steve Cheung seconded the motion. All approved. Discussion also included the option of having a WRNM each year. No motions were made on the later subject.
7. Section Activities:
 - 7.1 YP Activities – Ryan Kwong: Talked to companies and schools regarding social events, getting student participation and sponsors. BBQs and additional events are being set up.
8. The meeting was adjourned at 11:52 AM.

POSITIONS AVAILABLE



PETROLEUM ENGINEER I-II

Salary: \$7,092 - \$10,685 Monthly

EXAMPLES OF DUTIES: Under direction, performs increasingly more complex and responsible professional petroleum engineering work pertaining to oil field development, oil and gas production/injection operations, enhanced recovery methods, and related work; directs, reviews, evaluates, coordinates teams, and/or participates in the preparation of petroleum engineering projects, studies, and programs pertaining to oil field development, production operations, reservoir performance, reserves, field equipment, enhanced recovery methods, abandonment operations and other related petroleum engineering work; monitors reservoir injection/production performance; may direct and/or participate in field work in connection with drilling and production operations; observes and reviews formation tests, coring, cementing, surveys, remedial and production operations; may inspect field equipment; reviews and analyzes electric logs and makes well completion recommendations; evaluates contracts and regulations; develops budgets pertaining to oil operations; prepares and presents formal written and oral presentations to City, Department, contractor, and regulatory personnel; ensures compliance with environmental and safety regulations; may supervise, coordinate, plan, assign, train, direct and evaluate subordinate personnel; and performs other related duties as required.

REQUIREMENTS TO FILE:

- Current registration as a Petroleum Engineer in the State of California (proof required)*; graduation from an accredited college or university with a Bachelor's degree in Petroleum Engineering, Geology or closely related field (proof required)*; and five or more years (full-time equivalent) of recent paid experience in petroleum engineering, petroleum geology, or oil field operations.
A Master's degree in Petroleum Engineering may be substituted for one year of the required experience (proof required)*.
- Knowledge of spreadsheets, word processing, and other business and technical software pertaining to petroleum engineering.
- A valid motor vehicle operator's license and a current DMV driving record must be submitted to the hiring department at time of the selection interview.

NOTE: *Proof of required documents must be submitted along with an application by 4:30 P.M., June 8, 2012. Required documents must be uploaded to the online application or included with a paper application at time of filing.

DESIRABLE QUALIFICATIONS: Wilmington Oil Field experience.

Application Deadline: June 8, 2012. Apply online at www.longbeach.gov/civilservice

CITY OF LONG BEACH
CIVIL SERVICE DEPARTMENT
LONG BEACH, CA 90802
(562) 570-6202

Website: www.longbeach.gov/civilservice
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Steve Cheung	Vice Chair 2011-2012	steveior@yahoo.com
Leila Rashedi Vlasko	Board Member through 2012	lvlasko@betaoffshore.com
Baldev Gill	Board Member through 2012	baldev.gill@longbeach.gov
Serge Baghdikian	Board Member through 2014	serge.baghdikian@longbeach.gov
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Leila Rashedi Vlasko	Forum & Program	lvlasko@betaoffshore.com
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