



## LOS ANGELES BASIN SPE SECTION NEWSLETTER

March 2005

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### A message from the Chair

Dear fellow SPE member,

As you may know, our main event this month is the Section's 50-year anniversary celebration on Wednesday, March 9, 2005, at the Long Beach Petroleum Club. Reception starts at 5 p.m., and a dinner program follows at 6:30 p.m. The program features talks by Richard J. Stegemeier, former Chairman and CEO, Unocal Corporation, and Dr. Iraj Ershaghi, Professor of Petroleum Engineering at the University of Southern California. In addition, Eve Sprunt, 2006 SPE President, will address the audience and honor members.

A full program of the event appears in the next page of this newsletter.

If you have not already registered to attend, I urge you to do so by contacting Ms. Idania Takimoto, Petroleum Engineering Program, USC, phone (213) 740-8076, fax (213) 740-7982, email [pttc@usc.edu](mailto:pttc@usc.edu). The cost is \$25 per person.

I look forward to seeing you on March 9.

Sincerely,

Raj Upadhyay  
2004-2005 LASPE Chairperson

### SPE Easter Egg Hunt for International School March 24

Our traditional Easter Egg Hunt for the International Elementary School will be held at Drake Park in Long Beach on Thursday, March 24th. The "wee" little ones should be arriving about 9:00 a.m. Plastic eggs filled with candy will be at the park early on Thursday morning along with the Easter Bunny, Polaroid film, cameras and several DOG people. All members are invited to attend this event. Your reward: have the opportunity to see dozens of little happy smiling faces!



***The Board of Directors of the  
Los Angeles Basin Section of the  
Society of Petroleum Engineers***

***Invites you to attend our:***

***50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration Dinner***

***Headliner:*** ***Richard J. Stegemeier – former UNOCAL Chairman and CEO***

***Guest Speaker:*** ***Dr. Iraj Ershaghi – Omar B. Milligan Professor of the  
Petroleum Engineering Program at USC***

***Date:*** ***Wednesday, March 9, 2005***

***Reception:*** ***Beginning at 5:00 PM***

***Dinner Program:*** ***6:30 PM***

***Venue:*** ***Long Beach Petroleum Club  
3636 Linden Ave.  
Long Beach, CA 90807  
562-427-7966***

***Cost:*** ***\$25.00 per person***

***RSVP:*** ***Idania Takimoto  
c/o Petroleum Engineering Program  
University of Southern California  
925 Bloom Walk – HED 305  
Los Angeles, CA 90089-1221  
Phone: 213-740-8076  
Fax: 213-740-7982  
Email: pttc@usc.edu***

**11<sup>th</sup> SPE Community Outreach Annual Barbeque**

**Due to current weather conditions the 11<sup>th</sup> Annual Barbeque has been suspended. A new date will promptly be announced. Remember, any proceeds from the event will fund the annual Easter Eggs hunt we sponsor for disadvantaged school children in the Long Beach area.**

## February 8, 2005 Board Meeting and Forum Report by R. Finken

A total of thirteen attended. Raj Upadhyay called the meeting to order. The minutes of the prior meeting were approved, as was the treasurer's report.

The status of planning for the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Dinner on March 9<sup>th</sup> from 5 – 9:30 PM at the Petroleum Club was discussed. Scott McGurk has completed arrangements for the Plains Exploration sponsored reception beginning at 5 PM. The dinner program will begin at 6:30 PM with the pledge of allegiance followed by welcoming remarks by Raj Upadhyay. The program features a history of LASPE, recognition of new Legion of Honor members by Eve Sprunt, followed by a technology update by Dr. Iraj Ershaghi. The featured speaker will be Richard Stegemeier, former CEO of UNOCAL.

Planning for the meeting is going very well. Nine company tables have been sold to date. Invitations were sent out on February 4<sup>th</sup> by USC, who is helping with RSVPs. The menu has been selected and mementos will be ordered soon. Planning to date is for 100 to attend, but it looks like a larger turnout may be possible. The Board agreed that student chapter attendees would receive a \$15 dinner discount.

In other business, Raj reported that two LASPE members, Dr. Iraj Ershaghi and Rick Finken would receive the Western Region Service Award at the 2005 Western Regional Meeting Keynote Luncheon. The Board also approved the following SPE award nominations: Sam Sarem for the Distinguished Service Award, Harry Krebs for the Public Service Award and Jalal Torabzadeh for the Distinguished Member Award.

Other topics reviewed at the Board Meeting included 2005 Western Regional Meeting planning and an update of the May 20, 2005 Charity Golf Tournament.

The Forum featured Dr. Pat Shuler substituting for Dr. Yongchun Tang who was ill. Dr. Shuler's topic, "Developing Technologies Today for the Oilfield Tomorrow" discussed Caltech's Power, Energy, and Environmental Research (PEER) Center's efforts in targeted areas of energy industry fundamental scientific research. Major oil companies and government agencies are key sponsors and participants in these projects. The PEER Center's combined energy industrial research and academic experience makes it uniquely qualified to translate breakthroughs in fundamental science to become deployable technologies. PEER's efforts help to mitigate the effect of oil industry's decreasing R&D efforts to focus on short-term financial results.



Dr. Pat Schuler

PEER is concentrating its research in five key areas: Enhanced Oil Recovery, Biotechnology, Treatment Chemicals, Geology and Geochemistry and Environmental Sensors. Dr. Shuler reviewed efforts to date and PEER's goals for the future.

## LASPE Section Awards

Below is a list of our distinguished members who have received this honor in the past. New additions for 2005 were Richard Finken (DOP - Long Beach) and Iraj Ershaghi (USC), both receiving Regional Service Awards.

### *Distinguish Service*

1967 Mr. Edward H Mayer  
1985 Mr. W. C Barton Jr.  
2002 Ms. Marina M. Voskanian

### *Regional Service Award*

1985 Mr. John F Bergquist  
1987 Mr. Richard J Aseltine  
1988 Mr. George C. Howard  
1988 Mr. Herman E. Schaller  
1989 Dr. E. L Dougherty Jr.  
1990 Dr. Amir M Sam Sarem  
1991 Ms. Marina M. Voskanian  
1992 Mr. Harry J. Krebs  
1995 Mr. Richard J Miller  
1996 Mr. Wesley L Wisdom  
1997 Mr Fredric C Crosby  
2004 Mr. Philip S Hara  
2004 Ms. Vivian K Bust  
2005 Dr. Iraj Ershaghi  
2005 Mr. Richard D Finken

### *Young Member Outstanding Service Award*

1994 Mr. Keith C Seanard

### *Lester C. Uren Award*

1965 Mr. M. B Standing

### *Cedrick K. Ferguson Medal*

1964 Dr. E. L Dougherty Jr.  
1967 Mr. John E Cochrane

### *Anthony F. Lucas Gold Medal*

1977 Mr. M. B Standing  
1997 Mr. Henry J. Welge

### *Distinguished Achievement For Petroleum Engineering Faculty*

1983 Dr. Iraj Ershaghi  
1984 Dr. George V. Chilingar

### *Economy and Evaluation Award*

1989 Dr. E. L Dougherty Jr.

### *Formation Evaluation*

1991 Mr. Aytakin Timur

### *Health, Safety and Environment*

2002 Mr. Mark A Shemaria

### *Reservoir Engineering*

1984 Mr. Henry J. Welge

## Petroleum Technology Forum

April 12, 2005

Mark in your calendars the date of our upcoming Forum. It promises to be a very interesting one. We will be receiving:

**Dr. George Stosur,**  
2004 -05 SPE Distinguished Lecturer

Presenting:

**The Growing Demand for Heavy Oil  
and Natural Gas and the Related Global  
Warming Issues**

Please contact Maryam Davari with your ideas and suggestions for future Forum topics  
213-225-5900x209, [mkashfi@breitburn.com](mailto:mkashfi@breitburn.com)

**KEEP BUILDING** THE WORLD OF SPE

**Share our strength  
with your colleagues**

Inviting new members to join SPE is important

- Participate in the 2005 membership development contest for chances to win more prizes on a quarterly basis
- Earn credits toward Membership Development Appreciation Awards
- Grow SPE and strengthen the industry

Visit [www.spe.org/recruit](http://www.spe.org/recruit) for contest rules and specific guidelines.



## Western Regional Meeting

Mar - 1 Apr 2005  
Irvine, California USA

### Venue: Irvine Hyatt Regency Hotel

The tradition of the SPE Western Regional Meeting is moving. The venue for the 2005 Western Regional Meeting will shift to Irvine, California and the Hyatt Regency Irvine, just minutes from John Wayne Airport, Disneyland, Newport Beach, and the large South Coast Plaza shopping mall as well as many other entertainment and educational sites in Southern California.

The technical program and exhibition will continue the tradition of excellence, and will center on the theme **Diverse Challenges Out West**. Make plans now to be part of this significant and relevant conference.

In addition 4 short courses will be offered:

- Fundamentals of Reservoir Description and Modeling with Geostatistics 2-3 April
- Thermal Recovery Processes 2-3 April
- Production Gauging Principles and Methods, April 2
- Common Sense Reservoir Engineering, April 3

Register online at [www.spe.org](http://www.spe.org) or by fax to 1-972-952-9328

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## FSEA Event Invitation

Once again FSEA will be holding the annual FSEA Rocket Competition on Saturday, May 14, 2005. It will be held at the Tustin High School field.

Registration will begin at 8:30 a.m. with rocket launching beginning at 9:00 a.m. and continuing till noon. Mark your calendar and hold the date.

For more information, please contact:

Sheryl France-Moran  
FSEA VP of Operations  
8441 Monroe Ave.  
Stanton, CA 90680  
sfm@fsea.org  
www.fsea.org

**Please notify SPE Headquarters directly with change of address: P.O. Box 833836, Richardson, TX 75083 Tel: (800) 456-6863 Fax: (972) 952-9435 or go to <http://www.spe.org/mbrservices/index.cfm>**

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