



Los Angeles Basin Section
www.laspe.org

Los Angeles Basin Section Society of Petroleum Engineers

A Message from the Chair



This is my last message to you as the 2008-2009 LA SPE Section Chair-person. Starting October 1st, Vanessa

Perez, the current Vice Chair will take over and will inform you of her plans for the Section activities for an exciting and challenging year ahead.

Last year was an extraordinary year not only for our industry but also for the whole world. The global financial recession and the resulting economic crisis affected almost every individual, company, business and government agency one way or another. With the oil price reaching the unbelievable value of close to \$150/BBL in June 2008 and the sharp drop in price during summer and fall of 2008 and reaching to less than \$40/BBL in December 2008, the industry

experienced a roller-coaster in investment, hiring and change in strategies, never seen in our industry over such a short period of time. Despite this instability and significant price fluctuations, as well as global political situations, it seems that the supply-demand factor is coming back to control the energy price and hopefully bring some stability to the market and the industry.

Despite the global economic downturn, SPEI grew in the number of sections and membership world-wide. SPEI currently has close to 76,000 members (more than 59,000 professional and close to 17,000 student members) in 170 sections and 204 student chapters throughout the world. Currently, the SPE total membership is split roughly 50/50 between US and non-US sections and chapters. It is interesting to know that close to 40% of the SPE membership consists of young professionals.
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PETROLEUM TECHNOLOGY FORUM PROGRAM, SEPTEMBER 16 - NEW DATE & PLACE!!!

The first, post summer break, Petroleum Technology Forum will be held on WEDNESDAY, September 16, 2009.

Like last year, this forum will be held in conjunction with the CCCOGP, and will take place at The Grand, Long Beach Event Center. Elena M. Miller, the new State Oil and Gas Supervisor will be our guest speaker. A complete bio follows.

Location: The Grand - Long Beach Event Center, 4101 E. Willow Street, Long Beach, CA 90815

Time: Registration 11:30 AM, Buffet Lunch 12:00 Noon, Presentation: 12:20-1:00 PM

Cost: \$20.00 for members, Free for Students

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FORUM FROM PAGE 1 . . .



**Elena M. Miller - Sept. 16
Guest Speaker**

Elena M. Miller has been named State Oil and Gas Supervisor effective September 1, California Department of Conservation Director Bridgett Luther announced. Miller is currently Public Adviser at the California Energy Commission (CEC) and has also served as Staff Counsel.

“We’re excited to bring in Elena. She is a tremendous addition to our team,” Director Luther said. “The Division of Oil, Gas, and Geothermal Resources (DOGGR) has important responsibilities with respect to protecting public safety and the environment. Elena’s extensive and diverse background will serve her well in overseeing the division.”

Miller’s main responsibilities with DOGGR will be to direct the state’s oil, gas, and geothermal regulatory programs and to provide direction to a field staff that carries out programs overseeing the drilling, operation, maintenance, and plugging and abandonment of wells and related facilities. She will also coordinate the division’s activities with those of industry; professional, civil, and

independent groups; and other governmental agencies.

Governor Schwarzenegger appointed Miller to the Public Adviser position at the CEC in June 2008. Miller’s role has been to ensure participation by all stakeholders – government entities, environmental organizations and the public at large – in Commission proceedings such as licensing power plants. As Staff Counsel at the CEC, Miller was assigned to support the Fuels and Transportation Division on the Alternative and Renewable Fuel and Vehicle Technology Program.

Prior to joining the CEC, Miller worked on employment litigation matters as Staff Counsel at the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation. She also practiced law in the private sector in Los Angeles. Miller has experience in the oil, gas, and geothermal fields, working for a number of years as a Senior Paralegal for Atlantic Richfield Company in Los Angeles and Venezuela (she speaks fluent Spanish).

Miller earned her undergraduate degree from UC Davis in Political Science and her law degree from Southwestern University School of Law. While an undergraduate student, Miller worked at the Geothermal Resources Council in Davis and the Advocacy Institute in Washington, D.C.

California ranks fourth among oil producing states behind Louisiana, Texas, and Alaska, respectively California produced 239.8 million barrels of oil in 2008

Calendar

September 16

Petroleum Technology Forum at The Grand - Long Beach Event Center
LASPE Board Meeting

October 13th

LASPE Board Meeting and Petroleum Technology Forum at the Long Beach Petroleum Club

May 27-29th WRM Anaheim, CA

LASPE and the AAPG, Pacific Section will host the Western Regional Meeting at the Anaheim Convention Center.

and 298.3 billion cubic feet of natural gas in 2008.

*ABOUT THE
DEPARTMENT OF
CONSERVATION*

In addition to regulating oil, gas, and geothermal wells, the DOC maps and classifies areas containing mineral deposits; studies and maps earthquakes and other geologic phenomena; ensures reclamation of land used for mining; administers agricultural and open-space land conservation programs; and promotes beverage container recycling. More information about DOC programs is available online at www.conservation.ca.gov.

Katherine Wallgren
Forum Chairperson
Katherine_Wallgren@oxy.com

2010 SPE WRM - CALL FOR ABSTRACTS

The 2010 SPE Western Regional Meeting (WRM) will be held May 27-29, 2010 in conjunction with the AAPG Pacific Section & Cordilleran GSA in Anaheim California. The theme of the joint conference this year is "From Mountains to Main Street."

This conference will focus on technologies and issues affecting oil and gas fields in the Western North American Region. We desire presentations by engineers, geoscientists, managers, and team leaders that address improving operating costs and efficiency, new oil and gas technologies, and insights on regulatory and climate change legislation that affect energy supplies.

Technical papers are encouraged. To attract up-to-the-minute presentations, abstracts will also be accepted for poster sessions, panel sessions, and technical workshops that do not require papers. Conference sessions will be formulated based upon the abstracts submitted and accepted by the technical program committee.

Abstracts should be submitted to the program committee by November 2, 2009 that specify the type presentation, contain no more than 300 words, and summarize the subject matter, results of work, and conclusions in the topics listed below:

- Advanced Reservoir Modeling Concepts
- Arctic Operations/Permafrost Issues/Hydrates/Alaska Gas Pipeline
- Advanced Geophysical Techniques for Oil and Gas Development and Production Operations
- Advances in Drilling and Completion Operations applicable to WNAR Reservoirs
- Advances in Environmental Technologies
- California Extra Heavy Oil Resources
- Case Studies
- CO2 Capture and Storage
- Economic Uncertainty and Risk Analysis
- EOR Technologies (Thermal/Chemical/Miscible)
- Flow Assurance
- California Geothermal Systems
- Integrated Operations
- Locating By-Passed Oil
- Mature waterflood Management
- Production Enhancement
- Redevelopment of California Offshore Resources
- Renewable Energy to Cut OPEX
- Reservoir Characterization
- Social Responsibility, Health, Air and Water Quality and GHG Emissions
- Tight Plays: Monterey (Diatomites, fractured Siliceous Rocks), Bakken
- Waste Disposal

Program Committee Procedures: The paper proposal should contain significant new knowledge or experience in some field of relevance. The substance of the proposed paper must not have been published previously in trade journals or other professional or technical journals. Prior to paper proposal submission, clearance must be obtained. Any problems concerning clearance should be outlined when the paper proposal is submitted. All authors of papers presented at 2010 WRM will be required to complete and submit a copyright release form to SPE or submit the copyright exemption form where applicable.

Manuscript Preparation: Authors of papers selected for 2010 WRM will be notified by December 14, 2009. Authors offering papers should fully understand that a manuscript will be required for each accepted paper. Manuscripts will be required by March 29, 2010 for inclusion in the Proceedings CD-ROM. SPE operates a "no paper, no podium" policy which means that if the manuscript is not received by the due date then it will be withdrawn from the program. The maximum desired length of any paper is 7,000 words, including figures and tables. Detailed instructions on the preparation of manuscripts and presentations will be sent to the corresponding author of each accepted paper.

Iraj Ershaghi
Program Committee Chairman

Program Committee

Fred Aminzadeh	Zuwa Omoregie
Ahmed Badruzzaman	Gordon Pospisil
Serge Baghdikian	Mark Shemaria
Ed Behm	Allan Spivak
Steve Cheung	Mike Utt
Abhijit Dandekar	Rajendra Upadhyay
Steve Horner	Marina Voskianian
Anthony R. Kovscek	Charlie Webb
George Moridis	Chris Williamson
	Zhengming Yang

LASPE BOARD APPRECIATION LUNCHEON

This year's LA Basin SPE Board Appreciation Luncheon was held on August 19, 2009, at Lonestar Steakhouse. Every year LA Basin SPE invites all board/committee members and golf tournament committee to this event to show our appreciation of their time and efforts during the past year. This enables us to say "thanks" and congratulates everyone who helped out for such a successful 2008-2009 year.

During the luncheon, Vanessa Perez, our new Chairperson for the 2009-2010 term, recognized scholarship Chair, Jack Smith for judging the Orange/La Science and State Science Fairs along with Scholarship selections. Scott Hara was the lead and organized the Mesa/ Energy Day event at Cal State and continues his contribution and time to our community outreach.

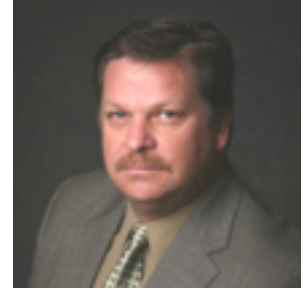


We also recognized Chandra Janova for organizing fun events for the Young Professionals (YP) group. Chandra also recruited a group of young engineers for the YP committee to enhance the program.



Vanessa also recognized all committee members of the Golf Tournament Committee, which was chaired by Mike Filbey. The Tournament each year raises a substantial portion of the operating funds for LA Basin SPE and allows us to give back to our community.

Thanks again to all Board and Committee members who take time from their busy schedule each year to participate on the board and committees. The luncheon was enjoyed by all and SPE is now ready for a successful new term.



More photos of luncheon on Page 5!

OCEC LEADERS NIGHT



Sam Sarem and Vanessa Perez represented SPE at the Orange County Engineering Council (OCEC) for the "2009 Leaders Night" in Seal Beach on August 25, 2009. The event included networking, dinner and an interesting presentation by keynote

speaker Amir Dabirian, VP, Information Technology and Chief Information Officer of CSU Fullerton. The presentation was titled, "Impact of New Technology and Green Computing." His talk discussed actions to achieve more efficient software and storage as we continue to enter the wave of new technology.

OCEC holds a southern Californian leader's night each year with current and potential corporate, society and university members.

OCEC objectives are to enhance the public image of engineers and scientists and conducts innovative activities to support increased recognition and participation. We had a great time and we were thankful to take part in such a great event.





The Board Appreciation Lunch was enjoyed by all present.



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

For the older and mature sections like ours (one of the pioneer sections since SPE establishment as part of AIME), it is more challenging to increase the membership (or even keep it steady) despite the significant changes in the local oil and gas industries, company and membership relocations, aging membership, as well as workforce reductions in the past 2 decades in our section. Despite all these adverse factors, the Los Angeles Basin Section has been one of the most active sections not only in the US, but also internationally. This has been only possible through the active participation of members like you and the dedication of volunteers serving on the Board of Directors of LASPE.

Last year was one of the most successful and productive years for our section thanks to our Board members and volunteers who dedicated hundreds of hours of their time to fulfill the enormous task of planning, arranging, and conducting many activities for LASPE, its members, and the local and regional communities including: conducting monthly Petroleum Technology Forum and presenting excellent technical talks by outstanding speakers and experts; organizing workshops, continuing education courses, and seminars; public education on energy and environment; outreach and support programs for local elementary, middle, junior, and high schools, colleges, and universities; participating in city, county, and state science fairs as

supporter and judge; supporting Future Scientists and Engineers of America (FSEA); organizing career events and Energy Day at local universities; participating in Engineer's Week; organizing fund raising events such as the Golf Tournament and awarding more than \$20,000 scholarships to outstanding high school and university students; participating effectively in the 2008 SPEI Annual Technical Conference and Exhibition in Denver, Colorado and the 2009 SPE Western North America Regional Conference in San Jose, California; and many other professional, educational activities, and community support services. For details of some of these activities, please visit the 2008-2009 LASPE Section Annual Report on our website: www.laspe.org.

Due to high level of activities, outstanding achievements, and excellent annual report, the LA Basin Section was nominated by the SPEI Membership Committee for consideration for a 2009 President's Award for Section Excellence (35 out of 170 sections were nominated). While our section unfortunately did not win the award this year (only 7 sections received the award), it was a close runner-up in the balloting according to the Committee Chairman. This is a great achievement for our section and an indication that with some novel initiatives and additional efforts by our volunteers, our section can win this award in the coming years.

Another major achievement for our section was the successful nomination and selection of our long time dedicated member,

officer, former Chairperson, and the great SPE advocate, **Dr. Sam Sarem as the 2009-2012 Western North America Regional Director** who will take over the Director position from our current Director, Dr. Med Kamal.

Although my term as the Chairperson draws to a close this month and I confidently pass the Chairperson position to Vanessa Perez, I will remain on the Board as the Junior Past Chairperson for the coming year and I will continue my service to the Section and the SPE at different capacities. I also would like to request you to do the same to help our section develop further and prosper more in the coming years. Additionally, I will have another very major responsibility for our section and our region this coming year that I need help of any volunteer and dedicated member. Last May, I have been honored to be nominated by the LASPE Board of Directors and further honored by the SPE Western North America Regional Council to be elected to serve (with significant help from our colleague, Scott Hara) as the Chairperson for the **2010 SPE Western North America Regional Meeting, WRM** (Co-General Chair of the **2010 Joint SPE-WNAR/AAPG-PS Meeting**) to be held in Anaheim, California, May 27-29. The conference will focus on technologies and issues affecting oil and gas fields in the Western North America Region. The information containing the Call for Papers is given in this newsletter and is posted on the Section website. *continues p 7.*

Message from the Chair

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Please convey the message to your colleagues and volunteer yourself (and recruit others) to help organize various committees and plan for a successful meeting to be hosted by our section next spring. As you agree with me this is a major task that requires coordinated efforts by many. Please be part of the team by volunteering to serve on a committee, submit and present a paper, exhibit your service/product, or simply attend and enjoy the meeting and learn about recent advances in the industry. For information and participation please contact me directly at: torabzad@csulb.edu or visit www.lasp.org for other contacts.

Finally, I would like to express my thanks and appreciation for the help and dedication of 2008-2009 Board members: Vanessa Perez, Rick Finken, Robert Visser, Rick Reeves, AB Gorashi, Mike Utt, Eric Withjack, Candra Janova, Kate Wallgren, Jack Smith, Scott Hara, Sam Sarem, Mike Felby, Iraj Ershaghi, Larry Gilpin, Ed Santiago, Ed Mayer, and many other volunteers who made the last year a very successful year for the LA SPE Section. I also want to thank WNAR Director Med Kamal and the WNAR Council members, SPEI Section Manager Brian Wiggins and his staff for their support of our section. Participation of SPE student chapter officers at USC and CSULB in section activities is also appreciated.

Jalal Torabzadeh
LASPE Chairperson 2008-2009

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> We appreciate your feedback. Send your comments/suggestions/contributions to Larry Gilpin, Editor: larry@4thforge.com If you no longer wish to receive this newsletter, please send an email to larry@4thforge.com

VISIT the LA SPE Web Site
@ www.LASPE.org

POSITIONS AVAILABLE

CA State Lands Commission

Open Exam for CHIEF, RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT, EXTRACTIVE DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

Position supervises royalty accounting, financial auditing, economic and financial analysis activities for State mineral development projects. Engineering and economic evaluation experience in the Petroleum Industry is desirable.

Position in Long Beach, \$10,318 - \$11,376 per month

For Minimum Qualifications and how to submit an Application, please see the Exam Bulletin located at

www.slc.ca.gov / 916-574-1910.

Final filing date 9/22/09

SERVICES OFFERED

**Reservoir Management
Drilling Programs
Waterflood Optimization
Tertiary Recovery / EOR
Economic Evaluation
Acquisition and Divestitures**

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GENERAL NEWS

SPE Petroleum Engineering Certification Program (<http://click.specommunications.org/t/54588/178741/5238/o/>)

Obtain an international credential recognizing your petroleum engineering knowledge. Prerequisites to taking the exam include an undergraduate engineering degree and four years of engineering experience. Learn how to apply and download the study guide. (<http://click.specommunications.org/t/54588/178741/5244/o/>)

For information on certification exam review courses and upcoming exam sessions, click here. (<http://click.specommunications.org/t/54588/178741/2233/o/>)

My SPE Network

Meet or reconnect with SPE members around the globe, It is exclusive to all SPE members. Log in <<http://click.specommunications.org/t/54588/178741/3450/o/>> with your SPE user name and password.

Network with EnergiseMyNetwork <<http://click.specommunications.org/t/54588/178741/5238/o/>>

The WPC is inviting **young professionals, students, experts and academics** from across the world to **exchange ideas** and debate issues linked to the future of the energy sector on a new community platform, EnergiseMyNetwork. **The WPC is interested in hearing your views, concerns, ideas** so that the right issues and topics are debated on this network and live at the Energise Your Future 2009, Youth Forum. <http://www.energiseyourfuture.com/registration.php> <<http://click.specommunications.org/t/54588/178741/5239/o/>>

ALP (<http://click.specommunications.org/t/54588/178741/5238/o/>)

The Ambassador Lecture Program provides sections the opportunity to have YP lecturers visit universities and secondary schools and give presentations on their career development, the industry and SPE. SPE will award a plaque to the section that makes the most ALP visits in 2009. If your section is not yet involved, and you would like to implement the program, please contact yp@spe.org.

Energy4me <<http://click.specommunications.org/t/54588/178741/5238/o/>>

Start an energy education outreach program for schools in your local area. Find out how at www.energy4me.org/speaker <<http://click.specommunications.org/t/54588/178741/5241/o/>> or contact EnergyEd@energy4me.org <<mailto:EnergyEd@energy4me.org>> for details.

Nico van Wingen Fellowship

The Nico van Wingen Memorial Graduate Fellowship awards up to 2 scholarships in the amount of USD 5,000 each per year. Eligible students must be members of an official SPE Student Chapter and must be at the Ph.D. level intending to pursue careers in academia.

Each SPE Student Chapter Faculty Advisor or Department Chair may nominate one candidate. The submission deadline is 1 November of each year. Please visit http://www.spe.org/spe-app/spe/about/foundation/van_wingen.htm for more information.

more GENERAL NEWS

Learn the Latest on Carbon Capture and Storage at the First SPE Conference on CCS

Mark your calendar and register today <<http://click.specommunications.org/t/57391/17786793/5120/o/>> to attend the first SPE International Conference on CO₂ Capture, Storage, and Utilization, being held 2-4 November 2009 at the Hyatt Regency La Jolla in San Diego, California, USA. *continues on page 9 . . .*

Under the theme, "Solutions and Technology for Our Energy and Climate Future," this conference sets the stage to define the issues and challenges of CO₂ in the E&P industry.

The technical program features high-quality papers; ePoster sessions; and a 4-part plenary session designed to orient discussion on CO₂ capture, transport, regulation, and storage. The plenary session, being held Tuesday, 3 November, includes the following participants:
Richard Rhudy, Electric Power Research Institute
Joy Kadnar, US Department of Transportation
Darrick Eugene, Vinson & Elkins
Julio Friedmann, Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory
Richard Esposito, Southern Company
Bruce Kobelski, US Environmental Protection Agency

Hear the latest on carbon capture and storage during the following technical sessions:
Storage Site Screening and Injection Strategies
Permitting and Sourcing CO₂ and Equipment Needs
Optimizing Simultaneous EOR/Sequestration as a Function of Carbon Price
MMV (MVA) Leakage Detection Activities
Field- and Pilot-Scale Activities Case Studies
Well Drilling, Completion, and Assessment
Injection Operations (including compression, remediation, and mitigation strategies)

Explore the full technical program <<http://click.specommunications.org/t/57391/17786793/5323/o/>> .

Join us on Monday, 2 November for Geological Aspects of CO₂ Injection in Subsurface Reservoirs Affecting CO₂ EOR and Storage <<http://click.specommunications.org/t/57391/17786793/5121/o/>> .

This 1-day, pre-conference seminar addresses important reservoir attributes, tools, and experiences of CO₂ EOR and applies their parameters to the storage phase. We look forward to seeing you in San Diego! Program

Chairpersons:

Sally Benson, Stanford University
Tom Blasingame, Texas A&M University
George Koperna, Advanced Resources International

Sponsorship opportunities are still available.

For more information, contact the SPE sales department: Joan Payne, jpayne@spe.org or Kirk Colligan, kcolligan@spe.org.

Don't forget to book your hotel accommodations! Rooms have been reserved at the Hyatt Regency La Jolla. Secure your housing at www.spe.org/events/co2 by 16 October 2009 to receive the conference discount rate.