

## Los Angeles Basin Section Society of Petroleum Engineers

*Recipient of the SPE President's Section Award for Excellence & a SPE Gold Standard Section*

### A Message from the Chair

#### **Distinguished Lecturers, California Sustainable Development Study Group, MESA Needs Volunteers**



Dear Colleagues,

The January 14<sup>th</sup> luncheon presented by David Biddick discussed the use of Downhole Compressor systems for gas wells at the producing sand face in order to maximum gas withdrawal rates while minimizing liquid loading. Our February keynote luncheon speaker will be

Distinguished Lecturer (DL), David S. Smith who will present a systematic process approach to addressing and solving conformance problems in floods or strong aquifer drive fields.

Following on the discussion thread of DLs, Ted Frankiewicz requested feedback from the LA SPE membership regarding the top 3 DLs for the 2020-2021 circuit. Having received the top choices, we will now be working with the other Western Region SPE Sections and requesting their choices. At that time, we will try to converge to a consensus to what the majority of our regional membership is requesting regarding the selected topics and speakers and I will follow-up in due course.

Another area of interest that I would like to bring forward to the membership is the introduction of a new and focused group for the Californian Oil and Gas Industry, "The California Sustainable

*continues on next page...*

### **PETROLEUM TECHNOLOGY LUNCHEON TUESDAY FEBRUARY 11<sup>TH</sup>**

The next Petroleum Technology Luncheon: "Driving Conformance Success Through Better Problem Understanding and a Process Approach" By David D. Smith, ConocoPhillips. *Details on page 3*

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Conformance Success  
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<p><u>Location:</u> The Grand 4101 E. Willow St Long Beach, CA 90815</p>	<p><u>Time:</u> Registration: 11:30 AM Lunch: 11:45 AM Presentation: 12:00-1:00 PM</p>	<p><u>Cost:</u> \$30.00 Members and Non-members Students \$10 each</p>
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Message from the Chair continues...

Development Study Group”. With the myriad challenges regarding, new state and federal legislation and regulation, climate change activism, carbon capture and a miss-informed externality of public policy towards the oil and gas industry this will be an engaging and important study group. Anyone wishing to find additional information on this topic can read Page 7 of the newsletter or contact Tony Zamora.

On the educational front it is again that time of the year to support this year’s California Mathematics, Engineering, Science Achievement (MESA) program on March 7<sup>th</sup>, March 21<sup>st</sup> and April 4<sup>th</sup>, please read Page 5 of the newsletter and contact Scott Hara who will need volunteers and support for this annual activity that LA SPE is involved with. I would encourage you all to try and help out if possible for one of the days this year that the MESA competitions will be taking place.

I hope to see many of you at the luncheon on February 11<sup>th</sup> at The Grand, 4101 E. Willow St. Long Beach, CA 90815. In order to get a head count **please advise Ted Frankiewicz**, Email: [tcfrankiewicz@gmail.com](mailto:tcfrankiewicz@gmail.com) if you wish to attend the luncheon.

Cheers

Baldev S Gill

SPE LA Basin Section Chair 2020

LASPE Upcoming Events  
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**LASPE Website**

[connect.spe.org/  
LosAngelesBasin/Home](http://connect.spe.org/LosAngelesBasin/Home)

[Young Professionals Facebook](#)



Los Angeles Basin Section

[www.laspe.org](http://www.laspe.org)

**PETROLEUM TECHNOLOGY LUNCHEON - FEBRUARY 11TH**

<p><u>Location:</u> The Grand 4101 E. Willow St Long Beach, CA 90815</p>	<p><u>Time:</u> Registration: 11:30 AM Lunch: 11:45 AM Presentation: 12:00-1:00 PM</p>	<p><u>Cost:</u> \$30.00 members and non-members Students \$10 each</p>
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**Driving Conformance Success Through Better Problem Understanding and a Process Approach**

**David S. Smith, ConocoPhillips**

**Abstract:**

In order to improve your success in applying conformance solutions, focus your efforts and attention on understanding the full nature of the problem instead of focusing on solution products. This is best achieved through an aggressive and regimented process approach. This presentation will justify, outline and examine what this takes and will show three field case histories, on how this has been applied. Also included is a review on the Conformance Solution Continuum and Conformance Problem Matrix with a solution overlay.

**Bio:**

David has been an active member of the petroleum industry for more than 38 years. His SPE activity has focused on IOR and he has been a member of the technical program committee since 2002. David was the Technical Program Chairman for the 2014 SPE-IOR meeting. David's has spent a majority of his career focused on improving flood management and reservoir sweep. Most of this has been through designing, executing and evaluating water and gas shut-off solutions. The last 16 years of his career have been as a global "Conformance Engineering Advisor" for either Occidental Petroleum or ConocoPhillips. During these years David has developed some key insights to solving conformance problems in a multitude of flooding or strong aquifer drive fields. He has taken these insights and developed some very basic, but insightful, guidelines on how to address and solve conformance problems. In this presentation David shares those key elements and thoughts to help you manage your fields conformance issues.



**RSVP required, contact Ted Frankiewicz at [tcfrankiewicz@gmail.com](mailto:tcfrankiewicz@gmail.com)**

**PHOTOS OF THE  
PETROLEUM TECHNOLOGY LUNCHEON  
JANUARY 14TH**

**Upwing Subsurface Compressor System™ (SCS) for Gas  
Wells**

**David Biddick, Upwing Energy Project Director**







## 2020 LASPE Community Outreach Program

**PLEASE JOIN US at MESA Days starting next month. WE'D APPRECIATE YOUR HELP to encourage disadvantaged students to become engineers.** We are partnering with the California Mathematics, Engineering, Science Achievement (MESA) Program at their MESA Day Competitions for over 1,400 High School and Middle School students at CSU Long Beach and 800 students from throughout southern California in Riverside.

**WE NEED VOLUNTEERS** to have a fun day judging student projects and competitions, leading and demonstrating science and math-based games and experiments, and giving presentations and panel sessions about engineering and our industry.

Come to one or all three MESA Days. We meet at 8am and your duties will end about 1pm. Continental breakfast and lunch are included, and you will receive a SPE / MESA sportsack bag.

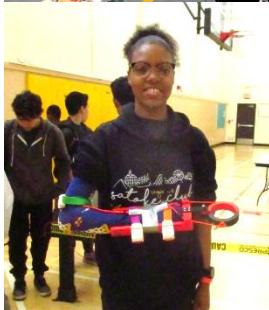
**March 7** Middle School, CSU Long Beach School of Engineering

**March 21** High School, CSU Long Beach School of Engineering

**Top Three Students in each event go to the Regional MESA Days Competitions against MESA Centers throughout southern California**

**April 4** SoCal Middle and High School, Bournes Technology Center near UC Riverside

If you are interested in participating in any of the MESA Days, please contact Scott Hara at [scotthara@yahoo.com](mailto:scotthara@yahoo.com) or 626-482-6757 cell.



## ENCORPS STEM TEACHING FELLOWSHIP WILL TRANSITION PROFESSIONALS TO MIDDLE & HIGH SCHOOL TEACHERS

**Have you considered teaching as your next career?**

**Inspire the next generation of innovators by becoming a teacher!**

The EnCorps STEM Teaching Fellowship transitions professionals from science, technology, engineering and math careers to middle and high school teachers. Fellows engage in weekly guest teaching with a mentor teacher, online and in person training, 1:1 coaching, earn a California teaching credential and work in various public district and charter schools. As a professional coming from STEM industry, you are uniquely positioned to inspire and engage students who need you most – those in our country’s most disadvantaged schools. As a professional coming from STEM industry, you are uniquely positioned to inspire and engage students who need you most – those in our country’s most disadvantaged schools.

EnCorps Teacher Julian Lewis not only connects his students to real applications of math and science in his aerospace engineering classroom, he inspired one student to pursue an education at Embry Riddle Aeronautical University, just like he did. A former Lockheed Martin aerospace engineer of 34 years, Lewis grew up in the South Bronx and was inspired by an eighth grade teacher who was a pilot. He says that the satisfaction of working on amazing aircraft equals the satisfaction he gets from watching his students become engaged in aerospace. “At the end of the day, what’s going to be your legacy? What have you impacted? As I share my experience, they are realizing I too can do that. They will be better individuals because I am here.”

<[Watch the video](#)>

EnCorps is accepting applications, [apply today](#).



## INTRODUCING CALIFORNIA SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT STUDY GROUP

SPE is forming a new regional Study Group that will focus on sustainability issues facing the California oil & gas industry. The group will host regular (target monthly) meetings to bring together SPE members from industry, government and consulting to share best practices, discuss challenges and learn about new science & technology supporting sustainable oil & gas development in California.

We plan informal luncheon meetings (i.e. sandwiches, pizza) in various cities (Bakersfield, LA, Sacramento) which will feature a guest speaker presenting information on a topic of sustainable development and a group discussion. The meetings will bring SPE members together face-to-face, but each meeting will also be broadcast as webinars available for all SPE global members via SPE.org.

This initiative is just kicking off and our first Study Group Meeting is planned for April or May. A steering team of representatives from industry, government and academia has been formed to establish scope & objectives and to identify monthly topics and speakers. See below for our Vision, Purpose and Objectives:

**VISION:** A group of professionals sharing ideas, challenges and opportunities to support sustainable oil and gas development in California.

**PURPOSE:** Provide a forum for professionals who are working on environmental protection in and around the California upstream oil and gas industry (i.e. employed by operators, service providers, consultancies or regulatory agencies) to join together in open discussion to share ideas, challenges and opportunities.

**OBJECTIVES:**

- Meet regularly (quarterly or monthly) in video or teleconference
- Identify common challenges and needs
- Share best practices with each other as well as SPE community broadly
- Provide output facts and data for education to industry and public
- Align on and promote common terminology
- Share new information on developing legislation or regulation
- Share new information on developing technology

Sustainable Oil & Gas Development is a broad scope—within which we intended to focus on issues of climate action, affordable clean energy, clean water, waste reduction and community engagement. (for a good map of how our industry supports Sustainable Development, see joint report on [Mapping the oil and gas industry to the Sustainable Development Goals](#)).

A few topics in our cue that we are working to deliver in upcoming meetings:

- Carbon Capture, Use and Storage (CCUS) potential in Calif
- Repurposing abandoned infrastructure for geothermal and/or gas storage
- Offshore decommissioning
- Geochemical process for CO<sub>2</sub> mineralization
- Methane emissions monitoring via aerial or satellite imaging.
- New regulatory initiatives and programs
- Renewable energy use within field operations
- SPE's Gaia Program supporting sustainable development

In the coming weeks we will be posting and emailing additional information about upcoming meetings. In the meantime, if you are interested in participating (presenting or organizing) in Sustainable Development Study Group meetings—or if you have an idea for a good topic/presenter—please contact Tony Zamora at [tony@tonyzamora.com](mailto:tony@tonyzamora.com).

## **SPE STUDENT CHAPTER REPORTS**

### **USC SPE Hosting 2020 North America Student Symposium**

As our first full month of the semester begins, we have detailed the final preparations for North American Student Symposium from February 9th to the 11th. Over 100 people have already registered. The overarching theme for this year's symposium will be centered around how data science is transforming the energy industry. It will include the North America Petrobowl Regional Qualifier as well as technical sessions from leaders in industry and academia. Furthermore, the last day of the event will offer a field trip to California Resources Corporation Island. We are extremely excited for this event and thankful to the sponsors such as Chevron and LA Basin SPE and volunteers who have helped put together this event. More information can be found below.

#### **Agenda**

##### **Sunday, February 09**

07:30 - 13:00

Conference Registration and Badge Collection Seeley G Mudd Building, USC

08:00 - 16:00

2020 North America PetroBowl Regional Qualifier Seeley G Mudd Building, USC

12:00 - 13:00

Networking Luncheon

##### **Monday, February 10**

08:30 - 16:00

Conference Registration and Badge Collection

09:00 - 10:30

Opening Session TCC Ballroom, USC

- Welcome by the Dean of Viterbi School Engineering **Dr. Yannis Yortsos**
- Introduction by **Dr. Ershaghi** about the changes happening to the Petroleum Engineering Education
- Keynote by **Michelle Pflueger**, Chevron

10:30 - 10:45

Break



## SPE STUDENT CHAPTER REPORTS CONTINUE

10:45 - 12:00

Panel on Oil Field Digital Transformation TCC Ballroom

- Moderator** Michelle Pflueger, Chevron
- **Dr. Donald Paul**, The Executive Director of the USC Energy: Institute on Petroleum Informatics
  - **Mr. Jim Crompton**, on Digital Transformation
  - **Dr. Cliff Neuman**, on Physical and Cyber Security

12:00 - 13:00

Networking Luncheon TCC Ballroom

13:00 - 14:00

Panel on Environmental Issues and Decarbonization TCC Ballroom

- Moderator** Lauren Gentile
- **Lauren Gentile**, Aera Challenges and Opportunities
  - **Dr Surya Prakash**, Methanol Economy
  - **Dr Kristian Jessen**, Subsurface CO2 Sequestration

13:00 - 16:00

Student Presentations Student Presentation Room

14:00 - 16:00

Industry Technical Focused Presentations Ballroom/Main Session Room

Field Trip: Tuesday 11 February 2020 7.30am - 1pm

**THUMS Island Tour - Long Beach Harbor, California**

**SELECTED SPE UPCOMING EVENTS 2020**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Title</b>
Feb 11*	<b>David D. Smith DL</b> “Driving Conformance Success Through Better Problem Understanding and a Process Approach”
March 10*	<b>Geoff Downton DL</b> “Rotary Steerable Systems Current Trends and Future Directions”
March 26	SPE Young Professionals Meeting Rock Bottom Restaurant & Brewery, Long Beach, 5pm - 8pm
May 12*	<b>C. Susan Howes DL</b> “Toolkit for Making Better Decisions when Faced With Ethical Dilemmas”
* Asterisk * on date indicates a Board of Directors meeting starts at 10:30 AM prior to Petroleum Technology Luncheon. All are welcome to attend.	

**DEADLINES FOR NEWSLETTER ARTICLE SUBMISSION**

Month Published	1st Submission Call	Last Submission Call	No Submissions Accepted After	Newsletter Publish Date
March	2/17/20	2/24/20	2/28/20	3/2/20
April	3/17/20	3/23/20	3/27/20	4/1/20
May	4/20/20	4/27/20	4/30/20	5/4/20



Los Angeles Basin Section  
www.laspe.org

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