

# 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

### Welcome 2021, Changes Fueled by Covid and Politics, Renew SPE Membership, Golf Tournament Planned for April, Petroleum Technology Presentations



Dear Colleagues,

Happy new year! I hope everyone enjoyed their time with family and away from their work computer over the holidays, even if they were only able to see a select few family members, or maybe you visited outdoors with masks on.

First, I welcome 2021 in a way I have never welcomed a new year. Second, this month will see a lot of changes as Covid-19 vaccines are rolled out and a new presidential administration takes office. These two items remind me of the changes that our members have seen in their careers, and the changes we will all continue to see. Petroleum continues to provide feedstocks to vital products like the plastics found in PPE, syringes, and other medical supplies. Petroleum-based fuels will also disproportionately help fuel the economic recovery, infrastructure modernization, and ultimate the push toward a net-zero/net-negative carbon economy the incoming administration will be pushing for. As a technical society we will be part of the progress that continues to provide reliable fuels that drive our economy.

A friendly reminder to please renew your SPE membership if you have not already. If you think you might qualify for a fee waiver, please paste this link in your web browser to see options:  
<https://www.spe.org/en/join/options/#waiver>.

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**THE JANUARY 12 PETROLEUM TECHNOLOGY "LUNCHEON" WILL BE A MS TEAMS MEETING FEATURING DR. ARIAN EDALAT OF PACIFICA WATER SOLUTIONS PRESENTING: AN OVERVIEW OF PRODUCED WATER DESALINATION FOR BENEFICIAL REUSE IN CALIFORNIA**

*see page 3 for details*

Message from the Chair continues...

I would also like to welcome any new members to SPE LA Basin, especially our friends from the Ventura area. As a reminder we are still planning to host a golf tournament in 2021 and it is tentatively scheduled for April 23rd, 2021. The board is still looking at the details including where we could hold the event safely, and what distancing protocols will be in place at that time.

This month Dr. Arian Edalat from Pacifica Water Solutions will be presenting a paper titled “An Overview of Produced Water Desalination for beneficial reuse in California”. In February we will have an SPEI Distinguished Lecturer, Talib Syed, PE will be presenting “Life Cycle Well Integrity: Imperatives for Developing New and Mature Assets”.

Sincerely,  
Andrew López  
SPE LA Basin Section Chair 2020-2021  
[aslopez@burnsmcd.com](mailto:aslopez@burnsmcd.com)

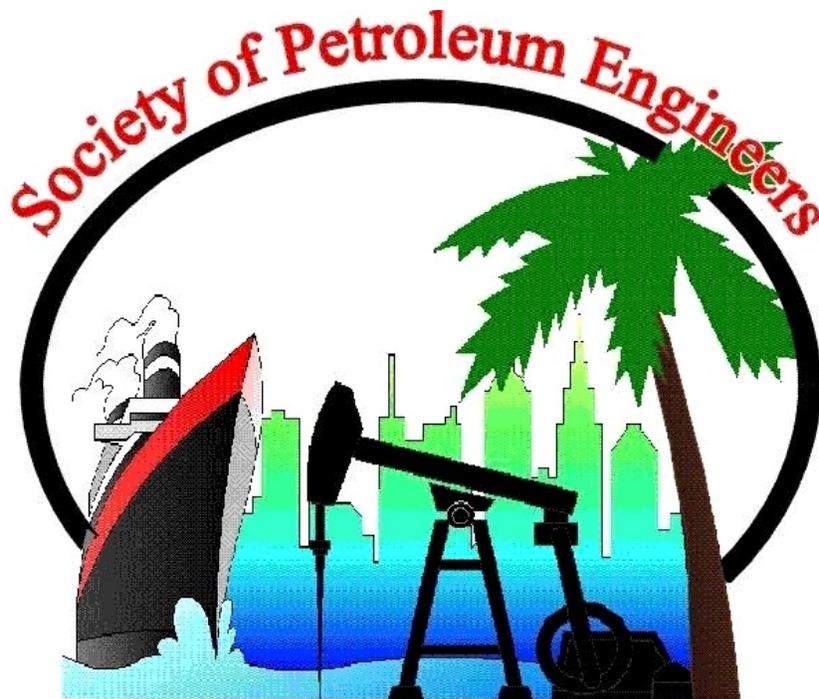
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**LASPE Website**  
[connect.spe.org/  
LosAngelesBasin/Home](http://connect.spe.org/LosAngelesBasin/Home)

[Young Professionals Facebook](#)



Los Angeles Basin Section

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

**PETROLEUM TECHNOLOGY VIRTUAL “LUNCHEON”  
WILL BE A MS TEAMS MEETING - NOON ON JAN 12**

**Dr. Arian Edalat, of Pacifica Water Solutions, presenting:  
An Overview of Produced Water Desalination for beneficial reuse in California**

*Click link below just before joining meeting*

[https://teams.microsoft.com/dl/launcher/launcher.html?url=-%02F-%023%02F1%02Fmeetup-join%02F19%03Ameeting\\_ZTKoNWy2ZmQtMDEzOCooYzYyLWExOTItZDk2MGEyODY2YjM4%040thread.v2%02Fo%03Fcontext%03D%0257b%02522Tid%02522%0253a%02522bffb9a2b-6d99-4e78-b3c7-95005d555c8b%02522%0252c%02522Oid%02522%0253a%0252292d6b96b-6b03-4f17-bad7-oedbadbc8986%02522%0257d%026anon%03Dtrue&type=meetup-join&deeplinkId=02feda7a-2b90-4c74-8574-1fd4e38f62c&directDl=true&msLaunch=true&enableMobilePage=true&suppressPrompt=true](https://teams.microsoft.com/dl/launcher/launcher.html?url=-%02F-%023%02F1%02Fmeetup-join%02F19%03Ameeting_ZTKoNWy2ZmQtMDEzOCooYzYyLWExOTItZDk2MGEyODY2YjM4%040thread.v2%02Fo%03Fcontext%03D%0257b%02522Tid%02522%0253a%02522bffb9a2b-6d99-4e78-b3c7-95005d555c8b%02522%0252c%02522Oid%02522%0253a%0252292d6b96b-6b03-4f17-bad7-oedbadbc8986%02522%0257d%026anon%03Dtrue&type=meetup-join&deeplinkId=02feda7a-2b90-4c74-8574-1fd4e38f62c&directDl=true&msLaunch=true&enableMobilePage=true&suppressPrompt=true)

**Abstract:**

There is approximately 3.2 million barrels of oilfield produced water generated per year across oil fields of California. While only 8% of this produced water receives advanced treatment for beneficial reuse, changing regulations and increasing scarcity of freshwater resources is expected to increase the demand for beneficial reuse. This paper reviews onshore produced water quality across California, relevant regulatory standards and treatment objectives for beneficial reuse, identifies contaminants of concern, and treatment process design considerations. Lastly, we evaluate the capital and operating costs of an integrated membrane system for treating produced water based on data from a field pilot conducted in the coastal region of California.

**Biography:**

Arian Edalat has a Ph.D. in Chemical Engineering from University of Bradford, Bradford, U.K. and is an expert in oil-water separation and desalination processes; his dissertation research focused on mechanisms of oil/water separation using flotation and electrostatic coalescence. Subsequently, Dr. Edalat took his Chemical Engineering background and worked on a range of industrial and municipal separation problems and technologies. From 2003 through 2010, Dr. Edalat served in managerial positions, supervising the installation, commissioning, operation, and maintenance of several large-scale RO desalination plants in the Middle East. In that capacity, he has also conducted process design, financial analysis, and troubleshooting of several RO processes and projects.

In 2011 he joined Water Planet Inc., a Los Angeles based water treatment startup developing and managing a number of engineering projects and products related to membrane-based separation. In this capacity, Dr. Edalat has undertaken design, engineering, troubleshooting, optimization, product development, and in-house and field pilot testing, and commercial water treatment plant installation and operations and maintenance for major domestic and international oil companies, industrial groups, and public utilities.

In June 2019, he founded California based Pacifica Water Solutions with a mission to apply his diversified experience and background to develop innovative technologies to help advance the frontiers of sustainable water treatment.

Aside from water treatment, his interests include hiking, landscape photography, and reading cross-cultural literary work.





## SPE California Sustainability Study Group Webinar



Tuesday, January 19 at 12:00pm (noon) Pacific Time

**Steve Bohlen, Chief of the California Geologic Survey**

### ***“What Would Carbon Neutrality Mean for California’s Oil & Gas Industry?”***

California has set an ambitious goal of being carbon-neutral (zero net carbon emissions) by 2045. Steve Bohlen, California’s Acting State Geologist, will give an overview of Lawrence Livermore’s 2020 study, ***Getting to Neutral: Options for Negative Carbon Emissions in California***—which outlines specific pathways for California to meet its goal by removing carbon from the atmosphere as well as cutting emissions.

Meeting its ambitious Net Zero goal will transform the California’s oil and gas industry and offers the industry an opportunity to lead the world in developing and investing in solutions to remove carbon dioxide from the atmosphere and storing it underground. Steve will share his thoughts on how Petroleum Engineers can prepare for – and potentially prosper from – the coming transformation.



**Speaker: Steve Bohlen, Chief of California Geologic Survey**

Steve Bohlen is California’s Acting State Geologist and head of the California Geological Survey—which provides scientific products and services about the state’s geology, seismology and mineral resources. Previously, he led the Energy and Homeland Security Program at Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory. In that role he has also served as an advisor to the Legislature on ways to achieve California’s carbon neutrality goals through carbon removal and negative emissions strategies. He had previously served DOC as State Oil and Gas Supervisor from 2014-2015, leading organizational restructuring and laying the foundation for a modern, science-based program to regulate oil and gas under the guiding principle of public and environmental safety.

A graduate of the Dartmouth College, Steve earned a Ph.D. in geochemistry from The University of Michigan in 1979. Through his long career, Dr. Bohlen has served science and society as a prominent researcher, professor, senior manager in the US Federal and CA State governments, and CEO of a systems engineering and naval architecture firm.

**[Register Today!](#)**

***Webinar is Tuesday, [January 19 at Noon](#)***

For more information, please contact: [info@tonyamora.com](mailto:info@tonyamora.com)

To learn more about the SPE California Sustainability Study Group, [visit our website](#)

## REGIONAL DIRECTOR BLOG

Regional Director Blog –  
Steve Cheung - SPE North America  
January 2021



Dear fellow SPE members,

Wish you and family a very Happy and Healthy New Year!

I am so glad that the year 2020 was over as it has been a very difficult one for most of us. The happy memory that stood out for me was the virtual SPE North America Holiday Party when I was able to greet and meet with many members from Canada, Mexico and USA. I welcomed and enjoyed the chance to reconnect with old friends and meet new ones.

I look forward to the year 2021. The best news is that the Covid-19 vaccines have been approved, and millions of doses are being distributed. I begin to see a glimmer of hope because many of us will be able to get the shots within several months. The “normal and happy” days will be here again. For the time being, we should continue to wear the facemask, wash hands often and keep social distances.

I strongly encourage you to renew your SPE membership: <https://www.spe.org/en/join/renew/> . SPE provides opportunities for us to learn technical and business management and leadership skills. One excellent example is the distribution of Regional Event Monthly Calendar for you to sign up and attend technical talks being streamed in the GC, SWNA and WNA regions. As a member, you can also attend the Distinguished Lectures and conferences at discounted rates. SPE also facilitates the networking among members so we can improve our career, job and business connections. The SPE membership is a great investment for our future.

I also encourage you to nominate a colleague for SPE Awards: <https://www.spe.org/en/awards/> . You are letting your colleagues know that their efforts and contribution are being noticed. It will motivate them to improve our profession’s technical knowledge and to keep the sections and student chapters going. The deadline for the International Awards will be February 21, and that for the Regional Awards will be March 1. Thanks for considering to nominate colleagues.

Again, may your 2021 be healthy and prosperous. I miss you and look forward to the days when we can meet face-to-face again,

Steve Cheung  
SPE Regional Director - North America (GC / SWNA / WNA)

## DISTINGUISHED LECTURERS ONLINE!

With Covid-19 causing cancelations of the presentation meetings world wide, you can still become informed by watching the [DL Webinars](#) - see below.

**Here is the link to the complete selection of over 50 DL Webinars - [click here](#)**

### Distinguished Lecturer Webinar Program

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#### Live Webinars

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#### On-Demand Webinars Advanced Search This List

New to Old ▼

**Global Climate Change Wars and Fossil Energy; Current and Future Realities**  
Contains 3 Component(s), Includes Credits

Presented by Dr. George Stosur

**Magnetic Resonance Technology: from Medical to the Oil Industry**  
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Presented by Gabor Hursan

**Production Optimisation of Conventional and Unconventional Wells with ESP Real Time Data**  
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Presented by Lawrence Camilleri

**Petroleum Resources Management System (PRMS): Maintaining the Global Standard and Addressing Key Concerns**  
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**Drilling Decision Management in the Age of Drilling Automation**  
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Presented by Richard Meehan

**EOR While Fracturing: Unconventional Rock-Fluid Interactions**  
Contains 3 Component(s), Includes Credits

Presented by Dr. Hassan Dehghanpour

« 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 »

## Make an impact one student at a time. Become a STEMx Tutor.

Volunteer to deliver high quality math education to students who need your mentorship as a virtual STEMx Tutor with EnCorps.



Tutors will be paired with one student for a semester and expected to meet twice a week, for 1 hour. Tutoring times are scheduled by you and the student. [Apply Today!](#)

Contact [tanja.schroeder@encorps.org](mailto:tanja.schroeder@encorps.org)  
for more information



Dear SPE MEMBERS:

Do you have two hours per week to make a huge difference during this uncertain and tumultuous time? Be a mentor to the students who need you the most. Your time spent with them will impact their future success.

We are seeking industry professionals from all walks of life – early career, mid-career and retirees with expertise in math and science. You do not need any prior experience in education!

EnCorps STEM Teachers Program's vision is to realize a day where all students, regardless of socioeconomic status, are inspired and prepared to pursue their dreams. Join EnCorps STEM Teachers Program as a STEMx Tutor and commit to providing quality education to the students who need your mentorship the most. As a STEMx Tutor, you will be paired with a student for an entire semester. Please see our flyer and website at <https://www.encorps.org/>

Tanja Schroeder  
EnCorps STEM Teachers Program  
Southern California Recruitment Coordinator  
[tanja.schroeder@encorps.org](mailto:tanja.schroeder@encorps.org)  
760-905-9010



**Applaud excellence in the E&P industry by nominating a deserving candidate for a 2021 Society of Petroleum Engineers Award.**

Dear Larry V. Gilpin,

SPE membership grows with you. Your long-standing support means we can invest in the leaders of today and tomorrow. Now is the time to help nurture and cultivate their fresh ideas as they navigate our industry. Applaud excellence in the E&P industry by nominating a deserving candidate for an annual award given by the Society of Petroleum Engineers.

SPE Awards recognize expertise and contributions to the upstream oil and gas industry. The 2021 SPE Awards will be presented at the international and regional levels for:

- Technical contributions
- Professional excellence
- Career achievement
- Service to colleagues
- Industry leadership
- Public service

**SPE Awards start with YOU!**

**Do you know someone who deserves recognition for outstanding work in the E&P industry?**

Click link below to nominate a candidate:

[Nominate Colleague](#)

International nominations deadline: **15 February**

Regional nominations deadline: **1 March**

## SEEKING NOMINEES FOR SPE LA BASIN SECTION BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Members and colleagues,

The Society of Petroleum Engineers-LA Basin Section is seeking nominees for an open position on the Board of Directors (BOD) that would commence this year. All positions are for a 3-year term. If you would like to be involved, please contact Vanessa Perez at [perezv28@gmail.com](mailto:perezv28@gmail.com). Transfers from all sections are welcome.

Candidate may submit a brief biography or resume emphasizing your education, petroleum industry-related activities and previous involvement in SPE local, regional or national programs. Please submit to [perezv28@gmail.com](mailto:perezv28@gmail.com)

Commitment for this position involves virtual attendance of a monthly BOD meeting and involvement in one or more local committees such as scholarship, science Fair, FSEA, golf, OCEC, LACES, membership, program, etc. Currently, the BOD meetings are held virtually on Tuesday at 10:30 a.m.-12:00 noon via TeamMeetings.

Looking forward to receiving your bio. If you have any questions, feel free to contact Vanessa Perez by email [perezv28@gmail.com](mailto:perezv28@gmail.com) by January 10.

Secretary Needed!

LASPE is also seeking a Secretary. The position involves attending the monthly BOD meetings, taking notes at the BOD meetings, and issuing written minutes. Becoming Secretary allows you to get familiar with the section business and gives you SPE exposure. Please email me at [perezv28@gmail.com](mailto:perezv28@gmail.com), if interested.

Warm regards,  
Vanessa M. Perez  
LA Basin SPE Board Member

LASPE Appreciation Lunch



## SPE STUDENT CHAPTER REPORTS

### USC SPE Student Chapter

The USC SPE chapter is pleased to welcome 2021, wishing all a safe and rewarding year, and commence our 2021 webinar series.

Our first speaker of the year will be Leland Char, a Senior Product Manager at Walmart Media Group. Leland graduated from USC in 2012 after earning a Master's degree in Petroleum Engineering. After beginning his career in the energy industry, he transitioned to careers in consulting and then marketing. During a Q and A process, he will speak to us about jump-starting our engineering careers and how engineering skills can prepare us for careers in other industries and fields. Below is a flyer with a specific time and date for this webinar.

Throughout the Spring semester, we will be hosting many other speakers. We will also be looking to perform volunteer work within our community as the COVID difficulties continue. In addition to this, we will be reaching out to students at USC to increase membership in this economic downturn and provide opportunities for our students to learn more about the energy industry and the necessary skills for a fruitful career in this industry.

Finally, we would like to thank the LA Basin and our faculty advisor, Dr. Iraj Ershaghi, for supporting our student chapter and all of our hard-working board members.

The flyer is titled "USC SPE LIVE" and features a portrait of Leland Char, a Senior Product Manager at Walmart Media Group. It announces a virtual discussion and Q/A session on "Using Engineering Skills in Other Businesses" on January 19, 2021, from 1-2 PM PST. The event is presented by the USC SPE Student Chapter. Logos for SPE International, USC SPE Student Chapter, and USC Viterbi School of Engineering are included. Zoom meeting details (ID: 876 711 4532, Passcode: 22222) are provided at the bottom.

**USC SPE LIVE**

USC SPE Student Chapter  
Presents a Virtual Discussion and Q/A

**Using Engineering Skills  
in Other Businesses**

Leland Char is Graduate of Petroleum Eng. at USC

**JANUARY 19, 2021 FROM 1-2 PM PST**

**USC Viterbi**  
School of Engineering

Join Zoom Meeting  
Meeting ID: 876 711 4532  
Passcode: 22222

**SELECTED SPE UPCOMING EVENTS 2020 - 2021**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Title</b>
January 12*	Arian Edalat (Pacifica Water Solutions) and Professor Eric Hoek (UCLA Dept. of Civil and Environmental Engineering). "New and Emerging Technology for Cleaning Produced Water for Beneficial Reuse in California"
January 19	Steve Bohlen, Chief of the California Geologic Survey "What Would Carbon Neutrality Mean for California's Oil & Gas Industry?" Presenting for the SPE California Sustainability Study Group Webinar
February 10*	Talib Syed, SPEI Distinguished Lecturer Life Cycle Well Integrity: Imperatives for Developing New and Mature Assets (Drilling)
March 10*	Anthony Allison, SPEI Distinguished Lecturer Accurate Load & Position Measurement is Critical to Quality Dynamometer Analysis (Production Operations)
April 13*	TBA
April 23	<b>LASPE Annual Charity Golf Tournament</b>
	* 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
February 2021	1/18	1/25	1/28	Feb 1
March 2021	2/15	2/22	2/26	March 2
April 2021	3/15	3/22	3/29	April 1



Los Angeles Basin Section  
[www.laspe.org](http://www.laspe.org)

**2020 - 2021 LASPE OFFICERS, BOARD & CONTACTS**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Position</b>	<b>E-mail</b>
Andrew López	LASPE Chairperson 2020-2021	<a href="mailto:aslopez@burnsmcd.com">aslopez@burnsmcd.com</a>
Open	Vice Chairperson	
Robert Schaaf	Past Chair - Board Member	<a href="mailto:rschaaf@socal.rr.com">rschaaf@socal.rr.com</a>
Francois Florence	Treasurer - Board member through 2020	<a href="mailto:francois.florence@gmail.com">francois.florence@gmail.com</a>
Andrew Lopez	Secretary - Board member through 2021	<a href="mailto:aslopez@burnsmcd.com">aslopez@burnsmcd.com</a>
Ian Johnecheck	Board member through 2022	<a href="mailto:ianJohnecheck@gmail.com">ianJohnecheck@gmail.com</a>
Ted Frankiewicz	Board member through 2020	<a href="mailto:tcfrankiewicz@gmail.com">tcfrankiewicz@gmail.com</a>
Vanessa Perez	Board member through 2022	<a href="mailto:perezv28@gmail.com">perezv28@gmail.com</a>
<b>Committee Chairs</b>		
Open	Awards	
Ted Frankiewicz	Forum and Program Chair	<a href="mailto:tcfrankiewicz@gmail.com">tcfrankiewicz@gmail.com</a>
JR Smoyer	Golf Tournament Committee Advisor	<a href="mailto:jr.smoyer@raptorwireline.com">jr.smoyer@raptorwireline.com</a>
Scott Hara	Community Outreach/STEM	<a href="mailto:scotthara@yahoo.com">scotthara@yahoo.com</a>
Vanessa Perez		<a href="mailto:perezv28@gmail.com">perezv28@gmail.com</a>
Ian Johnecheck	YP Activities	<a href="mailto:ianjohnecheck@gmail.com">ianjohnecheck@gmail.com</a>
Dr. Iraj Ershaghi	Publication Mentor	<a href="mailto:ershaghi@usc.edu">ershaghi@usc.edu</a>
Brian Tran	Scholarship	<a href="mailto:briantran01@yahoo.com">briantran01@yahoo.com</a>
A.B. Gorashi	Training	<a href="mailto:goras9@aol.com">goras9@aol.com</a>
JR Smoyer	Young Professional	<a href="mailto:jr.smoyer@raptorwireline.com">jr.smoyer@raptorwireline.com</a>
Robert Schaaf	Nominations pro tem	<a href="mailto:rschaaf@socal.rr.com">rschaaf@socal.rr.com</a>
Larry Gilpin	Newsletter & Website Editor / Publisher	<a href="mailto:Larry@4thForge.com">Larry@4thForge.com</a>
Steve Shryock	Student Chapter Liaison	<a href="mailto:sgshryock@aol.com">sgshryock@aol.com</a>
Dr. Jalal Torabzadeh	Student Chapter Advisor - CSULB	<a href="mailto:jalal.torabzadeh@csulb.edu">jalal.torabzadeh@csulb.edu</a>
	Student Chapter President - CSULB	<a href="mailto:beach.spe@gmail.com">beach.spe@gmail.com</a>
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Shadi Torabi	Student Chapter President - USC	<a href="mailto:uscspe@usc.edu">uscspe@usc.edu</a> <a href="mailto:shaditor@usc.edu">shaditor@usc.edu</a>
Dr. Steve Cheung	SPE Regional Director-North America	<a href="mailto:stevespe@yahoo.com">stevespe@yahoo.com</a>
SPE International	Contact for Sections	<a href="mailto:sections@SPE.org">sections@SPE.org</a>