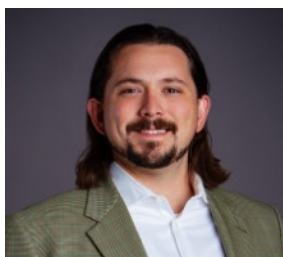


## Los Angeles Basin Section Society of Petroleum Engineers

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

### A Message from the Chair

**Summer Fun, AI in O&G Tech, Decarbonization, WRM held in May in Anchorage, Hydrogen House Field Trip**



Dear Colleagues,

We have reached the start of Summer and that means this is the last meeting and newsletter until the 2023-24 season. I hope everyone has some fun time planned with their family this summer and I hope that you got some information, networking, and even fun out of your SPE membership this past 2022-2023 season.

Technology continues to advance all industries and AI has been in the news a lot; the Oil & Gas industry is no different. According to Ernst & Young, the Oil & Gas industry is looking to change the view of being slow-moving and outdated using AI, [92% of oil and gas companies](#) worldwide are investing in AI or planning to do so in the next 5 years. AI is being employed to analyze sensor data and to modify and perform [predictive maintenance](#) (PM) preventing unnecessary downtime and also reducing other PM deemed unnecessary.

The skills and machinery developed over decades in the Oil & Gas industry are frequently applied to other industries needed for the energy transition. Mining operations for metals needed in battery production are being aided by [personnel and equipment](#) from the Oil & Gas industry. The US DOE has awarded \$165 million to an [SPE-involved consortium](#) that hopes to leverage the industry's 100+ years of drilling and subsurface engineering experience to advance the geothermal industry. The trend toward decarbonization continues,

*Continued next page*

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**The LASPE Technology Field Trip to the Hydrogen House  
will be Tuesday June 20th at 11:30AM, at the Hydrogen House in Downey  
Organized by Andrew López, LASPE Chairperson**

*See page 3 for Details*

which ExxonMobil saying earlier this year, they expect their decarbonization business will [surpass their oil production business](#) in the next decade.

A unique formation has been identified in Oman that [naturally traps 100,000 tons of carbon](#) each year and could be harnessed for orders of magnitude more CO<sub>2</sub> sequestration through engineering. These [Ophiolites](#) formations exist in other places and the research in Oman could apply to other places including the western US. Another contract for an [LNG export terminal](#) has been signed which will be the first for Tanzania and is scheduled to be operational by 2030.

Last week was the SPE Western Regional Meeting in Anchorage, Alaska. Tom Walsh did a great job of organizing the conference and the papers are already on [OnePetro](#), don't forget all paid SPE members get an allocation of yearly papers. SPE has announced Simon Seaton as the [new CEO](#) after a months-long search for Mark Rubin's replacement.

This month we will have an in-person presentation from SoCalGas, led by Jennifer Medina, Hydrogen Manager. Jennifer will be providing a tour of their [\[H<sub>2</sub>\] Innovation Experience](#), aka the *Hydrogen Home*. The Hydrogen Home is a first-in-North America experience of a fully integrated microgrid system combining solar, electrolyzers, and blended hydrogen into natural gas to power the various appliances of the home. We will send out a link and announcement for the tour, but you can also RSVP directly to me [aslopez@burnsmcd.com](mailto:aslopez@burnsmcd.com) as Ted will be busy this month.

Finally, SPE LA Basin continues to seek interested professionals to join the board; please email me if you are interested in helping in any capacity.

Sincerely,

Andrew López  
SPE LA Basin Section Chair 2020-2023  
[aslopez@burnsmcd.com](mailto:aslopez@burnsmcd.com)

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### LASPE Website

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



## **PETROLEUM TECHNOLOGY MEETING FIELD TRIP JUNE 20 TO HYDROGEN HOUSE**

### **LA Basin SPE Visit to the [H<sub>2</sub>] Innovation Experience Project in Downey, CA**

LA Basin SPE is thrilled to announce that we will be visiting the groundbreaking [H<sub>2</sub>] Innovation Experience project in Downey, California. This visit will provide an exciting opportunity for the members of the LA Basin SPE to witness firsthand the advancements and potential of hydrogen technology in the energy industry.

The [H<sub>2</sub>] Innovation Experience project is an ambitious endeavor aimed at showcasing the capabilities of hydrogen as a clean and sustainable energy source. Located in the heart of Downey, this state-of-the-art facility serves as a hub for research, development, and collaboration, with a focus on hydrogen production, storage, and utilization. It is a testament to our commitment to fostering innovation and driving the energy transition forward.

**The visit by the LA Basin SPE will take place on June 20th, starting at 10 am.** Each tour will be 30 minutes long and we have two tours reserved for 15 people per tour. **THIS EVENT IS LIMITED TO 30 PEOPLE.** After the tour we will gather for lunch and to discuss Hydrogen.

**Purchase a ticket here:** <https://www.zeffy.com/en-US/ticketing/619e757c-837d-4726-af2a-c3018da200fo>

Attendees will have the opportunity to explore cutting-edge facilities, engage in interactive exhibits, and gain insights from industry experts. The event will include informative presentations, demonstrations of hydrogen technologies, and networking opportunities to facilitate knowledge-sharing and collaboration.

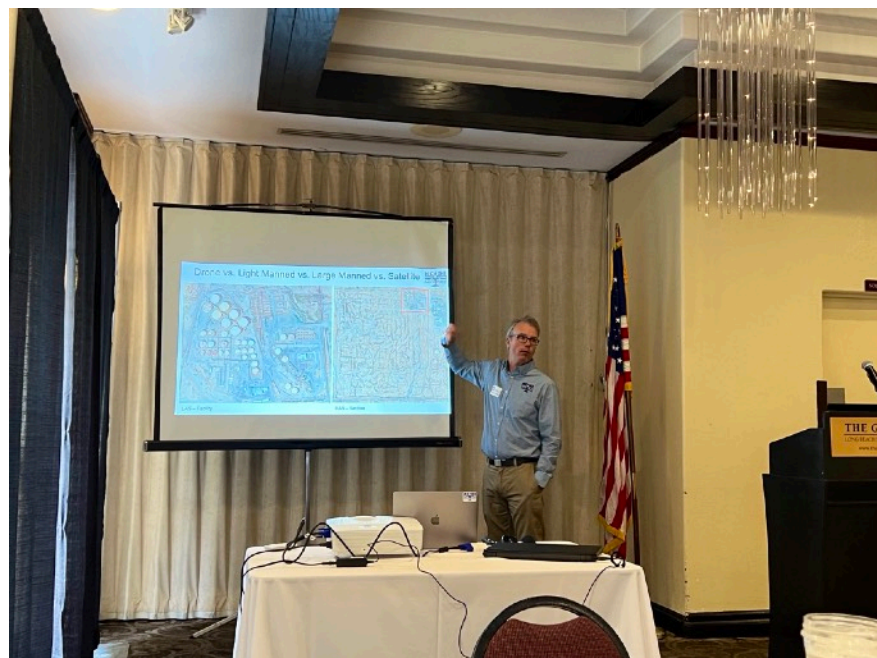
With the increasing demand for sustainable energy alternatives, hydrogen has emerged as a key player in the decarbonization of industries, transportation, and power generation. As a vital component of our energy future, it is crucial for industry professionals to stay informed about the latest developments and opportunities in this field.

To RSVP or more information or questions contact Andrew at [aslopez@burnsmcd.com](mailto:aslopez@burnsmcd.com)

Andrew López  
LA Basin SPE Section Chair  
[aslopez@burnsmcd.com](mailto:aslopez@burnsmcd.com)

**Purchase tickets here:** <https://www.zeffy.com/en-US/ticketing/619e757c-837d-4726-af2a-c3018da200fo>

## PHOTOS OF THE MAY PETROLEUM TECHNOLOGY MEETING



## **LASPE SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM**

Dear fellow LASPE members and applicants,

It is the board of director's pleasure to announce the 2023-2024 scholarship program. The program aims to attract engineering students that are interested in a career in the Petroleum Industry. Our goal is to promote local interest in up-and-coming talent who will be the future of our industry. We want to encourage students to pursue science and engineering curriculums and to increase their awareness of future career opportunities. The LASPE awards scholarships to local university graduates, undergraduate students, and local high school students.

We want to thank all the companies, members and contributors who participate in our events, workshops, and activities. These activities and the funds generated are the lifeblood of our program that enables us to award scholarships to deserving students for years. Please pass along the scholarship announcement and application to a promising candidate if you know one. The LASPE scholarship committee will also reach out and spread the word to local universities.

For more information, contact:

[LASPEscholarship@gmail.com](mailto:LASPEscholarship@gmail.com) or  
[briantran82@gmail.com](mailto:briantran82@gmail.com)

Awards available:

- Undergraduate Scholarships of \$1,000 each or more; USC, UCLA, UCI and Cal State Long Beach.
- Masters Students Scholarships of \$1,000 each or more, of which Bruce Davis Scholarship will be for the USC award, and others for top Masters Students at UCLA, UCI and CSLUB based on GPA and extracurricular activities. Contingent upon applicant pool.
- Graduate Student Awards for Excellence of \$1,000 each or more for the most outstanding contribution to the Oil & Gas industry. Can be project, paper, thesis, etc.
- Candidates who are relatives of SPE Members from outside local schools will be considered as long as they pursue a technical degree path towards the petroleum industry.

## **LASPE SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM *CONTINUES***

The Scholarship committee will accept applications through August 31<sup>st</sup>. The awards will be presented to students at a special meeting in September or October.

### **Scoring Criteria and considerations:**

Merit Based scholarship

High School, Undergraduate & Graduate Scholarships

PhD candidates only eligible for Awards of Excellence.

- Complete scholarship application
- Must be pursuing technical degree field
- Maintain full time academic load/full time student status for upcoming terms
- Active member of SPE (Student Chapter or L.A. Basin Section)
- Research Project, Paper, or Thesis – Synopsis/abstract attachment. 300 words max
- Internships served – When, Where & Duties
- Consideration for activity serving the industry and supporting SPEI section/chapter
  - Section participation
  - Industry event participation
  - Volunteerism at events
  - Attendance of workshops/meetings
  - Young Professionals
- Personal statement of interest in pursuing career in oil & gas industry – 100 words or less

This announcement and the scholarship application can be found online:

<https://connect.spe.org/losangelesbasin/home>

This is the LASPE Home page, then take the link to the scholarship program page.





### Report on the SPE Western Regional Meeting in Anchorage

by Steve Cheung

I was in Alaska last month attending the SPE Western Regional Meeting (WRM) in Anchorage, Alaska. I will be also be spending three weeks touring the 49th state.

The WRM was a success with about 250 people attendance. The panel discussions, lunch talks, sessions, and exhibits were all better attended than my expectations. I was happy there was a short reunion of the five former SPE Western Regional directors as shown below.

After the meeting, I drove 6 hours to attend a heavy oil workshop at the University of Alaska, Fairbanks. The workshop was a full day of technical talks on the use of polymers to improve oil recovery of the mature Prudhoe Bay waterflood. I was pleased to hear that the school will be modifying their Petroleum Engineering program to include geothermal, hydrogen, and carbon storage. The university's program transition will take several years but the process has begun.

I wish all of you a happy Summer and safe travels.



From left to right  
Tom Walsh, Steve Cheung, Med Kamal, Andrei  
Popa and Simeon Eburi



## **ENERGY TRANSITION STUDY GROUP ANNOUNCEMENT**

**BY STEVE CHEUNG**

Dear fellow LASPE members

We are forming a new Energy Transition Study Group in LASPE. We would like to assemble a team to gain knowledge and skills in Energy Transition and then come up with a plan to share the information with section members. If you are interested in becoming a founding member, and are committed to make the Study Group successful, please contact me. We need people from all disciplines including geology, drilling, completions, reservoir, production, facilities, data science, health/environment, and project management.

As we all are aware, the oil fields in our area are maturing and the number of plug and abandon projects have accelerated. It is disheartening to see our oil and gas fields turn into shopping malls and housing tracks, while we import oil and gas from other states and countries. I made a resolution this year to learn how our oil industry knowledge and skills can be used in Energy Transition. There will be many opportunities for us to be involved in the Energy Transition in Southern California. If we update our energy transition knowledge and skills, we can continue to be useful and create jobs locally for many decades to come.

First, I have become a member of the Board of Directors of the SPE Geothermal Technical Section. I am making contacts worldwide to collect and disseminate geothermal energy knowledge, introduce opportunities for career and business growth, establish cross-industry collaboration and, promote best practices.

I have also committed to spend one hour each day to learn more about Geothermal Energy research, field tests, and case histories. So far this year, I have gathered news on Geothermal each week. I attended a two-day SPE worldwide virtual seminar on Geothermal in February, and a one-day virtual geothermal workshop organized by the SPE Calgary section in May. I plan to attend the 4-day International Geothermal Congress Conference in Beijing, China in September.

The US Department of Energy (DOE) announced on May 4, 2023, a \$10 million grant to encourage the formation of a consortium of SPE, Geothermal Rising, and Interspace to advance Geothermal Energy with oil and gas demonstration engineering. The DOE promises an additional \$165 million of future investment if Congress continues to approve DOE's budget.

Please join me to form the LASPE Energy Transition Study Group. My proposed plan is to first focus on Geothermal. At the appropriate time, we will expand to hydrogen, carbon storage, and other areas. When the lunch talk is on other Energy Transition topics, we will meet to specifically to discuss the presentation. If you, or a colleague, have the interest and passion to move LASPE to the next level of long-term growth, please contact me at [steveior@yahoo.com](mailto:steveior@yahoo.com).

**WELCOME NEW MEMBERS**  
**STEVE CHEUNG, [STEVEIOR@YAHOO.CO](mailto:STEVEIOR@YAHOO.CO)**  
**MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE CHAIR**

Please join me in welcoming the following new members to our community. Below is a list of new professional members who joined in the last two years.

**2022:** Eva Cheung, John H Harris, William Divine, Ivan Yermakov, Albert Cheehing Low, Javier David Vargas, Srikanth Tangirala, James Albert Cornell, Kevin Sean Chicots, Diana Lang, Aaron Machado, Paul Rodelo, and Miroslav Colic

**2023:** Sarabjyot Dali, Richard Bruce Greenwood, Muzaffar Khan, Zayne Lu, Dastan Mazhetayev, Patrick McMullen, Minh Nguyen, Jorge Ortiz, and Daniel Pignatiello.

Professional Members will receive conference discounts, free or discounted access to online education, ten free technical papers each year, a complimentary online subscription to Journal of Petroleum Technology, a wealth of resources for networking, knowledge building, career advancement, and streaming content, select business and insurance discounts, and more. You will also receive the LASPE monthly newsletters.

**Dear new members,** please come to the monthly technology luncheons to learn and network. LASPE needs volunteers, please contact me, and let me know what type of volunteering interests you. It can be micro-volunteer to help with committee work or events. If you have time, please consider joining the Board or becoming a committee chair. These are opportunities to learn or practice leadership skills.

I would also like to welcome the USC Student Chapter members.

**2022:** Thamonwan Kongsirinurak, Mohammed Ako, Pitipong Chotiwit, Nazare Gongga Hebo, Tienloi Duong, Mariam Nafissatou Tapsoba, Savitoj Aulakh, Emir Ceyani, Sergio Mendez-Gutierrez, Zalan Fabian, Zhen Qin, Junjie Yu, Mahammad Valiyev, and Zhongqi Liu

**2023:** Cynthia Ionova, Mingshuo Wang, Shashwat S Jadhav, Benjamin Bedregal Barboza, Danielle Hsieh, Shayan Jalalmanesh, Maria Valentina Mora Rivas, Ava Tran, Fangning Zheng, Artun Garabedian, Tae Kim, Monica Bonilla, Hector Garcia, Lo Hwak, Mark Thompson, Tom Florence, and Aaron Mets.

Happy to see that CSU Long Beach has a new student member this year: Yazan Emad Albakheet. Welcome back, CSULB.

Student members receive a reduced price for the LASPE technology luncheons. Student members are also welcome to attend the Young Professional (YP) events. These are great for networking with professional members that may help you land an internship or a job.

## DISTINGUISHED LECTURERS ONLINE!

Stay 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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Presented by John Morgan



##### Diagnosing and Resolving Chemical and Mechanical Problems in Produced Water Treating Systems

Contains 2 Component(s)

Presented by Ted Frankiewicz



##### Tight Oil Approaches and Technology Gaps - What Works, What Hasn't

Contains 3 Component(s), Includes Credits

Presented by George E. King



##### Produced Water Management--"Waste to Value"

Contains 3 Component(s)

Presented by Dwyann Dalrymple



##### A Sustainable Solution to the Climate Change Dilemma—"Eliminate the Flare"

Contains 3 Component(s), Includes Credits

Presented by Ms. Audrey Mascarenhas



##### Prediction of Oil Asphaltene Behavior based on Fluid Characterization

Contains 2 Component(s)

Presented by Artur Stankiewicz



« 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 »

**SELECTED SPE UPCOMING EVENTS 2023-2024**

Date	Title
June 20	<b>The LASPE Technology Field Trip to the Hydrogen House</b> will be Tuesday June 20th at 11:30AM, at the Hydrogen House in Downey Organized by Andrew López, LASPE Chairperson Page 3
Oct 11	<b>LASPE Distinguished Lecturer</b> <b>Simon J. Sparke</b> <b>Well Integrity in the Operate Phase of the Well Lifecycle –</b> <b>Our Role as Crime Scene Detectives</b>
Feb 12, 2024	<b>LASPE Distinguished Lecturer</b> <b>Rawdon Seager</b> <b>Carbon Capture and Storage and the CO2 Storage</b> <b>Resources Management System (SRMS)</b>
April 14 - 18 2024	<b>SPE WRM 2024</b> Crowne Plaza Hotel, Palo Alto General Chair: Mark McClure, <a href="mailto:mark@resfrac.com">mark@resfrac.com</a> Technical Program Chair: Roland Horne, <a href="mailto:horne@stanford.edu">horne@stanford.edu</a>
	* Asterisk * on a 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
Sept	8/14	8/21	8/28	Sept 1
Oct	9/18	9/25	9/28	Oct 2



## 2023 - 2024 LASPE OFFICERS, BOARD & CONTACTS

Name	Position	E-mail
Andrew López	LASPE Chairperson 2020-2023	<a href="mailto:aslopez@burnsmcd.com">aslopez@burnsmcd.com</a>
Ian Johnnecheck	Chairperson Elect for 2023-2024	<a href="mailto:ianJohnnecheck@gmail.com">ianJohnnecheck@gmail.com</a>
Robert Schaaf	Past Chair - Board Member	<a href="mailto:rpschaaf@gmail.com">rpschaaf@gmail.com</a>
Francois Florence	Treasurer - Board member through 2022	<a href="mailto:francois.florence@gmail.com">francois.florence@gmail.com</a>
Vanessa Perez	Secretary - Board member through 2022	<a href="mailto:perezv28@gmail.com">perezv28@gmail.com</a>
Ian Johnnecheck	Board member through 2022	<a href="mailto:ianJohnnecheck@gmail.com">ianJohnnecheck@gmail.com</a>
Ted Frankiewicz	Board member through 2022	<a href="mailto:tcfrankiewicz@gmail.com">tcfrankiewicz@gmail.com</a>
Steve Cheung	Board member 2021-2024	<a href="mailto:steveior@yahoo.com">steveior@yahoo.com</a>
Peter Yu	Board member 2023-2025	<a href="mailto:pyu@cordobacorp.com">pyu@cordobacorp.com</a>
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Open	Awards	
Ted Frankiewicz	Forum and Program Chair	<a href="mailto:tcfrankiewicz@gmail.com">tcfrankiewicz@gmail.com</a>
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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 Johnnecheck	YP Activities	<a href="mailto:ianjohnnecheck@gmail.com">ianjohnnecheck@gmail.com</a>
Dr. Iraj Ershaghi	Publication Mentor	<a href="mailto:ershaghi@usc.edu">ershaghi@usc.edu</a>
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		<a href="mailto:jr.smoier@raptorwireline.com">jr.smoier@raptorwireline.com</a>
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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>
Steve Cheung	Membership Chair	<a href="mailto:steveior@yahoo.com">steveior@yahoo.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>
Dr. Iraj Ershaghi	Student Chapter Advisor – USC	<a href="mailto:ershaghi@usc.edu">ershaghi@usc.edu</a>
Nazare Hebo	Student Chapter President - USC	<a href="mailto:uscspe@usc.edu">uscspe@usc.edu</a>
	2023-2024	<a href="mailto:hebo@usc.edu">hebo@usc.edu</a>
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SPE International	Contact for Sections	<a href="mailto:sections@SPE.org">sections@SPE.org</a>