

SPEREVIEW

The magazine for the Aberdeen and London sections of the Society of Petroleum Engineers

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money talks at
London conference**

**Winners take all
at Offshore
Achievement Awards**

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ABOUT US

The Society of Petroleum Engineers (SPE) is a not-for-profit professional association whose members are engaged in energy resources development and production. SPE serves more than 110,000 members in 141 countries worldwide. SPE is a key resource for technical knowledge related to the oil and gas exploration and production industry and provides services through its publications, events, training courses, and online resources at www.spe.org

The SPE provides services through its global events, publications and website at www.spe.org. SPE review is published 10 times per year by the Aberdeen and London sections of the Society of Petroleum Engineers. It is sent to over 5,000 UK SPE members, and quarterly to an additional 7,000+ European members.

If you have read this issue and would like to join the SPE and receive your own copy of SPE review, as well as many other benefits – or you know a friend or colleague who would like to join – please visit www.spe.org for an application form.

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Cooperation will lead to new opportunities



Anthony Onukwu
SPE Aberdeen Chair
2013/14



Arnaud Mille
SPE London chair
2013/14

Many of you may be aware that the SPE Aberdeen and London sections are set to strengthen their working relationship following the announcement of an official collaboration.

The sections will work together to promote areas of mutual interest. The partnership will see the sections promote major technical and industry events organised by either section, encourage industry leaders to speak at SPE UK events and it will also open up the possibility of jointly organised events for the oil and gas industry.

This is fantastic news for all SPE London and Aberdeen members. The depth of knowledge and professional expertise within both sections is extraordinary and greater engagement with our colleagues in other parts of the country will only serve to benefit us all.

This year's London Conference, taking place June 4-5, will offer the opportunity for delegates to obtain a greater understanding of the investment landscape and how it shapes the energy industry. This is one of the major events on the SPE calendar in the UK and with many high-profile speakers and delegates attending, it is sure to be an exciting opportunity to learn and network with many experts from the world of finance and government, as well as oil and gas professionals.

As BG Group's chief operating officer, Sami Iskander, explains in an exclusive interview with SPE Review, continued global demand for hydrocarbons will ensure long-term opportunities.

Sami is also very aware of the close relationship between London, which remains a global hub for corporate activity, and Aberdeen, still leading the way in operational capability and technical expertise for the offshore market.

Later this month the Annual Women in Energy Conference also takes place in London, examining how to increase the number of women in senior roles in oil and gas. With two such significant events taking place in little more than a fortnight, the UK capital certainly seems like the place to be. We hope to welcome as many of you as possible to these excellent events.

www.spe-uk.org |



Global demand will ensure continued investment in oil and gas

Leveraging London's location as a global financial hub, the SPE London Annual Conference on June 4-5 will bring together more than 300 members of the oil and gas industry and financial community to discuss and learn about Opportunities and Investment in Upstream Oil and Gas.



The opening address will be delivered by Sami Iskander, Chief Operating Officer of BG Group, who will discuss the overall global opportunities landscape and investment trends. BG Group's Upstream business segment covers exploration and production activities plus liquefaction operations associated with integrated LNG projects.

Iskander is responsible for the operational performance of BG Group's assets worldwide. Prior to joining BG Group in 2008, he spent his career with Schlumberger and fulfilled a number of key leadership roles in Latin America, the USA, Africa, Europe and the Middle East. He has been a regular attendee at previous SPE London conferences and expressed his pleasure at being keynote speaker at the 2014 event.

Speaking ahead of the conference, he explained there would continue to be an increase in global energy demand, which will require substantial new LNG supply sources.

Iskander explained: "Global energy demand is growing. We (BG Group) expect that global gas demand will grow at a rate of around 2.4% per year to 2025. This is driven by demand in Asia, South America, China, South Korea, Mexico and also by economic recovery in the United States. There is a great appetite for natural gas. We also continue to see strong demand for LNG, which is projected to grow twice as fast as gas demand. Natural gas and LNG present huge opportunities for the industry and those companies, such as BG Group, that can integrate the upstream and midstream opportunities to meet the global demand."

The sheer diversity of the oil and gas industry – ranging from NOCs, IOCs, supermajors at one end of the spectrum, through to smaller, more nimble opportunists at the other – means there are a huge range of investment options. Whilst corporate M&A activity has been relatively low in recent years, joint venture and private equity opportunities have been driving asset transaction activity.

Iskander added: "The industry remains extremely attractive to investors and is a business that continues to give outstanding returns.

"The challenge for all of us in the industry is to deliver projects on time and on budget. To ensure investor confidence, we need to deliver projects on time. Projects across our industry have been delayed from months to years and costs have increased considerably.

"But it is not one single issue, but a variety of issues – costs, regulatory regimes, supply chains – that have an impact. As an industry, we need to work together with government and civic society to ensure that we have consistency of supply. There will be no winners, just losers, if we cannot resolve these issues."

Iskander believes London attracts international businesses looking to raise capital and the conference is seen as an excellent means of bringing the two industries together. He has unshakable confidence that the global energy market will remain an attractive and a high-growth industry for a very long time, particularly for gas, thanks to strong demand driven by GDP growth and the desire for cleaner energy.

As far as the UKCS is concerned, he believes Aberdeen has a key role to play as a centre of excellence.

"We need to have a fresh approach to getting exploration back on track and increase production and maximise the potential that remains." He is optimistic there will be further new discoveries in the UK sector, thanks to the utilisation of technology such as HPHT.

"The UKCS is one of the most challenging environments in the world and the technological advances required to extend the life of fields has been remarkable. There has been a great deal of innovation. I really see Aberdeen and the North Sea as a centre of excellence, not just a centre of investment."

Of course, to maximise the potential of hydrocarbons requires investment in science and engineering, and being able to find the talented engineers and technical expertise to deliver the growth.

He continued: "A key aspect of the conference is to attract young people into our industry and to illustrate the opportunities to work on some of the most cutting-edge engineering challenges on the planet."

The conference includes seven sessions with topics and themes encompassing the global and regional opportunities landscape and major factors involved in upstream investment decision-making by industry players, Government officials, financiers and investors.

During the conference, there will also be a number of networking events, including the Gala Dinner on June 5 at Claridge's Hotel in Mayfair.

2014 artificial lift forum prepares to welcome delegates

The European Artificial Lift Forum takes place on June 17-18 and delegates are already planning their visit to the Aberdeen Exhibition and Conference Centre for this popular biennial event.



The forum has become a regular fixture on the events calendar. Artificial lift is essential to maximising returns in the mature North Sea environment. With a vast number of depleted and high watercut wells, the potential for production gains is significant.

The two-day conference programme is preceded by a one-day training workshop and accompanied by an exhibition of artificial lift tools and technologies.

John Blanksby, chair of SPE EuALF Steering Committee, said: "Artificial lift is recognised as a valuable tool for extending the life of mature assets and increasing production. The forum offers delegates the opportunity to learn about the latest artificial lift techniques and industry successes.

"Over the two-day conference of presentations from expert practitioners encompasses ESPs (electric submersible pumps), gas-lift and HSPs (hydraulic submersible pumps). Breakout sessions will facilitate more detailed exploration of niche topics."

The companies exhibiting at the event include: Zenith Oilfield; RMS Pumptools; ZETECs; Sercel-GRC; Schlumberger Oilfield UK; Multilift; Caltec; JWF Process Solutions; PTC (UK); Artificial Lift Performance; Baker Hughes; SPX Corporation; Weatherford UK Ltd.

For more information on the conference, sponsorship information and exhibition stand costs contact www.rodgerandco.com



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[^] in association with Alastair Baillie of 

^{^^} with Joe Allan of PTC

* www.petex.com

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4 - 6 June 2014

Presented by Jess Stiles, this course is designed for reservoir engineers and geologists involved in modelling petroleum reservoirs, and to geoscientists working in the area of reservoir characterisation. In this unique course the causes of discrepancies in laboratory results are revealed and the importance of reservoir wettability, in defining water-oil relative permeability, is explained.

Laboratory personnel involved with SCAL measurements will find the course useful in learning how their results are used and in gaining insight into how laboratory programmes might be improved. Production geologists and petrophysicists working in integrated teams will also find the course valuable, particularly in selecting samples for analysis and assisting in relating relative permeability and capillary pressure to rock type.

www.imperial.ac.uk/cpd/core

For further details contact:

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School of Professional Development.
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Programme for Professional Development

Risky business

The latest lecture in the SPE Aberdeen Simplified Series lectures took place at the Station Hotel last month when insurance consultant Robert Armstrong discussed contractual risk management from an insurance perspective.

Robert recently retired as Global Insurance Director for Subsea 7 where he served for five years and is now an independent Advisor to Siemens Industries, IMCA, as well as number of other oil and gas industry companies.

He began by explaining that in today's offshore oil and gas sector, getting contractual risk management wrong can be disastrous, but how easy is it to get it right?

He added: "If you get it wrong? Just look at the claims costs arising from the Deepwater Horizon oil rig explosion in the Gulf of Mexico in 2010. The latest figures are now in the region of US\$42 billion for fines, pollution clean-up costs and third-party damages plus another US\$16 billion for breaches of the Clean Water Act ... and these claims keep coming.

"No-one is saying that better contractual risk management alone would have avoided these exposures and costs but somewhere along the way it may have helped."

Robert explained that throughout all stages of contract negotiations, there are risk exposures that demand attention, and management, if companies are to avoid unforeseen consequences that could destroy any return on investment or, even worse, have the potential to put them out of business.

He said: "The foundation of good contractual risk management is the merger of technical, financial, legal, compliance and implementation skills through cross professional collaboration. A contract can support this collaboration but the contract alone cannot build it. Constructive interaction amongst the various stakeholders is an absolute essential."

According to Robert, the biggest challenge facing risk management professionals in the oil and gas sector today, is integrating risk management as a culture into all business management systems and processes of their companies.

Risk allocations, as set out in the indemnity and insurance clauses within the terms and conditions of any proposed contract, are critically important and need to be reviewed with great care.

He pointed out that smaller contractors with tighter management teams are often better positioned to grasp the overall risk exposure presented by any project tender, for example, when compared to larger organisations where the responsibility for risk can be fragmented, and possibly diluted, by other internal priorities and politics.

When a contract risk has materialised and a loss has occurred, it is too late to attempt to change the risk allocation between the parties.

The Simplified Series of lectures is organised by SPE Aberdeen Young Professionals and is aimed at demystifying aspects of petroleum engineering. The series is sponsored by Shell UK.



Ships assist in clean up and containment near the source of the BP Deepwater Horizon oil spill July 27, 2010 in the Gulf of Mexico off the coast of Louisiana

Another successful Offshore Achievement Awards event

Some of the offshore industry's most innovative and successful companies and individuals were recognised at the 2014 Offshore Achievement Awards (OAA), which took place in March.

The awards, organised and hosted by the SPE Aberdeen Section, brought together the great and the good from the oil and gas industry for a gala evening at the Aberdeen Exhibition and Conference Centre.

Decom North Sea chief executive Brian Nixon picked up the Significant Achievement

Award. Hydrasun received the award for Great Large Company, whilst Coretrax was named Great Small Company. Steve Walton, highly-regarded across the industry as a driving force for improving safety, received a posthumous Significant Achievement award for the contribution he made during his career. His widow Anne Marie collected the award.

More than 500 industry professionals came together at the 28th OAA awards ceremony. Talent, technology, safety and success were key themes. The two

new categories for this year – Environmentalist and Inspiring Leader – were awarded to TWMA and Steven Nicol of Halliburton respectively.

Ian Phillips, director of Pale Blue Dot Energy Limited and a director of SPE Aberdeen, who chaired the OAA organising committee, said: "Judges were impressed with this year's nominations, which were of an exceptionally high-calibre and demonstrated expertise, innovation and great promise. We introduced two new categories to recognise

the importance of environmental performance and strong leadership which proved popular. With record numbers of entries, all of the finalists should be extremely proud of themselves."

Anthony Onukwu, chairman of SPE Aberdeen, said: "Since re-launching the OAAs three years ago, the awards have gone from strength to strength, attracting record-breaking audiences and increasing entries each year. SPE Aberdeen is proud to support innovation and recognises success across the UK energy industry."



The 2014 OAA Winners in each category are:

Great Large Company (sponsored by Offshore Europe)
Hydrasun

Highly commended: **Wood Group**

Great Small Company (sponsored by Wood Group PSN)

Coretrax

Working Together (sponsored by Robert Gordon University)

The Underwater Centre

Environmentalist (sponsored by AMEC)

TWMA

Export Achievement (sponsored by Saltire Energy)

EV

Safety Innovations (sponsored by Petrofac)

Stork – ERBAS

The Innovator (sponsored by BG Group)

Tendeka

Highly commended: **Viper Subsea**

Emerging Technology (sponsored by Nexen)

Guardian Global Technologies

Young Professional (sponsored by Maersk Oil)

Raymond MacKenzie, Nexen Petroleum UK

Highly commended: **Liam O'Neil, AMEC**

Inspiring Leader (sponsored by DOF Subsea)

Steve Nicol, Halliburton

Significant Achievement (sponsored by Aker Solutions)

Brian Nixon, Decom North Sea

Dr White discusses failure investigation



Dr John White, at the Douglas Hotel

Dr John White, of Prospect Flow Solutions, presented a number of case studies to illustrate the use of the differing methods of failure investigation during his evening presentation at the Douglas Hotel, in Aberdeen, on March 26.

The analysis and design of offshore engineering equipment is a challenging process. Offshore marine equipment can be physically complex, expensive, safety-critical to operates in harsh environments. In the design and analysis phase of any project, the energy industry is reliant on simulation and calculation to ensure that health, safety and industry standards are adhered to.

To investigate these failures and identify corrective actions, advanced simulation methods can be very effective.

He explained to his audience that any design process requires a fundamental understanding of a number of design parameters and how they interact. For conventional equipment and structures, a range of design standards and guidelines exist. When the behaviour is more complex or unexpected numerical techniques such as computational fluid dynamics and finite element analysis can be employed.

Dr White is the Technical Director at Prospect Flow Solutions where he leads a multi-disciplined team of engineers including Mechanical, Civil, CFD engineers and Naval Architects. As Technical Director he is tasked with directing the technical development of the company and its engineering staff in Aberdeen, Derby and Houston.

Lessons from Mars

The SPE Distinguished Lecturer series continues in Aberdeen later this month with an out of this world seminar from Professor Alfred Eustes discussing drilling on Mars.

One of the fundamental questions that mankind has asked from the beginning of time is: 'Are we alone in the Universe?' To find that answer will require the use of technology and techniques used within the petroleum engineering profession.

Prof. Eustes' presentation will cover the latest information on the basic characteristics of Mars, as we understand it today. He will also cover some of the current thoughts regarding Martian geology and its possible history with the implications for life. The various Mars missions to-date have indicated that there are no organic materials present on the surface of the planet; however, as on Earth, there could be a large biomass under the surface.

To determine that, drillers are needed to access the subsurface. The tools and techniques developed in the oilfield and other related areas are the basis for this technology. This presentation will cover some of the current plans for Martian subsurface exploration. The techniques for getting there, and how what we learn about drilling there could impact on us here on Earth.

Prof. Eustes, from the Colorado School of Mines, will deliver his lecture at the Douglas Hotel, Market Street from 6.30pm on May 28. For more information visit www.rodgerandco.com

Industrial visit - Baker Hughes



RGU Students at the Baker Hughes Drilling Fluids Laboratories

SPE Aberdeen section student development committee organised a visit to the Baker Hughes Drilling fluid facility for the students at Robert Gordon University and University of Aberdeen.

The visit was coordinated as part of an effort to bridge the gap between the theoretical knowledge and field experience. The industrial visit took place in March.

A group of eight students took part in the visit and it benefitted those looking to research in the area of hydrocarbon exploration or possibly secure a placement. A second visit for more students has been scheduled for the summer of 2014.

Baker Hughes' advance drilling labs conduct fluids research for new, high-performance, water-base mud systems and fluids for High-Pressure High-Temperature (HPHT) wells.

Aberdeen upcoming events - 2014

May 28

Extra-terrestrial drilling: How on earth can Martian drilling help us?

Presenter: Alfred William Eustes III, Colorado School of Mines, SPE Distinguished Lecturer. 6:30-8:30pm. Presentation and networking buffet. Aberdeen Douglas Hotel, 43-45 Market Street, Aberdeen AB11 5EL.

Details and link to book on www.spe-uk.org/events

June 16-18

SPE EuALF 2014 European Artificial Lift Forum

Pre-conference short course and two-day conference and exhibition. Exhibition and sponsorship opportunities. Booking for delegates - Early Bird discount till May 20.

Details and link to book on www.spe-uk.org/events

June 25

The impact and potential repercussions of unconventional hydrocarbons in the UK

Presenter: Lawrence Till, Nemein Ltd. Presentation and networking buffet. Aberdeen Douglas Hotel, 43-45 Market Street, Aberdeen AB11 5EL

October 2

SPE Aberdeen Summit Seminar: Drilling automation - I need some too?

A new seminar to explore how automation can help the oil and gas industry secure its future. Developments from O&G and other industries will be included. Exhibition and sponsorship opportunities available to companies now. Seminar programme coming soon. Details and link to book on www.spe-uk.org

November 12-13

SPE ICoTA 20th European Well Intervention Conference

Companies interested in exhibiting contact:

jane.rodger@rodgerandco.com

BP lecture on hydraulic fracturing fundamentals

University of Salford



Faculty sponsor, Dr Lateef Akanji (right) presenting certificate of recognition to Martin Rylance after the lecture

February 28, 2014, marked another important date in the calendar of activities of SPE University of Salford Chapter. BP's Martin Rylance delivered a lecture on Hydraulic Fracturing Fundamentals in the historic Peel Building theatre at the University.

The three-hour lecture attracted more than 100 students as well as lecturers and research fellows from the University of Salford. It covered the fundamental building blocks of hydraulic fracturing and the methodologies that are used to place and benefit from such treatments. In addition, the lecture demonstrated the myriad of ways the technique is applied in

enhancing oil, gas and water production and injection. Further, the treatment of waste water and the management of environmental impact were highlighted.

The question and answer session was another interesting part of the lecture as attendees had the privilege to have a first-hand response and feedback from an expert in the field. At the break-out session, a lot of students indicated interest in carrying out research studies on hydraulic fracturing in their dissertation.

At the end of the event, the Faculty Sponsor, Dr Lateef Akanji, on behalf of SPE University of Salford Chapter, presented a certificate of recognition to Martin Rylance and appreciation to BP for the continued support.

Gala dinner ticket deadline

Tickets for SPE London's gala dinner must be booked in advance by May 26.

The black tie event, at the world-famous Claridge's, in Mayfair, takes place on June 5 and provides a glamorous conclusion to the annual London Conference, which takes place on June 4-5.

Following a champagne reception and three-course meal guests will be entertained by comedian Milton Jones. Guests from the world of oil and gas, financial institutions and business will join SPE members at the event, which will provide an opportunity to relax and network after the conference. The dinner is also popular with companies seeking to entertain business guests at one of the world's top hotels.

The reception starts at 7:15pm. Dinner at 8pm. The event is sponsored by OPC and iTS. Tickets are priced at £150 per person or £1,500 for a table of 10 (+VAT). Guests are encouraged to bring their partners.

To book tickets please contact Kate McMillan at:

www.katemcmillan.co.uk 07736 070066 katespe@aol.com



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Oil & Gas training

Upcoming courses 2014

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London 19 May
Aberdeen 30 June

Introduction to LNG and the Value Chain
London 9 July

Reservoir Engineering for Other Disciplines Part 1 & 2
Aberdeen 1-2 July
London 7-8 July

Integrated Field Development Planning
London 9-11 July

Decision Making in the Upstream Oil and Gas Sector
London 3-4 July

Upstream Oil and Gas Development Lifecycle Costing
London 3-4 July

Petroleum Economics
London 1-2 July

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Fracking has role to play in energy sustainability

The University of Salford SPE Chapter held the first symposium on Energy Sustainability and Shale Fracking Potential at the Media City, UK, recently.

The symposium commenced with a presentation on the potentials of shale plays in meeting global energy demand, by the University of Salford SPE Chapter Faculty Sponsor, Dr Lateef Akanji. The roles of petroleum engineers in meeting global energy demand were also highlighted and discussed.

Dr Eve Sprunt told delegates that the hydrocarbon era will not end until there are one or more better alternatives that can satisfy the demand for energy worldwide for transportation, power generation and heating at a lower price. She stated that many people wonder if the production from ‘unconventional’ shale gas and shale oil, which have turned the energy picture around in the United States in just a few years, is sustainable.

Concerns include rapid production decline, access to water for hydraulic fracturing, environmental impact and induced seismicity. Dr Sprunt pointed out that petroleum engineers have a long track record of creating solutions to seemingly impossible challenges, citing that ultra-deepwater, drilling in the Arctic and production from under cities are all being worked on by talented individuals.

Dr Reza Oskui, an oil and gas expert from the Kuwait Institute for Scientific Research (KISR), shared an extensive field experience on the key IOR/EOR challenges to maximise production from existing oil fields.

In his presentation, Riaz Saddique, of Halliburton, presented a case study and practical demonstration of the capabilities of Landmark Decision Space in modelling, characterisation and advanced development of Eagle Ford shale gas, South Texas. The SPE London Young Professional Lead, Kanad Kulkarni, also discussed the opportunities and benefits of joining and actively participating in SPE events. Day four of the event was an awareness programme organised by the SPE University of Salford Chapter to enlighten the public about the Society of Petroleum Engineers, benefits of being a member, upcoming events, conferences, seminars and workshops.

Decisions, decisions

SPE London will host a seminar on Making Good Decisions Under Uncertainty later this month (May).

Effective management of uncertainties and life-cycle risks is critical to the success of oil and gas projects and is, in fact, the central challenge of the E&P business. This seminar has been designed to allow SPE members to share examples and anecdotal experience of making decisions under high subsurface and surface uncertainty, and the associated risks.

The event will summarise the interaction between different elements affecting critical decisions in the oil and gas industry and clarify the distinctions between technical and organisational complexity when choosing between different development options. There will be a review of high stake decisions in organisationally complex settings, from drilling through to reservoir modelling up to economics.

The workshop will touch on the challenges of aligning partnership interests, which arise when partners, with different equities in surrounding licences and infrastructure, view major investment decisions with a different perspective. Hence, conflicts of interest and differing perceptions and preferences among the partners inevitably come to light. The seminar will illustrate how to make such complex decisions manageable by bringing insight into what drives value for each party.

Presentations and sessions include:

- Handling Uncertainty: from subsurface to surface
- Making and Framing Decisions
- Reservoir Modelling Outlines and Workflows
- Understanding uncertainty. Basic and advanced statistical analysis for complex decisions
- About Samplers and Proxies. Why and how to use Experimental Design
- Panel (four expert panellists, five minutes each to start and expose their point of view)
Speakers include:
- Pete Naylor, Reservoir Engineer – Decision framing and VOI;
- Fletcher Bennett, Principal Reservoir Engineer, Senenergy International – Use and Abuse of Experimental Design to Better Capture Reservoir Uncertainty in Simulation Studies;
- John McIntosh, Managing Director, Eikos Project Systems – Managing Uncertainty in Well Time and Drilling Cost Estimates.
- Martha Crane, Senior Reservoir Engineer, Schlumberger, – Case Study
- Joe Pumphrey, Managing Director, Logicom E&P (UK) – The 10 commandments of Monte Carlo Simulation.

Additional sessions include an expert panel discussing: Decision-Making Process – What Are We Missing and How to Fill the Gaps?

An interactive session with StrategicFit will finish the day with a discussion on the distinctions between technical and organisational complexity in decision-making and will open the floor for the opportunity to share examples and anecdotal experiences.

Registration is now open for the event which takes place on May 22 from 09:00–17:00 at the Geological Society, in Piccadilly. Tickets cost £245 for members and affiliates. Non-members £285.

Booking: www.katemcmillan.co.uk, Tel. 07736 070066, email katespe@aol.com

London upcoming events – 2014

May 21

CE Seminar – Continuing the Journey Through the Glass Ceiling: Increasing the Numbers of Women in Senior Roles
Royal Institute, Albermarle St, London.

May 22

Making Good Decisions Under Uncertainty
London Geological Society, Piccadilly.

May 27

London Dinner

16:00 – 17:00 : Colin Wall Prize.

17:00 – 18:30 : Before dinner Topic: YP Technical Showcase: Unconventional Resources: Evaluation, Modelling, Prediction.
Before dinner Speaker; 2-3 YP Speakers

18:30 – 19:30 : Networking & Drinks

19:30 – 21:00 : After-dinner Topic: Back to basics in reservoir engineering. After-dinner Speaker: Martin Blunt, Professor of Petroleum Engineering, Imperial College.

June 4/5

SPE London Conference Royal Institute, Albermarle St, London.

June 5

SPE Gala Dinner Claridge's, Mayfair.

For more information on all the above events, visit:

<http://london.spe.org/events/>

To book: www.katemcmillan.co.uk

Contact: Kate McMillan, kate@spe@aol.com (07736 070066)

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SPE Aberdeen supports student energy summit

The future of energy production will be the theme of a global student summit that takes place next month in Aberdeen.

SPE Aberdeen is a supporter of the European Student Energy Summit which will be held on June 19-20 at the University of Aberdeen. One of five Regional Student Energy Summits, it will occur simultaneously with events in Africa, Asia, North America and Latin America, and link 300 European students with 1,200 other students around the world.

The theme of the 2014 event is Powering the Future. The summit will challenge this group of multidisciplinary post-secondary students from across the continent to both question and understand the key energy issues within their region, and to further comprehend them within the larger context of the existing and future global energy dynamics.

Delegates at the inaugural European Student Energy Summit will have the unique and exciting opportunity to connect with an intimately local and extensively global network of driven individuals looking to make a difference in the energy sector.

The pledge for a broader approach to sustainability

by Julien Mathonniere



EUROPEAN
Student Energy Summit

It is no secret that engineers take the cake in the oil and gas sector. The industry's repeated complaints about the 'skills gap' hardly disguise a craving for well-trained technical specialists to man the growing number of onshore and offshore installations. And there is no doubt that the challenges lying ahead, at least for the UKCS, will dearly need their competence: revamping the exploration push, maximising oil recovery and tackling the decommissioning agenda.

But Powering the Future, as this year's European Student Energy Summit motto goes, is not about the future of energy. It is about how we want to shape tomorrow's world out of our energy choices. And the road to a sustainable future will require more than engineers' skills. It is about fostering dialogue and mutual understanding between all walks of energy



experts: engineers and geologists, but also lawyers, economists, finance analysts, policy makers and environmentalists.

To paraphrase Clemenceau, energy is too serious a matter to be left to the engineers (alone). For all their frontiersman's attitude, there are more things in heaven and earth than are dreamt of in their philosophy, if only strong incentives to think about our post-oil future from broader perspectives. In a declining petroleum province like the North Sea, thinking outside the box may only improve our future prospects.

Students from the University of Aberdeen have hence decided to take the bull by the horns and wedge an offensive assault on the status quo.

"When the industry talks about the 'skills gap', they keep calling for more petroleum engineers", says Malgorzata Olesiewicz, the Chair of the event. "One of the aims of the conference is to show them that the delicate issue of sustainability should be approached from a broader perspective. Engineers have to understand the concerns of the policy makers and vice-versa. If the industry wants to succeed in its transition to a sustainable future, it will have to adopt this same perspective."

A number of top energy influencers will attend, and some big energy players, like Premier Oil, have already committed to sponsor the event. This is an encouraging sign that the summit will be a decisive bridging event between the industry and the next generation of bright energy minds. It will help break barriers between working professionals and those who may succeed them tomorrow.

Beyond sending a positive signal to the industry and showing that young energy leaders have already a strong interest in addressing complex issues, the conference also purports to promote energy literacy. Students will also have skin in the game and the event's organisers expect them to be a driving force in the debates. And sustainability will more than likely fit into the picture, drawing participants to a number of hot-button issues such as marine energy, the future of North Sea oil and gas, emissions trading, carbon capture and storage or shale gas.

For more information visit: www.studentenergysummits.com/europe

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YPs and students live life in the fast lane



SPE Aberdeen section YPs and students went full throttle at the first social event of the year, the karting Grand Prix 2014 which took place in March. It was a successful and a speedy racing championship with up to 30 students and YPs taking part.

The venue (Kick-start Aberdeen) was fully packed with the students and the YPs and the spirit of competition occupied the whole environment.

All the eyes were set on the screens as the top positions were changing after every lap. One of the main objectives of the event was to act as a medium between the current YPs and the future YPs of the petroleum industry.

The format included five practice laps, four heats and a semi-final for all the racers. The top six racers; three students and three YPs reached the finals and at the end of the event, it was the YPs who made it to the top two positions leaving the third position to a student. The winners were:

- *First Place:* Samuel Perryman (Helix Energy Solutions)
- *Second Place:* Matthew Hart ((Helix Energy Solutions)
- *Third Place:* Alberto Diez Rojo (University of Aberdeen)

Event organisers, Ritika Pawar and Gokul Rajendran, declared the event a great success, which brought together the students and the YPs along with the fun factor.

They received positive feedback from the participants and are looking forward to organising a rematch. SPE Aberdeen section sponsored this event in the spirit of its 40th anniversary celebrations.

Gardening leave

SPE YP Committee will be helping Aberdeen Forward with its May Open Day (date to be confirmed) at St Fittick's Community Garden in Torry, a former council yard that has been loaned to the community for the development of a garden.

The Aberdeen Young Professionals will help with various tasks including willow hedging, path laying and fruit tree planting.

The YP Committee will communicate dates and times closer to the event but look forward to seeing members there.

Aberdeen Forward is a charity established in 1999 to fund and support local community waste minimisation and recycling projects.

The charity also delivers sustainable development projects and was successful in accessing lottery money to fund projects developed with partner organisations from the private and public sector as well as community groups.

University of Aberdeen team wins petro-quiz

The Robert Gordon University SPE student chapter organised a petro-quiz to celebrate the 40th anniversary of the SPE Aberdeen section.

Sponsored by the SPE Aberdeen section, the quiz, which took place on March 28, aimed to enhance the interaction between University students and challenge their knowledge of the oil and gas industry. All Universities within the SPE Aberdeen section were invited to participate, with teams from Heriot-Watt University, University of Aberdeen and The Robert Gordon University taking part.

Each university put forward three of their best students. The quiz covered areas of reservoir engineering, petroleum economics, facilities, knowledge of the world's oil trade as well as other parts of oil and gas industry. The audience was also allowed to participate in this competition, where bonus questions were rewarded with gift vouchers for correct answers.

The team from University of Aberdeen won, The Robert Gordon University team were runners up and Heriot-Watt University finished third.

Student Development Committee Co-chair Ritika Pawar was quiz master and SPE Aberdeen section chair Anthony Onukwu presented the teams with a certificate of participation, gift vouchers and a trophy to the winning team.

Mr Onukwu commended the effort of the Robert Gordon University student chapter for organising the quiz, which is the first of its kind for the Aberdeen section.

SPE supports Intelligent Energy



There was a regular flow of visitors to the SPE stand at the Intelligent Energy conference in Utrecht, in the Netherlands

Digital energy leaders from around the world converged in Utrecht, the Netherlands, for the 2014 SPE Intelligent Energy conference and exhibition at the beginning of April.

Themed Aspirations and Accomplishments, the three-day event examined the efficiencies and performance improvements that have resulted from digital-age technologies while exploring how digital enablement could reduce exposure to risk while enhancing today's processes and practices.

A total of 80 technical papers covered topics including technology, integrated operations, leadership, cyber-security and big data. More than 40 exhibitors showcased their expertise in the field.

Egbert Imomoh, 2013 President of SPE, said: "The enthusiasm shown by delegates in the sessions really highlights the need for innovative digital age technologies in our ever developing industry. The importance of this critical area was clearly recognised by all attendees and SPE is extremely excited by the continued interest in this topic."

Jack-Up Your Skills



Well Engineering Competency Programme

The WEC programme is a mentored distance learning Well Engineering Competency Programme. Two programmes are available, one for Drilling Engineers and one for Completions Engineers. Candidates are typically in their first years as a graduate engineer or are more experienced engineers who don't have any formal drilling or completion qualifications. The programmes are based on the member completing 35 self-study modules, practical experience with their employing company and attendance at training courses. The programme lasts 24 months, culminating in final exams.

The two programmes can be joined to create a three year combined programme.

Access to a team of Mentors with significant experience in the industry is available throughout the programme, as is access to WikiWell, the technical web based information resource for the WEC programmes.

Environment, Health and Safety Programme

Due to be launched later this year, the EHS competence programme for HSE professionals and other staff involved in the HSE area of the drilling and offshore industries.

To find out how these programmes can benefit your company and your engineers or to request a demo pack please Email: WECSales@fp-g.com or call Tel: +44 1224 638580.

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