

## **TU Petroleum Engineering Newsletter**

### **February 2004**

In this letter, I would like to announce a special award our faculty has received. Two of our former faculty members: Dr. J.J. Azar and Dr. Raj Raghavan are going to be inducted into National Academy of Engineers (NAE) this year. NAE, which was established in 1964, has more than 2,000 peer-elected members and foreign associates, senior professionals in business, academia, and government who are among the world's most accomplished engineers. The process of selection is rigorous and only the best among various engineering disciplines are inducted into NAE. Two of the Petroleum Engineering faculty members have already been inducted into NAE – Drs. Kermit Brown and James Brill. For a small Department like us to have four faculty members associated with the Department to be inducted into NAE is indeed a remarkable accomplishment. I hope that you will join me in congratulating both Drs. Azar and Raghavan for this wonderful accomplishment. Here is the brief description of the reasons why Drs. Azar and Raghavan will be inducted into NAE.

J. J. Azar joined the University of Tulsa in 1965 after receiving his PhD in Mechanical Engineering. He joined the Petroleum Engineering program in 1975 and eventually became Director of Tulsa University Drilling Research Projects (TUDRP). Starting with only four member companies, Dr. Azar guided that project to a great success and made it a standard in drilling research. He relinquished his directorship in 1997, and eventually became Professor Emeritus in the Department in 2002. Even today, he continues to participate in various research and departmental activities.

Dr. Azar's biggest contribution to drilling industry is his seminal work in cutting transport in directional well drilling. Dr. Azar's work proved that lower viscosity muds are more effective in drilled cuttings removal during extended reach drilling. This has become industry norm. In addition, with the help of his students, Dr. Azar has solved many drilling problems associated with inadequate annulus hole cleaning, pipe sticking, excessive drag and torque, and difficulties in casing and logging. For his invaluable contributions to solving drilling problems, Dr. Azar is inducted into National Academy of Engineers.

Dr. Raj Raghavan joined Amoco Production Company in 1972 after finishing his PhD in Petroleum Engineering. He joined the University of Tulsa in 1975 as Associate Professor, and eventually became McMan Professor in Petroleum Engineering. He subsequently served at Phillips Petroleum Company as Manager of Formation Evaluation Group from 1990 till he retired in 2002.

Dr. Raghavan's pioneering work in the area of well testing has provided underpinning to many of the hydrocarbon reservoir evaluation, description and management problems. His prolific publication record is crowned by his definitive book on Well Test Analysis in 1993; a "must read" for anyone involved in well test interpretation. His techniques for analyzing short time pressure test data, data from wells with hydraulic fractures, multiphase flow, and from wells producing from very heterogeneous reservoirs and multiple production zones have led to provision of vital

methodology for obtaining better performance, including additional reserves, from the world's petroleum resources. For his pioneering contributions to solving oil and gas well test interpretation problems, Dr. Raghavan is inducted into National Academy of Engineers.

Now on to this month's Alumni of the Month:

### **Alumni of the Month**

This month's alumnus of the month is Marlin Garrett. Marlin graduated from the University of Tulsa in 1983 with a Bachelor of Science in Petroleum Engineering. While on campus, Marlin was actively involved in campus activities, including Student Body President. After TU, Mr. Garrett continued his studies and received a Master of Business Administration in Finance from Oklahoma City University in 1986 and a Bachelor of Science in Accounting from Metropolitan State College (Denver) in 1989.

He is Vice President, General Manager, Rocky Mountain Division for Samson Resources Company based in Tulsa, Oklahoma. Samson, which is privately owned, would rank in the top 20 independent E&P companies in the U.S. were it publicly traded. Samson's Rocky Mountain Division covers the Permian Basin, San Juan Basin as well as the Rocky Mountain states. Samson's Rocky Mountain Division has offices in Tulsa, Midland, TX and Denver, CO. Mr. Garrett has been employed by Samson for the last 15 years. Prior to his current position with Samson he served in various engineering and management positions both domestically and internationally. Mr. Garrett joined Samson after having been employed by Tenneco Oil Company in both Oklahoma City and Denver as a reservoir engineer which he began upon his graduation. For more on Marlin Garrett, please visit: [http://www.pe.utulsa.edu/people/alum\\_mon\\_feb\\_04.html](http://www.pe.utulsa.edu/people/alum_mon_feb_04.html)

As in the previous years, I intend to visit as many alumni as possible. Hopefully, in one of those visits, I will get to meet you. Keep on sending your comments, suggestions and criticisms.

Mohan