

TU Petroleum Engineering Newsletter

September 2004

Our Fall Semester started on August 23rd. As I have mentioned in previous newsletters, one of the main challenges we faced is the recruiting of quality undergraduate students. With oil industry demographics indicating an average age of a petroleum engineer in the U.S. being 52 (internationally, it is 47), many oil companies are realizing an increasing need to hire young engineers. To satisfy the demand, we need to graduate many more students than what we have graduated in the past ten years.

Last year, with our departmental budget, we hired a part time recruiter to attract more students into our program. I also spent considerable effort in meeting potential students so that I can explain to them the attractiveness of becoming Petroleum Engineer. Our efforts resulted in a great success with an incoming freshmen class of 47. Please see the picture of Class of 2008 at: <http://www.pe.utulsa.edu/news/class2008.html>. Of the 47 students, 30 are from the U.S., 8 are from Saudi Arabia, 5 are from Angola, 2 are from Kazakhstan and 1 each from Norway and Venezuela. Out of 30 domestic students, five are National Merit Finalists. The average ACT score is 28. We obviously want to maintain a balance between domestic and international students, and I am really happy with the result so far. The difficult task is ahead of us though. We want to retain these quality students in the program. The best way to retain them in the program is to expose them to Petroleum Industry as soon as possible. One way we can accomplish this is by providing summer employment to them. If your company is interested in hiring students for summer employment, please contact us, and we will try to connect you with some of our students. As we recruit more students in the program, providing them with scholarships also becomes an important issue. I hope that we will be able to generate more scholarship funds in the near future as our students start working in the industry.

In the last month, I had indicated several SPE awards received by our faculty and alumni. One award I did not mention is the SPE Management and Information Award. For 2004, the recipient of the award is Dr. Amiel David who is TU alumnus. We feature him as an alumnus of the month.

Now on to the alumnus of the month...

Alumni of the Month

This month's alumnus, Dr. Amiel David, holds B.S. in Petroleum Engineering from the University of Tulsa, MSE in Chemical Engineering from U of Pennsylvania, and PhD in Petroleum Engineering from Stanford University. Upon graduation he joined Gulf Oil, and was involved in steam and fire flooding research of heavy oil. His projects took him to Venezuela, Iran and Canada in addition to several projects in the US. He also received an MBA from the U of Pittsburgh, while working for Gulf. Amiel joined the Superior Oil Company, and worked for three years as a reservoir engineer and engineering manager of the Property Administration Department. In 1981 he joined First City Bank as its Sr. Vice President and Chief Engineer. He was later one of the founders of the Energy Department of First Union, now Wachovia Securities. In 2001 he joined Duke

Capital Partners (DCP) as Managing Director in the Houston office, generating and supervising mezzanine loans and equity investments in the industry. Subsequently, he became President and COO of Dune Energy, Inc., which is active in exploration and production of oil and gas, mostly in Texas. For more on Amiel, please check:

http://www.pe.utulsa.edu/people/alum_mon_sept_04.html

Keep sending me your comments, suggestions and criticisms.

Mohan