

## **TU Petroleum Engineering Newsletter**

### **December 2006**

As the year comes to close, we are wrapping up unfinished business and finishing our grades. The class sizes are bigger this year and that adds lot more work as well. Overall, our classes went well this year. However, as the enrollment surges through the junior and senior years, we are going to face the challenge of accommodating all the students and still maintaining a smaller class size. We will continue to update our progress in these newsletters.

On November 10<sup>th</sup>, we met with our advisory board, chaired by Ron Hinn from Oxy. Considering the busy schedule of everyone on the advisory board, it was nice to see so many members attend the meeting. For the latest advisory board photo and list of member, go to [http://www.pe.utulsa.edu/about\\_us/advisory\\_board.stm](http://www.pe.utulsa.edu/about_us/advisory_board.stm). We always value the input of the advisory board and the frank discussion that follows the meeting. This year's meeting was no exception. In addition to meeting with some of our undergraduate and graduate students, our advisory board also had an opportunity to meet with some of our local alumni during the lunch time. In general, it was a very productive meeting.

Last month, we also celebrated the OERB (Oklahoma Energy Resources Board) scholars. OERB – a state government organization funded from royalty payments - has started providing scholarships to Oklahoma students. This year, OERB gave scholarships to five freshmen, two sophomores, two juniors, and one senior. OERB held a reception at TU to honor these recipients. The OERB Director, Mindy Stitt, was at hand to award certificates to individual students. We were also joined by family members and faculty members from the college. Considering the dire need for scholarship money this year, we really value the assistance provided by OERB.

We are always proud of our students' academic accomplishments. However, I would like to single out one senior, who is not only an outstanding student, but is also an outstanding football player. Mike Mengers, who started as an offensive guard for TU for three years, maintains a 3.6 GPA in the Petroleum Engineering program. Mike was recently named to the Conference USA Football All-Academic team. Those who know Mike know that he has incredible time management skills. He always attends class and never misses football practices. After graduating, Mike intends to work for XTO Energy in Oklahoma City. Congratulations to Mike and good luck in your career.

Now to the Alumnus of the Month ...

## **Alumnus of the Month**

This month's alumnus is Ken McQueen. Ken graduated from TU in December, 1982, with a BS in Petroleum Engineering. He joined Williams Exploration and Production in 2002 and serves as the Manager of Joint Interest Operations. Previously Ken worked 13 years at Amerada Hess and eight years for Vintage Petroleum. He has worked in various reservoir and production engineering assignments in Canada, Abu Dhabi, and 13 states in the US. Ken's current production portfolio includes 2,450 producing gas wells in New Mexico, Colorado, and Wyoming, producing 1.34 Bcf per day.

Since graduation, Ken has been an active supporter of TU's petroleum department. He has recruited for 18 years at TU, served as an adjunct professor, and participated in a number of Capstone juries. He worked with his employer to land the Williams endowed chair for Petroleum Engineering. Ken begins a term on the industry advisory board next year.

For more on Ken, visit:

[http://www.pe.utulsa.edu/alumni/monthly\\_alumni/alumnus\\_200612.html](http://www.pe.utulsa.edu/alumni/monthly_alumni/alumnus_200612.html)

Before we end this newsletter, I want to wish all of you a very happy and prosperous new year. Keep sending me your comments, suggestions and criticisms. Mohan