

## **TU Petroleum Engineering Newsletter**

### **August 2007**

The month of August is about to end in just a few days. We are already well into the Fall semester with school starting on August 20<sup>th</sup>. I will provide the details about the enrollment in the next month's newsletter since the enrollment is still in flux, and will stabilize within a week or so. Suffice to say that our enrollment has gone up; as a result, the class sizes have swollen to a size where we need to seriously start thinking about either offering more than one section of the same course, or teaching the same course every semester.

I am sure that you have seen our advertisement for a new faculty position in the August issue of JPT. We are looking for either one or two new faculty members in our department. We have not restricted it to any particular area, nor have we restricted it to a particular level. We would like to hire the best possible candidates who are available. If you know someone from either the industry or from the academic setting, who is interested in the job opportunity at TU, please provide me with the names and I will be happy to contact them.

Changing the subject a little, only the last month, SPE announced its awards for the year 2007. I would like to mention a few people who happen to be TU alumni. Roy Koerner, who was featured as 'Alumnus of the Month' in August 2003, was named Honorary Member of the SPE. Honorary Membership is the highest award which SPE can bestow. Those who know Roy, know he is more than deserving candidate for this award. His service to SPE is exceptional. Since 1957, Roy has held many positions in the SPE organization including SPE President 1994-95. After serving as Vice President of the SPE Foundation, he is currently assisting the SPE Foundation to raise five million dollars for the SPE.org project. In addition to his involvement in SPE, he also served as President of AIME in 1998.

Another person, who deserves a special mention, is Erdal Ozkan. Erdal is the recipient of the SPE Formation Evaluation Award for 2007. Erdal and I joined The University of Tulsa in the same year (1983); he as a graduate student and I as a faculty. Over the years, I had the opportunity to see his progress. Currently, he is a Professor of Petroleum Engineering at Colorado School of Mines. With his talent and hard work, he has managed to conduct research which is theoretically sound and has wide ranging applications in the industry.

Last but not least, James Bobo won the Distinguished Service Award this year. James is featured as this month's 'Alumnus of the Month', so more information is provided below. Suffice to say, James has been a tremendous resource for the department and this University. He has been serving on our Industrial Advisory Board many years, and continues to play a very active role.

Now to the alumnus of the month:

## **Alumnus of the Month**

This month's alumnus is James Bobo. James was born and raised in Muskogee, Oklahoma. After graduating from The University of Tulsa in 1977 with a B.S. in Petroleum Engineering, James lived in several oilfield towns including New Orleans, Lafayette, Halifax, Nova Scotia, Amarillo, Billings, Fort Worth and Midland. Over the years, he worked for Chevron, Superior Oil, Mobil, Meridian Oil/Burlington Resources, and ConocoPhillips. He is currently serving as Drilling/Completion Manager for Piceance Basin for ConocoPhillips, based in Midland, Texas. James is married to Cindy, who graduated from TU's School of Nursing. He has one son, Joshua, who is a pharmacist and a daughter, Sarah, who is a teacher. For more on James, please visit:

[http://www.pe.utulsa.edu/alumni/monthly\\_alumni/alumnus\\_200708.stm](http://www.pe.utulsa.edu/alumni/monthly_alumni/alumnus_200708.stm)

Keep sending me your comments, suggestions and criticisms. – Mohan