

TU Petroleum Engineering Newsletter

September 2007

The school has been open for about a month. As I wrote to you last month, the enrollment has increased significantly. Our current enrollment in the Petroleum Engineering program is 241 undergraduate and 56 graduate students. At The University of Tulsa, we also started a new Energy Management undergraduate program. This is through Business Administration; however, the program is closely tied to the petroleum industry. The entering freshmen in Energy Management are required to take my Introduction to Petroleum Engineering class. As a result, the Introduction to Petroleum Engineering class has 110 students, including 24 students from the Energy Management program. To view the class photo go to:

http://www.pe.utulsa.edu/news_events/fa07_freshmen.stm

I believe that we are reaching the limits of the number of students who should be enrolled in the program. Having a large number of students in the class is a mixed blessing. Without question, with increased interest in Petroleum Engineering, the quality of students has improved. We also have more companies coming on campus to interview students. On the other hand, with increased enrollment, we are fearful of large classes and the loss of personal connection to the faculty. We definitely want to maintain that personal connection with the students, and that requires restricting the number of students in the program. With an increased number of faculty, we can alleviate some of the problems but not all. Keplinger Hall is also stretched to the limit in terms of the facilities and space. We need to address all of these issues proactively so that we do not sacrifice the quality of education during these growing pains. We will continue to work on these issues and will seek input from all of you as we go through the deliberation process.

This year, our SPE Student Chapter has been very active and has organized many events on campus. One of their upcoming events is a golf tournament. It is for a good cause – the more money they can raise, the more students they can take to the SPE ATCE in Anaheim. If you are interested in more information or sponsoring a team, please visit http://www.pe.utulsa.edu/news_events/spestudents_golf_nov2007.pdf, or email keith-kostelnik@utulsa.edu.

In the August newsletter, I mentioned the SPE awards received by some of our alumni. I need to add one more name to that list. Phil Schenewerk, who has been teaching as an adjunct faculty at The University of Tulsa for many years, won the Distinguished Member Award. Congratulations Phil!

Now to our alumni news:

Alumnus of the Month

This month's alumnus is Erdal Ozkan. Erdal has B.S. and M.S. degrees from Istanbul Technical University and a Ph.D. degree from The University of Tulsa in Petroleum Engineering. Since 1989, he has taught at Istanbul Technical University and Colorado School of Mines, where he is currently a Professor of Petroleum Engineering and co-Director of Marathon Center of Excellence for Reservoir Studies. His main research

interests are reservoir engineering, horizontal and multilateral well technology, well test analysis, and fluid flow in porous media. He has published and presented extensively in refereed journals and technical meetings and co-authored a book. Dr. Ozkan has also conducted many industry supported research projects and presented short courses to the industry around the world. He has served as the Executive Editor of SPE Reservoir Evaluation and Engineering and is currently the co-Editor in Chief of Elsevier B.V. Journal of Petroleum Science and Engineering. He was also the organizer of several SPE forums, workshops, and conferences.

For more on Erdal, please visit:

http://www.pe.utulsa.edu/alumni/monthly_alumni/alumnus_200709.stm

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