

TU Petroleum Engineering Newsletter

December 2007

It is hard to believe that the year is about end. The students completed their finals last week and have gone home for the holidays. Tuesday was the last day to assign grades (we always wait until the students have gone home!). The University closes this Friday (December 21st) and will not reopen until Wednesday, January 2nd.

In the November newsletter, I forgot to mention the SPE Alumni event on November 13th in Anaheim. Since the 2007 meeting was far away from the oil patch, it was difficult to estimate the number of people who would attend. To our surprise, more than 120 people came to the alumni function. We had a good time talking to our alumni; some I have not seen in many years. After the alumni function, we went to a dinner (courtesy of Ron Hinn) to celebrate the winners of the SPE Awards. Awardees included Erdal Ozkan, Roy Koerner and James Bobo. In addition, we also celebrated Phil Schenewerk – who became a Distinguished Member this year – who teaches one of our undergraduate courses. For the photos of alumni function, please visit:

http://www.pe.utulsa.edu/news_events/alumni_reception_anaheim_nov2007/index.stm

On another note, last month Prof. Jim Brill announced the establishment of the James P. Brill Endowed Presidential Scholarship. He and his wife, Marilyn, contributed \$100,000 as a seed funding and want to challenge all of our alumni to match his contribution. The goal of this scholarship is to raise a \$3 million dollar endowment so that enough money can be generated from the interest to cover all eligible undergraduate students who are interested in the Petroleum Engineering program. First, I want to thank Prof. Brill for making such a generous contribution to our program. He has faithfully served, and continues to serve, our department. His technical contributions have made a big impact in making this department famous for multiphase flow research. However, I personally value his leadership and counsel to the department. Without hesitation, I can state that this initiative is coming at a very crucial time for the department. With enrollment growing rapidly, our need for scholarships has increased significantly. We simply are running out of money to give to students. If we can establish a permanent scholarship program through this endowment, it would be of significant help to the department, as well as to the students. I hope that you can contribute generously to this effort. If you would like to have more information on this scholarship, you may want to contact Kayla Acebo. Her email address is kayla-acebo@utulsa.edu.

This month, the Alumnus of the Month feature is on vacation. It will return in January.

Have a wonderful holiday and a very prosperous new year! Thanks again for helping us make the program better.

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