

## Stavanger Section Celebrates 35th Anniversary

The SPE Stavanger Section celebrated its 35th anniversary at its annual barbecue and dance event attended by 470 guests on 5 June 2009. Weatherford provided food and the StatoilHydro Big Band provided music for the evening. In his speech, Jan Roar Drechsler, SPE Stavanger Section chairperson, elaborated on the evolution of SPE in the challenging economic climate and also discussed the Energy4me program and the progress it has made over the year.

During the celebration, numerous awards were presented. Javantha P. Liyanage, professor at Stavanger University and faculty representative on the SPE Stavanger Section board, assisted Drechsler in presenting Best Master Student of the Year award to Stian Bærheim and Best PhD Student of the Year award to Jawad Raza.

Weatherford Norge received an award for their faithful and reliable support through the section's first 35 years. Rolf Leknes, Weatherford Norge received the award on behalf of the company.

The prestigious Oil Woman/Man of the Year award for 2009 went to Tore Halvorsen, vice president of FMC Technologies, for his long lasting role in developing subsea technology.



**From left to right: Roy Rusaa, SPE Stavanger and member of the election committee; Tore Halvorsen, 2009 Oilman of the Year; and Jan Roar Drechsler, SPE Stavanger Section chairperson.**

## Call for Papers—SPE Economics & Management

In February, SPE's board of directors approved a new journal—*SPE Economics & Management*—to fill an important gap in the industry's peer-reviewed literature. SPE is currently seeking submissions for this journal, which covers many topics important to today's managers. Papers covering topics such as resources and reserves evaluation, portfolio and asset management, project valuation, strategic decision making and processes, uncertainty/risk assessment and mitigation, systems modeling and forecasting, benchmarking and performance indicators, information and knowledge management, digital energy, and petroleum economics should be submitted to <http://mc.manuscriptcentral.com/speem>. More information about the journal may be found in the peer-reviewed journals area of SPE.org.

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## SPE Officers Visit Turkey Section

2010 SPE President Behrooz Fattahi and Serge Rueff, SPE South, Central, and East Europe regional director, recently visited the SPE Turkey Section. Rueff visited SPE Istanbul Technical University Student Chapter during the 19th Istanbul Technical University Petroleum and Natural Gas Seminar held in Istanbul during 18–19 June 2009. Fattahi gave a presentation titled “Challenges of the Future.”

Fattahi and Rueff also attended the SPE Turkey Section Board Meeting luncheon. They addressed the importance of SPE and had an informal discussion with SPE Middle East Technical University Student Chapter members. Fattahi and Rueff concluded their trip by visiting with Ali Tirek, production manager, Turkish Petroleum. Fattahi discussed SPE’s mission, membership, and the petroleum industry.



**Behrooz Fattahi (sixth from right, standing), 2010 SPE president; Serhat Akin (seventh from right, standing), SPE Turkey Section chairperson; and Serge Rueff (fifth from right, kneeling), SPE South, Central, and East Europe regional director, with students from the SPE Middle East Technical University Student Chapter.**

## SPE Launches New Peer-Review System

As part of the ongoing efforts to improve peer review timeliness and quality, SPE has moved to a new system for online management of the peer-review process. The new system is called Scholar One Manuscripts from Thomson-Reuters. Already in use by more than 350 publishers and 3,000 journals, Scholar One Manuscripts offers SPE advanced tools for tracking and monitoring peer review. In making this change, SPE has attempted to benefit from the best practices of other journals.

What does this mean for authors? Formerly, SPE’s peer-review system and manuscript submission system for meetings were part of the same system. That meant that authors selected a journal and their paper was submitted to that journal. Since SPE is now using two different systems for meeting papers and peer review, authors will need to upload their paper a second time, a process that takes 10 to 15 minutes. At the end of meeting manuscript submission, authors will see information about the coverage of each of SPE’s technical journals and a link to submit their paper to that journal.

Alternatively, authors can choose to submit their paper using one of the submission links in the journals area of the SPE.org website. The interface is easy to use and intuitive.

While this requires some added effort from authors, the benefits of using an updated online system outweigh the minor time investment. The new system gives SPE and journal editors much greater ability to monitor papers as they move through the peer-review process and ensure that reviews are completed in a timely manner. This means that material gets reviewed and published faster, benefitting both the author and the industry, as others benefit from the added knowledge contributed by the peer-approved material. It will also be much easier for authors to monitor the status of their papers while in review and to submit any requested revisions. The new system accepts both Word 2007 and LaTeX submissions, which the old system did not.

Reviewers in the peer-review process will benefit from a much easier interface and the ability to track the ultimate decision on papers they have reviewed.

## SPE Section Scholarship Support Reaches New Heights

More than USD 1,050,000 in scholarship money was distributed by SPE sections from June 2008 to May 2009 by 67 sections in 28 different nations, a 7% increase over funding reported the previous year. Two-thirds of the top 15 sections ranked by total scholarship amount reported raised their number of scholarships given or the amount per scholarship granted. Table 1 lists the top-ranked sections by total amount of scholarship money distributed per total paid membership of their section.

The SPE Gulf Coast Section distributed the largest amount in scholarships, student support, and community outreach. The section distributed USD 191,000 during the period.

TABLE 1—SECTION SCHOLARSHIP LEADERS

Section	07-08 Scholarship, USD	08-09 Scholarship, USD	% Change	Paid members as of 12/31/08	USD/ Member
Aberdeen	30,000	22,500	-25	2,268	9.92
Canadian	50,000	46,200	-8	3,335	13.85
Gulf Coast	162,000	191,000	18	13,609	14.03
London	0	29,273		1,926	15.20
Dallas	20,000	26,000	30	1,553	16.74
Denver	50,000	50,000	0	1,979	25.26
Evangeline	23,000	21,000	-9	775	27.09
Fort Worth	21,000	19,500	-7	702	27.77
San Joaquin Valley	18,000	31,000	72	706	43.91
Alaska	25,000	23,000	-8	510	45.09
Delta	0	32,500		701	46.36
Permian Basin	66,000	68,000	3	1,016	66.93
Mid-Continent	42,000	78,000	86	867	89.97
Wyoming Petroleum	19,000	29,500	8	210	97.61
Balcones	21,750	24,500	13	246	99.59
Ohio	19,500	22,500	15	160	140.62

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