

Application for Outstanding Section Young Professional (YP) Program

The SPE Young Professionals Coordinating Committee initiated an award for Outstanding Section YP Program in 2008. This award is intended to acknowledge the section and YP program officers for outstanding efforts in the areas of interest to young professionals and other industry newcomers.

The winner will be announced at the President's Luncheon at SPE's Annual Technical Conference and Exhibition (ATCE). A plaque will be presented to the YP program and section officers. Please note that the award for Outstanding Section YP Program does not replace the section excellence awards.

To be considered for this award, the section YP program chairperson should complete the form below and submit it with the section's annual report. The deadline is 1 June.

Section Name: Aberdeen

The Outstanding Section YP Program application is not intended to be a duplication of the items indicated in the annual report or a list of all activities that the YP program has completed. Instead, list the most prominent event or initiative in each category, emphasizing those programs, events, or circumstances that were new or changed during the past year. Your responses are limited in character length. The selection committee will contact you if additional information is needed.

1. Did your YP program have any extraordinary recruiting success for new young-professional members of SPE? Yes If so, describe. (500 char. limit) We have recruited 50-70% of non-members as regular YP members. Our membership increased from 885 in August 2008 to 950 in April 2009 after we created a pool of YP contacts in organisations to promote YP activities. We also gave free tickets to some of our sponsors and allocated tickets to events to non-members, who subsequently joined. We also established a Student Chapter at the University of Aberdeen, which added 200 student members to our existing membership of 660 students.
2. Describe the most successful technical event organized by your YP program. (500 char. limit) Our YP Poster presentation contest was the most innovative and successful technical event this year, giving YPs the opportunity to present their work to a wider audience. Topics included CO2 storage, well performance optimisation and water management. The sense of competition added another dimension, with participants striving to make a flawless presentation. This YP technology showcase attracted people from diverse parts of the industry.
3. Describe an exemplary community service event organized by your YP program. (500 char. limit) Our YP section was instrumental in delivering 'Maths in the Pipeline', supported by BP and SPE Aberdeen. The annual event was designed to engage secondary school pupils in the application of mathematics in the energy industry, thereby helping long-term industry sustainability. The event was a huge success, drawing positive feedback from both teachers and pupils. It will now be extended to other cities in the near future, owing to the encouragement and support of the schools.
4. Did your YP program organize any student-related activities? Yes If so, please describe the most successful one. (500 char. limit) We established an SPE Student Chapter at the University of Aberdeen, following the launch of a new undergraduate petroleum engineering

course. The Chapter inauguration, attended by SPE Committee members, featured an inspirational speech by one of them. Students had a great opportunity to interact with the YPs informally to gain insights into their work environment and various development opportunities. Following positive feedback, several Student Chapter-YP Section activities are being planned.

5. Did your YP program organize any soft skills event? Yes If so, please describe the most successful one. (500 char. limit) A virtual presentation by Chris Carpenter, Managing Editor of SPE Journal, on How to write an effective SPE paper, was the most successful and technologically-innovative soft skills event of the year. He talked us through the various steps involved in writing a technical paper, from the abstract submission to the final product. The virtual presentation received extremely positive reviews and this event could easily set standards for virtual working across SPE in future.
6. What was your most outstanding YP program event of the year? (100 char. limit) If listed above, please indicate which question number. --select-- If not indicated above, please describe. (500 char. limit) We organised a highly successful personal and career development event, Bridging the Gap, involving experienced and young professionals. A motivational speech by an 2005 SPE President was followed by an interactive panel session comprising six industry leaders with with an aggregate experience of 200 years! The event, perceived as setting a new standard across the SPE YP sections, gave the YPs much to think about and discuss and their positive feedback has set in motion Bridging the Gap part 2.
7. Please describe the biggest challenge or difficulty your YP program overcame in the past year. (500 char. limit) Due to the cyclic nature of the oil industry, we lost several key Committee members, including our Chair Elect. To counter this, we attracted new members with fresh ideas and introduced a de-centralised model, with everyone responsible for specific tasks. Two experienced Committee members acted as Co-chairs, overseeing and helping as necessary. A clear succession plan is in place. This has led to a very successful year for our YP section and can perhaps be used as role model across the SPE.
8. Describe an innovative initiative your YP program is responsible for. (500 char. limit) Multi-disciplinary integration across the industry is an absolute necessity and we took the initiative to form a cross-border YP organisation comprising SPE, PESGB and AFE, with an intent to share best practices and co-host events of mutual interest. The SPE YPs led the way, suggesting ideas catering for the developmental needs of all three societies. The incredible enthusiasm and participation has led to a committee being formed and an inaugural summer event is in the pipeline.
9. Describe how your YP program shares information (technology, best practices and lessons learned) with other YP programs and also how best practices are adopted from other YP Programs? (500 char. limit) The cross-border YP organisation initiative has already brought us closer to sharing best practices and lessons learned with other societies in a more organised way. Most of the Committee members are part of YP groups within their respective companies, thus bringing in new ideas and experiences and vice-versa. This has helped us create strong and mutually-beneficial tie-ups with the industry. The newly-developed website is playing a vital role in terms of knowledge-sharing with other YP groups.
10. Have any YP program members in your section submitted articles to *The Way Ahead* or any other SPE publication or meeting? Yes If so, please list their names and a brief description of

the article(s). (500 char. limit) Anthony Onukwu is Deputy Editor in Chief, and Lead Editor, Interview Section (4 articles); Yekemi Otaru is Lead Editor, Soft Skills (2 articles). Anthony wrote Urgent focus on leadership required for future of industry for TWA February 2009 issue. Two submissions will be made for the next issues.

11. Please list any SPE national, regional, or section awards; nominations; or distinguished recognition from other organizations received by section YP program members. (300 char. limit) SPE North Sea Regional Award recipient (Anthony Onukwu), Celeste Pastorini (former SPE Regional Award recipient), Natalie Chadud (SPE Int. Outstanding Young Member Award), John Donachie (North Sea Rising Star recipient). Nominations: Anthony Onukwu (SPE Int. Outstanding Young Member Award).
12. What types of initiatives, activities, or requirements that your YP program has in place to encourage effective integration with the main section board (to encourage mentoring, succession planning, etc) (300 char. limit) Our outstanding succession plan develops YPs to full Board members. Achievements: first succession of YP Chair to main Section Chairmanship (John Donnachie); 3 YP members became Section Directors: Masud Javid (Treasurer), Anthony Onukwu (Membership Director), Jairo Ching (Student Development).
13. Can you comment on ways your YP program assists with the transfer of knowledge from seniors to young professionals? Have you identified new initiatives to encourage this process? (300 char. Limit) Our Bridging the gap event has set standard for knowledge transfer across all YP groups. All technical events have speakers with right level of experience to relate to the YPs, with a focus on multi-discipline topics. This creates an openness, leading to an efficient knowledge transfer process.

If you have any questions about how to complete this form, please contact:

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