
*FY16 Annual Report for
SPE Standing Committees*

Table of Contents

Industry Focus	3
Energy Information Committee	4
Oil & Gas Reserves Committee	5
Meetings.....	7
2015 ATCE Program Committee	8
Forum Series Coordinating Committee	9
Member Programs.....	11
Distinguished Lecturer Program Committee	12
Education and Accreditation Committee	13
Engineering Professionalism Committee	14
Global Training Committee	16
Membership Committee	17
Online Communities Coordinating Committee	18
Section and Chapter Activities Committee	19
Soft Skills Committee	20
SPE International Award Committees	21
Young Member Engagement Committee	22
Publications	24
Book Development Committee	25
Editorial Review Committee	26
JPT Editorial Committee	27

Energy Information Committee

Committee Chair: Jeannie Smith and Mark Brinsden

About the Committee

The Energy Information Committee serves to guide and promote the society's global programs to inform students and the general public of the value the petroleum industry provides to the quality of our everyday lives. Although this is primarily an advisory committee that receives substantial staff support from SPE, committee members do provide an important source of hands-on help and access to resources, in addition to serving as champions of the program.

Representatives of the following member groups and others have been selected to provide insight, network relationships, and leverage member technical expertise that helps advance our programs:

- Sections, including the Americas, Aberdeen, the Middle East, and China
- University professors to provide insight from the student level
- Company representatives interested in the support of science and math education

In 2014, the committee divided into two subcommittees, one focused on classroom education and the other on public awareness.

Committee Activities and Accomplishments (October 2014 to September 2015)

The committee supports globally the growth of SPE's energy education program, energy4me®.

Highlights of this year's classroom education outreach activities include:

- Training of international teachers by energy4me for the first time at SAS Annual Technical Symposium & Exhibition, SPE Hydraulic Fracturing Technology Conference, INGEPET in Peru, Alaska workshop in partnership with Alaska Resource Education, SPE Young Professionals' workshop in Port Harcourt, and at the International Petroleum Technology Conference (IPTC) in Kuala Lumpur.
- Recurring teacher and high school student workshops at the SPE Annual Technical Conference and Exhibition (ATCE) and the Offshore Technology Conference (OTC), and teacher workshop at the Unconventional Resources Conference—Canada (URCC) in Calgary. At OTC, a record 196 teachers and 200 students were hosted for an energy4me event.
- Participation in non-industry science education events, including The Big Bang Fair UK, held in Birmingham, England, and National Science Teachers Association Annual Conference, Chicago.
- New train-the-trainer workshops in Kuala Lumpur and Mumbai to train teachers to help with energy4me events in Malaysia, Thailand, Australia, and India.
- Highlights of this year's public awareness outreach activities include:
 - Development of new content for the hydraulic fracturing website
 - Development of four new webinars that address hydraulic fracturing challenges of concern to the general public and the media

Oil and Gas Reserves Committee

Committee Chair: Dan Diluzio

About the Committee

The committee is responsible for programs dealing with oil and gas reserves and resource matters, including reserves and resource definitions and standards.

The committee currently has a chairman and 16 members. Members must have at least 10 years of experience in reserves and resource estimation. There are also six observers to the committee who represent their societies. Currently active observers represent the Society of Petroleum Evaluation Engineers (SPEE), the American Association of Petroleum Geologists (AAPG), and the Society for Exploration Geophysicists (SEG). There are also positions for the World Petroleum Council (WPC), the International Accounting Standards Board (IASB), and the US Energy Information Administration (EIA), though representatives from these groups have not attended any meetings for several years.

Committee Activities and Accomplishments (October 2014 to September 2015)

Review of Petroleum Resources Management System

The Oil and Gas Reserves Committee governance document calls for the Petroleum Resources Management System (PRMS) to be reviewed for possible revision every five to seven years. In 2014, the committee identified issues that may require revision of the PRMS, ranked these issues in terms of importance and level of effort, and formed a PRMS review subcommittee to begin discussion of the most important issues. During the past year, the subcommittee has held bi-weekly conference calls to develop proposed language to address nine issues identified as most important.

In July, the committee engaged the PRMS-sponsoring societies in this effort by asking each one to appoint a representative to join the PRMS review subcommittee. Joint conference calls will begin in September to gain input from these societies into proposed revisions. The committee hopes to have a revised PRMS first draft by the end of 2015. This first draft will need to be posted for industry comment and any comments received considered before the document will be ready for SPE Board approval and endorsement by the sponsoring societies.

It is important to note that the review included the following considerations:

- Improve the PRMS's clarity and, potentially, granularity where necessary
- Maintain core features relied upon by current stakeholders
- Review and recommend elements for alignment with other international reserves and resource definition systems, such as (without limitation) the Canadian Oil and Gas Evaluation Handbook (COGEH), the Norwegian Petroleum Directorate, and Russian and Chinese systems
- Consider revisions to bring the definitions in line with the requirements for assessing reserves and resources in unconventional reservoirs
- Explore other changes that may be needed based on experience gained during the past five years of intense application throughout the world
- Consider expansion for other stakeholders and users
- Items considered out of scope are the following:
 - Disclosures requirements of governments, banks, or equity markets
 - Prescriptive manual for the calculation or reporting of resources
 - A start-from-scratch or wholesale re-write of the PRMS

- Updates to the Applications Guidelines document. Any significant conflicts with these guidelines will be identified for the Oil and Gas Reserves Committee to address
- Enforcement of the PRMS

Unconventional Resources Task Force

The Oil and Gas Reserves Committee served on a multisociety task force, which included members from Society of Petroleum Engineers (SPE), American Association of Petroleum Geologists (AAPG), Society of Economic Geologists (SEG), Society of Petrophysicists and Well Log Analysts (SPWLA), Society of Petroleum Evaluation Engineers (SPEE), and World Petroleum Council (WPC). The task force held a Multisociety Summit on Unconventional Plays, 17–18 August, in the Houston area. The summit aimed to produce an objective technical review of the issues, challenges, and practices involved in estimating reserves and resources in unconventional reservoirs. The task force met on 19 August to discuss summit results and the development of a task force report. The plan is to complete the report in the next few weeks.

Translation

The committee is developing a Russian translation of the PRMS. Spanish and Chinese translations already exist. A first-effort translation into Russian is under review by a group of reserves experts fluent in Russian and English. As with the other translations, a statement that the English version takes precedence in any case of interpretation will be included in the Russian translation.

The committee is also overseeing development of a Chinese translation of the *Applications Guidelines for the Petroleum Resources Management System*. An extensive subcommittee of experts from Chinese oil and gas companies is working with committee member Yang Hua to translate the document.

UNECE

The Oil and Gas Reserves Committee serves as SPE’s representative to the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) Expert Group on Resource Evaluation (EGRE). Members of the committee have been attending meetings of the EGRE for several years and have devoted many hours contributing to the business of the group. In 2014 agreement on language recognizing the PRMS as the reference standard for petroleum was reached. Committee members continue to monitor and maintain involvement in activities of the EGRE.

PetroWiki

Committee members have acted as moderators for portions of PetroWiki dealing with reserves and resource estimation.

JCORET

The committee appoints three SPE representatives to the Joint Committee on Reserves Evaluator Training (JCRET). This committee includes representation from the PRMS-endorsing societies. It has been inactive for the past year. Efforts are underway to determine the status of JCRET and its future.

Workshops

The committee reduced its focus on holding workshops while the review of the PRMS is ongoing. No workshops have been held in 2015. A workshop is planned in Dubai in the first quarter of 2016. The committee will develop and implement a plan for a series of workshops on changes to the PRMS when the revision is complete.

Meetings

2015 SPE Annual Technical Conference and Exhibition (ATCE) Program Committee

Committee Chair: Ana Djuric, Halliburton

About the Committee

Major responsibilities of the program committee are to monitor activity in their fields worldwide and to identify topics that should be pursued for presentation in the technical program. This includes the identification of companies active in development work and operations in the area worldwide, as well as individuals, and the encouragement to submit paper proposals. Members are to also serve as session chairperson in their developed sessions.

The ATCE Program Committee comprises a program chairperson, program vice chairperson, six specialty coordinators, and 16 subcommittees.

Subcommittees comprise approximately eight to 27 members. Each subcommittee is monitored by, and receives assistance from, its specialty coordinator.

Drilling Specialty Coordinator	Projects, Facilities, and Construction Specialty Coordinator	Health, Safety, and Environment Specialty Coordinator	Management and Information Specialty Coordinator	Production and Operations Specialty Coordinator	Reservoir Description and Dynamics Specialty Coordinator
Drilling Subcommittee	Projects, Facilities, and Construction Subcommittee	Health, Safety, and Environment Subcommittee	Management Subcommittee	Well Operations Subcommittee	Recovery, Mechanisms, and Flow in Porous Media Subcommittee
Well Completions Subcommittee			Digital Energy Subcommittee	Production Monitoring and Control Subcommittee	Formation Evaluation Subcommittee
			Education, Training, and Professionalism Subcommittee	Well Stimulation Subcommittee	Reservoir Engineering Subcommittee
			Petroleum Advanced Analytics		Reservoir Geology and Geophysics Subcommittee
					Reservoir Monitoring Subcommittee

Committee Activities and Accomplishments (October 2014 to September 2015)

- Successfully solicited more than 2,268 paper proposals for the ATCE 2015 Conference
- Added an additional subcommittee on Petroleum Advanced Analytics under the Management and Information Discipline
- Reviewed, rated, and selected more than 450 proposals for the technical program
- Developed 46 sessions and worked with the technical advisory committee to develop special sessions highlighting SPE technical disciplines and provide additional openings for technical section sessions
- Added additional special soft skills session on how to start your own business and grow your networking skills
- To improve the quality of the technical papers, implemented pre-review of manuscripts to be inclusive of, but not limited to, commercialism, trade names, and logos

Forum Series Coordinating Committee (FSCC)

Committee Chair: Jeff Moss

About the Committee

The committee comprises five members. Terms for the chairperson and for committee members are three years, and are subject to renewal. Committee members include the chairpersons of the Forum Series Implementation Committees (FSICs)—Eastern Hemisphere and Western Hemisphere subcommittees, plus at-large representatives. The at-large representatives should have experience in forum series programs. The committee is responsible for oversight of the SPE Forum Series program, including the planning and conduct of forums under policies and guidelines approved by the SPE Board of Directors. The FSICs are subcommittees of the FSCC standing committee.

Committee Activities and Accomplishments (October 2014 to September 2015)

The committee's goal since the beginning of its term in October 2013 has been to bring younger members to the forum governance committees as well as to the forums themselves. Part of this youth movement involves the committee's awareness of the changing work life of forum participants. While continuing to maintain the forum guidelines, the FSCC acknowledges the need for flexibility in some of the traditional forum formats to meet these work life needs. To that end, the following projects have been developed and implemented this past year:

- **Addition of younger members to the forum governance committee and the forums**
This youth movement begins at the FSIC level and works its way up to the FSCC. Four Young Professionals (YPs) and one member under age 40 are members of the FSICs. In 2014, the FSCC added one YP member. At both committee levels, the younger members are being mentored by the more longstanding members, and have played an active role within the committees during their committee terms. Most recently, FSCC succession plans have been put in place to continue to elevate and engage the YPs and younger committee members of both the FSICs and the FSCC.
- **Reintroduction of the forum series to the membership, especially the younger members**
SPE staff and the FSCC continue to refine the forum-focused website within spe.org as part of the updated look. Its intent is to use this more appealing website to educate and entice members, especially the younger members, to the forum series events.
- **Maintenance of forum guidelines while researching inquiries pertaining to them**
The guidelines concerning the inclusiveness of the forum summary report and the forum length were reviewed at the 2014 SPE Annual Technical Conference and Exhibition. Therefore, 2015 was the first year of the revised guideline for an optional summary report. Now the forum steering committee determines whether to produce a report or not, publishes the committee's intent in the marketing collateral, and if the committee decides to produce a report, provides this report to forum participants as supplemental notes. No voting by forum participants is needed.

An option for a 3.5-day format has been added to the traditional 4.5-day forum. A concentrated 3-day format was used for a US Health, Safety, Security, Environment, and Social Responsibility (HSSESR) topic in 2015. Whereas the 3-day format was vital for this forum and the topic at the time, it was deemed too short for the forum participants.

- **Refocusing efforts to re-engage—Friends of Forums event at ATCE 2015.** The FSCC determined that now is the time to reach out to friends for a pulse check of the forum series. The intent of the meeting is to assess the state of the forum series and investigate options for future improvements.

Forum Title	Location	Dates	Number of Attendees	Overall CSI Rating
How Can We Double Carbonate Reservoir Recovery?	Istanbul, Turkey	*23–26 February 2015 (Originally 28–31 October 2014)	52	86%
Physics and Chemistry of Nanoscale Rock	La Jolla, California, USA	22–26 March 2015	62	92%
Drilling Window Prediction and Real-Time Management: Getting It Right the First Time	*Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia (Originally Bali, Indonesia)	17–20 May 2015	40	85%
Health and Social Responsibility: The Role of the Oil and Gas Industry in Community Health	Miami, Florida, USA	31 May–3 June 2015	43	87%
Flow Assurance: The Future State of the Art	Newport Beach, California, USA	31 May–5 June 2015	46	80%
Enhanced Oil Recovery: The Future Is Now!	Cancun, Mexico	18–23 October 2015	TBD	TBD
Next Generation of Smart Reservoir Management: The Eminent Role of Big Data Analytics	*Dubai, UAE (Originally Dead Sea, Jordan)	*18–21 January 2016 (Originally 11–14 May 2015)	TBD	TBD
Late Life Rejuvenation: Third Wave	*TBD, The Netherlands (Originally Cannes, France)	*8–10 March 2016 (Originally 15–19 February 2015)	TBD	TBD
AVERAGE			51	86%

* Cancelled or moved forums

Member Programs

Distinguished Lecturer Program Committee

Committee Chair: Gary Barnes

About the Committee

The Distinguished Lecturer (DL) Committee comprises up to 36 members, including one regional member from each of SPE's 16 governance regions. Members are selected using SPE-specified criteria to ensure diversity of technical expertise. The committee structure is past chair (ex officio), chair, vice chair, and three subcommittees focused on webinars, company outreach, and nominations. The DL webinar program is run by a subset of the DL Committee with chair, ex officio as the chair.

The committee seeks lecturers with representation in each of SPE's six disciplines. The nomination process has been greatly simplified for the nominator—simply suggest someone after which SPE staff work with the nominee to gather the necessary supporting materials. The nominee must supply:

- A PowerPoint® presentation that can be given in 30 minutes
- Two separate letters of recommendation
- A 250-word abstract that answers the question: "What is the one idea you would like the members to take away from this lecture?"
- A 100-word biography

Committee members spend a significant amount of time with potential lecturers, preparing them and their presentation material for the selection process and section visits, if selected. The committee meets three times per year in person, typically once in the May timeframe and twice in September. One meeting is always held during ATCE.

In 2012, the DL Committee initiated a webinar aspect of the DL program, which extends the range and scope of the DL program to allow SPE to serve more members. The core DL program and the DL webinar program are primarily funded by the SPE Foundation. The current schedule and archives of DL webinars are available at www.spe.org/DL.

Committee Activities and Accomplishments (October 2014 to September 2015)

2015–2016 Lecture Season

- 55 potential lecturers identified, 32 DLs representing nine countries selected.
- Technical discipline breakdown of topics is as follows:
 - Drilling and Completions—11
 - Reservoir Description and Dynamics—9
 - Production and Operations—4
 - Health, Safety, and Environment—3
 - Management and Information—3
 - Projects, Facilities, and Construction—2
- Section Visits: 531 scheduled lectures at SPE Sections

2016–17 Lecture Season

- 87 nominations completed
- 49 potential lecturers identified
- Will select 32–35 DLs by 1 Oct 2015

Education and Accreditation Committee

Committee Chair: John Killough

About the Committee

SPE is a member society of the Accreditation Board of Engineering and Training (ABET). Members of the committee represent the society in ABET matters. The committee assesses the curriculum of petroleum engineering university departments and makes recommendations so that curriculum is consistent with the needs of the petroleum engineering industry. The committee assists ABET in recruiting, training, and assigning petroleum engineering program evaluators (PEVs) for university accreditation visits.

The committee comprises 12 members, with a balance of six industry professionals and six academicians in the committee composition. The chair position is rotated between academia and industry each year. The composition of the committee is more geographically diverse compared to years in which this committee was US-centric.

Committee Activities and Accomplishments (October 2014 to September 2015)

- SPE petroleum program evaluators have been assigned for the 2014 third-quarter accreditation visits.
- With ABET providing international university accreditation, this committee's PEVs will participate in five visits outside North America.
- SPE's ABET board representatives and the Engineering Accreditation Commission are developing new policies and implementation strategies to develop program evaluators around the globe.

Engineering Professionalism Committee

Committee Chair: Mohammed Shaikh

About the Committee

The Engineering Professionalism Committee is charged with the integration of professional activities and practices, including the further development, future updating, and society-wide awareness of the Petroleum Engineering Skills Matrix and the database of worldwide credentialing practices. The committee is charged with oversight of the US Engineering Registration and SPE Petroleum Engineering Certification Subcommittees.

The Engineering Professionalism Committee comprises up to 12 members. The committee is geographically diverse to provide global input on professional practices.

Committee Activities and Accomplishments (October 2014 to September 2015)

- The *SPE Petroleum Engineering Certification and PE License Exam Reference Guide* was completed and published in September 2014. The guide is in use with all SPE Certification Computer-Based Testing exams. The guide is being revised and expanded to meet the requirements of the National Council of Examiners for Engineering and Surveying (NCEES) for use in the US PE license exam for 2017. SPE will be the first Tier II society to launch a closed -book exam with complete reference guide.
- The committee finished the creation of the online PE and Certification Exam Review Course in January 2014. After beta testing in August, the launch of the online course is scheduled for September 2015.
- The SPE Certification Computer-Based Testing exam and delivery system was completed in January 2014. Launch of the program was delayed until September 2014 due to the AMS Personify upgrade. The system went live in December 2014, and it has had 36 registrations for exams. The registrations are very geographically diverse with exam takers from Nigeria, India, United Kingdom, Denmark, United Arab Emirates, Saudi Arabia, Iraq, Canada, China, and South Sudan.

US Engineering Registration Subcommittee

Subcommittee Chair: Eric Robertson

About the Subcommittee

The Engineering Registration Subcommittee works with the National Council of Examiners for Engineering and Surveying (NCEES) to facilitate the registration of interested petroleum engineers in the US. The subcommittee's primary responsibility is the preparation of the PE exam furnished to NCEES for use by state board jurisdictions.

The subcommittee comprises 12 members. Members of the subcommittee must be professional engineers, US licensed by exam.

Subcommittee Activities and Accomplishments (October 2014 to September 2015)

- The subcommittee integrated the new exam specifications dictated by the December 2012 Professional Activities and Knowledge Survey (PAKS) into the October 2014 PE exam. PAKS surveys are conducted every six to seven years to determine the knowledge sets of practicing petroleum engineers. The committee conducted a session in December and established a cut score for the new anchor exam. The 2015 exam was revised to reflect the anchor exam items' performance.
- The committee has added additional exam items to the PE exam item bank that reflects the exam specifications dictated by the PAKS study.
- The National Council of Examiners for Engineering and Surveying (NCEES) invited and sponsored the travel of this subcommittee to conduct a meeting at NCEES in Clemson, South Carolina, in May 2015. Petroleum engineering and SPE are considered Tier II with regard to the number of exam test takers per year. The subcommittee began initial training on the production of exams for NCEES. Anticipated launch of computer-based testing for the PE exam is 2017.
- The committee has completed the 2016 and 2017 exams. The 2016 exam will be pretested in September 2015, and the 2017 exam will be pretested in January 2016. The committee has also assembled the 2018 exam, which will become a substitute exam in the event the future PE exam becomes compromised.

Global Training Committee

Committee Chair: Alok Jain

About the Committee

The Global Training Committee is responsible for carrying out the policies of the SPE Board with regard to SPE's continuing education programs.

The committee provides oversight and guidance for SPE's training course program. Committee members

- Conduct thorough reviews of the technical quality and relevancy of each new course proposed for offering under SPE auspices
- Work with staff in reviewing course materials
- Assist in identifying potential instructors and selecting topics for new courses based on global or regional needs and member input
- Grow the training business to meet the needs of SPE members
- Ensure that learning and knowledge transfer are achieved in the way courses are offered
- Advise on business development

The Global Training Committee consists of 20 to 30 members. Committee membership should reflect, to the extent practical, representation of each of SPE's six technical disciplines, and demonstrate geographic diversity. The committee also includes the chairs of the regional training advisory committees to ensure a unified and global approach to training.

Committee Activities and Accomplishments (October 2014 to September 2015)

- Maintained course quality based on participant evaluations, scoring an average Customer Satisfaction Index (CSI) of 86%, reflecting the customer's view of educational value
- Have continued to work on the Competency Management Tool, with Phase II of the project underway
- Conducted a course gap analysis on heavy oil topics and currently reviewing the Competency Management Tool resource list to identify other areas where SPE can create content (in order to provide a more robust training program)
- Offered input on the two global training needs assessments that went out to general membership and to HR/training personnel (The committee is currently analyzing and prioritizing the recommendations from the needs assessment.)
- Reviewed all courses to ensure topics are current and all course titles effectively match course content
- Made decisions on courses to sunset
- Continued work on the Lifelong Learning strategy (The committee has mapped SPE courses to the four career stages [Competency Management Tool] and is working to ensure SPE course offerings reflect the career stages and needs of members in each region.)

Membership Committee

Chair: Mike Mayorov

About the Committee

The committee reviews the membership structure, requirements, and dues, recommending any revisions for consideration by the SPE Board of Directors. The committee also oversees programs regarding the recruitment and retention of SPE members, as well as volunteerism initiatives. The committee also discusses strategic areas for SPE membership growth and suggests courses of action to establish a strong SPE presence.

The committee comprises 15 members and a chairperson. Efforts are made to include one representative from each of SPE's 16 regions.

Committee Activities and Accomplishments (October 2014 to September 2015)

SPE Value Proposition—The committee has approached the subject of practical value that members gain by becoming part of the society. Significant time was devoted to SPE's value proposition and its impact on retention. Discussions were held on use of different channels to promote the value of SPE membership by member type.

Century Club—The Century Club program was introduced to reward individual professional members who recruit 100 or more SPE professional members each. In recent years, Century Club status has been earned more rapidly through participation in the bulk dues program thus causing concern about mass recruitment. In June, the Membership Committee asked that the SPE Board Committee on Member Programs approve changes to the rules for Century Club such that recruitment credits cannot be earned from participation in the bulk dues program. This action ensures that the Century Club rewards individual recruitment only.

25-Year Club Name Change—The committee discussed that the name "25-Year Club" needed to be changed to reflect the various types of professional members welcomed into the club held at ATCE. The committee agreed to change the name of the lounge at ATCE to the KEY Club. The 25-Year Club will remain as a designation to honor our members who reach continuous membership for 25 years.

New Member Engagement Center at ATCE—The committee discussed retention challenges for members in the first three years of membership. They identified that engagement with SPE is critical to retention. The committee approved a pilot test of a New Member Engagement Center at ATCE 2015. Members who have fewer than five years of membership will be invited to stop by the center to learn about the highlights of ATCE, local section involvement, and volunteer opportunities.

New Volunteer Management System—The committee has provided input on the new volunteer platform that will be showcased at ATCE 2015. The new system will replace the current volunteer application and add more robust functionality. In addition, discussions on elements of the Volunteer Recognition Program are ongoing to prepare for a full launch in 2016.

Online Communities Coordinating Committee

Committee Chair: Najib Abusalbi

About the Committee

In 2013, a Board of Directors task force reviewing SPE's standing committee structure recommended combining the Online Communities Advisory Committee and the Technical Communities Coordinating Committee.

In response to the board, officers of both committees submitted a proposed charter renaming the combined committee as the Online Communities Coordinating Committee, defining its structure and function.

Committee Activities and Accomplishments (October 2014 to September 2015)

- Changed the moderation option for SPE Connect from "full" to "self" moderation. This allows posts to appear immediately. Any community member can flag a post as inappropriate to send it to the moderation queue where it will have to be approved before it can reappear in the community.
- Worked with SPE technical directors to carry out projects and activities in SPE Connect related to their technical discipline's goals and responsibilities.
- Reviewed a model for moderation of SPE Connect discussions piloted by the Production and Operations Advisory Committee and began implementation across all technical communities. The technical directors will be appointing representatives from each of their advisory committees to assist in rolling out the process to the seven technical communities, with the Reservoir Description and Dynamics discipline to be next in line for adoption.
- Worked with technical community moderators, key members of the technical directors' advisory committees and members of the technical communities to review and flag inappropriate discussions to ensure technical content quality, following Code of Conduct guidelines.
 - These "moderators" also seed discussions and collaborate to identify technical discussion threads that can be fed to PetroWiki.
- Encouraged information exchange by conducting and collaborating on electronic discussion posts and posting announcements of interest to the community's event calendar, in keeping with SPE's knowledge-sharing strategy.
- Organized and conducted conference calls and two annual face-to-face meetings at SPE's Annual Technical Conference and Exhibition (2014) and Offshore Technology Conference (2015).

Section and Student Chapter Activities Committee

Committee Chair: Megan Starr

About the Committee

The Section and Student Chapter Activities Committee is responsible for reviewing rebate programs, scholarships, web hosting, rosters/reporting, establishment and disestablishment criteria, and selecting award recipients.

The committee is composed of up to 16 members plus a chairperson with the goal of global representation.

Committee Activities and Accomplishments (October 2014 to September 2015)

- Evaluated and revised the section and student chapter rebate programs
- Reviewed the annual reports from student chapters
- Selected 28 student chapter award recipients
- Reviewed the annual reports from sections
- Selected 28 section award recipients
- Began evaluating and discussing the process to judge section and student chapter awards

Soft Skills Committee

Committee Chair: Susan Howes

About the Committee

The committee (formerly Soft Skills Council) is charged with identifying gaps between the nontechnical skills members need and those currently provided by SPE, and making recommendations to fill these gaps. The committee's recommendations should leverage existing committee structures and programs where possible.

The Soft Skills Committee comprises up to 12 members.

Committee Activities and Accomplishments (October 2014 to September 2015)

- For the third year, the committee will conduct four workshop sessions at ATCE 2015 in Houston.
- Four soft skills presentations have been scheduled for webinars starting in September 2015.
- Presentations were given at the Italian and Houston Sections. A presentation has been scheduled for November in Astana, Kazakhstan.
- Committee members have collaborated on a *Journal of Petroleum Technology*[®] magazine (*JPT*) article for the last three years, and the next article will be in the October 2015 *JPT*.
- The committee will finalize an eBrochure of all approved soft skills sessions by September to disseminate to conference program committees, sections, and interested individuals.
- The committee added four new members for 2015–16, bringing the total to 12.

SPE International Award Committees

Committee Names and Chairs

Distinguished Member Award Committee—Roland Horne
Lucas, Carll, and Uren Award Committee—Akhil Datta-Gupta
Distinguished Service Award Committee—Hemanta Sarma
DeGolyer, Rand, and McConnell Award Committee—Melvyn Giles
Distinguished Achievement Award for P. E. Faculty Committee—Ding Zhu
Public Service Award Committee—Don Wicks
Young Member Outstanding Service Award Committee—Deepak Gala
Cedric K. Ferguson Medal Committee—Celso Morooka
Completions Optimization and Technology Award Committee—Hazim Abass
Drilling Engineering Award Committee—Hermann Spoerker
Formation Evaluation Award Committee—Albert Reynolds
Health, Safety, Security, Environment, and Social Responsibility Award Committee—Ylva Gilbert
Management and Information Award Committee—Jim Ross
Production and Operations Award Committee—Pat Padayachee
Projects, Facilities, and Construction Award Committee—Marc Young
Reservoir Description and Dynamics Award Committee—Steve Marinello

About the Committees

Committees are charged with reviewing nominations submitted by members to select recipients for each of the SPE international awards by following individual committee charges and specific judging criteria. Each of the 16 committees consists of six to 10 members with an interest and expertise in the award they are judging. The exception to the above structure is the Honorary and Distinguished Member Award Committee, which is composed of SPE Honorary Members (50%) and past presidents (50%). Committees report recipient recommendations to the SPE Board of Directors for approval in June of each year.

Committee Activities and Accomplishments (October 2014 to September 2015)

- The committees worked via website, email, and teleconference to review and select the best candidates from the nomination pools. Committees recommended 54 recipients to the SPE Board of Directors. The board approved all 54 international award winners in June.
- The International Awards and Award Committees Review Task Force requested that the award committee chairs provide feedback to include in the suggested-practices document. The document is intended to share effective processes and improve efficiencies for future award committees. The chairs complied, offering comments and suggestions based on the 2015 award selection cycle.

Young Member Engagement Committee

Committee Chair: Mitchell Sherston

About the Committee

The Young Member Engagement Committee is responsible for developing and implementing programs and activities directed towards young members aiming to develop technical and leadership skills, providing both peer groups with guidance and support to facilitate their career progression.

Areas of focus include:

- Aiding the transition from student to young professional
- Ensuring young member programs have a continuous improvement strategy in place
- Facilitating technical knowledge sharing amongst young members by utilizing and improving the various communication methods available
- Improving industry image
- Encouraging networking between young members and industry to attract young people to the industry

Committee Activities and Accomplishments (October 2014 to September 2015)

- **Career Pathway Fair**
A Career Pathway Fair was held at Offshore Europe on 7 September. At this event, students and graduates will gain insights from YPs into the different career paths out there, how they fit into the industry, and what it is really like to work in a particular discipline.
- **Webinars by Young Professionals for Young Professionals (YPs for YPs)**
Expanding on content currently available, each webinar is a 30-minute presentation, with a 10-minute Q&A session, given by a YP member for a YP audience. The first of these webinars is due to be held September 2015.
- **Increased collaboration with *The Way Ahead*TM magazine:**
Initiatives include:
 - An article about the Young Member Engagement Committee for inclusion in the January 2016 issue to highlight the initiatives planned for the coming year, and introduce the YP community to this committee
 - Building a stronger connection between *The Way Ahead* magazine, SPE Connect, and social media, with the aim to increase usage and readership across all platforms by reposting content and initiating discussion surrounding young member engagement
 - A half page will be dedicated to a feature highlighting young member contributions, from January 2016 onwards.
- **YP Chair Community in [SPE Connect](#)**
The creation of an online community specifically for YP chairs of all SPE sections to interact with the Young Member Engagement Committee and members of the Young Member Programs team.
- **Ambassador Lecturer Program**
The complete revamp of this low-cost, high-value program is ongoing with the aim to raise awareness and understanding of the program, increase uptake on a global scale, and improve overall quality of execution of the program.
- **Student Paper Contest Manual**
A task force consisting of committee members and volunteers for past regional student paper contests has been put into place (reporting to the Young Member Engagement Committee's Student

Integration Subcommittee) to review the Student Paper Contest manual to identify outdated, ambiguous, or deficient rules from the information provided to students and student chapters. New rules and guidelines will be suggested in a recommendation for the Board meeting in September 2015, to clarify the remit of the program and to ensure it still adheres to SPE standards.

- **Emerging Leaders Alliance**

A new applicant review process has been put in place for the first time, to ensure a fair and unbiased decision on the grant application for attendance at this event. A task force including members of the Young Member Engagement Committee and past ELA delegates has been asked to provide feedback and scores on the applications received, whilst applicant identity is kept anonymous.

- **Collaboration with the Soft Skills Council to hold YP Workshops at ATCE 2015**

Several committee members have joined the organizing committees of the four soft skills workshops held at ATCE, with the objective of ensuring that the content is relevant to the YP community, and that the workshops are branded and targeted accordingly, with the aim of 90% YPs in attendance.

Publications

Book Development Committee

Committee Chair: Shahab Mohaghegh, West Virginia University

About the Committee

The Book Development Committee is responsible for oversight, coordination, and strategic planning for the society's book development programs. The committee solicits, reviews, and approves recommendations for new titles, ensuring adequate coverage of technical topics; it also selects a project manager for each book project to work with the author(s) and see the project through the process.

The committee comprises 12 members, including the chairperson, with representation from each of the six technical discipline areas, as well as representation from both industry and academia.

Committee Activities and Accomplishments (October 2014 to September 2015)

Recently Published Titles

- *Fundamentals of Enhanced Oil Recovery* (Authors: Larry Lake and Gary Pope, University of Texas; Russell Johns, Penn State University; and Bill Rossen, Delft University of Technology)—published September 2014
- *The Reservoir Engineering Aspects of Waterflooding, second edition* (Author: H.R. "Hal" Warner Jr., Warner Consulting Services)—September 2015

Titles Currently in Production

- *Acidizing Fundamentals* (Editors: Syed Ali, Schlumberger; Leonard Kalfayan, Hess; Carl Montgomery, ConocoPhillips)—estimated publication date October 2015
- *Unconventional Gas Exploitation* (Editor: Roberto Aguilera, University of Calgary)—estimated publication date early to mid-2016
- *Nodal Analysis of Oil and Gas Production Systems* (Author: Jan Dirk Jansen, Delft University of Technology)—estimated publication date early to mid-2016
- *Enhanced Oil Recovery, second edition* (Authors: Paul Willhite, University of Kansas; Don Green, University of Kansas)—estimated publication date early to mid-2016

The Book Development Committee continues to approve and develop new book titles on a regular basis, as well as evaluate which existing titles may be in need of updating. The committee has continued its efforts to develop a list of book topics that would be of interest to the industry and SPE readership. Committee members are also working to identify potential authors and contact them directly to encourage submission of new proposals, but it is a challenge to find authors who are qualified and willing to devote their time to writing a book.

Editorial Review Committee

Editor in Chief: Dean Oliver

About the Committee

The committee comprises the editor-in-chief and nine executive editors who manage the review process for each of SPE's peer-reviewed journals (*SPE Drilling & Completion*, *SPE Economics & Management*, *SPE Journal*, *SPE Production & Operations*, *SPE Reservoir Evaluation & Engineering*, the *Journal of Canadian Petroleum Technology*, and *Oil and Gas Facilities*® magazine). The committee oversees the content and direction of the journals, which includes attracting high-quality manuscripts to the journals, setting the review criteria used to evaluate papers, and granting final approval on papers that will be published in each journal. Each executive editor also has a flexible number of associate editors, who manage the review of papers in their respective areas of expertise. Reviewers, who are technical experts in their fields, provide detailed technical reviews and submit comments and recommendations (to accept, revise, or decline papers) to an associate editor.

Committee Activities and Accomplishments (October 2014 to September 2015)

In early 2015, Editor-in-Chief Dean Oliver formed a workgroup consisting of current and past journal authors and reviewers; the group will attempt to address potential areas for improvement in terms of (1) the quality of the feedback that reviewers provide to authors and (2) the overall technical quality of papers submitted for peer review. The workgroup plans to make its final recommendations in March 2016.

Committee Chair: Syed Ali

About the Committee:

The *Journal of Petroleum Technology*® magazine publishes summaries of SPE technical papers that are divided into 47 separate technical topics—for instance, Formation Evaluation, Subsea Hardware and Technology, Production Surveillance and Monitoring, etc. As papers are submitted to, and presented at, SPE conferences throughout the year, the papers are sorted into these 47 categories. Once a year, on a rotating schedule, committee members then review these categorized SPE conference papers and select the best ones for publication. Direct-submission papers can also be considered for publication in *JPT*, although they represent a very small percentage of considered papers. SPE staff then summarizes the selected papers for publication in each issue of *JPT*, with each issue covering three to four of the featured topics.

The committee itself comprises 47 petroleum professionals, each one responsible for one of *JPT*'s technical features. The committee includes a chairperson and 46 additional reviewers. The chairperson works with SPE staff to find experts who are interested in serving on the committee. Terms last three years, and while particularly outstanding reviewers are often asked back for a second term, the goal is to replace reviewers regularly as their terms expire in order to encourage involvement of young or new members with a wide range of specialties and geographical locations.

Committee Activities and Accomplishments (October 2014 to September 2015)

The committee has reviewed some 4,000 technical papers in the past year. Chair Syed Ali and SPE committee liaison Chris Carpenter continued their twice-annual feedback survey of the committee members in order to learn their preferences and ideas for more efficient management of the review workload and selection process. Replacements were found for 18 departing members, and a sustainable structure was put in place to ensure that there are no gaps in committee nomination, acceptance, and service.

Furthermore, at the annual scheduling meeting of the *JPT* staff in Houston, 14 of the 47 features were identified as having titles that may no longer best reflect industry emphasis or direction, or may have become too general in nature. Therefore the reviewers for those features are currently being asked their opinions about retitling these features. In this way, SPE staff hopes to keep *JPT* on the forefront of industry publications by soliciting the views of those involved in the industry on a daily basis.