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*2025 Annual Report for  
SPE Standing Committees*

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## Awards and Recognition Committee

**Committee Chair: George Koperna**

### **About the Committee:**

The Awards and Recognition Committee (ARC) is charged with making recommendations to the Board to ensure a cohesive, comprehensive, fair, and equitable awards program. The ARC advises the Board on aspects of individual member recognition related to international and regional awards. The committee is composed of 18 members including immediate past chairs of the international award selection subcommittees, leads who are appointed by the incoming SPE president, and a regional director. The committee meets as necessary via teleconference and annually during ATCE when needed.

### **Committee Activities and Accomplishments (October 2024 to September 2025)**

- **Feedback Implementation:** Gathered input from members of the judging committees for each award, resulting in revisions to award rules and eligibility requirements.
- **Website and Portal Enhancements:** Improved the awards pages on *SPE.org* as well as the nomination and judging portals. Based on feedback from the 2024 award cycle, website content was refined, and processes were streamlined.
- **Distinguished Member Award Nomination Review:** Considered a proposal to eliminate the lower 50% of nominations to reduce the judging committee's workload. The committee determined this was not advisable due to the three-year nomination consideration policy, which ensures fairness and allows for differing perspectives from future judging panels. Instead, the process was modified to split the initial nomination review across judges, with all judges evaluating the nominations advancing to the next round.
- **Encouragement Letter:** Susan Howes, Outgoing Chair of the A&R Committee, published a follow-up letter in *JPT Online* encouraging members to submit nominations and highlighting the value of serving as a nominator.
- **Use of AI in Judging:** The committee voted against incorporating AI into the international awards judging process, citing concerns over data privacy and the prohibition of proxy voting, with AI considered a form of proxy. The committee agreed to revisit the issue should SPE develop a secure, in-house AI tool that ensures data privacy and security.
- **International Awards:** Reviewed 519 eligible nominations (down from 576 in 2024) and recommended 34 recipients across 23 international award categories.
- **Regional Awards:** Reviewed 299 eligible nominations (down from 316 in 2024) and recommended 146 recipients across 15 regional award categories, including the Corporate Service Award.

## Business and Leadership Committee

**Committee Chair:** Cassandra Dewan

### **About the Committee**

The Business and Leadership Committee (BLC) is charged with identifying member needs related to non-technical and soft skills. They develop programs and resources to support career development and planning, and make recommendations to the Board to address those needs.

### **Areas of focus include:**

- Supporting soft skill development of professionals in the oil and gas industry
- Providing training and resources to improve business management
- Develop webinars and articles to promote B&L topics

### **Committee Activities and Accomplishments (October 2024 to September 2025):**

- **Boost to Social Media engagement on B&L topics.**  
B&L now has 353 members part of the B&L LinkedIn Group, with great engagement of Energy Nuggets Videos and promotion of soft skill topics. Greater efforts for new younger styled content is being planned for 2026 to highlight the importance of soft skills for career development.
- **Energy Nuggets**  
During 2025 B&L have published 7 new Energy Nuggets videos, providing short 3-5min webinars on soft skill topics. These are now available on LinkedIn and the SPE Energy Stream.
  - Verbal and non-verbal communication styles, James Whitaker
  - The Importance of Soft Skills in your career, Mark Tooley
  - Personal branding - Brand I - How to build personal branding, Cassandra Dewan
  - Time management, Simon Seaton
  - Understanding/Respecting Cultures, James Whitaker
  - Imposter Syndrome, Cassandra Dewan
  - Appraisal Preparation - Don't dread your appraisal, Mark Tooley
- **Webinars on Soft Skill Development**  
The BLC led the SPE Live session on "Resilient Leadership for a Sustainable Energy Future" moderated by Mike Eтуhoko, and featuring Nicholas Creswell, Former Head of Culture & Talent at Orsted, Joyce Cacho, Chair, Sistema.bio, Giorgio Delpiano, Founder, Abeille.ai. The session received great attendance with 784 views after one day of broadcast.  
  
BLC Also hosted Driving Leadership in Digital Innovation in the Energy Industry," held on May 19th, 2025 using Zoom accounts which was also very successful.
- **Support with SPE Virtual Career Pathways Fair**  
B&L Led 2 presentations as part of the SPE Virtual Career Pathways Fair, including "The Importance of Communication Styles when Working Abroad" and "Setting Boundaries Without Hindering your Career Progression" due to be made available on the SPE Energy Stream once re-edited for on demand.

- **Support of DL Training**  
B&L has supported the development of Distinguished Lecturer, Michael Euhoko, with his presentation on “Transformational Leadership to Accelerate the Energy Transition”. The committee is now working on a new DL recommendation for 2026-2027 session exploring storytelling to get powerful messages across.
- **Support with Beyond The Borders**  
BLC has begun supporting the YPC with Beyond the Borders to ensure that Soft Skill topics are considered a key part of the YP Program, and has provided speakers for Latin America and Africa sessions.

## Distinguished Lecturer Program Committee

**Committee Chair:** Ding Zhu

The Distinguished Lecturer (DL) program remains one of SPE's most valued offerings, delivering exceptional technical speakers to our sections around the world for over 62 years. Its success depends on strong engagement and live participation. During the 2024-25 season, two DL presentations per compliant section attracted over 9,400 in-person attendees. SPE DL program not only promoted new technologies and shared experiences among the SPE members, but also served as an effective means of communication to connect the members from 152 sections of SPE, bringing an impact to society at large. The DL program is one of the most out-reached programs in SPE.

The (DL) Committee comprises up to 51 members, including one regional member from each of SPE's regions and standing members selected based on technical disciplines and geographic distribution. The committee's leadership structure includes a past chair (ex officio), a chair, and a vice chair.

### **Distinguished Lecturer Program – 2024-25 highlights**

- The 2024-25 season selected 31 Distinguished Lecturers representing 5 regions...12 from the US, 9 from Europe, 4 from Asia Pacific, 1 from Canada, and 5 from the Middle East.
- 2 in-person DL lectures were provided for each compliant section, totaling 297 lectures scheduled for 152 sections.
- 1 DL was featured each month on SPE Live. The top 2 live views for SPE in the 2024-25 season were DL lectures.

The committee activities consisted of the following:

- Two Presentation Review (PR) meetings are held annually in both hemispheres. For 2024-25:
  - Eastern Hemisphere: Milan, Italy. Sponsored by **Eni & Saipem**, hosting all aspects of the 2-day meeting. **SLB** sponsored the DLC dinner.
  - Western Hemisphere: New Orleans, LA
- DLC serves as the point of contact for one to three potential lecturers in preparation for the live audition and support to the DLs on tour for the 2024-25 season.
- Participated in online judging of 121 submissions to review nominee presentations and identify Potential Lecturers for the 2026-27 season.
- The Potential Lecturer Selection Meeting, for the 2026-27 season, took place in May, sponsored by **Texas A&M**, which provided the venue, meals, and technical equipment. 55 candidates from 121 packages were invited to present at the Presentation Review Meetings for final DL selection.

The value of the DL Program depends on strong engagement and live participation. The overall goal remains to preserve the prestige and educational impact of the DL Program while staying within a strict budget. As we seek ways to manage DL program costs, attendance data has become a crucial factor in maintaining a robust program. Beginning the 2025-26 DL season, attendance data will be collected by the program chair and lecturer for each event. This information will be useful in planning for future seasons.

The DL committee is a group of hard-working members. From encouraging and nominating candidates, to reviewing application packages, to pre-selection meetings identifying potential lecturers, to presentation review meetings selecting the final DLs, the volunteer workload is hefty, and technical requirements are high. The DL committee members cover their own expenses when traveling, and work as a team to provide a high-quality program for SPE. Many sections, especially the new, small, or remote sections, rely on the 2 DL talks assigned to the section to attract the members for SPE activity. The value of the DL program is highly appreciated by SPE members globally.

## Diversity and Inclusion Committee

**Committee Chair:** Raphael Islamuratov

### **About the Committee:**

The Diversity & Inclusion (D&I) Committee's vision is to advance the Society's commitment to diversity and inclusion within the oil and gas community through collaboration and education. The main objective is to foster productive relationships with the SPE membership, including local sections and chapters, ensuring to uphold local culture and societal context.

### **Committee Activities and Accomplishments (October 2024 to September 2025):**

- Continued with a horizontal organization structure in which team members took the responsibility to lead during a six-month period. In this way, all committee members had the opportunity to polish their leadership, communication, and planning skills.
- Hosted three town halls in January, April and August for sections and chapters from around the globe to showcase their activities and encourage engagement to D&I at the local level. The total number of participants is 150+
- External outreach team hosted a SPE Webinar event "***Energy Industry 5.0: Human-Centered Transformation – Unlocking the Power of D&I.***" and Internal outreach scheduled in November a Live event "***Disability Inclusion in Oil & Gas: From Compliance to Culture.***"
- Increased visibility of D&I social media channels by posting weekly inspiring D&I topics and promoting D&I events. Increased the engagement and number of followers on our four main social media channels: Instagram +7%, and LinkedIn +4.5%, Facebook and SPE connect.
- Continued the initiative of the "Diversity & Inclusion Champion of the Year Award". Selected winners for the 2024/2025 season. Certificates will be handed out at the SPE Pavilion during D&I session at ATCE.
- The paper proposal "***Ai for Inclusive Energy Workplaces in Industry and Academia***", organized by the D&I Committee, was accepted and presented at the 2025 ADIPEC event.

## Education and Accreditation Committee

**Committee Chair: Juliana Leung**

### **About the Committee**

The Education and Accreditation Committee assesses the curriculum of petroleum engineering degree programs and makes recommendations so they are consistent with the needs of the petroleum industry, advises the SPE Board on matters pertaining to petroleum engineering education, implements and monitors policies and programs concerning petroleum engineering faculty, and works with other engineering and scientific organizations to address the issues of quality and supply of engineering faculty and students.

Members of the committee represent the Society in ABET-related (accreditation) matters and assist ABET in recruiting and assigning petroleum engineering program evaluators (PEVs) for accreditation visits.

The committee is comprised of 12 members, with a balance of industry professionals and academicians. The chair position is rotated every two years.

### **Committee Activities and Accomplishments (October 2024 to September 2025)**

- Trained and approved two candidates to perform petroleum engineering degree accreditation visits for ABET.
- Assigned four programs for evaluation in Petroleum Engineering.
- Worked on an industry survey to understand the perception of energy transition among industry professionals. Currently in conversation with the board to discuss next steps.
- Assessed the status of PE Curriculum across various universities around the world. Currently in the process of publishing the findings in a paper.
- Presented at the SPE Pavilion during ATCE 2024 for SPE membership on the future of PE Education.
- Proposed changes to the ABET PE program criteria and the draft is currently being reviewed by the Petroleum Engineering Department Heads Association for their feedback.

## Engineering Professionalism Committee

**Committee Chair:** Bob Merrill

### **About the Committee**

The Engineering Professionalism Committee is responsible for the integration of professional activities and practices, including the development, updating, and society-wide awareness of the Petroleum Engineering Competency Matrix. The committee is also responsible for the oversight of the SPE Petroleum Engineering Certification Exam.

The Committee is comprised of 14 members and is geographically diverse to ensure global input on professional practices.

### **Committee Activities and Accomplishments (October 2024 to September 2025)**

- Established procedures, standardized item evaluation sequence, and continued work on updating the certification exam question bank.
- Reviewed SPE's Code of Conduct and provided recommendations to the board. The updated code of conduct was approved by the SPE Board after legal review with changes.
- Presented during 2024 ATCE to SPE membership and participated in SPE's Energy Stream recording to talk about SPE Certification.
- Created a subcommittee to widen the pool of item writers for the exam. The subcommittee is open to SPE Certified Engineers, and Professional or Chartered Engineers who have taken a licensing examination.
- Certification Exam Statistics:
  - Certified 12 engineers as part of Shell's Advanced Training Program.
  - Conducted three certification exams at the Saudi Aramco Upstream Petroleum Development Center and certified a total of 201 engineers.
  - Nine members registered independently and six of them passed the certification exam.
  - Renewed the SPE Certification for 1,464 members.

## **Membership Committee**

**Committee Chair:** Vivek Peraser

### **About the Committee:**

The Membership Committee evaluates the membership structure, requirements, and dues, and proposes any changes for the Board's review. Additionally, the committee suggests programs to support section and student chapter activities, excluding the Distinguished Lecturer Program. The committee has 15 members, with efforts to include representatives from all regions.

### **Committee Activities (October 2024 through September 2025)**

### **Membership Requirements**

The committee reviewed the membership requirements for professionals and students, as well as the conditions for special classifications. The recommended revisions expand eligibility for regular membership to include individuals who are currently employed in or have previously worked in the petroleum industry, with no changes to the criteria for student membership. For senior membership, eligibility was recommended to be at 60 years of age with 30 or more years of continuous membership in the Corporation or its predecessor organizations, removing the previous age 65 and retirement conditions. No changes were proposed for life membership.

## Student Development Committee

**Committee Chair: Ehsan Ranaee**

### **About the Committee**

The Student Development Committee (SDC) is responsible for showcasing and engaging students members around the world to help prepare them for a successful career in the oil and gas industry. This is done by hosting initiatives and events that aim to showcase talented students, support them in their career choices, and prepare them for a successful journey after they graduate. Activities will aim to educate and introduce students into the realities of joining the industry and the opportunities that are available to them.

### **Areas of focus include:**

- Develop strategic initiatives and resources specifically targeted at supporting student members
- Review processes and policies for PetroBowl Championship and Student Paper Contests
- Maintain and distribute question sets for regional and championship PetroBowl contests
- Support and promote international events which support SPE Student Members, including Virtual Career Pathways Fair, ATCE student programs, and Ambassador Lecturer Program

### **Committee Activities and Accomplishments (October 2024 to October 2025)**

- **PetroBowl**

The committee has successfully created over 2,500 new questions which have been used across 8 Regional Qualifier Games. The committee have also been exploring new approaches to the PetroBowl contest, tackling increasing challenges students are facing to participate in the contest. This included recommendations to allow a grace period to enable regional students to participate in the October Championship despite graduation and allowing for visa expenses to be covered by SPE to speed up the application process, increasing opportunities to participate.

- **Student Paper Contest**

Previously implemented strategies continue to be monitored, and for 2025 have seen an increase in completed applications across 9 of the 11 regional contests, with one being equal and one showing a 2-person drop. Overall participation has seen a 32% increase, growing from 262 in 2024 to 346 in 2025. This suggests co-authorship rules have helped, and follows as an ongoing annual increase since covid. New measures are being explored, including celebrating regional and international winners in other programs.

- **6<sup>th</sup> Virtual Career Pathways Fair (VCPF)**

The Student Development Committee contributed 3 presentations as part of the SPE Virtual Career Pathways Fair, including: “Resilience in Difficult Times: Finding and securing Future Job Opportunities”, “Transforming Ideas into Reality: Processes and Mindset” and “What Companies are Looking for from Graduates”. The Academic Career booth remained one of the most popular sites to visit and volunteers were supported by the SDC.

- **ATCE Future Talent Zone**

At ATCE 2024 the SDC supported several key programs, including facilitating the PetroBowl Championship, volunteering at the three student paper contests and networking games like the PetroBowl mini quiz. They also helped seek several of the volunteers required for the CV Review Station.

- **Communication & Outreach:**

The Student Development Committee continue to collaborate with the Young Professionals Committee to operate the Young Members LinkedIn Group which now has a reach of 7,808 followers. This platform has

allowed a greater showcase for Student members to a global audience, including regional SPC and PetroBowl winners, Scholarship winners, and regional student events.

The SDC have also collaborated with the Management Technical Section to encourage promotion of SPC winners as part of proposed new webinar initiatives.

## Young Professionals Committee

**Committee Chair:** Mani Bansal

### **About the Committee**

The Young Professionals Committee (YPC) is responsible for supporting young professional members (professional members under the age of 36) by developing programs and initiatives that will have a specific benefit to those at early stages of their career. These programs will support young members by addressing themes related to networking, gaining a fundamental awareness of industry practices, and building a long-term career in the oil and gas industry.

### **Areas of focus include:**

- Develop strategic initiatives and resources specifically targeted at supporting young professional members and retention of student members after graduation.
- Oversee SPE International YP Programs, Career Pathways Fair, and Emerging Leaders Alliance applications.
- Develop new initiatives and programs to support YP development.
- Support and promote other SPE initiatives useful for YPs, including The Way Ahead, eMentoring, and SPE YP Awards.

### **Committee Activities and Accomplishments (October 2024 to September 2025)**

- **Virtual Career Pathways Fair (VCPF)**

This year the YPC led the development the Virtual Career Pathways Fair, which included 10 presentations collaborating with other committees, including BLC and SDC. It also included 150 volunteers providing mentorship to over 1,000 active users. Event feedback showed better engagement with mobile platforms, highlighted as a key feature for past attendees.

- **Beyond the Borders (BTB)**

Now established as an SPE International initiative, YPC is supporting the BTB workgroup and encouraging new events in the Middle East and encouraging development in Latin America, India and Africa. Events have been hosted in new regions and now also incorporate soft skill development with including with the Business & Leadership Committee. The committee is assisting with webinars and promotions to boost this initiative.

- **Emerging Leaders Alliance**

7 new YPs were selected from all over the world to attend this 3-day intensive leadership training course in Pittsburg, USA. SPE was also able to secure 2 additional spaces from other participating societies where local Pittsburg section YPs attended with no additional cost to the program. Travel issues meant that 2 people were unable to attend and the committee is now reviewing practices to help ensure more people who can travel are selected.

- **ATCE Future Talent Zone:**

At ATCE 2024 the YPC helped facilitate several workshops and presentations to feature YPs, including sessions by leading YPs on geothermal technologies. The YPC also helped secure many volunteers vital to facilitate wider ATCE events.

- **Outreach and Communication**

The YPC and SDC grounds have continued to collaborate on LinkedIn social media platforms, now reaching 7,808 followers. The YPC have utilised this to promote YPs across the world through their regional activities and by celebrating winners like the TWA Energy Influencers and push YP led webinars.

## Annual Technical Conference and Exhibition (ATCE) Program Committee

**Committee Chair: Sarah Kern**

### **About the Committee**

The major responsibilities of the ATCE 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 identifying 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 the chairperson in their developed sessions.

The committee is comprised of a program chairperson, vice program chairperson, seven specialty coordinators, and nine subcommittees.

The conduct and leadership over the committee is held by the program chairperson. The program vice chairperson is in attendance for all functions and is mentored by the program chairperson with the agreement that he or she will step up to fill the program chairperson position the following year.

Subcommittees are comprised of approximately fifteen to twenty-five members. The subcommittees are monitored and aided by the event specialist. The terms are one to three years.

The Program Committee Structure for 2025 ATCE is as follows:

### Committee Activities and Accomplishments (October 2024 to October 2025)

Drilling	Completions	Projects, Facilities and Construction	Health, Safety, Environment and Sustainability	Management	Data Science and Engineering Analytics	Production and Operations	Reservoir	Energy Transition
Specialty Coordinator	Specialty Coordinator	Specialty Coordinator	Specialty Coordinator		Specialty Coordinator	Specialty Coordinator	Specialty Coordinator	
Chairperson	Chairperson	Chairperson	Chairperson	Chairperson	Chairperson	Chairperson	Chairperson	Chairperson
Subcommittee Members	Subcommittee Members	Subcommittee Members	Subcommittee Members	Subcommittee Members	Subcommittee Members	Subcommittee Members	Subcommittee Members	Subcommittee Members

- All selected proposals were rated 4.0 and above, building very strong sessions for the program.
- All selected special sessions were rated 3.5 or higher by the committees.
- Maintained the number of technical sessions at 46 to obtain high-quality technical sessions.
- Successful solicitation of over 1,600 paper proposals for 2025 ATCE.
- Over 400 papers & ePosters included in the technical program.

- Included within the technical program 9 Best of the Best papers from the Drilling, Hydraulic Fracturing and Health, Safety, Environment and Sustainability conferences.
- Addressed authors concerns and encouraged to continue publishing and supporting SPE.
- Strong leadership by Chair to advocate and implement respective changes to improve the delivery of the conference to the delegates.

## Forum Series Coordinating Committee

**Committee Chair:** Thomas Major

### **About the Committee**

The Forum Series Coordinating Committee (FSCC) is comprised of around 5 members of active Forum Series Implementation Committees (FSICs). The terms for the chairperson and committee members are three years and are subject to renewal. Committee members include the chairpersons of the Forum Series Implementation Committees (FSICs) and 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 (September 2024 to October 2025)**

The Forum Series continues to be flexible to meet industry needs. The following projects and news reflect the flexibility and change that occurred this past year:

- **Adding “Artificial Intelligence” to the forum topics**

To meet the recent interest in AI and robotics, at least 2 AI-related forums are being developed for 2026 and beyond.

- **Continuing to reach the membership with forums in a recovering market – quality over quantity**

As the industry continues to rebound from downturns, the FSCC and FSICs, in conjunction with SPE staff, continue to cautiously implement forums, verifying whether they are right for the current market.

- **Hiatus of the FSIC-Europe**

While FSIC-Europe has paused its activity until there is a change in the European economy, the chairperson, Paul Francis, continues to attend and contribute to the FSIC-Americas and FSCC meetings.

- **FSIC representation on All Technical Advisory Committees**

While the FSIC has always had representation on key technical advisory committees, in 2025 all the technical advisory committees have been populated with FSIC members.

## Oil and Gas Reserves Committee

**Committee Chair:** Herman Acuna

### **About the Committee:**

The Oil and Gas Reserves Committee (OGRC) is responsible for programs dealing with oil and gas reserves and resources matters, including reserves and resources definitions, terms, recommended practices, and standards. The committee disseminates reserves and resources information to other organizations, agencies, and companies involved in reserves matters, including cooperation with other committees and organizations in the development and delivery of relevant training courses.

The committee currently has a chair, vice-chair, and 16 members who are degreed engineers and geoscientists with 10+ years of experience in reserves and resources estimation. There are also eight observers to the OGRC who represent their respective societies on reserves matters. Currently, observers represent the Society of Petroleum Evaluation Engineers (SPEE), the American Association of Petroleum Geologists (AAPG), the Society for Exploration Geophysicists (SEG), the Society of Petrophysicists and Well Log Analysts (SPWLA), WPC Energy, the European Association of Geoscientists and Engineers (EAGE), the International Accounting Standards Board (IASB), and the Expert Group on Resource Management (EGRM) of the United Nations Economic Council of Europe.

### **Committee Activities and Accomplishments (October 2024 to September 2025)**

The committee completed and released the following documents in 2025:

- **PRMS Application Guidelines – Spanish Translation**
- **Updated OGRC Governance Document**

**Translations** - The committee has commissioned the translation of 2022 PRMS Application Guidelines in Chinese and Russian. Target release date is 2026.

**PRMS 2018 Update** – The committee has started working on updating PRMS 2018. Over 50 comments were received from various stakeholders for the OGRC to consider during the PRMS update. Target release date is 2028.

**SPEE Monograph 5** – The committee participated in providing feedback on the SPEE Monograph 5 which has now been published.

**GEODE** – The committee participated in GEODE Facet 3 discussions (financial barriers to Geothermal expansion) and helped develop a roadmap which includes developing Geothermal Resources Management System in year 2.

**Non-Hydrocarbons** - The committee has also taken leadership roles guiding the application of the PRMS to non-hydrocarbon applications.

**Other Documents** – The following materials will be released as they are finalized.

- **Reserves Estimation and Auditing Guidelines 2019 Update**– Target release date is 2026.
- **PRMS Training Slides** – Target release date is 2026.
- **PRMS Application Guidelines** – Chinese and Russian Translation – Target release date is 2026.