



*The Link
Between
the Petroleum
Research
Community &
Industry*

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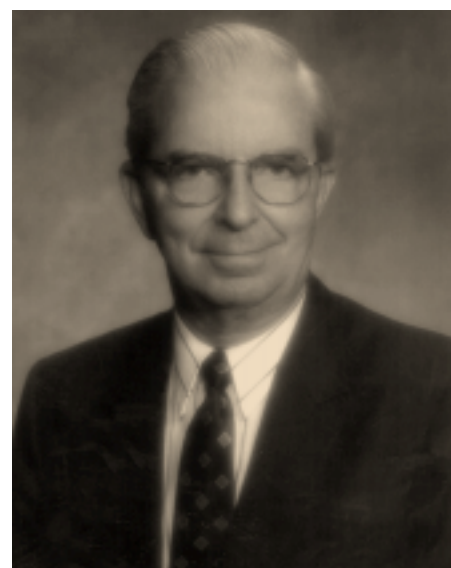
THE UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA
SARKEYS ENERGY CENTER
CONNECTION

OU Names Mankin New Sarkeys Energy Center Director

The University of Oklahoma's Sarkeys Energy Center, nationally acknowledged for excellence in its energy research programs, will build upon those strengths under the leadership of Charles J. Mankin, longtime University of Oklahoma faculty member and director of the Oklahoma Geological Survey. Mankin succeeds Gus Gertsch, who is assuming new responsibilities as vice provost for Asian program development.

The appointments were announced at the October meeting of the OU Board of Regents. OU President David L. Boren expressed appreciation to Gertsch for the leadership he provided during his six years as director. "Because of the effective work of Gus Gertsch in building such a solid foundation, the Sarkeys Energy Center is now praised as one of the strongest centers for research in the country," Boren said.

Mankin, whose appointment as director is effective Nov. 1, is a geologist with bachelor's, master's and doctoral degrees in geology from the University of Texas at Austin. He has served on nearly 100 and chaired several dozen commissions, boards,



Dr. Charles J. Mankin

and committees at state and national levels. Additionally, he is a member of numerous professional, scientific, and technical organizations and has served as president of three national organizations.

In recognition of his achievements, Mankin has received the Ian Campbell Medal from the American Geological

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Given his unparalleled knowledge of the entire history of the Sarkeys Energy Center and a clear understanding of the mission, Charles Mankin is the best possible person to provide leadership for the energy center.

OU President David L. Boren

FALL 2000

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Sarkeys Energy Center and
Director, Oklahoma Geological Survey

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Connection is published three times yearly and reports on policies, programs and activities related to the Sarkeys Energy Center. Suggestions and comments are welcomed.

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Dr. Charles J. Mankin

Message From The Director

On November 1, I began my service as director of Sarkeys Energy Center. In accepting this position, I recognize that I have assumed the responsibility for the management of an established center dedicated to energy research, education, and public outreach. My challenge is to maintain the momentum created by those who have served before, and to expand in those areas that are especially important to Oklahoma and the nation.

It is no surprise that the United States has the strongest economy in the world and has the highest per capita consumption of energy as well. The efficient use of energy is an important driver in maintaining the strength of our economy. Thus, a continuing supply of energy developed and delivered to the consumer in an environmentally responsible way, and at a price that can be sustained, is a critical ingredient in maintaining our world position.

Oklahoma has a long history and a solid foundation as a major energy-producing state. Oil was first discovered in Indian Territory in 1897, and, following its Statehood ten years later, Oklahoma was the largest oil producing entity in the world. While that position has slipped through the years, Oklahoma is still the second largest natural-gas producing state in the nation.

As we begin this new millennium, the world in which we live is faced with a growing demand for energy. While the energy resource base in the world is more than adequate to meet this growing demand, the challenge is to find those resources and deliver the energy products from them to consumers in an environmentally sensitive and affordable way. To accomplish this goal, a continuing influx of new science and technology will be needed. Thanks to the far-sighted view of academic and industry leaders who conceived and brought to fruition Sarkeys Energy Center, we are positioned to contribute importantly to these needs.

In any society, there can be differing views on how to achieve common goals. Nowhere has this been more evident than the debate in this country about directions in meeting our future energy needs. While this debate will not be resolved with the development of yet another "national energy policy," progress can be made through the development of specific energy strategies. This approach can build upon existing energy-usage patterns and examine options in those specific areas. This avoids the seemingly necessary requirement of addressing all energy needs at one time in the development of a national energy policy, and permits a focus on accomplishing a particular objective.

Sarkeys Energy Center, with its established institutes and the intellectual talent residing at the University of Oklahoma, is equipped and prepared to address a broad range of scientific, technical, and policy issues in energy supply and utilization that face this nation and the world. I am pleased to have the opportunity to serve as director of the Center and contribute toward these efforts.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Charles J. Mankin". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, prominent "C" and "M".

W.M. Keck Foundation Geomechanical Acoustic Laboratory Inaugurated

The Sarkeys Energy Center's Rock Mechanics Institute held its official opening and inauguration of the W.M. Keck Foundation's Geomechanical Acoustic Laboratory on July 27.

The Los Angeles-based W.M. Keck Foundation donated \$1.25 million to enable OU's Rock Mechanics Institute in the Sarkeys Energy Center to explore an exciting new field that uses acoustic technologies to create three-dimensional images of the damages that occur inside rock specimens under simulated subsurface stress conditions. This research is expected to lead to breakthroughs that will benefit the world's petroleum and mining industries, environmental cleanup efforts, and earthquake prediction.

The event was well attended with speakers Dr. Jeffrey Harwell, executive associate dean of the OU College of Engineering, Dave Maloney, vice president for Development, Dr. Gus Gertsch, vice provost for Asian program development and former SEC director, and Dr. Younane Abousleimnan, Rock Mechanics Institute Director, recognizing the importance of partnership between the Sarkeys Energy Center's institutes, the College of Engineering and the Office of Development. The inauguration was held in conjunction with the Rock Mechanics Institute's Industrial Advisory Board's annual consortium meeting.

"The Keck foundation's gift signifi-

cantly strengthens the scientific capability of our Rock Mechanics Institute and enables it to remain a world leader in this area of research," said Gertsch. "We also appreciate the invaluable help and leadership offered by President Boren in securing this gift."

OU's Rock Mechanics Research Center is a world leader in rock mechanics research and is one of a dozen designated National Science Foundation State/Industry/University Cooperative Research Centers in the U.S. Rock mechanics is study of how rocks and rock masses react to stresses, high temperatures and fluid flow. Research from the Rock Mechanics Institute has already significantly benefited worldwide efforts to retrieve oil and gas from deep reservoirs in a more economical and efficient way. OU's Rock Mechanics Research Center is one of a dozen designated National Science Foundation State/Industry/University Cooperative Research Centers in the U.S.

The W.M. Keck Foundation is a major U.S. private foundation. It was created with the trust left by William Myron Keck, founder of The Superior Oil Company. The foundation seeks to provide far-reaching benefits for humanity in the fields of science, engineering, natural resources, medicine and higher education. ■

Update On Bulgarian Peak Gas Storage Study

On Oct. 10 an official presentation took place in Sofia, Bulgaria of the preliminary findings of the feasibility study for the expansion of the Chiren Underground Gas Storage (UGS) and the establishment of an information system for Bulgargaz. The study has been funded by a grant from the U.S. Trade and Development Agency (U.S. TDA) valued at \$276,000. The project has been co-sponsored via cost share by the Contractor, the Institute for Energy Economics and Policy (IEEP) Sarkeys Energy Center of the University of Oklahoma, ENRON, and American and Bulgarian subcontractors. The total value of the project is over \$552,000.

The project is the first grant of U.S. TDA extended to the energy sector of Bulgaria. The project includes the development of a model of the storage reservoir, as well as simulation of its operational modes. The possibility to store operational and strategic reserves of gas for the developing gas market of Bulgaria and the region was evaluated. The establishment of gas infrastructure is planned in support of the emerging free gas market in Bulgaria and the region.

The team, led by IEEP, has recommended a development strategy and options to secure the optimal long-term technical and financial success in underground gas storage. "The ultimate goal is to provide better security of gas supply, especially for the emerging free gas markets in the country and the region." Said Dr. Dennis O'Brien, director of IEEP. "Due to these considerations, the project is of prime importance to the energy sector of Bulgaria."

The study was executed by implementing cutting-edge technologies for analyses, computer simulation of the operations, and design of underground facilities of this kind. The state of the art methods deployed and the analyses are still relatively unknown in many European countries

IEEP and Sarkeys Energy Center, is a leading centers in the world for research

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In Memorium - Larry W. Brummett

Larry W. Brummett, CEO and chairman of ONEOK and Sarkeys Energy Center Board of Directors member, died at his home in Tulsa, Okla. on Aug. 24 after a hard-fought battle with cancer. He was 49.

"Larry was a great leader and a wonderful friend to all who knew him," said David Kyle, president and chief operating officer of ONEOK. "It is a tribute to him that we have such a great team of employees at ONEOK who will move forward with the focus and vision that he has set for the company during his years of leadership."

Larry led the company through a time of unprecedented change in the natural gas industry. Under his guidance, the company was transformed from a local natural gas utility with assets of about \$1 billion to a diversified natural gas company with assets exceeding \$5 billion. He was inducted in the Oklahoma Hall of Fame in 1999.

He is survived by his wife and two children and a host of family and friends. ■

Recommendations on Bulgargaz Study (continued from page three)

and development in energy, particularly natural gas. Bulgargaz EAD is a member of the Rock Mechanics Institute Consortium, along with many leading oil and gas companies.

Enron Europe is one of the leading companies in the world in the area of energy and telecommunications, and works in close cooperation with Sarkeys Energy Center for the study.

During the presentation of the preliminary results of the study in Sofia, the representatives of the project team pointed out that they regard the Chiren UGS as a valuable asset in the long-term market strategy of Bulgargaz EAD. The following cost effective options for the development of the storage until 2003 and beyond were suggested

1. Increased operational reliability of the gas transmission system of Bulgaria, which implies better quality of service and transmission of gas to end-users.
2. Optimal investment planning for the development of the gas transmission system of the country.
3. Possibilities for storing strategic gas reserves and increased reliability of the system, which is one of the criteria for access to the gas system in the European Union.

Dr. Boyko Nitzov, Associate Director, IEEP said " The study will help Bulgaria become a major player in future gas markets in Europe".

The study is a positive example for partnership between Bulgarian and American entities in the natural gas business. The preliminary results of the study are encouraging and Bulgargaz is expected to adopt the recommendations before the end of 2000.

A final version of the study on CD Rom will be available in early November after the completion of the project. ■

SEC Chief Scientist Named President of AAPG

Marlan Downey, former Bartell Professor in the University of Oklahoma's School of Geology and Geophysics and chief scientist of the Sarkeys Energy Center, assumed the presidency of the American Association of Petroleum Geologists on July 1. Downey served as president-elect for the 1999-2000 term.

Downey began his career in 1957 at the Shell Oil Company Research Center working in organic geochemistry, with responsibility for making Shell's theoretical work in organic chemistry useful in finding oil. In 1969, he became the company's youngest chief geologist, and in 1973 was named Shell's first Alaska Division exploration manager. In 1977, Downey moved to International Exploration and Production and was named vice president before assuming the position of president of the newly formed international subsidiary, Pecten International. He retired from Shell in 1987.

Downey returned to the industry to work for ARCO International Oil and Gas Co. He was named president after one year and remained in that capacity until his retirement in July 1996. With Downey at the helm, ARCO International's finding cost decreased from about \$4 a barrel to \$1.60, and the amount of oil found tripled from 50 million barrels a year to 150 million.

Among his many affiliations and memberships, Downey was knighted in 1986 by the president of Cameroon for his services to that country, the first businessman to receive such an honor. In 1992, he served on U.S. President Jimmy Carter's team supervising the first free elections in Guyana.

A native of Nebraska, Downey earned a degree in chemistry from Peru State University. After military service in Korea and the Philippines, he earned bachelor's and master's degrees in geology from the University of Nebraska.

The AAPG was founded in 1917, with the purpose to foster scientific research, to advance the science of geology, to promote technology, and to inspire high professional conduct. It is currently the world's largest professional geological society with over 30,000 members in 116 countries. Its members are geologists, geophysicists, CEOs, managers, consultants, students and academicians. ■

Mankin Named SEC Director (continued from page one)

Institute, the Public Service Award from the American Association of Petroleum Geologists, the Martin Van Couvering Memorial Award from the American Institute of Professional Geologists, and the Conservation Service Award from the U.S. Department of the Interior.

"Charles Mankin is nationally and internationally respected by both government and private sector leaders in the energy field," Boren said noting Mankin's years of experience as an OU faculty member and as director of the Oklahoma Geological Survey. "Given his unparalleled knowledge of the entire history of the Sarkeys Energy Center and a clear understanding of its mission, Charles Mankin is the best possible person to provide leadership for the energy center as it moves to an even higher level of performance."

The University of Oklahoma Sarkeys Energy Center includes six interdisciplinary institutes and a special institute that focuses on the Western Hemisphere making it unique in structure and recognition internationally. Through various means of technology transfer, this synergy of world-class interdisciplinary energy research and education strengthens and enhances regional economic growth as well as national energy and economic security. ■

OU Among Top Ten In Presentations at the 2000 SEG Conference

The Sarkeys Energy Center had one of the strongest showings ever at the 2000 Society of Exploration Geophysicists (SEG) meeting held in Calgary, Alberta, Canada, August 6-11. Faculty and students from the School of Geology and Geophysics, the Institute for Exploration and Development Geosciences, the School of Petroleum and Geological Engineering, and the Oklahoma Geological Survey presented a total of 11 posters and oral presentations. The presentations represented work done entirely at OU as well as collaborative projects with industry. Attendees of the meeting from other schools and companies commented both on the sheer number of Sooners at the meeting and the groundbreaking work they were doing.

Not only did OU produce a large volume of talks and posters, the Geology and Geophysics program was represented in nine different sessions, with topics ranging from reservoir characterization to rock property determinations to seismic

acquisition, processing, theory and interpretation to AVO theory and inversion. This broad coverage gave OU a very high profile.

With nearly 7400 representatives of the oil and gas industry attending the SEG annual meeting, the increased visibility of OU among companies and research institutions throughout industry paid off. Lindsay Poth, who presented results of her research on using AVO inversion to model an amplitude anomaly before drilling, was praised for the practicality and applicability of her work. Representatives of companies that don't necessarily recruit at OU were impressed—after her talk, one of them asked John Castagna, “who is that, why haven't we heard of her, and when can we hire her?” Castagna is the McCullough Chair in Geology and Geophysics and the director of the Institute for Exploration and Development Geosciences (EDGE). The interdisciplinary relationship with his institute and the school is instrumental in

offering students the opportunity to achieve such recognition and employment. Bill Lamb, who also attended the meeting, commented that people in industry who are doing exploration are definitely putting OU on their lists for recruiting.

Castagna's institute also sponsored a booth that was decorated with posters highlighting OU research. Pamphlets detailing the School of Geology and Geophysics program and describing work done by the EDGE were made available to visitors to the booth. The booth was visited by students interested in learning more about the graduate program, software companies who were interested in having their product tested by students and faculty doing research at OU, and oil and gas companies expressing interest in joining the EDGE's Integrated Geophysical Reservoir Characterization Consortium. ■

List of OU SEG Presentations

Fracture roughness: The key to relating seismic velocities, seismic attenuation, and permeability to reservoir pressure and saturation

Raymon Brown, *Oklahoma Geological Survey*; Michael Wiggins, Anuj Gupta, *School of Petroleum and Geological Engineering*

A simple method for fitting P-wave velocity versus saturation curves

John Castagna, *Institute for Exploration and Development Geosciences, University of Oklahoma*; John Cooper, *Conoco, Inc.*

Ultrasonic velocity measurements on carbonate algal mound samples, Orogrande Basin, New Mexico

Frederic Gallice, John Castagna, Patrick Doherty, Gerylin Soreghan, Carl Sondergeld, Chandra Rai, *University of Oklahoma*

Seismic wavelet estimation constrained by well data using artificial neural networks

Zhengping Liu, John Castagna, *University of Oklahoma*

Fluid substitution and shear-wave velocity prediction including dispersion effects: A case study, NW shelf, Australia

Patrice Nsoga Mahob, John Castagna, *Institute for Exploration and Development Geosciences*

Matching pursuit of two-dimensional seismic data and its application

Thang Nguyen, John Castagna, *Institute for Exploration and Development Geosciences*

2000 International Energy Policy Conference in OKC

The University of Oklahoma Sarkeys Energy Center and the International Society of Energy Advocates is pleased to announce Robert L. Parker, chairman of Tulsa-based Parker Drilling Company, as the keynote speaker for the 2000 International Energy Policy Conference on Dec. 1 at the Waterford-Marriott Hotel in Oklahoma City.

"We are pleased that Mr. Parker is our keynote speaker for the 2000 IEP Conference. Our program includes leaders from all segments of the international, national, and Oklahoma energy industries," said Mark Stansberry, president of The Global Trade and Development Corporation. "The program will provide some very interesting insights into the business environment of the 21st Century."

The program will address such subjects as, "Recent Development in Energy Markets," "Recent Development in Energy Issues and Policy," "The Future of the Oil, Gas and Electricity Industries," and "Deregulation of Electricity." The prestigious "Energy Advocate of the Year" award will be presented during the conference luncheon.

Honorary chairman of the conference is Oklahoma Corporation Commissioner Denise Bode and host chairman is Dr. Charles J. Mankin, OU Sarkeys Energy Center and the Oklahoma Geological Survey director. Conference chairman and founder is Mark A. Stansberry of The Global Trade and Development Corporation.

The registration fee is \$125. To register or to receive additional information, contact The Global Trade and Development Corporation at (405) 715-1917 or email at gtdmark@telepath.com ■

"Energy In The New Century" Focus of OIPA/EIA Conference

The 2000 Oklahoma Independent Producers Association (OIPA) in conjunction with the Sarkeys Energy Center's Energy Institute of the Americas (EIA) Fall Conference entitled "Energy In The New Century," held on Oct. 1st and 2nd in Oklahoma City, focused on international opportunities for independent producers. The conference brought together U.S. independent producers with representatives of oil and gas companies and governments from Brazil, Canada, Colombia, Mexico, Venezuela and other potential partners in the Western Hemisphere.

During the Policy Makers panel Bob Anthony, Oklahoma Corporation Commission chairman, shared the success his office is having with the replacement of the red leather-bound volumes used for decades to record oil and gas leasing information with electronic application forms and digitized records. "Our agency has a website that is there to service the industry so that you can call up the rules of the commission and the administrative procedures without hiring an attorney or coming to the state capitol," said Anthony. "To accomplish our mission, Oklahoma Corporation Commission inspectors are now using digital phones, laptop computers and global positioning equipment when working with producers."

Geo Information Systems (GIS) program has a state-of-the-art application service provider available to E&P companies to create custom maps displaying well and leasing information. GIS's website, www.geo.ou.edu, aids the inspectors with the examination of a rig while they are on location at the physical well site. According to Mary Banken, GIS director, producers can tap the information offered by the Sarkeys Energy Center and then use mapping software to create customized maps. The GIS site uses the Natural Resources Information System (NRIS) which contains more than 430,000 records of data on Oklahoma's wells and leases.

Lance Lobban, director of OU's School of Chemical Engineering and Material Sciences, noted that changes in technology are affecting the production of oil and gas. For the petroleum side of the industry, the need for improved processing of the bottom of the oil barrel, environmental issues, energy usage within refineries, and changing feedstocks are pushing changes in equipment and techniques. "Natural gas acts as both a feedstock and a fuel capable of supplying many applications," said Lobban. "But concerns, such as pipeline safety, improving the process for liquefying natural gas, and enhancing the economics and technology of the gas-to-liquids, must be satisfied."

Roger Slatt, director of OU's School of Geology and Geophysics, stated that the energy industry's upstream segment is also undergoing significant reforms because of technology, but producers are taking note of expense as well as effectiveness. "In order for independents to use technology widely, it certainly must be affordable," said Slatt. "In general, technology becomes affordable with

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SEC Welcomes New Assistant Director of EDGE

Dr. Carrie Decker has joined the Sarkeys Energy Center and the School of Geology and Geophysics as a research associate and assistant director of John Castagna's Institute for Exploration and Development Geosciences. "Carrie brings outstanding credentials from Texas A&M and is a very valuable addition to our team," said Castagna.

Decker came to the University of Oklahoma from Texas A&M University where she served for the last three and a half years in a similar capacity with their interdisciplinary Integrated Reservoir Investigations Project. She received her Ph.D. in geology from Texas A&M in 1997. Her dissertation research focused on field studies of fault zones and fluid flow and experimental rock deformation. Decker has a masters degree from the University of Alaska Fairbanks and a bachelors degree from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, both in geology. ■

IPEC Making Impact on Real Problems of Independent Producers in Oklahoma and Arkansas

Environmental stewardship and practical economics is the primary focus of workshops to be presented in 2001 by the Integrated Petroleum Environmental Consortium (IPEC), an ongoing model of cooperation between OU, OSU, the University of Tulsa, and the University of Arkansas. The workshops, entitled "Cost Effective Environmental Strategies for Improving Production Economics," is for independent operators and producers and spearheaded by TU and OSU and funded by the EPA Office of Research and Development for the IPEC Technology Transfer Program.

As a result of funding, IPEC is establishing a pilot system in Oklahoma and Arkansas in which field inspectors for the state regulatory agencies (the Oklahoma Corporation Commission, the Osage Agency of the Bureau of Indian Affairs, and the Arkansas Oil and Gas Commission) serve as conduits to deliver resources developed by IPEC directly to independent producers.

During the planning phase for the workshops, a survey was sent to all field inspectors to obtain feedback on prioritizing the environmental concerns in the field. Based on the results of the survey, a preliminary workshop was designed and then presented to field inspectors to solicit their feedback and advice on how to best help the producers.

During the workshop presentations, field inspectors actively participated in case studies, evaluated proposed checklists, conducted a well site "walk around," and viewed a 13-minute video designed to help the independent oil improve their production economics. The objectives of the IPEC technology transfer program is to raise the level of technical

training of the field inspectors of oil and gas regulatory agencies in Oklahoma and Arkansas and develop a video and checklists for independent producers to assist them in doing an environmental audit of their operations.

These workshops interweave the message that environmental compliance and practical maintenance can have a positive impact on the independent producer's bottom line. Through this program IPEC is fulfilling its role as a place where regulators and the regulated can meet on neutral ground to work through contentious issues.

Dr. Joseph M. Sufлита

The resulting workshops that will be developed for producers will stress how preventative maintenance and a little cleanup will help the improve the bottom line as well as become more environmentally responsible.

"The preliminary workshops were well-received by the field inspectors," said Dee Ann Sanders, member of the IPEC Technology Transfer for the Domestic Petroleum Industry and professor in the School of Civil and Environmental Engineering at OSU. "They expressed that the checklists and video were valuable tools that they could send out to producers prior to their visits. This type of program also fosters the idea that inspectors are there to help the producers and the petroleum industry, rather than just be its police."

Dr. Joseph Sufлита, associate director of the IPEC consortium and the Sarkeys Energy Center, praises the efforts of IPEC in this area. "I am extremely impressed by the workshops and production videos. The materials interweave the message that environmental compliance and practical maintenance can have a positive impact on the independent producers' bottom line. Through this program IPEC is fulfilling its roles as a place where regulators and the regulated can meet on neutral ground to work through contentious issues."

Phase II of the technology transfer program will include the development of more tools, such as videos and checklists on field remediation. IPEC will also continue to work with the field inspectors on developing the most effective ways for them to deliver these tools to independent producers and follow-up to assess their use. IPEC's Industrial Advisory Board, largely made up of independent producers, will be working closely with the technology transfer team on their efforts. ■

Upcoming Events

Nov. 30-Dec. 1, 2000, International Energy Policy Conference, Oklahoma City
January 12, 2001, Board of Directors Meeting, Sarkeys Energy Center, Norman

OIPA/EIA Conference (conclusion)

time. The majors will typically develop, test and refine a technology which leads to cost reduction. At some point, it becomes cost effective enough for independents to utilize that technology."

Three-dimensional seismic analysis is one example that Slatt cited as moving from majors to independents as it became more cost effective. He predicted that four-dimensional (time lapse) seismic techniques would soon follow the same path. "The flood of potential developments can be daunting to producers looking for the best product," said Slatt. "Resources, such as the Petroleum Technology Transfer Council, often offer advice."

One resource that is often overlooked by industry is new university graduates. "Students usually have experience in the latest technologies such as 3-D seismic interpretation, bore hole image analysis and visualization," said Slatt. "I would suggest that you look to universities to employ students, either part-time or as new graduates, because even though they

may not have much experience has older individuals, they certainly are sharp in these new technologies."

A growing number of independents will utilize technology overseas as international opportunities multiply. Former U.S. Ambassador and EIA director Edwin Corr and John Wieczorek, president of Avalon Exploration, presented substantial evidence of these opportunities during the breakout session, "Internationalizing Your Vision."

Wieczorek and his company invested for eight years in developing a 400 million-barrel oil field in Russia, and he shared the pitfalls he encountered working under a foreign government while trying to coordinate two staffs eleven time zones apart. "For independents, Russia has a lot of potential," said Wieczorek. "Independents have the same access to technology as the major oil companies because their management is accessible. It's very difficult for Russian partners to get through to major oil companies and the independent oil

companies respond much more quickly to problems."

Corr presented the advantages of working in Latin America, based on the three ambassadorships he held in the region. "I have often thought that some of the problems we have had with Latin America are the result of the lack of understanding we have for each other," shared Corr.

Corr believes independents possess real advantages over major energy corporations in working overseas. "Foreign governments know they are a priority concern for an independent and are not just a line item during a board meeting," said Corr. "Consequently, ministers and other officials can discuss pressing issues with a responsive producer." ■

This story was compiled based on an article which appeared in the OIPA newsletter.

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