



SPEE

SOCIETY OF PETROLEUM EVALUATION ENGINEERS

Newsletter

November 2024

President's Letter

My, oh my, how our profession has changed! This year I attended SPEE luncheons, conferences, annual meetings, and short courses. I took a group of OU students to Madrid for a study abroad course in Petroleum Economics. John Wright's presentation at the Software Symposium reminded me how I started my career using French curves and straight edges to calculate EURs from hand-plotted production on onion paper. And now lingo such as Bayesian priors and standard error of the mean is becoming standard. Technology is changing how we do our jobs – from auto-forecasting historical production to calculating the uncertainty in our forecasts. SPEE helps us to stay current on technology, and you will have ample opportunities to be a part of the discussion and learn how these new methodologies are being applied.

If you did not have the chance to attend the 2024 Software Symposium, *Experiences in Automated Forecasting* last month in Houston, it was an amazing event! We had well over 100 attendees, and superb analysis was provided by our incredible 2024 Software Symposium Committee: **Lucas Smith, Zack Warren, David Fulford, Christina Hilton, Steve Golko, and John Wright**. Special thanks to the 15 vendors who anonymously auto-, semi-auto, or mostly manually forecasted 1000 wells. Thanks also to our event sponsors, and Occidental Petroleum for hosting the event. In case you missed the symposium this year, the committee will take their show on the road in 2025 to present the results of the symposium. So be on the lookout for their presentations at local SPEE chapters in the coming year!

Monograph 5: A Practical Guide to Type Well Profiles, is close to publishing, and we will be rolling out training on the monograph in 2025. These training sessions will be hosted by local SPEE chapters, so be on the lookout

for Monograph 5 training in 2025 as well.

Elections for the 2025 Board of Directors are underway, and I would like to thank **James Sauseda, Kaleb Euseppi, Oscar Valbuena, Gaston Fonddevila, Todd Brooker, and John Hornbrook** for their interest in serving on the board. I encourage all members to participate in this important process and cast your vote. The poll closes on November 10th, and results will be announced shortly thereafter. The three-year term of the new Directors will begin in January 2025, and I look forward to the contributions of those elected.

I also would like to thank our outgoing Directors for their service over the past three years. **Zack Warren, Steve Golko, and Martin Hubbig**. Zack has served as Chair of the Technical Training Committee, and currently is chair of the Membership Committee. Steve is the current chair of the Newsletter Committee. We have appreciated your service!

In January, **Attila Szabo** will be leaving the Executive Committee as he completes his year as Past President and Chair of the Nominating Committee. Attila had the challenging task of organizing our first annual meeting post-COVID in Napa in 2022, and we thank him for his many years of service on the Executive Committee and Board of Directors.

In addition, I would like to recognize **Mark Reeves** for his service as Chair of the Qualifications Committee as he steps down as chair. **Danilo Bandiziol** has served on the committee for several years, and we thank him for



2024 Officers and Directors

Executive Committee

President Dean Sergent (Oklahoma)
Vice President Tad Fielder (Dallas)
Secretary-Treasurer Steve Gardner (Denver)
Past-President Attila Szabo (Calgary)

Directors

Amna Ali (Europe)	Martin Hubbig (Europe)
Federico Dordoni (Dallas)	Larry Petropoulos (Calgary)
David Fulford (Houston)	Lucas Smith (Houston)
Steven Golko (Calgary)	Zack Warren (Denver)
Christina Hilton (Dallas)	

Bylaws Committees

Chair of Past Presidents Council Joe Young
Qualifications..... Danilo Bandiziol
 Committee: Claudio Virues, Mike Verney, and German Moss
Nominating Attila Szabo
Grievance..... David Gold
 Committee: Dan Olds
Reserves Definitions..... Rawdon Seager
 Committee: John Lee, Dan Olds, John Ritter, Jennifer Fitzgerald, and Paul Lyford

Individual Appointments

Ethics Robert Green
Evaluation Parameters Survey Federico Dordoni
Fair Market Value Dee Patterson
Internet Lucas Smith
Membership Zack Warren
Newsletter Coordinator Steven Golko
University Interface Marshall Watson
Historian Melissa Nance
Communications
Recommended Evaluation Practices Dan Olds
Annual Meeting Advance Planning Tim Smith
Professional Registration Anna Hardesty
Monograph 5-Type Well Profiles Jennifer Fitzgerald
Technical Training David Fulford
SPE OGRC Observers Stefan Krystosik/Rawdon Seager
COGEH (Canadian Oil and Gas Evaluation Handbook) Mike Verney
UNECE Expert Group on Resource Classification Danilo Bandiziol
CSRS (SRMS) Rawdon Seager/Robert Green



20333 State Highway 249, Suite 200
Houston, Texas 77070
Office: 832.972.7733
www.spee.org

Admin Assistant
Andrea Bracho
andrea@spee.org

Web Admin
Kyle Fitzgerald
fitz@fitz.family

Newsletter Editor
Diane Pollard
diane.w.pollard@gmail.com

Chapter Officers - 2024

Asia Pacific

Chairman – Peter Stephenson
Vice Chairman – Nick Pink
Secretary – Hongfeng Wu

Calgary

Chairman – Steven Golko
Vice Chairman – Brenda Kurtz
Secretary – Caroline Kauffmann
Treasurer – Claudio Virues
Membership – Jason Pacholko

California

Chairman - Brad DeWitt
Vice Chairman – Rick Finken
Secretary-Treasurer - Tom Walker
Membership -

Central Texas

Chairman –
Vice Chairman –
Secretary –
Treasurer –
Membership –

Dallas

Chairman - Stefan Krystosik
Vice Chairman – Jordan Lanig
Secretary-Treasurer -
Membership –

Denver

Chairman – Nicole Ford
Vice Chairman - Rhonda Gathers
Secretary-Treasurer – Jeff Clampitt
Membership - Lindsey Stelmach

Europe

Chairman – Gregg Birrell
Vice Chairman - Victor Alcobia
Secretary-Treasurer – Amna Ali
Membership-Program – Danilo Bandiziol

Houston

Chairman – David Fulford
Vice Chairman –
Secretary-Treasurer – Victor Abu
Program Chairman – He Zhang
Membership – Marylena Garcia

Latin America

Chairman – Oscar Valbuena
Vice Chairman – Rafael Caveno
Secretary-Treasurer – Pablo Gentil
Membership – Gustavo Fernandez

Midland

Chairman – Gail Hankinson
Vice Chairman –
Secretary-Treasurer –
Membership – Robert Green

Northern Rockies

Chairman – Rick Vine
Vice Chairman – Bonnie Percy
Secretary-Treasurer – Tom Hohn
Membership – Andrew Finley
Program Chairman – Bonnie Percy

Oklahoma

Chairman – James Sauseda
Vice Chairman - Aaron Anderson
Secretary-Treasurer - Kaleb Eussepi
Membership - Don Jacks
Program Chairman – John Tellers

The SPEE Newsletter is a quarterly publication of the Society of Petroleum Evaluation Engineers. News items, correspondence, address changes and advertising inquiries should be directed to SPEE headquarters in Houston, Texas.

stepping up to serve as the new chair. I also would like to thank **Jennifer Fitzgerald** for her service as Chair of the Council of Past Presidents. Jennifer has stepped down as chair, and we look forward to working with **Joe Young** in his new role as Chair of COPP.

Steve Gardner is hard at work on the 2025 Annual Meeting at The Westin Hilton Head Island Resort & Spa in South Carolina. Steve and Andrea recently made their site visit, and I know they are excited to provide a great technical program and activities for you while you are there June 7-10.

I would like to thank Andrea Bracho for her dedicated service to SPEE. She loves working for the society, and we are fortunate to have her with us. I also want to personally thank the Executive Committee and the Board of Directors for their dedication and service to SPEE. We have great leaders, and I look forward to how they will continue to grow and shape SPEE.

So cheers to a very productive 2024 with eyes on an active 2025! For nostalgia we can hold on to our French curves and triangles – and sharpen the saw to learn new methods and technologies. It has been an honor and a privilege to serve you as President of SPEE, and I look forward to seeing everyone next year in Hilton Head!

Happy Holidays!

Dean Sergent

Integrity Requires Sacrifice

What does integrity have to do with ethics? Remember that Ethics is: “the boundaries of behavior placed on people by society.” Reviewing the definition of Integrity with respect to a person’s behavior: “Adherence to moral and ethical principles; soundness of moral character; honesty.” It is all interrelated and at the end of the day you need to ask yourself, “What is my integrity?” Also, you might ask “What is the integrity of another person?” It is a question that you should ask.

Today’s society seems to overflow with endorsers and influencers, the usual group of celebrities that endorse an endless number of products and causes. They claim they are great, and you should buy, use, or believe in that product or cause too. Trust is the direct message presented by the celebrities. Because they say something, it must be true, and you should follow. Remember that they are paid actors professing an endorsement. The Greek for actor is hypocrite. They have very talented script writers preparing the endorsement speech.

Social media exploded with a new genre of bloggers called “influencers.” These influencers endorse numerous products for you to get excited about and purchase. Their whole goal is for you to purchase or follow their endorsement. They too get paid for making the endorsement because the product sale gains a commission from each credited item. So, are they telling the truth? Have they preserved their integrity or pushed for the sale?

At the end of the day, integrity defines you to others. Integrity on the job directly relates to moral, ethical and legal boundaries of behavior. Who are you to your colleagues and customers? Are you known for your integrity or for making the sale?



Robert Green



**PLAN
AHEAD**

SPEE Annual Meetings

June 7-10, 2025 - The Westin Hilton Head Island
Resort and Spa
Hilton Head, South Carolina

June 6-9, 2026 - The St. Regis Deer Valley
Park City, Utah

Chapter News

Asia Pacific

Membership - 26

Calgary

The Calgary Chapter held an in-person luncheon on September 17 at the Calgary Petroleum Club where Craig Burns from the Alberta Security Commission presented on current topics related to public disclosure.

The Calgary Chapter currently holds its Business Meetings at Sproule's office, while technical luncheons are hosted at the Calgary Petroleum Club.

The next scheduled event for the Calgary Chapter will be a Technical Luncheon on Tuesday, November 19th.

Meetings - 3rd Tuesday of each month except June, July and August.

Membership - 51

California

California Chapter members continue to attend meetings, presentations and events of other Chapters virtually.

Membership - 7

Central Texas

Membership - 22

Dallas

All Dallas Chapter meetings in 2024-25 will be in-person at the Brookhaven Campus of Dallas College. Luncheon meetings are held from 11:30-1:00 pm. Speaker starts at noon.

The Dallas section held an in-person meeting at Dallas College Brookhaven Campus on October 3rd. The speaker was Dr. Dean Foreman – Chief Economist, Texas Oil and Gas Association (TXOGA). The topic for this presentation was: *Navigating the Future: Key Trends and Insights in the Texas Oil and Natural Gas Industry*. His presentation provided an in-depth look at the key economic and market trends shaping the Texas oil and natural gas industry. Drawing from TXOGA's latest insights, it covered record-high global demand for oil and natural gas, U.S. supply leadership, and the productivity gains driving Texas' dominant position. His presentation also explored the risks and opportunities ahead, including the impact of evolving fiscal and monetary policies, rising global energy demand, and Texas' critical role in

securing U.S. and international energy supplies. The next Dallas Chapter meeting is planned for December 2024. We are currently conducting a search to fill two section officers slots.

Meetings – Semi-monthly except June, July and August.

Membership – 67 in good standing

Denver

The Denver Chapter held a luncheon on July 10th at Oxy's office. Mr. Lachlan Hughson led the technical discussion on *Enhancing O&G Budgeting/Valuation/M&A Using a Probabilistic Approach*. Attendees: 18 members, 15 guests, 33 total.

The Denver chapter also held a luncheon on October 9th at the Denver Athletic Club. Dr. John D. Wright led the technical discussion with *One Engineer's Thoughts on Type Well Profiles*. 26 members, 25 guests, 51 total.

Additional events included the Annual Soiree held in September at the Wynkoop. It was a fun and successful event of networking, appetizers and drinks and billiard games.

The final luncheon of the year will be held on December 4th, location tbd.

Meetings - 2nd Wednesday of January, April, July, October, Dec

Membership – 82

Europe

Meetings - Four per year.

Membership - 43

Houston

The Houston chapter's September monthly meeting occurred on September 4th at the Petroleum Club of Houston with a presentation by Cheng (Chuck) Zhang, President of ORGE Systems, entitled *Enhancing (Real-Time) Production Forecasting Through Advanced Batch Auto-Forecasting Algorithms*. Additional, the October meeting was held on October 2nd, with Deborah King Sacrey, current President of AAPG, presenting on *Machine Learning for Engineers: Case Histories in Finding Hydrocarbons*.

Meetings – 1st Wednesday of each month except June, July and August – Houston Petroleum Club.

Membership – 154 (as of year-end)

Latin America

The Latin America chapter is having Officers' meetings every two months and currently is having presentations/technical discussion sessions each three to four months. Currently defining future presentations and access to other chapters meetings.

Meetings – Officers' meeting every two months and all members' meeting every four months.

Membership – 18

Midland

The Midland Chapter's September 18th meeting was held at the Petroleum Club of Midland. The speaker was Steve Melzer of Melzer Consulting, and his presentation was titled: *Geologic CO₂ Storage: Implications for Mineral Owners*. A total of 20 attended, which included 14 non-members.

Meetings – 2nd Wednesday odd months (except July) at 11:30 a.m. – Midland Petroleum Club.

Membership - 18

Northern Rockies

We are co-hosting an ethics meeting on November 22 with the local SPE chapter and the local WGA (Wyoming Geological Association). The speaker will be Jake Haseman with Beatty & Wozniak, P.C. The meeting will be in Casper, WY.

Membership – 7

Oklahoma

Meetings – Every other month.

Membership - 38

In Memorium

**We regret to note
the passing of:**

**Cheryl Collarini
Covington, Louisiana
August 6, 2024**

Cheryl Reilly Collarini, age 73, of Covington, passed away on Tuesday, August 6, 2024. She was born on July 12, 1951, in New Orleans, Louisiana. She is survived by her loving husband of 51 years, Richard G. Collarini and son, Daniel Collarini and his wife Nora Chapkovich. She is also survived by her many extended family members and friends. She was preceded in death by her parents, Jerry Reilly and Elsie Donnaway Reilly, and her brother, David Reilly. Cheryl graduated from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, where she earned a degree in civil engineering. She was just one of fifty women who were admitted to MIT the year she was admitted. After graduating, she moved back to New Orleans, where she worked for Mobil Oil Company, joining the young professional women who were just beginning to shatter the glass ceiling in the 1960s and 1970s. She liked to tell the story that she was the first pregnant woman to work on an offshore rig.

Cheryl resigned from Mobil and began her own petroleum consulting firm, representing clients from around the world. Starting from a one-room office, she built Collarini Engineering into a regional consulting firm, and became a well-known fixture in the industry. She literally wrote the book on oilfield economics and was hired by petroleum companies to teach her classes around the world. She also found the time to start another company and was soon one of the leading oil and gas staffing companies in the Gulf South.

Cheryl was a national officer of the Society of Women Engineers, and a regional officer of the Society of Petroleum Engineers, in addition to membership in other professional and charitable organizations. She was a board member of Family Reach Alliance, a charity close to her heart, working with homeless families. While doing all this, she found the time to coach her son's basketball team, travel the world, and become a gourmet cook. She also was very involved in her parish, Mary Queen of Peace. In lieu of flowers, contributions in memory of Mrs. Collarini may be made to the Northshore Humane Society at www.northshorehumane.org/give or to the Family Reach Alliance at familyreachsela.org.

2024 SPEE Software Symposium

For the last 10 months, members of the SPEE Software Symposium committee have been busy putting together an event specifically tailored to a rapidly growing technology in the oil and gas industry. The Software Symposium is held every three to four years and with the last event occurring in 2018, it was past time to have another gathering. Previous symposia have largely focused on economic calculations and cashflow equations. This year's symposium took a different tack and focused on automated decline curve analysis (DCA). The choice to branch over to a new topic was a hit and attracted 8 sponsoring companies, 15 participating software vendors and over 140 conference attendees.

Lucas Smith was the Chair of the Symposium Committee and worked out the meeting space and conference logistics. Zack Warren was the Vendor Liaison working relentlessly to attract and engage software industry participation. Christina Hilton provided her Marketing expertise with polished email and social media advertisements. As always, Andrea Bracho was the backbone of the operation and supported the many, many detailed tasks of making a large meeting like this work. And the driving force behind the Symposium success was the Technical Subcommittee consisting of John Wright, David Fulford, Steven Golko and Helene Berthet. These individuals and many more volunteers put hundreds of hours of work into making a high-quality program for the symposium attendees.

The program started off with a brief introduction of the committee and sponsors followed by the results of an industry survey of over 100 industry professionals regarding their opinions of the current state of automated forecasting. In general, the survey shows that computer technology has come a long way and people are getting more comfortable with automation, though there is still room for improvement. Reservoir Engineering careers are definitely safe for the time being. Next on the program agenda was an entertaining trip down memory lane with the history of decline curve analysis presented by John Wright. The presentation started with the source material of the Arps equations from back in "ancient history" up through the "not-so-ancient history" of Fetkovich and Blasingame type curves. The highlight of John's talk was a demonstration of hand plotting data on log paper and then manually fitting it with a ship's curve. Later in the agenda was a primer on Machine Learning Production Data Analysis from David Fulford. The in-depth presentation began with several methods of data filtering and thoughtful examples demonstrating the concepts. The presentation then covered linear, non-linear and Bayesian regression methodologies for forecasting production. The final industry presentation was an operator's experience with adopting automated forecasting. Lindsey Stelmach and Patricia Cuba

discussed how Oxy's Rockies business unit went about testing an automated DCA process for various workflows and their conclusions of what works and what still needs improvement.

The remainder of the agenda was dedicated to what has become affectionately known as the "Bake-Off." This consisted of giving participating vendors the partial production history of approximately 1,000 horizontal wells from the onshore U.S. and up to 12 hours to generate PDP forecasts. We had anonymized and truncated the data, so we knew what "truth" was, and focused our analysis on the difference between actuals and the vendor forecasts. The committee's criteria were that the tools from vendors must be "commercially available" in North America. We thought five participants would be fine and ten would be a stretch goal. Instead, we had fifteen entrants, and we found about another ten vendors that have tools but couldn't or wouldn't participate. The response from industry participation was simply INCREDIBLE.

The symposium committee presentations of the Bake-Off results largely focused on the initial findings from investigating a number of preconceived hypotheses developed before the data was sent and the forecasts were returned. The hypotheses came from a wide range of investigations including typical drivers of forecast error, variability by basin, variability by vendor, variability by length of production history, handling of secondary products and a comparison of human versus machine forecasting. With five weeks between when the vendors returned forecasts and the event presentations, the committee has just scratched the surface on an incredibly complicated dataset. There were seven very capable engineers working on the analysis during that time and there is still much left to investigate. Building useful and digestible visualizations of such a large and complex dataset is an interesting and challenging problem. With 15 vendors, 1,022 wells, three phases (oil, gas, and water), and decades of forecasts, the main data table was 5.5 million rows long. The results shown at the Symposium will be condensed into a roadshow presentation that will be touring the monthly chapter luncheons this winter and spring. A more detailed presentation based on the continued analysis of the dataset is planned for the SPEE Annual Meeting held this summer in Hilton Head, SC.

The Software Symposium Committee is deeply appreciative of the software companies that sponsored the event, the vendors who participated in forecasting and all the attendees who showed up for the symposium. The event was a big success in getting the industry together to discuss the current state and the future of automated decline curve analysis.

Lucas Smith

NOW ACCEPTING: 2025 MEMBERSHIP DUES

Thank you for supporting SPEE with your membership!

Your 2024 membership expires on December 31, 2024, and we are now accepting 2025 membership dues.

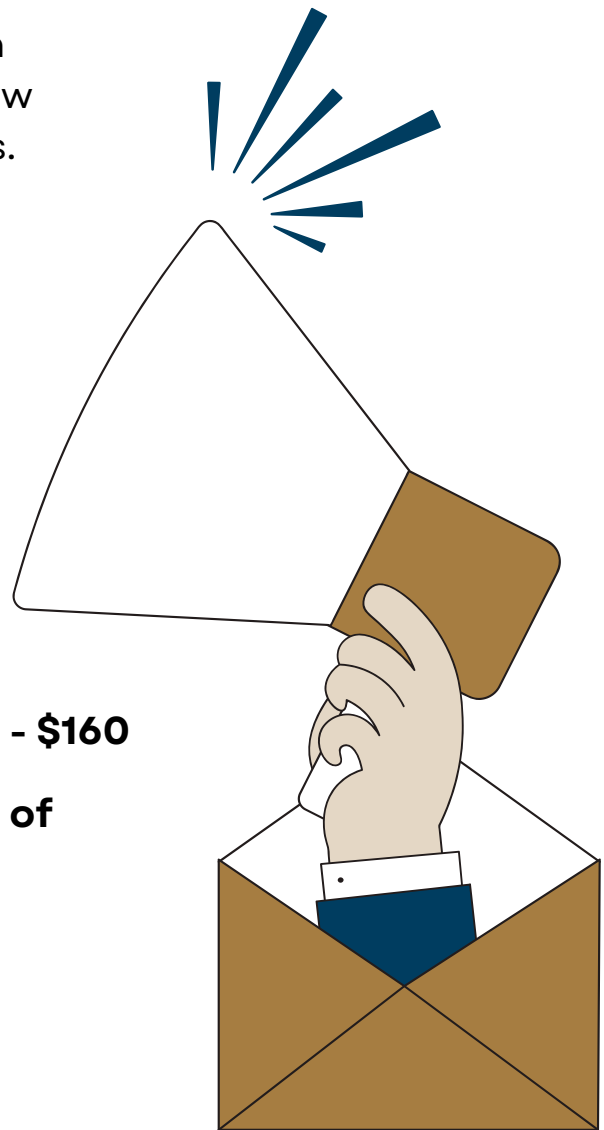
Please log in to your account at www.spee.org and use the tab Account or Payment.

To ensure you continue to receive your member benefits without interruption, please renew before January 31, 2024.

- **Full and Associate Members - \$160**
- **Full and Associate Members of Selected Countries - \$60**
- **Retired Members - \$80**

RENEW NOW

www.spee.org



PROPOSED BY-LAWS CHANGES

Remember to Vote!



Dear Member,

Please remember to cast your vote to **Approve** or **Decline** the changes. You have until November 29 to vote. For your convenience, the proposed updates are summarized below:

Proposed Revision 1.

Article VI. Ethics

Background

- Section 1 of this article refers to “Code of Ethics of Engineers as adopted by the Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology (ABET) as shown in Appendix A”.
- ABET no longer claims ownership of this code of ethics, and there is no reference on ABET’s website to this document or any ethics document.

Proposed Revision

- It is proposed that the references the ABET be removed from the Bylaws and the SPEE adopt Appendix A as their own document.

Proposed Revision 2.

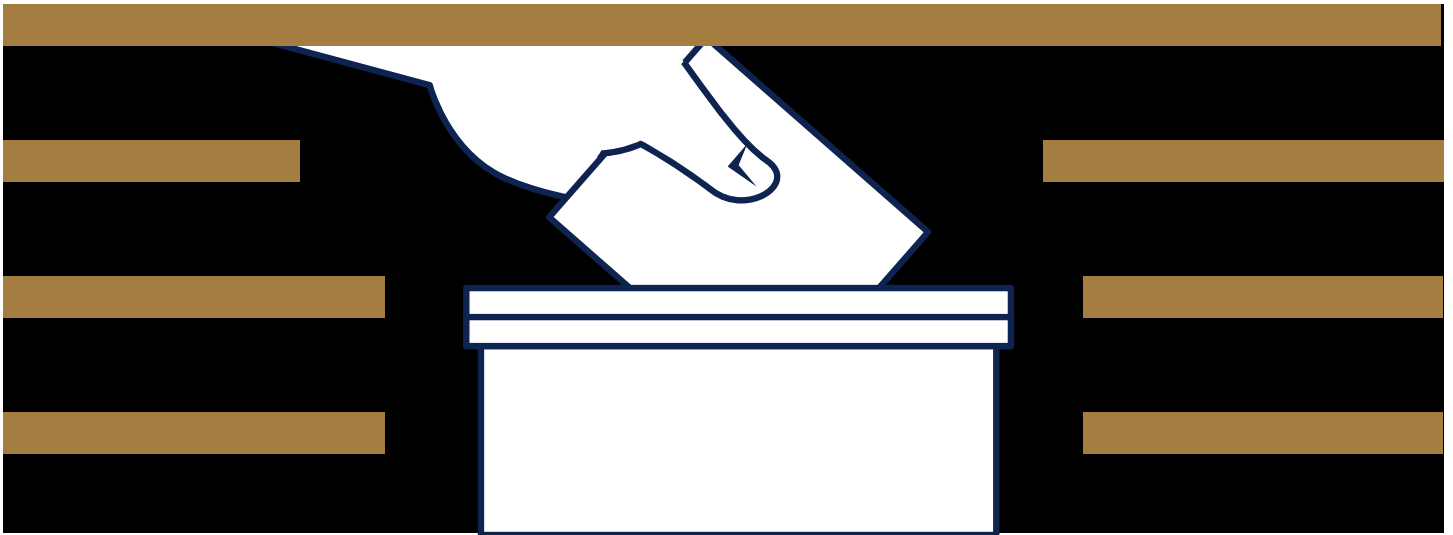
Article XVIII. Reserves Definition Committee

Background

- As currently defined, the purpose of the Reserves Definition Committee (RDC) “shall be to advise the Board of Directors, and to liaise with Society committees, other professional societies, governmental entities, and intergovernmental entities, on issues relating to petroleum reserves and resources definitions.”

Proposed Revision

- With the increased focus on resources and energy other than petroleum, the RDC advised that the scope of their mandate be expanded to:
 - include resources and definitions related to the capture, utilization and/or subsurface storage of carbon dioxide or other greenhouse gases.
 - The application of such definitions and guidelines
- It is also proposed that the RDC be renamed to the Reserves and Resources Definitions committee



2025 BOARD OF DIRECTORS ELECTION

Remember to cast your vote in the SPEE 2025 Board of Directors election. In accordance with the SPEE's Bylaws, the election will remain open until November 10, 2024.

All members and associate members in good standing are entitled to vote. There are three open positions and two candidates per position. Each Director will serve for a three-year term beginning in January 2025. The six candidates who have put themselves forward for election are eminently qualified and already have an excellent track record professionally. Please consider their qualifications, expertise, and outlook in the context of their wish to serve us and the membership and contribute to the further growth and direction of the SPEE.

- **Position 1** – James Sauseda and Kaleb Euseppi
- **Position 2** – Oscar Valbuena and Gaston Fondevila
- **Position 3** – Todd Broker and John Hornbrook

If you experience any difficulty in casting a ballot or logging in please contact Andrea Bracho, SPEE Administrative Assistant at andrea@spee.org

IT'S EASY! VISIT OUR WEBSITE FOR DETAILS.

GO TO WWW.SPEE.ORG

Welcome New Members

Calgary Chapter

Zukowski, Kelly **Member No. 1124**
Vice President, Corporate Evaluations
GLJ Ltd.
1920, 407 – 9th Ave. SW
Calgary, AB T2P 3C5
Canada
kzukowski@gljpc.com

Denver Chapter

Heinle, Sara **Status Change – Associate to General**
Consulting Petroleum Engineer
Heinle & Associates, LLC
1490 West Canal Court, 3000
Littleton, CO 80120
United States
sara@heinleassociates.com

Torres, Taylor **Associate Member No. 1125**
Sr Staff Reservoir Engineer
Occidental Petroleum Corporation
1099 18th St., Ste 400
Denver, CO 80202
United States
taylor_torres@oxy.com

Europe Chapter

Phillips, David R. **Member No. 1123**
Principal Reservoir Engineer
ERC Equipoise Ltd
6th Floor, Stephenson House, 2 Cherry Orchard Rd
Croydon, CRO 6BA
United Kingdom
rphillips@erce.energy

Houston Chapter

Maxwell, Randal **Member No. 1124**
Senior Petroleum Engineer
PGH Petroleum and Environmental Engineers, LLC
5100 W. Hwy 290, Building 2
Austin, TX 78735
United States
randy.maxwell@pghengineers.com

Mur, Diego **Member No. 1126**
Senior Consultant
Polaris Energy Partners
1700 Post Oak Blvd. 2 BLVD Place
Houston, TX 77056
United States
diemur@yahoo.com

Oklahoma Chapter

Sauseda, James **Status Change – Associate to General**
Vice President
Cosmo Energy
14612 Hertz Quail Springs Parkway
Oklahoma City, OK 73134
United States
james@cosmoenergyllc.com

Volunteer Sponsor Pool

SPEE is looking for dedicated members to join our Volunteer Sponsor Pool!

As a volunteer sponsor, you will play a vital role in helping new applicants complete their membership applications. By joining this pool, you will be part of a select group of members we reach out to whenever an applicant needs assistance securing their sponsorship.

Role of a Volunteer Sponsor:

- Interview the applicant to understand their background, qualifications, and commitment to SPEE.
- Provide feedback and insights about the applicant by filling out a sponsor form.
- Provide information to the Qualifications Committee about the applicant's eligibility under the SPEE By-Laws.

If you want to become a volunteer sponsor, please contact Andrea Bracho at andrea@spee.org.

Thank you for your continued support and dedication to SPEE!