

AAPG

DPA new look

Division of Professional Affairs

- A Division of the American Association of Petroleum Geologists
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News & Legislation



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Career development



PDH Form

Ethics Online Courses

JCORET

Energy Facts

State Registration

Qualified Reserve Evaluator

Learn about DPA



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Certification

The Division of Professional affairs promotes professionalism and ethical standards for the AAPG. It provides a means for professional certification and assists in career planning. Those who have yet to join the DPA will find on this website certification applications, the current newsletter of the DPA (*The Correlator*), reports from the Governmental Affairs

committee and more. The DPA member will have access to their PDH form, ethics training and TrendTrack - the tool used for tracking state and federal legislation.

[AAPG Home](#) | [GEO-DC](#) | [Congressional Testimonies](#)

President's Column



*Marty Hewitt,
DPA President*

Exciting Year Ahead

It's my honor to take over the Presidency of the Division for the 2011-2012 term and to serve our 3000+ members. Serving with me this year are Vice-President Rick Nagy (Gulf Coast Section), President-Elect Charles Sternbach (Gulf Coast Section), Secretary Mark Gallagher (Southwest Section), Treasurer Dan Billman (Eastern Section) and Past-President Dan Tearpock (Gulf Coast Section). I look forward to working with this dedicated team of professionals. [Read more ...](#)



*Chandler
Wilhelm,
Publications
Chairman*

From the Editor

Editor's Column

The Q3, 2011 edition of *The Correlator* highlights new developments in the DPA, and represents the changing of the guard, with Marty Hewitt taking over as DPA President and Charles Sternbach as DPA President-Elect. We also have a final Ge- DC Column written by David Curtiss before he takes on his new job as AAPG Executive Director, [Read more >>>](#)



*Charles
Sternbach,
President-Elect*

President-Elect's Report

New Growth Engines Sought

I'm honored to serve DPA (as President-elect) with Marty Hewitt (our DPA president) and this year's outstanding executive committee. Marty has asked me to explore ways of engaging our group of councilors this

year. Towards that end we are surveying DPA councilors regarding opportunities to improve DPA service to membership. I welcome input from all DPA members. [Read more >>>](#)

Treasurer's Report



*Dan Billman,
DPA Treasurer*

A Conversation on Young Professionals & the DPA

I had the opportunity to attend the Leadership Days in Boulder, Colorado in mid-August, both as the Treasurer of the DPA and as delegate representing the Pittsburgh Geologic Society. Young Professionals (YPs) were in full force at the meeting and that was a good thing. Early in the meeting DPA president Marty Hewitt addressed the YPs about the benefits of certification. He must have sparked some interest. [Read more >>>](#)

[About the GEO-DC](#)

[Recent Events](#)

- [AAPG joins in urging GOM permit speed-up with letter to President Obama](#)(September 2011)
- AAPG President David Rensink submits [letter to House and Senate appropriators](#) in support of funding for the Energy Information Administration (May 2011)
- AAPG President David Rensink submits [written testimony to House Energy and Water Development Appropriations subcommittee](#) in support of U.S. Department of Energy programs (April 2011)
- AAPG President David Rensink submits [written testimony to House Interior and Environment Appropriations subcommittee](#) in support of U.S. Department of Interior programs (April 2011)
- AAPG President David Rensink submits [written testimony to Senate Energy and Water Development Appropriations subcommittee](#) in support of U.S. Department of Energy programs (April 2011)
- AAPG President David Rensink submits [written testimony to Senate Interior and Environment Appropriations subcommittee](#) in support of U.S. Department of Interior programs (April 2011)
- AAPG President Dave Rensink submits [comments to BOEMRE](#) on 2012-2017 OCS 5-Year Program. (March 2011)

Issue Advisory: [Research and Development Needs of the U.S. Independent Oil and Gas Producer](#)

This paper identifies five technical areas essential to enabling the nation's independent oil and natural gas producers to deliver the petroleum resources that U.S. consumers require for everyday living. It was prepared as a reference document for the use of the [AAPG Geoscience & Energy Office](#) in Washington, D.C. as it communicates with policy makers.

AAPG joins in urging GOM permit speed-up

**Letter to President Obama from American Association of Petroleum Geologists
and 17 other associations:**

Associated Industries of Florida
Consumer Energy Alliance
The Fertilizer Institute
Gulf Economic Survival Team
Independent Petroleum Association of America
Industrial Energy Consumers of America
International Association of Drilling Contractors
Louisiana Oil & Gas Association
Louisiana Mid-Continent Oil and Gas Association
Manufacturers Association of Florida
National Association of Manufacturers
National Ocean Industries Association
Offshore Marine Service Association
60 Plus Association
Shallow Water Energy Security Coalition
Shipbuilders Council of America

The following was sent to President Obama on September 8 about the importance of increasing permitting activity in the Gulf of Mexico. It was endorsed by the leadership of 17 associations, including AAPG.

Dear Mr. President:

The undersigned organizations are part of the broad community of groups that represent the men and women who have been directly impacted by the Administration's permitting slowdown in the Gulf of Mexico and elsewhere in the United States. We understand that you are preparing a major address this week to the Congress to announce a new jobs agenda in order to assist with economic recovery. At the same time, you intend to continue to make progress towards deficit reduction. To be sure, doing both will be a challenge.

One policy initiative that simultaneously creates high-paying jobs and increases revenues into federal coffers would be to improve efficiency and the rate of permitting activity in the Gulf of Mexico to a rate that is commensurate with industry's ability to invest. Because safe, reliable

domestic energy impacts all sectors of the US economy -- manufacturing, agriculture, transportation and small business – such a move makes sense in light of the new regulatory regime and containment protocols developed by the Interior Department and private industry working in partnership.

Getting back to work in the Gulf of Mexico creates jobs all across the United States. According to a recent study from some of the leading energy economists in the world - IHS Global Insight and IHS CERA - increased exploration and production activities in the Gulf would create 230,000 jobs, increase US gross domestic product by more than \$44 billion, and contribute some 400,000 barrels per day of oil production towards US energy independence. This study adds to previous work, including the Quest Offshore report, which found that a return to historic permitting levels would add almost 200,000 jobs by 2013 for a total of nearly 430,000 jobs and an increase in capital expenditures of some 140 percent.

But unlike other proposals, permitting activity in the Gulf actually decreases the budget deficit at a time when local, state and federal budgets are in strong need of revenues. Increasing exploration and production can be expected to increase revenues and royalty payments to state and federal treasuries by almost \$12 billion while reducing US payments for oil imports by about \$15 billion.

Mr. President, some in your Administration dispute the actual rate of permitting in the Gulf of Mexico. However, the rate of approval of exploration plans is down 85 percent, and the median approval time has slipped from 36 days to 131 days. Rigs are actually leaving the Gulf for greater business certainty in places like Egypt, Congo, and Nigeria. We would prefer less dispute over numbers and more action on permits if this situation is to reverse. Therefore, we urge you to make responsible and effective exploration and development of energy resources in the Gulf of Mexico and elsewhere a centerpiece of your jobs agenda.

Respectfully,

American Association of Petroleum Geologists

Associated Industries of Florida
Consumer Energy Alliance
The Fertilizer Institute
Gulf Economic Survival Team
Independent Petroleum Association of America
Industrial Energy Consumers of America
International Association of Drilling Contractors
Louisiana Oil & Gas Association
Louisiana Mid-Continent Oil and Gas Association
Manufacturers Association of Florida
National Association of Manufacturers
National Ocean Industries Association
Offshore Marine Service Association
60 Plus Association

SEG

EVENTS

OCT

13 AAPG/SEG West Coast Expo

24 SEG/EAGE DISC

NOV

7 SEG/EAGE DISC

SEG/SPG Geophysical
Techniques in Complex
Regions, Land and...

9 SEG/EAGE DISC

[Events Calendar](#)

NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS



Expanded Abstracts, straight from the horse's mouth

Want to discuss Expanded Abstracts from the 2011 AM Technical Program with the authors themselves? In this eCommunity, you'll interact directly with abstract authors in an online forum.



SEG Members - Renew Your SEG Membership or Rejoin Online!

The deadline to renew your 2012 SEG membership is fast approaching. Renew online today to ensure continuation of your member benefits. Online renewal is the quickest, easiest, and most secure way to pay your dues.



2011 SEG Colombia Challenge Bowl

The 3rd Annual Colombian Challenge Bowl was represented by over 100 students and six Colombian universities.

SPE

[Start recruiting, share in our goal](#)

NEW SPE will soon reach a total membership of **100,000!** You can help achieve this milestone and earn rewards, by sharing your SPE experience and encouraging others to join.

[Read latest article on challenges facing E&P industry](#)

The Research & Development Committee has identified five areas it considers key grand challenges in E&P and is developing articles on each. The fourth, “Challenges in Reusing Produced Water,” is now available.

[Attend the SPE Drilling Systems Automation Panel discussion](#)

Join us for a half-day interactive panel discussion, held in conjunction with ATCE-Denver, on well construction automation, re-entry operations, fluids management, and other related topics.

[Tell us about your new technology »](#)

GRADUATES

[Read the new Technical Knowledge matrix](#)

The SPE Talent Council studied university curricula as well as industrial expectations regarding the technical knowledge of recent graduates and created this matrix of specific skill sets.

SECTIONS

[View our 2011 Section Excellence Winners](#)

The SPE President’s Award For Section Excellence recognizes SPE sections whose efforts in member programs, technology dissemination, and cooperation distinguish them.

SCHOLARSHIPS

[Nominate for Nico van Wingen Fellowship](#)

Up to two awards of USD 5,000 are available. Nominations forms and applications can now be completed online. The deadline to submit all documents electronically is November 1.