

SPE Mid-Continent Section Newsletter

February 2022 | Issue No. 472



Mid-Continent Section



SPE Mid-Continent Section

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Voting members consist of the Executive Committee. The Chairman only votes in the event of a tie. A Motion can be voted upon with a Quorum of the Voting Members present. A Quorum consists of five Voting Members present. An affirmative vote will consist of 50% of the Quorum present. Committee Chairmen and in their absence, the Committee Vice Chairmen are encouraged to attend board meetings and provide representation and committee reports. The editor welcomes newsworthy items about SPE members or events. Please provide a **draft to the newsletter editor by the 25th of the month**. Change of contact information requests should be made to SPE in Richardson, TX, 1-800-456-6863, or service@spe.org.

Chairman's Gavel

Mike Stafford, 2021-2022 Chairman

And the big buzz is still the SPE / AAPG merger that, according to the website www.aapg-spe-merger.org, the vote will be on March 4th, 2022. And there was yet another Town Hall meeting on Monday, February 7th that this time featured the AAPG President, Gretchen Gillis. To link to that Town Hall click [HERE](#) and if you happened to miss the first Town Hall last month with the SPE XO and 2021 and 2022 SPE Presidents, click [HERE](#).

I know a newsletter is supposed to be light and brimming with confidence but I really hope you check out the above links; the outcome of this vote could have such a significant impact on our professional pedigree. Personally, I was not impressed with either Town Hall in that the discussion was all about the upside and none of the potential downsides or risks that we, as engineers, need to hear in order to assess potential unintended consequences. However, in my search for more information, I did find another source and it is from Gretchen Gillis in her **Counterpoint**, or **Q&A Time** [article](#) on LinkedIn. In my humble opinion, this *Counterpoint* article is a **must read** for all SPE members. And with that all said, be watching your email for your ballot to vote and PLEASE vote – remember that apathy will win every time, if you let it.

On to local matters –Kevin Wutherich with Drill2Frac will be discussing *Mapping Depletion using Drilling Data* at our next Regular Meeting. That meeting is Wednesday the 16th at Tulsa Country Club at 11:20.

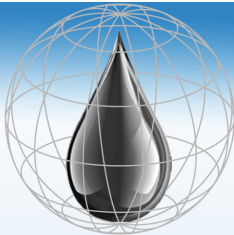
On the fun side, Board Member Buck Walsh is planning a family oriented SPE Member Burger Burn (or Hot Dog Devour or something equally good to please the entire family) in May'ish. I will keep you informed as to the date and time of the event and which park we choose for this feast.

And on the subject of Board members and officers... that time of year is nigh and approaching quickly. This truly is your SPE Section (read above and VOTE on the merger on March 4th!) but it only works with volunteers. There have been several issues, that as Chairman, that I wanted to bring to the forefront and they were 1.) as the demographics of our section has shifted from primarily from reservoir engineering to operations, to bring about a “Back to Basics” approach to improve the operators bottom line (my goal is not to drop reservoir engineers, just including operations engineers) and 2.) to bring the “under 40, over 2 years’ experience” engineers into the management side of the SPE Mid-Continent Section. This Group, the

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SPE Mid-Continent Newsletter Sponsors

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SPE IMPROVED OIL RECOVERY CONFERENCE **IOR 2022**

IOR: Thrive in a Low Carbon Economy



APRIL 25-29, 2022
VIRTUAL • DIGITAL • GLOBAL • LIVE

In case you missed it... Registration for the Virtual SPE Improved Oil Recovery Conference is **OPEN**.

The Conference will be held online beginning Monday, April 27th and continuing through Wednesday, April 29th. Short Courses will be held the Thursday and Friday following the Conference on April 28th & 29th.

Take advantage of the super early bird discount and register now for the best savings. Prices increase on February 26th, and again on March 26th.

Registration includes access to all technical sessions and the virtual exhibit hall during the live conference. If you are unable to attend the live conference, on-demand viewing will be available through July 2022. All registrations also include digital conference proceedings access through SPE's OnePetro.

Visit the new IOR website to see all of the Conference details, view registration and short course pricing, and to see the Technical Program lineup. Go to www.speior.org.

From Your Editor

Betty Felber, 2021-2022 Editor

February is a very busy, short month this year. There is Valentine's Day and President's Day for starters. However, the events around our SPE Section are very important too.

For example, if you are part of the IOR Technical Committee, February 7th is important because that is the due date for all of the papers for our April Conference. February 16th is also the date for our Mid-Continent Luncheon at the Tulsa Country Club.

Not to be outdone, please all of you monitor your e-mail since this is the month that we get to vote to continue SPE International as is or dissolve it to join with AAPG.

Betty Felber
Editor



PetroWiki

PetroWiki is a free resource from SPE to answer many basic petroleum engineering and operational questions. SPE professional members can contribute their expertise through updating or adding to PetroWiki content.

<http://petrowiki.org/PetroWiki>

Calendar of Events

Wednesday, February 16, 2022 - Luncheon Meeting - Tulsa Country Club

- Kevin Wutherich, Drill2Frac - Mapping Depletion Using Drilling Data to Gain Insights into Fracture Growth and Reservoir Drainage

April 25-29, 2022, SPE Improved Oil Recovery Conference - Virtual

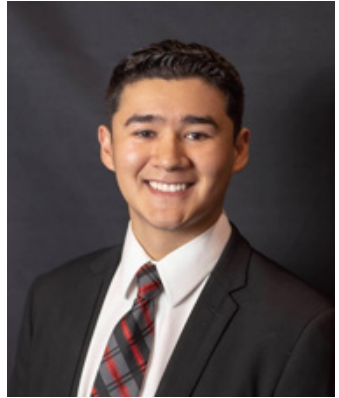
- Technical Program Sessions, Mon. 25th - Wed. 27th, Short Courses Thursday and Friday April 28th & 29th - www.speior.org. Registration is now open.

See p6 for more details

TU SPE Student Spotlight

by Gage Bradford, TU SPE Student Chapter Communications & PR Chair

My name is **Alejandro Mendoza**, and I am from The Sun City, El Paso, Tx. I am a first-generation student, majoring in Petroleum Engineering at The University of Tulsa. Currently, I am in the last semester of my college career, excited to graduate and venture out into the world as an engineer and represent my community. Throughout my time at TU, I have been a part of several organizations such as the Society of Petroleum Engineers, Society of Professional Hispanic Engineers, and Midstream club. During my third year, I had the honor of leading both clubs SPE and SHPE as their president and I am proud of the accomplishments my executive officers and I did throughout the 2021 academic year. Whenever I am not studying or attending classes I like to explore the many restaurants and activities that Tulsa has to offer as well as spend time with friends.



Why did you choose to pursue petroleum engineering?

“The main influencer of choosing to pursue petroleum engineering was my father. He has spent many years working as a truck driver in the oil and gas industry and through him, I was exposed to the industry. I remember the first time when he took me out to see a drilling rig from a distance and I found it so interesting to see all the equipment necessary to drill a well and begin the process of producing the world’s hydrocarbons. From there I did my research and found that petroleum engineering was the major for me, as my skills and interests at the time aligned with those of a petroleum engineer.”

What is your favorite part about studying petroleum engineering?

“My favorite part of studying petroleum engineering is learning about the many parts and processes that are involved to be able to produce oil and gas, something that many people don’t have the slightest clue about.”

What has your industry experience looked like thus far?

“I was fortunate enough to be offered an internship with Hilcorp Energy Company during my first semester at TU. From there I was able to receive offers for the following two summers, which exposed me to field experience as an operator and a production engineer; and during my last summer, I was able to work as a reservoir

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TU SPE Professional Spotlight

by Gage Bradford, TU SPE Student Chapter Communications & PR Chair

Jenny Hellman is the Founder and CEO of Growing Bridges LLC which works with corporations to reach net zero operations targets through nature-based carbon offsetting. Jenny is originally from St. Louis, Missouri, and graduated from the University of Tulsa with her petroleum engineering degree in 2008. Upon graduation, Jenny went to work as a reservoir engineer for multiple companies before founding Growing Bridges in 2021. Jenny is currently serving as Continuing Education Chair for the 2022 SPE Improved Oil Recovery Conference. As February's member spotlight, Jenny was kind enough to participate in an interview.



What is Growing Bridges LLC?

“Growing Bridges was founded in January 2021 by myself and Jessica Campbell who spent the early years of her career as a landman in the oil & gas industry. The goal is to generate nature-based carbon offsets by implementing reforestation projects in Oklahoma. Reforestation generates carbon offsets that can be used by oil & gas companies or other companies to reach net-zero operations.”

“We have keyed in on some research that looks at corporations across the world that are committing to net-zero operations. While these corporations make strides to reduce their emissions, Growing Bridges provides carbon offsets that these corporations can purchase to achieve net-zero operations.”

“Historically, the drive to move to carbon neutrality has stemmed from governmental entities. However, in the last two years, the drive is stemming more from the investor community. Large investment firms such as BlackRock are modeling the potential destruction of future earnings that could be caused by climate change and are asking their portfolio corporations to make strides to mitigate these potential effects through reducing and offsetting emissions.”

How does Growing Bridges work on a technical level?

“Mathematical models have been developed by technical experts in the forestry space including the US Forest Services. In short, it requires measuring the dimensions of trees in sample inventory lots and using allometric equations to estimate the carbon stored in the plot. The sample inventory plot measurements can be used to estimate the carbon stored in the full project area. There is quite a lot of ongoing work that is

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SPE Mid-Continent Section

Presentations / Meetings

FEBRUARY 2022

WEDNESDAY, February 16 | Luncheon Meeting | 11:20 am - 1:00 pm

Location: Tulsa Country Club, 701 North Union Avenue, Tulsa, OK 74127

Speaker: Kevin Wutherich, Drill2Frac

Topic: “Mapping Depletion Using Drilling Data to Gain Insights into Fracture Growth and Reservoir Drainage”

Register: <https://spemc021622.eventbrite.com> (Registration deadline is Friday, February 11 at Noon)

Description

With the continuing increase in the number of infill wells being drilled, it is inevitable that many of these new wells will intersect areas of depletion caused by the legacy offset fractures, which can have huge implications on reservoir drainage and resultant well productivity. The gas reservoirs of the mid-continent area have shown to be particularly sensitive to these events including sub-par well productivity in child wells, and damage to existing offsets.

This talk will discuss a new technology that uses drilling data to detect localized depletion around fractures in infill wells with a high degree of accuracy. It will present several case studies which will demonstrate some of these effects and discuss insights that have been gained through the use of these techniques. In addition, workflows will be presented that will show how the use of this technology has the ability to significantly mitigate fracture interactions as well as their detrimental effects on production.

Presenters

Kevin Wutherich

Kevin Wutherich has 22 years of industry experience in hydraulic fracturing both as an operator and in the service industry. Prior to joining Drill2Frac as the Chief Technology Officer, where he has worked for the last 5 years, he was the Director of Completions at Rice Energy. Before that he held multiple positions including Stimulation Domain Expert for continental Europe as well as Northeastern-US over a fifteen-year career at Schlumberger.

Kevin pioneered the process of adapting completions to lateral rock properties over a decade ago and is the lead inventor on seven patents related to fracturing procedures, perforating techniques and fracture plugs. He has authored numerous SPE papers and industry publications primarily focused on shale completions, as well as winning several industry awards including the World Oil award for best new completion technology for his development of engineered completion. In 2020 he was also honored as a finalist for the Innovative thinker award by World Oil magazine.

The safety of our members is our top priority so in-person scheduling for 2022 events is tentative based on health guidelines in our area as well as availability of meeting venues. Watch for announcements about future meetings and events in this newsletter or by email.

To register and pay by credit card, or make a reservation to pay by check or cash at the door, go to the corresponding link for a luncheon. In-person luncheon cost is \$25.00 for Professionals, \$10 for Retired/Unemployed/Graduate Students, and free for Undergraduate Students. Payment by credit card is for advanced registrations ONLY, no credit cards will be accepted at the meeting, only check or cash accepted at the door with a reservation. No walk-ins please.

Student Spotlight continued from page 4

engineer in the Upper Frio Basin. Additionally, I also worked for TransOil Marketing which exposed me to a completely different branch of the oil industry which only strengthened my knowledge of the industry.”

Is there a specific memory, either during your time in either school or your internship, that you enjoy reflecting upon?

“There is one specific memory that always makes me laugh, but at the time it brought me a lot of stress. During my first summer as a field I intern, I was allowed to take part in a workover from diagnosing a well to carrying out the job. While tubing was being scanned to determine if some of them were salvageable, I was asked if they should continue scanning or stop, to avoid getting charged the full rate. I didn’t know what to say, so I called my mentor and asked him what I should do. He told me, “It is up to you”. At that time, I was very stressed since I did not want to make the wrong decision of either losing good tubing or spending unnecessary money. Ultimately, I chose to stop scanning, which thankfully ended up being the right choice to make.”

What are some of your aspirations after graduation?

“After I graduate, I will be taking a long-overdue family vacation so that I may spend some time with my parents to celebrate the completion of my major. After that, I hope to have accepted an offer of employment so that I may begin my professional career as a petroleum engineer.”

Are you open to having prospective employers contact you?

“Yes, I am always open to having prospective employers contact me. Please send me an email at alm5563@utulsa.edu.”

Professional Spotlight continued from page 5

utilizing remote sensing analysis to estimate carbon stored in forested lands. Growing Bridges is working to incorporate these advancements into our technical analysis.”

How does Growing Bridges locate areas to implement reforestation projects?

“We worked with research from the Oklahoma Forest Services that identified areas in Oklahoma that used to be forests. We also worked with Oklahoma State University’s Natural Resource Ecology and Management department and private foresters to find the right areas. Like an oil and gas play, it then becomes a question of finding the right project areas that are economically viable for our projects.”

What is your advice for current TU students?

“My piece of advice is to be committed to lifelong learning. I believe that if you are willing to learn, whether it be about oil and gas or tangential fields, you will always have a career path. To me, that curiosity aspect is important. Never be afraid to ask questions. The only way we learn things that we do not know the answers to is to ask questions. Recent graduates can find it difficult to admit that they do not know some things, but that’s how you learn. You are going to learn way faster by putting yourself out there and asking questions!”



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Chairman's Gavel continued from page 1

Under 40 and more than 2 years' experience IS the lifeblood of this organization but at the same time, is the most overlooked group – and folks, I apologize for that. But over the past year, we have brought in to the Board and the Committees Braydon Riley with Summit – Halliburton, Ryan Owens with BOK, Brian Flake and Kyle Drew with Calyx Energy, Bryn Lewis with Magellan, and Miranda Dunham with Blackbeard. I so hope I didn't leave any of the new guys out but these few alone have lowered our Section's average age by 25 years! So, I exaggerate but you understand. But WOW! What an impact these guys are going to make over the next 25 years, and that is NOT an exaggeration. So please..... if you are interested, if you are looking for a professional home where you can make a difference..... submit your name for a Board or Officer position when the notice rolls out in a few months. Or submit a name of a colleague! I really am looking forward to doing what the OKC Section did under the direction of Emily Brink (2021 Chairman), a 2012 alum from TU – OKC ROCKS since she brought in the younger engineers. And we can do the same.

And one last item in which our newest colleagues-to-be need YOUR help — in 3 weeks, on Thursday, March 3rd and Friday, March 4th — the PE Dept at Tulsa University will be holding Mock Interviews and Resume Reviews for students looking for jobs and internships. And as the advisor to many of them, I would SO appreciate it if we could get professional engineers to offer up a couple of hours to make this happen. They really need the advice of REAL Petroleum Engineers that are actively engaged with operating and service companies – they need the advice of REAL engineers that know what your employers are looking for in order to get TO the interviews and then not blow it. The last thing they need is more “resume and interview experts” telling them that they need to know what color of crayon they are..... so, if you would PLEASE consider this, my email address is mike-stafford@utulsa.edu and I promise you, I will put you to work, doing a good thing!

So, this is probably the longest Chairman's Gavel you will ever receive and I promise to never to do it again. All I ask is that you take to heart the serious subjects above. See you next week!

Mike Stafford
2021-2022 Chairman
mike-stafford@utulsa.edu

“99% of failures come from people who make excuses.”

— **George Washington**

“Nations do not die from invasion; they die from internal rottenness.”

— **Abraham Lincoln**



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