

# SPE Mid-Continent Section Newsletter

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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](mailto:service@spe.org).

# Chairman's Gavel

Mike Stafford, 2021-2022 Chairman

The big-buzz item currently on the table for SPE Members is the Proposed SPE / AAPG merger. A Society of Petroleum Engineers Townhall Meeting was broadcast last week on Monday, January 10th. Kamel Bennaceur (2022 SPE President), Tom Blasingame (2021 SPE President) and Mark Rubin (CEO & Executive Vice President of SPE) discussed why they believe this is an important move for SPE to make. If you missed this Townhall Meeting, click [HERE](#) to view the recording. Membership approval is required for the merger to occur and the vote by membership is scheduled to occur "sometime in February" so be watching your email from SPE for instructions on how and when to vote. And please watch the video of the Townhall Meeting so that you will be well informed. Remember that regardless of your position, voting is a right only when you use it.

On to local matters. The January regular meeting is Wednesday the 19th at Tulsa Country Club at 11:30. This month's speaker is Rick Jacoby with CSI Compressco and follows the theme of Back to Basics in order to improve the economic bottom line of better operations.

And reaching out to April 4th, we will be hosting Distinguished Lecturer Geoff Salter with RISC Advisory who will be speaking on ***Making Better Upstream Acquisitions: The Role of the Petroleum Engineer and Why It's Different from the Day Job***. I will get more information to you regarding time and place in next month's Chairman's Gavel.

Mike Stafford  
2021-2022 Chairman  
[mike-stafford@utulsa.edu](mailto:mike-stafford@utulsa.edu)



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### SPE MID-CONTINENT SPRING MEMBERSHIP EVENT

The event is currently in the planning stages but we are proposing an outdoor cookout or BBQ. The purpose of this event is to attract new members and to retain current members. Please assist the Mid-Continent Section in actively signing up new members and encouraging former members to reinstate their membership.

Stay tuned to the monthly newsletter and Section emails for details on a Spring membership event.



**Registration for the SPE Improved Oil Recovery Conference is Now Open.** The Conference will be held online beginning Monday, April 27th and continuing through April 29th. Short Courses will be held the Thursday and Friday following the Conference on April 28th & 29th. 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](http://www.speior.org).

# From Your Editor

**Betty Felber, 2021-2022 Editor**

Happy New Year. Welcome to 2022. It is a busy year for our Section. Continue to review the “previews of coming events” in the calendar in each Newsletter.

Wednesday, January 19th makes our second in person meeting for this 2021 – 2022 calendar. Yea!! We are looking forward to visiting in person with all of you. May our meeting room be overflowing with our members. There are many more in person meetings to come.

Wishing you the best year ever.

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](http://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

**Kyle White** is a second-year presidential scholar at the University of Tulsa. He is double majoring in petroleum engineering and chemical engineering with a minor in chemistry. Originally from Hampshire, Illinois, Kyle came to Tulsa because of its excellent petroleum engineering program. Kyle is involved around campus through Tau Beta Pi, Phi Eta Sigma, Kappa Alpha order, and as a presidential scholar recipient. Kyle has taken up a research position at TU where he will be spending much of his time with Dr. LePage and his team. TU SPE is honored to have Kyle White represent the student spotlight.



## **Why did you choose to pursue petroleum engineering?**

“I choose to pursue petroleum engineering mostly for the challenge. After visiting TU and talking to some of the professors, I realized that PE was something that I would both struggle at and love. It would push me to always work my hardest and keep me constantly engaged.”

## **What is your favorite part about studying petroleum engineering?**

“My favorite part about studying petroleum engineering is the complexity of the problems that need to be solved. There is always something more to learn and a deeper level to every problem that we face. I also love that PE has given me the opportunity to travel different places around the United States through an internship. Some of my best memories and learning experiences have come from the dynamic of petroleum engineering.”

## **What has your industry experience looked like thus far?**

“As I am a second-year student, I have only spent one summer interning so far. I worked for Hilcorp as a field intern located just off the coast of Venice, Louisiana. The main goal of this internship was to learn more about the production process, and I spent some time working on a small project that I presented at the end of the summer.”

## **What are some of your aspirations after graduation?**

“As of right now, I am considering working towards a master’s degree after I graduate. However, I very much enjoyed my time with Hilcorp and have accepted another internship with them this summer. I could see myself staying with them after graduation, but it is too early to say.”

# TU SPE Professional Spotlight

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

**Matthew Hicks** is a production engineering at Coterra Energy. Formed by the merger of Cimarex Energy and Cabot Oil & Gas, Coterra Energy is an independent exploration and production company with assets in Oklahoma, Texas, and Pennsylvania. Matthew Hicks graduated from TU in 2018 with a degree in petroleum engineering and is currently a member of SPE Mid-Con. During his time at TU, he served as an excellent role model for his peers through his enthusiastic industry involvement. Matthew held internships with Helmerich and Payne and Continental Resources where he worked as a floorhand on a H&P drilling rig and a well completions intern for Continental. TU SPE is proud to have Matthew represent this month's member spotlight.



## **What lead you to becoming a petroleum engineer?**

"In high school, I had an affinity for math, science, and general problem solving. As I approached my senior year, I started to appreciate the influence that oil & gas played in everyday life. Having the opportunity to work in an industry that is so integrated with modern society is what ultimately drove me to petroleum engineering."

## **What does your work as a production engineer entail?**

"I am currently responsible for approximately 250 wells an hour west of Oklahoma City, OK. Every week, I work with my team (field staff, reservoir engineers, etc.) to identify production uplift, cost reduction, & emission elimination opportunities. In summary, our responsibility is to identify projects that will add value to Coterra Energy and the communities we operate in."

## **What part of your work are you the most enthusiastic about?**

"What I love most about my job is the people I get to work with. Everyone at Coterra (and the energy industry at large) is highly adaptive and creative. We all bring unique ideas & solutions to the table but have been humbled enough to dismiss our own ideas if necessary."

## **What do you think the oil and gas industry will look like 20 years from now?**

"I believe the oil & gas industry will thrive through the next 20 years. The industry is actively finding ways to reduce our GHG footprint through carbon capture, tankless

*continued on page 7*

# 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.

### *Spotlight continued from page 5*

production facilities, reduced flaring, etc. We have, and will continue to, lead the charge to reduce our influence on the environment while still providing cheap, reliable energy.”

### **Do you have any advice for current college students pursuing petroleum engineering?**

“The number one piece of advice that I would give is to get an internship. Your grade point average is a great metric to strive to be perfect. But, as the ole saying goes, it’s not what you know, it’s who you know. Internships give you the platform to connect with other professionals and show the value you can add.”



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*“Opportunity. Its first chapter is New Year’s Day”*

— **Anonymous**

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