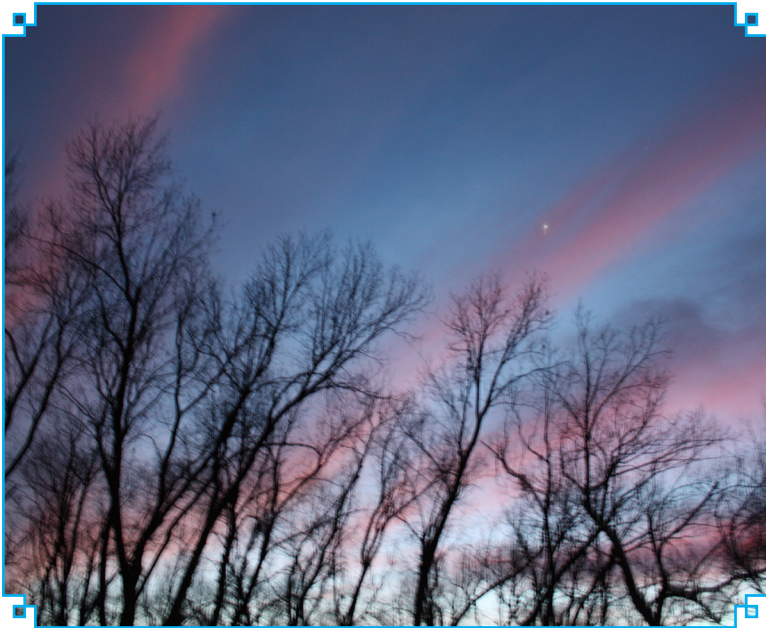


# SPE Mid-Continent Section Newsletter

May 2022 | Issue No. 475



Mid-Continent Section



# SPE Mid-Continent Section

## Executive Committee Voting Members

<b>Chairman:</b> Mike Stafford, The University of Tulsa	<b>Phone</b> 918-631-2604	<b>E-mail</b> mike-stafford@utulsa.edu
<b>Vice Chairman (Programs):</b> Miranda Dunham, Blackbeard Operating LLC		mirandabdunham@gmail.com
<b>Secretary:</b> Kyle Drew, Calyx Energy		kylesdrew@gmail.com
<b>Treasurer:</b> Ryan Owens, Bank of Oklahoma Energy Group		ROwens@bokf.com
<b>Directors:</b> Betty Felber, Consultant	918-403-9199	IORImplement@outlook.com
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Buck Walsh, Consultant	918-630-1495	bawalsh686@gmail.com
<b>Past Chairman:</b> David Krueger, P.E., Consultant	405-201-1513	d8krueger@gmail.com
<b>Regional Director:</b> Zachary Evans, Consultant	304-654-3060	zacharyevans@gmail.com

## Committee Chairmen Non-Voting Members

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<b>Scholarships:</b> Bryn Lewis, Magellan		bryn.lewis@magellanlp.com
<b>Memberships:</b> Buck Walsh, Consultant	918-630-1495	bawalsh686@gmail.com
<b>Nominations:</b> David Krueger, P.E., Consultant	405-201-1513	d8krueger@gmail.com
<b>IOR Conference 2022:</b> Rita Behm, Cimarex		rita.behm@coterra.com
<b>Young Professionals:</b> Braydon Riley		braydonriley@gmail.com
<b>Golf Tourney:</b> Brian Flake, Calyx Energy III, LLC		bflake@calyxenergy.com
<b>Sporting Clays Tournament:</b> Charley Mathis, Thru Tubing Solutions	918-629-5853	cmathis@thrutubing.com

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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 election results are in and I am happy to say the Section is in good hands with Miranda Dunham at the helm, Brian Flake at Vice-Chair, Ryan continuing at Treasurer and Bryn filling the Secretary's slot. Also, congratulations to returning Directors Hap and Buck as well as to new Directors Nathan Buchanan, Charley Mathis and Kyle Drew. Under their leadership, the Section most certainly will progress forward out of the Covid nightmare that has held us back for too long.

Most importantly, on behalf of the Section, I want to extend a sincere thank-you to Betty, Dwight and Steve for having served as Directors for well over 20 years each. These three dedicated a much needed service to the Section and all as un-paid volunteers. They were here leading the charge all these years, especially during the lean years of the Industry downturn in 2016 – 2018 when we lost so many people. They were here to lead the Section when it was in dire need of volunteers for the officer and Director positions. And it did not go unnoticed.

In recognition of their selfless service to the Section, we created a new Committee to recognize their dedication to the Section – the **Director Emeriti Committee**. Betty, Dwight and Steve have been inducted into this new committee as **Director Emeritus**. This is not our way of saying good-bye; in fact, it is exactly the opposite. We recognize the value that Betty, Dwight and Steve bring to the table and we want to ensure that they stay and serve as advisors, assistants and mentors to all of us. And we hope to continue seeing them at all of our future Board Meetings, Regular Meetings and all of the Section activities. So join me in welcoming Betty, Dwight and Steve as the Charter Members of an absolutely prestigious and unique group of professionals that is going to be extremely difficult for the rest of us to ever attain.

Well done, guys..... well done.

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

## SPE Mid-Continent Newsletter Sponsors

Chairman's Gavel .....	1
Editor's Column .....	3
Calendar .....	3
TU SPE Student Spotlight .....	4-5, 7

**CONGRATULATIONS!** Following are the results of the SPE Mid-Continent Section 2022-2023 Officers and Directors Election:

**Chairman:**

Miranda Dunham

**Vice Chairman (Programs):**

Brian Flake

**Secretary:**

Bryn Lewis

**Treasurer:**

Ryan Owen

**Directors:**

Nathan Buchanan

Kyle Drew

Charley Mathis

Hap Pinkerton

Buck Walsh

## 2022 SPEMC Golf Tournament Results

Thanks to everyone that came out to the 2022 SPE Mid-Continent Section Golf Tournament hosted at Meadowbrook Country Club! We had a great showing of 26 teams representing over 20 different companies. A special thank you to Summit ESP, CSI Compressco, Extract Production, Tracerco, and Thru Tubing Solutions as their sponsorship and support enabled us to have a successful event and raise over \$2500 dollars for SPE scholarships. If you did not get a chance to sponsor this year but are interested in future opportunities, please reach out to Brian Flake at [bflake@calyxenergy.com](mailto:bflake@calyxenergy.com).

# From Your Editor

**Betty Felber, 2021-2022 Editor**

Congratulations are in order to all who made our 2022 IOR Conference very successful. There were several presentations I found outstanding.

We are saying “good bye” to our Section officers soon. Thanks to all of our outgoing officers for your support of our Section.

Soon our new slate of officers will take the Section reins. I urge you to give them your support and vow to become more active in our Section. Surely 2022-2023 won't be as tumultuous as our last two years.

Have a good summer break. We hope to see you in September.

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

### July 2022 - **SAVE THE DATE**

- Member Appreciation Event, Main Event, Tulsa - 81st & Hwy 75 across from Tulsa Hills - Watch for details via email

### Friday, October 7, 2022 - **SAVE THE DATE**

- 27th Annual Sporting Clays Classic, Longshot Ranch, Skiatook - Watch for details via email and in the September 2022 newsletter

*See p6 for more details*

# TU SPE Student Spotlight

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

**Leonardo (Leo) Vazquez** is a recent graduate of the University of Tulsa with a degree in petroleum engineering. Originally hailing from New Hampshire, Leo researched various engineering disciplines in high school. After discovering petroleum engineering, Leo was drawn to TU.



## **Can you further explain your thought process that led to you choosing petroleum engineering?**

“In parallel with the wider application of physics, energy usage across the world baffled me. It was amazing to read about the amount of energy required to sustain the globe. At the time, the leading fossil fuel that produced most of the United States’ energy was coal. I was happy to witness the shift from coal to natural gas which further piqued my interest in petroleum engineering. I concluded that oil and natural gas are the most stable energy forms in terms of storage and delivery.”

“What kept me from pursuing other forms of engineering was my family heritage. My ancestors were in the mining business of Mexico. I believe that my heritage plays a role in my deep passion for petroleum engineering.”

## **Have you garnered any industry experience?**

“Yes, I had the benefit of participating in TU’s externship program lead by Dr. Kelkar and Professor Stafford. It was...amazing. I worked in Glenpool, OK where I worked on a workover rig servicing shallow pumping units. It was hot being in the middle of summer wearing FR clothing, but the experience was amazing, and I still keep in touch with that company. I worked with LPD Energy and really enjoyed the summer.”

## **Having graduated, what do you want your career to look like?**

“I am open to working anywhere from Texas to Canada. I am a young adult with nothing to keep me in one spot. I am hoping to travel the world like my professors have. The McDougall School of petroleum engineering has prepared me extremely well for any discipline. All the courses, labs, coding, and projects have set me up to be part of the next generation of oil and gas professionals. I hope that potential employers see my focus and passion for the industry.”

## **What do you want prospective employers to know about you?**

“I want employers to know that I spent lots of time at TU to gain academic knowledge, however I pride myself on being an incredibly hard worker. I proved that to myself over the summer by surpassing my peers on the workover rigs. Wherever I go, I will bring bright new ideas founded on the traditional concepts of my professors coupled with the fervor of a young mind.”

*continued on page 7*

# TU SPE Professional Spotlight

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

**Alexis Branson** hails from Sand Springs, OK and graduated from TU with a degree in petroleum engineering in 2021. She works with Summit ESP, a Halliburton company, as an ESP Optimization Engineer. As a young professional, she is a member of SPE Mid-Con and serves as a great role model for younger people in oil & gas. TU is honored to have Alexis as the SPE Mid-Con member spotlight.



## **Why did you choose TU?**

“Although I lived near TU, I never thought about going there until my junior year at Charles Page High School. My father was in the oil & gas industry as a tool pusher for most of his life. I did not know what I wanted to do. However, I knew I liked math and science. I took calculus in high school and loved it, so I decided to try engineering. I started researching different engineering programs. With my father’s influence and after listening to his experiences, I decided to pursue petroleum engineering. As I got more into my schoolwork, my father and I had much more to talk about.”

## **How did you break into the industry?**

“I started at Summit ESP as an intern after Professor Stafford referred me for an interview. I left a good impression on him which served me very well. He told me about Summit ESP and asked me if I was interested in interning with them. I took few PE courses going into the internship. I was a fresh face with little knowledge but excited for the opportunity.”

“I was fortunate enough to work in the co-op program with Summit ESP, meaning I worked throughout the school year. When the COVID-19 Pandemic hit, I was laid off. When I graduated in May 2021, I did not have job in industry. I got a call from my manager at Summit ESP asking if I wanted to come back and join the team with a full-time position. I replied with an enthusiastic yes.”

“Summit ESP is a phenomenal company. I find it great to work at a company in Tulsa where oil & gas companies are growing smaller. It is great to stay here.”

## **What is your advice for young professionals who are dealing with the volatility of our industry?**

“I would say it is something you risk when choosing a career in oil & gas. Take it in stride and trust that your knowledge can always go further. Keep an open mind and be able to pivot in the downturns. You can come back during the next upswing. It will always come up again.”

*continued on page 7*

# SPE Mid-Continent Section

Presentations / Meetings

*There are no luncheons scheduled for the June through August time period, but luncheons will resume in the Fall of 2022. Watch for announcements about luncheons and special events via email.*



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The banner features a central illustration of a person in a light blue shirt interacting with a laptop. The laptop screen displays a green bar chart and a play button icon. The background is a light gray with a network of white dots and lines.



Keep your SPE membership  
producing for you.

Renew Now »

The safety of our members is our top priority therefore 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*

#### **What advice to you have for current students?**

“There will be times where you think that the workload is too much, where you think you are not smart enough and you are incapable of a difficult degree. There will be times you think about switching majors or giving up entirely, however I want those younger students to know that I have been there along with my classmates. You are the only one who can define how strong you can be. If you just sit down and work, anybody can do it.”

#### **May we include your contact information for prospective employers?**

“Most certainly. Contact me at [leovazquez918@gmail.com](mailto:leovazquez918@gmail.com).”

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### *Professional Spotlight continued from page 5*

“Be a people person. Learn how to build those relationships that will take you far. Continue to learn and grow. There never comes a point where you know everything so keep reaching out to people. That includes individuals from all walks of life, from the field personnel to the engineer. It is important to have a point of view from all different backgrounds in the industry.”

#### **What is the culture at Summit ESP like?**

“Summit is interesting because they were acquired by Halliburton. Although Halliburton is a large company, Summit maintains a small company feel. We still go into the office and meet with co-workers in person. In my group, we are tasked with monitoring oil & gas wells. Everyone I work with, especially other TU grads, were easy to get along with and I enjoy sharing similar backgrounds.”

“As an ESP Optimization Engineer, I am providing a monitoring service to operating companies. The SCADA system pulls all the data from a wellsite modem. At Summit ESP, we pride ourselves on making remote changes to a well that previously someone would have had to travel to location to complete. We also troubleshoot higher level issues to optimize the production and the pumps performance. Summit ESP sends daily reports to operators including recommendations for increasing uptime and stabilized performance.”

*“Tell me and I forget. Teach me and I remember. Involve me and I learn.”*

— Ben Franklin



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