



AAPG

DISCOVER

The Africa Region Newsletter

PRESIDENT'S NOTE

Gilbert E. Odior, Africa Region President

Welcome to the first edition of Discover, AAPG Africa Region's e-newsletter. Our purpose in the Region is to enable our Africa-based membership to access AAPG programs and activities with greater ease for the advancement of their career and the development of the petroleum industry in Africa, and to help our Africa based members have a stronger voice and greater participation in the affairs of AAPG. Our commitment to our goals over the years has seen the growth of our membership base from under 500 in 1999 to 3,063 presently, and we are forging ahead to further develop AAPG's regional presence across Africa.

The 2013-14 fiscal year has been packed with AAPG Africa Region activities. We successfully established our Region office in Lagos, Nigeria in October and hired our new programs manager, Delia Kuye, who operates out of the Lagos office. We also witnessed the inauguration of the AAPG Angola Chapter, the hosting of distinguished and regional lectures, the 2014 Imperial Barrel Award (IBA) competition and several student and Young Professional activities including the IBA simulation organized by our Young Professionals in Egypt.

Through the years, the AAPG Africa Region leadership has worked hard to see increased participation of African universities in the Imperial Barrel Award competition. Nineteen universities across Africa participated in the 2014 IBA competition, with the University of Western Cape, South Africa emerging as the winner in the regional finals.

AAPG Africa Region activities and accomplishments show our commitment to achieving our goals, and we shall continue to put forth tireless effort in this regard. Thanks go to members of the Region's leadership team, programs coordinators, sister societies, affiliates



Gilbert E. Odior

and volunteers for their support in various capacities, and to all our sponsors for their financial and technical contributions.

In the coming months and years, AAPG Africa Region aims to achieve even greater levels of partnership and collaboration by hosting technically enriching events for seasoned professionals, young professionals and students. Through our e-newsletter, the Region website, email blasts and social media, we will strive to close communication gaps among geoscientists and universities across the Africa Region.

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REGIONAL NEWS UPDATE

AAPG Opens Africa Office in Lagos, Nigeria, and Hires Programs Manager

AAPG announces the opening of the AAPG Africa Office in Lagos. This event comes after many years of planning and deliberations. The office is situated within the secretariat of AAPG's Nigerian Affiliate, the Nigerian Association of Petroleum Explorationists (NAPE), and provides various forms of membership support to AAPG members across the region. The office is staffed by Delia Kuye, who serves as the new AAPG programs manager for Africa Region since establishment of the office in October 2013. The establishment of the AAPG Africa Office is welcomed with excitement by members throughout the Region who already feel the positive impacts of its presence.

In her position as programs manager, Kuye works closely with the Africa Region leadership team and AAPG headquarters staff. She is involved in the development and deployment of programs, activities and services for AAPG in Africa. She also is involved in new business development, office administration, website management, logistics coordination and



Delia Kuye

membership support for AAPG Africa Region. Kuye is a geoscience graduate from the University of Reading, England, and brings to the Region her experience in administration, coordination and logistics alongside her geoscience knowledge. Within her first year of employment, the Africa Region leadership team has found Kuye to be highly beneficial in enhancing AAPG's capacity for developing and delivering more programs, events and services to Africa Region members. Kuye, working alongside

the leadership team, contributed to the successful organization of various student and Young Professionals' events including the Imperial Barrel Award Program and AAPG Distinguished/regional lectures in Africa.

AAPG Angola Chapter Takes Off

The Africa Region inaugurated the AAPG Angola Chapter on 9 October 2013 at the Hotel Tropico, Luanda. Over 200 professionals, students, government representatives and other stakeholders were present at the event. Distinguished personalities including Sonangol's administrator for upstream and managing directors of Chevron, ExxonMobil, Total, ConocoPhillips, BP, Statoil, Maersk Oil and Schlumberger graced the event with their presence. Angolan Minister of Petroleum, José M. Botelho de Vasconcelos delivered the keynote speech, in which he acknowledged AAPG as a world class professional organization, and stressed the numerous benefits Angola stands to gain from this initiative.

On the significance of the Angola Chapter, Africa Region President Gilbert Odior, is optimistic that "the new AAPG Angola Chapter will provide opportunities for geoscientists to gather and discuss technical issues and solutions, which will lead to technology transfer within the scientific community."

A technical presentation was given by Christian Seyve of Total Angola titled, "Mussulo Bay: A Modern Analog for Key Angolan Oilfields."



Participants at the AAPG Angola Chapter inauguration.



Angolan Minister of Petroleum delivers keynote speech.

Mussulo Bay Field Trip, Angola

The Angola Chapter organized their first field trip to Mussulo Bay on 16 November 2013. The field trip had 25 participants comprised of geoscience students and earth scientists from local and international companies including BP, ExxonMobil and Total. The field trip led by Tony Lomando and Ray Garber focused on modern wave dominated barrier island and lagoon systems of Mussulo Bay as flow-unit analogues for Cretaceous reservoirs of Angola. The trip was planned by members of the AAPG Angola Chapter Board, headed by Antonio "Ginho" Ingles and sponsored by Chevron Angola.



Mussulo Bay field trip, Angola

Africa Region Hosts Posamentier, Kaldi

The Africa Region hosted Henry Posamentier in September 2013 for an AAPG regional lecture program in collaboration with the Nigerian Association of Petroleum Explorationists (NAPE) in Lagos, Nigeria. Attendance at the lecture was impressive as both NAPE and AAPG members were present. Posamentier, senior geological consultant at Chevron USA, and renowned authority in stratigraphy, received a warm welcome from the appreciative audience. According to AAPG Africa Region President Gilbert Odior, hosting Posamentier "was a big achievement and we look forward to hosting more lecturers of this caliber in the Region." The lecture was fully sponsored by Chevron Nigeria.

A few months later, SPE and AAPG members came together to benefit from a distinguished lecture on carbon capture and sequestration delivered by Professor John G. Kaldi, AAPG's vice president of Regions, in Tunis, on 5 February 2014. Over 82 SPE and AAPG members turned out for the lecture. This well-attended event provided an opportunity for exchange of ideas between engineers from SPE and geoscientists from AAPG, in line with AAPG's commitment towards increased involvement and collaboration with our sister societies.



Participants with John Kaldi (sixth from left) in Tunis, 2014.



Regional lecture 2013 with Henry Posamentier, Lagos.

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Executive Committee

President (2012-14)



Gilbert Odior
ExxonMobil Nigeria
geodior@gmail.com

President-Elect (2012-14) President (2014-16)



David Blanchard
Energy XXI USA
dblanchard@energyxxi.com

Vice President (2012-14)



Oluwafemi "Femi" Esan
Chevron USA
femiesan@chevron.com

Secretary (2012-14)



Antonio Ingles
Chevron Angola
inga@chevron.com

Treasurer (2012-14)



Ajibola Oyebamiji
Nigerian Agip Oil Company
ajibola.oyebamiji@naoc.
agip.it

AAPG Advisory Councilor (2013-16)



Nosa Omorodion
Past President
(2010-12)
Schlumberger Nigeria
nomorodion@slb.com

DELEGATES TO THE AAPG HOUSE OF DELEGATES

Egypt Delegate (2012-15)

Bill Bosworth
Apache Egypt Companies
bill.bosworth@apachecorp.com

Libya Delegate (2013-16)

Ramadan M. Aburawi
Joubala Energy Services
ramadanaburawi@hotmail.com

Morocco Delegate (2012-15)

Mohammed Hafid
University Ibn Tofail
hafidmo@yahoo.com

Nigeria Delegate (2012-15)

Babatope Olaleye
Nigerian Agip Oil Company, Ltd.
babatope@hotmail.com

South Africa Delegate (2012-15)

Kaushalendra B. Trivedi
PetroSA
kbtrivedi1234@yahoo.com

OTHER AAPG AFRICA REGION LEADERS

Africa Region Counselor to AAPG Division of Professional Affairs (DPA)

Bayo Akinpelu
Fixital Limited
Bayo.akinpelu@gmail.com

Distinguished Lecture Committee

Lere Olopade
PanOcean Oil
e.olopade@poocong.com

Membership Committee

Chioma Okafor
Chevron Nigeria
ChiomaOkafor@chevron.com

Africa Region IBA Coordinator

Adelola Adesida
Shell Nigeria
a.adesida@shell.com

IBA Committee Member

Adedoja Ojelabi
Chevron
aojelabi@chevron.com

Student Chapters

Tunbosun Afolayan
Shell
Olatunbosun.Afolayan@shell.com

Young Professionals (YPs)

Akintunde Okuboyejo
Shell
Akintunde.okuboyejo@shell.com

Newsletter Editor

Olusola Bakare
Chevron
sholybakre@yahoo.com

AAPG STAFF



Programs Manager Africa Region
Delia Kuye
dkuye@aapg.org



Manager, U.S. Sections &
International Regions Development
Carol Cain McGowen
cmcgowen@aapg.org



Administrative Assistant,
U.S. Sections & International Regions
Karin Alyea
kalyea@aapg.org

NEWSLETTER EDITORIAL TEAM



Olusola Bakare – Editor
Femi Esan – USA
Marisca Obeng – Ghana
Austin Ngbemere – Nigeria
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Delia Kuye – Nigeria

STUDENTS AND YOUNG PROFESSIONALS

Team UWC Shines at Africa Region IBA Competition

An annual basin-to-prospects scale geoscience evaluation competition, the IBA involves analysis and integration of various geoscience data by teams of graduate geoscience students from universities around the world. The competition is considered amongst the most rigorous and rewarding of student geoscience competitions in the world. This year, 23 schools from Tunisia, Egypt, Uganda, South Africa and Nigeria registered for the Africa Region competition.

North Africa IBA semi-finals took place in Cairo on 22 February with the Faculty of Science, Tunis El Manah University taking first position, followed by Helwan University, Egypt in second place. Both schools represented North Africa in the finals competition. Sub-Saharan semi-finals took place on 27 February in Lagos, Nigeria. The University of Western Cape, South Africa scored first in this competition, followed by University of Lagos, Nigeria in second place. Both teams represented South Africa at the finals.



IBA North Africa semi-finals in Cairo, 2014

Africa Region finals were held in Lagos, Nigeria on 28 February 2014 at Dover Hotel. The University of Western Cape emerged winner with the Faculty of Science, Tunis El Manah University and University of Lagos, Nigeria taking second and third position, respectively. University of Western Cape advanced to represent Africa Region at the global IBA competition in Houston, April 2014.

The IBA is steadily gaining popularity, and the number and country diversity of participating teams within Africa is expected to increase in the coming competitions. The IBA continues to be an important means by which the geoscience technical capacity of students across the region is developed. At the same time, industry recruiters increasingly seek out new hires among IBA team members with newly acquired prospecting experience.

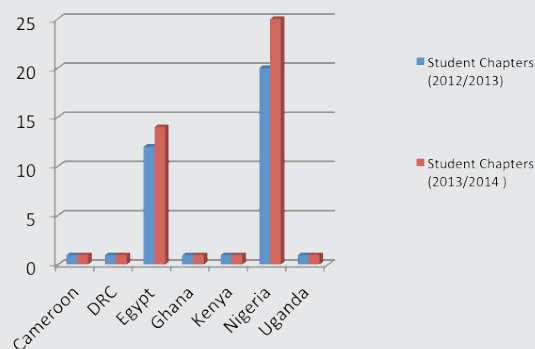


Team University of Western Cape – Winners 2014 Africa Region IBA
From left: Mvunyiswa Ondela, McLean Chris, Garbaharan Leilah and Makhubele Marvel

AAPG Student Chapter Numbers on the Rise across Africa

Despite language differences, the Region continues to witness an increase in the number and diversity of AAPG Student Chapters across the region. There are now 44 Student Chapters in Africa, with new additions from Kenya – University of Nairobi, Uganda – Makerere University and Ghana – University of Ghana, Accra. At present, AAPG Africa Region is working towards increasing the country diversity of their student chapters, with new chapters under development in Tunisia – Faculty of Science, University of Tunis, El Manah and South Africa – University of Western Cape.

Africa Region AAPG Student Chapter Growth 2012 - 2014



Universities from Four Countries Benefit from Second L-SCLS

AAPG Africa Region organized the second Local Student Chapter Leadership Summit (L-SCLS) for the region following the success of the first event in 2012. The 2013 event held in Lagos welcomed 30 Student Chapter presidents representing AAPG Student Chapters from Nigeria, Ghana, Uganda and Kenya. Goals of the summit were vision building, value creation and development of leadership virtues. The L-SCLS is now an annual event for the Region, and its hosting may be rotated to other African countries.



Student participants in group photo with Africa Region Leadership team and Pinar Yilmaz at the L-SCLS in Lagos, 2013.

Africa Region's YPs Thrive in Egypt, Gabon, Nigeria

Young Professionals activities have grown to levels of significant advantage in the Region; with recorded increase in participation from YPs in more companies and countries. The Region has recorded a leap

in AAPG YP numbers from 12 in 2012, to 501 in 2013, to 958 since February 2014. Activities across the region have included networking, educational programs and student support activities.

Egypt

YPs in Egypt, led by Ola Adly, AAPG YP Lead for North Africa, provide educational support to university students across Egypt. Some YP events have become annual events which have seen visible increase in participation and industry support in recent years. Among these annual events is the IBA simulation, designed to prepare university students to compete regionally and globally in the AAPG Imperial Barrel Award Program. In another event, Discover Egypt, sessions are taught by Shell Egypt professional staff covering the petroleum system elements of each of the principal basins of Egypt. Kayan Ventures is a program

run by AAPG Young Professionals in Egypt to provide resources and expert advice for young earth scientists interested in pursuing start-up companies specifically in the fields of alternative energy supply, mining and geohydrology. Rounding out the YP activities in Egypt are field trips, including a field trip within the Cairo area organized for recent earth science graduates and attended by 41 students from 13 universities. The field trip was sponsored by Apache Egypt and led by Bill Bosworth of Apache, Egypt.



Bill Bosworth emphasizes outcrop features during Cairo-area field trip.



AAPG-YP Egypt team in group photo with Egypt Minister of Petroleum, Engr. Sherif Ismail (standing, fifth from right) at the concluding ceremony of the IBA simulation in Cairo.

Gabon

YP activities in Gabon are currently run by Shell geologists as part of their Young Professionals Network group. Recent efforts are geared at involving people from academia to fully integrate into this initiative.

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Nigeria

The benefits and impact of effective collaboration between AAPG Africa Region and NAPE were evident at the Young Professionals booth at the 2013 NAPE conference held in Lagos. YPs under the aegis of NAPE-AAPG YP had a successful presence at the conference with activities including career mentoring sessions, made up of keynote addresses, engagements by industry experts on career guidance and choice of specialization. Geoscience focus and the need for it, entrepreneurial skills, financial aid and leadership skills, and the YP Meet-n-Greet – an informal networking/ mentoring session – were also present. The Exciting World of Geology was also launched by YPs during this conference.

Building on their successful collaboration in 2013, NAPE-AAPG YPs organized a January 2014 get-together at TerraKulture, in Lagos. The social networking event aimed to engender friendship amongst the YP committee members and create an opportunity to reflect on previous milestone achievements of the group. It also provided a rare opportunity for the YPs to kick off an eventful 2014.

Looking ahead, there is no doubt that the YPs have a strategic role to play in the future of hydrocarbon exploration and development in Africa. In



NAPE-AAPG leadership and YPs at TerraKulture in Lagos.

partnership with industry and local professional societies, the AAPG Africa Region strives to create an enabling environment for empowerment and capacity building in the lives of Young Professionals.

YP Outreach Program Targets High School Students

The “Exciting World of Geology” was designed by NAPE-AAPG Young Professionals as a geoscience outreach program targeting high school students across the African Region. The objective has been to create early awareness and encourage budding interest in pursuing a career in the geosciences. The outreach initiative began by educating AAPG Student Chapter presidents who attended the Local – Student Chapter Leadership Summit (L-SCLS) training and YP booth sessions at the 2013 NAPE conference in Lagos, Nigeria. These university student leaders received training and materials to introduce geoscience careers to secondary schools across Africa.

In January 2014, a few pilot programs were introduced to nearly 75 senior high school students at Greensprings School, Lagos by Gilbert Odior, AAPG Africa Region president (2012-14) and an accompanying team of NAPE-AAPG YPs (see photo). An additional 40 senior secondary

school students from Ajayi Crowther High School, Lagos, also profited from “The Exciting World of Geology” career talk delivered by the AAPG Student Chapter team from the University of Lagos, Nigeria, led by the Student Chapter president Tobi Oyewumi (see photo). Following these pilot programs, “The Exciting World of Geology” was introduced to a larger group of university students, YPs, lecturers and industry professionals during the Africa Region IBA 2014 final competition in Lagos. Using the IBA platform provided the opportunity to inform others about the outreach program, who might then replicate this initiative in other countries across Africa.

For anyone interested in speaking at a school around them, “The Exciting World of Geology” CDs are available at the AAPG Africa Office. Alternatively, they can be mailed upon request.



Students from Greensprings school at “The Exciting World of Geology” career talk in Lagos, February 2014.



University of Lagos Student Chapter president, Tobi Oyewumi, and senior high school students following “The Exciting World of Geology” presentation, March 2014.

UPCOMING EVENTS

5-8 June 2014

Nigerian Association of Petroleum Explorationists (NAPE) Student Conference, 2014

University of Port Harcourt, Nigeria

www.nape.org.ng

20 June 2014

AAPG-NAPE Affiliation – 20th Anniversary

Watch for the next edition of Discover, AAPG Africa Region e-newsletter, for more details

21 September 2014

AAPG Africa Regional Lecture, Cairo

Professor Terry Engelder, University of Pennsylvania

Co-hosted with Egyptian Petroleum Exploration Society, EPEX

www.regions.aapg.org/africa

9-13 November 2014

Nigerian Association of Petroleum Explorationists (NAPE) 32nd Annual International Conference & Exhibition

The Future of Hydrocarbon Exploration: Drilling Deeper, Searching Wider
Eko Hotel and Conference Centre, Lagos, Nigeria.

www.nape.org.ng

STAY IN TOUCH

Do you have something to share with the Africa Region? Send us your articles, photos and upcoming events for publication in our newsletter and on our website. Email materials to dkuye@aapg.org

Region website

Regions.aapg.org/Africa

Email

dkuye@aapg.org

AAPG Africa Office

47a Femi Okunnu Estate
Lekki Peninsula, Lagos

Phone

+234-8094704599



[Facebook.com/AAPG Africa Region](https://www.facebook.com/AAPG-Africa-Region)