

AAPG President's Council – Regions Meeting

Tuesday, November 17, 2009

Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

C. McGowen

(See attached attendance roster)

Meeting Notes

1. Welcome and Introductions - John Lorenz and Alfredo Guzman

2. Region Updates

Africa Region – Haddou Jabour, Vice President

- The Region launched its new website earlier this year. An Africa Region editorial board is charged with quarterly updates.
- The Region will enjoy continuity of leadership with Doja Ojelabi, Chevron, leading the IBA 2010 competition. Schools are currently being recruited.
- Two points were emphasized: (1) Africa Region is way behind other regions in terms of active memberships. We need therefore much help from AAPG headquarters to help Africa Region Leaders to increase the number of active members. (2) This will start from the roots i.e. students; means that as leaders we should steer more student members and implement more AAPG student chapters. We need more mobility which means to travel to universities to achieve such objectives.
- Currently 23 student chapters with the newest in Democratic Republic of Congo. Future focus is needed on Northwestern Africa countries.
- Challenges: 1) language – solution is to utilize Distinguished Lecturers who speak the local language. 2) membership challenges = cost and currency. Solution -- Region officers should persuade top managements to have NOCs and local industry partners sponsor African AAPG Active members.
- The Region will soon hold an election to fill its 5th seat in the House of Delegates.
- Nominations are open for Africa Region Country Rep candidates.
- 2010 Conferences:
 - DOWAC Abuja – the Region is collaborating with NAPE.
 - MAPG Marrakech conference – tentatively scheduled for October 2010.

Asia Pacific Region – Joe Lambiase, President

- Singapore office recently opened.
- The Region Steering Committee will hold a meeting in Singapore on January 30, 2010.
- Current priorities: 1) organize a GTW within 6 months, and 2) organize a regional conference for 1st Qtr 2011.

Canada Region – Bill Haskett, Delegate

- Two main priorities: 1) preparations for IBA 2010, and 2) 2010 ICE in Calgary.

European Region – Dave Cook, President

- John Kaldi has completed a 5-week DL tour encompassing 20 locations (?) in 8 countries.
- Annual Regional conference in Malmaison, Paris in late November.
- IBA 2010 – 9 universities have applied to date.
- March 2010 – planning a one-day simposium in connection with APPEX.
- May 2010 – Aberdeen Education Week
- May 2010 – GTW Istanbul on resource assessment in unconventional plays
- October 2010 – Kiev – regional conference on the Black Sea and Caspian Sea hosted by the Ukraine Geological Society

Latin American Region – Victor Vega, Vice President

- Held a meeting in Rio on Sunday with newly elected officers plus other Region volunteers.
- Focus on increasing Active membership.
- Need to hold election of Delegates.
- Potential future office on premises of ACGGP in Bogota, Colombia.
- Considering two GTWs for 2010 in Mexico and Brazil.
- Focus on increasing Student Membership by offering a Student Expo and increasing student involvement in other events.
- Considering a regional conference for 2011 in Colombia on Andean Tectonics.
- Plan to request AAPG hold the 2014 ICE in Bogota. EcoPetrol is supportive.
- Plan to organize Regional Lecturers who speak the language.
- Will focus on Student Chapters – reactivating inactive chapters and starting new ones.
- Working with Alfredo Guzman to organize a Distinguished Lecturer tour in Latin America.

Middle East Region – Hussain Al-Otaibi, President

- Region officer elections just concluded with highest percentage of participation in all Region elections to date.
- Goal to increase membership base.
- GTWs model has been very successful.
- Now 7 AAPG Student Chapters in 4 countries – previously there were none – a major achievement.
- IBA scheduled for March 2010 with 4 participating universities.
- Planning a Middle East prospect exposition.

Abeer Al Zubaidi and Susan Nash discussed the success of the GTW programs.

- Informal gathering over 2-1/2-3 days with members and non-members
- Attendees gather for break-out sessions
- The GTW format seems to be effective for all Regions – frank and open exchange of ideas.
- In 2009, ME Region offered 2 short courses. For 2010 will offer 9 courses and 4 workshops. The lesson is to market more broadly to NOCs.
- Planning a DL tour to 7 Middle East Region cities
- Keep attendance < 80-100 people to participate in discussion
- Small breakout groups, then reconvene to share ideas with full group
- Value of breakout groups is lost if > 20 people
- AAPG programs really work!

Question: How to distinguish AAPG from SPE?

AAPG = geoscience vs. SPE = multi-disciplinary

3. Leadership Strategies Across Vast Geographic Regions – Discussion

Compared Region “subdivisions” e.g. Asia Pacific Region and “country reps” e.g. Africa Region job description

- Joe Lambiase – doesn’t like “subdivision” concept, as this raises concerns about Region Steering Committee’s ability to control these sub-groups. Less likely they would report back to Regional office for coordination.
- Gretchen Gillis – recommends changing terminology from “country representative” to “country liaison” due to potential legal ramifications of the term “representative”.
- Country Rep – this concept preferred by all. Delegates can also be Country Reps.
- Training – from HQ for consistent materials and info, Region Councils, Region offices
- Reporting chain – from Country Liaison to Region President/Region Council/Region office to AAPG HQ - need more clarity on reporting chain.
- Selection process – all agreed it is simpler to appoint rather than elect by vote
- Business cards – print two-sided for multi-lingual.

4. Regions Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) – Kay Pitts

- MOU provides AAPG audit and legal protection.
- Currently undergoing EC and Staff review
- By December 2009 – disseminate to Regions – comments due by January 10, 2010.
- Focus of document is meetings and event planning.

5. Recommendations

- For 2010 ACE and ICE, plan ½-day Regions meeting with last hour report out to AAPG EC.

- For Regions teleconferences, submit written Region update reports in advance to McGowen. Teleconfernece discussion will have topic focus.