AAPG

DISCOVER

The Asia Pacific Region Newsletter

ISSUE 6 : MAY 2014

President's Note

Peter Baillie - AAPG President, Asia-Pacific Region

Peter Baillie with AAPG Certificate of Merit, at AAPG 2014 Annual Convention and Exhibition, Houston, for his contributions as AAPG Asia-Pacific Region president

Congratulations to the Australian School of Petroleum, University of Adelaide for winning first place at the AAPG Imperial Barrel Award (IBA) Asia-Pacific region semi-final competition. It was the first time an Australian team participated in the competition.

Honorable mentions were awarded to Curtin University, Australia and competition stalwarts Institut Teknologi Bandung, Indonesia.

The top team from each Region and Section went on to compete at the 2014 AAPG Annual Convention and Exhibition in Houston April 4.

The University of Louisiana at Lafayette, Gulf Coast Section, won the 2014 IBA. Second place Selley Cup went to Oklahoma University. And third place Stonely Medal was won by Colorado School of Mines.

The Imperial Barrel Award is an annual prospective basin evaluation competition for geoscience graduate students from universities around the world. Teams compete to win scholarship funds for their geoscience department and the international recognition that comes from competing or winning in the competition.

The teams analyze a dataset (geology, geophysics, land, production infrastructure, and other relevant materials) in the eight weeks prior to the local competition. Each team delivers their results in a 25-minute presentation to a panel of industry experts. Students have the chance to use state-of-the-art technology on a real dataset, receive feedback from an industry panel, impress potential employers in the audience, and win cash awards for their schools. I have been told several times that prospective employers look favorably on candidates who can list IBA participation in their CV. Judges select a winning team on the basis of technical quality, clarity and originality of presentation.

IBA is now AAPG's single largest program and its success is due to the hard-working IBA Committee (currently chaired by Chuck Caughey in the US, and Dave Cook in the UK), the local IBA Committee (Adrienne Pereira and Ong Hock Kim), the judges and of course the participants themselves. Congratulations and thanks to you all.

Our region suffers from the tyranny of distance. Where our semifinals are held on the WebEx platform, most other semifinals are held at a single venue (giving participants the opportunity to personally appear in front of a "live" audience). For several reasons, not the least of which is cost, it is impractical for us to do so and so we use the somewhat impersonal Internet.

What particularly impresses me are the teams whose first language is not English . Not only do these students present in public on a topic they knew nothing about only a few weeks ago, but they do so in a foreign language. Fantastic!

Full details of the competition may be found on the new AAPG website.

Peter Baillie

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REGIONAL NEWS UPDATE

Joint Structural Geology Field Trip
Student Chapters from China University of Petroleum Beijing and Peking University

Field trip is recognized as one of the most important activities for improving a student's professional skills and also put their geological knowledge into practice. During a field trip students can acquire knowledge, strengthen health and make friends under the guidance of teachers. They also can appreciate the diary of earth subtly bathed in beautiful sunshine keeping in mind the slogan for field trips - "Seeing is believing."

The first CUPB-Peking University Joint Field Trip was hosted by the China University of Petroleum Beijing AAPG Student Chapter and co-organized by the College of Earth and Earth Science, Peking University. The trip took place in Mangshan Changping District of Beijing on June 1st 2013. There was huge enthusiasm about joining this fieldtrip but, due to technical limitations, only 35 participants were selected to participate.

Hengmao Tong, a lecturer from CUPB and also a famous tectonic geology expert was invited as the instructor for this field trip. Tong has abundant experience in leading field trips, especially in Mangshan region. During the field trip he introduced the process of tectonic evolution of North China and guided the students to observe the sedimentary stratification in Upper Proterozoic rocks and the volcanic rocks of Mesozoic era. He also elaborated the structural phenomena in this area and answered questions raised by students. All the students were absorbed in his explanation and had heated discussions with each other. The event concluded at 3:30 p.m. leaving the participants equipped with new knowledge about the structural geologic mechanism in the region and also new friends from the other university. All participants keenly await their next fieldtrip together.

Geologists Save the Earth with Charity

On Environment Day June 2013, Geology Trisakti Student Chapter (GTSC) of AAPG held an event titled **"GRAVITY (Geologists Save The Earth with Charity)"**. The full event ran from 26 May to 7 June 2013 at Trisakti University. The aim of this event was to increase public awareness of the surrounding environment.

GRAVITY event was divided into two sections. The pre-event on 26th consisted of: "Counseling of Usage Water and Sanitation" by Hilarion Widyatmoko from Trisakti University in Muara Angke, Pluit, North Jakarta. This counseling was aimed to provide an understanding about the condition of the community in areas of minimal sanitation as well as countermeasures that should be taken.

"Amigos Care" (held on 31st) which is a river cleaning program on the riverside area around Trisakti University; and "GRAVITY Creative" (held on 1st) which promoted recycling of used goods, were held in co-operation with CCE Community.

The main event on 7 June consisted of a seminar by Tumpak Wilmar Hutabarat from WALHI (Wahana Lingkungan Hidup), a nationwide enviromental care organization, discussing "Why is it Necessary to Observe The Environment?". There was also a Workshop by Nur Salam from Si Dalang (Kreasi Daur Ulang) organization about how to make recycled paper by using paper waste and how to make photo frames from recycled paper. The event also included a fun bazaar and entertainment by Panca Atis, a local stand-up comedian.

We hope that as an AAPG Student Chapter, we care not only about petroleum geology and petroleum industry, but that we also are aware about protecting the Earth.

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RESEARCH, DISCOVERY, AND DEVELOPMENT

A Brief Insight into Sirikit Oil Field - The Largest Onshore Oil Field in Thailand

Introduction

Sirikit Field is located in the S1 concession, Phitsanulok Basin (Fig. 1), Central Plain Onshore Thailand, approximately 400 kilometers north of Bangkok. The concession is currently 100% owned and operated by PTT Exploration and Production following the takeover from Thai Shell back in 2004. Named after a Thai queen, Sirikit Field was discovered in 1981, started production in 1982 and remains the largest onshore oil field in the kingdom. Cumulative oil production to date is over 220 million barrels (including from the smaller satellite fields). The production plateau is around 20 thousand barrel oil per day since 1984 but in the last two years, average oil production is above 30 thousands barrel-per-day as a result of aggressive development and step out exploration drilling in the Sirikit and the satellite fields.

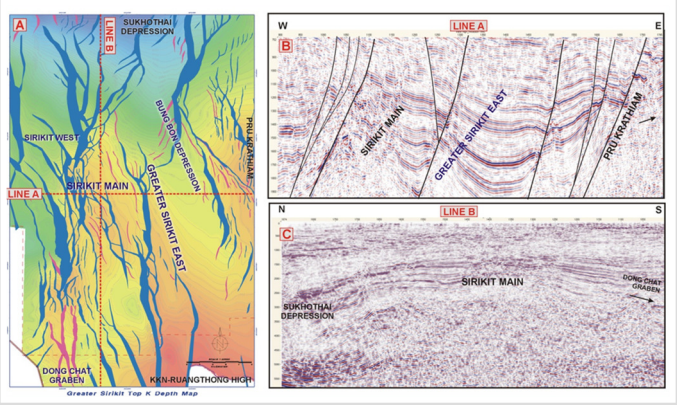

Figure 1. Sirikit Main structural setting. (A) Regional Top Lan Krabu K Depth Structure Map. (B) E-W seismic section shows the series of tilted east dipping fault blocks with Greater Sirikit East in the east and Sirikit Weat to the west. (C) N-S seismic section represents the southern Sukhothai Depression and Thap Raet in the north of Sirikit Main and Dong Chat Graben in the south.

Structural Setting

The Sirikit High is an easterly dipping, tilted-fault-block series (Fig. 2), bounded to the north by Sukhothai depression, to the east by Bung Bon depression, to the south by Dong Chat Graben and to the west by Bung Ya trend. The Sirikit Main structural closure is the largest one in the field. Complex compartmentalization is formed as a result of numerous pre-existing basement highs, multiple tectonic episodes as well as foot wall degradation process. Gentle inverted structures are sometimes observed in certain areas.

Stratigraphy and Reservoir Members

The Tertiary sediment fill of the Phitsanulok basin consists of three major subdivisions: Oligocene alluvial fan and alluvial plain deposits, early to mid-Miocene lacustrine and alluvial plain deposits and late Miocene alluvial plain and alluvial fan deposits as shown in Figure 2(A). The sediments of the first two subdivisions were deposited during the first (extensional) phase of the basin formation. Initially the clastic sediments of the Sarabop formation were deposited and then, due to an increase in the subsidence rate, the depositional environment changed to open lacustrine (Lake Phitsanulok) and alluvial plains This led to the deposition of the fluvio-deltaic - Lan Krabu - and the open lacustrine - Chum Saeng - formations in the central part of the basin.

As subsidence continued during the Miocene period, the depositional environment changed to that of the interdigitating, open lacustrine Chum Saeng Formation and the fluvio-deltaic Lan Krabu Formation in the central and eastern parts of the basin. Widespread transgressions alternated with extensive delta progradations resulting in the thin but aerially extensive transgressive-regressive cycle's that are characteristic of the Phitsanulok Basin deltaic deposits. From mid-Miocene, the depositional environment changed to alluvial plains and alluvial fan deposits (meandering and braided rivers systems of the Pratu Tao and Yom formation). This was a result of a switch in the tectonic regime from extensional to transpressional, resulting in a decrease in subsidence.

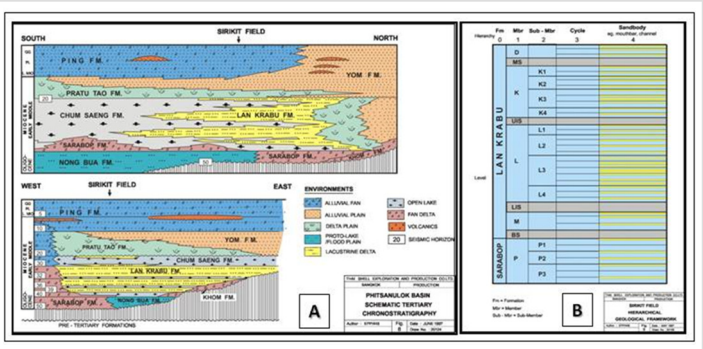

Figure 2. Phitsanulok Stratigraphy. Lacustrine deltaic Lan Krabu Formation is

Petroleum system

Phitsanulok Basin is the largest of many Tertiary (non-marine) basins onshore Thailand. The lacustrine Chum Saeng deposits contain rich oil source rock up to 1000m in total thickness. The Sukhothai Depression is considered as the main kitchen area. Peak hydrocarbon expulsion for lower member is 12 Ma and this continues until present day. The upper part of Chum Saeng peak expulsion happens at present day. Chum Saeng formation shale also acts as the seal for Sarabop and Lan Krabu reservoirs. Intra formation floodplain clay deposits in Pratu Tao (PTO) and Yom formation also serve as seal for PTO and Yom reservoirs. The reservoir rocks are all the sandstones in Sarabop P, Lan Krabu, Pratu Tao and Yom formations. The Pre-tertiary basement is also proven to be a naturally fractured reservoir. Most of the proven structural trap geometries are faulted anticlines (three-way dip closures) or fault-dependent closures. Stratigraphic traps are also proven, particularly in the Greater Sirikit East area. Main migration pathway is to the northeast, east, southeast, south and southwest.

RESEARCH, DISCOVERY, AND DEVELOPMENT

….continued from page 3

Sirikit Main Hydrocarbon Accumulation

Primary trap type in Sirikit Main is faulted anticline structure. The structure is reasonably complex and forms multiple compartments within the field-wide structural closure. The main producing reservoirs are K and L members of Lan Krabu Formation that contribute more than 85 percent of hydrocarbon production. Typically, K member gross thickness in Sirikit Main is 180-250 m with 15-23 percent net-to-gross ratio. The L member is around 150-200 m thick with 18-25 percent net to gross. Other producing reservoirs are Pratu Tao, Lan Krabu D and M members, Sarabop P and Pre-Tertiary Basement. The vertical seals for main reservoirs are provided by Chum Saeng members.

The Chum Saeng and Lan Krabu Formations are further divided into members and sub members as shown in Figure 2(B). The field wide fluid regimes are defined with respect to this division. Lan Krabu K member holds oil and gas with field-wide single contact set. The Main Seal member of Chum Saeng acts as top seal for Lan Krabu K reservoir. The Upper Intermediate Seal (UIS) member separates K from L member and acts as top seal for Lan Krabu L member. The L member is separated from M by Lower Intermediate Seal (LIS) member. The L member is also interpreted to have single field-wide fluid contact set. Schematic fluid regime for K and L member is illustrated in Figure 3.

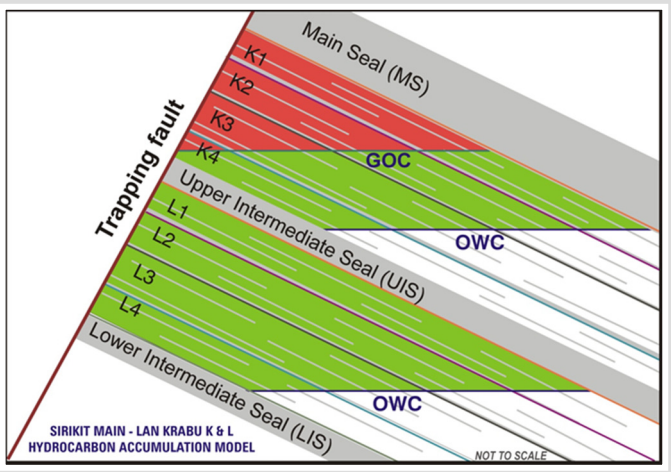

Figure 3. Sirikit Main hydrocarbon accumulation model in main reservoirs. Accumulation in K reservoir form single fluid contact set with Main Seal (MS)) as the Top Seal and Upper Intermediate Seal (UIS) as the bottom seal, separating K from the deeper L reservoir. Similar case also applies for L reservoirs with UIS as top seal and LIS as bottom seal. Intra-K and intra-L clays are not considered to play field-wide sealing role as suggested in the fluid contact set establishment.

Stratigraphic Trap in Greater Sirikit East

Most of stratigraphic traps are within the distal sub-members of Lan Krabu Formation such as M, L2, K4, K2 and K1 which are dominated by mouthbar facies (Figure 4). The trapping is formed by combination of deposition and structural geometries. The structure is East-Northeast dipping, while the deposition direction is from the Northwest-Southeast direction. A trap system is hence formed where reservoir sands pinch-out to the southeast direction that is structurally up-dip, and is bounded by north -south trending fault in the west.

The role of intra K and intra L shales as vertical seal is essential to the trapping system. They seal the reservoir from the underlying sub members that might extend further away without forming trap system. The closure spill-points are controlled by these bottom seals. The Main Seal, and Upper Intermediate Seal are the key trap components overlying the reservoirs.

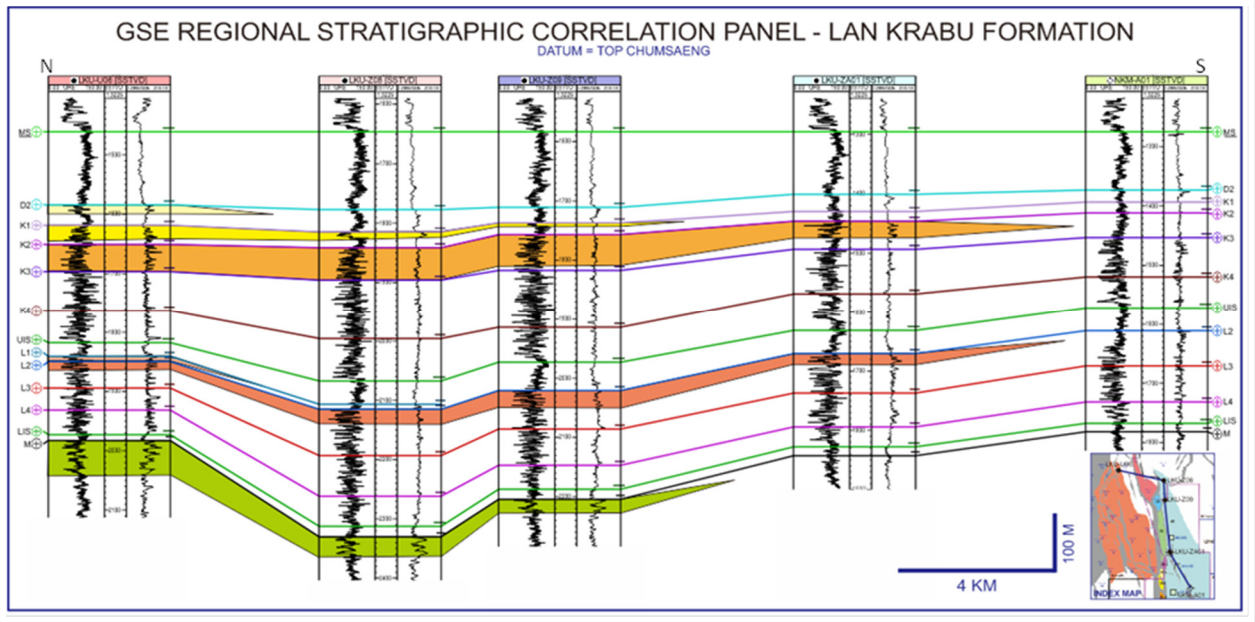

Figure 4. Regional correlation of Lan Krabu Formation in GSE

AAPG ASIA-PACIFIC YOUNG PROFESIONAL

Interview with Abdul Mannan Chhipa

In your opinion, what is AAPG's role in helping to advance your career after graduation?

AAPG helps graduates in many ways. I would like to highlight my personal experience:

- In Student Chapter, we arranged technical lectures/ seminars via AAPG which helped in technical understanding about what is going on in the industry and how to work in practical life. Furthermore, it also built competence to manage non-technical work and helped develop personal networks and communication skills.
- We were running our own Student Chapter's website and magazine, which improved our computer skills and helped to understand the importance of meeting timelines.
- AAPG gives international exposure to students and I was invited to Student Chapter Leadership Conference in 2012. I also attended AAPG ICE 2012 in Singapore which was an excellent experience for me.
- Imperial Barrel Award program helps the students to go through the complete exploration cycle, which is usually not possible during graduation and it gives hands on experience of working in the industry.
- AAPG also provide the financial grants to the Student Chapter and students which helps them financially a lot.

So, in conclusion, AAPG provides full support to students so they can become good geoscientists.

How long have you been in this current job position?

I have been at ENI Pakistan's exploration department since November, 2012.

What are your main responsibilities in the company?

I carry out all geological work to develop regional/ local understanding of petroleum systems in diverse geologic settings providing GandG data interpretation to support play, prospect generation and geological risk quantification. Furthermore, I follow-up on the exploration and appraisal activities, provide technical support for operational decisions and contribute to post-drill evaluation.

What was the most difficult or challenging matter you ever encountered while working in the ENI? How did you deal with these challenges?

At times I am involved in difficult and challenging activities but it's all part of my responsibilities.

From your perspective, how can AAPG Young Professionals play an important role in the society?

Education: M.Sc. from Department of Geology, University of Karachi in December 2012.

Profession: ENI Pakistan's Exploration Department

Quote: *"Hope for the best, be ready for the worst"*

AAPG YPs from all over the world share their experiences with each other and with students, give advices and mentor newcomers which helps the society advance.

Do you have any advice or tips for the geoscience students out there who will be graduating and looking for a job?

Here I would like to quote Quaid-e-Azam Mohammed Ali Jinnah's word to the students:

"Develop a sound sense of discipline, character, initiative and a solid academic background. You must devote yourself whole-heartedly to your studies, for that is your first obligation to yourselves, your parents and to the State. You must learn to obey, for only then you can learn to command" (Islamic College, Peshawar - 12th April, 1948)

If you could choose your career path all over again, would you do anything differently? If so, why and what would you do?

No, I would choose the same career path again.

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AAPG ASIA-PACIFIC VOLUNTEER

Geovani Christopher Kaeng, The First Volunteer of AAPG Asia-Pacific

Disce quasi semper victurus, vive quasi cras moriturus.— Learn as if always going to love, live as if tomorrow going to die.

Geovani Christopher Kaeng has shown his love and dedication to AAPG since being a student. He was among the early presidents of Trisakti University AAPG Student Chapter. He continues to be an active AAPG volunteer, and is the head of the Oversight Committee for AAPG Indonesian Student Chapter. With eight years of work experience he is now Asia-Pacific Regional Technical Advisor at Landmark (Halliburton) in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.

Can you add some anecdotes from your first time being an AAPG volunteer?

I joined AAPG AP region as Student Chapter Affairs Coordinator in 2006 when I was still a student. The story began when the Student Chapter I was leading invited Herman Darman (then the region's president) to give a talk at our campus. From then our relationship grew. One day he asked me to help AAPG with building Student Chapters in the region. Not long after that I joined the industry and my company sent me to China to attend a training, which turned out to be my first job at AAPG as Student Chapter coordinator. I showed up at three universities in Beijing where every presentation was mainly attended by doctorate students, while I was a newbie standing as the speaker. The supposedly informal discussions turned out to be official classroom lectures attended by the best students, which, later I found out, was their way to respect international guests. I will never forget that experience which resulted in the creation of three new Student Chapters in the region. From then on I have enjoyed traveling across the region, to promote AAPG to universities, talking on how it helps students expand their knowledge horizons and how it contributes to their future career in the industry.

In your opinion, what is AAPG's role in helping to advance your career after graduation?

AAPG is able to bring professional world to campus. Through AAPG activities such as talks and courses students meet professionals, gaining professional knowledge and building a network. So, they do not become students who just read books and lack professional networks. For instance, I had my internship through my connection with a professional who had given an AAPG talk that my team and I had organized. Students should quickly build a network via AAPG and use that network to help in starting a career.

Can you give me a brief overview of how did you ended up in your current job?

TI was offered an internship by a speaker from an AAPG talk which my team and I had organized and this later led me to my first job.

How long have you been in this current job position?

My current job is also my first job. I have been in the same company [Landmark – Halliburton] for eight years. This is my loyalty. In my opinion, loyalty and perseverance are rare qualities nowadays. We should persevere with a company, in good and bad times. When the company has low times, we help it recover. That is a quality expected from professionals.

What are your main responsibilities in the company?

I am the regional geoscience technology consultant for Halliburton Asia-Pacific Region. The point of a service company is to sell [laughs]. In a technology company like Halliburton, we try to introduce new and advanced technology to the oil and gas industry.

What was the most difficult or challenging task you ever encountered while working in your position? How did you do deal with these challenges?

As a consultant, we serve customers' need. We have to be able to meet customers' expectations. The challenge lies when I have to deliver something which I haven't truly mastered. I have to learn it by myself, by reading books, papers, and asking my colleagues. But the point is, most of the time, I create the challenge by myself! As a self-motivated person, it shames me when I have to be ordered for a job. I often tell my boss, "This is a challenging project. Let me do this." So, I will never stop learning. Challenge should not stop us.

Do you have any advice or tips for the geoscience students who will be graduating and looking for a job?

Number 1: READ. It is actually depressing to try to make the students read more. Graduation is just a starting point, the end is still very far. Nowadays, the mindset is like this: "I have got a job in a huge oil company soon after I graduate, so now I can stop learning and let the company bear me anyway." Actually, as a professional, I learn a lot more than when I was a student. It is because challenges when you are a student is NOTHING compared to the real world. However, students view technical papers as difficult stuff and avoid reading them. Ironically, when you are a professional, what you have to read is 10-fold more than in university. So, once again, graduation is just a starting point. Real competition starts here. This is the time when your performance matters, especially in dynamic service companies where you can be out of job if you don't perform. **Number 2:** CONFIDENCE. Our students, especially Asian students, most of the time are too shy. This leads to **Number 3:** COMMUNICATION SKILLS. Both have to be developed prior to entering professional world.

YOUNG PROFESIONAL NEWS AND ACTIVITIES

Geomechanics Talk by AAPG Young Professional Kuala Lumpur Chapter

On 10th Dec 2013, AAPG YP Chapter Kuala Lumpur organized the fourth round of technical talks. The chapter is very pleased to welcome Lans Taylor as our speaker. Taylor currently holds the position of Senior Structural Geologist, with Talisman Energy, based in The Woodlands, Texas. His talk was entitled **" Geomechanics: From Mantle Plume to Molecular Cohesion, What is the Scale of the Problem?"**

The talk was possible as Taylor was in town to give a course. AAPG YP Chapter Kuala Lumpur synchronized the timing of the talk with this course securing him as a speaker. It was a fairly good turnout with 13 professionals from both academia and industry attending the talk.

The event took place in the Main Meeting Room of PETRONAS Twin Towers. Throughout the one hour and 15 minutes talk, the participants were enlightened on the theory and concepts of subsurface geological characterization, and how it relates to stress variations at the field scale.

The talk began with an introduction of the speaker by Low Wan Ching, followed by an introduction to characterization of subsurface stress and how it is related to geologic heterogeneity. Ideas that were discussed included how the state of stress impacts fracture geometry when water injection is applied during field development plans, and production.

As Taylor successfully gained participant's interest and warmed up the atmosphere, he slowly moved on to the meat of the topic. He explained the large scale of tectonics, mantle dynamics, and the role of plate movement. What really caught our interest was sections of the talk on passive margins and polygonal faulting, with these topics raising many questions in the Q and A session.

It was explained how large to small scale fault slip or plate bending are all related by stress. Taylor the discussed the role of electromagnetic potential of electrons and deformation of the crystal lattice. These processes occur at microscopic scales within the rock.

Wrapping up, Taylor explained the mechanical heterogeneity from regional to microscopic scale, and how it all relates to stress variations.

AAPG YP KL Chapter very much appreciate Taylor for being able to join them. They hope that Taylor will able to give another lecture during his next visit.

The talk ended with Low Wan Ching presenting a token of appreciation to the speaker, while the audience thanked him with warm applause.

Young Professionals Events and Activities in 2013

Following strong efforts from Tan Chun Hock, Low Wan Ching, Evon Leong and their committee, AAPG Young Professional Kuala Lumpur Student Chapter ran the first YP talk by Bob Shoup, a veteran petroleum geologist, who spoke on the "10 Habits of Highly Effective Oil Finders " in July 2013. AAPG members welcomed peers who had not yet joined AAPG, and this bodes well for building our membership. Event feedback indicated that more than 90 percent of attendees were willing to support the YP chapters which really is encouraging for Young Professionals!

A second Visiting Geoscientists talk for YPs was presented in August by Liaw K.K., a Geoscientist from Saudi Aramco, on "Sarawak Carbonates Field Trip and Geology". Almost 30 professionals from 11 oil companies attended. We are thankful to INPEX for hosting and sponsoring this event. Liaw's field experience on outcrops of limestone, carbonate heterogeneity and key facts of different carbonate projects was a wonderful experience for the audience to augment their technical skills in carbonate field. His enthusiastic sharing of knowledge was highly appreciated.

In October 2013, Herman Darman from Shell gave a talk on "Caspian Exploration and Challenges". This talk was also very warmly welcomed. As a past president of AAPG Asia-Pacific Region, Herman holds student chapters and YPs close to his heart and always can be counted upon for support.

In November 2013, a talk about "Carbon Capture and Storage" was given by Professor John Kaldi from the Australian School of Petroleum, University of Adelaide.

Do you have any news or suggestions? Mail them to apereira@aapg.org

STUDENT NEWS AND ACTIVITIES

AAPG Asia-Pacific IBA2014 Competition

AAPG's Imperial Barrel Award Program (IBA) is an annual prospective basin evaluation competition for geoscience graduate students from universities around the world. University teams compete to win scholarship funds for their geoscience department and the international recognition that comes from competing or winning in the competition. The program is rigorous and contributes to AAPG's mission of promoting petroleum geoscience training and advancing the careers of geoscience students.

In this global competition, university teams analyze a dataset (geology, geophysics, land, production infrastructure, and other relevant materials) in the eight weeks prior to the competition. Each team delivers their results in a 25 minute presentation to a panel of industry experts. The judges select a winning team on the basis of their technical quality, clarity and originality of presentation.

The IBA is a hands-on opportunity for students to experience the creative process and high-tech science that is the foundation of the Energy Industry today.

The eight schools which participated from Asia-Pacific Region, this year, were:

- Australian School of Petroleum, University of Adelaide, Australia
- China University of Petroleum (Beijing), China
- China University of Petroleum (East China/Shandong), China
- Curtin University, Dept. of Applied Geology, Australia
- Indian School of Mines, Dhanbad, India
- Institut Teknology Bandung, Indonesia
- University of Padjajaran, Indonesia
- University of Indonesia, Indonesia

The judges were impressed with their presentations and after much deliberation, decided on **Australian School of Petroleum, University of Adelaide** as the winning team. **Curtin University, Department of Applied Geology, and Institut Teknologi Bandung** were awarded Honorable Mentions. Congratulations from all of us at AAPG. To those schools who did not win, the effort you put in will most certainly pay off in the future.

Judges who kindly lent their time to review the online presentations were:

- Mario Aurelio, head judge, Structural Geology and Tectonics, University of Philippines.
- Agu Kantsler, CEO, Transform Exploration, Australia, and VP, AAPG Asia-Pacific Council.
- Leo Tjahjadi, Exploration Manager, BP, Jakarta.
- Michael McWalter, petroleum adviser to the governments of Papua New Guinea, Cambodia, South Sudan, and Liberia, and also treasurer, AAPG Asia-Pacific Council
- Joe McNutt, Technical Director, Transform Exploration, Australia.

Brunei Geological Society: Talk by Ian Longley
The South China Sea and its Hydrocarbon Prospectivity

Brunei Geological Society invited Ian Longley, a speaker from Australia who is an expert on Southeast Asian geology. The event took place on the 19th of October 2013.

With some 40 participants attending the lectures, including Hj. Azhar, Hj. Yahya (Commercial Director of Brunei Shell Petroleum), and DK. Siti Hajar Zainal (Vice President of the Geological Society of Brunei). Ian presented a very interesting and entertaining talk on his thoughts on the prospectivity of the region. It was fascinating to hear about the geography, history and politics of the region and how these factors actually influence hydrocarbon exploration. A prime example of this would be the area which Ian thinks has the best potential in the South China Sea, but which is currently under dispute between two countries, and hence driving away interested companies.

Ian went on to cover the geological aspects of the different basins in the region. All in all, the talk was well received by attendees, and there is another one planned for early next year.

Ian Longley, with Vice President of The Geological Society of Brunei, DK. Siti Hajar Zainal on looking.

Good turnout, with Hj. Azhar Hj. Yahya, Commercial Director of Brunei Shell Petroleum, amongst the attendees.

STUDENT NEWS AND ACTIVITIES

Fine-Grained Sedimentary Systems and Unconventional Resources Symposium

It was the first time that AAPG student chapter of CUPB (China University of Petroleum—Beijing) held a short course. Professor Reza Rezaee is from Curtin University's Department of Petroleum Engineering, Australia. He has a doctorate in Reservoir Characterization.

The reception to the talk was from 7 to 8:15 am. with participants coming from corporations and universities at home and abroad. These included: an assistant professor from California State University, staffs from Total, China National Offshore Oil Corporation, and China Huadian Engineering Corporation. Students from Chinese Academy of Science, China University of Petroleum, Peking University, China University of Geosciences and others also attended the short course.

The lecture had four sections. They were held separately from 8:30 - 9:50 am, 10:10 - 11:30 am, 13:30 - 14:50 pm and 15:10 - 16:30 pm. Coffee breaks were set between each course. Professor Rezaee covered topics of fine-grained sedimentary and unconventional resources especially advanced researches of shale gas from four aspects: 1) Shale gas definition and classifications; 2) Shale gas geological evaluation; 3) Shale gas geochemical evaluation; and 4) Shale gas petrophysical evaluation methods. He trained the attendees on the evaluation methods and techniques that can be utilized to delineate productive shales from barren shales and the course presented real practical examples that illustrate the techniques with real cases studies.

More than 90 participants were certified after the eight hours course. Professor Reza and all participants took photos at the end of the course. At the end, Reza said he really loved interacting with the students and that he expected to come back to university again.

Visit to Shell Lutong Core Centre Lab

On 9th October 2013, the AAPG Student Chapter in collaboration with Curtin Geology Club had organized a two hour site visit to Shell Lutong Core Centre Lab. A group of 20 students were supervised by Nagarajan Ramasamy, the Head of Department and a senior lecturer of Department of Applied Geology, School of Engineering and Science, Curtin Sarawak.

Upon arrival, they were brought to the conference room for some introductory speech. After that, a sedimentology expert, Terrence Lukie, shared some topics related to the sedimentation of East Borneo clastic reservoir rocks, including history of Crocker Formation in Kinabalu Foothill. The students were grateful to have this site visit just a week after a five-day mapping in Kundasang -Mesilau. Because of this they were able to differentiate the drastic change of the properties of the flysch sequence between Sabah and Sarawak which are otherwise geographically close to each other. Another topic touched upon by Terrence was borehole logging and drilling industry in regards to the exploration of oil and gas. The information will help the students in their future career. Another sedimentology expert, Ting King King, later explained in depth about carbonate rocks, seismic interpretation and one of the logging methods.

After this the participants were shown core samples that were placed outside the conference room. The core samples were mostly taken from a well run by the Sabah Shell Petroleum Co. Ltd and ranged from a depth of 8,000m to 9,000m. Few sedimentary rock types were identified, ranging from mudstone to grainstone. Before heading back to their campus, the students had a QandA session with both experts. Overall, it was a beneficial site visit according to the students because they had a first-hand experience on core sample study and how petroleum industry runs well logging and drilling processes.

UPCOMING REGIONAL ACTIVITIES

Tectonic Evolution of Myanmar and its Basin Development with Special References to its Petroleum Occurrences, Yangon, 14-15 August, 2014

Myanmar is in the spotlight today as rapid change has led to international access. While so much focus has been on new commercial realities, the underlying fundamentals of the country's geology deserve just as much consideration if these new investors are to be successful. To improve your understanding of Myanmar's tectonic history and basin development, register now for the first AAPG conference co-convened with the Myanmar Geosciences Society. Targeted at a geological audience, the forum focuses on the tectonic evolution and basin development of Myanmar, with reference to petroleum systeThe event brings together experts from Myanmar and around the world to explain the regional context and wider analogues, before delving into the details of basin development that has led to formation of a number of petroleum systems: from the oil-rich Central Burma Basin, to the biogenic gas of the Rakhine Basin, and the wet gas of the Moattama Basin. A three day field trip will be run independently by the Myanmar Geosciences Society to the Central Burma Basin on the weekend immediately following the conference.

Find the detailed information on the AAPG website

http://www.aapg.org/events/conferences/industry-meetings/details/articleid/7967/tectonic-evolution-of-myanmar-and-its-basin-development-with-special-references-to-its-petroleum-occurrences#116811972-accommodations

Editor's Pic - Proud Moment at Annual Conference and Exhibition

This year, the AAPG Annual Conference and Exhibition, in Houston, was a proud moment for Asia-Pacific region, with three Indonesian Student Chapters sweeping away all the three prizes for Most Outstanding International Chapter 2014. The awards were won by:

University of Pembangunan Nasional "Veteran" Student Chapter, Indonesia - First Place.

University Gadjah Mada Student Chapter, Indonesia - Second Place.

University of Diponegoro Student Chapter, Indonesia - Third Place.

Additionally, a fourth award was won by - University of Padjadjaran Student Chapter, Indonesia, which was placed second in the Student Chapter YouTube Video Contest for 2014.

Heartiest congratulations to all the four universities from everyone at AAPG Asia-Pacific region for making us proud.

AAPG – Asia-Pacific Region Affiliated Societies

- Association of Petroleum Geologists, India
- Balochistan Geoscientists Association
- Geological Society of India
- Geological Society of Malaysia
- Geological Society of Thailand
- Indian Association of Petroleum Geoscientists
- Japanese Association for Petroleum Technology
- Myanmar Geosciences Society
- New Zealand Association of Petroleum Geologists
- Association of Petroleum Geologists, India
- Pakistan Association of Petroleum Geoscientists
- Petroleum Exploration Society of Australia
- Southeast Asia Petroleum Exploration Society