

AAPG Publication Pipeline report
AAPG Annual Convention 2004

Geoscientists Helping Geoscientists

The mission of the AAPG Publication Pipeline is to collect, inventory, box, store, and send donated geoscience periodicals and used technical books to university and other libraries overseas which are in need of them for use of students and faculty.

All over the world are universities who have lost their libraries through war, flood fire, or lack of funding.

Many libraries in the USA are available for donation as geologists retire, die, or leave the practice of geology for other interests.

This committee is dedicated to getting books and periodicals to Universities in need.

Members of the committee are: Martin M. Cassidy Chairman, Deborah Adjakaiye, Kunle A. Adesida, David Angstadt, Michael Bryarly, John S. Dudar, Joe Forrest, Robbie Gries, Catherine Kidd, George Klein, Thomas Klopff, Eric Michaelis, Nahum Schneidermann, Charlotte Sullivan, Don Van Nieuwenhuis, Rick Wall, Gerrit Wind, and Pinar Yilmaz.

1. To accomplish this transfer of publications, the AAPG Publication Pipeline has been set up as an ad hoc committee of the AAPG. Donations of publications and money are credited to the AAPG Foundation which is a tax exempt organization. The AAPG now finances storage of donations until they are shipped.

2. Inventory of publication accepted, and those shipped out to libraries, is important in accounting for these assets.

An arrangement has been made with ChevronTexaco that they pay for students to inventory publications in the storage area used by the Publication Pipeline. Some of our present holding will be inventoried along with nine (9) pallets of publications from their combined libraries. Further funds are being sought to continue the payment of students to inventory publications.

3. From January 1, 2002 to July 2003 we have received forty-three (43) separate donations of publications. These total about 518 file boxes (bankers boxes) which weigh between 35-45 pounds each. Total weight of publications in storage is about 20,720 pounds. From July 2003 to Jan. 2004 that has grown to more than 30,000 pounds.

Articles about the publication Pipeline by George Klein in Geotimes and other publications continue to bring offers of donation of Geoscience libraries.

4. Donated publications are gathered, inventoried, stored, and prepared for shipment in Houston, TX USA with help of the Geoscience Dept. of the University of Houston and volunteers of the Publication Pipeline committee. We are in the process of loading in a computer data base an inventory of all periodicals and books. When complete, that data will be displayed on our web page, which is part of the AAPG web page. Many of the donations have been inventoried, but a number also remain to be completed.

5. The donations were stored at U-Store in Humble, Texas in 4 rented storage areas, but are now stored in donated space at J.A.Green International Cargo Center West. There the boxes are stored on pallets which now number 34. For shipment overseas boxes can be sorted on separate pallets and wrapped for each shipment. c

6. Our donated holdings are being made known to universities overseas. We will try to work through AAPG Regional Presidents and local geoscience societies of the countries to learn what is needed and where the needs are. The publications we hold can be donated to any not-for-profit university, college or library which is not owned by any one individual. When a request is made for publications we sort boxes and prepare them for shipment.

7. When needs are made known to us, we work with others to recruit an oil and gas company, another company, government agency, or a nonprofit agency to ship the publications overseas. Shipment overseas would usually be done by companies operating in that particular country. Many companies have obligations to aid university education and the training of local residents to eventually be employed in the companies. We consider Publication Pipeline shipments an opportunity for such companies to partly meet that obligation. With help of the company and of local geoscience societies and universities, the shipment is cleared through customs and then distributed.

8. We have many request for publications from foreign universities and

countries. Delays in shipments are caused by difficulty of finding companies or organizations to pay for shipments. We have completed, with other organizations, a large shipment to Indonesia. This next year the emphasis will be in completing shipment overseas. Grants of money support from organizations in addition to the AAPG may be sought for this worthy educational endeavor.

Among countries desiring publications are Afghanistan, Argentina, Georgia, India, Indonesia, Nigeria, Peru, Trinidad, Senegal, and Sierra Leon.

Since we started the Publication Pipeline has sent 5000lbs of publications to Nigeria through Conoco (They were distributed to universities in conjunction with the Nigerian Association of Petroleum Explorationists. (NAPE),

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boxes of publications to universities in Thailand through Chevron Texaco, 15 boxes to the Universidad Nacional de Tucuman in Argentina through the IAPG, Houston Section, and five pallets with six others to Indonesia through IATMI, Indonesian Petroleum Association.

Now a shipment to Senegal awaits final arrangements, an agreement is about complete to ship to several pallets to Afghanistan, and a second Nigeria shipment is being arranged.

9. Shipment of publications overseas benefits students, universities, the company providing shipping, and the country receiving the geoscience publications in general. The AAPG, the University of Houston, and the Houston Geological and Geophysical Societies are pleased to join in this effort.

Martin M. Cassidy
Chairman