The Mission of the Publication Pipeline
The mission of the AAPG Publication Pipeline Committee is to improve geoscience education in developing countries by providing used geoscience books and periodicals at no cost to university libraries and other libraries that request them. Because of war or civil unrest, lack of funds, fire or other natural disasters, many overseas libraries are in dire need of basic library resources for use in higher education and training which is so important to the continued development of their countries.
As North American geoscientists retire and companies consolidate, many libraries are available for donation or else they will be discarded. The AAPG Publication Pipeline committee collects, inventories, boxes, stores, and sends, free of charge to the recipients, donated geoscience periodicals and books to university libraries and other libraries overseas for use by the students, faculty, and researchers. We raise funds to help in this work. We arrange shipment of publications overseas through help of companies and organizations operating in overseas areas.

Summary of Activities
This committee is dedicated to getting books and periodicals to universities and libraries in need. Our most urgent problems are finding contacts within the universities that need the publications, to work with the AAPG Publication Pipeline in arranging receipt of publications as well as locating companies and or organizations willing to underwrite shipment costs to the recipient countries. We have a large inventory of publications which we need to move to the end users.

Donations of publications to the Publication Pipeline and distributions overseas.
From July 1, 2004 to July 1, 2005 we have accepted donations of geoscience publications from 16 individuals and organizations consisting of 230 boxes of publications. For example, we recently received 37 boxes of geoscience publications from ChevronTexaco, material made surplus as a result of their office consolidation in Houston. We now have about 50 pallets of boxes of publications in storage.
Additional donations are now being arranged. Shipment of libraries from outside the Houston – Dallas / Fort Worth area requires special arrangement. We had earlier received a donation of nine pallets of boxes of publications from ChevronTexaco when they closed a branch company library. These publications came by freight to our new storage area. Once the publications arrived, the contents of each box was inventoried by geoscience students of the University of Houston. These students were arranged for through our committee but paid by ChevronTexaco. The total donation totaled 369 boxes, or about 13,000 pounds. This entire donation was ultimately transported by ChevronTexaco to a new university in Southern Nigeria.
No other shipments have been made to July 1, 2005 although additional shipments to Afghanistan, Kazakhstan, and to Papua New Guinea are currently being arranged. In addition, a major donation to Texas Southern University (who do not have a geology library) is being finalized.
Free Storage is filling up!
Robert Kane, manager for the J. A. Green Intercontinental Cargo Center West, has generously provided free storage for our donated books over this past year. We have the use of 2 bays in his firm’s huge warehouse adjacent to Bush Intercontinental Airport in Houston. This facility provides room to work and store our inventory that is approaching 50 pallets, about 57,000 pounds.

Challenges
Right now our difficulty is in arranging shipments at a pace sufficient to equal our intake of donations. In spite of the general desire for publications, making contacts with universities overseas and arranging shipments is a slow process. This process is helped by working with and through our AAPG regional organizations and affiliates. This year special emphasis will be upon getting the word out that there is a real advantage to companies of all kinds to donate shipping to get publications to universities that need them. Donations are not only helpful to the universities, but also to the companies operating in the country or area. The cost is modest and their generosity is immediately apparent.

Inventory and Webpage
The process of inventorying the contents of boxes of publications is continually underway. This duty is preferably done by the donors but this last year several large donations from estates have lacked an inventory and inventories are usually not available of donations from companies as they consolidate. Individual donations of $1500 and $500 have been received to help pay for inventorying of donated material. Having a complete inventory will allow us to post it on our committee webpage so those desiring donation of publications can see our holdings. A partial inventory of holdings has been put on the Publication Pipeline webpage which is reached through the AAPG website. This list of our holdings can be viewed and downloaded from the web page. Updating our webpage and working with the AAPG on its’ design is a continuing effort.

Finances
The AAPG has provided $3000.00 this year for expenses, which is a great help to the committee. Although the Publication Pipeline Committee is an all volunteer committee, costs are involved in the committee’s operation. Both operating budget and endowment donations of money are needed. Some donors have generously paid for shipping of their donations, but we have lost several large donations because shipping cost was too high for retired donors and the committee could not immediately commit to freight shipment. Books are heavy; a shipment to Houston of a couple thousand pounds from either coast can easily cost $500 to $1000.00.

The Pipeline Needs Your Help!
We request aid by the membership in four ways:
1. Please consider your company sponsoring a shipment of publications overseas to needy universities in the host country of your operations. Experience shows that is a win-
win activity for all involved. We can work with you to help overcome logistical difficulties as we have arranged donations all over the world!

2. If and when you decide to dispose of your library, please keep us in mind. Better us than the dumpster! Although your unused library may not be welcome at universities in North America, overseas universities often do need both books and periodicals.

3. We need the help of individuals to join us on the committee. Help is especially needed in Houston to work with us in handling donations and arranging distributions.

4. We do need funding. The AAPG has provided us with a $3000.00 budget this last year but to be most effective we need at least $22,000 a year. Donations can be made to the AAPG Foundation marked for the Publication Pipeline, either endowment or operating funds.

Publication Pipeline committee members take great pleasure in corresponding and meeting with the donors, and experience great satisfaction in getting publications overseas to those who can use them. We are indeed Geoscientists helping Geoscientists. Members are: Rick Wall (new Chairman), Deborah Adjakaiye, Kunle A. Adesida, David Angstadt, Michael Bryarly, (Vice-Chairman) Martin M. Cassidy (former Chairman, Treasurer) Chuck Caughey, John S. Dudar, Joe Forrest, Robbie Gries, Catherine Kidd, George Klein (GSA representative), Kehinde Ladipo, Eric Michaelis, Don Van Nieuwenhuis, Nahum Schneidermann, Charlotte Sullivan, Gerrit Wind (Secretary), and Pinar Yilmaz.

Frederick. M. Wall
Chairman