



AAPG

Energy Minerals Division

House of Delegates Report

AAPG Annual Meeting, San Antonio, Texas

May 19, 2019

The 2018-2019 fiscal year got off to a slow start due to the delayed election for new officers. Following the election, we held our first of the planned four quarterly Leadership Meetings via teleconference on November 19 and December 10. President Wayne Camp introduced the new officers: Edith Wilson (president-elect), Robert Coskey (vice president) and David Barnes (secretary), and outlined three main goals for the year: 1) member engagement, 2) servant leadership and 3) intersociety cooperation. See also August Explorer EMD Division Column, <https://explorer.aapg.org/story/articleid/49022/emds-plans-for-the-futurePublications>. Our second Leadership teleconference was held on February 12, and our Annual Meeting is scheduled for May 18 in San Antonio. Meeting minutes are available on the EMD webpage <https://www.aapg.org/divisions/emd/reports>.

Major accomplishments this year include:

- Publishing the 2017 Unconventional Energy Resources Review article in the Natural Resources Research Journal (Springer)
- Filling vacancies for 4 Section Councilors and 2 Region Councilors (1 vacancy remains)
- Adding new Publications Committee chairs
- Updating the Bylaws (preparing for member vote)
- Adding a new Critical Minerals technical committee

Member Engagement

Our focus on member engagement has been to provide more frequent and relevant technical content, and to fill Councilor vacancies to improve communication with the Regions and

Sections. Our main form of communication is through the EMD webpage, AAPG broadcast emails, and the quarterly Explorer Division Presidents Column.

We initiated adding new articles each month to the EMD News & Articles section, but because most members are not in the habit of routinely checking the EMD webpage, we have also re-instituted a quarterly newsletter

<https://www.aapg.org/divisions/emd/blog/article/Articleid/51220/first-issue-of-the-2018-19-emd-newsletter>.

We published a two-part series on the History of EMD in the AAPG Explorer in celebration of our 40th anniversary in 2017.

We also published the 2018 Unconventional Energy Resources Review article in the Natural Resources Research Journal. This is a major endeavor for EMD that is prepared every other year by the EMD Commodity Committees. We are currently discussing with the publisher (Springer) the possibility of providing copies of this report on the EMD webpage.

Other publications authored by EMD members include, 1) new AAPG Memoir “Mudstone Diagenesis-Research Perspectives for Shale Hydrocarbon Reservoirs, Seals, and Source Rocks” that is in the final stages of production and is expected to be published mid year, and 2) a special AAPG Bulletin Issue on gas hydrates.

In October we began conferring with DataPages (Eric Jones) to explore the possibility of preparing map data provided by EMD as ‘exploration objects’ to create a world-wide map of unconventional and alternate energy resources. DataPages is currently reviewing EMD reports to assess the feasibility adding this information.

Servant Leadership

We were able to fill six vacancies in our Section and Region Councilor positions so that we now only have one vacancy remaining for the Middle East Region. This is an important step in improving our communication with the Sections and Regions to help coordinate related activities.

We also added a new member who took a leadership role in our Publications Committee, and formed a new technical committee on Critical Minerals with seven initial members.

Inter-Society Cooperation

EMD was contacted by AAPG President Denise Cox to prepare a session on alternate energy resources for the American Geophysical Union meeting in Washington D.C., December 10-14.

Unfortunately we were not able to generate sufficient interest to develop a session, but we did have one member give a presentation.

We began an effort this year to reach out to the Energy Geology Division of the Geological Society of America (GSA) by proposing technical sessions for GSA section and annual meetings. Unfortunately, our proposed session on the “Niobrara-Outcrop to Foreland” only attracted three papers, which is not enough for a full session, but these were added to session on carbonate geology for the joint Rocky Mountain, North Central, and South Central Section Meeting that was held March 25-27 in Manhattan, Kansas.

We are looking into proposing sessions on some of the non-petroleum alternate energy commodities that generally lack support for AAPG annual meetings, but may be of more interest to the broader geological community represented by GSA. A potential limitation is that GSA charges a fee to submit abstracts for proposed sessions.

EMD members have proposed a workshop on mudstone diagenesis and a potential Green River shale field trip in Utah for the International Sedimentary Geosciences congress in Flagstaff, Arizona, April 26-29, 2020, that is partially sponsored by SEPM.

EMD is also supporting an invited session for the Canadian Society of Petroleum Geologists Gussow Conference in Banff, Alberta, October 15-17.

International ICE

EMD has been working with the Division of Environmental Geology to try to attract speakers to Buenos Aries, Argentina to discuss developing their shale energy resources in an environmentally sustainable way. Results include several shale-related papers in several sessions and two geothermal papers.

Annual Meeting

EMD provides a Vice Chair each year to assist the local committees in developing technical sessions related to unconventional and alternate energy resources for the AAPG Annual Meeting. Although EMD members are actively involved in planning sessions “sponsored” by EMD, we have found that our Vice Chairs are not involved sufficiently early in the process to be able to have any input in developing session topics. We would like to try to include a session each year on an unconventional or alternate energy resource to complement the usual shale and tight oil topics. We hope to improve for the 2020 ACE by engaging the Houston Geological Society early in their planning.

URTeC

Although many EMD members participate in URTeC each year, EMD has not been contacted to assist in planning for this conference.