

educate them on energy issues. These data will be beneficial for the person manning the Washington D.C. office.

A final project is underway to update *Guiding Your Career as a Professional Geologist*, edited by Pete Rose. This book is out of print, and we no longer have copies. We plan to update the publication and have it produced digitally. We can then burn CDs for distribution to students and new members of the AAPG.

As president, I attended all of the sectional meetings and the international meeting. The Eastern Section meeting was held in Columbus, Ohio, in October. Dr. Bartlett was the speaker at the DPA luncheon there, and his talk was entitled *Arithmetic, Population and Energy*. Scott Tinker spoke at the DPA luncheon in San Antonio at the Gulf Coast Section meeting also in October. His topic was "Unconventional Gas and Global Energy: A Matter of Time." The Rocky Mountain Section meeting in Denver was held in October as well. The DPA arranged an ethics course for this meeting, but had to cancel it due to poor attendance.

In April, the Southwest Section held its convention in Fredericksburg, Texas. Peter Rose addressed the luncheon attendees with "Influence of Geology and Technology on Frontier History, Texas Hill Country." The Pacific Section meeting was held in San Jose, California in May. The speaker for the luncheon was George Taylor, state climatologist of Oregon, who presented an excellent talk entitled "A Climatologist Looks at a Long Term Perspective on Climate Trends."

This was a busy year and it took the efforts of many to make it succeed. I want to thank all of the people who worked on the DPA events over the last year. Your hard work and dedication made this year successful. Once again, I thank Norma Newby, who does a tremendous job for the DPA as manager of divisions. It has been a pleasure serving as your president.

Mike Party, President

Energy Minerals Division

Goal and Vision

In the vernacular of the AAPG Strategic Plan, the big audacious goal of the Energy Minerals Division (EMD) is to be the premier organization for professional development in all of our technical fields (coal, coalbed methane, energy economics and technology, gas hydrates, gas shales, geospatial information and remote sensing, geothermal, oil sands, oil shale,

and uranium). Our vision is to be the place scientists go to first for information and networking. The EMD provides the forum to either increase knowledge within one of the technical fields as a specialist or to branch out into a new technical field as a novice.

EMD provides benefits to all AAPG members through publications and sponsorship at professional meetings (e.g., oral and poster sessions, short courses, field trips, and luncheons), as discussed below. Basic information on each of the technical fields is provided in the public area of the EMD Web site (<http://emd.aapg.org/>). The EMD will continue to provide these important benefits to all AAPG members. However, the EMD has a vital interest in providing benefits to its members with the idea that "if you build it, they will come" and "happy members will stay."

Emphasis on Benefits to Members

A major emphasis this year has been to provide benefits to members. A new brochure was produced that emphasizes benefits to EMD members in four areas: certification, discounts, information, and networking. In conjunction with the Division of Professional Affairs, EMD offers peer-reviewed, professional certification for coal geologists. EMD members received discounts on an EMD-sponsored short course and field trip at the 2005 AAPG Annual Convention. The greatest benefit involves information as described below. Networking can be accomplished through involvement in committees, attendance at professional meetings and luncheons, and searching the EMD membership directory online for members with similar interests and geographic areas.

Members received two letters with the latest news, one in September and one in February. Timely news was distributed to members in four e-mails: October, December, April, and June. The primary means of distributing up-to-date detailed information is through the members-only area of the EMD Web site, which contains Division business, technical information, and a searchable membership directory. EMD committee chairmen and Councilors provided information for the public and members-only areas of the EMD Web site.

Division business topics in the members-only Web site include (1) a message to members from the EMD president, (2) abstracts for the EMD program at the 2005 AAPG Annual Convention, (3) EMD annual reports from the December issue of the *AAPG Bulletin* (2003 and 2004), (4) our current business plan (e.g., goals for the

next 10 years, immediate goals and tasks for the current fiscal year, and the budget), (5) the EMD Bylaws, (6) a list of Certified Coal Geologists, (7) EMD quarterly columns in the *Explorer* (1998 to 2005), (8) an historical list of EMD awardees, (9) leadership meeting reports (mid-year and annual meetings, 2003 to 2005), (10) EMD newsletters, (11) an historical list of EMD Executive Committees and Councilors, (12) a procedures manual, and (13) a list of EMD publications and AAPG publications of interest to EMD members.

Technical information in the members-only Web site is available by technical field under committees and regionally by AAPG section or region. Each technical field committee had a goal this year to provide articles, presentations, short course notes, field guidebooks, reference lists, Web links, committee reports, and a calendar. Many of these items were added this year. Meetings, activities, and technical fields information are available for each AAPG section or region.

EMD members may either view the membership directory by member last name or search the directory by multiple topics (technical fields interest, AAPG section or region, city, state or province, country, company, and availability for consulting).

Publications

Progress was made on the revised second edition of the *Atlas of Coal Geology* (AAPG Studies in Geology 45), co-sponsored with the Society for Organic Petrology. Alexander Papp is the EMD editor.

Work continued on development of a CD-ROM publication titled *Geospatial Technology Applications for Exploration and Production of Petroleum*.

Samuel Limerick is the editor. Planning continued on a joint EMD/Division of Environmental Geosciences (DEG) publication on CO₂ sequestration. Jack Pashin served as the EMD committee chairman.

EMD continued to co-sponsor the scientific quarterly journal *Natural Resources Research* with the International Association of Mathematical Geologists. Douglas Peters served on the editorial board as the EMD representative.

EMD publications were advertised in the October, December, and January issues of the *AAPG Explorer*. EMD columns highlighting member benefits, oil sands, gas shales, and the EMD program at the 2005 AAPG Annual Convention appeared in the August, November, February, and May issues of the *AAPG Explorer*.

Meetings

The EMD/AAPG shared an exhibit booth at the National Mining Association International Mining Expo in Las Vegas, September 27–30, 2004.

Timothy Collett and Arthur H. Johnson, EMD Gas Hydrates Committee co-chairs, convened the Hedberg Conference on "Gas Hydrates: Energy Resource Potential and Associated Geologic Hazards" in Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada, September 12–16, 2004. A special publication is being prepared with contributions from the conference.

Douglas Patchen, EMD Eastern Section Councilor, planned technical sessions on coalbed methane and CO₂ sequestration at the AAPG Eastern Section meeting in Columbus, Ohio, October 3–5, 2004. Ronald A. Nelson was the featured speaker at the joint EMD/DEG luncheon.

William Ambrose, EMD Gulf Coast Section Councilor, planned an EMD luncheon at the 54th annual GCAGS convention in San Antonio, October 12, 2004. Scott Tinker spoke on "Unconventional Gas, Global Energy and Time."

Creties Jenkins, EMD Southwest Section Councilor, planned an EMD-sponsored short course on "Reservoir Characterization and Production Technologies for Unconventional Reservoirs" taught by

Jeffrey Levine, Creties Jenkins, Kevin Fisher, and Trent Green at the AAPG Southwest Section meeting in Fredricksburg, Texas, April 10, 2005.

Rick Richardson, EMD 2005 vice chair, Technical Program chair, and Canadian Region Councilor, developed the EMD program at the 2005 AAPG Annual Convention in Calgary, Canada. The EMD sponsored or co-sponsored sessions on oil sands and heavy oil; natural gas from coal and shale; gas hydrates; advances and applications in non-seismic methods: remote sensing, GIS, GPS, and GPR; carbon management and acid gas sequestration; and environmental issues related to unconventional resources. A joint DEG-EMD awards luncheon featured a talk on "Marginal Carbon Fuels: The Key to Prosperity" by Jim Dinning. Andrew Beaton and Mike Dawson led a pre-meeting field trip on "Coalbed Methane Potential of the Horseshoe Canyon Formation in Southern Alberta". A post-meeting, two-day short course on "Application of an Integrated Coalbed Methane Exploration Model to Delineate Coalbed Methane Opportunities in Canada" was given by Andrew R. Scott, David Marchioni, and Barry Ryan.

Andrea Reynolds, EMD 2006 vice chair, developed a full EMD program for the 2006 AAPG Annual Convention in Houston. Stephen Testa, EMD 2007 vice

chair, began planning the EMD program for the 2007 AAPG Annual Convention in Long Beach, California.

Adebayo Akinpelu, EMD International Councilor, planned EMD technical sessions for the 2005 AAPG International Conference in Paris, France, and the 2006 AAPG International Conference in Perth, Australia.

Other Developments

We amended the EMD Bylaws to coincide with current EMD committee structure and practice.

We donated the EMD poster on "Unconventional Energy Resources of North America" to 71 AAPG U.S. student chapters and 122 U.S. government statesmen (e.g., U.S. Department of Energy, Energy Information Administration, U.S. Senators, U.S. Congressmen, U.S. Geological Survey and state geologists).

I greatly appreciate the cooperation that I received from the entire EMD leadership (Executive Committee, Councilors, and committee chairs). Their dedication and willingness to serve made this an enjoyable year.

Brian J. Cardott, President

Reports of the Sections

Gulf Coast Association of Geological Societies

Following are the highlights of GCAGS activities for the year.

The GCAGS Annual Convention is held in conjunction with the Gulf Coast Section of SEPM. The 54th annual convention was held in San Antonio, October 10–12, 2004. The general chairman for the convention was Lee Billingsley, with Armando Medina and John Waugh chairing the technical program and Stewart Chuber presiding over GCAGS. A strong technical program and good variety of central Texas fieldtrips and short courses were provided. The GCAGS transactions were co-edited by Wayne Jones, Robert Smith, and Charles Willetts and are available on CD, with the hard copy version available at an additional cost.

The GCAGS headquarters office is located at the Bureau of Economic Geology, University of Texas at Austin. Kate Kipper is the executive secretary. The GCAGS, which comprises 13 geological societies representing five states and Mexico, has the largest membership among AAPG affiliated societies.

GCAGS is a nonprofit professional organization whose purpose is to foster education and communication of ideas, and to render financial support to geoscience students conducting research in the Gulf Coast region. It is served by a board of directors composed of one representative from each member society, with the vice president, secretary, and treasurer nominated by the Executive Committee of the local society hosting the year's annual meeting. The 2004–2005 GCAGS Executive Committee consists of President Tom Bergeon, Past President

Stewart Chuber, Vice President (President-Elect) Barry Wawak, Secretary Eric Broadbridge, and Treasurer George Rhoades.

The GCAGS Student Grant Committee chaired by Danny Harrelson awarded 24 research grants to students from 12 universities. The total amount of GCAGS scholarship money awarded was \$25,694.

The GCAGS elected to support its local societies college scholarship programs in 2005 with a one-time matching grant for new money raised for scholarships. The limit is \$10,000 per society, except for the Houston Geological Society, which has a \$20,000 limit. This program was chaired by Dick Bishop and is a repeat program from one that awarded \$70,000 to the local societies in 1991.

The GCAGS distributes its own geological publications and those from