

President-elect Charles "Chip" Groat and I attended the Leadership Conference in Tulsa, February 9–11, 2007. Groat was appointed the DEG representative to the AAPG Global Climate Change Ad Hoc Committee.

The DEG Advisory Board recommended and the Executive Committee approved a slate of award recipients. Awards were presented during the DEG Luncheon, April 4, 2007, in Long Beach, Calif.

The Executive Committee approved the 2007–2008(09) officer candidate slate comprised of Rebecca Dodge and Stephen M. Testa for president-elect, Nancy S. Dorsey and Hannes E. Leetaru for vice president, and Nancy J. "Anne" Fix and Barbara D. Houghton for secretary/treasurer. Rebecca Dodge, Hannes E. Leetaru, and Nancy J. "Anne" Fix were elected to the 2007–2008 Executive Committee.

Don Clarke, DEG vice chair/Oral-Poster Sessions co-chair/Awards chair, and Robert Menzie, Oral-Poster Sessions co-chair, organized an excellent DEG program for the 2007 annual meeting in Long Beach. The program included five technical sessions, luncheon, and awards ceremony. Dr. Lee C. Gerhard presented the luncheon address. Tidelands Oil Production Company and D.B. Stephens and Associates sponsored the luncheon.

The following DEG-related programs were held at AAPG Section Meetings:

- Gulf Coast Association of Geological Societies (GCAGS) Meeting, Lafayette, Louisiana, September 25–27, 2006. The program included four oral sessions, two poster sessions, and a field trip.
- Eastern Section AAPG meeting, Buffalo, New York, October 7–10, 2006. The program included one oral session and All-Division luncheon.
- Southwest Section meeting, Wichita Falls, Texas, April 22–24, 2007. The program included one presentation and All-Division luncheon.

Cynthia Dinwiddie was appointed DEG vice chair for the 2008 annual meeting in San Antonio. The proposed program includes five technical sessions, five joint technical sessions with EMD or AAPG, a forum with AAPG/EMD/SEPM, three short courses, a field trip, and the DEG luncheon.

Michael Jacobs and Charles Groat are working with Cape Town 2008 AAPG International Convention and Exhibition chairs to solicit technical participation in environmental session talks/programs/forums.

New DEG committees were developed under Vice President Michael Jacobs'

leadership and approved by the Executive Committee: Hydrogeology Committee, Robert Maric, chair; Environmental Geophysics Committee, Bruce D. Smith, chair; CO₂ Sequestration Ad Hoc Committee, Hannes E. Leetaru and Matthias Grobe, co-chairs; and Public Outreach Ad Hoc Committee, Dibyendu Sarkar, chair. An alternative fuels/biofuels/waste utilization committee was considered. Revitalization of the Research and Geohazards Ad Hoc Committees was discussed. The Health and Safety Committee is preparing a standard set of procedures to be implemented by all AAPG field trips by 2008. The initial draft "outline of expectation and responsibilities" has been delivered and reviewed. Vicki Harder was appointed Web Site Committee chair. An update, reorganization, and expansion of the web site are underway.

Other items proposed were an EMD/DEG Special Publication about coalbed methane and a one-day environmental symposium in Aberdeen.

Jane S. McColloch, President

Energy Minerals Division

The Energy Minerals Division (EMD) strives to be the premier organization for professional development in the technical fields of coal, coalbed methane, energy economics and technology, gas hydrates, gas shales, geospatial information and remote sensing, geothermal, oil sands, oil shale, and uranium. EMD provides benefits to AAPG members through publications and sponsored activities at professional meetings. Basic information on technical fields is in the public area of the EMD Web site (<http://emd.aapg.org/>).

EMD increased its membership by 63 members last year. As of June 1, 2007, EMD had a total of 1,353 members. Fund balance at the end of Q3 FY2007 was \$170,180, an increase of \$12,341. Publication sales as of Q3 FY2007 were \$2,286, mostly from the Coal Atlas. Dues income for EMD last year (FY2006) was \$21,595. Projection of annual dues for FY2007 is \$22,475—a 4% increase.

EMD officers met in Dallas on August 25, 2006 for an All-Division workshop to refine mission statements and set major goals. EMD's mission is to advance the science and technology of energy minerals in an environmentally safe

manner. EMD's major goals for 2006–2007 were:

1. Enhance the EMD Web site for each commodity section: play overviews, commodity/committee reports, workshops, presentations, abstracts/publications, calendar, references/Web links, meetings, and technical fields information.
2. Increase EMD's visibility by offering more sponsored activities.
3. Advance EMD-sponsored publications.

EMD Web site Chair Creties Jenkins created new guidelines for standardizing report content and posted material by committee chairs and councilors. Significant new material was added to the Members Only section of the Web site (http://emd.aapg.org/members_only/). An informative slide set introducing EMD, by Southwest Section Councilor Jeffrey Levine, and slide sets of EMD-sponsored luncheon talks were posted in the Outreach section.

EMD sessions at the 2006 International AAPG Convention at Perth included geothermal/alternative energy, coalbed methane, oil from coal, and CO₂ sequestration. EMD officers gave presentations at the GCAGS meeting in Lafayette, Louisiana, the Eastern Section meeting in Buffalo, New York, and the Southwest Section meeting in Wichita Falls, Texas. Gulf Coast Councilor Mike Wiley arranged a session on uranium at the 2007 GCAGS meeting in Corpus Christi, Texas. Stephen M. Testa was the EMD vice chair for the 2007 AAPG Annual Convention in Long Beach, California, with EMD-sponsored sessions on shale gas, coal (with DEG), heavy oil, and alternative energy. Vince Matthews presented China and India's Ravenous Appetite for Natural Resources - Their Potential Impact on Colorado at the EMD luncheon, sponsored by Nahama Natural Gas, Signal Hill Petroleum, and Trio Petroleum.

EMD Vice Chair Donna Balin, Technical Chair Mike Wiley, and Field Trip/Workshop Coordinator Amy Sullivan arranged 18 EMD-sponsored or co-sponsored sessions, four forums, three short courses and two field trips for the 2008 AAPG Annual Convention in San Antonio. EMD also is sponsoring a coalbed methane workshop and sessions on coal, coalbed methane, gas hydrates, and oil shale at the 2008 AAPG International Convention in Cape Town. Laura Wray is the EMD vice chair for the 2009 AAPG Annual convention in Denver.

The EMD/DEG Publication, Carbon Dioxide Sequestration in Geological Media-State of the Art, is scheduled for

completion in 2007. Matthias Grobe is EMD committee chairman for the publication, supported by a \$20,000 grant from the Bureau of Economic Geology and a \$15,000 grant from the AAPG Foundation. Progress continued on the second edition of the Atlas of Coal Geology (AAPG Studies in Geology 45), co-sponsored by The Society for Organic Petrology. Alexander Papp is the EMD editor, and the AAPG Foundation provided a \$6,000 grant. Progress continued on Gas Hydrates: Energy Resource Potential and Associated Geologic Hazards, edited by Art Johnson and Tim Collett. The volume is supported by a \$12,000 grant from the AAPG Foundation and is scheduled for completion in 2008.

Work continued on the CD-ROM publication Geospatial Technology Applications for Exploration and Production of Petroleum with Samuel Limerick editor. EMD continued to co-sponsor the scientific quarterly journal Natural Resources Research. Douglas Peters served as EMD editor. In late 2007, EMD plans to publish a series of comprehensive energy mineral commodity reports in Natural Resources Research with EMD past President Peter Warwick serving as editor. EMD columns on clean coal, gas shales, EMD activities at the 2007 AAPG annual convention, and uranium appeared in respective issues of August 2006, November 2006, February 2007, and May 2007 AAPG Explorer.

EMD was a sponsor for the 2007 Southwest Section meeting in Wichita Falls, and approved an annual increase of up to \$2,000 for the Energy Minerals Grant scholarship fund. EMD expanded its international presence by appointing Barry Goldstein as the new Councilor for the Asia/Pacific Region, Abelardo Sánchez Araiza for Latin America, and John Dolson for Europe. EMD also initiated work on a comprehensive geospatial database of all energy mineral technical fields.

William A. Ambrose, President

Division of Professional Affairs

The Division of Professional Affairs (DPA) remains the largest division in AAPG and financially healthy. The executive committee included President-elect Tom Ewing, Vice President Suzanne Cluff, Secretary Craig Reynolds, Treasurer

Mike Canich, and Past President Deborah Sacrey, all of whom did a terrific job. DPA accomplished a number of goals in 2006-2007, which are discussed briefly in this report.

DPA, along with AAPG, sponsors our Washington D.C. office, led by Don Juckett. The mission is to supply information to policy makers and other groups and societies in Washington and keep our membership informed on pending legislation or initiatives that could affect our membership. Considerable effort has been directed this year at restoring funding for fossil fuel research and various outreach efforts to congressional and energy department staffers. Significant legislation considered damaging to the oil industry was introduced in 2006 but, thus far, none have been passed into law.

Juckett coordinated AAPG member visits at Congressional Visits Day (CVD) highlighted by a visit with the White House staff on energy by AAPG President-Elect Will Green. Several DPA members were in attendance at CVD and various senators, congressmen and staffers were contacted. An Interdisciplinary Reserves Conference held in June 2007 co-hosted by AAPG, SPEE, SPE and the WPC brought accounting, governmental and industry leaders together to discuss challenges in reserve reporting worldwide. David Curtis has now joined Juckett on a part time basis.

Carl Smith has been very active with our Government Affairs Committee (GAC) and we have revised four Position Papers and are awaiting approval by the EC of these revisions. We also revised our summary versions of these statements as more suitable for handout to policy makers. Smith and Juckett coordinate much of our work in outreach and information dissemination. DPA has proposed revised procedures for reviewing and creating position papers under the leadership of President-elect Tom Ewing.

DPA in conjunction with SPE, SPEE, and the WPC is attempting to develop training modules for reserve evaluators. The effort is led by Dan Tearpock on our part and is designed to improve reserve reporting worldwide by increasing the knowledge base of the individual evaluators. This effort will continue for several years and is helping to coordinate the reserves conference in Washington.

DPA recognized our early and longstanding members this winter by mailing the first 500 surviving members a

certificate and a pen. Our recognition of them, led by George Bole and Norma Newby, was very well received and overdue.

Three editions of the *Correlator* were published, including discussion-provoking commentary by Editor Bob Shoup on a variety of subjects. A very valuable summary on Climate Change science is planned for the next edition by Shoup.

The Board Certified Level for existing members, which requires continuing education along with our established experience and ethics requirements has begun. This education largely parallels the training requirements adopted for registered geologists in Kansas and Texas. We have established an online site for DPA members to track their education hours and have certified a number of applicants. Certification remains a "gold standard" recognized across all geographic boundaries.

We are sponsoring short courses at the annual and sectional meetings when possible. Several have been offered this year and other courses are planned for upcoming events. We continue to subsidize the cost of our luncheon for members at the annual meeting and we were proud to sponsor AAPG President-elect Scott Tinker and his talk on ethics at the International AAPG convention held in Perth, Australia in November 2006. In an effort to expand our presence internationally, we plan to sponsor a session at the convention in South Africa in 2008. DPA membership is a real value for those who do participate in continuing education and attendance at conventions and we recommend expansion of these services in the future.

DPA membership is decreasing slowly due to the unfavorable demographics also evident in the AAPG as a whole but the rate of decrease has been lessened significantly. Our membership remains largely North American and we will continue to serve their needs while increasing our efforts to attract international membership.

The AAPG in April adopted a revised dues structure based upon ability to pay. DPA has not decided on revising DPA dues but this will be considered in the coming year by the council and executive committee of DPA.

Norma Newby has again been outstanding in her service to the Divisions. The AAPG staff has done a very efficient job in serving our membership.

Richard G. Green, President