

As chair of the AC, I thank members for their participation in our important processes. Also, I want to thank the AAPG staff, specifically Regina Gill and Janice Scott, for providing the AC with the support needed to accomplish the tasks this year.

Lee T. Billingsley, Chair

Foundation

The AAPG Foundation mission is to provide a source of funding to support educational, charitable and scientific objectives that directly and indirectly benefit the geological profession and the general public.

The Foundation's financial audit is currently in progress and these results are considered preliminary. The investment portfolio increased by \$180,000 during the fiscal year primarily due to the diversification of the Foundation portfolio which includes public and private mutual funds, international investments and real estate. The investment portfolio of the Foundation amounted to \$34.7 million and net realized capital gains of \$1.4 million as of June 30, 2008.

For fiscal year 2007–2008, the Foundation had total gross revenues of \$1.9 million which came primarily from rental income, interest, dividends and capital gains, oil and gas royalties, and the OTC grant. Total expenditures for Foundation operations—excluding grants and awards—was \$1.3M resulting in a surplus from operations of \$603,750. Contributions to the Foundation in 2007–2008 totaled \$1.9 million. Approximately, 13 percent of AAPG

members contributed to the Foundation through their AAPG dues statements.

During the past year, the Foundation continued support to many of the valuable geological programs it has support over the years as well as some new programs including: Distinguished Lecture and Visiting Geoscientist Programs, AAPG Bulletin, Energy Resource Library, L. Austin Weeks Undergraduate Grants, K-12 Education Programs, and Digital Products University Subscriptions. Total disbursements for grants and program services were \$1.3 million compared to \$816,054 in the prior year.

The Grants-in-Aid program continues to grow with 70 Named/Memorial grants and eight additional grants established but not yet fully funded. This year, two new Named Grants were endowed and provided additional funding by Allan V. and Eleanor Martini and David W. Worthington. Grants were awarded to 115 graduate students, domestic and international, totaling \$208,000 through the Grants-in-Aid Program.

The L. Austin Weeks Memorial Medal was established in 2008, and is the Foundation's highest award, given in recognition for extraordinary philanthropy and service directed to advance the mission of the AAPG Foundation. The premier award honors the late L. Austin Weeks, whose philanthropic legacy set an exemplary standard.

Marta Weeks was the first recipient of the Week's Memorial Medal Award. She was presented the award at the AAPG annual meeting in San Antonio.

Jack C. Threet was the tenth recipient of the Chairman's award for his long-time outstanding support and exceptional service to the Foundation,

and he accepted his award at the Chairmen's Reception in San Antonio.

At the annual meeting of the Members of the Corporation in San Antonio, David Campbell, Robert Esser, Robert Weimer, and M. Ray Thomasson were re-elected members of the Foundation Corporation.

The Board of Trustees, joined by Larry Funkhouser and Jack C. Threet, Co-Chairmen of the "Meeting Challenges...Assuring Success" Financial Campaign and Campaign Team Leaders Bob Ardell, Mike Party, Ed Picou, and Marta Weeks united to kick-off the public phase of the campaign at the AAPG Annual Meetings Opening Session in San Antonio announcing a \$35 million goal.

The AAPG Foundation Trustee Associates membership totaled 264 as of June 30, 2008. Officers elected at the previous year's meeting in Maui included Paul Strunk, Chairman; Jerry Namy, Vice Chair; and Jay Henthorne, Secretary/Treasurer. This year's meeting was held in Jackson Hole, Wyoming in early September. Nine new Trustee Associate members were added during the current year and nine members passed away. The Trustee Associates support has been, and continues to be, a critical and important factor in the growth and development of the Foundation.

The Board of Trustees extends a heartfelt thank you to each contributor for continued support of the Foundation's vision and mission—together we can Meet Challenges and Assure Success for many years to come.

**William L. Fisher,
Chair, Board of Trustees**

Reports of the Divisions

Energy Minerals Division

The mission of the Energy Minerals Division is to "advance the science and technology of energy minerals in an environmentally safe manner" by producing high-quality publications and by organizing and hosting technical sessions, workshops, field trips and the EMD Web site. While doing so, EMD moves closer to accomplishing an

important goal—to be the premier source for information and professional development in the EMD commodity areas of coal, coalbed methane, energy economics and technology, gas shales, geospatial information and remote sensing, geothermal, oil sands, oil shale and uranium. Basic information on these technical fields can be accessed by members on the EMD Web site at <http://emd.aapg.org/>.

Goals and Achievements for 2007–2008

EMD established six main goals for the 2007–2008 business year: enhance the EMD Website for each commodity area; increase EMD visibility in the Sections (and Regions); advance EMD projects further along toward publication; increase EMD membership; appoint new Councilors for International Regions; and recruit EMD vice

chairs for upcoming meetings. Significant progress was made on each of these goals, which will be discussed below.

Major achievements during the year were: having an unprecedented presence at the San Antonio meeting; adding an African Region Councilor and changing the Bylaws to include Councilors from all six international Regions; increasing membership and our bank account; renaming the student grant in honor of the late Don Towse; recommending three active members to the Global Climate Change Committee; reaching an agreement to co-host the 2009 Perkins Conference on Unconventional Resources; and submitting manuscripts on two long-term projects to the AAPG Publications Department. In addition, we changed the way we conduct business by initiating focused conference calls involving small interest groups and urged EMD Councilors and Chairs to develop a grassroots network of volunteers at the level of the affiliated Societies.

EMD Website

Visitors to the EMD Web site should have recognized numerous improvements made over the course of the year. EMD committee chairs and councilors have embraced the new guidelines created by former Web site Chair Creties Jenkins to standardize report content and material to be posted. Also, councilors and committee chairs established a grassroots network of volunteers at the affiliated Society level to provide them with resource extraction data and information on current activity. Consequently, significant new material was added to the members only section.

Visibility in the Sections

EMD leaders and other volunteers ensured a strong EMD presence at all Section meetings. Our strategy here was two-fold: to have an EMD officer speak at the opening session or all-convention luncheon; and to help organize strong technical sessions that were listed in the program as EMD-sponsored sessions. The general chairs of two of the six Section meetings invited the EMD president or his designated replacement to participate in the opening session, and other General Chairs allowed an EMD officer to speak during the all-convention luncheon. Progress also was made toward our goal of having EMD-sponsored sessions at all Section meetings, due largely to active involvement of local EMD volunteers.

Publications

Significant progress was made on moving several long-term projects closer to final publication. Matthias Grobe submitted the manuscript for the EMD/DEG publication, *Carbon Dioxide Sequestration in Geological Media—State of the Art*, to the AAPG Publication staff late in the year. EMD and DEG are both contributing \$5,000 toward publication costs, and the Texas Bureau of Economic Geology graciously contributed \$20,000.

The manuscript on *Gas Hydrates: Energy Resource Potential and Associated Geologic Hazards*, edited by Art Johnson and Tim Collett, also was received by the Publications Department and is in publication. This will be published as a CD with a paper copy of abstracts only, and could be available by mid 2009 at the earliest, the end of 2009 at the latest. Support for publication costs has been provided by the AAPG Foundation (\$12,000) and U.S. Department of Energy (\$20,000).

The second edition of the *Atlas of Coal Geology* (AAPG Studies in Geology 45) needs to be approved by the AAPG Publication Department before a manuscript can be submitted. Alex Papp is the EMD Editor of this book, which is co-sponsored by The Society for Organic Petrology. The AAPG Foundation has provided \$6,000 toward publication costs.

Work was suspended on the CD-ROM publication *Geospatial Technology Applications for Exploration and Production of Petroleum*, Samuel Limerick, editor. Instead, our focus shifted to a new project to develop a comprehensive geospatial database for the entire United States, beginning with coalbed methane and shale plays. Attribute data to be collected have been determined, as well as pilot areas in which to begin collecting these data.

Comprehensive energy commodity reports prepared by EMD committee chairs were compiled into a single article titled *Unconventional Energy Resources and Geospatial Information: 2006 Review*, published in the scientific quarterly journal, *Natural Resources Research*. A comparable report will be prepared this year under the guidance of Peter Warwick and Doug Peters. EMD columns on geothermal, energy economics, coalbed methane and EMD activities at the 2008 AAPG Annual Convention were written for the *AAPG Explorer*.

Membership and Finances

Our membership is on the rise, and financially we remain quite strong. EMD

membership as of March 1, 2008 was up 64 members from the same date last year, bringing total membership to 1,407. Our bank balance at the end of the second quarter of FY2008 was \$179,048, an increase of \$5,366 from the fund balance at the end of the 2007 fiscal year. We are well situated to continue to expand our activities in the coming years.

International Councilors

During the past 15 months, EMD has expanded its international presence by appointing Bary Goldstein as the initial councilor for the Asian/Pacific Region; Abelardo Sanchez Araiza for the Mexican, Central American and South American Region; John Dolson for the European Region; and Jeff Aldrich for the African Region. A Bylaws amendment was written to reflect EMD's desire to have all regions and sections represented on EMD's Leadership Council. The proposed amendment was approved by the EMD Executive Committee and current Councilors before being presented to the membership at the annual EMD business meeting in San Antonio for final approval. Prior to this, the Bylaws only provided for a Canadian Region Councilor and one other International Councilor for the rest of the world.

EMD Presence at Domestic and International Meetings

EMD achieved a significant accomplishment at the annual convention held in San Antonio by hosting an unprecedented number of technical sessions, poster sessions, workshops, and a field trip.

With this performance, EMD Vice Chair Donna Balin, along with Mike Wiley and Amy Sullivan, issued a clear challenge for organizers of the 2009 meeting in Denver, but EMD Vice Chair Laura Wray and her volunteers have accepted the challenge and will attempt to match, or perhaps exceed, the EMD exposure we enjoyed in San Antonio.

Global Climate Change Committee

President Will Green appointed three persons recommended by EMD to the new Global Climate Change Committee. One of the three, Jeff Levine, has assumed a very active leadership role, so active in fact, that he resigned his position of councilor for the Southwest Section in order to focus his efforts on committee work. Mike Party has assumed the duties of Southwest Section councilor.

Jeff Levine was a key player in the organization of the highly successful Climate Change Forum hosted at the San Antonio meeting, and currently is involved in planning a similar session for the AAPG International Meeting in Cape Town in October.

Joint EMD-GCSSEPM Technical Meeting on Unconventional Resources

Norman C. Rosen, Executive Director of the Gulf Coast Section of SEPM, on behalf of the Trustees of the Gulf Coast Society for Economic Paleontologists and Mineralogists Foundation, extended an invitation to EMD to be a co-sponsor of the 2009 Bob F. Perkins Conference on Unconventional Resources. The conference will be held in early December 2009 in Houston.

EMD's Executive Committee and leadership heartily endorsed our participation in this event. EMD members should consider submitting an abstract in any of the unconventional areas to be part of the technical program, including shale gas, tight sands, tar sands, gas hydrates and oil shale.

Towse Award

In March, the EMD leadership requested that the AAPG Foundation Board of Trustees consider changing the name of the "Energy Minerals Named Grant," created to provide scholarships to students, to honor Donald F. Towse. During an April meeting, the Board concurred, and renamed the grant the "Donald F. Towse Memorial Grant-in-Aid."

Honors and Awards

During the annual EMD Luncheon held April 23rd in San Antonio, EMD recognized members who have distinguished themselves through their service to the division and by the quality of their technical presentations. Andrew R. Scott was awarded EMD Honorary Membership; Walter B. Ayers, EMD Distinguished Service Award; William A. Ambrose, EMD Past President's Award; and Stephen M. Testa and Creties Jenkins, EMD Certificates of Merit.

The Best EMD Paper Award went to B. Rostron and S. Whittaker for their talk "Geological Characterization for the IEA GHG Weyburn-Midale CO₂ Monitoring and Storage Project: Past Successes and Future Challenges." President's Certificates for Excellence in Presentation

(oral) were awarded to T. Engelder and G. Lash for "Crosscutting and Abutting Joints: A Reflection of Joint Normal Effective Stress," and to J. Schieber for "Deposition and Sequence Stratigraphic Framework of Late Devonian Black Shales in the Eastern U.S."

The Best EMD Poster Award was given to M.S. Cameron, F.E. Walles and D.M. Jarvie for "Quantification of Thermal Maturity Indices and Relationships to Predicted Shale Gas Producibility: Gate-way Visualization and Attribute Technique." President's Certificates for Excellence in Presentation (poster) went to R. Loucks and S Ruppel for "Shell and Grain Layers in the Barnett Shale; Event Deposition of In-Situ Accumulations?" and D. Streit, C. Dacre, E. Wemmelmann and C. Joyce for "GIS and Remote Sensing for "Crade to Grave" Hurricane Impact Assessment."

Election Results

Three new officers were elected for 2008–09. The new members are Frank E. Walles, President-elect; Andrea A. Reynolds, Vice President; and Amy E. Sullivan, Secretary. These three will join Creties Jenkins, President; and Neil Sullivan, Treasurer, on the Executive Committee.

Charles M. Boyer II (Eastern), K. David Newell (Mid-Continent), Genevieve Young (Rocky Mountain) and James G. Clough (Pacific) were elected as Section Councilors.

Douglas G. Patchen, President

Division Of Professional Affairs

The Division of Professional Affairs (DPA) is the community within AAPG that focuses on the professional practice of energy resource geoscience, and upholds the AAPG Code of Ethics. As such, DPA forms the "inner core" of AAPG that makes it a *professional* society and not just a *scientific* society. The Division is proud to form that "core," and invites all AAPG members to join.

The DPA community consists of geoscientists who are committed to standards of competence, to ethical behavior and to professionalism—a commitment expressed through certification. The community comes together to improve members' knowledge of issues affecting the

practice of our profession. The DPA comes together to guide all AAPG members to improve their knowledge and practice as well.

DPA members actively inform themselves and all AAPG members about the externalities that impact our profession, particularly government legislation and regulatory policy. They represent their profession in engaging with lawmakers and regulators regarding matters of professional practices and professional concern.

Membership and Internal Affairs

DPA is the largest of three AAPG divisions with just under 3,000 members. We have had a few new members, but not as many as we should. The aging membership of the Division is a concern for this and future years, with over 60 percent of membership over 55 years of age. The Division is moving forward to address this. Please come join us in our support of professional development and affairs!

The Division's new membership level of Board Level Certification has been implemented, with an ongoing web-based system to track all of our members' continuing education activities. Please visit it and see, and use it! Get Board-Certified!

DPA continues its affiliation with National Association of State Boards of Geology (ASBOG), the group that sponsors the testing for most of the 28 U.S. states that have registration of geoscientists. And we are interacting with other professional and certifying organizations (SIPES and AIPG) on mutual projects. We co-sponsored the Third International Professional Geology Conference, held in September 2008, and presented several papers there.

The Division is financially strong, with net assets of some \$971,000. The current budget shows expenses of about \$178,000, with similar revenues.

During the year, the draft Business Plan compiled by the President was extensively discussed, especially at the midyear meeting. These discussions are the basis for multiyear planning for the Division's activities. The President also compiled the functions of Division committees for the Procedures Manual, and defined two new committees, a Website Committee to renovate and expand the services offered at the DPA Website; and a Liaison Committee to reach out to our sister certifying professional bodies (SIPES, AIPG, and GSL) and plan and carry out joint projects.