

FROM THE PRESIDENT



In this second report to our worldwide membership, I am pleased to inform you that the unification under our brand name, which is making SPWLA a stronger and healthier society, is being adopted at a vigorous pace. During these past three months we have signed charter agreements with 80% of the chapters in North America, and 60% of the Special Interest Groups (SIGs). These SPWLA Chapters and SIGs are now contacting our 15 Distinguished Speakers for their local monthly events. As you are aware, your board of directors approved funds for the Distinguished Speakers travel, with several coming from Europe. Thanks to the efforts of the Abu Dhabi chapter, some Distinguished Speakers will also travel to the Middle East, to give their presentations during ADIPEC in Abu Dhabi. These outreach efforts into other events sponsored by related societies follow our recent cooperation with the Unconventional Resources Technology Conference (URTeC), where, for the second year in a row, SPWLA was supporting organization.

The international charter agreements have been sent out for review and very positive and fruitful conversations have taken place with the chapter presidents/officers of London, The Hague, Calgary, Bangkok, Malaysia, India, Perth, Japan, Abu Dhabi, Norway. There is also an initiative to restart a chapter in Indonesia. The other international locations will be targeted shortly. These conversations will continue until all locations are under our SPWLA brand.

Funds have been allocated to improve our IT support to all chapters, and to help in the administrative tasks in the Houston office. In September, the Frank S. Milliard Training Center offered its first course on “Applied Geostatistics,” with a growing list of courses lining up. Our SIG chapters will play a fundamental role in designing the course schedules to best serve our membership—I therefore encourage our members to join a SIG so that we can have the best petrophysics training in the industry.

Our student chapters have also received a boost. We had eight new student chapters approved by the board, pending the signature of the Student Charter Agreement. The chapters approved are from the US, Egypt, China, Mexico and Brazil. There is also an initiative to start a student chapter in Indonesia. A special fund was allocated to help student chapters organize their internal competitions that will lead up to the International Student Paper Competition at the SPWLA Annual Logging Symposium in Oklahoma City in June 2017.

Bangkok hosted the Asia and Australia Regional

Conference held in August 29–31, 2016. The event was extremely successful, with excellent technical program and drawing participants from 10 countries. Our Fall Topical Conference on “The Role of Petrophysics in Plug and Abandonment,” to be held in Houston on November 7-8, 2016, is now open for registration and abstract submission. SPWLA India will also hold a regional conference in February 2017, details will soon be announced on our website.

Budgetary, administrative, logistics and technical preparations are in high gear for next year’s symposium in Oklahoma City, June 17–21, which promises to be very successful. Please continue to submit abstracts and plan to attend.

Finally, SPWLA is here to serve our members. I kindly ask you to send me suggestions on how we can increase the value of your membership, to my address: President@spwla.org.