

### 40th Year Anniversary of LSU Well #1 at the PERTT Lab (continued)

a high-pressure choke manifold and process control system; a 6,000-ft. model well for floating drilling operations; a 5,884-ft. model well for bottom supported drilling operations; a high pressure underground gas formation simulator; a full-scale model well diverter system; a 10,000-ft. drill pipe flow loop; and a 100-ft. derrick and 55-ft. inclined wellbore analog. Much of this equipment was assembled to support past research and training activities in the area of blowout prevention.

The department and the PERTT Lab are making efforts to workover Well #1. Inkind donations have previously been pledged by Key Well Services (rig services), BP America (selected tubulars), and GE Vetco (wellhead and valves). Cash donations have been pledged by Noble Corporation, Newfield Exploration, Plains Exploration & Production and Mr. Ernest D'Angelo. With this support, the PERTT Lab hopes to begin the workover process within the year.

In addition, the PERTT Lab continues to expand. An architect has submitted designs and will begin construction of a new classroom building. The funds for this new classroom have been provided by Mr. and Mrs. Donald W. Keller and by Diamond Offshore Drilling.

-Andi Donmyer

# Mr. Mehran (Randy) Rasti's Retirement Luncheon

# Alumni News

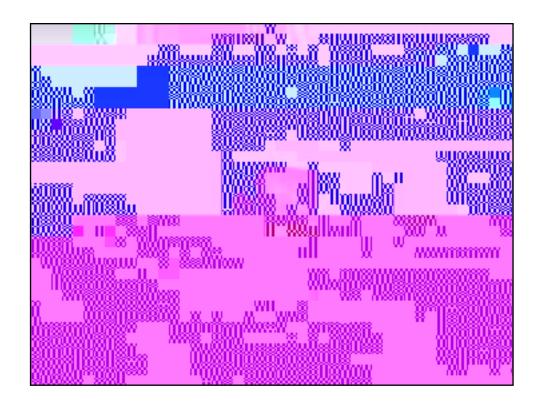
William S. Flores, Jr. (Bach 1980), one of the department's two co-chairs for the Forever LSU Campaign and currently an active member of our Industry Advisory Committee, is currently employed as Senior Vice President of Engineering at Houston Energy, L.P. He proudly recalls teaching PETE 2020 in his last year at LSU with Professor Murray Hawkins and boasts, "Holden, Whitehead, Hise, Kimble, Bassiouni – I studied with the last of the icons for Petroleum Engineering in this department. I even passed Well Logging successfully!"

Bill Flores entered into Petroleum Engineering because of his father. He recalls, "My father was a geologist. I was always fascinated by the drilling business and by what my father was working on." Upperclassmen influenced him, and he was always mechanically inclined. As a student, Bill worked as a roughneck on a land drilling rig. After graduating, he labored as a deckhand on a supply boat. In 1980, he got a job with Dow Chemical in Lafayette. Later, Apache bought Dow. Since then, he has moved from one position to another, through such companies

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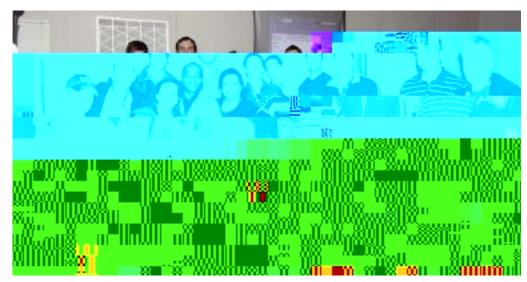
### Welcome

Dr. Arash Dahi Taleghani and Mr. John McGhee join the Craft & Hawkins Department of Petroleum Engineering this fall 2009 and spring 2010, respectively. Previous to this appointment, Dr. Dahi Taleghani was awarded his PhD from the University of Texas in Austin, where he studied petroleum engineering and wrote his dissertation entitled, "Modeling Hydraulic Fracture Propagation in Naturally Fractured Reservoirs." Currently, Dr. Dahi Taleghani is developing various research efforts which spe-





## SPE Delta section's Young Professionals Program



The SPE YPP and LSU student participants pose after the simulation competition with John R. Smith, LSU Associate Professor.

The LSU Petroleum Engineering department hosted a visit by the SPE Delta section's Young Professionals Program (YPP) on Friday, February 26, 2010. The visit featured a variety of activities at the LSU Petroleum Engineering Research and Technology Transfer Laboratory (PERTT Lab), helping to judge the LSU SPE MS Student Presentation Contest, and joining in the Friday afternoon faculty-student social. Highlights of the activities at the PERTT Lab included learning to drill and implement well control procedures on training simulators, practicing pump and choke control with full-scale rig equipment, controlling a natural gas kick and circulating it out of the LSU #2 well, and participating in a competition using the well control training simulators.

### About the visit

There were around 15 SPE YPP visitors. We spent the first part of the day at the PERTT Lab. The visit started with the introductory tour of the facility and the flow system, followed by a Well Control lecture by Dr. John R Smith and Darryl Bourgoyne. The subsequent, hands-on part of the learning exercise, included a well control simulation and modeling exercise, followed by killing a simulated gas kick in a PERTT Lab well, which was the culminating part of the experience. We covered in detail the following tasks:

- · measuring pre-recorded information,
- kick identification.
- · flow checks,
- · hard shut-in procedure,
- · record-keeping during control, and

• implementing the first circulation of the "driller's method" of well control.

Special emphasis was placed on practicing the proper operation of the choke and the pump during start-up, kick circulation, and shut-down, and calculating kill weight mud and initial circulating pressure. A number of current LSU students were assisting us along the way.

At the end of the PERTT Lab visit the hosts teamed up with the visitors and competed in achieving the fastest control of the gas kick with the least gain (in 15 minutes of simulated rig time). The winners were:

- 1. Ekweribe Chiedozie & John Griffin
- 2. Courtney Wilson & Jeremy Guillory
- 3. Gani Sagingaliyev & Brandon Hartmann

The remainder of the day was spent at the LSU Petroleum Department, where the SPE YPP visitors assisted the LSU professors in judging the internal LSU SPE MS Student Presentation Contest. The contest was followed by a jovial social, which was an opportunity to further discuss the eventful day and newly surfaced opportunities for future cooperation.

This educational, interactive, enjoyable and fun event was possible because of:

- Jennifer Young, SPE YP General Chairperson, who came up with the idea
- Dr. Monika Valjak, SPE YP Student Liaison, who organized this event
- Dr. John R. Smith, Darryl Bourgoyne, Dr. Mileva Radonjic, Jeanette Wooden, LSU Faculty and staff, who organized this event
- · Gani Sagingaliyev, SPE YP Treasurer,

who organized this event

- Chase Menard, T. Madray, Brandon Hartmann, Jordan Woods, Jeremy Guillory, current LSU students, who participated enthusiastically
- Around 15 petroleum engineers from the SPE Delta Chapter and the Nicholls State University student SPE Chapter, who participated enthusiastically

-Monika Valjak, John R. Smith, and Gani Sagingaliyev contributing. Michelle Chauvin, photographer.



LSU student Chase Menard explains and points out the choke control panel.



Courtney Wilson, NSU student, participates as Choke Operator for the kick circulation.



Darryl Bourgoyne, PERRT Lab Director, gives a tour to the SPE YPP near the mud tanks.



NSU Associate Professor John M. Griffin (LSU PhD 1991) discusses Well Control with LSU student John Cleveland.



trip this year, utilizing our sponsorship funds donated by Chevron, to Wild Well Control in Houston. There, all of the participating senior and graduate students received well control certification. Our LSU AADE members proudly passed the Wild Well Control class with flying colors. AADE recently had its last meeting of the 2009-2010 year ending with the elections of its 2010-2011 officers, President Roy Knight, Vice-President Sean Quarls, Secretary Cody Leathers, Treasurer Kurlan Barbosa, and Social Chair Hassan Ramzi.

Graduate student AADE members, Koray Kinik, Rahul Gajbhiye, and Muhammad Zulqarnain, travelled to Houston to compete in the AADE Premier Drilling Fluids Conference student poster presentation contest at the AADE 2010 Premier Fluids Conference on April 6 & 7. We are proud to announce that Rahul Gajbhiye took 3rd place in this contest. All of the members appreciate the scholarship support received from the Lafayette and New Orleans AADE chapters and the New Orleans chapter's support for our drilling fluids laboratory.

-John R. Smith, Faculty Advisor and Roy Knight, incoming President contributing

### Pi Epsilon Tau

The Pi Epsilon Tau Petroleum Engineering Honor Society at LSU currently has 30 members, both undergraduate and graduate students. The new members initiated in the spring 2009 participated in a team building exercise with officers at the University Recreation Ropes Course. They tackled various exercises pushing the limits of their comfort zone and relying on each other to accomplish various tasks. This year's officers are Brandon Hartmann (president), Lauren Fogarty (vice-president), Joseph Sabrier (treasurer), and Kristen Barrett (secretary). New members will be initiated and new officers elected this spring.

Pi Epsilon Tau offers its members an opportunity to set themselves apart from other students. A student must excel in his or her Petroleum Engineering curriculum as well as maintain a high overall GPA to be inducted. Its members strive to uphold the excellence, collegiality, and high character of the Craft and Hawkins Department of Petroleum Engineering

