GULF COAST ASSOCIATION OF GEOLOGICAL SOCIETIES
and
GULF COAST SECTION SEPM

66th ANNUAL CONVENTION

Hosted by the Corpus Christi Geological Society

Corpus Christi, Texas
September 18, 2016

OPENING SESSION & AWARDS CEREMONY

- Welcome – *Brent Hopkins, GCAGS President*
- Reports of the Presidents
  Brent Hopkins, GCAGS President
  Dorene West, GCSSEPM President
- Presentation of Awards – see pages 2–4 for order
- Closing Address – *Brent Hopkins, GCAGS President*

GCAGS Explore & Discover Article #187
http://www.gcags.org/exploreanddiscover/2016/00187_2016_gcags_gcssepm_opening_session_and_awards_ceremony.pdf
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REPORTS OF THE PRESIDENTS

Brent Hopkins, GCAGS President (see p. 5)

Dorene West, GCSSEPM President (see p. 7)

ORDER OF AWARD PRESENTATION

2016 *GCAGS Transactions* Dedication (see p. 9)

Owen R. Hopkins

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2016 Imperial Barrel Award (AAPG Gulf Coast Sectional) (see p. 11)

1st Place:	University of New Orleans
2nd Place:	University of Houston
3rd Place:	Texas A&M University

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2015 A. I. Levorsen Memorial Award (AAPG) (see p. 13)

Elizabeth Ann Watkins
Co-Authors: Julio Tamashiro, Mercelo Cristian Torrez Canaviri, Nicolas Martin, Eldar Guliyev, Renato Leite, Nhom (Vince) Nguyen, Abayomi Aina, and Mauro R. Becker

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2015 President's Award for Outstanding Paper, *GCAGS Journal* (see p. 16)

Shirley P. Dutton
Co-Authors: Robert G. Loucks, and William A. Ambrose

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2015 GCAGS/GCSSEPM Thomas A. Philpott Excellence of Presentation Award (see p. 17)

1st Place: Christopher D. Walker
Co-Authors: Glen A. Anderson, Paul G. Belvedere Alison T. Henning, Francis O. Rollins, Eric Soza, and Shalina Warrior

2nd Place: Pilar Rojas

3rd Place: Clement Bataille
Co-Authors: Gabriel Bowen, Dylana Watford, Alex Lowe, and Stephen Ruegg

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2015 GCAGS/GCSSEPM Gordon I. Atwater Best Poster Award (see p. 20)

1st Place: Alessio Checconi,
Co-Authors: Peter Conn, James Stockley, Edward Smith, David Little, and Erika Tibocha

2nd Place: James A. MacKay

3rd Place: Selim Simon Shaker

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2015 GCAGS/GCSSEPM Grover E. Murray Best Published Paper Award (see p. 23)

1st Place: Kathleen S. Haggar
Co-Authors: Les R. Denham, and Louis J. Berent

2nd Place: Elizabeth Ann Watkins
Co-Authors: Julio Tamashiro, Mercelo Cristian Torrez Canaviri, Nicolas Martin, Eldar Guliyev, Renato Leite, Nhom (Vince) Nguyen, Abayomi Aina, and Mauro R. Becker

3rd Place: Christopher D. Walker
Co-Authors: Glen A. Anderson, Paul G. Belvedere Alison T. Henning, Francis O. Rollins, Eric Soza, and Shalina Warrior

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2016 GCSSEPM Distinguished Service Award (see p. 29)

Bruce Hart

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2016 GCSSEPM Doris Malkin Curtis Medal (see p. 30)

Mark G. Rowan

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2016 GCAGS Special Commendation Award (see p. 31)

Dianna Phu

Meredith L. Faber

Sandy Rushworth

David Risch

***

2016 GCAGS Outstanding Educator (see p. 34)

Paul Weimer

Charles M. 'Chock' Woodruff, Jr.

Thomas L. McGehee

***

2016 GCAGS Distinguished Service Award (see p. 37)

Linda R. Sternbach

Brent Hopkins

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2016 GCAGS Honorary Membership Award (see p. 40)

Mary J. Broussard

Larry D. Bartell

***

2016 GCAGS Owen R. Hopkins Outstanding Earth Science Teacher Award (see p. 42)

Leigh Marsh

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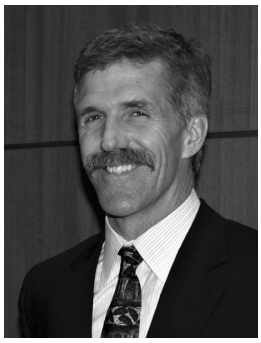
2016 Don Boyd Medal (see p. 43)

Scott W. Tinker

REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT
Gulf Coast Association of Geological Societies

BRENT HOPKINS



Welcome, and thank you for making the effort to join us for the 66th Annual GCAGS/GCSSEPM convention on the beautiful Corpus Christi Bay. Please take the time to enjoy the sites, restaurants, and beaches in our local area and absorb some of the knowledge disseminated in the technical presentation and poster session. The program was organized by a very dedicated group of volunteers headed by the Convention General Chair, Dawn Bissell. They have done an excellent job of bringing forth the content essential to a great meeting while trying to walk the tightrope of the current industry conditions. The object of the GCAGS is "to provide for discussion and publication of papers on subjects and problems occurring within the scope of the Geological profession and with particular emphasis on Gulf Coast geology." I think you will find they have performed admirably.

I would like to take this opportunity to provide you some information on your host society and city to give you a little insight into what's taking place in the Coastal Bend.

The Host Society

The Corpus Christi Geological Society (or CCGS) had its first meeting 80 years ago in 1936. When gasoline was in short supply during World War II, traveling to San Antonio for meetings became problematic. Thus, the CCGS was formalized in 1942. We are very proud to be the founders (with the efforts of Owen Hopkins) of the Maps in Schools, Bones in Schools, and Boulders in Schools programs, which initially helped plant the seeds of geologic knowledge and curiosity across the coastal bend. So far the CCGS has placed maps in 1697 schools, bones (mostly Ice Age mammal bones from the Wright Brothers Quarry, see field trip in the convention program booklet) in 137 schools and last but not least, boulders in 14 schools.

The CCGS is also proud of our historical projects; starting with the book *Wooden Rigs—Iron Men*, which highlighted some of the discoveries and personalities that explored South Texas, and most recently with *Oil Men*, *Tales from the South Texas Oil Patch*, which has been shown numerous times on PBS. The Society has been blessed with a generous group of individuals of the highest quality who have always stepped up to lend a hand or take on a task for the good of the group. Taking on the monumental task of hosting this convention is just another example of their commitment.

The City

Currently Corpus Christi is one of the fastest growing cities on the Gulf Coast with over $40 billion in investments already under construction. A few of the projects underway and nearing completion are:

- The Cheniere LNG Facility—a $13 billion dollar project with 3 LNG trains designed with the capacity to export 1.7 BCGD.
- The OxyChem/MexiChem chemical project—a $1 billion dollar facility capable of processing 1.2 billion pounds of ethylene per year.
- The M&G International facility—estimated to cost $1.1 billion dollars and projected to be the world's largest and most advanced PET resin producer (for packaging applications).
- Voestalpine's recently completed $70 million plant, which converts iron pellets to briquettes used in making high strength, light weight steel used for auto and airplane manufacturing.
- Tianjin Pipe Corporation's $1.3 billion mill—designed to produce 500,000 metric tons of high-grade steel tubulars per year.
- The Coastal Bend will also be the origination point for pipelines that will carry an estimated 4.5 BCFGD across the border into Mexico to help fuel their manufacturing centers.

With the booming industrial activity happening in and around Corpus Christi, there is need for infrastructure upgrades. The foremost project on this list, and the most apparent, will be the replacement of the Harbor Bridge. Construction is underway on the estimated $1 billion replacement of the 58 year old bridge and is expected to take five years. The finished project will be the largest cable-stayed bridge in the Western Hemisphere. Directly beneath the old bridge is a $50 million expansion of the Texas State Aquarium. This expansion should make one of the city's best attractions even better!

Why the growth in Corpus Christi? First, the State of Texas offers a business-friendly environment that makes it attractive for companies to relocate here. Second, and most important, is the fact that through creative thinking, concepts and the technologies discussed at conventions like the GCAGS we have uncovered what is considered by many to be a cheap, plentiful supply of energy and oil and gas products essential to supply the raw materials for these facilities. Ironically, our success at finding and delivering these products to market has created a supply imbalance that has had a negative impact on all of us. However, the decline in production due to price degradation in conjunction with proliferation of the end users on the Gulf Coast will ultimately correct itself. "The future's so bright you got to wear shades…."

In closing, I would like to say that the CCGS is made up of a group of many dedicated, resourceful people who have given up endless hours of their time to put together what I hope you will consider a wonderful convention. As those who have done this before can attest, running one of these shindigs isn't a walk in the park. As has been proven time and time again, this group has stepped up and taken on this daunting challenge. Again, thank you for taking the time to join us in Corpus Christi. Have a wonderful time and please travel safely.

Kind regards,

Brent Hopkins
GCAGS President

REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT
Gulf Coast Section SEPM

DORENE B. WEST

Welcome to the 66th Annual GCAGS and Gulf Coast Section SEPM Convention, organized and hosted by the Corpus Christi Geological Society. Enjoy the beautiful seaside resort atmosphere of the city (there are over 113 miles of beaches): look for a Kemp's sea turtle on the beach, enjoy world class saltwater fishing, birdwatch in the "Birdiest City" in America, and visit the Texas State Aquarium and the USS *Lexington*. As for geoscience, Padre Island, the largest barrier island in the nation, is only 25 minutes from downtown Corpus Christi.

This year's convention theme is "Looking Back—Thinking Forward." The program contains over 110 oral and 60 poster presentations, four outstanding short courses, four field trips, a K–12 teacher training, and more. The goal as stated by Dawn Bissell, our General Chairman, is to "Look Back" at strategies and optimism that saw us through the last industry downturns, and adapt as we "Think Forward" to our future. There is virtually a session of interest for everyone, with reminders of (1) how much the industry has progressed and (2) how it did, and will continue to, survive. Critical components of survival are building upon what we know, sharing knowledge, and working together—the topics of this convention.

GCSSEPM participates in three main activities each year: the GCAGS Convention, the Perkins-Rosen Research Conference, and Earth Science Week. I am pleased to report that the GCAGS Convention is underway, and promises to provide you an informative program and great networking experience. On behalf of the current GCSSEPM officers, executive board, and membership, I would like to thank the dedicated volunteers whose tireless efforts made this conference happen. Included in a long list of volunteers are 2016 General Chairman Dawn Bissell, GCSSEPM Vice Chairman Carl Fiduk, Convention Treasurer Leighton Devine, GCAGS Technical Program Chairs Rick Paige, Bob Critchlow, Allen Lassiter, and Stephen Thomas, *GCAGS Transactions* Editor Jennifer Smith-Engle, *GCAGS Journal* Editor Barry Katz, GCAGS Managing Editor and Publisher James Willis, GCAGS Judging Chair Robert Bell, and the past GCSSEPM Awards Chair Mike Nault, who helped out again this year. Please join me in expressing appreciation to these individuals as well as the rest of the many volunteers noted in your program.

A number of awards will be presented at the opening session on Sunday afternoon. I am pleased to announce that Dr. Mark Rowan, Rowan Consulting, Inc., will receive the 2016 GCSSEPM Doris Malkin Curtis Medal for his outstanding research contributions towards the development of new concepts for understanding the geology of the Gulf of Mexico. Bruce Hart will receive the 2016 GCSSEPM Distinguished Service Award. I am also happy to announce the Grover E. Murray Best Published Paper Awards from 2015. Kathleen S. Haggar, Les R. Denham, and Louis J. Berent won first place for their paper "Analysis of the Goose Point area near Lacombe, Louisiana, Validates New Geophysical Data Type—Natural Sourced Electromagnetism (NSEM)—for Detection of Lineaments Associated with Faults and Sedimentary Features." Elizabeth Ann Watkins, Julio Tamashiro, Mercelo Cristian Torrez Canaviri, Nicolas Martin Eldar Guliyev, Renato Leite, Nhom (Vince) Nguyen, Abayomi Aina, and Mauro R. Becker won second place for their paper "A Geology-Based, Non-Seismic Attribute Method to Generate Facies, Lithology, and Petrophysical Parameters in the Chinook and Cascade Fields, Walker Ridge, Gulf of Mexico, USA." Christopher D. Walker, Glen A. Anderson, Paul G. Belvedere, Alison T. Henning, Francis O. Rollins, Eric Soza, and Shalina Warrior were awarded third place for their paper "Compartmentalization between the GC0738_1 Mad Dog North Wellbores—Evidence for Post-Depositional Slumping in the Lower Miocene Reservoirs of the Deepwater Southern Green Canyon, Gulf of Mexico." Please join me in congratulating these authors for their contributions to geology and our societies.

The GCSSEPM Luncheon will be held on Tuesday, September 20. Mike Blum, Ritchie Distinguished Professor, University of Kansas, will deliver a presentation entitled "Predicting Sedimentary System Response to Human Activities: The Once and Future Mississippi Delta." Mike held faculty positions at several universities and served as Research Advisor at ExxonMobil Upstream Research before being named Ritchie Distinguished Professor at the University of Kansas. His interests include fluvial to shallow-marine processes and deposits, connections between fluvial-deltaic and deepwater systems, and source-to-sink analysis. Mike is an excellent speaker. The last time I heard him give a talk, the enthusiastic audience jumped right in with questions before he could even finish his presentation!

Last year, GCSSEPM hosted the 34th Annual Perkins-Rosen Research Conference on "Petroleum Systems in 'Rift' Basins." There were 36 oral presentations on the petroleum systems and their settings in rift basins around the world, including very old (Cambrian) to very young (Miocene-Holocene) rift systems in addition to the world-class oil and gas accumulations in the presalt Mesozoic synrift basins of the South Atlantic. The co-chairmen, and GCSSEPM FoundationTrustees and Executive Council, believe that a systematic petroleum systems comparative analysis approach will help identify a key combination of elements and processes that result in an effective, and exploitable, petroleum system in these basins and settings. They also believe that this approach may help uncover both new discoveries in currently nonproductive basins, and trends that can be developed in productive rift basins. I encourage you to review the proceedings (available at http://sedimentary-geology-store.com/catalog/book/petroleum-systems-rift-basins); they are a comprehensive introduction to rift basins for the novice, and an instigation for lively discussions by rift aficionados.

This past February, two past GCSSEPM Presidents, Carl Fiduk and Bruce Hart, taught a free two-day "Introduction to Seismic Interpretation" course for approximately 30 undergraduate and graduate geology and geophysics students at the University of Houston. Through lectures, hands-on exercises, and loads of great discussion, the students gained practical experience and insights that will help them better understand and address seismic interpretation challenges. Lectures focused on principles of the seismic method, acquisition and processing, data display and an interpretation workflow. Exercises gave participants the chance to: (a) box in correlations, in a highly faulted area, using a grid of intersecting seismic lines, (b) pick top and base of salt to help with a seismic imaging problem, and (c) to identify seismic sequences in the Brookian succession of Alaska.

The GCSSEPM Foundation will host the 35th Annual Perkins-Rosen Research Conference December 8–9, 2016. The theme will be "Mesozoic of the Gulf Rim and Beyond: New Progress in Science and Exploration of the Gulf of Mexico Basin," and the Conference will be held at the Marathon Conference Center in Houston, Texas. Co-conveners are John W. Snedden, Mike Blum, and Chris Lowery (preliminary abstracts may be downloaded at http://gcssepm.org/conference/2016_conference.htm). John W. Snedden is a Senior Research Scientist and Chris Lowery is a Postdoctoral Fellow, both with the Institute for Geophysics at the University of Texas at Austin. Mike Blum is Ritchie Distinguished Professor at the University of Kansas. The conference will focus upon the Mesozoic of the Gulf Basin, from mountain source terrain to deepwater abyssal plain. A significant portion of the program will be devoted to the Mesozoic of Mexico and its potential for international exploration. A highlight will be a special SEPM sponsored research symposium, "Mesozoic Source to Sink: Provenance and Process," led by Mike Blum. An optional Core Workshop is planned for Wednesday December 7, 2016, at the BEG Houston Research Center Core Lab.

For the opening of Earth Science Week on Saturday, October 8, 2016, we have a prime spot, just outside the entrance to the Paleo Hall at the Museum of Natural Science in Houston. We will have tables with microscopes and microfossils; visitors will be able to look through the microscope oculars and compare fossils with fauna found in present day beach sand. If you are interested, there are pictures and a video (*Deep Time*) from previous years on our Facebook page.

Finally, I am grateful for the opportunity to be part of the Gulf Coast Section SEPM. I would like to express my appreciation to current and past officers including Foundation Executive Director Norm Rosen, Foundation Trustees Tony D'Agostino, Jory Pacht, Bruce Hart, and Ron Waszczak, as well as Section officers, past-President Thomas Hearon, President-Elect John Suter, Vice President Sophie Warney, Treasurer Brandi Sellepack, and Secretary Jennifer Wadsworth. All of their efforts keep us operating and truly make working for the organization fun! I look forward to seeing everyone at the Research Conference!

Respectfully submitted,

Dorene B. West

DEDICATION

OWEN R. HOPKINS

The Annual Dedication of the *GCAGS Transactions* represents a most appropriate and significant way of honoring exceptional Gulf Coast Geologists with a lasting tribute to the person and their contributions to our profession. Thus it is with distinct pleasure and enthusiasm that the membership of the Corpus Christi Geological Society and the Officers and Committee Chair of the Gulf Coast Association of Geological Societies dedicate the *Transactions* of the 66th Annual Convention to Owen R. Hopkins.

It is altogether appropriate and fitting that Owen should be included on the list of our society's most distinguished geoscientists. For over four decades, beginning in 1969 and continuing until his passing in 2011, Owen remained totally dedicated and enthralled with learning and sharing all that there was to know with respect to the physical earth and the heavens above. His devotion to the science of geology, to the profession of petroleum exploration, and his passion for teaching people of all ages that "science is fun" was extraordinary.

Owen R. Hopkins was born into a courageous globetrotting U.S. Air Force family in Shawnee, Oklahoma, on June 23, 1947. During the first 21 years of his life he lived and attended school in 18 different communities in the U.S. and abroad. Upon receiving his B.S. degree in Geology from the University of Oklahoma in 1969, he began his career in petroleum exploration with Chevron in Lafayette, Louisiana. He was subsequently transferred to Chevron's office in New Orleans, where he continued to work full-time while also earning a Master's Degree in Geology from Tulane University.

In 1977 Owen accepted an offer of employment with Holly Energy in Corpus Christi. Following a couple of years at Holly Energy, Owen moved to Sexton Oil & Minerals Corp. and thereafter to Harkins & Company as District Exploration Manager in 1987. In 1990, Suemaur Exploration, Inc. acquired the exploration assets of Harkins & Company, and Owen was named Chief Geologist and partner in Suemaur. Growth, resulting from a series of impactful exploration discoveries, necessitated company expansion and reorganization into Suemaur Exploration & Production, LLC, of which Owen was a founding partner and Vice President of Exploration. He remained in this position until his retirement from active management in 2005; however, he continued to maintain his interest in the partnership.

During his 35 year career in petroleum exploration, Owen was responsible for the discovery of many significant oil and gas fields extending across the Gulf Coast from southern Louisiana to the Rio Grande Valley in South Texas. He loved to tell students and adults outside the petroleum industry that he made treasure maps for a living. And very often those treasure maps lead to discoveries of great value in the form of oil and gas reserves. Throughout his career in petroleum exploration, Owen exhibited almost boundless energy and enthusiasm in his quest for hydrocarbon reserves. Although his responsibilities at Suemaur were demanding, he still found personal time to volunteer and actively serve in several professional organizations. As a member of the Corpus Christi Geological Society, he held numerous committee positions and offices including President in 2006–2007. He was named an Honorary Life Member in 2008.

By 2005, having satisfied most of his industry goals, Owen decided it was time to retire from his day job at Suemaur and pursue, as a volunteer, his passion for teaching science to people of all ages. As President of the Corpus Christi Geological Society, he was able to enlist other members to help in spearheading his three-pronged initiative called "Maps in Schools, Bones in Schools, and Boulders in Schools." Incredibly, by the time of Owen's passing in March of 2011, his education initiative resulted in the placement of over 1650 U.S. geologic maps in schools nationwide. Additionally, he instructed teachers in the interpretation and use of the maps, fossils, and rock samples in their classes.

At the opening ceremony of the annual AAPG meeting in Denver, Colorado, in 2009, Owen was recognized as the honored recipient of the society's Annual Public Service Award. He was so honored for his enthusiastic and energetic leadership in "Planting the Seeds of Geologic Curiosity" among young people across Texas and the Nation.

In addition to his passion for teaching, Owen also found time to support community and civic activities in Corpus Christi and regionally throughout South Texas. In 2011 he was recognized as a Paul Harris Fellow by Rotary International, and in 2013 the Corpus Christi Northwest Branch Public Library was re-dedicated and officially renamed the Owen R. Hopkins Public Library. There are many other examples of his giving and generous nature including Owen's Paleo Park at the Texas State Aquarium, which was given by his partners at Suemaur

Exploration Partners as a way to memorialize his giving and purposeful life.

Owen was a true renaissance man, and his many gifts and service to his community and profession were absolutely altruistic. Thus, it is with great pride and enthusiasm that we, the members of Corpus Christi Geological Society and the Gulf Coast Association of Geological Societies, dedicate this **66th Volume of the *Transactions* of the GCAGS to Owen R. Hopkins**.

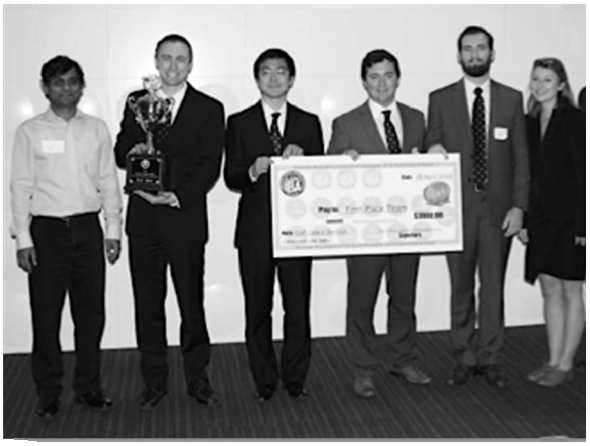
Bill Maxwell

IMPERIAL BARREL AWARD
Gulf Coast Association of Geological Societies

FIRST PLACE – 2016 GULF COAST SECTIONAL IBA

Josiah Hulsey, Ryan Jones, Will Morrison, Zexuan Wang, Celeste Woock, and Dr. Royhan Gani (Advisor)

University of New Orleans



SECOND PLACE – 2016 GULF COAST SECTIONAL IBA

Shenelle Gomez, Jordan Dickinson, Jing Hua, Lingfei Mao, David Mora, and Dr. Paul Mann (Advisor)

University of Houston

THIRD PLACE – 2016 GULF COAST SECTIONAL IBA

Tyler Ruchala, John Phillips, Walker Ligon, Ryan Wilcoxson, Meagan DePugh, and Dr. Nicholas Perez (advisor)

Texas A&M University

BEST PRESENTATION AWARDS

2015 A. I. LEVORSEN MEMORIAL AWARD
(Gulf Coast Section, AAPG)

"A Geology-Based, Non-Seismic Attribute Method to Generate Facies, Lithology, and Petrophysical Parameters in the Chinook and Cascade Fields, Walker Ridge, Gulf of Mexico, USA"

Elizabeth Ann Watkins, Julio Tamashiro, Mercelo Cristian Torrez Canaviri, Nicolas Martin, Eldar Guliyev, Renato Leite, Nhom (Vince) Nguyen, Abayomi Aina, and Mauro R. Becker

Elizabeth Ann Watkins

Elizabeth Ann Watkins is a Senior Reservoir Geologist for Petrobras America, Inc. (PAI). A native of St. Louis, Mo., she received her Bachelor's degree in Geology from Washington University, St. Louis, Mo. She moved to Houston, TX, and received her Master's degree in Geology from Rice University. She has almost 30 years of experience in exploration, operations geology, field development, and production. Her entire career has been based in Houston, where she has also worked for Mobil, Western Atlas, and ENI analyzing or developing various types of carbonate and siliciclastic fields in North, South, and Central America. For the past 8 years, she has worked for PAI in the Walker Ridge Asset Department, performing reservoir characterization and participating in the development of the Cascade and Chinook Wilcox fields, Gulf of Mexico.

Julio Tamashiro

Julio Tamashiro is a Senior Reservoir Geologist for Petrobras America, Inc. (PAI). He is a native of Peru. He received a Bachelor's degree in Geology and Geological Engineering at San Marcos University in Lima, Peru. With over 30 years of experience in the oil industry, he has worked in Exploration and Operations Geology, but his main focus and expertise is in Development and Production Geology, analyzing both clastic and carbonate offshore and onshore deposits. He has worked in international areas such as Peru, Venezuela, Colombia, and Mexico, as well as in the United States for several companies: Belco Petroleum, PDVSA, Baker Hughes E&P, and PEMEX. Since 2012, he has worked for PAI in the Walker Ridge Reservoir Group, performing reservoir characterization of the Wilcox and participating in the development of the Chinook Field.

Marcelo Cristian Torrez Canaviri

Marcelo Cristian Torrez Canaviri is a Senior Reservoir Geologist and Petrophysicist for Petrobras in Bolivia, South America. Marcelo Torrez graduated from the University of San Andrés in La Paz, Bolivia, in 1998, majoring in Geological Engineering. He began working for Petrobras in 2000 and spent 8 years working at Bolivia as Geologist in charge of evaluation, characterization, and modeling of naturally fractured reservoirs. In 2009, he began working in the International area in Petrobras, in Rio de Janeiro, where he was involved in research projects about geophysical logs and geological modeling at the Research Center of Petrobras. In 2013, he returned to Bolivia where he is currently building or modifying geological model and performing petrophysical analysis for various projects in South America, North America, and Africa.

Nicolas Martin

Nicolas Martin is a Senior Geophysicist for Petrobras America, Inc. He received his Bachelor's degree in Physics (with specialization in Geophysics) from Simon Bolivar University (Venezuela). He also holds a Master's degree in Reservoir Geophysics from the University of Calgary (Canada). After moving to Houston, TX, he has worked for different oil services companies: Ikon Sciences, Fusion Technologies, Tricon Geophysics, and *Geo-Procesados* of Mexico. He has worked for Petrobras since 2012, providing attribute analysis and inversion support for Cascade and Chinook Fields. He has over 25 years of experience in quantitative seismic interpretation (seismic inversion, AVO, and rock physics), seismic attributes analysis, and pore pressure estimation.

Eldar Guliyev

Eldar Guliyev is a Senior Reservoir Geophysicist for Petrobras America, Inc. (PAI). He was born in Baku, Azerbaijan. He received a Bachelor's of Science degree in Geophysics from the Azerbaijan State Oil Academy. After serving in the Azerbaijan military army forces as a Lieutenant, he started his career in the Oil and Gas Industry by joining the Azerbaijan National Oil Company (SOCAR) as a seismic data processing geophysicist in 2003. A year later, Eldar received a scholarship from BP and started his graduate program at CSM (Colorado School of Mines). After receiving his Master of Science degree in Geophysics from CSM in 2007, he moved to Houston and joined Occidental Oil and Gas Corporation. Since 2013, Eldar Guliyev has work for PAI on the seismic interpretation of deepwater Wilcox fields in the Gulf of Mexico and has received an MBA degree from Rice University.

Renato Leite

Renato Leite is a Senior Petrophysicist for Petrobras America, Inc. (PAI). He obtained both a Bachelor's degree in Geology and a Master's degree and Ph.D. in Geochemistry, Isotopy and Geochronology at the University of São Paulo, Brazil (with a brief period studying at the University of Alberta, Canada). He has a total of 16 years of experience in the oil business, working 8 years in Petrobras Brazil, where he was part of the exploration team working in the first presalt discovery and in the many basins in offshore and onshore Brazil. He worked one year in Schlumberger (Ciudad del Carmen, Mexico, and Quito, Ecuador) as Latin America Rock Physicist leader. For the last 7 years, he has worked in Petrobras America, Inc., Houston, TX, as the lead petrophysicist dedicated to deep- and ultra-deep water assets in Gulf of Mexico.

Nhom (Vince) Nguyen

Nhom (Vince) Nguyen is a Senior Reservoir Engineer for Petrobras America, Inc. (PAI). He received a Bachelor's of Science degree in Chemical Engineering from the University of South Alabama. He has over 14 years of experience working in field development, planning, and production. He spent the first 9 years of his career in the oil and gas industry working for Shell Oil Company in both offshore and onshore field development and production. His main expertise is in building dynamic reservoir models and performing simulation studies as well as pressure transient analysis. For the last 6 years, he has worked for PAI on the Cascade and Chinook Field development and production projects.

Abayomi (Yomi) Aina

Abayomi (Yomi) Aina is a Reservoir Engineer who recently worked at Petrobras America, Inc. (PAI). Yomi holds a bachelor's degree in Chemical Engineering with honors from the prestigious Obafemi Awolowo University, Nigeria. After a short stint as an oil and gas financial consultant with KPMG, he obtained a Master's degree in Petroleum Engineering from the University of Oklahoma. He has 15 years of experience in oil and gas

industry with Shell, BP, and PAI, working primarily in the reservoir engineering discipline. His specialty is reservoir simulation. He is on track to be an alumnus of Harvard Business School by July 2016. He is presently an adviser to the boards of *Servtec Investimentos e Participações Ltda* (a multi-million dollar privately held energy company) and *Vela Investimentos Ltda* (a private equity firm with Latin American focus).

Mauro Roberto Becker

Mauro Roberto Becker is a Petrobras Senior Geologist and, since 2012, has held the position of Manager of the Walker Ridge Reservoir Team in Petrobras America, Inc. (PAI). He received his Bachelor's and Master's degree in Geology from the Brazilian Federal Universities (UFRGS and UFOP) before he graduated with a Ph.D. in Geology from the University of Texas at Austin in 1996. After his initial position with Exxon in Brazil as a well-site geologist, Mauro joined Petrobras in 1985 and worked in several technical areas as a geologist and/or manager in the Research area (CENPES), in the Corporate University Department and in the Technical Service of the E&P business unit of Rio de Janeiro.

PRESIDENT'S AWARD FOR OUTSTANDING PAPER, *GCAGS JOURNAL*, Vol. 4 (2015)

Gulf Coast Association of Geological Societies

"Factors Controlling Permeability Variation in Onshore, Deep Paleogene Wilcox Sandstones in the Northern Gulf of Mexico Basin: Targeting High-Quality Reservoirs"

Shirley P. Dutton, Robert G. Loucks, and William A. Ambrose

Shirley P. Dutton

Shirley P. Dutton is a Senior Research Scientist at the Bureau of Economic Geology, The University of Texas at Austin, where she has spent her entire professional career. Her main area of research is in sandstone diagenesis, clastic sedimentology, and reservoir characterization. She received a B.A. from the University of Rochester and M.A. and Ph.D. degrees from the University of Texas at Austin, all in geology. Her current research involves diagenesis and reservoir quality of deep to ultradeep sandstones in the Gulf of Mexico. She was an AAPG Distinguished Lecturer in 1986–87 and 2013–2014.

Robert G. Loucks

Robert G. Loucks is a Senior Research Scientist at the Bureau of Economic Geology. He received his B.A. degree from the State University of New York at Binghamton in 1967 and his Ph.D. from the University of Texas at Austin in 1976. His general research interests include carbonate and siliciclastic sequence stratigraphy, depositional systems, diagenesis, and reservoir characterization. His present research includes deeply buried reservoirs in the Gulf of Mexico, evaporite and carbonate paleokarst, and pore networks in carbonates, sandstones, and mudrocks.

William A. Ambrose

William A. Ambrose is a Research Scientist at the Bureau of Economic Geology. He received a Master of Arts degree in geological sciences in 1983 from the University of Texas at Austin. Since joining the Bureau of Economic Geology in 1987, he has worked on a variety of projects at the Bureau, including characterization of the Woodbine Group in the East Texas Basin, Frio fluvial and deltaic reservoirs in South Texas, tight-gas reservoirs in the Cleveland Formation in the Texas Panhandle, co-production of gas and hot brine from Oligocene reservoirs in the Texas Gulf Coast, evaluation of coalbed methane reservoirs in Rocky Mountain basins, and reservoir characterization and basin analysis studies in Venezuela and Mexico. He is currently the principal investigator of the Bureau's STARR (State of Texas Advanced Oil and Gas Resource Recovery) program, past president of the Energy Minerals Division (EMD) of AAPG, chair of the EMD Coal Committee, and past co-chair of the AAPG Astrogeology Committee.

2015 THOMAS A. PHILPOTT EXCELLENCE OF PRESENTATION AWARDS
(Gulf Coast Association of Geological Societies and Gulf Coast Section SEPM)

FIRST PLACE – 2015

"Compartmentalization between the GC0738_1 Mad Dog North Wellbores—Evidence for Post-Depositional Slumping in the Lower Miocene Reservoirs of the Deepwater Southern Green Canyon, Gulf of Mexico"

Christopher D. Walker, Glen A. Anderson, Paul G. Belvedere, Alison T. Henning, Francis O. Rollins, Eric Soza, and Shalina Warrior

Christopher D. Walker

Chris Walker is a structural geologist working on the Mad Dog Field. He joined BP in 2006 and has a Ph.D. from Columbia University and a M.ESc. from Oxford University.

Glen A. Anderson

Glen Anderson has been working as a Reservoir Engineer for BP since 2006. He has an M.S. in Petroleum Engineering from the University of Texas at Austin.

Paul G. Belvedere

Paul Belvedere is a Senior Development Geologist at BP working Deepwater Gulf of Mexico. Prior to BP, he worked both U.S Mid-Continent and Gulf of Mexico Shelf properties as Exploration and Development Geologist for ARCO Oil and Gas and Vastar Resources. Paul received his M.S. in Geology from the University of Tulsa in 1989.

Alison T. Henning

Alison Henning received B.A. and M.S. degrees from UT Austin and a Ph.D. from Rice University and worked as a geophysicist in the oil industry and academia. Alison passed away peacefully from complications related to breast cancer in August 2015.

Francis O. Rollins

Francis Rollins is a geophysicist with 31 years of industry experience, primarily in the Gulf of Mexico. He has worked for Amoco, Statoil, and BP, and is presently working the Mad Dog Field. He has an M.S. in Geology/Geophysics from the University of North Carolina–Chapel Hill.

Eric Soza

Eric Soza is a petrophysicist working the Mad Dog Field. He joined BP in 2010 and prior to joining BP he spent nearly 7 years with Schlumberger as a wireline engineer and wireline sales engineer. He has a B.S. in Industrial Engineering from the University of Oklahoma.

Shalina Warrior

Shalina Warrior is a sed/strat specialist with 10 years' experience in the oil industry in a variety of onshore and offshore roles. She has an M.S. degree from UTEP and a B.S. from UH.

SECOND PLACE – 2015

"The Road to Shell's Appomattox Discovery"

Pilar Rojas

Pilar Rojas

Pilar Rojas graduated with a B.Sc. in Geology from Universidad Nacional de Colombia and a M.Sc. in Geology from the University of Colorado at Boulder. She joined Shell in 2008, starting in the presalt play in the Brazil team and then moved to the Gulf of Mexico at the start of the Appomattox Appraisal Campaign in 2011. She has experience doing regional work, prospect maturation, well operations, and booking of resources. She was the project lead for Vicksburg–A, Corinth, and Powernap ST1 and ST2. Pilar is married and has two sons. She loves traveling, hiking, running, and spending time with her family.

THIRD PLACE – 2015

"Chemostratigraphic-Based Age Model for the Black Peaks Formation: Implications for Early Paleogene Paleoclimate in Sub-Tropical North America"

Clement Bataille, Gabriel Bowen, Dylana Watford, Alex Lowe, and Stephen Ruegg

Clement Bataille

Clement P. Bataille is an earth scientist at Chevron specializing in geochemistry. His work is highly interdisciplinary and collaborative and uses geochemistry and numerical modeling to investigate variations in modern and ancient biogeochemical cycles at multiple spatiotemporal scales. The methods, models, and data products developed in his work apply to a wide variety of fields ranging from agricultural sciences, hydrology, ecology, and archeology, to stratigraphy, paleoclimatology, and petroleum exploration. He has applied isotope geochemistry in a variety of projects, including tracking the movements of ancient humans and migratory animals, understanding the solute budget of modern rivers and ancient oceans, and investigating changes in carbon and nitrogen cycling within ancient soils during past greenhouse periods. At Chevron, he applies organic and inorganic geochemical methods to assess charge in petroleum systems. He also contributes to research projects aiming to better understand source rock evolution with thermal maturity in Paleozoic shale gas plays.

Gabriel Bowen

Gabriel Bowen is an Associate Professor of Geology and Geophysics and member of the Global Change and Sustainability Center at the University of Utah, where he leads the Spatiotemporal Isotope Analytics Lab (SPATIAL) and serves as co-director of the SIRFER stable isotope facility. His research focuses on the use of spatial and temporally resolved geochemical data to study Earth systems processes ranging from coupled carbon and water cycle change in geologic history to the movements of modern and near-modern humans. He has coauthored more than 100 peer reviewed papers and book chapters, and his work has been supported by grants from the U.S. National Science Foundation, other U.S. government agencies, and private foundations. In addition to fundamental research, he has been active in developing cyberinformatics tools and training programs supporting the use of large-scale environmental geochemistry data across a broad range of scientific disciplines, including the waterisotopes.org and IsoMAP.org websites and the Inter-University Training for Continental-scale Ecology training program (http://itce.utah.edu).

Dylana Watford

Dylana Watford received her B.A. in Earth Systems Science and Environmental Studies from Trinity University in San Antonio, Texas, in 2013. During her time at Trinity, she was awarded the South Texas Geological Society (STGS) Chair's Award, the STGS George Pinkley Award, and a STGS Field Camp Scholarship. She received her M.S. in Geology from the University of Utah in Salt Lake City, Utah, in 2015. Her work at the University of Utah focused on reconstructing the paleoclimate of the Early Paleogene in Big Bend National Park, Texas, using carbonate clumped isotope thermometry.

Alex Lowe

Alex Lowe is a senior, working on his bachelor in geology at the University of Utah. Alex's research interests are in paleosol geochemistry, paleoecology, and paleoclimate. Since 2012, Alex has been working with Dr. Gabriel Bowen and Dr. Clement Bataille on a sequence of Paleocene-aged fluvial deposits located in Big Bend National Park, Texas. His focus is on various aspects of paleosol geochemistry, including calculating rates of chemical weathering and analyzing $\delta^{13}C$ of bulk soil organic matter. He has also been involved with isotopic analyses of human remains with Dr. Christine France, and paleontology collections based projects at the Natural History Museum of Utah. Alex is in the process of applying for graduate programs, with the hopes of starting research in Fall 2016.

Stephen Ruegg

Stephen Ruegg graduated with a B.S. in Geology from the University of Utah in 2014. His research interests include paleosol geochemistry, hydrology and exogeology. From 2012–2014, Stephen worked with Dr. Clement Bataille and Dr. Gabriel Bowen on a section of stacked paleosols derived from Paleocene-aged fluvial deposits located in Texas' Big Bend National Park.

Stephen is currently involved in an internship with CH2M's Salt Lake City office and is applying to graduate programs for enrollment in Fall 2016.

2015 GORDON I. ATWATER BEST POSTER AWARDS
(Gulf Coast Association of Geological Societies and Gulf Coast Section SEPM)

FIRST PLACE – 2015

"Post Well Analysis of Gulf of Mexico: A Multidisciplinary Approach for a More Confident Understanding of this Complex Petroleum System"

Alessio Checconi, Peter Conn, James Stockley, Edward Smith, David Little, and Erika Tibocha

Alessio Checconi

Alessio is a Geologist, Stratigrapher and Sedimentologist with over 13 years of professional experience in the Oil Industry, Academy and in other geological institutions and governments. Particular expertise in stratigraphy, carbonate sedimentology, sedimentary petrography and thin section biostratigraphy and reservoir quality evaluation. In TGS he has worked as Senior Geologist and Project Developer, focusing on a wide range of proprietary and multi-client projects in Europe, Asia, Africa, and North and South America. He is currently working as Manager of GPSI at TGS, providing strategic operational leadership managing a team of over 40 dedicated professionals to streamline existing business operations and develop new product lines.

Peter Conn

Peter is a Geophysicist with over 30 years experience gained in research, consulting and interpretation with leading geophysical contractors. Peter was Head of Geophysics for TGS Geological Products and Services from 2007–2015. He has a special interest in the development of techniques to use borehole geophysics to improve the geological interpretation of surface seismic data.

James Stockley

James is a Geologist with 35 years experience in Oil & Gas. With a combination of technical and commercial skills, he worked all areas of the value chain upstream and some midstream. He has been involved in exploration through decommissioning, terminal and pipeline systems, research & development, A&D, and M&A. Head of Geology for TGS Geological Products and Services from 2010–2015. Recently corporate advisor to new start-up companies in the UK.

Edward Smith

Edward is a Geologist with over 5 years experience in the Oil Industry. He studied Geology at B.Sc. level at Keele University and then a Petroleum Geoscience M.Sc. at the University of Manchester, graduating in 2010. Edd started his career at Fugro Robertson LTD in North Wales, working as a geoscientist on a variety of different basins and topics, including petroleum exploration studies in Northern Kurdistan, Iraq, global palaeogeographic reconstruction projects, and unconventionals. Edd has been with TGS since 2013 and has since worked on Facies Map Browser products in Northwest Europe and Newfoundland along with Post Well Analysis studies in the Barents Sea and Gulf of Mexico.

David Little

David Little is a Geoscientist with over 8 years Industry experience. He studied at UCL to M.Sc. level in Micropalaeontology. Early career was spent in onshore seismic acquisition, working in North Africa. With TGS since 2007 work has been focused on the interpretation of well log data for NW European basins with additional experience in NW Australia, Eastern Canada. With a background in biostratigraphy he has also worked on paleoenvironmental projects in the Labrador Sea and several basins of Brazil. Most recent work has been in the development and production of the TGS PWA product, involving a multi-disciplinary approach on well analysis and seismic interpretation.

Erika Tibocha

Erika is a Geologist with over 10 years experience in the Oil Industry. She completed her B.Sc. Geology at the National University of Colombia and began her career as logging and wellsite geologist in Colombia and Australia. She continued her studies with an M.Sc. in Petroleum Geosciences in 2009 at the Norwegian University of Science and Technology, in Trondheim (Norway). She then joined Nexen's exploration team in Stavanger and worked licenses in Mid Norway and the Central North Sea. Erika has been with TGS since October 2011 as a Basin Thermal Modeller involved in a variety of multidisciplinary studies, including Post Well Analyses, Play Fairway Analyses and Basin Temperature Models for a variety of global basins in Europe, North and South America, Africa, and Australia.

SECOND PLACE – 2015

"Comparing the Results of the Kelly Criterion and Risk Aversion: Quick Look Practical Alternatives to Portfolio Optimization"

James A. MacKay

James A. MacKay

James A. MacKay (BS Geology, Brigham Young University, 1968) completed a distinguished 34–year career with Chevron Texaco Inc. as an Exploration Risk Analyst for their Global Risk Team. He has 15 years' experience with Rose & Associates, LLP and is currently a Senior Associate.

He has worked previously as a Geologist, Geophysicist, Economist, Exploration Manager, Planning Manager, and Research Scientist. In his research role, he was instrumental in developing Texaco's global approach to risk analysis. He regularly taught risk analysis for Texaco and continues to teach for Rose and Associates, LLP.

He is a co-author of the book "Economic Risk in Hydrocarbon Exploration" published by Academic Press. He is also the author of several papers that emphasize the concept of risk aversion as a tool for working interest selection. In 2002, he served as the invited lecturer for the AAPG Distinguished International Lecture Tour, where he visited seven Latin American countries.

His current interest and recent publications involve the application of the Kelly Growth Criterion to oil and gas exploration.

THIRD PLACE – 2015

"A New Approach to Pore Pressure Predictions: Generation, Expulsion, and Retention Trio—Case Histories from the Gulf of Mexico"

Selim Simon Shaker

Selim Simon Shaker

Selim Simon Shaker is a Consulting Geoscientist for Geopressure Analysis Services Inc. (G.A.S). He received a B.Sc., M.Sc., and Ph.D. in Geology from ASU, Egypt. He also received a diploma in Hydrogeology from Prague University (UNESCO).

With over 35 years in the oil industry, he started his career in Egypt as a well-site, stratigrapher and structural geologist. During his 30 years of U.S. domestic service his main function as Exploration Geologist was prospect generation in offshore Gulf of Mexico, onshore TX and LA, Egypt, NW Australia, Algeria, Libya, North Sea, and China.

After retiring from Phillips Petroleum Co. in year 2000, he consulted for Knowledge System, Inc. (KSI) to collaborate on building their pore pressure DrillWork software, finalizing the Gulf of Mexico DEA–119 study and several domestic and abroad projects (4 years).

He established G.A.S. to focus on pore-fracture pressure prediction, evaluating prospect risk, geopressure compartmentalization, seal integrity, and salt-sediment interaction on leads and prospects worldwide, especially in the Gulf of Mexico. Pre- and post-drilling risk assessment of a prospect is his specialty.

Dr. Shaker has published 43 papers and articles regarding the application of geopressure in exploration and drilling. He has taught geopressure courses to AAPG, SEG, HGS, SCA, and in-house courses for domestic and abroad clients. He is an active member of AAPG, SEG, CSEG, AADE, EAGE, HGS, and GSH. He chaired the AAPG pore pressure session (2014) and convened the Deepwater Geoscience Workshops (2010–2015).

GROVER E. MURRAY BEST PUBLISHED PAPER AWARDS
Gulf Coast Association of Geological Societies and Gulf Coast Section SEPM

FIRST PLACE – 2015

"Analysis of the Goose Point area near Lacombe, Louisiana, Validates New Geophysical Data Type—Natural Sourced Electromagnetism (NSEM)—for Detection of Lineaments Associated with Faults and Sedimentary Features"

Kathleen S. Haggar, Les R. Denham, and Louis J. Berent

Kathleen S. Haggar

Kathy Haggar studied Geology at UNO (BS) and Tulane (MS). Her first career in O&G started at the New Orleans Office of Chevron (1974–1990). During those years she worked in paleotonology, exploration, geophysics, and production. Along the way, as for many who worked in O&G, there were dry holes, producers, and many great experiences. Among the fields she worked were Main Pass 299, West Bay, and Delta Farms. The latter provided a bridge to Greenhill Petroleum, Inc. (1990–1993) as Chevron sold properties and reduced staff. As Greenhill closed their Metairie, LA office, she started her MS in biology at Southeastern Louisiana State University and made Riparian, Inc. (wetland consulting) her next career, one that spanned some 23 years. In 2013 she joined Dynamic Measurement LLC as a geologist and sales consultant. Having a diverse background in geology and in the environment, she recognizes opportunities benefitting clients in O&G as well as civil works projects. Kathy is an active member of NOGS and BRGS and has served on their boards and committees. She is also an active member of HGS and AAPG. She has served on convention committees for GCAGS in Baton Rouge and in New Orleans. She and her co-authors have contributed several professional papers to the *Transactions*. Receiving the Grover Murray Award in 2015 was a great honor. The repeat of this award in 2016 in recognition of Dynamic Measurement LLC's contribution of a new geophysical tool, lightning strike data analysis benefitting geological applications to E&P as well as natural hazard analysis, is greatly appreciated.

Les R. Denham

Les Denham is a geoscientist who has worked in many types of exploration and research in all kinds of geological and geographical settings. After graduating from the University of Sydney (Australia) he worked as a field and interpretive geophysicist, with both seismic and gravity methods, in the Bowen, Surat, and Murray basins in Australia. Then he took a break from exploration to work for the Australian National Antarctic Research Expeditions as station glaciologist in Casey, Antarctica, spending a year in Antarctica, half of it on inland field trips. His next job was Senior Geophysicist with the Geological Survey of Greenland, based in Copenhagen, Denmark. He spent one summer in Greenland running a single channel marine seismic system.

Then he took a job with SeiscomDelta, a geophysical contractor. For three and a half years he ran field operations in Indonesia and the Philippines. Then he transferred to the company's head office in Houston, Texas, as Land Techniques Manager. He worked in the head office (with many field trips worldwide) in that position, then as Research Associate, and finally as Geophysical Advisor until shortly before the company went out of business in 1985.

He took a position as Senior Geophysicist with Newmont Oil Company, and stayed there until the company went out of business in 1988. When that happened, he and Dave Agarwal formed a consulting company, Interactive Interpretation & Training, Inc., which remained in operation until 2012.

From 2012 Les has been a consultant, working mostly for Dynamic Measurement LLC.

Since 1974 he has presented or published more than twenty technical papers on a wide range of technical subjects, from seismic field techniques to estimating hydrocarbon probabilities from seismic amplitudes, and from regional geological studies to using lightning as an exploration tool. He also wrote dozens of confidential technical reports from 1963 to 2015.

Louis J. Berent

Louis Berent is a seasoned explorationist with 40 years of experience generating prospects, managing geophysical projects, and finding hydrocarbons in conventional and unconventional settings. For the past 29 years he has provided professional geophysical consulting and training services to the domestic and international petroleum industry. He has explored in fourteen countries on five continents and has extensive experience guiding domestic and international exploration and development drilling programs. His maps and recommendations have been responsible for oil and gas discoveries in Texas, Louisiana, Alabama, Mississippi, Oklahoma, Arkansas, offshore Louisiana, South Caspian Sea, Danish North Sea and Mexico's Burgos Basin.

Mr. Berent earned a B.S. and M.A. in geology from the City University of New York after completing his geochemical research at the *Université du Québec à Montréal*. In 1975, Louis began his career as an exploration geophysicist with Amoco Production Company in New Orleans. He subsequently went to work for Southland Royalty Company in Houston, where he flourished as a prolific prospect generator, racking up numerous discoveries and triggering a new round of exploration in the Black Warrior Basin.

Louis currently consults for Dynamic Measurement, L.L.C. developing exploration case studies to further validate applications for their natural-source electromagnetic exploration technique (NSEM). His contributions to advance this technology have been significant and three of his interpretive techniques utilizing NSEM to map porphyry copper deposits are patent pending.

Louis is a retired senior officer of the U.S. Army Reserve where he has held various leadership, project management, training, and investigative positions at Ft. Leavenworth and Ft. Sam Houston. While serving as Inspector General during Operation Desert Storm, Louis briefed intelligence agencies on specific geoscience issues impacting military operations.

SECOND PLACE – 2015

"A Geology-Based, Non-Seismic Attribute Method to Generate Facies, Lithology, and Petrophysical Parameters in the Chinook and Cascade Fields, Walker Ridge, Gulf of Mexico, USA"

Elizabeth Ann Watkins, Julio Tamashiro, Mercelo Cristian Torrez Canaviri, Nicolas Martin, Eldar Guliyev, Renato Leite, Nhom (Vince) Nguyen, Abayomi Aina, and Mauro R. Becker

Elizabeth Ann Watkins

Elizabeth Ann Watkins is a Senior Reservoir Geologist for Petrobras America, Inc. (PAI). A native of St. Louis, Mo., she received her Bachelor's degree in Geology from Washington University, St. Louis, Mo. She moved to Houston, TX, and received her Master's degree in Geology from Rice University. She has almost 30 years of experience in exploration, operations geology, field development, and production. Her entire career has been based in Houston, where she has also worked for Mobil, Western Atlas, and ENI analyzing or developing various types of carbonate and siliciclastic fields in North, South, and Central America. For the past 8 years, she has worked for PAI in the Walker Ridge Asset Department, performing reservoir characterization and participating in the development of the Cascade and Chinook Wilcox fields, Gulf of Mexico.

Julio Tamashiro

Julio Tamashiro is a Senior Reservoir Geologist for Petrobras America, Inc. (PAI). He is a native of Peru. He received a Bachelor's degree in Geology and Geological Engineering at San Marcos University in Lima, Peru. With over 30 years of experience in the oil industry, he has worked in Exploration and Operations Geology, but his main focus and expertise is in Development and Production Geology, analyzing both clastic and carbonate offshore and onshore deposits. He has worked in international areas such as Peru, Venezuela, Colombia, and Mexico, as well as in the United States for several companies: Belco Petroleum, PDVSA, Baker Hughes E&P, and PEMEX. Since 2012, he has worked for PAI in the Walker Ridge Reservoir Group, performing reservoir characterization of the Wilcox and participating in the development of the Chinook Field.

Marcelo Cristian Torrez Canaviri

Marcelo Cristian Torrez Canaviri is a Senior Reservoir Geologist and Petrophysicist for Petrobras in Bolivia, South America. Marcelo Torrez graduated from the University of San Andrés in La Paz, Bolivia, in 1998, majoring in Geological Engineering. He began working for Petrobras in 2000 and spent 8 years working at Bolivia as Geologist in charge of evaluation, characterization, and modeling of naturally fractured reservoirs. In 2009, he began working in the International area in Petrobras, in Rio de Janeiro, where he was involved in research projects about geophysical logs and geological modeling at the Research Center of Petrobras. In 2013, he returned to Bolivia where he is currently building or modifying geological model and performing petrophysical analysis for various projects in South America, North America, and Africa.

Nicolas Martin

Nicolas Martin is a Senior Geophysicist for Petrobras America, Inc. He received his Bachelor's degree in Physics (with specialization in Geophysics) from Simon Bolivar University (Venezuela). He also holds a Master's degree in Reservoir Geophysics from the University of Calgary (Canada). After moving to Houston, TX, he has worked for different oil services companies: Ikon Sciences, Fusion Technologies, Tricon Geophysics, and *Geo-Procesados* of Mexico. He has worked for Petrobras since 2012, providing attribute analysis and inversion support for Cascade and Chinook Fields. He has over 25 years of experience in quantitative seismic interpretation (seismic inversion, AVO, and rock physics), seismic attributes analysis, and pore pressure estimation.

Eldar Guliyev

Eldar Guliyev is a Senior Reservoir Geophysicist for Petrobras America, Inc. (PAI). He was born in Baku, Azerbaijan. He received a Bachelor of Science degree in Geophysics from the Azerbaijan State Oil Academy. After serving in the Azerbaijan military army forces as a Lieutenant, he started his career in the Oil and Gas Industry by joining the Azerbaijan National Oil Company (SOCAR) as a seismic data processing geophysicist in 2003. A year later, Eldar received a scholarship from BP and started his graduate program at CSM (Colorado School of Mines). After receiving his Master of Science degree in Geophysics from CSM in 2007, he moved to Houston and joined Occidental Oil and Gas Corporation. Since 2013, Eldar Guliyev has work for PAI on the seismic interpretation of deepwater Wilcox fields in the Gulf of Mexico and has received an MBA degree from Rice University.

Renato Leite

Renato Leite is a Senior Petrophysicist for Petrobras America, Inc. (PAI). He obtained both a Bachelor's degree in Geology and a Master's degree and Ph.D. in Geochemistry, Isotopy and Geochronology at the University of São Paulo, Brazil (with a brief period studying at the University of Alberta, Canada). He has a total of 16 years of experience in the oil business, working 8 years in Petrobras Brazil, where he was part of the exploration team working in the first presalt discovery and in the many basins in offshore and onshore Brazil. He worked one year in Schlumberger (Ciudad del Carmen, Mexico, and Quito, Ecuador) as Latin America Rock Physicist leader. For the last 7 years, he has worked in Petrobras America, Inc., Houston, TX, as the lead petrophysicist dedicated to deep- and ultra-deep water assets in Gulf of Mexico.

Nhom (Vince) Nguyen

Nhom (Vince) Nguyen is a Senior Reservoir Engineer for Petrobras America, Inc. (PAI). He received a Bachelor's of Science degree in Chemical Engineering from the University of South Alabama. He has over 14 years of experience working in field development, planning, and production. He spent the first 9 years of his career in the oil and gas industry working for Shell Oil Company in both offshore and onshore field development and production. His main expertise is in building dynamic reservoir models and performing simulation studies as well as pressure transient analysis. For the last 6 years, he has worked for PAI on the Cascade and Chinook Field development and production projects.

Abayomi (Yomi) Aina

Abayomi (Yomi) Aina is a Reservoir Engineer who recently worked at Petrobras America, Inc. (PAI). Yomi holds a bachelor's degree in Chemical Engineering with honors from the prestigious Obafemi Awolowo University, Nigeria. After a short stint as an oil and gas financial consultant with KPMG, he obtained a Master's degree in Petroleum Engineering from the University of Oklahoma. He has 15 years of experience in oil and gas industry with Shell, BP, and PAI, working primarily in the reservoir engineering discipline. His specialty is reservoir simulation. He is on track to be an alumnus of Harvard Business School by July 2016. He is presently an adviser to the boards of *Servtec Investimentos e Participações Ltda* (a multi-million dollar privately held energy company) and *Vela Investimentos Ltda* (a private equity firm with Latin American focus).

Mauro Roberto Becker

Mauro Roberto Becker is a Petrobras Senior Geologist and, since 2012, has held the position of Manager of the Walker Ridge Reservoir Team in Petrobras America, Inc. (PAI). He received his Bachelor's and Master's degree in Geology from the Brazilian Federal Universities (UFRGS and UFOP) before he graduated with a Ph.D. in Geology from the University of Texas at Austin in 1996. After his initial position with Exxon in Brazil as a well-site geologist, Mauro joined Petrobras in 1985 and worked in several technical areas as a geologist and/or manager in the Research area (CENPES), in the Corporate University Department and in the Technical Service of the E&P business unit of Rio de Janeiro.

THIRD PLACE – 2015

"Compartmentalization between the GC0738_1 Mad Dog North Wellbores—Evidence for Post-Depositional Slumping in the Lower Miocene Reservoirs of the Deepwater Southern Green Canyon, Gulf of Mexico"

Christopher D. Walker, Glen A. Anderson, Paul G. Belvedere, Alison T. Henning, Francis O. Rollins, Eric Soza, and Shalina Warrior

Christopher D. Walker

Chris Walker is a structural geologist working on the Mad Dog Field. He joined BP in 2006 and has a Ph.D. from Columbia University and a M.ESc. from Oxford University.

Glen A. Anderson

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Paul G. Belvedere

Paul Belvedere is a Senior Development Geologist at BP working Deepwater Gulf of Mexico. Prior to BP, he worked both U.S Mid-Continent and Gulf of Mexico Shelf properties as Exploration and Development Geologist for ARCO Oil and Gas and Vastar Resources. Paul received his M.S. in Geology from the University of Tulsa in 1989.

Alison T. Henning

Alison Henning received B.A. and M.S. degrees from UT Austin and a Ph.D. from Rice University and worked as a geophysicist in the oil industry and academia. Alison passed away peacefully from complications related to breast cancer in August 2015.

Francis O. Rollins

Francis Rollins is a geophysicist with 31 years of industry experience, primarily in the Gulf of Mexico. He has worked for Amoco, Statoil, and BP, and is presently working the Mad Dog Field. He has an M.S. in Geology/Geophysics from the University of North Carolina–Chapel Hill.

Eric Soza

Eric Soza is a petrophysicist working the Mad Dog Field. He joined BP in 2010 and prior to joining BP he spent nearly 7 years with Schlumberger as a wireline engineer and wireline sales engineer. He has a B.S. in Industrial Engineering from the University of Oklahoma.

Shalina Warrior

Shalina Warrior is a sed/strat specialist with 10 years' experience in the oil industry in a variety of onshore and offshore roles. She has an M.S. degree from UTEP and a B.S. from UH.

DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD
Gulf Coast Section SEPM

BRUCE HART

Bruce Hart is a Leading Researcher for Statoil, a Norwegian company engaged in the exploration and production of crude oil and natural gas. He joined Statoil in 2013, and formerly held an industry position with ConocoPhillips. Since 2009 the focus of his work has been on exploration and development of unconventional "shale" plays. Before joining the petroleum industry, he held research and teaching positions at McGill University, New Mexico Tech, Penn State, and the Geological Survey of Canada.

Bruce has a Bachelor's degree in Geography and Geology from McMaster University, a Master's degree in Oceanography from the University of Quebec in Rimouski, and a Ph.D. in Geology from the University of Western Ontario. Bruce is an expert in the integration of core, well, and seismic data for stratigraphic and structural interpretation. He has over 50 peer-reviewed publications in journals such as *Geophysics*, *AAPG Bulletin*, *Journal of Sedimentary Research and Geology*, receiving Best Paper awards. Bruce has another 50+ papers in other publications (e.g., SPE, URTeC, *The Leading Edge*, and conference proceedings). He was the 2009–2010 AAPG–SEG Distinguished Lecturer, and a Guest Lecturer for the CSPG in 2006. Previous awards include an HGS Committee Chair Award (2014) and a SW Section AAPG Distinguished Educator Award (2002).

He began teaching short courses on seismic interpretation in 1995, and subsequently went on to teach those courses throughout North America and globally. The 2011 AAPG digital textbook, *Introduction to Seismic Interpretation* (DSC–16), captured much of the learnings from those courses. In 2011, he offered the first free-to-students GCSSEPM short course on seismic interpretation for approximately 30 participants at the University of Louisiana at Lafayette, and offered the fifth such course (with co-instructor Carl Fiduk) in March at the University of Houston. His willingness to volunteer and mentor young geoscientists is a crucial contribution to the success of GCSSEPM.

A Canadian, transplanted to the Gulf Coast, Bruce joined the section when he was drafted to run for President of GCSSEPM in 2010. He has enthusiastically served as President Elect, President, and Past President. He continued to serve by becoming a Trustee of the Foundation in 2012. He has held previous volunteer positions (Associate Editor, President, etc.) with AAPG, CSPG, SPE, SEG, NMGS, and CSRG.

DORIS MALKIN CURTIS MEDAL
Gulf Coast Section SEPM

MARK G. ROWAN

It is our pleasure and honor to present Mark G. Rowan with the 2016 Doris M. Curtis medal from the Gulf Coast Section of the SEPM. The Doris Malkin Curtis Medal recognizes geologists for their career contributions to the development of new concepts for understanding the geology of the Gulf of Mexico Basin and other basins globally. Mark Rowan epitomizes the type of research scientist deserving of this prestigious honor. For the past 30+ years Mark has delved into structural problems of the GOM at local, regional, and crustal scales. Throughout his career he has been at the forefront of researchers in developing new ideas, incorporating and revising old theories, and bringing in ideas from outside the GOM and applying them there.

Mark received a B.S. in biology from CalTech in 1976, an M.S. in geology from Berkeley in 1982, and a Ph.D. in geology from the University of Colorado at Boulder in 1991. He worked for Sohio Petroleum Co. (1982–1985), Geo-Logic Systems (1985–1989), and Alastair Beach Associates in Glasgow, Scotland (1989–1992). He then returned to the University of Colorado as a Research Assistant Professor before founding his own company, Rowan Consulting, in 1998.

Although Mark's background includes research in many types of tectonic environments, his primary research and consulting interests are focused on the styles and kinematics of salt tectonics, the processes of salt-sediment interaction, the architecture and evolution of passive margins, and the applications to petroleum exploration. In these areas of research, Mark is one of the most visible and well recognized structural geologists in the world. He has collaborated with virtually every other well-known figure in salt tectonics, whether in academia or in the petroleum industry. His work ethic is second to none and his publication record is outstanding as he has been the author or coauthor of approximately 80 peer-reviewed papers and 170 abstracts.

In addition to his well-cited research, Mark is an excellent instructor and he teaches one of the most attended and sought-after courses in the petroleum industry. His Salt Tectonics School is consistently one of the highest rated classes presented by Nautilus USA and the AAPG. Many international exploration companies, service companies, and national oil companies have brought him for private runs of the school to their staff. Although he has been teaching the school for almost twenty years, it remains pertinent as he constantly updates the material with new concepts, figures, and seismic examples. As a result of his international reputation, Mark has been named as an AAPG Distinguished Lecturer and an AAPG International Distinguished Instructor.

Carl Fiduk and Thomas Hearon

SPECIAL COMMENDATION AWARD
Gulf Coast Association of Geological Societies

DIANNA PHU

GCAGS is recognizing Dianna Phu for blazing new trails for GCAGS and the Houston Geological Society into the new frontiers of social media, and internet media. Dianna took on two important committees at GCAGS Houston in 2015; she was both Secretary for the Convention team, and also Website and Social Media Chair. She set high goals early for the Houston GCAGS, offering to be content manager and administrator of a new, impressive, Wordpress-based website for the Convention at www.gcagshouston.com.

Dianna is fearless in taking on new technology challenges because she has confidence that better use of a well-constructed website, linked to social media, would improve the advertising for the Houston GCAGS convention and benefit everybody. She created and hosted several GCAGS-themed social media sites on Facebook and LinkedIn to advertise the 2015 GCAGS technical program, short course, and field trips. Dianna's past volunteer experience with social media includes organizing the Houston Geological Society and HGS NeoGeos Facebook and LinkedIn pages, and mentoring roles in the Offshore Technology Conference (OTC) Next Wave program and AAPG's Division of Professional Geologists LinkedIn pages. Dianna also a power user of Twitter @geogirldi with 968 followers and over 2000 tweets! She manages @HouGeo for the HGS, which has 1461 followers. Dianna Phu received the HGS Rising Star Award in 2007, the HGS President's Award in 2011, and the HGS Distinguished Service Award in 2014. Dianna is busy outside of geoscience as well; raising three bright and active girls at home with her husband, Loc Phu.

Dianna graduated from the University of Houston with a B.S. (*cum laude*) in Geology and Geophysics. While at UH, Dianna received the HGS Undergraduate Scholarship (1999), the Outstanding Junior Award (1999–2000), and several industry and alumni association-awarded scholarships (1998–2000). After graduation in December of 2000, Dianna began a full-time career at GEMS as a shallow hazard specialist, working up to Senior Geologist and Project Manager. After nearly 12 years at GEMS (now part of Forum Energy Technologies), Dianna accepted a Senior Geologist role in the Survey & Geoscience group within the subsea engineering company INTECSEA, applying her shallow hazard and integrated studies skillsets to support decision-making and engineering design for subsea developments around the world. Dianna is a registered professional geologist with the State of Texas and a Certified Professional Geologist through AAPG Division of Professional Affairs.

Thanks to Dianna Phu for leadership, team spirit, and innovation while serving GCAGS 2015 and the Houston Geological Society.

Linda Sternbach

MEREDITH L. FABER

Dr. Meredith Lynn Faber is the recipient of the 2016 GCAGS Special Commendation Award. The Special Commendation Award is presented to individuals or groups who have made special contributions to the advancement of GCAGS or Gulf Coast geology in general, but whose achievements cannot be categorized according to the purpose and guidelines of any of the other GCAGS awards. Meredith was nominated for her exceptional work on the GCAGS 2015 Convention in Houston, Texas. In addition to her duties as Poster Sessions Chair, she assisted with multiple other ad hoc committee efforts. Her work on the Young Professionals' (YPs) Meet and Greet is one example of Meredith's efforts to ensure the Convention was a success. While there was funding for the event, there was no organizing committee in place. She took the lead and ensured a very successful Meet and Greet was held prior to the Opening Session.

Meredith began her career in 2012, working in the Eagle Ford Shale as a geoscientist for Swift Energy Company. She is currently a geologist in Noble Energy's Marcellus Business Unit where she supports the development and optimization of the company's Marcellus and Utica Shale assets. Her primary responsibilities include

regional and field-level geologic evaluations, data trades and technical collaboration with joint venture partners.

Meredith has proven herself to be an exceptional leader in the GCAGS, HGS, and AAPG, but some of her most meaningful contributions have been to the advancement of initiatives and opportunities for YPs in Industry. In addition to her role as Poster Sessions Chair for the GCAGS 2015 Houston Convention, Meredith has served on the AAPG Young Professional Membership Committee for 8 years, first as Vice-Chair (2008–2015) and currently as co-chair (2015–2018). She also stood for HGS Delegate (2014), assisted the 2014 AAPG ACE Houston Technical Program Committee as AAPG Co-Vice Chair and is currently serving as the HGS NeoGeos' Social Media Coordinator (2016–2017) and the AAPG 100th Annual Convention Judging Chair (2015–2017). In addition to her volunteer efforts with these scientific societies, Meredith continues to provide support for organizations like Phi Beta Kappa, the P.E.O. Sisterhood and Junior Achievement of Southeast Texas. Meredith was also a recipient of the AAPG 2015 Distinguished Service Award.

Dr. Faber studied at Trinity University in San Antonio, Texas, where she received a B.S. in Geosciences and a B.A. in English in 2005. She earned her Ph.D. in Geology from Southern Methodist University in Dallas, Texas, in 2012 for her geochemical and ecological research on land snails.

Richard Ball

SANDY RUSHWORTH

Sandy Rushworth deserves a GCAGS special recognition award for her work as a Judging Co-Chair. As a team, Sandy Rushworth and David Risch recruited 100 judges from the local society membership and had judge each assigned to sessions in a timely manner well before the GCAGS event. Sandy and David organized the judging event involving GCAGS–AAPG student posters so efficiently that the results could be tabulated by 5 pm on convention Monday, and the awards could be presented to the students on the day they had their posters set up. The Judging co-chairs created, updated, and improved the "Instruction for Judges" document for the GCAGS webpage and print media. Sandy took particular interested in arranging for geologic rock samples for speaker and award gifts, which impressed the participants.

Sandy is highly regarded for her science outreach efforts in the Houston area. Sandy currently is a volunteer "Mentor Docent" at the Houston Museum of Natural Science where she leads tours and trains other docents in the Energy, Paleontology, Egypt, Wildlife, Minerals, and Anthropology halls. She also volunteers at Texas A&M Sea Camp and Katy Prairie Conservancy. When she's not busy with science education, she and David Risch enjoy canoeing and hiking in Texas and traveling in the western U.S. and abroad.

Ms. Rushworth is a retired petroleum geologist who spent thirty-two years in the industry. She was a senior staff geoscientist, International and U.S. New Ventures, for Amoco, Texaco, IHS Energy, and Marathon. Sandy graduated with a B.S. in geology and environmental biology from Beloit College in Wisconsin, and an M.S. in oceanography from the University of Hawaii.

Sandy Rushworth and David Risch, as co-chairs, deserve recognition because they both set high goals for the judging program and delivered on each and every goal, organizing over 100 judges and collecting the judging results, and made sure each winner, and technical session chair, received a rock sample mementos of the 2015 convention. The success of the 2015 GCAGS Judging program is completely due to Sandy and David's efforts and talents in organization and planning.

Linda Sternbach

DAVID RISCH

With great enthusiasm, the GCAGS Houston team would like to award David Risch a special recognition award for his over-the-top effort to execute the judging of the 2015 Technical Program, and first-ever joint GCAGS/AAPG student poster session. David seriously scoped the requirements for the judging program as far as a year before deadlines were set. Here are some of the Judging Committee initiatives the judging team of David Risch and Sandy Rushworth enacted: They budgeted and purchased hundreds of geologic rock samples for speaker and award gifts, which impressed the participants. As a team, they recruited 100 judges from the local society membership and had judge each assigned to sessions in a timely manner well before the GCAGS event. In a joint effort with his co-chair, David created, updated, and im-

proved the "Instruction for Judges" document for the GCAGS webpage and print media. Sandy and David organized the judging event involving GCAGS–AAPG student posters so efficiently that the results could be tabulated by 5 pm on convention Monday, and the awards could be presented to the students on the day they had their posters set up. They also created improved judging forms to help tabulate the results

David Risch is currently devoting significant retirement time to natural science volunteerism. David is currently a "Mentor Docent" at the Houston Museum of Natural Science, where he leads tours and trains other docents in the Energy, Paleontology, Egypt, Wildlife, Minerals, and Native American halls. He also volunteers at Texas A&M Sea Camp, Katy Prairie Conservancy, and his Homeowner's Association. David retired after thirty one years in the Petroleum Industry, in international and domestic exploration, for BHP Billiton, Geco (Schlumberger), and Phillips Petroleum Company. Risch graduated with a B.S. degree in geology and physics from University of Wisconsin–Eau Claire, and an M.S. in Oceanography from Texas A&M University.

David Risch and his cochair, Sandy Rushworth, deserve special recognition because both set high goals for the Judging Program and delivered on each and every goal, organizing over 100 judges and collecting the judging results, and made sure each winner, and technical session chair, received a rock sample mementos of the 2015 convention. They created many fond memories of the convention for the participants.

Linda Sternbach

OUTSTANDING EDUCATOR AWARD
Gulf Coast Association of Geological Societies

PAUL WEIMER

The GCAGS Outstanding Educator Award is presented in recognition of outstanding contributions in the education and training of geologists. It recognizes classroom teaching and outstanding research and publication as contributions to the education and training of geologists. As such, it is designed to honor those educators in academia who have made a major positive impact in the lives of Gulf Coast geologists.

Paul Weimer is prodigious in Gulf Coast Geology and highly deserving of recognition by the GCAGS for the Outstanding Educator Award. He is an exceptional researcher and educator accomplishing an extensive record of contributions to Gulf Coast geoscience. His publication and teaching record is exceptional. Living and working in Boulder, Colorado, a mile above sea level, must account for his big picture view and the thin air up there must positively affect his productivity!

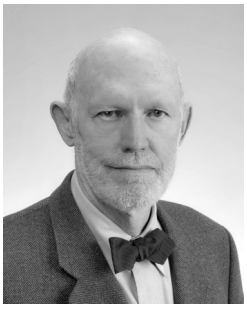
Here are a few of his impressive accomplishments on Gulf Coast geology:

- 38 papers in *GCAGS Transactions*
- 17 papers in the *AAPG Bulletin*, plus 9 in press
- 3 special issues of refereed publications dedicated to GOM geology (2 *AAPG Bulletins* and 1 *Geo-Marine Letters*)
- 10 books edited with GOM geology included
- 2 books written with major GOM emphasis
- 24 M.S. and 2 Ph.D. students supervised with GOM theses
- 10 visiting scientists who worked on GOM geology
- 14 Post-doc research scientists supported on GOM geology

Dr. Weimer has served as AAPG President and received numerous professional awards. He has traveled extensively around the world. His presentations and workshops have made him a prolific ambassador of Gulf Coast geoscience. The complicated Gulf Coast geology keeps him coming back to solve new problems and to inspire new students. GCAGS thanks Dr. Weimer for improving the heritage of Gulf Coast geoscience for all and for leaving a living legacy of excellence in his students.

Charles A. Sternbach

CHARLES M. 'CHOCK' WOODRUFF, JR.



The usual purview for this GCAGS award has been the conventional academic sector, even though most professional geoscientists will eagerly tell you about outstanding practicing professionals who have also been demanding and inspiring teachers and mentors, essential and influential guides along their career pathways. Chock Woodruff is just such an extraordinary professional geoscientist. Naming him as this year's recipient conveys not only richly deserved recognition, but also adds welcome, expanded distinction to the award itself.

Well-known in Texas as a leading practicing professional geoscientist and consultant, especially in the field of engineering/environmental geology, Chock Woodruff has also been an ongoing force in the Austin Geological Society, leading or co-leading more than 20 professional field trips, and generating more than 25 field-trip guidebooks, thus teaching AGS members about the geology and geological issues of Central Texas. While conducting a thriving professional practice, Chock also maintained a continuing variety of teaching, lecturing, and publishing activities involving the University of Texas, area civic associations, the City of Austin, various agencies of the State of Texas, and Geo-Force (the UT Jackson School's innovative outreach program).

Following B.A. and M.S. degrees at Vanderbilt University, Chock came to Texas (like many enlightened earlier Tennessee Volunteers) to pursue a career. His Ph.D. dissertation (1973) concerned the Lake Travis vicinity. He started with the Texas Bureau of Economic Geology, but decided to start his own professional practice in 1983. Responding to an innate urge to share his knowledge, he began in 2001 to teach a graduate-level summer course at the UT Department of Civil Engineering, "Engineering Geology," which has become a classic, with an annual waiting list. In 2012, Chock rejoined the Texas Bureau of Economic Geology on a part-time basis, even while maintaining his professional practice.

Chock Woodruff has been the "complete geologist" during his long and productive career in central Texas, relating Geology to remarkably diverse aspects of life—architecture, conservation, education, engineering, geomorphology, ground water, land use, literature, philosophy, soil evolution, urban development, and wine production. His passion for teaching reaches far beyond the conventional classroom, and thousands of colleagues, fellow citizens, and students have benefited.

Dr. Peter R. Rose
Austin, Texas

THOMAS L. MCGEHEE

Dr. Thomas L. McGehee has been the leading force in the resurrection of the undergraduate Geoscience Program at Texas A&M University at Kingsville (TAMUK) for the past 10 years. About a dozen years ago, the Geosciences Program was simply content to remain small. Many of the "old guard" professors were retiring and the state was threatening to shutter "low-producing" programs. Tom took the lead in reinventing a once great program and he was determined to retain Geosciences as a vibrant degree at TAMUK. Since this time, the program has gone from the brink of elimination, with just a handful of majors and three tenure track faculty, to one with 50 to 60 majors, six tenure track faculty, and numerous adjunct faculty.

Dr. McGehee has worked tirelessly in his pursuit to make the Geosciences Program at TAMUK (formerly Texas A& I) recognized across the State of Texas. The first item needed was a strong student core so he went on a state-wide recruiting blitz, targeting magnet schools and junior colleges from the four corners of the state. The second thing Tom needed was money for these students, so he worked with numerous groups within the university and outside the university (like SME and CCGS) to secure small grants and scholarships which attract more students. His goal was not only to provide a great geoscience education but to provide an affordable one.

Tom knew that this was not enough. After getting students, the program needed to build a distinctive quality. The next step was to establish legitimacy. An undergraduate program must have a firm base and be able to provide all of the courses required to form a geology student into a geologist. Tom fought hard to get additional faculty added to the program and was determined to offer every course every year (unlike some smaller schools that teach courses alternate years). And finally, after building the program to levels where the state would not be looking to shutter it (and where the Deans would give it resources) he sought to build respectability. Tom did this by producing the finest geology undergraduates in South Texas—arguably some of the finest in the state. With the groundwork Tom laid, the TAMUK Geoscience Program now attracts some of the best talent from around the state. The program graduates high quality students and many as College of Arts & Scientists Distinguished Student Award finalists. The program has one of the highest percentages of student participation in the Honor's College and the opportunity for student professional development. Recent graduates work as industry leaders or they are attending some of the top graduate programs in the country. Former students speak highly of TAMUK and specifically Dr. McGehee.

Tom McGehee has also been a leader in the development of field-based education at TAMUK. The Geoscience Program goes on three 3–day field trips each semester and Tom is on all of them—even when he has a broken foot! These are not simply "look at that" trips where everyone jumps out of a van and stares at an outcrop for ten minutes; these are trips with a designed research question and exercise. Tom recognized the advantage to include local Community College Geology faculty and majors on some of these trips to build a bridge. Trips are designed for students to directly apply what they have learned in the classroom.

Under the direction of Dr. McGehee, TAMUK has recently opened a traditional 6–credit summer field camp and has applicants from many other Texas colleges and universities. While some colleges are eliminating field schools as unnecessary, TAMUK has opened one! Tom's reasons for establishing a field camp were that it helps legitimize the program; provides an affordable camp for students; and it serves a critical need for South Texas.

Other camps cost well over $5000 but the TAMUK camp is affordable at $3200. Tom has been able to keep costs low by using his extended network of associates, friends, and industry experts to help. Additionally, TAMUK's camp is writing intensive, where students produce a fully referenced report including background (previous works), observations (their field-collected data), interpretations and a discussion. Some of these reports are over 40 pages, with drafted figures. This provides the student with an unsurpassed capstone class experience and readies them for either a professional job or graduate school.

Additionally, Dr. McGehee has helped provide professional development opportunities for undergraduate students such as teaching assistantships and research projects. He spearheaded the creation of a two-credit professional development workshop where students get hands-on training and learn directly from industry leaders. Tom has directed numerous, award-winning undergraduate research projects.

Dr. McGehee truly cares about students. Tom always has the best interest of the student at heart and wants them to be the best they can. He tailors his instruction to the individual student; some need gentle coddling while others need to be pushed a bit harder. He is able to coax the best out of each student. Many students who have graduated from the program that would have been otherwise left to the side or failed. The main reason they are geologists today is because of the efforts of Dr. Tom McGehee.

Tom schedules special evening "supplemental instruction" sessions for his Physical Geology classes. He teaches courses for free when a student needs just that one last class to graduate. He has stepped up to teach courses outside his area of expertise like Mineralogy when the sudden loss of a colleague would have delayed graduation for a year for some students if the class could not be taught. He has taught overloads when needed; taught courses for free; tutored at night; taught weekends; and has even given up holidays. He is consistently amongst the top rated professors at the university. He works nearly every day of the year to better his program and the students in it. In short, Dr. Tom McGehee has done whatever it takes to make the geoscience students of TAMUK the best that they can be.

In 2004, Dr. McGehee received the Olan Kruse Outstanding Science Faculty Award from TAMUK, then in 2008 the Servants of Las Luminarias recognized Dr. McGehee as a "Bringer of Light." (Those selected are "bringers of the light of the knowledge of goodness to the Texas A&M University–Kingsville campus community" and whose words and deeds "selflessly and consistently shine the light of goodness into our midst.")

Dr. McGehee published numerous environmental studies reports for the U.S. Department of Energy (Oak Ridge, TN) and U.S. Department of Defense (Vicksburg, MS), working over the summer in the 1980s and 1990s. He also published numerous papers with former graduate students and is the co-author on many abstracts with undergraduate students. He has published more recently on pedagogy including the Junior Rockhounds program.

Dr. McGehee is a member of CCGS (Corpus Christi Geological Society), AAPG (American Association of Petroleum Geologists), American Chemical Society, National Ground Water Association, and SME (Society of Mining, Metallurgy and Exploration). He is a Registered Professional Geologist (Texas), and Former Chairman, Department of Chemistry 2004–2005 (TAMUK)

Tom earned his B.S. in 1979 from the University of Texas at Dallas, and his Ph.D. in 1987 from the University of Texas at Dallas.

Thomas McGehee represents the best of our profession as a caring guiding advocate for Geoscience Education and he has been a gentle molding force in shaping the future of geoscience. Please join the GCAGS in the recognition of Thomas McGehee as the Outstanding Educator for 2016.

Mark T. Ford

DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD
Gulf Coast Association of Geological Societies

LINDA R. STERNBACH

Linda Sternbach is being honored with the GCAGS Distinguished Service Award. She recently served as Technical Chair of the 2015 GCAGS Annual Meeting in Houston; responsible for coordinating the expansive Houston technical program, and meeting goals with the hardworking technical committees under her leadership including: poster committee, judging, short courses, and field trips committee. Linda took a special interest in the oral program, spearheading a call for papers which brought in content, and in organizing the oral sessions and getting oral session chairs from HGS ranks. Linda made it a priority to have a high quality convention website, and worked on getting content and images and on the design of the site. She also created part of the 2015 convention logo design, a round emblem showing onshore and offshore drilling, and arranged for the logo to be professionally drafted. All this resulted in a successful 2015 Technical Program September 19–21 at the George R Brown Convention Center in Houston.

Linda has also been Technical Chair in other conventions. She served as technical chair in the 2011 AAPG Annual Convention in Houston, which was also at the George R Brown Convention Center. The experience of working on the 2011 AAPG gave her insight into what types of oral and poster sessions are popular in the Gulf Coast region and the benefit of having "education sessions" and "business sessions" during the program. Linda received the AAPG Distinguished Service Award in 2013. As a result of her experience, the 2015 Houston convention was styled to be a mini–AAPG with 4 simultaneous oral sessions with different themes going on morning and afternoon over the two convention days. This worked out well, and the 2015 Houston convention was highly attended, and got good reviews from participants. She also worked with the convention poster chair to attract professional, faculty and student poster sessions on the first day of the convention resulting in over 70 posters on display, including posters from the AAPG student expo.

Linda Sternbach has volunteered with the Houston Geological Society for over 30 years, and has served HGS as President (2007–2008), as well as HGS Vice President and *HGS Bulletin* Editor. She has been an active member of AAPG since 1984 and joined HGS in 1985. Linda was born in Philadelphia, PA, and earned a B.S. in Geology from Syracuse University in 1981, and a M.S. in Geology from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute in 1984. She studied carbonate geology with Dr. Gerald Friedman at RPI, and married fellow student Charles Sternbach in 1983 just before leaving school to go to Texas to start jobs in the oil industry. Linda worked for ARCO Oil and Gas from 1984-1993, in the Gulf Coast onshore and offshore areas. She then consulted as a geophysical specialist using workstation interpretation for 10 years, working domestic and international plays. Linda worked for Pennzoil, Kerr McGee, Globex International and Oxy before joining Star Creek Energy as Vice President in 2008.

We thank Linda Sternbach for dedication and service to GCAGS and for making the 2015 Technical Program a success.

BRENT HOPKINS

The Distinguished Service Award is given to members who consistently set themselves apart with notable service to the GCAGS and to their local societies. This year Brent Hopkins is receiving the award for his many years of service to both the Corpus Christi Geologic Society as Vice President, President Elect, President, Delegate to AAPG, Scholarship Committee, and History Committee. Brent served the GCAGS as Co-General Chairman (2007 Corpus Christi), Continuity Committee (Member and Chairman), GCAGS Vice President, and GCAGS President (current). Brent's service will not end quite yet as next year he will be the serving on both the GCAGS Continuity Committee and the GCAGS Awards Committee. Brent is also involved with TIPRO (an oil and gas industry advocacy group) as the South Texas Director. He has been chairman of the CCOTT (Corpus Christi Oilmen's Tennis Tournament) for the past several years (CCOTT raises mon-

ey for the CCGS, API, and SPE scholarship programs). Brent represents the GCAGS's finest as a charismatic, optimistic, and positive leader in these listed volunteer positions and as the President and CEO of Suemaur, a preeminent oil and gas company in the Coastal Bend.

Brent received his Bachelor of Science Degree from the State University of New York at Cortland in 1981. He has been involved with Suemaur Exploration & Production, LLC since its inception, but formally joined January 1, 2008, as President and CEO. Hopkins was hired as Exploration Manager of Gedd, Inc. in 2002 and later became President. While at Gedd, he was responsible for overseeing various domestic assets along with international investments in Papua New Guinea, Columbia, South America, and Belize. The most successful of these investments were in Columbia with Hupecol where over 100 wells were drilled and ultimately a number of concessions were divested to various international companies for over $1.2 billion. Previous to Gedd, Hopkins spent the first 20 years of his career with Genesis Producing Company in various capacities from Geo-tech to Exploration Manager.

In addition to his work activities Brent is a member of American Association of Petroleum Geologists, Society of Exploration Geophysicists, and Society of Independent Professional Earth Scientists.

Brent exemplifies leadership, commitment, Texas friendliness, and personal integrity and this award is a fitting recognition for his Distinguished Service to our community, our scientific discipline, our industry, and the entire GCAGS Organization.

Thank You, Brent!

ALFREDO EDUARDO GUZMÁN

Citation: For Alfredo Guzmán, a visionary leader who has served the GCAGS, the geoscience profession, and the nation of Mexico with distinction, leading to improved international relations, discovery of significant hydrocarbons, and the changing of the Constitution of Mexico to allow for external investment in oil and gas. – *Scott W. Tinker, 2016*

Alfredo Guzmán is a bold, visionary leader whose service has positively impacted GCAGS, the geoscience profession, and the nation of Mexico. Alfredo comes from a geologic family, the son of internationally renowned geologist and diplomat Eduardo Jose Guzmán. Like his father before him, Alfredo is multilingual, humble, worldly, and dedicated to his beloved Mexico.

Our paths first crossed in January 2000, when we established a beneficial research relationship between Pemex and the Bureau of Economic Geology. I recognized early on that this was a unique man—respected by his peers for his energy, knowledge, and foresight—and I have benefited greatly from his wise counsel.

Following his year as president of the *Asociación Mexicana de Geólogos Petroleros* (AMGP), Alfredo sent me a letter requesting help in facilitating AMGP's joining of GCAGS. Working with good friends Pete Rose, then-president of GCAGS, and Javier Meneses-Rocha, then-president of AMGP, Alfredo and I were able to accomplish this goal, thus helping to establish professional relationships between Mexico and the United States and beginning shared experiences that would prove invaluable a decade later.

Over the course of our friendship, I listened as Alfredo explained the benefits and importance of opening Mexico to external investment in energy. And I soon found out that leaders such as Alfredo Guzmán back up their words with action. After a remarkable 33-year career at Pemex—where, like his father, he rose to the rank of Exploration and North Region vice president, the highest-ranking geologist in the company at that time—Alfredo was appointed in 2009 by the president of Mexico as commissioner for the National Hydrocarbons Commission. In that role, Alfredo planted the seeds for what was to follow: in 2013, Mexico changed its Constitution to allow foreign companies to drill for oil and gas for the first time since the sector was nationalized in 1938.

During his professional career, Alfredo consistently pursued the integration of science, engineering, and planning in his high-performance teams. His efforts resulted in the discovery of new oil and gas fields in Mexico, the development of the Chicontepec Paleochannel, the rejuvenation of the Veracruz and Burgos gas basins, and the development of an exploration portfolio in Pemex with more than 2500 opportunities. In terms of service, Guzmán has more than 50 publications on petroleum geology and hydrocarbon exploration and over 200 presentations worldwide. He has taught at the University of Sonora, Autonomous University of Chihuahua, and Autonomous University of San Luis Potosí. In addition to AMGP and AAPG, Guzmán is a member of the *Asociación Mexicana de Geofísicos de Exploración*, *Asociación de Ingenieros*

Petroleros de México, Society of Petroleum Engineers, and Circum-Pacific Council for Energy and Mineral Resources.

Alfredo earned Bachelor and Master of Science degrees in geology from Texas Tech University. He was a rare international candidate nominated twice to stand for AAPG president. Alfredo is also an Honorary Member of AAPG and in 2015 received the group's Halbouty Leadership Award, its highest award for leadership. Alfredo is also the recipient of GCAGS´s Statesmanship Award, as well as a member of the *Academia Mexicana de Ingeniería*. He is presently the director of Exploration and New Ventures for Casa Exploration.

HONORARY MEMBERSHIP
Gulf Coast Association of Geological Societies

MARY J. BROUSSARD

I am honored to have the opportunity to write the citation for Mary Broussard for Honorary Membership of the Gulf Coast Association of Geological Societies. The GCAGS is an organization that serves the broad geological communities of the Gulf Coast region, with a primary but not exclusive emphasis on petroleum geology, and Mary's career has epitomized the broad ideals of service to this community at every level. She has worked with university students, the local societies, and the regional and national professional organizations that enrich our professional community. I have been privileged to work with Mary as her thesis advisor during her graduate school days, as a colleague with the GCAGS and on various committees and with the AAPG Imperial Barrel Award competition, where she has sponsored/mentored our department's student team from the University of Louisiana for several years. She is a full-time employee of Freeport McMoRan Oil & Gas and yet has been able to find the time to be a dedicated contributor to professional organizations—particularly the GCAGS, which she served as President—and to help and advise aspiring graduate students while continuing to have a life as wife and mother.

For such a young woman, Mary has already had a long and successful career in the petroleum industry. Her M.S. thesis, on fault seal analysis, was presented at the 1995 GCAGS Convention and won the A. I. Levorsen Award from AAPG for the paper that best exemplified creative ideas in oil and gas exploration, written while she was working with Marathon Oil. Since her M.S. graduation, Mary has worked with Unocal, Stone Energy, and Plains E & P, and is currently Manager of Exploration, Freeport McMoRan Oil & Gas.

Mary has a long history of service to professional organizations, including the Lafayette Geological Society (President in 2003), and General Chairman for the 2006 GCAGS Convention in Lafayette. Her leadership skills and attention to detail as General Chairman resulted in an extremely successful convention. Not long after the Convention, Mary again came to the rescue for GCAGS when the Continuity Committee was formed and she accepted the role as Chairman. Because the Continuity Committee was a combination of the Convention and Long Range Planning Committees, it had significant responsibilities. She once again expertly fulfilled her duties, even remaining as Chairman for an extra year while refining the efficiencies of this new committee. As Chairman, she also played a key role in creating the much-needed and extremely detailed 'Operations Manual' for convention planning. This manual has become the "Bible" for all future convention organizers.

She served the GCAGS as Vice President in 2012–2013 and President 2013–2014, and once again displayed her qualities of dedication and intense hard work far beyond what is normally required in these positions. Her service to the professional community has also included service on various AAPG committees including Gulf Coast Section Visiting Geoscientists coordinator (2014–2016), Section Presidents Chairman (2015–2016), Advisory Council (2010–2013), Nominations Chair (2012–2013), membership committee (2012), member of House of Delegates (2007–2009).

Mary's professional contribution has been recognized with several awards, including LGS Honorary Member (2015), GCAGS Distinguished Service Award (2008), and now Honorary Membership of the GCAGS.

Respectfully submitted,

Brian Lock

LARRY D. BARTELL

Larry Bartell has been selected to receive one of GCAGS's highest honors, Honorary Membership.

Throughout his career, Larry has been active in professional organizations. He has a long and distinguished record of serving the Gulf Coast Association of Geological Societies (GCAGS), the Houston Geological Society (HGS), and the American Association of Petroleum Geologists (AAPG). One of the great attributes of Larry's style as a leader is to quietly complete the task, without great fanfare or attempting to gain the spotlight or solicit personal recognition.

The recent, very successful, 2015 GCAGS Convention, with the theme "Technology…Education…Leadership…Discovery," for which Larry served as General Chair, was actually his "second rodeo." It was a great convention, with high attendance, new features and emphasized a significant student and young professional participation. All this in the face of the dramatic decline in the price of oil and increasing stress in our industry.

I had the pleasure of working closely with Larry when he chaired his first "rodeo," the 2000 GCAGS Convention in Houston, while I was serving as GCAGS President. It also was a very successful and fun event organized around the theme of "Remember the Past…Visualize the Future". Larry used his experience as GCAGS Treasurer when Dan Smith and Chuck Noll, co-chaired the 1991 Convention. He was an active member of the Convention Committee in 1991 through 1994 and later also served on other ad-hoc GCAGS committees.

Larry first worked on a major convention when Dick Bishop chaired the 1988 AAPG Convention in Houston, hosted by HGS. Maybe that was the launch pad, as Larry began his active role in HGS in 1989 serving as Treasurer, then was elected to the HGS Board from 1994 to 1996 and followed that with election as Secretary from 1996 to 1997.

HGS recognized him with a President's Award in 1996, an HGS Special Recognition Award in 2001, and an HGS Distinguished Service Award in 2004

AAPG has also utilized Larry as a Delegate to the House of Delegates for several terms and he is active in the Society of Independent Professional Earth Scientists (SIPES) Houston chapter.

Larry was born in Oklahoma City, attended Texas Tech, then transferred and received his B.S. in Geology from the University of Oklahoma in 1983. His professional career has been spent in the family oil company and more recently as a partner in Legends Exploration with his father, Denny Bartell, and John Amoruso.

The Legends team received the prestigious AAPG Outstanding Explorer Award in 2011 for the play-opening discovery of Amoruso Field in the Bossier Trend of Robertson Co., Texas. That award is a rare and distinguished honor, indeed.

So it is clear, Larry Bartell sets a great example and is a role model for our profession. Active in our industry as a successful, truly independent, prospector and willing to give back consistently to the profession of petroleum geology.

He truly deserves the GCAGS Honorary Membership Award!

Jeff Lund
GCAGS Past President

OWEN R. HOPKINS OUTSTANDING EARTH SCIENCE TEACHER AWARD

Gulf Coast Association of Geological Societies

LEIGH MARSH

As an artist shows excitement when people line up to see their creation, Mrs. Leigh Marsh shows the same excitement when her students line up to experience her lessons. She welcomes them into her classroom with a smile, and her students have the same smile when they see her. They know she has created a learning experience that is sure to excite them and future their understanding of the science concepts to be covered. I have had seen this occur on a daily basis this year while I have had the honor of working with Mrs. Marsh. I have worked at three different middle schools during my career as an educator and have never see such a genuine connection between a teacher and her students.

Mrs. Marsh's ability to bring her curriculum to life is one of her greatest strengths. When you walk into her classroom you are met with a room full of excited students. You will see students collaborating to solve real world problems, applying recently learned concepts, or participating in a challenging discussion about science. Students are eager to explain the day's lesson and show you their level of understanding with you. After you are finished talking to a group of students, another will quickly ask you to talk with them. You can see the pride in Mrs. Marsh's face when a visitor arrives because she is truly excited to see her students learn.

Mrs. Marsh ensures her lessons are designed to help students gain a deep understanding of science concepts. She consistently has a connection between learning a concept and the application of the concept in an authentic scientific experience. The focus on application of learning drives her instruction. From digging for minerals out of cookies to having a firefighter demonstrating how pulleys have real world applications in his job, her students learn science far beyond her classroom. It simply is not enough for her student to be able to complete a worksheet or pass a test. She is not satisfied until they have applied their learning and can fully explain their understanding and the application of it to others.

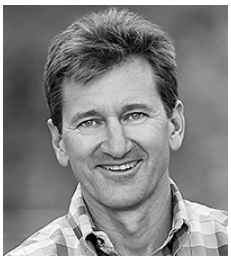
I am truly honored and proud to work aside Mrs. Marsh as she is an excellent example of an outstanding teacher. I am excited every time I have the opportunity to step into her classroom and I'm particularly elated she has been chosen as 2016 Owen R. Hopkins Outstanding Teacher of Earth Science

Respectfully,

John Dobbins, Principal
Baker Middle School

DON R. BOYD MEDAL FOR EXCELLENCE IN GULF COAST GEOLOGY
Gulf Coast Association of Geological Societies

SCOTT WHEELER TINKER



Citation: To Scott W. Tinker, 2016 Don R. Boyd Medalist, for remarkable and distinguished leadership in the geological sciences, especially petroleum geology; for diligent research, especially in unconventional oil and gas resources; for highly effective guidance and direction in public geologic research and management; and for cogent and articulate discourse in energy resources and energy policy brought to a large audience throughout the world.

The stated criteria for the Don R. Boyd Medal for Excellence in Gulf Coast Geology, the highest award of the Gulf Coast Association of Geological Societies, are (1) excellence in research, (2) professional leadership, and (3) prominence in oil and gas exploration. Prospective Boyd medalists are expected to meet at least two of the three criteria. Like Don Boyd, Scott Tinker is one of the few geologists who meet all three. In research, Tinker has presented fundamental and award-winning works in carbonate geology, and in recent years he has led a massive, integrated analysis of unconventional oil and gas for the major unconventional basins of the United States. His professional leadership has been talented, energetic, and dedicated in the professional societies, in public research direction, in the halls of the Texas Legislature and the U.S. Congress, and uniquely for geologists, in filmmaking. And in oil and gas exploration, he is involved in industry councils, corporate boards, and corporate consulting.

Scott W. Tinker arrived on the face of this planet 57 years ago in Centralia, Illinois, 68 miles north of my downstate Illinois birthplace, but 27 years later. Scott's father, C. N. (Tom) Tinker was then working as a geologist for Shell in the Illinois Basin. Scott grew up in Houston, graduating *summa cum laude* from Cy-Fair High School in 1978, where he was elected to the National Honor Society and served as President of his class. He began his university work at Trinity in San Antonio, Texas, graduating *magna cum laude* with a B.S. in geology (where his advisor was Ed Roy) and business administration in 1982, and earning a Phi Beta Kappa key.

In 1982–83 Scott spent a year with Robert M. Sneider Exploration in Houston (Bob was a former Shell geologist) and then pursued an M.S. degree in geological sciences at the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor (where his advisor was James Lee Wilson). After graduation he joined Union Pacific Resources in Englewood, Colorado, for a three-year stint before moving to Marathon Oil's research center in Littleton, Colorado, in 1988. Through 2000 at Marathon, Scott advanced from Geologist II to Advanced Senior Geologist, picking up a Ph.D. in geological sciences from the University of Colorado in 1996 along the way. In 2000 the University of Texas at Austin successfully recruited him to become State Geologist of Texas, Director of the Bureau of Economic Geology, Professor of Geological Sciences, and the Allday Endowed Chair in Subsurface Geology.

When Dr. Tinker joined the Bureau of Economic Geology, the Bureau had hit a bit of a low in its long history of prominence in both basic and applied research. Tinker not only restored the Bureau's prominence in short order, but measurably enlarged it. That took substantial, perhaps unique, leadership and dedication. A main responsibility of the Bureau Director is to oversee the strategic and financial health of a basically soft-money organization; in a relatively short time Tinker brought the Bureau to an annual budget of $35 million, attracting some $350 million of external funding during his tenure to date. Doing so required extensive contacts and work with supporting Federal, State, and private organizations, as well as coordination with the leadership of the University. Tinker has also been successful in maintaining and recruiting a productive and talented research staff. As Texas State Geologist, Dr. Tinker serves as research and technical advisor to the Governor's Office, the Texas Legislature, and several State regulatory agencies. Scott also serves as Director of the Advanced Energy Consortium and is the acting Associate Dean for Research for the Jackson School of Geosciences, as well as the past-Director of the Petroleum Technology Transfer Council.

Shortly after his arrival at The University of Texas, Scott became closely engaged with me in working with John A. Jackson of Dallas. He was deeply involved in creating and launching the Jackson School of Geosciences, and his relationship with Mr. Jackson helped secure the large Jackson Endowment, supporting the School. His was a quick entry into the larger workings of a major, public university and a major academic event.

One of Tinker's responsibilities at the University is to keep the Bureau visible and widely engaged, which he has done in superb fashion, becoming perhaps the most prominent spokesman today in the science and policy of energy resources, through public speaking to many diverse audiences worldwide and as the driving force of an engaging and successful movie—Switch—on energy.

Scott Tinker's energy and dedication emerged quickly in the professional geoscience societies, where he has served as the president of the Austin Geological Society (AGS), the Association of American State Geologists (AASG), the Gulf Coast Association of Geological Societies (GCAGS), the American Association of Petroleum Geologists (AAPG), and, currently, the American Geosciences Institute (AGI).

Dr. Tinker has received Honorary Membership, the Halbouty Outstanding Leadership Award, the Distinguished Service Award, and the Geosciences in the Media Award from AAPG, the Galey Public Service Award from the American Institute of Professional Geologists (AIPG), the Outstanding Contribution to Public Understanding of the Geosciences Award from AGI, the Hats Off! Award from the Texas Independent Producers and Royalty Owners Association (TIPRO), and the Distinguished Service Award from the West Texas Geological Society.

Tinker is a member of the American Association of Petroleum Geologists, the Geological Society of America (Fellow), the American Institute of Professional Geologists, the Society for Sedimentary Geology (SEPM), the Society of Exploration Geophysicists (SEG), the Society of Petroleum Engineers (SPE), the European Association of Geoscientists and Engineers, the Austin Geological Society, the Rocky Mountain Association of Geologists, the West Texas Geological Society, and is a registered professional geologist in Texas. He holds appointments to the National Petroleum Council (by the Secretary of Energy), the Shell Science Council, and the Interstate Oil and Gas Compact Commission (by the Governor of Texas) and has served a six-year term on the BP Technical Advisory Council.

The Gulf Coast Association of Geological Societies honors Scott Tinker, a thoroughly merited and gifted person, with the Don R. Boyd Medal. The Association credits itself in doing so. Don Boyd would be proud.

William L. Fisher

GULF COAST ASSOCIATION OF GEOLOGICAL SOCIETIES 1951

SOCIETY OF ECONOMIC PALEONTOLOGISTS AND MINERALOGISTS
GULF COAST SECTION
FOUNDED 1953