The 2016-2017 school year closed with many activities having been provided for the students in the five IPAA/PESA Petroleum Academies. These would not have been possible without the tremendous support of the many companies, organizations and individuals who have helped sustain the work of the IPAA/PESA Energy Education Center.

This year marked an outstanding year of academic success for the students in the petroleum academies, with there being three valedictorians, two salutatorians and numerous top 10 students in the 2017 graduating class. Congratulations to all students, parents and campus personnel.

We are very thankful for the involvement of the following organizations that provide industry field trips, camps and support for our students, many on multiple occasions: Bureau of Economic Geology, Comanche Peak Nuclear Power Plant, Consumer Energy Alliance’s Houston Energy Day, Dallas Perot Museum, Fort Worth Museum of Science and History, Gearhart Industries, Gulf Publishing’s Women’s Global Leadership Conference, High Island beach trenching, Houston Geological Society, Houston Museum of Natural Science, the Offshore Energy Center, Perot Museum, Dallas, Physics Day at Six Flags, Schlumberger Surfside Beach Cleanup, Texas A&M University, Texas Christian University Energy Institute and Fossil Dig, Weir Oil & Gas, and the University of Texas at Arlington.

This year we continued our major competitions: the Shell STEM Showdown at the University of Houston with involvement by Rice University, University of Houston, University of St. Thomas, and University of Texas, Austin, with 840 students participating by this September. PetroChallenge 2017 took place with sponsorship by Occidental Petroleum, Schlumberger and the Schlumberger company, NExT, with 1,500 students participating to date. In Fort Worth, the Southwest High School Professional Speaking Competition was supported by American Association of Drilling Engineers companies: Creighton Drilling Services, Integrity Directional, Reef Oil and Gas, and Weatherford International.

To further support the IPAA Educational Foundation’s educational outreach efforts, IPAA, through its partnership with Energy Training Resources, is excited to launch the next of its elearning courses:

- Mineral Rights and Leasing
- Geology for Non-Geologists (Coming Soon!)
- Joint Operations

To learn more about these courses, visit www.ipaa.org/elearning.
Barry Russell continued from page 1

The Guest Speaker Lecture Series Conference in Houston Academies continued to model how students should prepare for and conduct professional presentations. These conferences were made possible through the support of Core Laboratories, Marathon Oil, National Ocean Industries Association, Schlumberger, Southwestern Energy. Additionally, guest speakers from the following organizations presented to academy students, many on multiple occasions at multiple academies: Apache, Barnett Shale Energy Education Council, EOG Resources, Halliburton JRC, INEOS, Limerock, Lockheed, Magnolia Global Engineering, Occidental Petroleum, Railroad Commission of Texas, Texland Petroleum, Weir Oil & Gas, and XTO Energy.

Also this year, we were again invited by Shell to join the INROADS program where support is given to students throughout their college careers, and 30 of our top academy students and alumni were invited to participate. The second annual Bureau of Safety and Environmental Enforcement (BSEE) Technology Challenge was held at the University of Houston. Ninety academy students participated in the outstanding event and we are thankful to this past semester’s success and helping to support is given to students throughout their college careers, and 30 of our top academy students and alumni were invited to participate.

EOG Resources provided valuable advice from their college recruiters in the EOG Resources ‘Transition to College’ luncheons and qualifying seniors received their Anadarko-sponsored Academy medals and the Newfield Exploration ‘Life After School Explained’ books.

To date 559 students, who meet the rigorous selection criteria, have participated in an externship. In summer 2017, we conducted our 8th annual Externship program in which 83 students experienced the real world of work in 18 different oil and gas companies: Cameron, Core Laboratories, Distribution NOW, Halliburton, Harbison-Fischer, Marathon Oil, Newfield Exploration, Occidental Petroleum, Schlumberger, Shell, Southwestern Energy, TechnipFMC, Texland Petroleum, Weatherford, Weir Oil & Gas Houston and Fort Worth, W&T Offshore, and XTO Energy. Externs received college scholarships provided by their host company. Senior scholarships were generously provided by IPAA/PESA Education Advisory Board member, Alicia Elias, Apache Corporation and EOG Resources.

Thank you again to all the many and various organizations and individuals who contributed to this past semester’s success and helping to create the next generation of talented energy professionals.

NOIA Annual Meeting

Ashley Menendez, Southwest High School 2013 salutatorian and class president, and member of the IPAA/PESA Petroleum Academy at Southwest, spoke on April 5, 2017 at the annual meeting of the National Ocean Industries Association (NOIA) in Washington, DC. Ashley spoke about her experience in the academy including her high school externship at EOG Resources in Fort Worth. Ashley expressed gratitude on behalf of all current and former Petroleum Academy students to NOIA and its member companies and other energy companies for their support of the IPAA/PESA Energy Education program.

Ashley is majoring in chemical engineering at Howard University in Washington DC. She is a member of an honors engineering fraternity Tau Beta Pie, President of the American Society of Chemical Engineers and involved with the National Society of Black Engineers, the Society of Women Engineers, and a robotics organization. She has completed a number of internship opportunities. One of her memorable internships involved research in nanotechnology at Cornell University and presenting her findings at a conference there as a part of the Particles of Reduced Dimensional Materials program. Another internship involved consulting for an IBM engineering department. Ashley’s aspirations after graduation are to be able to work with nanotechnology to make energy more economical.

Ashley Menendez with Galen Cobb, IPAA/PESA Education Advisory Board Co-Chairman and NOIA Public Affairs & Education Committee Chairman.

PESA Annual Meeting

On April 22, 2017, Jack Nassab, 2013 IPAA/PESA Petroleum Academy at Westside graduate, spoke on behalf of all current and former IPAA/PESA Petroleum Academy students before the National Membership of PESA in Mesa, Arizona.

Jack is currently a senior at Louisiana State University, majoring in Petroleum Engineering. He is actively involved in the Phi Kappa Psi fraternity, the Society of Petroleum Engineers and the American Association of Drilling Engineers. He has served as a senator in student government and as the director of corporate relations for the College of Engineering. Jack’s high school externship was in Shell’s subsea division and he has had college internships with Schlumberger, Halliburton, Schlumberger and DistributionNOW. While at Schlumberger, Jack presented a paper to the National Academies of Science in Washington, DC.

Download Our Brochure!
www.ipaa.org/education/pdf/ipaa_edcenterbrochure.pdf
Dale Carnegie & Energy Training Resources Teacher Training

The IPAA/PESA Energy Education Center kick-started the 2017-18 school year with a new opportunity through Dale Carnegie for our Petroleum Academy teachers. This exclusive event would not have been made possible without the generous financial support of Dale Carnegie and Southwestern Energy. Petroleum Academy teachers from each school were invited to attend. Through this 2-day training, participants had the chance to work on human relations skills, communication effectiveness, interpersonal relationships, problem solving, and leadership. These skills will be taken into the classroom and combined with the existing oil and gas training, resulting in a dynamic learning experience for our students.

In addition to the Dale Carnegie training, teachers are invited to attend the Energy Training Resources Oil & Gas Industry Overview courses at no cost to the teachers on August 15, 2017 at the George R. Brown Convention Center as part of the summer NAPE week. Teachers will be taking the course with industry professionals from around the nation. Proceeds will go to support the IPAA Educational Foundation.

And finally, onsite at each campus, additional Petroleum Academy-specific training is taking place.

We are grateful for the generous sponsorship of Core Laboratories, Dale Carnegie, Energy Training Resources, NAPE and Southwestern Energy.

Stephanie Suarez graduated in 2012 as a member of the IPAA/PESA Petroleum Academy at Milby and this past May she graduated with a Bachelor of Science in General Geology from the Jackson School of Geosciences at UT Austin. Stephanie’s externship was at Valerus in 2011.

Her research at UT used U-Pb radiometric dating of zircon grains found in volcanic ashes deposited during the Ordovician period to determine when ancient volcanic eruptions occurred. Determining a precise and accurate age of these events is important information for a multitude of other geoscientists. Stephanie has presented her research at two conferences, the Geological Society of America Annual meeting in Denver, Colorado and the American Geophysical Union meeting in San Francisco, California. Stephanie has also participated in a Research for Undergraduate Experience funded by the National Science Foundation that allowed her to conduct mineralogy research internationally in an active mine in Baja California Sur, Mexico.

Stephanie plans to obtain her PhD in Geology, an ambitious goal as she is the first in her family to attend college.

The IPAA/PESA Energy Education Center could not be more proud of Stephanie and her achievements.

We are all very excited to see just how far she will go in the future and wish her well as she starts her masters degree in geology at the University of Houston.

BSEE

This March, Academy students competed in the 2nd annual High School Offshore Science and Technology Stars Challenge at the University of Houston’s TDECU Stadium. This competition was sponsored by Bureau of Safety and Environmental Enforcement (BSEE) with the Ocean Energy Safety Institute. Participants cheered each other on while working on a series of challenges designed to help students gain the skills that replicate trainings that would be imperative in the industry workforce, including circuit design, electrical engineering, piezoelectric technology (developed by NASA), process safety and working in teams. A team from Westside High School placed third.

View Stephanie's recently published article here: http://journals.plos.org/plosone/article?id=10.1371/journal.pone.0179262
Offshore Energy Center Knowledge Box

IPAA/PESA Petroleum Academy at Westside students volunteered to teach 4th grade students from Barbara Bush Elementary School about energy with materials from the Offshore Energy Center. The elementary students participated in a variety of engaging activities that taught them about the oil and gas industry.

NATIONAL ENGINEERS DAY

Richard Sukup | Magnolia Global Engineering

In celebration of National Engineers Week, the IPAA/PESA Petroleum Academy 10th graders at Southwest High School attended Tarrant County College’s “Dream Big: Challenges in Deep Oil and Gas Well Exploration” event at the south campus in February. The keynote speaker was Richard Sukup, President of Magnolia Global Energy Ltd. and retiree from Mobil Oil Corporation. Thanks to Tarrant County College for inviting our students and sponsoring this educational event!

WEIR OIL & GAS GUEST SPEAKERS

Dave Warnick and Carrie Murtland

Weir Oil & Gas guest speakers Dave Warnick, Carrie Murtland and Joe Carroll spoke to the sophomores and seniors at Southwest High School in March. The students learned about Weir Oil & Gas, the products they make and advice for success in high school and beyond.

Southwest High School Speaking Competition

IPAA/PESA Petroleum Academy at Southwest High School held their annual Public Speaking Competition in January.

The competition was fierce, with guest judges from the petroleum industry deciding the winners. Judges from the Dallas/Fort Worth Chapter of American Association of Drilling Engineers (AADE) included Steve Boyd, President of Integrity Directional, Laura Klein, Drilling Manager at Reef Oil & Gas Company and Jack Doak, Technical Sales at Weatherford International. We were also honored to have Tonya Ehret, retired IPAA/PESA Petroleum Academy at Southwest High School teacher, join as a guest judge.

The public speaking topics were all related to global concerns of the petroleum industry and allowed the students an opportunity to speak and be judged by professionals in their field of study. Special thanks to all of our judges and to Matt Scott, member of AADE and Offshore Energy Center Knowledge Box Champion, for coordinating the event with the judges.
Comanche Peak Nuclear Power Plant

Juniors in the IPAA/PESA Petroleum Academy at Southwest High School gained first-hand knowledge of nuclear energy when they explored the Comanche Peak Nuclear Power Plant in Glen Rose, Texas in February. This exciting learning experience introduced the students to yet another source of energy. Andrew Saunders explained the nuclear industry, his role and that of his colleagues and the many facets of the power plant.

The Perot Museum

The IPAA/PESA Petroleum Academy at Southwest High School freshmen academy students visited the Perot Museum in February. Fascinating exhibits in the Texas Instruments Engineering and Innovation Hall and in the Tom Hunt Energy Hall gripped the students’ attention, providing exciting hands-on learning experiences. Students competed head to head with robots and learned more about the process of natural gas production.

Weir Oil & Gas

IPAA/PESA Petroleum Academy at Southwest High School seniors delved deeper into the nuts and bolts of the oil and gas industry when they explored pump manufacturing particulars at Weir Oil & Gas in February. Staff explained the design process of pumps, how to determine if a pump is needed, the time it takes to produce the product, and how Weir’s pumps are tested against their competitors. Weir Oil & Gas employees, including Dave Warnick, Vice President of Human Resources, took the time to share their personal stories with the students regarding the steps they took after high school in order to advance to the careers they have today.

College Visit | University of Texas at Arlington

IPAA/PESA Petroleum Academy at Southwest High School sophomores toured the University of Texas at Arlington (UTA) in April. The itinerary included awe-inspiring interactive physics activities along with hearing Dr. Jones, assistant professor of physics, speak. The underclassmen enjoyed great learning experiences, on both academic and personal levels. Many students commented that one of their biggest takeaways from the event was seeing for themselves how a college campus functions, instead of just hearing about it, watching a video or looking at a college website.
Texas Christian University Energy Institute Fossil Dig

IPAA/PESA Petroleum Academy at Southwest High School sophomores participated in a Fossil Dig and then visited the TCU Energy Institute. Director Dr. Ken Morgan gave a tour of the facility and a presentation on the background history of the Barnett Shale and how it has affected the Fort Worth area. The students also had an opportunity to see the film “Fractured”. The Academy students took a personalized tour of the Monnig Meteorite Gallery and touched Mars! The gallery houses one of the largest university-based collections, consisting of almost 3,000 samples.

Graduation Medals

Students received IPAA/PESA Energy Education Center medals of distinction in May that were worn at their June graduation ceremony.

EOG Resources Transition to College Luncheon

Seniors from the IPAA/PESA Petroleum Academies at Milby & Westside High School, along with Young Women’s College Preparatory Academy were treated to Jeff Stofa and Rachel Belk from EOG Resources hosting the Transition to College Luncheon. Seniors were also presented with the Newfield ‘Life After School Explained’ books.

Dress for Success

The mission of Dress for Success Houston is to empower women to achieve economic independence by providing a network of support, professional attire and development tools to help women thrive in work and life. In May of 2017, several of our female externs had the opportunity to take advantage of this opportunity. The girls first entered First Impressions, a program sponsored by Chevron, where trained volunteers share important information to help clients build skills and participate in mock interviews; followed by a one-hour suiting appointment. In the suiting appointment, each girl was partnered with a personal shopper and received a suit, blouse, purse, pearls, pearl earrings, scarf and shoes. Dress for Success Houston has provided business attire, and a boost of confidence for our outstanding externs.

Dale Carnegie Extern Training

Ninety-five students in Fort Worth and Houston prepared for their externships by attending a two-day Dale Carnegie Skills for Success program. The world-renowned Dale Carnegie program covered a variety of personal growth and workplace success topics including Building a Greater Self-confidence, Strengthening People Skills, Enhancing Communication Skills, Developing Leadership Skills, Reducing Stress and Improving One’s Attitude.
This summer 83 Academy rising seniors participated in a summer Externship in one of 17 oil and gas companies or in the Marathon Oil Co-Op Program. This brings to date 559 students who have participated since 2010 in the highly competitive IPAA/PESA Externship Program. The program provides an 8 to 12 day job shadowing opportunity for future engineering and geosciences students at various Houston and Dallas/Fort Worth petroleum exploration, production and service company locations.

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Please contact Anne Ford at aford@ipaa.org

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