



Shalene McClure

Hello again. This is the *PESA News* APPEA Conference edition and we are all already nearly halfway through the year. In the last few months nearly all of the state branches have conducted their annual general meetings and elected new state committees.

I would really like to thank all the outgoing committee members for their hard work and welcome the new state committee members. Everyone seems so flat-out these days juggling work and family, and it's very rewarding to know that the new committee members have put their hand up to help PESA. I wish the new and existing state committee members a good year, and I'm sure they will be delivering great events and opportunities for networking for PESA members.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the outgoing president of the WA branch, Aaron Burt, and the outgoing president of the ACT branch, Chris Nicholson, for their contribution to PESA. It has been a pleasure working with Chris and Aaron over the last few years. Both have been very active members of the PESA federal executive, and I really appreciated their wise counsel and contribution to the smooth running of the PESA board.

Also, I would like to welcome Eric Tenthorpe from Geoscience Australia, who has taken up the role as president of the ACT branch, and Jennifer Wadsworth from Woodside, who is the new president of the WA branch, to the PESA federal executive. I hope both Jen and Eric find it a positive experience and enjoy themselves.

June/July 2010

State branch activities

The NSW branch has shown its commitment to supporting students, inviting one student from each of the three universities in Sydney to be a student representative of the branch. These students are all invited to attend the local branch committee meetings, giving them a great opportunity for networking and providing them with good professional skills. Apparently the Facebook site established by the students is working very well.

Our largest chapter, the WA branch, now has over 630 members, and is providing a full calendar of events in 2010. The March luncheon topic was 'Geostatistical Inversion for Reservoir Modelling', presented by Mark Sams; and April, 'Similarities between Geothermal and the Petroleum World', was presented by Gareth Cooper. The luncheon topic in May will be 'Caspian Sea Geochemistry', presented by Michael Abrams from Apache. Also, look out for the WA branch's upcoming 'Winter Warmer' event, the details for which should be available soon.

The Queensland chapter was recently presented 'Electrical Properties of Sedimentary Rocks' by Dr Ben Clennell, who is the 2010 SEG Pacific South Honorary Lecturer. The industry annual student night was held at the Queensland Irish Club on 25 March with an attendance of over 100. Sponsored by Santos and Origin, the event encouraged PESA, SPE and Young Professionals members to interact with students from the University of Queensland and the Queensland University of Technology geology and engineering faculties in a relaxed social setting.

The ACT branch is busy planning a croquet event at the Canberra Croquet Club.

APPEA—PESA industry reviews

This year's APPEA Conference will be held in Brisbane, and as usual PESA will provide speakers for the PESA Industry Review session, which is traditionally held on the first afternoon of the conference. I would like to thank Gordon Wakelin-King from Wakelin Associates (Exploration Review), Sue Slater from RLMS (Environment Review) and S. Dyksterhuis from ExxonMobil (Development Review) for kindly offering to do these presentations. The annual PESA Deal Day will also be held in Brisbane, in

association with the conference, on Sunday 16 May.

PESA federal annual general meeting

The PESA 2010 annual general meeting will be held at the Rydges Hotel at South Bank in Brisbane on 16 May, 4–5pm. The annual general meeting is always run in conjunction with APPEA, and is usually the only occasion the federal executive gets together 'in the flesh' throughout the year. I will provide you a review of the meeting in my next President's Report.

PESA Distinguished Lecturer for 2010

One of PESA's ongoing traditions is the appointment of the annual PESA Distinguished Lecturer. It's my great pleasure to announce that Dr Simon Lang from Woodside will be the PESA Distinguished Lecturer for 2010. I would like to thank Simon for agreeing to take on this position and Woodside for supporting Simon to undertake the role.

This is a prestigious role, and Simon was identified as a suitable candidate due to his service to the petroleum industry in the tertiary education of geoscientists and his work within the industry. Simon will be providing a series of luncheon presentations, and possibly short courses, in Perth, Brisbane, Adelaide, Canberra, Sydney and Melbourne. The timing of the lectures is expected to be in the later part of 2010, so look out for dates and venues when they become available. Many of Simon's ex-students, including myself, will really look forward to Simon's presentations, once again enjoying his enthusiasm for geoscience and our industry.

I usually don't like to finish on a negative note, but at present we seem to have many PESA members who are unfinancial. I would encourage you all to please pay your membership fees as soon as possible. The membership fees I believe are modest, but we do need to ensure all our members are financial so we can continue to keep the organisation in a sound financial state.

Please don't hesitate to contact me if you have suggestions on how we can improve and increase services to PESA members.

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