



Trinidad and Tobago  
Section

# TOP DRIVE

SPE TT NEWSLETTER

JUNE 2018 ISSUE

## 2018 SPE TT ENERGY CONFERENCE AND EXHIBITION





# Reminiscing a successful event

Last month, SPETT hosted its 5th biennial international **SPE Energy Resources Conference and Exhibition** at the Hyatt Regency in Port of Spain, from **25th -27th June, 2018**. It was indeed a successful event and this could not have been without the support of our Sponsors, our participants, our hardworking Conference Committee and Student Volunteers.

This month edition of our Newsletter highlights all our conference and preconference activities just in case you missed it. Make sure and save the date for our next conference event, **June 2020** because you would not want to miss this after reading this Newsletter!

Happy reading and stay tuned for our upcoming events!

**Ayasha Nickie**  
**Section Chair**  
**SPETT 2018-2019**

## INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

- 3 2018 CONFERENCE CHAIR REMARKS**
- 5 CONFERENCE OPENING CEREMONY**
- 6 PANEL SESSIONS**
- 7 TECHNICAL SESSIONS**
- 8 STUDENT PAPERS**
- 9 EXHIBITION GALLERY**
- 10 REGIONAL AWARDS**
- 12 TALES AT THE COCKTAILS**
- 14 YP EVENT**
- 16 PETROBOWL**
- 17 ANNOUNCEMENTS**
- 19 UPSTREAM HIGHLIGHTS**
- 21 PRODUCTION STATISTICS**
- 22 DID YOU KNOW?**

# 2018 CONFERENCE CHAIR REMARKS

The recently concluded SPETT 2018 Energy Resources Conference was a success having only ten months to plan the event. This success was due to the presence and participation every delegate, exhibitor, presenter, panelist, session chairs and volunteer. We had over 200 delegates over the 2 1/2 days of the conference

SPE Trinidad and Tobago would like to say a heartfelt thanks to the following:

Senator the Honorable Franklin Khan, Minister of Energy and Energy Industries who delivered a very captivating feature address at the Opening Ceremony.



**GAIL RAMDATH**

## **Our Sponsors:**

Platinum – EOG Resources

Gold – Baker Hughes GE, Shell Trinidad, BHP, BPTT

Silver – Schlumberger

Other Contributors – Methanex, Perenco, Atlantic, Tucker Energy and Ryder Scott Company

Our respective employers who have allowed us the time to do this.



## **Our Student Volunteers:**

Christine Samaroo  
Shena La Foucade,  
Paul Singh  
Sharlee Barkarr  
Simone Persad  
Kadija Dyall  
Rhea Eccles  
Chelsea Bailey  
Salina Ali  
Marvin Flatts,  
Vikash Chikkooree  
Anthony Murray  
Frances Darceuil

I wish to express my sincerest gratitude to the team I have had the privilege of leading, the SPETT 2018 Conference Planning committee for their dedication to planning and executing this conference:



Secretariat – Ms. Suzan Judhan, Mr. Vashesh Bhagoo, Ms. Chandini Chikkooree  
Finance Chairperson – Ms. Jeneece Isaac  
Technical Program Co-Chairmen – Mrs. Celia Garcia James & Mr. Kabir Geerah  
Exhibition Chairman – Mr. Brian Ramatally  
Event Management – Ms. Alistra Duncan  
Short Courses Chairperson – Ms. Gaitrie Batohie  
Panel Sessions – Mr. Aleem Hosein  
Petrobowl/Student Paper contest - Ms. Ayasha Nickie  
YP Event – Ms. Terri Crawford, Ms. Rachel Jagdip

Each presentation, comment, and recommendation has shaped the overall success of this conference and will be incorporated into the final outcome document and plans for the future conferences. I look forward to seeing you and your colleagues at the next SPETT Conference here in Trinidad in 2020.

On behalf of the SPE, Trinidad  
and Tobago Section I say

**Thank You**

# 2018 ENERGY CONFERENCE OPENING CEREMONY

by Rachel Jagdip

The Opening Ceremony of the 2018 Energy Conference and Exhibition was facilitated by Mr. Brian Ramatally with the welcoming address given by the 2018 Conference Chair, Ms. Gail Ramdath followed by greetings by the SPE Trinidad and Tobago Section Chairperson, Ms. Ayasha Nickie. The feature address was presented by Senator the Honourable Franklin Khan, Minister of Energy and Energy Industries.

The Minister described the Society of Petroleum Engineers as one of the premier energy related professional non-profit organizations in Trinidad and Tobago. He indicated that in the 45 years of existence, SPETT has contributed significantly to the development of the domestic energy sector through its membership both individually and collectively as an organization. He congratulated the society for the sterling work it has performed in the continuous upgrading of members skill sets and knowledge, as well as the wider energy community.

The Minister declared the conference as the most important professional technical forum of its kind in T&T for 2018 as it has been designed to provide insights into the mechanisms required to cope with short and long-term challenges facing the upstream oil and gas industry.

The conference and exhibition were officially opened with the ribbon cutting at the end of the Minister's address during the Opening Ceremony.

[Click here for the MInister's full Speech](#)



# PANEL DISCUSSIONS

by Rachel Jagdip



Two Panel discussions were held on the first two days of the Conference. Both sessions featured prominent panelists, were well attended and received by all attendees. They provided great insight into the current situation of the Oil & Gas Industry locally, regionally and internationally and perspective for the future.

The first panel discussion on Monday 25, followed the theme of the conference, "Changes, Challenges and Opportunities." The discussion was moderated by Managing Director, Tucker Energy Services T&T, Mr. Roger Packer and the panel comprised, of Economist Mr. Gregory McGuire; Ag. Permanent Secretary at the Ministry of Energy and Energy Industries, Ms. Penelope Bradshaw-Nilles; President, BHP Billiton T&T, Mr. Vincent Pereira and General Manager, Perenco T&T, Mr. Baptiste Breton.



The second panel discussion on Tuesday 26 was themed, "Global Developments and Their Impact on the Petroleum Sector" and was moderated by Business Advisor at Perenco T&T, Mr. Allan Russell. The panel comprised of SPE Regional Director for Latin America & the Caribbean, Mr. Cesar Augusto Patino Suarez; Economist, Dr. Edward Bahaw and Vice President Reservoir Development, BPTT, Mr. Keith Bally.



# TECHNICAL SESSIONS AT THE CONFERENCE

by Vashesh Bhagoo

One of the main attractions of this conference was the presentation of technical papers by both local and international energy professionals and academics. In keeping with the theme of the conference “Forging Ahead: Changes, Challenges & Opportunities” papers presented centered on the maximization of productivity and the recovery hydrocarbons through the integration of people, technology, assets and organizations.

A total 89 papers were divided into topic specific sessions and presented by the authors over the course of the 3 day conference. Topic specific sessions were:

- Enhanced Oil Recovery papers including steam, carbon dioxide and polymer floods
- Reservoir Evaluation with papers presented on fluids analysis and simulations
- Field Development papers and a multitude of Case Studies of projects in both local and international basins were presented on all days
- Drilling and Completions papers showcasing novel technology and deep water applications
- Shale Gas and Unconventional Gas methods which have experienced rapid growth in production over the past decade.
- Other topics presented included Regional Energy developments as well as tackling Health, Safety and Environmental concerns.

## CLOSING CEREMONY AWARDS

### BEST PAPER AWARD

This was given to presenter Damien Ryan, Shell Trinidad & Tobago, for his paper “Re-evaluating Contributions From Thin Bedded Reservoirs: Integrated Reservoir Modelling of the Greater Dolphin Area”, additional authors were N. Crooks-Smith, P.R. Nurafza, C. Ogiste and S. Calvert of Shell Trinidad & Tobago.





## MOST ATTENDED PAPER AWARD

Given to Keron Allyene for delivering his paper "Liza Field Development - The Guyanese Perspective" to a packed room which saw some persons having to stand. Additional authors on that paper were L.Layne and M.Soroush, University of Trinidad and Tobago.

## MOST ABSTRACTS SUBMITTED

This award was given to The University of Trinidad and Tobago.

The **SPETT** wishes to thank all the presenters and the more than 200 delegates from over 20 countries that attended the technical sessions and made this event such a success.

# STUDENT PAPER CONTEST

*by Kamlesh Ramcharitar*



In keeping with all of the pomp and splendor of the opening day, judges and audience alike, were treated to a series of presentations at the Student Paper Contest. The contest was split into two divisions - Undergraduate and Postgraduate with 13 and 5 papers being presented respectively. The students upheld stellar levels of technical work and delivery - covering areas such as Nanotechnology, Condensates, Heavy Oils & Unconventionals and even Advanced Process Controls.

It may have seemed to some that were present, that the only reason these were presented as student papers, was because there was no more space in the main technical programme! Indeed some of the judges, in their closing comments, admitted to being astounded by the level of research that was being undertaken by students.

# EXHIBITION GALLERY



# SPE REGIONAL AWARDS CEREMONY

by Rachel Jagdip

The Society of Petroleum Engineers International Regional Awards Ceremony was held on Tuesday 26th June 2018 at 12 noon.

Congratulations goes out to all the recipients of the Regional Awards, Bursary winners and those recognized for their 25 years milestone membership with SPE. Out of the 10 regional awards received at the function, the Trinidad and Tobago section was proud to have 6 of the awardees be members of the local section.



Regional award recipients (left to right):

- Premraj Dukharan – Health, Safety, Security, Environment and Social Responsibility Award
- Barbara Cavalcante – Young Member Outstanding Service Award
- Shelley Persad – Regional Service Award
- Francisco Ferreira – Drilling Engineering Award
- Elisio Caetano Filho – Productions and Operations Award
- Alexandre Z. L. Pereira – Completions Optimization and Technology Award
- Brian Baptiste – Projects, Facilities and Construction Award
- Dr. Raffie Hosein – Distinguished Achievement for Petroleum Engineering Faculty Award
- Vincent Pereira - Regional Public Service Award
- Jo-Ann Ali-Nandalal - Formation Evaluation Award

Members with milestone membership of 25 years were Charles Anthony Brash Junior, Victor Forgenie and Clarise Jupiter.

Student bursary winners were Sasha Arneaud-Ali, Mia Jackson, Veerani Maharaj, Solange Uwamahoro and Adriana Maharaj.

Recognition was given to the past SPETT board members for the term 2017/2018 for their hard work and commitment in order to ensure the excellence demonstrated to the local section.



Kamlesh Ramcharitar-Director of Publicity (Outgoing); Ayasha Nickie, Chairperson; Vashesh Bhagoo, Director of Continuing Education; Cassandra Dewan, YP Coordinator; Jasmine Medina, Director of Technology and Transfer (Outgoing); Anisa Ali, Finance Chair (Outgoing); Kavelle Mohommed, Secretary.

Missing: Jamaludin Khan, Past Chair; Jeneece Isaac, Program Chair (Outgoing); Yanitza Wilson, Director of Awards, Recognition and Events (Outgoing)

Recognition and tokens of appreciation were also given to each member of the various subcommittees that volunteered their time over the last year's term.

- Subcommittee member to Director of Publicity: Clayton Bunraj, Rachel Jagdip, Adriana Maharaj, David Whittier and Maryse Jackman
- Subcommittee member to the Program Chair: Brian Baptiste and Shelley Persad
- Subcommittee member to the Director of Awards: Sasha Arneaud-Ali and Vikash Chikkooree



The Present Board for the 2018 -2019 term:

Ayasha Nickie, Chairperson; Vashesh Bhagoo, Director of Continuing Education; Cassandra Dewan-YP Chairperson/Director of New Opportunities; Gail Ramdath, Director of Awards, Recognition and Events; Rachel Jagdip, Director of Publicity; Ryan Mc Donald, Director of Technology and Transfer; Clayton Bunraj, Finance Chair; Kavelle Mohommed, Secretary; David Whittier, Program Chair; Nishawn Hanif, Membership Chair.

Missing: Jamaludin Khan, Past Chair

# TALES AT THE COCKTAILS

Come for the cocktails, leave with an experience!! What an experience it was! An evening of networking, relaxing, music, good food and of course, cocktails. It indeed was an evening to remember.





# YOUNG PROFESSIONAL EVENT

by David Whitier and Rachel Jagdip

The Young Professional Event held on the second day of the 2018 Energy Conference was a whole day event starting at 9am closing off at 4pm. There were over 100 attendees including current students, recent graduates, young professionals and representatives of 12 Oil and Gas companies in T&T.



The day started with an Opening Session which comprised of 3 main speakers providing words of inspiration and motivation to the attendees. Kathryn Henderson-Moses, Shelf Exploration Manager at bpTT, shared her career story about her challenges when she decided to work in oil and gas and her development into her present role. Stacey Patel Kissoon, Human Resources Manager, Shell Trinidad, spoke on being resilient and embracing change as it is a constant factor during the attendee's career development. Cesar Suarez, SPE Regional Director Latin America and Caribbean, presented on oil and gas expertise can be leveraged in mainstream business sectors and vice versa.



Head table for the Opening Session (left to right):

Kathryn Henderson-Moses, Cesar Suarez, Stacey Patel Kissoon

The morning's second session was an Interactive Session which highlighted the Oil & Gas Story of Trinidad and Tobago presented by Eric A. Williams, President and Principal Consultant, Royal Triangle Energy Solutions Limited. His talk centered on the development of Trinidad and Tobago's gas economy starting as early as the 1930's to the present day.



The afternoon session involved 3 activities running simultaneously:

- Resume Review sessions with the Human Resource Management Association of Trinidad and Tobago providing one-on-one guidance to each attendee.
- Technology Workshops with O&G Service providers such as Baker Hughes, Halliburton and Schlumberger showcasing application software in various disciplines.



- Meet and Greet sessions which consisted of 9 companies which allowed attendees to interact with company representatives from EOG Resources Trinidad, Range Resources, Baker Hughes, Perenco, Touchstone Exploration, Halliburton, National Gas Company, BHP Billiton and Massy Wood Group.



The coordinating committee expresses its deepest gratitude to all of the companies who participated in the event as well as for providing speakers for the morning sessions.

# PETROBOWL COMPETITION

by Cassandra Dewan

On Sunday 24th June 2018, the PetroBowl South America and Caribbean Regional Qualifiers were held for the first time in Trinidad and Tobago. Fourteen teams competed for five spots to attend the PetroBowl Championship which will be held at ATCE in Dallas on Monday 24th September 2018.

The nerves, tension and excitement in the Regency room at Hyatt grew with every round and it felt as though we were having our own mini World Cup in Trinidad! After an eventful day, the following five teams came out on top:



**1st Place: Universidade Federal do Rio de Janeiro (Brazil)**

**2nd Place: The University of the West Indies (Trinidad and Tobago)**

**3rd Place: Universidad Nacional de Ingeniería (Peru)**

**4th Place: Universidade Estadual de Campinas (Brazil)**

**5th Place: Anton De Kom University of Suriname (Suriname)**

**With time against us, SPETT is currently seeking sponsorship to assist in sending our team to ATCE in September. We are confident that our team can place in the top. In addition, attending an international conference like ATCE presents them with an excellent opportunity to learn and grow professionally.**

## SPONSORSHIP NEEDED

SPETT PetroBowl Team Members are:

Paul Singh (Captain)

Aidan Rajpaul

Jared Walker

Adriana Maharaj

Lawrence Lopez

Raffie Hosein (Faculty Advisor)



# ANNOUNCEMENTS



AAPG Young Professionals Trinidad and Tobago Chapter presents

## *What's happening in Guyana?* *An overview of all current Exploration and Development Activities*

Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> August, 2018

5:30pm-8:00pm

Petroleum Geoscience Unit, U.W.I.

**Featured speaker: Javed Razack**

Talk Highlights:

- Brief geological overview of Suriname-Guyana Basin
- Early exploration history of Guyana
- Modern Concession Map
- Current exploration in Guyana by Exxon
- Current exploration by other operators
- Liza Phase 1 (including major vendors)
- Liza Phase 2 and beyond
- Potential Employment Opportunities



Refreshments will be provided!

Limited spots available!

Contact AAPG Young Professionals Trinidad & Tobago Chapter at [ajulian@petroleum.com](mailto:ajulian@petroleum.com) to book your spot and for further details.

The AAPG, their agents, officials, officers, directors, employees, volunteers, contractors, servants or representatives are not responsible for any death, injury, loss or damage of any kind suffered by any person while participating in the AAPG Talk and all related activities of the AAPG Talk including yours, loss or damage which might be caused by the negligence of the AAPG.

# ANNOUNCEMENTS



**AAPG**  
UWI STA Student Chapter

**RAMPS**  
LOGISTICS

**AAPG**  
Young Professionals  
Trinidad & Tobago Chapter

AAPG Young Professionals & Student Trinidad and Tobago Chapters presents

## Explore Guyana - GeoTour

 Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> – Monday 20<sup>th</sup> August, 2018

 Georgetown Guyana

 \$1000 US (Includes: Airfare, Accommodation, Ground Transportation, Kaitour Falls flight, River tour)



### Tour Highlights:

- Tour Georgetown / Demerara River
- Industry Visit and Meet and Greet at Exxon's office
- AAPG Technical Talk
- Visit to Guyana Geology and Mines Commission / Museum
- Tour Ramps Logistics facilities
- Visit to the Seawall
- Essequibo River Tour
- Geological Fieldtrip: Deepwater outcrops
- Visit to mining sites and forts
- Tour Kaitour & Orinduik Falls



**Limited spots available!**

Contact AAPG Young Professionals Trinidad & Tobago Chapter at [tt.ypchapter@gmail.com](mailto:tt.ypchapter@gmail.com) to book your spot and for further details.

The AAPG, their agents, officials, officers, directors, employees, volunteers, contractors, servants or representatives are not responsible for any death, injury, loss or damage of any kind suffered by any person while participating in the AAPG Guyana GeoTour and all related activities of the AAPG GeoTour including injury, loss or damage which might be caused by the negligence of the AAPG.

# UPSTREAM HIGHLIGHTS

## Local & Regional

**BHP Billiton** started drilling the Victoria-1 exploration well in Block TTDA 5 offshore Trinidad using Transocean's drillship, *Deepwater Invictus*. BHP has previously announced plans to drill 3 wells offshore east coast T&T. The LeClerc field was discovered in the same block in August 2016 while exploring for oil. Estimates have Le Clerc containing 113 bcm to 142 bcm (4tcf to 5 tcf ) of gas.

**PDVSA** Venezuela state owned company is considering a declaration of force majeure on some of its oil supply contracts in June unless its clients agree to accept volume reductions up to 50%. PDVSA marketing division reported that PDVSA in the best case only has about 695,000 bpd of crude supply available for export in June. PDVSA's tumbling crude production, chronic breakdowns of its heavy crude up-graders and difficulty importing critical light crude and naphtha are progressively reducing the amount of oil available for export.

**Exxon Mobil** made its 8th oil discovery offshore Guyana at the Longtail-1 well in Stabroek Block on June 20. 256 ft of oil-bearing sandstone was found, the well was drilled to 18,057 ft depth in 6,365 ft of water. In a press release Steve Greenlee, ExxonMobil Exploration Company President said, "Longtail discovery is in close proximity to the Turbot discovery south-east of the Liza field. Longtail drilling results are under evaluation. However, combined estimated recoverable resources of Turbot and Longtail will exceed 500 MMboe and will contribute to the evaluation of development options in this eastern portion of the block. ExxonMobil plans on adding a 2nd exploration vessel offshore Guyana in addition to the Stena Carron drillship, which will bring a total of 3 drillships on the Starbroek Block."

**Cairn Energy** signed a PSC for offshore Block 61 with Staatsolie Maatschappij Suriname N.V. Cairn Energy will start exploration with a 2D seismic survey followed by drilling exploration wells at a later date. Block 61 is on the Demerara plateau, approx 13,000 sq km in size with water depths ranging from 60 to 1,100 m. The contract is 30 years covering exploration, development and production phases with Staatsolie having the option of up to 20% to stake in the development and production phases

# UPSTREAM HIGHLIGHTS

## International

**Petrobras** announced the start of production at Tartaruga Verde field in the deep waters of the Campos basin, by means of FPSO Cidade de Campos dos Goytacazes. The field is located in the southern area of the Campos basin, water depth ranging 700 m - 1,300 m and with reservoirs at 3,000 m depth and has 27 degree API oil.

**Saudi Arabia** will meet customer demand for its crude after the country's Energy Minister cemented a deal to boost global supply, according to Saudi Aramco CEO Amin Nasser. Nasser told reporters that Saudi Arabian Oil Co., the biggest exporter, is pumping 10MMbpd with a capacity to produce 2 million more. Like the other OPEC ministers who agreed last week in Vienna to raise their supply, he too did not specify how much additional crude would reach the market

**Republic of Congo** expects to raise oil production by as much as 65% this year as two new projects come on stream. Congo joined the OPEC last week and plans to open up its oil industry, which has been dominated by Total SA and Eni SpA, to new investors. According to BP Statistical Review of World Energy, Sub-Saharan Africa's third-biggest oil producer pumped 291,000 bbd last year.

**Mexican Oil** output could return to 2 million B/D by about 2022 if the next government pursues plans to auction off development blocks to private investors, Energy Minister Pedro Joaquin Coldwell announced. Mexico will elect a new president on July 1 but front-runner in the opinion polls, leftist Andres Manuel Lopez Obrador, has threatened to delay opening up the energy sector to private investment. Opening the O&G industry was a central pillar of President Enrique Pena Nieto's plan to lift Mexico's sluggish economic growth. This however has been shaken by President Trump's threats to dump the North American Free Trade Agreement.

# PRODUCTION STATISTICS

MAY 2018

COMPANY	Production (bopd)
BHP Trinidad & Tobago	4,916
BPTT	6,087
EOG Resources	1,425
PERENCO	11,813
SHELL Trinidad	971
PETROTRIN	30,696
PETROTRIN Lease Ops	6,713
PETROTRIN Farmouts	643
PETROTRIN IPSCs	988
Trinity E & P	223
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>64,475</b>

Monthly Average Crude Oil  
Production

COMPANY	Production (mmscf/d)
BHP Trinidad & Tobago	416
BPTT	1,999
EOG Resources	494
PERENCO	45
PETROTRIN	16
SHELL Trinidad	537
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>3,507</b>

Monthly Average  
Nat Gas Production



# OILFIELD BLOWOUTS

by Kamlesh Ramcharitar

## Did you know?

Asset integrity is back on everyone's lips, with the recent blowout on the Couva Marine-2 well bringing Trinidad's more than 100 year old industry back into disrepute. How often do blowouts occur worldwide, how long have they lasted, and what have been the consequences?

Undoubtedly, the most infamous incident in recent times has been the blowout of the Macondo well in the Gulf of Mexico, which killed 11 crewmen, sank the Deepwater Horizon rig and released around 5 million barrels of oil into the sea.

However, back in the heyday of oil exploration, blowouts were an intentional completion 'technique' as the technology to control highly pressured oil & gas reservoirs had not yet been developed. Some of our very own wells onshore South-West Trinidad were completed in this manner back in the early 1900s; producing to huge open pits on surface. Suffice to say, serious injuries and fatalities were as common with the job as fishes in the sea.

The longest running blowout occurred when the Peace River Oils No.1 well blew out from a depth of 1,100 ft., spewing

over 30,000 bpd of salt-water and associated gas in 1916. With the original rig collapsing into a sinkhole, 2 relief well attempts to kill the flow in 1955 and 1982, both proved unsuccessful until finally all 3 wellbores were plugged by 2004.

In 1971, a drilling rig collapsed into an underground cavern near the village of Derweze in Turkmenistan while exploring for oil. In an effort to prevent the spread of suspected poisonous gases, a fire was deliberately set to burn off, what was thought to be residuals within two weeks. Since that time however, up until the present, the gas has been burning in a crater 226 ft. wide and 98 ft. deep - a tourist attraction 24/7.

Since the development of well control technology, few blowouts have been deemed intentional. A major exception to this was the intentional arson of over 600 oil wells in Kuwait during the 1991 Gulf War by retreating Iraqi forces. It was estimated that one billion barrels of oil escaped in an uncontrolled manner during the opening up of these wells, an environmental disaster that caused a drop in temperature by almost 6 deg. C over the Gulf due to shielding of the sun's rays.



**Trinidad and Tobago  
Section**

**TOP DRIVE TEAM**

**RACHEL JAGDIP**

VASHESH BHAGOO

CLAYTON BUNRAJ

MARYSE JACKMAN

ADRIANA MAHARAJ

KAMLESH RAMCHARITAR

DAVID WHITTIER