

Petroleum Group Annual Report 2016

Executive summary

2016 was a busy year for the Petroleum Group of the Geological Society with six organized conferences in addition to the collaboration with PETEX. The Petroleum Group Dinner continues to be a major social and networking event in the calendar of petroleum geologists.

Full list of 2016 conferences:

- European Oil and Gas Industry History Conference, 3-4 March
- Rifts III: Catching the Wave, 22-24 March
- East Africa: From Research to Reserves, 13-15 April
- Palaeozoic Plays of Northwest Europe, 26-27 May
- Mesozoic Resource Potential in the Southern Permian Basin, 7-9 September
- Operations Geology Conference: Bridging the Gaps, 2-3 November

Details of events

The 27th Annual Dinner was held at the Natural History Museum on the 23rd of June with a total attendance of 276 people, this was a significantly lower number compared to 2015, reflecting the state of the industry at the time. This year's dinner was the "Last Dinosaur Dinner" at the Natural History Museum and to celebrate it the PG invited past medallists and guests from connected societies. The next dinner will be held in September 2017 when the museum main hall will be re-opened with the blue whale skeleton replacing the *diplodocus*. The dinner also raised £3095 for Rockwatch. The 2016 Petroleum Group Medal was awarded to Gro Haatvedt, (*Det Norske Oljeselskap ASA*), whilst the Young Petroleum Geoscientist medal was awarded to Benjamin Taylor, *Shell*. Attendance at conferences was above that in 2015, all conferences were successful and made a surplus.

Updates

During 2016 the Petroleum Group also took steps to update the Terms of Reference and the Constitution: the role of Secretary has been removed (responsibilities transferred to the Treasurer), and the role of Publication Officer has been created to provide a link between the Petroleum Group and the Publishing House. The practice of holding one committee meeting a year in Aberdeen will be continued.

We also produced guidelines for the nomination for the PG Medal and Young Geoscientist Award as well as guidance notes for the Role of the Convenor.

To raise awareness of the activities of the Petroleum Group we published an article in the Geoscientist magazine in May, and past events have been documented and will be provided as a resource on the society website.

To react to the downturn of the industry we introduced special conferences rates for unemployed geoscientists and financial assistance for unemployed convenors.

2017

Looking ahead into 2017, the Petroleum Group will convene a wide range of conferences:

Deep-water Depositional Systems: Advances and Applications 25-27 January

Application of Analytical Techniques to Petroleum Systems Problems 28 February - 1 March

Subsurface sand remobilization and injection: implications for oil and gas exploration and development 22-23 March

Fold and Thrust Belts: Structural style, evolution and exploration 31 October-2 November

Handling Fault Seals, Baffles, Barriers and Conduits 15-17 November

Cross-border Exploration between UK & Norway - Comparisons, Contrasts and Collaborations 27-28 November

Petroleum Group Sponsored Publications.

Special Publication released in the 2016:

The Value of Outcrop Studies in Reducing Subsurface Uncertainty and Risk in Hydrocarbon Exploration and Production

Ongoing Special Publications include volumes on Geomechanics and Geology, Operations Geology, Subseismic Scale Reservoir Deformation, Normal Faults, Reservoir Quality, Mesozoic South Permian Basin, the Petroleum Geology of the Black Sea and Paleozoic Plays of Northwest Europe.

Finally,

Several committee members are stepping down and new members are joining in. We take this opportunity to acknowledge the contribution of the members who are stepping down: Helen Smyth (**Publication Officer**), Ben Kilhams (**Communication Officer**), Teresa Sabato Ceraldi (**Treasurer**), Simone Silcock, Fiona Macaulay, Mark Bentley, Hugh Dennis. The incoming officers are: Ian Sakia (**Publication Officer**), Maxim Kotenev (**Communication Officer**), John Argent (**Treasurer**) and Lucy Williams will take on the **Vice Chairman role**.

We welcome in 2016 the new members who represent a good mix of large and smaller E&P companies, contractors and academia: Peter Burgess, Richard Collier, Jonathan Hull, Matthew Jameson, Owen Sutcliffe, Alun Williams, Kirstie Wright and we welcome back Caroline Gill.

Teresa Sabato Ceraldi
Petroleum Group Treasurer



Benjamin Taylor winner of the Young Petroleum Geoscientist award



Gro Haatvedt accepting the Petroleum Group Medal from PG Chair Kitty Hall



2016 and past Petroleum Group Medallists “Toasting the Dinosaur”

L-R Back: Malcolm Brown, Al Fraser, John Underhill

L-R Front: Malcolm Pattinson, Richard Hardman, Mike Daly , Tony Hayward, Tony Dore, Gro Haatvedt, Bruce Levell