



## SPRING/SUMMER 2007 NEWSLETTER

### SOME NEW & OLD FACES YOU MAY SEE AROUND AICISE

**NORKA MARCANO** is a Ph.D student in Dr. Steve Larter's Petroleum Reservoir and AICISE groups since September 2006. She holds a B.Sc. in Chemistry from Simon Bolivar University of Venezuela and a M.Sc. in Geochemistry from Central University of Venezuela. In addition, she has more than five years of industrial experience working at PDVSA-Intevap, Venezuela (1997-2003) applying Geochemistry to petroleum reservoir characterization in geologically complex areas of Venezuela. She is currently working on bitumen characterization using stable isotope techniques to assess stable isotopic variations as proxies for biodegradation level, factors that influence biodegradation mechanisms, fluid property variations in the reservoir and as possible chemical proxies for monitoring *in situ* upgrading.



**HADI SAMIMI** joined AICISE in September 2006 as a Ph.D student within Dr. Steve Larter's bitumen characterization and AICISE research group. He is a link between bitumen characterization and Dr. Ian Gate's reservoir simulation. His research includes incorporating geochemical data into reservoir simulation and uses geochemical data as a process monitoring and history match parameter. Hadi holds a B.Sc in Petroleum Exploration Engineering and an M.Sc in Petroleum Exploration Engineering from Petroleum University of Technology – Iran and a Master of Engineering in Petroleum Engineering from Schulich School of Engineering with Dr. Raj Mehta and Dr. M.R. Rezaee. His thesis was "Fracture Analysis of Asmari Formation at Naft-Shahr Oil Field Using Image Logs".



**FEREIDOO VASHEGHANI** is a Ph.D. student working with Dr. Larry Lines in Geology and Geophysics. He holds a B.Sc in Petroleum Engineering from Petroleum University of Technology, Iran, 2003; and a MEng in Petroleum Engineering from University of Calgary, 2006. He joined the AICISE family in the fall of 2006. His research interests include: modeling the seismic response of the reservoir using finite difference forward modeling methods; and reservoir simulation and history matching using time-lapse seismic data and geomechanics.



**NASHAAT NASSAR** obtained his B.Sc. in Chemical Engineering from An-Najah National University (ANU), Nablus, Palestine, in June 2000. He obtained an M.Sc in 2003 in chemical engineering from the Chemical Engineering Department at McGill University after which he returned to Palestine to work at ANU as a lecturer in the Department of Chemical Engineering. He started his Ph.D at Schulich School of Engineering (SSE) in September 2004 specializing in Nanotechnology/Environmental under the supervision of Dr. Maen Husein. He has



held several teaching and research assistantships for undergraduates. Recently, he chaired the 4<sup>th</sup> annual SSE graduate student research conference. He has co-author more than twenty four publications, which have been submitted to internationally refereed journals and conferences. He recently was awarded the Queen Elizabeth II doctoral scholarship in the open graduate competitions and NSERC Nano Innovation Platform travel grant award.

### OTHER AICISE-RELATED PEOPLE YOU SHOULD KNOW



Luis Pineda Perez

Dr. Bangyou Wu

Dr. Ruiping Shi



Maria Frauwallner

Saeed Shad

Dr. Anveshna Malik

### AICISE INTRODUCES NEW INDUSTRY PARTNER:

**ConocoPhillips** joins Shell as one of the five industry partners of AICISE. The U of C and ConocoPhillips signed the agreement officially on June 12<sup>th</sup>. ConocoPhillips is a voting member on the AICISE Management Advisory Board and holds a seat at the Technical Advisory Committee's table. All of the AICISE Principal Investigators welcome ConocoPhillips participation in our research.

### **FIRST ANNUAL AICISE STUDENT CONFERENCE:**

Dr. Ian Gates is organizing the First Annual AICISE Student Conference to be held from 8 a.m. to 7 p.m. on September 26 at the Naturebahn Teahouse at Canada Olympic Park (all meals provided). All AICISE and AICISE-related students are encouraged to submit the title of their 15 minute presentation to Centre Manager (dave.reynolds[at]ucalgary.ca) by July 31<sup>st</sup> and the abstract by September 3<sup>rd</sup>. An award for the best paper will be presented at the dinner, which will be held following the event at the top of the COP 90 meter ski jump. This first Student Conference will also be attended by Principal Investigators, other Faculty, Research Associates and industry representatives.

### **RECOGNITION & CONGRATULATIONS:**

**TAMER KOKSALAN** is now a Ph.D Candidate in Geology and Geophysics after successfully completed his oral Candidacy Exam recently. Tamer is a student of Dr. Steve Larter, Co-Director of AICISE and Professor, Alberta Ingenuity Scholar and Canada Research Chair in Petroleum Geology. Tamer, who received a Masters degree from Stanford, is now working on his dissertation.



### **MANAGEMENT ADVISORY BOARD MEETING:**

The AICISE Management Advisory Board (MAB) is meeting on June 27. The MAB is AICISE's primary governing body and forms the apex of the governance structure. It contains 11 voting members, who are the five industry partners, AERI, Alberta Ingenuity and the U of C. This will be the final meeting for Dr. Robert Mansell, who has chaired the MAB since its inception. Robert is taking a well-deserved one-year administrative leave from his role as Managing Director of ISEEE.

### **FINAL SPRING/SUMMER PERCOLATOR SESSION:**

**TITLE:** A new formulation for improving accuracy of large-scale reactive flow simulations



**BY:** Dr. Hassan Hassanzadeh  
**DATE:** June 21,  
**TIME:** 3 p.m.  
**LOCATION:** CCIT 209

No Percolators will be held in July or August; sessions resume in the fall.

Percolator sessions are open only to AICISE-related students, faculty, staff and members of the staff of our industry partners.

### **JOINT AICISE, IO AICOSI AND AIF WORKSHOP:**

AICISE, IO AICOSI and Alberta Ingenuity Fund held a joint two-day workshop about the **Variability of the Oil Sands Resource** at the Chateau Lake Louise from May 2 to 4, 2007. The workshop attracted 65 participants, including students from U of C and U of A, faculty from U of C and U of A, and industry guests from AERI, ARC, Imperial Oil, ConocoPhillips, Nexen and Shell. The workshop was designed



to be an overview of the current knowledge on the variability of the bitumen in the oil sand resource in Alberta. The event was well received, particularly given the location of the workshop. The AICISE students all felt the event was educational and worthwhile. Speakers included Dr. Larter, Dr. Pereira, Dr. Hubbard, Dr. Spencer, Dr. Gray, Dr. Yarranton, Dr. Masliyah, Dr. Dettman, Dr. Bennett, Mr. Carbognani and Dr. Gates. The next workshop is being planned by AICOSI for May 7-9, 2008 at the Radisson Hotel in Canmore. Plan to attend. The U of C students in the photo above are from left to right: Maria Frauwallner, Norka Marcano and Herbert Loria.



### **EXPANDING AICISE'S OUTREACH:**

AICISE has developed two significant media outreach products: the 5-minute video and the 20-paged booklet. Both are available on the AICISE web site. These media products help us to reach out into the oil and gas sector and that increases our outreach efforts to raise awareness about our goals and objectives. These are particularly important products to share with industry and government. The video is a 5-minute segment from a half-hour program on energy in Alberta that was recently shown on ACCESS TV.

### **CONTACT INFO:**

For further information about the AICISE Centre's mandate, role and research activities, please go to the web site ([www.aicise.ca](http://www.aicise.ca)) or contact:

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Mr. David Reynolds, AICISE Centre Manager (403) 220-4043;  
[dave.reynolds@ucalgary.ca](mailto:dave.reynolds@ucalgary.ca) or

Mrs. Susan Dooley, AICISE Centre Administrative Assistant,  
(403) 210-9610; [sdooley@ucalgary.ca](mailto:sdooley@ucalgary.ca).



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