

**PRESS RELEASE**

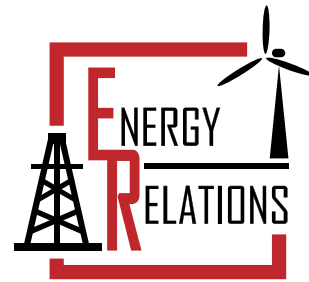
Contact:

**André Williams**, Public Relations Consultant

Energy Relations

Phone: (337) 296-5095

Email: andre@energyrelations.net



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

**YOUNG PROFESSIONALS RECEIVE WORDS OF WISDOM**

LAFAYETTE, LA - The Lafayette Chapter of Young Professionals in Energy (YPE), along with the Lafayette Chapter of Society of Petroleum Engineers' Young Professionals (SPE YP), hosted their "Louisiana Senior Leadership Reception" on May 14, 2009 at the Petroleum Club in Lafayette, LA.

Young professionals interested in advancing their careers received words of wisdom from an elite group of executives who have managed to work their way to the top by surviving the trials and tribulations of the energy industry. The event, sponsored by Baker Hughes, Schumberger and Chevron, allowed each executive to host their own informal dinner discussion, with topics ranging from entrepreneurship, to exploration and development. Recent graduates preparing to enter the workforce, and up and coming professionals currently working in the industry, were given a rare opportunity to speak one-on-one with each discussion leader.

"I've asked every question I could possibly ask," said Wole Olukoya, a UL Lafayette Petroleum Engineering Student. "The type of information I received tonight from these executives was priceless."

Some executives shared personal stories and gave tips on how to prepare for a long career, while others gave valuable opinions on the future of the energy industry.

"We were truly amazed at how eager and excited the executives were to participate," said Scott Hou, a Reservoir Engineer with Stone Energy and event coordinator. "We started contacting companies, and within two days we had a long list of confirmed executives. It was a huge success, and I am truly amazed at how quickly our YPE Lafayette Chapter has grown."

The reception marked the last event in a series of YPE and SPE YP sponsored events aimed at fostering networking and personal development opportunities for young professionals working in Lafayette's energy industry. Senior leaders were also awarded for their participation as guest speakers in previous events.

Executives participating in the Louisiana Senior Leadership Reception were:

William Bailey (Partner, Gordon Arata McCollam Duplantis & Eagan); Keith Grimes (CEO,

**-MORE-**

Hamilton Group); Mark Hatfield (General Manager, Chevron); Don Briggs (President, Louisiana Oil and Gas Association); Charles Goodson (CEO, PetroQuest); Rick Fowler ( Vice President, LLOG Exploration); Rich Smith (Senior Vice President, Stone Energy); James Slatten (Chief Operating Officer, LEED Petroleum); Cheryl Collarini (President, Collarini Energy); Claude Thorp (Vice President, Atlantis E&P); Richard Williams (President, Baker Hughes Gulf of Mexico); and Bill Crenshaw (President, Corridor & Associates).

For more information on future events, or to join the Lafayette Chapter of Young Professionals in Energy, go to: [www.ypenenergy.com](http://www.ypenenergy.com)

###

*For more information, or to receive photos of the event, contact:  
André Williams - (337) 296-5095 or [andre@energyrelations.net](mailto:andre@energyrelations.net)*