

Middle East tight reservoirs are target of Bahrain workshop

The fourth and latest AAPG/EAGE workshop collaboration in the Middle East, will be the first to focus solely on exploration and development of tight reservoirs in the Middle East across the different disciplines (geology, geophysics and engineering). The workshop to be held in Manama, Bahrain on 27-28 November 2017 is expected to highlight practical examples and knowledge gained from both industry and academia in the region.

During the last few years, developing tight reservoirs (sandstone, carbonate and shale) has been steadily gaining in importance in the Middle East region as various countries have started to explore the potential of unconventional resources. NOCs and IOCs as well as service companies and universities in the region have been involved with varying results in different countries.

The core objective of this workshop is to build a discussion on tight reservoir challenges in the Middle East. Four main sessions will cover Resource Assessments and De-Risking Approaches for Tight Reservoir Exploration and Development in the Middle East; Challenges in Characterizing Tight Reservoirs and Identifying Sweet Spots; Middle East Hydraulic Fracturing: What Works and What Doesn't; and Closing the Loop and Industry Benchmarking: Production and Reservoir Engineering Best Practices.

All sessions are designed to capture local experiences. However, it will include international perspectives from outside the region featuring production and reservoir engineering best practices. In addition, a poster session will illustrate breakthroughs and new technologies.

Those interested in proposing a poster should send a short abstract along with the poster artwork (in JPEG or PDF high resolution format) to Anastasia Kuzmenko (akuzmenko@aapg.org) by 26 October 2017.

Registration is currently open for the workshop with special prices for young professionals and students. Please check the EAGE website for more information or contact the EAGE Middle East office.



KAUST visit seals spirit of cooperation



From the left: David Keyes (KAUST), Emily Bell (EAGE), Amik St-Cyr (Shell).

Emily Bell, EAGE regional manager Middle East, paid a visit recently to King Abdullah University of Science and Technology (KAUST). The purpose was to discuss EAGE's devel-

oping role in the Middle East with a strong emphasis on students and their future progression within the industry. Emily invited to make a presentation to the Earth Science and Engineering Department.

Dr Thomas Finkbeiner kindly hosted Emily in Jeddah during her few days in Saudi Arabia where they followed a busy schedule of meetings and tours as well as social evenings, all on the gigantic KAUST Campus. Dr Finkbeiner, a long standing member of EAGE, is on a number of event and other EAGE-related committees, e.g., the SPE/EAGE Workshop on Integrated Geomechanics in E&P, scheduled for 25-26 April 2018, the Third EAGE Workshop on Naturally Fractured Reservoirs on 5-7 February 2018, and Executive Committee member of GEO2018. He is also on the EAGE Middle East Regional Council and Student Committee.

Emily was lucky enough to have a second host, Dr David Keyes, KAUST's professor of applied mathematics, computational science director of the Extreme Computing Research Centre and co-chair of the upcoming Third EAGE Workshop on High Performance Computing (1-4 October, Athens, Greece).

Emily's time at KAUST was packed full of interesting activities and meetings. She met with Dr Tariq Alkhalifah, professor of geophysics at KAUST, and presenter of the EAGE EET on 'Full Waveform Inversion: Where are the Anisotropic Parameters Hiding?' She toured the KAUST Supercomputing Laboratory with the computational scientist lead Dr Saber Feki. This was particularly interesting as it houses the 'Shaheen II' supercomputer. Last but not least, Dias Urozayev, Ahmed Saad and Ayrat Abdullin, members of the KAUST EAGE Student Chapter, took Emily on a tour including the Science Museum.

Before leaving, Emily made sure that a donation of EAGE books had been delivered to the KAUST library.



Thomas Finkbeiner (KAUST) and Emily Bell (EAGE).