Gülsüm Burçu Gunal Secretary, WPC Turkish National Committee



"Mentoring is a great tool to bring together senior and young people with different, international experiences in the oil and gas industry"

WHY MENTORING?

We are now communicating faster in an era of high technology and innovation, which brings great motivation and excitement to every issue we deal with. Young people have different learning habits lately, with more interaction, early engagement and long-term career planning. Keeping these in mind, the WPC Youth Committee realised that mentoring is a great tool to bring together senior and young people with different, international experiences in the oil and gas industry.

DIVERSE COMMUNICATION

With the aim of attracting and retaining young talents to the oil and gas industry, the WPC Youth Committee developed a Mentoring Programme to provide an arena to discuss the challenges and opportunities among young people and their senior colleagues.

After a trial period and splendid feedback, we are now approaching the end of the 1st WPC Mentoring Programme, which will come to an end in Moscow during the 21st WPC, with a face to face Meeting. There are 18 mentors from 13 countries and 74 mentees from 21 countries in the most recent programme. Skype calls, Twitter, Facebook and WhatsApp groups and individual calls were all added when needed. Besides which, an online platform was established at the WPC website so that each Mentoring Cycle can post ideas, trigger discussions and share documents.

FABULOUS OPPORTUNITIES

It provides incredible networking experiences and a knowledge-sharing platform, including open dialogue and informal discussions. It provides a win-win opportunity; the "mentee" becomes more proficient at work life and it is good for the "mentor" to learn and share wisdom. Besides, there are many opportunities to present the discussions at the WPC Youth Forums, Congresses, Stands and Publications. The participants in the end will be receiving a Letter of Recommendation from their mentors.

The participants agree that learning from experience is a very valuable asset. With senior-youth interaction, the programme attracted great interest due to its uniqueness in providing an informal platform for exchange of ideas rather than adopting a technical approach.