

Serving our members

By Dr Pierce Riemer,
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For our 2016 WPC Yearbook we have selected the theme 'Leading through Change' and focused on how the industry adapts during the challenges presented by fluctuating oil and gas prices.

The recent 15th Ministerial Meeting of the International Energy Forum (IEF) in Algiers provided a review of the oil market outlook and the stability challenge, and the WPC contributed to these key discussions where energy transition post COP21 was the main focus.

We also continue to support and encourage the young members of our industry, and we recently enjoyed the 5th edition of our youth event – the "Future Leaders Forum" which was hosted in Rio by our Brazilian National Committee and IBP, and provided the largest gathering of young professionals in the petroleum industry. This edition was developed under the heading of "Game changers: New leaders for a new competitive energy industry" and offered discussions on topics such as industry sustainability and climate change, energy poverty, business leadership, and technology and innovation.

With less than a year to go, the Turkish Organising Committee are very focused on the planning and development of our 22nd World Petroleum Congress, which will take place in Istanbul in July 2017. The technical programme is developing very well as we consider submissions from industry experts who will join us as leading speakers. The selection of the final group is a difficult task for our session chairmen, with the calibre and quantity of entries so high.

We are also entering an exciting time as we consider where the 23rd World Petroleum Congress will be held. During the Annual Council meeting in Bahrain in December 2016, our members will vote between two excellent candidates – the US and Canada. This meeting also provides our 70 member committees the opportunity to meet old friends and network.

Supporting our services to the industry as well as these important events, the WPC also provides industry updates on selected topics through our educational series of industry guides. For 2016 we have expanded these with a very interesting and very well received guide on 'Biofuels' which was launched officially in Rio – the ideal location given Brazil's huge input into this alternative energy resource. Additionally, our new Careers in Oil & Gas guide enables us to encourage young people to join our diverse industry by providing them with insights into the oil and gas sector and the career paths it can offer across so many disciplines, and this will be launched in 2017.

The annual WPC Publications also focus on the key technical, social, environmental and management challenges impacting global energy issues, which are complemented by Youth Magazines presenting the perspective of young professionals from the industry.

The WPC will continue to provide a key service to its members and industry by bringing together all stakeholders and sharing perspectives on leadership, diversity, technical innovation, responsible operations, global cooperation and sustainability, and we look forward to involving old and new friends in all these discussions. ●

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