MINUTES

Present: Bill Lyons, Tom Engler, Harvey Westbrook, Steve Trujillo, Amit Sharma, Matt Hill, Matt Stanley and Gary Plisga

1. Welcome to the 2005 Industry Advisory board meeting.

2. Approval of minutes of October 2004 meeting.

   The minutes of the October 2004 meeting were approved by the members.

3. Departmental Update:

   Dr. Engler presented information on the current Undergraduate and Graduate enrollments. The total student population in Petroleum Engineering is 45, 31 in the Undergraduate program and 14 in the Graduate program. There are currently 13 new students in the Undergraduate program.

   The Graduate program has declined from 16 to 14 based on the current job availability and the number of positions open.

   The 2004 – 2005 graduating class all 6 students obtained jobs. Three (3) were hired by independents, two (2) with major oil companies and one (1) by a service company.

   The new students are primarily from New Mexico, with the remaining students coming from various foreign countries.

   The Petroleum and Natural Gas Engineering program received accreditation from ABET. The next revue will be 2010.

   Several proposals for curriculum change have evolved during observations and evaluations in the Senior Design courses. The changes have been discussed and approved in department faculty meetings.
4. Old Business:

A review was made of all action items from the October 2004 meeting and all items have been addressed.

The IAB member support was discussed and was found to be sufficient. Field trips had been taken and future trips are in the works and several visits to campus by members to make presentations are also scheduled.

5. New Business:

ENDOWMENTS:

Dr. Engler and Dr Lyons made a presentation concerning endowed chairs and professorships. They feel it is an opportune time to seek funding from companies to set up endowed chairs and professorships. A general discussion was held to determine if recipients would be permanent or temporary, whether the endowed chairs would be used to generate graduate research projects and whether or not the professorships would be devoted to undergraduate studies. We also discussed a combination of both depending upon the levels of the existing student body at the time.

A professorship may fund program development or partially support an academic position.

A chair provides for greater support for program development and/or faculty salary.

An eminent scholar or distinguished university chair fully supports a faculty position and/or provides the greatest impact in program development.

Energy Bill and Research:

New Mexico Tech is well positioned to become a leader in unconventional gas production and could be the consortium leader. This would dovetail very well with an endowed distinguished chair for example. IAB members are invited to attend the consortium meetings to provide input on the future roadmap of the bill’s research grants in the future.

6. Action Items:

1. To draft a proposal to define what type of Chairs and Professorships will be solicited and how these positions will be managed. Will they be temporary (3 to 4
years) or permanent? What type of companies will be solicited to fund the positions? What will the Chairs and Professorships be called?

2. The draft will then be circulated to faculty members and IAB members for their input and comments.

3. The proposal will be presented by the petroleum engineering department to President Lopez for permission to proceed.

Continue to request support from the IAB members where appropriate to arrange for student field trips and/or campus presentations to the students about current programs being conducted by the various companies represented.

The next meeting will be held in conjunction with the 2006 SPE Annual Technical Conference and Exhibition, September 24th through the 27th in San Antonio, Texas. A firm date will be supplied closer to the convention date.

The meeting was adjourned.