

MOU Signed Between SPGNA and GSH

Dhananjay Kumar, SPGNA President and Dave Agarwal, GSH representative

On 26th March 2011 SPGNA (North American Chapter of Society of Petroleum Geophysicists, <http://www.spgnorthamerica.org>) and GSH (Geophysical Society of Houston, <http://www.gshtx.org>) signed an MOU (memorandum of understanding) for collaboration to achieve objectives of both geophysical societies. The MOU was signed by the presidents of both societies during the SPGNA 2011 1st quarter meeting at the University of Houston campus (**Pictures 1 and 2**).



Picture 1: President of SPGNA (Dhananjay Kumar) - left and president of GSH (Bob Wegner) - right are signing MOU.

Both societies are non-profit organizations. GSH is a well recognized Geophysical Society in Houston and is registered under 501(C)(3) of the IRS tax codes. On the other hand, SPGNA is relatively new society of geophysicist of Indian origin and many of its members are young professionals and students based in USA. Most of Houston-based SPGNA members are also members of GSH. Both societies have similar goals and this MOU is a step to work together to further their joint goals. The purpose of this collaboration is mutual help in topics of education, research, publications, attendance at meetings/forums and in increasing the scope of donations and advertisement.

GSH has appointed a representative (Dave Agarwal, a past president of GSH), with specific responsibility for SPGNA and has opened a sub-account in bank under GSH administration designated to facilitate the deposit and withdrawal of funds on behalf of SPGNA. All donations to SPGNA should be made out to Geophysical Society of Houston with a “for SPGNA” note on the memo line, to properly credit the SPGNA FUND.



Picture 2: President of GSH (3rd from left) attended SPGNA 2011 1st quarter meeting at the University of Houston campus. It is evident that SPGNA is a team of young geoscientists.

Both societies will encourage their members to become member of each other society, participate in technical meetings, publish articles in journals, advertise on the Web and on their respective Journals, and organize non-competing fund raising events. Under this MOU, neither

party will have any technical/financial liability towards each other.

We are confident that the relationships between the two societies will strengthen with time and that their memberships will grow.

Item Of Interest

Ida Minerva Tarbell was an author, an American teacher and one of the leading journalists of the early 20th Century. In 1900 she took on the herculean task of writing the history of Standard Oil Company. The material was serialized into 19 articles by *McClure's* magazine and ran from 1902 to 1904. In 1904 the articles were consolidated into her most famous book entitled, ***The History of Standard Oil Company***. It was truly “investigative reporting” and is credited with the downfall of Standard Oil and its subsequent breakup. Teddy Roosevelt, the President of the United States at the time, was strongly opposed to the large “trusts” and was accused of “Trust Busting”. His biggest targets were Standard Oil and the railroad monopolies.

