

UNIVERSITY STUDENTS

SPE members should encourage university students pursuing any type of career in the energy industry to join SPE. The requirements for student membership are

1. An SPE student member must be enrolled in a course of study leading to an undergraduate or graduate degree in petroleum engineering or a related field,
AND
2. A student member must be carrying at least 30% of a normal, full-time academic load

Student members receive numerous benefits from SPE membership, including networking opportunities, discounts on textbooks and other society publications, access to society-sponsored scholarships, and academic and career guidance. Students also receive local support through the student chapter at their university and the sponsoring SPE section. This allows students to interact with practicing professionals and benefit from technology discussions at section meetings.

HOW STUDENT CHAPTERS ARE FORMED

With a minimum of 15 student members attending an institution, a student chapter can be formed. The students must choose a faculty sponsor who is a member of SPE and they must obtain chapter sponsorship from the SPE section nearest the institution. The 15 students, proposed faculty sponsor, and the department head must sign and submit to SPE a "Petition for SPE Student Chapter." The students must also meet to elect officers and submit the proposed officer roster to SPE. These documents then go to the SPE board for approval. Upon approval, the chapter will receive USD 50 and chapter stationery to help begin chapter operations.

SECTION SPONSORSHIP OF STUDENT CHAPTER(S)

Sections may choose to sponsor one or more student chapters. In doing so, the section commits to assisting the chapter with training, mentoring, and planning activities. Although each chapter has a faculty sponsor who is a member of SPE, a section should also appoint a student chapter liaison.

FACULTY SPONSOR

The faculty sponsor is the primary point of contact between the SPE student chapter, the sponsoring section, and SPE staff. A student chapter cannot be formed without a faculty sponsor and, no chapter can function without the continued support of that sponsor. The faculty sponsor receives complimentary membership in SPE for the duration of his or her role as faculty sponsor. Responsibilities include

- Serving as the liaison between the chapter and the university
- Serving as the liaison between the chapter and SPE

- Advising the chapter on forming and implementing goals, objectives, and programs
- Attending chapter meetings and consulting with student members
- Ensuring the chapter understands the mission and vision of SPE
- Attending section board meetings when possible
- Ensuring the chapter submits their annual report by 1 April
- Encouraging students to apply for society-sponsored scholarships

STUDENT CHAPTER LIAISON

In addition to the faculty sponsor, each student chapter has a student chapter liaison appointed from the sponsoring section. The liaison ideally serves a 2-year term and is responsible for

- Maintaining frequent contact with the chapter officers and faculty sponsor
- Assisting with program development
- Offering suggestions for field trips, speakers, etc.
- Encouraging section participation in student chapter meetings and activities
- Attending student chapter meetings when possible
- Encouraging students to apply for society-sponsored scholarships

The student chapter liaison should report to the section board any pertinent information to support the student chapter. Section officers should also visit the student chapter throughout the year.

GUIDELINES FOR FOSTERING RELATIONSHIPS WITH YOUR STUDENT CHAPTER(S)

The SPE Student Development Committee has developed best practices for section support of their sponsored student chapter(s).

Provide Economic Support

- Provide section scholarships to students
- Provide administrative support (laptops, printers, office space, etc.)
- Sponsor student events and social activities
- Sponsor students to attend local technical training seminars

Fulfill Educational Needs

- Hold section meetings at the university and/or invite students to attend section meetings/socials
- Provide access to section meetings via tele or video conference
- Deliver technical presentations to the chapter
- Host an electronic bulletin board for seeking/sharing technical advice
- Recruit technical lecturers to supplement curricula/faculty
- Arrange and sponsor field trips for students

Develop Nontechnical Skills

- Provide university seniors and graduate students with opportunities to deliver presentations
- Sponsor and/or judge student paper contests
- Invite student chapter officers to attend section board meetings

Provide Career Guidance

- Create internship/recruiting campaigns
- Encourage your members to mentor students through the SPE eMentoring program
- Utilize the Ambassador Lecturer Program to send young professional members to speak at student chapters about career experiences

Grow Your Membership

- Deliver presentations about SPE to industry-related departments at the university to showcase that SPE is not only for petroleum engineers
- Contact students whose memberships status has changed to “graduate” and encourage them to maintain their membership; these graduate members are indicated on section rosters. Note: Those graduates who were SPE student members in good standing are eligible to receive their first year of professional membership at the student membership rate.

Provide Volunteer Opportunities

- Invite students to participate in section community activities
- Invite students to volunteer at section events

ATTACHMENTS

- Student Chapter Faculty Nomination Form
- Student Chapter Formation Petition
- Student Chapter Officer Report Form

For more information, contact

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