



# eBrief

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**Celebrating the life of Carl Sutton**

On Oct. 24, GPA lost a gentleman dear to our hearts. Many of you knew Carl B. Sutton from his involvement in association affairs as GPA's corporate secretary for 35 years, as a chemical engineer with a career marked by service to his industry and profession, and last but not least, as GPA President and CEO Mark Sutton's father.

Sutton graduated from Kansas University with a bachelor's of science degree in chemical engineering in 1943. He served in the U.S. Army as a medic as part of the Pacific Theater during WWII. After the war, he continued his service in the army reserves and advanced to the rank of colonel.

His work in the oil and gas industry took Sutton and his family to Oklahoma, Texas, Louisiana, and finally back to Oklahoma where he served as GPA's corporate secretary. Prior to joining GPA in 1963, he was a plant process engineer with Hudson Oil & Gas Corp. and served in research and development with Phillips Petroleum Co. In 1989, he was presented with the prestigious GPA Hanlon Award at the 68<sup>th</sup> annual GPA Convention, described by then-GPA President Wayne King as "perhaps the best known and most liked recipient in the award's history."

We are saddened by his passing but thankful to know that he lived his nearly 92 years to the fullest, with family by his side until the end.

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**Honoring Kwang-Chu Chao**

GPA honors the life of another gentleman who passed earlier this month and had a profound impact on the midstream industry, professor Kwang-Chu Chao.

Chao was a pioneer in the application of solution thermodynamics to engineering calculations. In the late 1950s, he collaborated in the development of one of our industry's most important and widely used correlations for predicting vapor-liquid equilibria of hydrocarbon mixtures, the Chao-Seader Correlation. His work marked a true milestone in the development of engineering applications of solution thermodynamics.

He was honored with GPA's Donald L. Katz Award in 1994 for these contributions and was also recognized for excellence in engineering education. He was well-liked and highly respected by both peers and students and published more than 160 journal articles in addition to co-authoring an advanced textbook on thermodynamics during his career.

We pass our condolences to Chao's family and friends and would also like to express our thanks for his impact on the industry.

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#### **GPA's 2014 research and development program set**

At its recent meeting in Colorado Springs, the GPA board of directors approved the association's 2014 budget. In approving the budget, the board also approved \$285,000 (GPA membership support) of a total \$635,000 research and development program. This program was submitted by Technical Section F – Research and Technical Section B – Analysis & Test Methods, approved by the GPA Technical Committee and finally approved by the board, as is required in the association's bylaws.

The program includes \$240,000 for two continuing projects and \$395,000 in funding for four new projects. Full details of the program may be viewed in GPA's 2014 Research Brochure, which is available here: <https://www.gpaglobal.org/research/>.

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#### **GPA Young Professionals to host first committee meeting in April**

GPA has hosted sessions targeting midstream industry young professionals (YPs) at the GPA Convention since 2008, and attendance and interest in the sessions have grown each year.

Because YPs have expressed interest in getting more involved in the association outside of the convention events each year, YP Chair Matt Moellers reported to the GPA board last week that GPA will hold the first-ever Young Professionals Committee meeting in Dallas on April 13, 2014, the opening day of the GPA Convention. All young professionals interested in getting more involved in the committee are welcome to attend this open meeting. One topic on the agenda will be university outreach in the United States to raise awareness among engineering students about the midstream industry and GPA as an organization.

During the meeting, the group will also discuss ideas for other deliverables for this committee and a meeting schedule beyond the traditional convention activities.

The committee meeting will be followed by a YP reception, which will encourage networking among this group and with GPA board members and committee leaders. This reception will require a purchased ticket for entry, and more information about the event will be available on [GPAconvention.org](http://GPAconvention.org) in December.

For more information, contact:

Crystal Myers, GPA, Young Professionals staff liaison: [cmyers@GPAglobal.org](mailto:cmyers@GPAglobal.org)

Matt Moellers, Enterprise Products, Young Professionals Chair, [mpmoellers@eprod.com](mailto:mpmoellers@eprod.com)

Cary Keen, Targa Resources, Young Professionals Vice Chair, [ckeen@targaresources.com](mailto:ckeen@targaresources.com)

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#### **Revisions to technical standards' nomenclature and balloting**

GPA's Technical Sections met last week in conjunction with the fall GPA board meeting, and section chairs provided updates on their respective activities. The group also discussed how GPA's technical standards are titled, and as a result, new standards will no longer have the term "tentative," but instead will include the date of publication and schedules for review in two years. Please note other changes:

- The review of standards will be five years or less and will include the term "re-issued," along with the date for standards with no revisions.
- For standards with revisions, the standard will include the term "revised," along with the date.
- When a standard is no longer supported by the GPA Technical Sections, the term "archived" along with the date will be noted on the front page of the standard.
- The decision was made to include a page with the history of the standard after the cover page and then attach an impact statement of the revisions.

Balloting of revisions to GPA standards was also discussed, and the process will be posted on the GPA web site for members' information.

In addition, agendas for all upcoming section meetings will now include a placeholder named "Balloted Standards" to ensure that those discussions are captured in the section's meeting minutes.

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### **Be recognized for environmental excellence at the 2014 GPA Convention**

GPA's Environmental Committee Chair Doug Jordan encourages GPA members to submit applications for this project-based award, created to acknowledge and honor companies' achievements in energy conservation and environmental support. The self-nomination process is open for companies to be considered for the 2014 award recognition at the GPA Convention, April 13 - 16, in Dallas. There, award winners will be able to display their projects so that other member companies may benefit from this knowledge and information.

To encourage more participation in our Environmental Excellence Award program, we have expanded the award categories to two divisions. GPA member companies classified as 01 and 02 members will compete for the Division 1 award. All other GPA member companies, including international and associate members, will compete for the Division II award.

**The application deadline is January 10, 2014.** View full program details, examples of previously submitted projects and application forms: <https://www.gpaglobal.org/awards/envexcellence>

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### **Potential changes to GPA Standard 2145**

A workgroup of Technical Section H - Measurement, Calculations and Handling of Hydrocarbon Fluids Including NGL and Natural Gas is attempting to combine GPA TP 17 and GPA Standard 2145 – *Table of Physical Properties for Hydrocarbons and Other Compounds of Interest to the Natural Gas Industry*. However, existing issues surrounding the molecular weight of air have the workgroup at an impasse. The issue was brought to the attention of GPA's Technical Committee, and the workgroup will continue to discuss.

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### **GPA Standard 3132 to be balloted**

GPA's Technical Section C – Product Specifications will be balloting GPA Standard 3132: *Natural Gasoline Specifications and Test Methods* to officially archive the standard. Section C states "obsolescence" of 3132 and as a result, does not believe continued maintenance of the standard is necessary. The archiving of GPA Standard 3132 will also include the GPA Doctor's Test, which is an addendum to 3131. The ballot will go to Technical Section C and the Technical Committee for approval. Section C is preparing an impact statement to attach to the ballot.

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### **Technical Section B reports on proposed wet gas sampling method**

GPA's Technical Section B – Analysis & Test Methods Chair Joe Landes reported at the Technical Committee meeting last week that the American Petroleum Institute (API) has formed a task group to set up testing of GPA 2166 – Obtaining Natural Gas Samples for Analysis by Gas Chromatography and API 14.1 – Collecting and Handling of Natural Gas Samples for Custody Transfer. The group is concentrating on sampling methods in wet gas service. The project is in the planning stages at this point. The task group is seeking funding from API or member companies for Phase 1, which will be to assess the methods in wet gas applications at a test loop and in the field. The estimated cost for Phase 1 is \$500,000. Southwest Research Institute is consulting with the group to develop test protocols.

GPA will be involved since the results of this project will likely mandate either a revision of GPA 2166 or the development of a new sampling standard.

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### **OSUIT dedicates natural gas compression training center**

The Oklahoma State University Institute of Technology (OSUIT) dedicated the recently completed Chesapeake Energy Natural Gas Compression Training Center during a public ceremony in late September on the OSUIT campus in Okmulgee.

The 23,920-square-foot center is the first of its kind in the energy industry, allowing students to learn to diagnose, service, and maintain gas compression equipment in a state-of-the-art facility.

Thanks in large part to this facility, enrollment in OSUIT's Natural Gas Compression program is expected to more than double from its previous level, according to Dr. Bill Path, OSUIT president. Classes began in the new facility in September.

"The new training center will enable OSUIT to more effectively teach students the technical skills necessary to maintain and operate natural gas engines and gas compressor units in an industry-quality laboratory," said Path. "OSUIT is committed – through the Natural Gas Compression program – to help this vital industry meet its need for trained technicians. Our graduates will work to build, maintain and operate America's vast energy infrastructure and keep it running strong in the coming decades."

A leadership donation by Chesapeake Energy Corp., coupled with donations from Devon Energy, ONEOK and Energy Transfer, launched the project in 2012.

OSUIT offers an associate in applied science degree in natural gas compression, where students complete four semesters of coursework and two semesters of paid internships. OSUIT has offered the natural gas compression training curriculum since 1974 and created an independent program for the study in 1999.

GPA, GPSA and several GPA chapters have provided scholarships to OSUIT's Natural Gas Compression Training Program students over the years, and many of our member companies have assisted the program with in-kind contributions of equipment and services.

Since 2009, GPSA's donations have benefitted from matching funds to ultimately total \$600,000 in contribution to the Oklahoma State Foundation, with the entire amount being earmarked specifically for this OSUIT Natural Gas Compression Training Program.

For more about the Chesapeake Energy Natural Gas Compression Training Center or the Natural Gas Compression program at OSUIT, visit [www.osuit.edu/dedication/energy\\_center](http://www.osuit.edu/dedication/energy_center).

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### **GPA Convention updates, sponsorship deadline reminder**

GPA's Program Committee is responsible for the theme, forums and sessions at the GPA Convention each year and has made great strides in planning for the 2014 event. The group met in Colorado Springs last week and announced that the theme for 2014 is "Mobilizing Midstream: A Global Connection."

Now that the Call for Papers deadline has passed, this group will look at each abstract and select papers for their sessions based on relevancy to the respective topics. As papers are selected and authors are notified, we will update the convention web site, [www.GPAconvention.org](http://www.GPAconvention.org), with updated schedule information.

Please keep the following dates/timeframes in mind as you think about the 2014 conference:

- **Nov. 8** – deadline for companies to sign up for sponsorships if they would like their logos to appear in the convention promotional brochure, which we will mail to more than 10,000 midstream professionals. The minimum dollar commitment required to get a logo in the brochure (cumulative spend) is \$1,500. For more information and to see what opportunities are available, visit [www.GPAconvention.org/sponsor](http://www.GPAconvention.org/sponsor)
- **Mid-December** - online convention registration will open, and information about 2014 hospitality space will be made available. Keep an eye on your inbox for specific registration dates.

- **Jan. 10, 2014** – deadline to turn in the application to be considered for the Environmental Excellence Award, which will be presented at the 2014 GPA Convention. See the above article for more information.
- **Mid-January 2014** – the all-new convention app will become available for download, which will place convention information at your fingertips through smart phones and tablets.
- **Feb. 14, 2014** – Early Bird registration deadline. Register by this date to save \$100 per person on registration fees.

Stay updated on all convention activities by visiting [www.GPAconvention.org](http://www.GPAconvention.org).

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### Technical Section M activities

Technical Section M – Operations and Maintenance Chair Steve Pudlewski reported that Section M is in the early stages of developing a LinkedIn group for the section to allow its members to share operations and maintenance issues. The site will be managed by GPA.

Section M is also in the planning stages of re-issuing the GPA Operations and Plant Checklist and will be archiving the GPA Plant Operations Test Manual.

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### Technical Section A activities

Technical Section A – Facilities Design & Optimization Chair Jerry Gump reported that Section A is preparing to ballot the following publications as soon as impact statements are completed:

- Plant Spacing – An Industry Survey
- Facilities Design Recommended Practices
- Facilities Design Training Resources List

Section A is also proposing the following projects:

1. Facilities Design Recommended Practices for Offshore Gas Processing Plants
2. Facilities Design Recommended Practices for Modularized Gas Processing Plants
3. Design and Optimization of Remotely Operated Midstream Facilities
4. Water Management for Gas Processing Plants and Other Midstream Facilities

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## GPA/GPSA Calendar

### November

- 4-5 S1 and S2 Research Meetings
- 6 North Texas GPA Sporting Clays
- 6 GPSA Editorial Review Board Meeting
- 7 Rocky Mountain GPA Luncheon & Meeting
- 7 North Texas GPA Annual Meeting
- 13 Houston GPA Luncheon
- 15 Rocky Mountain GPA Holiday Event

### December

- 4 MidContinent GPA Christmas Party

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### Gas Processors Association

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