



COMMUNIQUÉ

BP commits to long-term interest in Houma, Gulf of Mexico

By: Julia Arenstam, edited by Christy Alley Naquin



Starlee Sykes

After BP's recent announcement that approved spending \$1.3 billion in the Gulf of Mexico, the company continued to stress its commitment to Louisiana.

Starlee Sykes, regional president of BP for the Gulf of Mexico and Canada, spoke to the members of South Central Industrial Association at the January General Membership meeting about the company's continued long-term investment in the state.

"I'm happy to say BP is committed to the Gulf of Mexico and that activity here really is growing. This isn't rhetoric; it's the truth," she said.

Sykes, who's been with the company for over 20 years, recently transitioned from her role as vice president of offshore global projects.

The company's logistics base in Port Fourchon works with the facility in Houma, just off La. 311 near U.S. 90.

"As a key base for BP in the Gulf, we take our responsibility seriously and respect our close connection to the Houma community," Sykes said.

The company announced approval of a \$1.3 billion expansion at the Atlantis Phase 3 development and the discovery of 1.4 billion new barrels of available oil at two other rigs in the Gulf of Mexico.

BP is already the top oil producer in the Gulf but anticipates growing from 300,000 to 400,000 barrels of oil exported daily by 2025.

The announcement comes at what some predict to be the end of a nearly five-year-long offshore oil bust that cost the Houma-Thibodaux area nearly 16,000 jobs.

"We certainly recognize the cyclical nature of the industry and prices and how this impacts not only our business, but the communities where we are," Sykes said. "I can probably speak for everyone here when I say I'd like to see the peaks and valleys of our business smooth out a bit."

Standardization is one way to do that, she said.

Using the same designs for new projects can eliminate high-ticket engineering costs. The Mad Dog 2 platform, for example, was redesigned from a \$20 billion project to a \$9 billion project in 2016, Sykes said.

The company is also working to standardize ball valves, which could save the industry anywhere from \$250 million to \$740 million a year, she said.

Despite the large investment, the jobs lost during the latest downturn may not all return — at least not in the same way.

"We've been thinking about this as a zero sum game; more automation means less people, more for me, less for him, more for this company, less for that company. If we continue to have that mindset that we're all competing against each other, quite frankly, we're all going to fail," Sykes said.

In reality, the offshore industry is competing against other forms of energy.

For the industry to succeed, companies need to focus on becoming more efficient in the marginal opportunities and developments that may not be economic today, but will be in the future, Sykes said.

"How do we make this offshore industry as competitive, as efficient, as automated, as good as it can possibly be? And if we do that, there will be more jobs, maybe doing slightly different things, but expanding and producing in different ways we never thought of before," she said.

The company is also advocating predictable, achievable regulations from state and federal agencies. BP is a member of the Grow Louisiana Coalition, advocating state tort reform to reduce costly legal battles.

"Constant threats of litigation are no way to encourage business to invest and expand," she said. "BP actively supports,

see BP page 11



A Message from our President

Welcome to 2019. I know you are all well into this new year and are probably done with writing "2018" by mistake, but this is our first SCIA newsletter of the year. The association's books are closed for 2018 and despite the lingering slow pace of oil and gas in our area, our primary measurables tell us it was a good year for SCIA. We maintained a very strong number of members. Corporate memberships were up. Attendance across our events were up. And we were able to significantly increase our financial support to causes that support our mission. At our December meeting we presented Chancellor Kristine Strickland a check for \$60,000 from SCIA to complete the local match needed to obtain state funding for a very exciting building project that will consolidate all of the career and admissions services into one new fit for purpose facility. This new facility will enhance Fletchers ability to educate the workforce of our area for the future.

I am optimistic that 2019 will be another step for our region and association members in a positive direction. There will be ongoing challenges for sure, but opportunities abound. We have already heard from the regional BP president, Starlee Sykes, that BP intends to continue to invest in major opportunities in the Gulf that will be supported by people and businesses of our region. Our next two luncheon speakers will be senior representatives of two other major oil and gas companies (Chevron and Shell). Based on my conversations with these organizations, I expect they will also have good news about business in the Gulf of Mexico going forward.

Our association and our members need to continue to do our part to ensure that the business and legal environment in the state is fair and hospitable to organizations and people who are willing to invest and take risks to create jobs and opportunities for the people of our region. We have work to do on this issue. All things considered, I think we have reasons to expect a great year in 2019.

Thanks,

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SCIA PRESIDENT



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From the Director's Desk

Hello from SCIA headquarters! Although Santa Clause may have some time off, Kathy and I are making our list and checking it twice for membership. If you haven't sent in your dues, this is one naughty list you don't want to be on! The Board has an incredible lineup of dynamic speakers for the monthly general membership luncheons that you would be missing out on, not to mention the upcoming, always sold-out SCIA crawfish boil that you definitely don't want to be left out of! (No, we're not selling tickets just yet. Stay tuned!)

If you are looking for some volunteer opportunities, we can help. On Thursday March 21st, we have the SCIA WorkIt! Energy Career Expo at the BP facility and would love your assistance. Whether you're interested in speaking to the students about your field or just helping to facilitate the day, give us a call so we can put you to work. We also have the Meet your Regulator Day coming up on April 23rd and a few extra hands would be appreciated for that as well.

Oh, and send me any news worthy information so I can include it in the SCIA Communique to share with your peers.

See you at the next event!

Christy Alley Naquin
SCIA EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Strickland addresses membership at December meeting

By: Christy Alley Naquin



Dr. Kristine Strickland

Dr. Kristine Strickland, Chancellor of Fletcher Technical Community College shared statistics, insider conversations, and a big surprise with attendees of SCIA's December General Membership Luncheon.

Strickland explained how important technology is in business, but we can't forget the soft skills.

Price Waterhouse Cooper estimates that 38% of US jobs could experience full or partial automation by 2030 and up to 23% of all work hours could be automated. "While technology will play more and more an increasing roll in our lives, one of the things I hear most often when I'm out meeting with business & industry partners, is we need a workforce with better customer service skills, better soft skills," said Dr. Strickland. "So how we have to train our workforce to be tech savvy and work on their soft skills."

Strickland also explained an increase focus on efficiency – doing things better, faster. We live in a society now where some immediacy is expected. We need to train and upscale our workforce so that they are prepared to work in this new environment. "For the first time," said Strickland, "we actually have four generations who are in the workforce right now. We have Baby Boomers, Gen Xers, Millennials, Gen Ys and soon we'll have Gen Z working too. All of these generations have very different work

habits and expectations." Employers must to pay attention to their workforce; balance the Baby Boomers being up to speed and making sure the Millennials, Gen Ys and Gen Zs are motivated for the new economy that we are in.

In 2015 employers spent over \$400 billion on on-the-job training, \$660 billion on formal training and in total, between business and industry, government, post-secondary institutions, collectively \$1.1 trillion each year on upscaling, training and retraining for our workforce.

Strickland switched gears to offer ways business and industry can engage with Fletcher like participating on an advisory committee, sponsoring a student, donating equipment, developing programmatic curriculum, and offering apprenticeships.

Our four cornerstones at Fletcher are excellent curriculum, great teachers, strong business and industry partnerships, and state of the art/quality facilities, which led into the description of ACT 360.

ACT 360 was created by Louisiana Legislature in 2013 to authorized the Louisiana Community and Technical College System to build new training facilities around the state. It required a 12% match in order for bonds to be sold at the state level, enabling campuses to construct new facilities. Fletcher was included in that legislation for a new career center. Strickland announced, "We have been diligently working to secure that 12% match. I have the pleasure to stand before you to say our final donation to complete the 12% match was generously donated by SCIA!"

SCIA Executive Vice President Chett Chiasson presented the \$60,000 check to Fletcher and shared with the membership that the donation aligns with the association's mission and that workforce development is tremendously important to this industry and this community.

see Strickland page 11 

Chris John of LMOGA speaks to SCIA Members

By: Julia Arenstam, edited by Christy Alley Naquin



Chris John

In what one South Central Industrial Association member joked was his farewell tour, Louisiana Mid-Continent Oil and Gas Association President Chris John updated the group at the November General Membership luncheon on the state of the industry as he prepares to leave his post with the state association.

"I love the offshore industry," John said. "It's big and sexy and a big economic driver."

The oil and gas industry is expected to invest more than \$300 billion in new programs over the next two years.

Despite national growth, the state's oil and gas industry is not growing at the same rate as the rest of the country. Louisiana's rig counts in the Gulf of Mexico are growing at 24 percent, while other states' count grew

by the hundreds, John said.

He attributed the slow growth to taxes and lawsuits, two issues that can be controlled locally and statewide.

There are several major pending lawsuits in south Louisiana that could affect the whole global industry, John said.

The state's "roller coaster" tax system leaves companies looking to invest in more business-friendly areas, he said.

During his time in Congress, John served on the Energy and Commerce Committee, a committee he said will be turned over to the incoming Democratic leadership who are against the production of liquefied natural gas.

After this year's midterm elections, the House of Representatives should gain 40 Democratic seats. That represents a "seismic change in where we were headed," John said.

Many of the committees important to the oil and gas industry are expected to be "troubling" as they are turned over to those who favor more regulations and who aren't familiar with the economies of south Louisiana, John said.

"We're talking about people that don't know about Houma, and can't even pronounce Terrebonne and Lafourche," he said.

Between the uncertainty in Congress and President Donald Trump's "cabinet

carousel," John said, the industry faces many challenges.

Yet, he highlighted what he said were some successes of the presidential administration, namely rolling back regulations, opening more offshore drilling, opening drilling on federal lands, pipeline approvals and cutting corporate taxes.

Next year's statewide elections will be an important opportunity for the industry, he said.

More than 51 current state legislators will be ineligible to run for another term in their current offices, making up 35 percent of the state house, John said.

"We need to be electing the people that share our values," he said.

John was selected as president of the association in 2007 after representing Louisiana's 7th Congressional District and serving as a state representative. Tyler Gray, LMOGA's General Counsel, will serve as the next president of the Association. 

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Gov. Edwards makes appointments to CPRA

Courtesy of www.gov.Louisiana.gov

Gov. Edwards announced Chip Kline as the new executive assistant for coastal activities and board chair of the Coastal Restoration and Protection Authority (CPRA).

"We have reached a critical moment to address coastal restoration and hurricane protection in our state in a way in which we have never done before," said Edwards. "In order to take full advantage of this opportunity, the CPRA must have a leader who recognizes the severity of the crisis we face, has a deep knowledge and understanding of the many complex issues that must be worked daily, and has a vision for our state. For the last 10 years, Chip has worked tirelessly on behalf of our working coast, and I have full confidence he is committed to accomplishing our goals vital for us to have a coast that we can continue to be proud of."

"I recognize and appreciate the opportunity the governor has given me, and I also recognize the incredible responsibility that comes with this job. The protection and

restoration of Louisiana's coast is an effort for the ages, and its undertaking is bigger than all of us, yet it affects each and every person living in this state. I look forward to continuing my work on behalf of and with the people of Louisiana, and I remain committed to leaving a coast that our children and grandchildren can cherish as much as we all do," said Kline.

Governor John Bel Edwards also announced the appointment of Bren Haase as Executive Director of Louisiana Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority (CPRA).

"Bren is unquestionably an individual with a distinguished conservation record, in both his professional body of work and personal passion for coastal protection and conservation in Louisiana," stated Gov. Edwards. "Bren has my complete confidence, my utmost respect, and my full support."

In September 2018, Bren was named CPRA Deputy Executive Director and has also served as Division Chief of Planning and Research for CPRA. In this capac-

ity, his team produced the 2017 update of the Coastal Master Plan, a \$50 billion, 50-year plan to protect and restore Louisiana's coast, unanimously adopted by the Louisiana legislature in June 2017.

Haase holds degrees in Marine Biology from Auburn University and Oceanography and Coastal Sciences from Louisiana State University. Bren has more than 20 years of experience in coastal protection and restoration through project planning and implementation in the private sector as well as in Federal and State government.

"I am honored and humbled to be in a position to make a real difference in the lives of Louisiana's citizens. I do not take this responsibility lightly and pledge to continue the good work of CPRA to protect our citizens and provide a sustainable coastal Louisiana that supports our economy, culture and bountiful natural resources," said Haase. 

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Gulf Island Shipyards builds new class of research vessel

By Keith Magill, as edited by Christy Alley Naquin

Gulf Island Shipyards has begun building the first of two ocean research ships that are being billed as state-of-the-art. The Houma shipyard was awarded a \$122 million contract last year by Oregon State University to build the 199-foot vessel, which researchers will use to study issues such as ocean dead zones, sea level rise and tsunamis.

"This new class of modern vessels will support future research focused on the physical, chemical, biological and geologic processes in coastal waters," Roberta Marinelli, dean of Oregon State's College of Earth, Ocean and Atmospheric Sciences, said in a news release. "This research is critical to informing strategies for coastal resilience, food security and hazard mitigation not only in the Pacific Northwest but around the world."

Officials with Gulf Island, Oregon State and the National Science Foundation gathered at the shipyard for the keel-laying ceremony, marking the start of construction.

"With contract signing complete we are eager to start construction and deliver the

state of the art Regional Class Research Vessel to Oregon State as they continue on their mission of research and exploration," stated Kirk J. Meche, President and C.E.O. of Gulf Island Fabrication, Inc.

The National Science Foundation chose Oregon State in 2013 to lead the initial design phase for a new class of research vessel for the U.S. Academic Research Fleet. The fleet is operated by a consortium of 58 universities and the federal government called the University-National Oceanographic Laboratory System. Oregon State was also asked to lead the competitive selection of a shipyard to build the ships.

The ship will be called the Taani, a word from the language of Oregon's Siletz Native American tribe that means "offshore." It is the first in a class of vessels funded by the foundation. On June 6, Gulf Island landed a contract to build a second research ship for Oregon State University for \$67.6 million.

The Taani is scheduled for delivery to Oregon State in spring 2021 and will be

fully operational after a year of outfitting and testing, officials said.

The ships will be equipped to conduct detailed seafloor mapping, which officials say will reveal geologic structures important to understanding processes such as earthquakes that may trigger tsunamis. The Taani will have a range of greater than 5,000 nautical miles, with accommodations for 16 scientists and 13 crew members. It will have a cruising speed of 11.5 knots, or about 13 mph, and a maximum 13 knots. The ship will be able to stay at sea for about 21 days before returning to port and will routinely send streams of sensor data to shore via satellite.

"NSF is proud that the research vessel Taani will be the flagship for a new class of research vessels and eagerly anticipates decades of productive oceanography from Taani to support the nation's science, engineering and education needs," said Terrence Quinn, director of the foundation's Division of Ocean Sciences, which is funding the new vessel. 



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Money set aside for canal dredging

By Julia Arenstam, as edited by David Rabalais

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers has budgeted \$4 million for maintenance dredging the Houma Navigation Canal during the 2019 maintenance dredge cycle.

The project is included in the corps' Fiscal Year 2019 Work Plan for the Army Civil Works program, which was presented to Congress last month.

The annual maintenance involves dredging the canal to the authorized 15-foot depth and if funding allows some inland reaches will be included, corps officials said in a news release.

Additional material settled in the channel due to Hurricane Harvey in late summer of 2017, causing the need for additional work, officials said.

The 2018 maintenance dredge cycle was completed on Christmas Eve 2018. The Corps budgeted \$1 million for 2018 but congress passed a supplemental bill for hurricane damage. The HNC budget was increased to \$9.5 million. The 2018 dredging cycle removed close to 1.9 million cubic yards from the 10-mile southern reach (Terrebonne Bay & Cat Island Pass) at a cost of \$7.5 million. This leaves \$2 million

to add to the 2019 budget for a total 2019 budget of \$6 million.

With a budget of \$6 million and the southern reach fully dredged in 2018, the Corps should have plenty enough money to

David Rabalais said.

The Houma Navigation Canal is roughly 36 miles long, stretching from Terrebonne Bay to the Intracoastal Waterway in Houma. Businesses supporting the oil

and gas industry, marine vessel fabrication and repair yards as well as platform fabricators, use the canal to move equipment and materials offshore. The HNC is the main artery to the heart beat of Terrebonne's economy and if it's not maintained annually Terrebonne's economy will have a cardiac arrest.

The corps is expected to award a construction contract in late summer 2019, with a two- to three-month timeframe on completion.

The new project brings total corps spending on the canal up to \$13.5 million over two years.

"Historically, the HNC has never received that much money in any two year period," Dove said. "This was a great job from the regions federal delegation and a concerted effort from the Terrebonne Port Commission and Parish all pushing to get those monies." 



dredge the southern reach and the inland reaches during the 2019 maintenance dredge cycle. Keep in mind that the southern reach receives 1.2 to 1.5 million cubic yards per year. If inland reaches are included, it will be the first time since 2006, officials said.

The canal was originally scheduled to receive only \$100,000 for maintenance in 2019. But through the hard work of this area's federal delegation, the HNC maintenance budget was increased, Executive Director



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Governor Commits More than \$350 million to Louisiana's Coastal Program

Courtesy of www.gov.Louisiana.gov

Gov. John Bel Edwards announced his plans to designate more than \$350 million in coastal dollars, including \$55 million from FY18 surplus dollars to Louisiana's coastal trust fund. Within those surplus dollars, \$15 million will be allocated to effectively restore the funds previously swept by the previous Administration. Gov. Edwards also committed \$30 million in surplus to be used to meet the state's lands-related obligation, allowing the \$760 million West Shore Lake Pontchartrain hurricane protection project to move forward. The remaining \$10 million will go to increase the footprint of restoration projects already underway.

"I made a commitment, that under my watch, coastal dollars would be used for coastal projects. Given the opportunity to return funding that never should have been

taken is one wrong I am happy to right," Gov. Edwards said. "The Coastal Trust Fund is one of the few allowable recipients of surplus dollars- and for good reason. The trust

thousands of our people."

Gov. Edwards also highlighted nearly \$300 million allocated to hurricane protection projects across the next three fiscal years that utilize enhanced Gulf of Mexico Energy Security Act (GOMESA) revenues coming to the state.

"In the next 12 months alone, over \$120 million in GOMESA revenues will be expended to help protect over 2 million Louisianians who live and work along our coast. These investments represent a proactive mindset by the State of Louisiana and CPRA, allowing us to better defend against a hurricane or natural disaster and showing the citizens of our state we cannot

and will not wait on someone else to provide us the protection we deserve," stated Gov. Edwards. 

**I MADE A COMMITMENT, THAT UNDER MY
WATCH, COASTAL DOLLARS WOULD BE USED
FOR COASTAL PROJECTS.**

-- GOV. JOHN BEL EDWARDS

fund allows us to leverage the additional \$30 million in surplus funds we're investing today to unlock \$760 million in federal funding to provide flood protection benefits for tens of



The banner features the Synergy Bank logo at the top left, followed by a large, stylized "Thank you!" in white script. In the center is a photograph of a ribbon-cutting ceremony with a group of people. To the right is a large "20" and "YEARS" graphic with the years "1999-2019" written vertically between them. At the bottom left, there is a quote about the bank's history and values.

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Despite downturn, Maritime Management Program at Nicholls State continues to place graduates in region

By: Dr. Ken Chadwick

Despite the downturn in the maritime sector of the oil industry in South Louisiana, the Maritime Management Concentration in the College of Business at Nicholls State University continues to place graduates in regional businesses and build additional relationships with industry. The 4-year bachelors' program is specifically designed to train students for entry- and mid-level management positions in maritime and maritime related firms that compete in the oil industry. The development and implementation of this program serves as a model for establishing successful partnerships between academia and industry to ready students to meet specific workforce needs. The result is enhanced value for graduates, firms, and the region.

Since the spring of 2015 the program has graduated approximately 75 students and over 90% are working full-time in professional positions within maritime or maritime-related companies. Success can also be measured by the multiple firms who have hired multiple graduates of the program. Several companies have hired four and five graduates, others more than one. Similarly, firms continue to request interns from the program, again, with multiple

firms sponsoring multiple internships over the years. The feedback from both students and firms has been extremely positive as both groups recognize the vital role internships can play in training students to meet specific workforce needs. A recent graduate of the maritime program commented, "The maritime program at Nicholls State is a very unique program that opens up a variety of opportunities after graduation. Also, the internship that goes along with this program was a huge boost of confidence before entering the workforce post-graduation."

The program has also been able to diversify in terms of internships and employers of maritime students. This has allowed for continued opportunities as the region slowly recovers from the downturn in the maritime sector of the oil industry in South Louisiana. Companies along the Mississippi River have become increasingly involved in both the internship program and as a source of employment for graduates. Being able to appeal to firms outside the maritime sector of the oil industry has provided graduates with broader career opportunities. Another success for the students, the program, and regional industry. 



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BP announces major investment and expansion in GOM

Courtesy of BP.com

BP announced in January that it has approved a major expansion at the Atlantis field in the U.S. Gulf of Mexico and has also identified significant additional oil resources that could create further development opportunities around the production hubs it operates in the region.

The \$1.3 billion Atlantis Phase 3 development is the latest example BP's strategy of growing advantaged oil production through its existing production facilities in the Gulf. The approval for this latest development comes after recent BP breakthroughs in advanced seismic imaging and reservoir characterization revealed an additional 400 million barrels of oil in place at the Atlantis field.

Application of the same technology and analysis has now identified an additional 1 billion barrels of oil in place at the Thunder Horse field. Elsewhere, two new discoveries near the Na Kika production facility could provide further tie-back development opportunities.

"BP's Gulf of Mexico business is key to our strategy of growing production of advantaged high-margin oil. We are building on our world-class position, upgrading the resources at our fields through technology, productivity and exploration success," said Bernard Looney, BP's Upstream chief executive. "And these fields are still young – only 12 percent of the hydrocarbons in place across our Gulf portfolio have been produced so far. We can see many opportunities for further development, offering the potential to continue to create significant value through the middle of the next decade and beyond."

BP approves Atlantis expansion

Atlantis Phase 3 will include the construction of a new subsea production system from eight new wells that will be tied into the current platform, 150 miles south of New Orleans. Scheduled to come on-stream in 2020, the project is expected

to boost production at the platform by an estimated 38,000 barrels of oil equivalent a day (boe/d) gross at its peak. It will also access the eastern area of the field where the advanced imaging and reservoir characterization identified additional oil in place.

"Atlantis Phase 3 shows how our latest technologies and digital techniques create real value – identifying opportunities, driving efficiencies and enabling the delivery of major projects. Developments like this are building an exciting future for our business in the Gulf," said Starlee Sykes BP's regional president for the Gulf of Mexico and Canada.

Advanced seismic imaging boosts Thunder Horse resources

The proprietary algorithms developed by BP enhance a seismic imaging technique known as Full Waveform Inversion (FWI), allowing seismic data that would have previously taken a year to analyze to be processed in only a few weeks. Application of this technology and reservoir characterization has now identified a further 1 billion barrels of oil in place at the Thunder Horse field.

BP's leadership in seismic acquisition and imaging is a result of sustained investment in technology and high-performance computing. Following a successful field trial at the Mad Dog field, further advanced seismic imaging with ocean bottom nodes and BP's proprietary Wolfspar seismic acquisition source is being planned for Thunder Horse and Atlantis to better understand the reservoirs. Wolfspar uses ultra-low frequencies during seismic surveys, allowing geophysicists to see deeper below salt layers and enabling better planning of where to drill wells.

Discoveries and new potential near Na Kika

BP is also announcing two oil discoveries in the Gulf of Mexico, at the Manuel and Nearly Headless Nick prospects.

The Manuel discovery is located on

Mississippi Canyon block 520, east of the BP-operated Na Kika platform . The well encountered oil pay in high-quality Miocene sandstone reservoirs. BP is expecting to develop these reservoirs via subsea tieback to the Na Kika platform. BP's partner in the Manuel discovery is Shell, which holds a 50 percent working interest.

BP also has a stake in the Nearly Headless Nick discovery located on Mississippi Canyon block 387, operated by LLOG. The well encountered oil pay in high-quality Miocene sandstone reservoirs and is expected to be tied back to the nearby LLOG-operated Delta House facility. BP's partners in the Nearly Headless Nick discovery include LLOG, Kosmos Energy Ltd, and Ridgewood Energy. BP holds a 20.25 percent working interest.

Growing production in the Gulf of Mexico

Over the last five years, BP's net production in the Gulf of Mexico has increased by more than 60 percent, rising from less than 200,000 boe/d in 2013 to more than 300,000 boe/d today. BP is currently the top oil producer in the Gulf, and anticipates its production growing to around 400,000 boe/d through the middle of the next decade.

The growth will be supported by recent project startups, including Thunder Horse Northwest and Thunder Horse South expansions and the Thunder Horse Water Injection project, as well as the addition of a second platform (Argos) at the Mad Dog field, which is on budget and on schedule to come online in late 2021.

Future potential developments at BP's offshore fields in the Gulf include Atlantis Phase 4 and 5, further developments at Thunder Horse, Na Kika subsea tiebacks and Mad Dog field extensions.



LED offers free CEO program

By: Katherine Gilbert-Theriot, TEDA

Applications are being accepted through March 30 in the Bayou Region for the CEO Roundtable program. It brings together key decision makers 10 times a year to collaborate in a trusted environment to grow their businesses.

The free program, presented by Louisiana Economic Development, will begin meeting in July at Fletcher Technical Community College on La. 311. It offers peer-to-peer learning through discussion, interaction and sharing of experiences with qualified facilitators, expert guest speakers and connections to various small business resources.

"I highly recommend it, especially for those who think they don't have time to do it," said Jason Bergeron, partner of Technology Professionals in Houma. "The efficiencies and information you pick up in peer-to-peer conversations pay for time invested. You're able to take information from each session and apply it to increased earning potential of your company immediately."

To qualify, applicants must be a CEO, business owner or key decision maker in a company that has between 5 and 100 employees, approximate annual revenue between \$600,000-\$50,000,000 and the potential to serve customers outside the local area. High-growth potential companies will be given additional consideration.

For more information or to apply, visit OpportunityLouisiana.com/CEO-Roundtables or contact Darrell Johnson at 225-342-4680 or Darrell.johnson2@la.gov. Questions can also be directed to Katherine Theriot at Terrebonne Economic Development at 985-873-6890. 

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» BP cont. from pg. 1

engages and participates in the Grow Louisiana Coalition."

The oil and gas industry has had a long history in Louisiana, and it isn't going anywhere.

The industry provides over 250,000 jobs, with a \$7.4 billion annual economic impact in the state, Sykes said.

"No other industry in the state comes anywhere close to this economic engine," she said.

BP spends about \$435 million each year in the Louisiana, supporting 70 Louisiana-based companies, directly employing nearly 400 people and supporting more than 3,000 jobs. Last year, the company paid about \$12.8 million in state and local taxes and spent another \$2.5 million on community projects, Sykes said.

Since 2005, the company has invested more than \$100 billion in the country and has been the top investor in the Gulf of Mexico for the last 10 years, she said. 

» Strickland cont. from pg. 3

Strickland explained the building will be an open center for the community which will house career assessment, career advising, training and testing. There will also be rooms for business and industry partners to do interviews. "We hope to do a much better job with job placement and job openings and identifying the right candidate for your openings," Strickland explained. "We also hope to house several different community agencies, including the Workforce Commission – so you can apply for unemployment benefits, while learning about training opportunities and job opportunities, all under one roof!"

Lots of great things are happening for Fletcher! 

APRIL GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

featuring
RANDALL LUTHI
PRESIDENT // NOIA
4.16.19 @ 11:45 A.M.

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Out & About with SCIA



Congratulations to April Marcel, 2017-18 Terrebonne Parish Elementary Teacher of the Year. April is a teacher at Dularge Elementary School. April received recognition at the December SCIA luncheon along with a gift certificate to Copelands, compliments of Gordon Dove. Pictured: April Marcel, Teacher of the Year and SCIA Executive Vice President Chett Chiasson.



At the November General Membership meeting, SCIA presented a donation to the Geomatics program at Nicholls State University. Pictured are Dr. James Elithorp, Jr, Associate Professor of Geomatics, Paul Danos Board President, and Dr. Jay Clune, President of Nicholls State University.



SCIA presented a donation to the Maritime Management program at Nicholls State University at the November General Membership meeting. Pictured are Dr. Ken Chadwick, Department Head and Professor of Maritime Management, Paul Danos Board President, and Dr. Jay Clune, President of Nicholls State University.



At the November General Membership meeting, SCIA presented a donation to the PETSM (Petroleum Engineering Technology and Safety Management) program at Nicholls State University. Pictured are Dr. Milton Saidu, Associate Professor of PETSM, Paul Danos Board President, and Dr. Jay Clune, President of Nicholls State University.



SCIA presented a donation to Restore or Retreat at the November General Membership meeting. Pictured are Simone Maloz, Executive Director of Restore or Retreat and Paul Danos Board President.



Chancellor Kristine Strickland of Fletcher Technical Community College poses for a picture with SCIA Executive Vice President Chett Chiasson at the December General Membership Luncheon. SCIA donated \$60,000 to provide the final piece of a 12% match needed to build the Career Services Building on the Fletcher Campus.



While in Washington DC, Nicholls Administration presented Congressman Garret Graves with an official Nicholls football helmet. Pictured are Monique Crochet, Executive Director for External Affairs at Nicholls State University, Alex Arceneaux, Executive Vice President at Nicholls State University, US Congressman Garret Graves, and Dr. Jay Clune, President of Nicholls State University.



Congratulations to Terrebonne General Medical Center for recently celebrating a ribbon cutting ceremony for the new Wound Healing and Hyperbaric Center.



SCIA President Paul Danos addressed the members of Bayou Industrial Group in December and their monthly luncheon. Paul was the guest speaker and spoke about Danos, their future, and the legacy his family has built.



SCIA President Paul Danos (left) is pictured with US Congressman Garret Graves (middle) and Bailey Kidd (right), Danos Business Development Manager during one of the festive events at the DC Mardi Gras celebration.



SCIA's Executive Director Christy Alley Naquin recently graduated from Leadership Terrebonne. Pictured are Christy Alley Naquin and Karen Schilling, Leadership Terrebonne facilitator.

Save the Date

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SCIA Members In the News

Chevron Begins Producing Oil Off La.

By Keith Magill, as edited by Christy Alley Naquin

Chevron has begun producing oil and gas at one of its major projects off Louisiana.

The Big Foot deepwater project, in the Gulf of Mexico about 250 miles southeast of Port Fourchon, is expected to produce about 200 million barrels of oil over 35 years.

"The Big Foot project strengthens Chevron's deepwater portfolio and further demonstrates that the Gulf of Mexico is an integral part of our diverse global portfolio and long-term strategy," Jeff Shellebarger, president of Chevron North America Exploration and Production, said in a news release. "The project advances our interest in safely providing reliable, affordable energy to meet a growing global demand."

The tension-leg platform, a floating structure moored to the seafloor by long, steel pipes, sits in 5,200 feet of water, making it the deepest of its kind in the world, company officials said. The platform is designed to produce up to 75,000 barrels of oil and 25 million cubic feet of natural gas per day.

Chevron is the operator of Big Foot, with a 60 percent ownership. Equinor Gulf of Mexico owns 27.5 percent, and Marubeni Oil & Gas owns 12.5 percent.

Danos Reaches Two Safety Milestones

The fourth quarter of 2018 marked two significant safety milestones for Danos. Danos' production crew working for Shell Appalachia celebrated seven years without a recordable incident, as classified by the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA). At the same time, Danos' team working with EP Energy celebrated four years with no OSHA recordable incidents.

"We are proud of the high performance and continued safety of our Shell and EP Energy teams," said owner Mark Danos. "Since our company's founding, our goal has always been for our employees to return home in the same condition that they came to us, and we are honored to share this value in working with our customers."

The Danos team operating for Shell works in the Marcellus Shale areas of Tioga and Lycoming counties, Pennsylvania. The team provides onshore production operation support in addition to managing warehouse operations and materials. Danos began working in the Marcellus Shale play in 2011 and opened its current office in Martins Ferry, Ohio, in 2017.

Danos' team working with EP Energy in the Eagle Ford Shale has worked over 160,000 man hours over the last four years with no recordable incidents. The team provides production operation support and is responsible for oil and gas production from wells at multiple work sites located south and west of San Antonio, Texas.

Nicholls Exec Heads Program

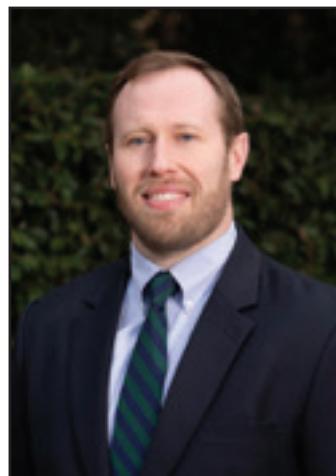
Eugene Dial, Nicholls State University vice president of student affairs, has been tapped to lead the Nicholls State University Higher Education Leadership Master's Program.

Dial joined Nicholls in 1986 and brings nearly four decades of experience in higher education to the position, including the last 17 years as vice president of student affairs, the university said in a news release.

Higher education administration positions are expected to grow at a rate faster than the average job over the next five years, according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Dial began his new position on Jan. 9, Nicholls said.

LMOGA Starts 2019 With New President Tyler Gray



Tyler Gray

Louisiana Mid-Continent Oil and Gas Association (LMOGA) has selected Tyler Gray as the Association's president. Gray has served as General Counsel for LMOGA since February 2014 and officially began leading the organization as president effective January 1.

Over the past decade, Gray has served in several legal and legislative positions in federal, state, and local government. Before becoming LMOGA's General Counsel, Gray served as an attorney for the Office of Conservation, at the Department of Natural Resources.

Gray, a native Texan, was raised in Falls Church, Virginia and attended James Madison University. He earned his law degree from Loyola University of New Orleans, College of Law and his Master of Business Administration from Louisiana State University. Gray, his wife, Sarah, and their two children, Hutson and Ella, reside in Baton Rouge.

"My heart is in oil and natural gas and I am excited for the opportunity to lead one of Louisiana's longest standing trade associations," said Gray. "I'm honored to continue working with LMOGA's membership to represent an industry that provides economic benefits and opportunity for all Louisianans."

Gray said he looks forward to advocating for sound policies that support the industry in the state.

SCIA Members In the News

TGMC Names 3 to New Posts

Meggan Murray has been named assistant vice president of finance at Terrebonne General Medical Center.

Cindy Duet will serve as vice president of clinical ancillary services.

And Monica Allen will serve as assistant vice president of physician practice management.

Murray graduated with a bachelor of science degree in accounting from LSU in 2008 and obtained her Certified Public Accountant license in 2013. She joined TGMC as a healthcare project manager in 2017. Before that, Murray was assistant controller for University Medical Center of New Orleans.

Duet, meanwhile, will be responsible for overseeing departments such as pharmacy, radiology, laboratory and cardiopulmonary areas of the medical center. Duet began her career at TGMC in 1987 as a staff pharmacist. Since 2015, she has served on the Executive Team as assistant vice president of organizational excellence.

Allen will help TGMC doctors adapt to the rapid changes in healthcare. Allen graduated from Xavier University of New Orleans with a bachelor of science in pharmacy in 1990. Her nearly three-decade healthcare career has included working as a pharmacist for various facilities, a surveyor for the American Society of Clinical Oncology and as a director of various cancer centers.

Danos Secures Major Contracts



Paul Danos

Danos has secured a contract with Equinor for production operation support on its Titan SPAR platform, located in the deepwater Gulf of Mexico.

The Equinor project began late 2018 and employs production personnel on the floating drilling and production structure located at Mississippi Canyon block 941 at a depth of nearly 4,000 feet. This is Danos' second job with Equinor, as it was awarded a contract for coatings maintenance on the Titan platform earlier this fall.

"Danos is excited for the opportunity to work with a high-performing company like Equinor," said owner Paul Danos. "Securing and executing the details of the contract has been a true team effort, and we look forward to continuing our commitment to customer service and excellence."

Danos has also been awarded a multi-year contract for production operations with another major oil and gas producer in the Gulf of Mexico. As a result of these recent contract awards, Danos has increased its production workforce by about 150 new employees. The majority of these new positions are production operators who will be working on the Gulf Coast, with projects spanning from Galveston, Texas, to Venice, Louisiana.

Fletcher to Begin Offering Short-Term Construction-Related Training

Fletcher Technical Community College (Fletcher) has partnered with Lift Tech to offer training for mobile crane operators, rigging and signal person and heavy equipment operators. The courses will provide students with extensive "seat-time", "real world" training projects and detailed instruction to better position them for employment in high demand, high wage jobs.

Partnering with the workforce development team at Fletcher, Lift Tech brings their equipment, experience and expertise to the Bayou Region in quality heavy equipment training that results in an industry-based certification (IBC). IBC verifies an individual's knowledge and/or skill in a particular area against a set of pre-determined standards.

Training is scheduled to begin in March/April of 2019 with a 4 week National Commission For The Certification of Crane Operators (NCCCO) mobile crane operator program and conclude this summer with a 4 week National Center for Construction Education & Research (NCCER) heavy equipment operator I training. Future construction related courses are being planned for future offering.

If anyone is interested in attending one of these trainings or a company interested in hiring graduates or discussing customized training, please contact Fletcher's Workforce Solutions Department at 985-448-7938



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