INTRODUCTION

During the past few years, the oil and gas industry has been experiencing major changes worldwide, including a significant "downsizing" or "right-sizing" of professional staffs. Greater emphasis is being placed on carrying on exploration and production with smaller, more efficient work teams of geoscientists and petroleum engineers together with land, legal, accounting and administrative staff. The future will judge if the new teams will give a competitive and economic edge to those companies who commit to this change in organizational structure.

This course, "Creating, Managing and Evaluating Multidisciplinary Teams" grew out of a similar and very successful session given at the First Archie Conference in October 1990. Mr. Bob Millspaugh, AAPG's Educational Manager, recognized the value of this session and the great interest in the subject and recommended this course be given at the Annual Meeting to share the material discussed to a broader audience.

The course is presented by five petroleum business and technical leaders, Paul Ching, Marlan Downey, John Greene, John Masters and myself. This group has a wealth of experience in building, leading, evaluating and rewarding integrated teams of geologists, geophysicists, petrophysicists, petroleum engineers, and computer scientists.

The focus of this one-day course is on the competitive advantages gained by recognizing the role of people and teams dovetailed with improved technology in exploration and development. Emphasis is on several key subjects:

• Advantages and disadvantages of teams and teamwork.

• The significant role of people in making teams work.

• Why today's complex exploration and production problems cannot be solved by single minds, but rather by interdisciplinary teams.

• Using integrated database systems and interactive workstations to effectively handle, analyze and solve complex exploration and production problems.

• Building teams and making them effective in larger exploration and production organizations.