



A University-Business Learning Partnership

ENERGY INSTITUTE HOSTS WORLD ENERGY CONGRESS STUDENT PROGRAM

The World Energy Council organizes a major international congress every three years. The 17th WEC Congress was held during September 13-18, 1998 in Houston. The University of Houston hosted a special day on September 15 for about 100 international graduate students attending the Congress on scholarships. The Energy Institute coordinated that event through a planning committee consisting of faculty and administration from different colleges and labs. The resulting program demonstrated state of the art energy technologies and featured some of the research activities ongoing at the University of Houston.

The day started with a visit to the Wiess Energy Hall at the Houston Museum of Natural Sciences where students were able to learn interactively about the oil and gas technologies. Over lunch at the UH Conrad N. Hilton College of Hotel and Restaurant Management, Vice-Provost for Research **Dr. Art Vailas** extended the official welcome. During lunch, students had a chance to interact with faculty and graduate students from UH. **Judy Bartesis** from the Virtual Environment Research Institute provided a summary of the Lab's research projects, such as the virtual reality representation of oil and gas reservoir formations.

During the afternoon students were taken to one the country's premier research centers in its field, the Texas Center for Superconductivity where **Ms. April Adams**, Educational Outreach Coordinator for the Center, prepared an excellent program. Students enjoyed presentations by **Dr. Paul Chu** and **Dr. Allan Jacobson**, and had a chance to participate in demonstrations of superconductivity after touring the different facilities of the Center. The day ended at the UH Alumni Center where participants to the WEC Student Program had a chance to dialogue with graduate students at UH.

The WEC Congress International Student Program was sponsored by Texaco as part of an effort by the United States Energy Association, secretariat for the Congress, to extend the benefits of this triennial event to emerging leaders in energy research, development, industry and policy.