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April 2016 Newsletter

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The University of Texas at Austin

KBH KAY BAILEY HUTCHISON

CENTER FOR ENERGY, LAW & BUSINESS™

April 2016 Newsletter

Letter from the Executive Director



Welcome to the April 2016 issue of the KBH Energy Center's Newsletter.

It's hard to believe but, on February 20, 2016, we celebrated our first-year anniversary. We have had an exciting inaugural year, with several interesting conferences and events, expanded course offerings for our students, and incisive research by our faculty.

This spring, we convened three distinguished lectures and four conferences, including one on efficient regulation of energy markets in Mexico City. For the Mexico City event, we collaborated with the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars and the Instituto Tecnológico Autónomo de México.

In late January, I was part of a [delegation](#) led by UT-Austin President Greg Fennes of more than 40 leaders from departments across campus that visited Mexico to expand research and exchange programs. Due to the success of that visit, we are exploring opportunities for future collaborations between Mexican academic institutions and UT-Austin.

Over the last year, our faculty and research fellows have published over a dozen articles on a variety of issues related to energy. We also offered nearly 30 courses in energy, law, and business.

We are delighted that [Richard K. McGee](#) (Plains All American Pipeline L.P. and Plains GP Holdings, L.P.) has joined the KBH Energy Center's Executive Council. We welcome Isabel Anheier as the Center's new Senior Administrative Associate in the McCombs School of Business.

I invite you to read our newsletter and to continue to visit our website to learn about upcoming events, such as the 2016 KBH Energy Symposium, which will be held on September 9, 2016 at The University of Texas at Austin. The symposium is titled "The Short and Long-term Future of the Oil and Gas Industry: Obstacles and Opportunities to Thrive." Rex Tillerson, the chairman, president, and CEO of ExxonMobil, has agreed to be the featured speaker. I look forward to seeing you in Austin next fall.

Best wishes,
Melinda Taylor

Distinguished Lectures & Conferences

This semester, our Distinguished Lecture Series featured the Consul General of Mexico in Austin, the former Chairman of the Public Utilities Commission of Texas, and the first woman PhD at Mobil Oil Corporation (a graduate of UT-Austin). In addition, the Center convened four conferences, including one in Mexico City on efficient regulation of energy markets.

Distinguished Lecture Series

- Feb. 2: [Mexico-Texas Relations in the Age of Mexican Energy Reform](#) with the Honorable Carlos Gonzalez Gutierrez, Consul General of Mexico in Austin.
- Feb. 23: [Experiences with Energy Infrastructure Development in Latin America](#) with Max Yzaguirre, former Chairman of the Public Utilities Commission of Texas.
- April 1: [Women in Energy: Perspectives on Business, Law, Policy, and Science](#) with Sylvia J. Kerrigan (UT JD '90) (Marathon Oil Corporation), Stephanie C. Hildebrandt (Norton Rose Fulbright US LLP), Amy

Maxwell (UT JD '07) (Private Practice; former Chief of Staff and Legal Counsel to Texas Railroad Commissioner David Porter), and Dr. Peggy Mayfield Wilson (UT PhD '52) (retired, Mobil Oil Corporation).
Cosponsored with the UT Law Center for Women in Law.



Prof. Melinda Taylor, the executive director of the KBH Energy Center, Consul General Carlos Gonzalez Gutierrez, and Prof. Owen Anderson outside the School of Law.

Conferences & Workshops

- Jan. 11-12: [UT Journalism Workshop](#). Cosponsored with the UT Energy Institute and the UT School of Journalism. The focus of the workshop was energy issues and energy research underway at the university.
- Feb. 16-19: [UT Energy Week 2016](#). Cosponsored with the UT Energy Institute and the UT Longhorn Energy Club. Read more [here](#) and [here](#). The KBH Energy Center organized two panels on policy and science issues associated with hydraulic fracturing.
- March 4: [Efficient Regulation of Energy Markets \(Part I\): Mexico-Texas Conversations](#). Cosponsored with the Mexico Institute (Wilson Center), the Centro de Energia y Recursos Naturales (ITAM), the Alianza por la Competencia (CIDAC), the Comision Reguladora de Energia, and Zumma rg + c. The conference focused on the opportunities for the establishment of robust energy markets in Mexico as a result of constitutional and regulatory reform.
- April 21-22: [2016 Austin Electricity Conference](#). Cosponsored with the UT Cockrell School of Engineering, the UT Energy Institute, and ONCOR. The subject of the conference is distributed energy and the grid of the future.



Former RRC and PUCT Chairman Barry Smitherman and former CRE Commissioner Francisco Barnes de Castro discuss diversifying the energy mix in a competitive landscape at the Center's Energy Symposium in Mexico City.

Lectures

- Feb. 8: Keys to Success as an International Oil & Gas Attorney with [Norman Nadorff](#), Special Counsel, Centurion LLP, and Adjunct Professor, KBH Energy Center.
- Feb. 22: Legal Aspects of Wind Energy Generation in the United States with [Rod Wetzel](#) (UT JD '77), Founding Partner, Wetzel, Carmichael & Allen, L.L.P., and Adjunct Professor, KBH Energy Center.
- April 4: An Overview of the Oil and Gas Industry from an In-House Counsel's Perspective with [Scott Schwind](#) (UT JD '96), Partner, Jones Day.

Research & Publications

Our faculty published articles on a variety of energy issues, such as the marketable-product approach to royalty valuation and the role of the regulatory contract in mediating the competing goals for electricity markets. ([Subscribe to our free SSRN e-journal.](#)) University officials also released the latest findings from the semiannual [UT Energy Poll](#), a national online survey that measures Americans' views on a variety of energy issues, such as climate change, fracking, and energy security/independence.

Articles

- ["The Regulatory Contract in the Marketplace"](#) by David B. Spence and Emily Hammond, *Vanderbilt Law Review*.
- ["Marketable Product: What did Kuntz say? What Did Merrill Say?"](#) by Owen L. Anderson. *Oil and Gas, Natural Resources, and Energy Journal*.
- ["A Place for Agency Expertise: Reconciling Agency Expertise with Presidential Power"](#) by Wendy E. Wagner, *Columbia Law Review*.
- ["BG Group and 'Conditions' to Arbitral Jurisdiction"](#) by Alan Scott Rau and Andrea K. Bjorklund, *Pepperdine Law Review*, Forthcoming.

Blog Posts

Blog posts were written by Romany Webb, Russell Gold, David B. Spence, and Monty Humble. [Read blog posts here.](#)

Op-Eds

- "Texas officials claim victory over Clean Power Plan - at the expense of every Texan" by David B. Spence and David E. Adelman, ([The Dallas Morning News](#), [The Waco-Tribune Harold](#), [The Star-Telegram](#))

Media Mentions

- Melinda Taylor, ["Research Spotlight"](#) (UT Energy Institute).
- James Loftis, ["TransCanada sues over Keystone XL denial"](#) (*Houston Chronicle*).
- James Loftis, ["Legal challenges keeps Keystone XL dispute alive"](#) (*Houston Chronicle*).
- Melinda Taylor, ["Austin, A&M dispute over journal article highlights warbler politics"](#) (*myStatesman.com*).
- David E. Adelman, ["Transmission line pits land preservation against electric power grid"](#) (*myStatesman.com*).
- David B. Spence, ["Research Spotlight"](#) (UT Energy Institute)
- Norman Nadorff, ["Lessons On Oil, Gas Contracts And Pitfalls: 'Forget The Beverly Hillbilies'"](#) (Hart Energy).
- Rod Wetsel, ["UT wind law students visit local wind farms"](#) (*The Sweetwater Reporter*).

Faculty & Student News

Faculty

This semester, our faculty in the School of Law and the McCombs School of Business taught nearly 30 courses in Electricity, Energy Finance, Energy Law, International Arbitration, Oil and Gas, and Wind Law. Interdisciplinary courses in law and business included Coastal Watersheds: Science, Law, and Policy with Melinda Taylor and Jim McClelland and Oil and Gas Taxation with Jaime Spellings and Denney Wright. Oil and Gas Taxation has 12 students from the McCombs School of Business, 10 from the School of Law, and 1 from the LBJ School of Public Affairs this semester.

In addition, Law Professor Owen Anderson was named the [Institute of Energy Law's Deans of Oil & Gas Practice Lecturer](#) this year. Professor Anderson also spoke at a [Symposium on Mexico's Energy Reforms](#) on March 4, 2016 at the University of New Mexico School of Law. David B. Spence, a Professor of Law and Business, presented two papers on the Clean Energy Transition in [a series of invited presentations](#).

Students

In addition to a robust curriculum in its core subject areas, the KBH Energy Center continually strives to develop opportunities for its law and business students. On Feb. 10-12, 2016, the McCombs School of Business Energy Management Program and the KBH Energy Center hosted a booth at the [2016 NAPE Summit](#) in Houston, Texas. UT alumni and friends were invited to reconnect with faculty, alumni, colleagues, students, and friends at an Alumni & Friends Networking Reception hosted by the UT Cockrell School of Engineering, the UT Jackson School of Geosciences, and the KBH Energy Center.



KBH Energy Center staff Brooks Hanna and Isabel Anheier preside over the booth with McCombs Energy Management student Cody Davis at the 2016 Nape Summit in Houston, Texas.

On March 25th, the Center organized a [field visit](#) for LL.M. (Master of Laws) students (11 students from 7 different countries, including Argentina, China, Colombia, Mexico, Nigeria, Russia, and the U.S.) to the Sweetwater Wind Farm - - one of the largest wind farms in the world. On April 22, LL.M. students are going to tour the UT-Austin Power Plant. Also, on March 31st, the Center awarded [two 2016-2017 Ernest and Paula Smith Energy Law Scholarships](#) to Texas Law students Wilson Albright (JD expected '17) and Erin Lee (JD expected '17) at the TJOGEL Spring 2016 Happy Hour, in recognition of outstanding achievement and potential in the field of energy law.



Law students in the KBH Energy Center's LL.M. Concentration in Global Energy, International Arbitration, and Environmental Law during a field visit to the Sweetwater Wind Farm in Sweetwater, Texas.



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