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# Dan Smith – Honorary Member of SIPES

(Presented on 22 June 2010 in Colorado Springs at SIPES Annual Meeting, reprised 15 July 2010 in Houston at SIPES Chapter Meeting)

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Friends, SIPES members, and fellow countrymen and women, lend me your ears! I come here to represent you in praising and honoring Dan Smith, one of our own, and to recognize him for his outstanding service to all of us.

Are we not better for his more than 50 years of volunteer leadership in our professional earth sciences?

Consider, are we not benefited by his contributions to petroleum exploration and advancement of our shared private and public interests?

Truly, are we not enhanced because of his work on our behalf?

If you have any doubt, listen to this abbreviated list of accomplishments and contributions!

President of:

- AAPG
- HGS
- Alumni Association of UT's Jackson School of Geoscience

Chairman of AAPG's:

- House of Delegates
- Advisory Council
- Washington office's Governance Board and many committees

Chieftain of:

- The Heather and Thistle Society

And especially for this assembly he was:

- Chair of the Houston Chapter
- Chair of the National Energy Advisory Council
- Chair of the National Committee on Registration and Certification
- Vice President of Natural Resources
- Secretary of SIPES
- Secretary of SIPES Foundation
- President of SIPES Foundation
- Recipient of Outstanding Service Award (2004)

And along the way, Dan has had a varied and enviable career as an earth scientist.

A native of Houston, his geological career started with Pan American. He morphed over time to work for smaller companies before becoming independent. His admirable record of very successful exploration in the Gulf Coast resulted in the discovery of over 30 fields or major extensions where over 200 producers have been drilled.

Due to time and space limits this sketch does not do justice to this humble and diplomatic leader who continues to serve us. However, it is clear that he very much deserves to receive SIPES Honorary membership.

Over SIPES 47 year history, this honor has previously been bestowed to only 21 recipients – of whom less than 50% are still alive. (Not to worry, a careful statistical analysis reveals no significant correlation between award reception and mortality.)

So... in recognition of his substantial contributions and outstanding leadership, and with sincere wishes for his continued vitality, SIPES grants to Daniel Lester Smith this Honorary membership! Congratulations!

Patrick J. F. Gratton, Citationist

