

**Subject: RE: miscellaneous**

**Date:** Thu, 31 Jul 2003 11:25:26 -0500

**From:** "Clopine, William W." <w.w.clopine@conocophillips.com>

**To:** "John W. Ritz" <jwritz@ou.edu>

John,

Sorry for the delayed response. It's been a tough week here with more merger related changes and cutbacks. All of the ups and downs with Roger, Castagna and associated issues has complicated things even further. Once again I made it through the cuts, but we're down from 5 to 3 on the Latin America Exploration Team with one redeployment and one lay-off. The time does not feel right to make a sponsorship request while people are cleaning out their offices.

In a couple weeks, I would suggest Mike Stice is far enough up the command chain to perhaps be able to make a ConocoPhillips sponsorship happen. I will be happy to let him know a request is pending, but would appreciate it if the formal invitation to sponsor a table or more come from you or your engineering counterpart. Sound OK?

I will resend the agenda for the fall meeting this afternoon or tomorrow and let people know that without any other suggestions (none actually received so far) what I put out will be the final. I will include a comment with that a note that you will be making calls for sponsorship soon, and we will need to get the final agenda approved and out.

The Roger/Castagna thing has indeed been a roller coaster. I'm sure you are aware of what a disaster for the school it would be if Roger left (Castagna too, but at least he would be leaving for something not just flat driven off). It would go way past a lack of support/sponsorship for our fall meeting. I think many (most?) Alums would give up on the school and stop all support if this were to happen. I suspect the same is true for many key faculty, staff, students, and as a result, industry recruiters. I hope John Snow is truly aware of this. I don't know how to reinforce the point with him without making it sound like a threat, but this is not "just a bump in the road" as he said in one of his emails. It is very very serious. I have already had several big name Alums calling me to ask about meetings with Boren, getting State Representatives involved, and other independent high level meetings demanding immediate action to support Roger. I have tried to calm these, and told folks I would get back to the AAC ExCom with an update and plan following my time in the field with Roger next week.

Thanks for the heads-up on the membership for Mr. Lockard. I have to admit not giving membership issues much thought yet. I will focus on that in a few weeks when a positive approach for AAC support for Roger is more clear and on track.

Best Regards,

Bill

-----Original Message-----

From: John W. Ritz [<mailto:jwritz@ou.edu>]  
Sent: Tuesday, July 29, 2003 2:44 PM  
To: Clopine, William W.  
Subject: miscellaneous

bill,

I had dinner last night with John Castagna and Roger Slatt. It sounds

like they are both staying put at OU, at least for the short term. what a roller coaster!

AAC membership: Mr. Emmitt Lockard, Jr. was a past member and would like to be included again. I think we voted him back in the Spring, but I was not sure. Just checking. He was with Halliburton and is now with Dominion Exploration & Production in New Orleans.

Fall meeting: agenda? we probably should resend to four directors and four chairs for input and final approvals. Dean Oliver, John Snow and Charles vaguely remember looking at same.

I hope all is well in Houston and with CP. Do you think CP would be interested in a table sponsorship(s) or lead sponsorship of whole event? Who should we ask?

thanx,  
jwr