

**SPE-STX Board Meeting December 9, 2025
Minutes**

Attendees

Baker, Carl	X	Impelman, Ryan	
Ball, Jason	X	Lee, Clifford	X
Cevallos-Candau, Fernando	✓	Liu, Yangwei	✓
Chen, Alisa	✓	McDaniel, Preston	✓
Davis, Donna	✓	Padilla, Angela	✓
Doyle, Dell	✓	Sherman, Robert	
Helton, Janell (non-voting)	✓	Sanketh, Kumar	X
Hansen, David	✓	Torchia, Steve	✓

Agenda: See Attachment 1

Quorum established at 5:22 P.M. (Central Time). An informational part of the meeting started at 5:07 PM. S&P Global has offered to give an overview of engineering and high performance plastics. The presentation will be most likely in January during a face-to-face meeting. The presentation will be open to the South Texas Section and an invitation will be extended to all the co-sponsoring divisions of the IPOC.

Approval of minutes : The minutes were approved unanimously after quorum was established at 5:22 P.M.

Counselor Report (Donna Davis on behalf of Kumar Sanketh): Kumar attended a meeting of the Leadership group of the Council. Next meeting will be in January.

Education Report (David Hansen):

- E-mails about the IPOC conference were sent to all faculty advisors on our list of sponsored school chapters
- Checks have been sent to all school chapters, except Rice University
- The Dinner program at University of Houston was a great success. UH has offered its facilities for future meetings. The board agrees that this should become an annual event.
- Rice University has also offered facilities for local meetings of our Section.
- Speaker list for University talks:
 - Send an e-mail request to all members to create a list of speakers and topics (D. Hansen)
 - Create a list of potential speakers from the presentations at IPOC

Treasurer Report (Donna Davis):

- Checking account: \$169,790.55 (Chase account closed and funds combined into Frost.)
- Savings/CD: \$400,000.00 (invested at 3.36% for 4Q2025)
- Polyolefins income so far:
 - Registration: \$10,130

- Exhibitors: \$162,750
- Sponsors: \$26,800
- Expenses:
 - \$4,000 for a legal retainer fund approved last month. No draws on that account yet.
 - Monthly payments to Janell and Geiman Advertising, including website expenses.
 - D&O Insurance fee to SPE HQ: \$687
 - Student Chapter and Scholarship funds: \$42,300
 - Travel reimbursements to TAMU and Tom bell: \$800
 - Reimbursement to David Hansen for UoH event: \$3,134.78

IPOC Report (Preston McDaniel)

- Successful walk through at the Galveston Convention Center with the participation of Password Productions and the Convention Center staff. Some modifications will be made based on previous experience, such as extra monitors.
- The program is finalized and is loaded up in the conference website
- A tutorial on reactive extrusion is programmed for Monday
- Sponsorships: Fisher Scientific would like to do a e-mail blast to conference members as part of its sponsorship. The board agreed to support this new form of sponsorship opportunity, which will be done using the capabilities of the Pheedloop application.

Membership (Yanwei Liu) We currently have 471 members (+8), 427 active, 44 expired. There are 21 who will expire by the end of December, a reminder to renew will be sent.

Newsletter: The newsletter was well received, including commendations from Patrick Farley, CEO of SPE international. Congratulations for a job well done.

SPE Merger with Plastic Industry Association (PLASTICS):

- No new important updates
- Link to SPE page: <https://www.4spe.org/i4a/pages/index.cfm?pageid=9727#gsc.tab=0>
- We will invite Patrick Farley to join us in a future Board Meeting, maybe January

Board membership: Ryan Impelman of ExxonMobil presented as candidate to fill a vacant position. A vote will be conducted electronically and will be reported in January.

Meeting Adjourned at 6:56 (Central Time)

Next Meeting: January 13, 2026

Respectfully submitted by:

J. Fernando Cevallos-Candau

Secretary

Agenda

12/09/2025 SPE-STX Board Meeting

1. Approve minutes.
2. Dell on January meeting.
3. Councilor report.
4. IPOC update
5. Education Committee
6. Treasurer's report.
7. Any update on the PIA merger? Do we want Patrick Farrey to call in to our next BOD meeting?
8. Membership report.
9. Membership Subcommittee, update or report?
10. Any other ideas for meetings or member interactions?
11. Newsletter feedback.
12. Present openings on the Board?
13. New Business.
14. Adjourn.

Attachment 2

Dr. Robert Sherman Biography:

Dr. Sherman has been the Technical Director for Baerlocher USA's Special Additives Division for 9 years. During his 12 years at Baerlocher his focus has been on metal soaps and blends for resin manufacturers as well as development of the Baeropol RST line of products and more recently our Baerolub AID PPA replacement. Beyond customer activities, Dr. Sherman supports and trains the technical team for their various industries and occasionally he has been the head of Quality for Baerlocher USA. Before coming to Baerlocher, Rob held several R&D positions related to additives and stabilization of different resins including acrylic and styrenic sheet resins at Aristech Acrylics, North American polyethylene additives at LyondellBasell, and polyesters and blends at GE Plastics. Rob received my Ph.D. in chemistry from Oklahoma State University, did Post-Doctoral research at Texas A&M, and a BS and MS in chemistry at Southern Illinois University. Rob has over 25 professional presentations at conferences, over 10 patents, 7 refereed scientific publications, and 1 book chapter.

Rob has been on the PMAD Board of Directors since 2017. He was the PMAD ANTEC TPC from 2018 to 2020 and the Chairman Elect from 2018 to 2020. Chairman of the Board of Directors from 2020 to 2022. Rob has been the current PMAD Membership Committee Chair since 2022. During his time as TPC, he moderated the PMAD sessions at two different ANTECs and was able to schedule and moderate an Additives Tutorial at the 2019 ANTEC meeting in Detroit. As Chairman Rob was able to work with the Board to reestablish monthly PMAD BoD meetings, update the Bylaws, enforce rules to remove nonactive BoD members, and reestablish the biannual newsletter.

Attachment 3

Educational Budget

Support to Texas SPE Student Chapters **\$10,800** (9 schools at \$1,200/school)

Scholarships for SPE student Chapters **\$31,500** (9 schools at \$3,500/school)

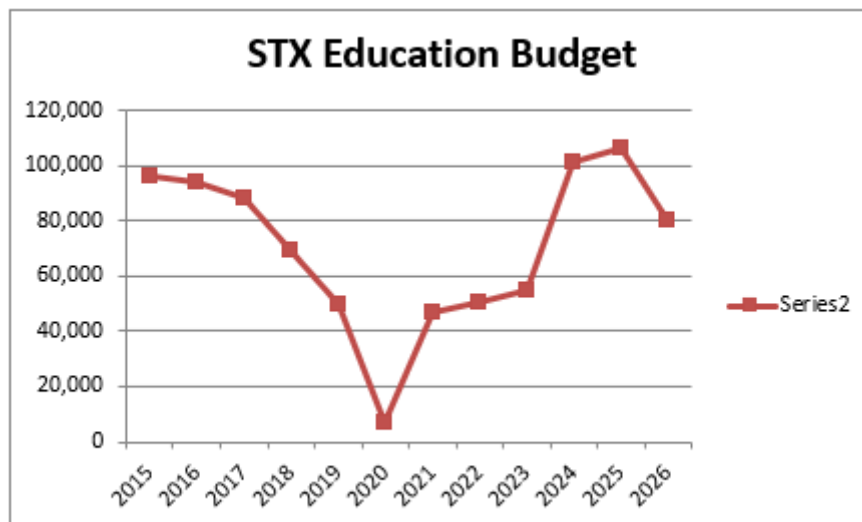
Scholarships for children of active STX members **\$15,000**

Additional scholarships for SPE student chapters based on chapter membership and activities **\$10,000**

Science Fair **\$3,500**

Travel assistance for distant Texas SPE student chapters **\$4,000**

Travel assistance for STX school liaisons and STX speakers visiting Texas SPE schools **\$4,000**



Attachment 4

Eduction Committee Report

Value Proposition

Why join the SPE South Texas Section (STX):

- Discounts on paid events (e.g., workshops, dinner meetings, Astros games).
- Access to STX library/IPOC materials (may need lots of work).
- Free virtual technical seminars, career-related talks for members. Speakers can come from board members or outside.

Ways to join:

- Join online through SPE and select the STX chapter.
- Sign up at STX-hosted events or university scholarship/award dinners.
- Visit the SPE-STX desk at major conferences (ANTEC, IPOC, TPO, AMI Plastics World Expo).
- “Ways to join SPE South Texas Chapter.doc” (prepared by David) can be posted on website.

Membership Growth Ideas

- Need more events every year, preferably spanning a broad geological area for people from different region. Can survey current members what kind of events they are looking forward to attend.
- Email current STX members and ask them to ask their colleagues if they want to join.
- Charge for in-person events but give members a discount; keep online talks free.
- Expand promotions via mailing lists and social media.
- Encourage members to repost STX content on LinkedIn. STX LinkedIn account admins have more interactions with posts from conference attendees.
- Build a mailing list for non-STX SPE members (David proposed to work with Janell’s help). 3500+ contacts on ConstantContact.

- Pay SPE to email U.S. SPE members explaining how to join STX for free.
- Recruit students by working with Student Chapters and have them in charge of getting more student members, can also do it at scholarship/dinner events.
- Houston metro area has rich resource in chemistry and polymer industry. Define the target audience – be specific about who the “potential members” are and collect contact information. Board members reach out to their colleagues and contacts to get their permission to be included in the mailing list.