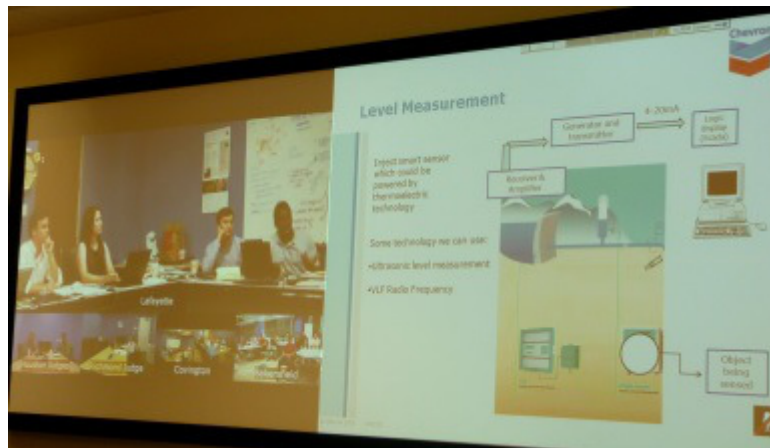


2013 CiSoft Virtual Academy

The 2013 CiSoft Academy, a one day workshop that provides select Chevron interns from universities all over the country with the opportunity to gain insight into Smart Oilfield Technologies (SOFT), was held on July 15, 2013. The Academy was conducted virtually to allow interns from various Chevron business units to interact and communicate in a genuine collaborative environment.

The CiSoft Academy is a fantastic way for participating interns to further their problem solving abilities as well as an opportunity to improve their public speaking and presentation skills. This past summer a total of 58 interns from Chevron offices in Bakersfield, Covington, Lafayette, and Midland participated in the Academy.

After a welcome from Mr. Warner Williams, Vice President of Chevron's Gulf of Mexico Business Unit, and an overview of SOFT concepts by USC Professor, Dr. Iraj



Several remote sites participated as well.

Ershaghi, the interns heard from top USC researchers and *i-field* specialists within the Chevron organization. Topics covered included data mining, social media solutions, and sensor technology in the oilfield.

Interns were then split into teams and were given competition questions based on information from the lectures they heard earlier in the day. Each team was given only a few hours to work together and come up with a comprehensive and innovative solution to their given case study.

The panel of judges included Jim Brink, Cynthia Murphy, Randy McKee, and the new CiSoft Alliance Manager, Brian Thigpen. Thigpen expressed, “As my first time to participate in the CiSoft Academy, I was highly impressed with the quality and depth of each team’s presentation. The teams demonstrated remarkable cooperation in order to quickly establish solutions to the challenges through a reliance on each other’s multi-disciplinary background. The interns displayed surprising insight into the problem they were trying to address and explored opportunities to bring in new technologies, where relevant, and the limits to those approaches. I look forward to helping in future CiSoft Academy programs. “

Out of the several teams competing, this year's first place went to a team in Bakersfield, which presented, "Integrated Sensor Management Systems (ISMS)". Two teams tied for second place: one from Covington presenting, "Optimizing Surveillance and Diagnostics of Offshore Gas Lift Injection Wells" and a team in Lafayette which looked at "Upgrading Production Surveillance in Waterflooding Operations".



Iraj Ershaghi, Juli Legat and Brian Thigpen tally votes

A very heartfelt thank you is warranted for all who coordinated behind the scenes: Sam Chow, Heidi Hoffower, Rebecca Ennis, Josh Schroeder, Danny Woodall, Brian Held, Chris Hoffman, Mary Frances Bowling, Everyl-Ann Archibald, Stacy Jones, Timothy Moore, Glenda Juka, Sean Curet, Chad Booth, Randy Noble, Mark Lindeman, and Colby Rozell, Annie Badger, and Lanre Olabinjo.