

Earth's Art

Celebrating the Centennial of the
Bureau of Economic Geology
1909–2009



Centennial Coffee-Table Book: *Earth's Art*

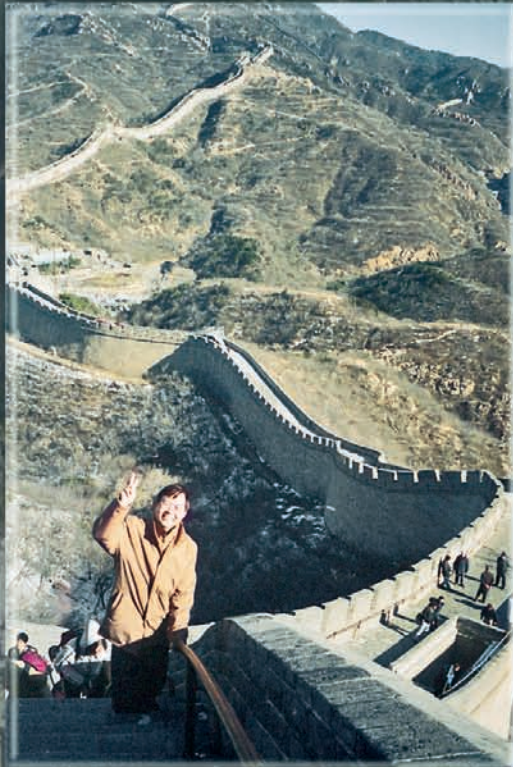
An important part of the Bureau's Centennial was the printing of a coffee-table book titled *Earth's Art: Celebrating the Centennial of the Bureau of Economic Geology, 1909–2009*. Edited by S. E. Laubach and S. W. Tinker, the book has a handsome hardback cover and colorful book jacket, with 142 oversized color pages of photo-essays depicting Bureau research areas of interest and landscapes that have inspired pursuit of geology as a career. It is for sale in the Bureau bookstore.

In the book's preface, Director Tinker says "There is no art more beautiful than that which nature has created: Earth's art." The book consists of 70 two-page color photo-essays by former and current Bureau employees on wide-ranging locales and research topics: oil and gas exploration and recovery, core curation, seismic data acquisition, coastal inundation, salt and salt tectonics, karst, nano-geoscience, the Superconducting Super Collider, economic minerals, petroleum geoscience, volcanoes, carbonate rocks, sandstones, continental margins, wetlands, storms and floods, gas hydrates, fractures, folds, and faults; coalbed methane, mountain building, cathodoluminescence, rivers and water resources, carbon sequestration, energy policy, clean coal, and more. Within, one can find biographical sketches of the eight Bureau Directors, along with "What is the Bureau of Economic Geology?"—Perspectives on the Bureau as seen by teachers and students, librarians, graduate students, government officials, private citizens, the University, the oil and gas industry, and past and present Bureau staffers.

Earth's Art is international in its coverage from Texas—West Texas, the Permian Basin and the Texas Trans-Pecos, North-Central Texas and the Barnett Shale, the Texas Coast and Gulf of Mexico, Central Texas and the Hill Country, the Rolling Plains; across the country—the Grand Canyon, Utah, Nevada, Colorado, Oregon, Wyoming; throughout the world—the Ethiopian Rift Valley, Morocco, Scotland, Arabia, Brazil, the Bahamas, Iceland, Greenland, the Canadian Arctic, the Orinoco Delta, Oman; and, finally, intragalactic—the Moon!

Earth's Art: Celebrating the Centennial of the Bureau of Economic Geology, 1909–2009, edited by Stephen E. Laubach and Scott W. Tinker, with contributions by multiple authors. Hardback cover and color book jacket. 142 oversized color pages of photo-essays depicting research areas of interest. SR0017, ISBN-10: 0-615-30851-1, \$50.

<http://www.beg.utexas.edu/pubs/publist.php>



Energy Policy

Energy is the ultimate resource for economic and social development. Growing economies face challenges when developing their energy resources and infrastructure. Since 1991, the Bureau's Center for Energy Economics (CEE) has been active in international energy sector development, combining energy economics literacy with guidance in principles for sound investment through technical assistance and public outreach. This unique approach has been applied in the most challenging countries and regions to support energy commercialization both for export markets and for domestic advancement.

CEE has provided technical assistance in more than a dozen countries and for professionals from 37 countries.

International projects and activities have come to account for more than half of the CEE's annual efforts. A goal is to improve understanding of energy value chain economics among industry professionals, government leaders and decision makers, and public stakeholders. CEE's earliest endeavor encompassed Mexico's natural gas sector opening and creation of the Comisión Reguladora de Energía. CEE developed capacity-building programs as the Central Asian republics emerged from the Soviet Union. CEE's research team has worked in Bangladesh to help improve energy modernization; assisted with research and capacity building related to energy security

in South Asia; and contributed to rebuilding energy economics research and training capacity as Angola launched its postwar reconstruction. In recent years, CEE has focused on natural gas utilization in West Africa, including market development associated with the West Africa Gas Pipeline and implementation of Nigeria's Natural Gas Master Plan. Much of CEE's work over the years has been supported by the U.S. Agency for Economic Development directly or through affiliate programs as well as awards through Higher Education for Development, such as the UT-Austin/ Instituto Tecnológico Autónomo de México, which CEE co-leads with the Jackson School of Geosciences' Energy and Earth Resources degree program. In 2008, on the basis of previous research, CEE was selected by the World Bank's Oil, Gas, Mining & Chemicals Division to assist with the Bank's national oil company research program.

CEE was named a finalist for the World Oil Awards Best Outreach Program competition in 2006 and 2007 on the strength of the West Africa partnerships and New Era program contributions.



ABOUT THE AUTHOR

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Michelle has 29 years' experience in energy and environmental research and consulting (oil and gas, coal, nonfuel minerals, electric power) in the United States and abroad in senior positions with extensive public speaking and publications. She heads the Bureau's Center for Energy Economics.

