

Gulf Offshore Energy Safety Board

Committee

San Burnett

Chair

Ms. San Burnett is the international operations manager of process safety and integration at Woodside Energy. She advises the Global Wells and Seismic Engineering teams on projects, risk management, regulatory engagements, and well operation execution planning. She also serves as co-lead of Woodside's Employee Resource Group on Anti-Racism and Equality, specifically leading and supporting EmBRace (Employees Beyond Race). This group promotes education and awareness initiatives across the Petroleum organization. Prior to her employment at Woodside, she held multiple leadership roles to broaden her expertise in process safety and risk, including the Risk & Process Safety, Lead at Lloyd's Register, Senior Process and Technical Safety Advisor at Anadarko Petroleum Corporation, and the Americas Lead - Process & Technical Safety at ABS Consulting. Currently, Ms. Burnett serves as the Topical Chair of the Global Congress on Process Safety on behalf of the American Institute of Chemical Engineers (AIChE) and the Center for Chemical Process Safety (CCPS). She pursued an M.S. in mechanical engineering at the University of Alabama Birmingham and a B.S. in applied physics and mathematics at Southern University and Agricultural and Mechanical College at Baton Rouge.

Roland Moreau

Vice Chair

Mr. Roland Moreau started his service on the GOES Board in 2021 and currently serves as Vice Chair for the Board. He previously consulted as a Special Advisor to the U.S. Bureau of Transportation Statistics (BTS) on developing the SafeOCS Program, an industry-wide safety data management framework. He is also the Vice President of the Board of Trustees of the United Engineering Foundation. Mr. Moreau retired from ExxonMobil in August 2014 after 34 years of service. He began his career with ExxonMobil as a Project Engineer at the Bayway Refinery in New Jersey in 1981, and he subsequently held various technical, supervisory, and managerial positions for ExxonMobil's Production, Development, Upstream Research, Gas & Power Marketing, and Upstream Ventures business units. Mr. Moreau was elected the 2018 President of the American Institute of Mining, Metallurgical, and Petroleum Engineers (AIME). Previously, he served on the Society of Petroleum Engineers International (SPEi) Board of Directors as the Vice President of Finance from 2015 to 2018 and Health, Safety, Security, Environment, and Social Responsibility Technical Director from 2011 to 2014. Since completing his terms on these boards, he has remained active on various SPE and AIME initiatives, serving as an SPE's HSE Executive Advisory Committee member. He is the recipient of SPE's Honorary and Distinguished Member Awards and the OTC Heritage Award. Mr. Moreau received his B.S. in mechanical engineering from Worcester Polytechnic Institute and an MBA in finance from Fairleigh Dickinson University.

Latonia V. Batiste

Member

Latonia Viverette Batiste has worked in the energy industry for over 25 years. She works at WSP as a Project Director in the advisory group's Sustainability, Energy, and Climate Change practice. With an interdisciplinary team of planners, engineers, and scientists, Latonia works with clients to co-create solutions to reduce corporate carbon footprints by leading greenhouse gas (GHG) inventories, due diligence for critical mineral extractions, environmental justice engagement, and inclusion training. She began her Environmental Justice career developing methods to measure lead in the soil at playgrounds of underserved populations in the inner City of New Orleans in 1993.

Latonia serves two roles with the Gulf Research Program of The National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine: Board Member, Gulf Offshore Energy Safety (GOES) and Committee Chairperson for the Gulf Scholars Research Program for the Board on Gulf Education and Engagement. Latonia, also known as the Sassy Sustainability Scientist by her students, is the 2016 Founding Director of Sustainability and Energy Efficiency at Xavier University of L.A. and the 2020 Founding Director of a nonprofit start-up EdTech collaborative created to develop tools for climate literacy and mentoring for college students. The collaborative comprises female environmental and sustainability scientists and Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCU) graduates passionate about sharing climate justice empowerment tools with underserved communities. When she is not on the frontlines advocating for energy security and gender/racial equity in the clean energy transition space, she directs the clean energy programming for future leaders through teen leadership development. Latonia has a Ph.D. from Jackson State University, an MSPH from Tulane University, and a B.S. from the Xavier University of Louisiana.

Joseph Donnelly

Member

Joseph Donnelly is the Director of HSSE, Development, and Construction for RWE Renewables in the United States. He works from the RWE office located in Boston, Massachusetts. A graduate of the Massachusetts Maritime Academy, Captain Donnelly's experience has included positions onboard various merchant vessels and dynamically positioned drill ships. This experience includes ten years of sailing as a Master Mariner. Following twenty-five years working offshore, he has continued to support various fleet operations through office-based roles in the marine compliance and QHSSE disciplines. His present position with RWE Renewable provides HSSE oversight and support for the construction and development of wind farms in the United States.

Michael D. Drieu

Member

Michael 'Mike' Drieu is GOM Emergency Preparedness and Response Manager for Occidental Petroleum for technical and management expertise concerning subsea source control, spill response, and natural disaster key resources, procedures, planning, and response technical resources to clarify regulations, expectations, incident response, and management plans and processes. Mike was previously Manager of Response Preparedness – Well CONTAINED for Wild Well Control, Inc., specializing in worldwide firefighting, well control and related engineering, marine engineering, and training services. His expanded position included developing subsea well control procedures and exercises, managing subsea containment equipment for 16 oil and gas operators, and managing the removal of platforms and plugging wells damaged by Hurricanes Rita, Katrina, Ivan, and Ike. Mike retired from the US Coast Guard with 21 years of service, serving as a Commanding Officer of two, including the Pacific Strike Team and Marine Safety Unit Savannah. Mike successfully created a US patent for subsea dispersant injection. Mike has served on the Clean Gulf Associates Technical Operations Group for 17 years, on the Marine Preservation Association Board, and co-chaired the Offshore Operator Committee Risk Based Discharge Work Group. Mike has published 20+ papers throughout his career on various spill-related topics, from exercises to spill research. Mike received his Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering from the U.S. Coast Guard Academy in 1984.

Christine A. Ehlig-Economides

Member

Dr. Christine Ehlig-Economides is Professor and Hugh Roy and Lillie Cranz Cullen Distinguished University Chair at the University of Houston. Before her current position, Ehlig-Economides taught at Texas A&M University for ten years and worked for twenty years for Schlumberger. While at A&M, she managed research in production and reservoir engineering in conventional and shale reservoirs and helped the petroleum engineering department to grow and evolve to a broader energy scope that she now leverages toward research related to the energy transition. Ehlig-Economides was elected to the U.S. National Academy of Engineering in 2003 and became an Honorary Society of Petroleum Engineers member in 2018. Ehlig-Economides earned a Bachelor of Arts in Science from Rice University, a Master of Science in chemical engineering from the University of Kansas, and a Ph.D. in petroleum engineering from Stanford University. Ehlig-Economides was a member of the National Academy of Science Committee on America's Energy Future, the NRC Board on Energy and Environmental Systems (BEES), and other NAE capacities. She chaired The Academies of Medicine, Engineering, and Science in Texas (TAMEST) shale task force in 2017.

MaryRuth Lowe Chiles

Member

Mary Chiles is the Director of Health, Safety, Environment, and Security for Great Lakes Dredge & Dock, leading their new Offshore Wind Energy efforts. She brings a diverse experience base, domestic and international, in renewable energy. She has headed global HSE departments headquartered in Europe, leading technical design and risk reviews through multiple prototypes to series implementations of new technology. Beginning her construction and operations career building wind farms in the oil fields of west Texas and evolving into fleet operational management with the ability to optimize fleet issues, expanding into substations and balance of plant system design, maintenance, and operation, she was an AWEA subject matter expert for High Voltage Systems Operation and Safety, has coordinated intricate grid interconnection and balancing topic, led large emergency and crisis response management. After completing many large-scale projects as the Asset Start-up, Commissioning, and Turnover Manager with BP Wind North America, she was invited to further her career horizons by entering the health and safety profession when BP decided that having a well-rounded technical expert was better suited being additionally educated in safety and compliance than finding a safety manager who learned about operations. She has a unique insight into the inter-related issues of designing and building renewable energy projects in both green and brownfield locations on and offshore, the new wave of international energy companies and contractors that will be bringing a new industry to the US offshore environment, and how to mitigate risks to orient toward a more safe and sustainable future.

Angel M. McCoy

Member

Angel McCoy is a Senior Offshore Wind Regulatory Specialist at the National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL), where she focuses on advancing the offshore wind industry. She has over a decade of experience in U.S. offshore wind, with most of her career at the U.S. Department of the Interior's (DOI) Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM) in the Office of Renewable Energy Programs. She supported the environmental, engineering, and technical review of ocean-based renewable energy facilities. Mrs. McCoy was also a Meteorologist at the National Weather Service's Climate Prediction Center supporting the Famine Early Warning System Network (FEWS Net) Project funded by the U.S. Agency for International Development. She provided weather and climate support for food security and early famine warning for developing countries in Central America, the Caribbean, Sub-Saharan Africa, and Southeast Asia. Mrs. McCoy founded Discover Earth Camp, where she provides earth science education for youth. She holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Meteorology from Pennsylvania State University and a Master of Science degree in Environmental Policy and Management from American Public University. She is an active member of the American Meteorological Society.

Najmedin Meshkati

Member

Dr. Najmedin Meshkati is a Professor of Civil/Environmental Engineering, Industrial & Systems Engineering, and International Relations at the University of Southern California (USC); an Associate (ex-research Fellow) with the Project on Managing the Atom at Belfer Center for Science and International Affairs at Harvard Kennedy School. He is a Commissioner of The Joint Commission and on the Governance Board of the Patient Safety Movement Foundation. In January 2023, he was appointed to the FAA Expert Panel to conduct a congressionally mandated review of Boeing's safety management processes and safety culture as a part of the Aircraft Certification, Safety & Accountability Act. Between 2009 and 2010, he was a Jefferson Science Fellow and a Senior Science and Engineering Advisor, Office of Science and Technology Adviser to the Secretary of State, U.S. State Department. He served two terms on the NASEM Board on Human-Systems Integration. For the past 38 years, Dr. Meshkati has been teaching and conducting research on human factors, safety culture, and risk reduction of complex, large-scale technological systems, including nuclear power, aviation, oil and gas drilling, refining, and petrochemical industries. As an expert on systems engineering, human factors, and safety culture, he was selected by the NASEM to be a member of two national panels investigating the recent catastrophic events at Fukushima and Deepwater Horizon. He is a Fellow of the Human Factors and Ergonomics Society (HFES), the 2015 recipient of the Society's highest honor, the Arnold M. Small President's Distinguished Service Award, and in 2022 he was recognized as an inaugural "Titan of HFES." He simultaneously received a B.S. in Industrial Engineering and a B.A. in Political Science in 1976 from Sharif (Arya-Meher) University of Technology and Shahid Beheshti University (National University of Iran), respectively; an M.S. in Engineering Management and a Ph.D. in Industrial and Systems Engineering from USC. He is a Certified Professional Ergonomist.

Monica Philippart

Member

Dr. Monica Philippart is part of the Human Factors Engineering team designing advanced reactors at General Electric's Hitachi Nuclear Energy. She is also the CEO of her firm, Ergonomic Human Factors Solutions, which offers consulting and training services in high-risk industries to manage operational and safety risks associated with human performance. Originally from Spain, Dr. Philippart came to the United States for college with the dream of working for NASA, where she could co-op while studying for her bachelor's degree. Upon graduating in Mechanical Engineering, she worked for Rocketdyne, a division of Boeing, as a Ground Support Equipment engineer for the Space Shuttle Main Engines at the Kennedy Space Center (KSC) in Florida. While there, she completed an M.S. in Industrial Engineering, enabling her transition to Human Factors Engineering, her passion, with United Space Alliance and then Boeing, supporting the Space Shuttle and Space Station programs at KSC. Seeing the end of the Shuttle program approach and the frequency of human space flight decline, Dr. Philippart left KSC and looked for a new adventure at another of her favorite places on earth, Walt Disney World in Orlando, where she was a Senior Industrial Engineer.

When her husband began his exciting career in Oil and gas, his first assignment took the Philippians to the United Kingdom, where the family welcomed their first child. Dr. Philippart continued to work, teaching remotely at Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University while finishing her Ph.D. in Industrial Engineering, specializing in Human Factors. Soon after, she started her consulting company.

As a consultant, Dr. Philippart has remained involved in Aerospace with projects including developing and teaching a Human Factors in Mishap Investigation course across all NASA centers. However, since 2006, she has focused primarily on integrating the Human Factors discipline into an amateur industry in this area: Petroleum. Dr. Philippart has been teaching and applying her Human Factors expertise, mainly in Oil and gas, since then and was the Human Factors expert evaluating BP's risk management in offshore operations on behalf of the Department of Justice during the four-year probation following the Macondo disaster. On a personal note, Dr. Philippart lives in Austin, TX, and is the mother of three teens. Her husband has been a Deepwater Drilling Engineer rotating offshore since the early 2000s. The couple started an Iberico pedigree farm at their Texas Hill Country ranch five years ago and raised their 2,000 animal welfare-certified pig's free range.

Terrance Sookdeo

Member

Mr. Terrance Sookdeo is currently the Global Process Safety Leader for Afton Chemical, responsible for process safety risk management across chemical manufacturing sites. He develops and implements enterprise strategic goals, objectives, and performance metrics. He coaches, trains, and mentors new engineers in process safety management elements such as incident investigation techniques, process hazard risk assessments, change management, a layer of protection analysis, etc. He is responsible for implementing effective safeguards for high-risk scenarios that can lead to catastrophic safety and environmental consequences and ensuring regulatory compliance. He is also the subject matter expert for the enterprise, supporting process engineering and project management activities across the sites.

Before joining Afton Chemical in 2022, Mr. Terrance Sookdeo was the Global Process Safety Technical Advisor at Baker Hughes, where he developed and implemented process safety management for oil and gas activities. During his 28-year career with the company, he held various leadership positions and has worked internationally to mitigate risk and enhance upstream process safety programs throughout North America, Latin America, Europe, the Middle East, Africa, Russia, and the Asia Pacific region. Mr. Sookdeo has over 12 years of experience working at the well site, primarily in drilling operations and monitoring well activities. He has extensive knowledge in adopting new technologies in operations, statistical analysis, risk assessment methodologies, incident investigation, and training. Mr. Sookdeo has written several papers and is a technical expert representing Baker Hughes in various industry organizations, including IOGP, API, COS, CCPS, and SPE. Mr. Sookdeo received an MBA in management from the University of Phoenix and a B.S. in industrial engineering from the University of the West Indies, St. Augustine Campus.

Dustin Torkay

Member

Mr. Dustin Torkay is the Director of Operations at Seadrill Management. At Seadrill, he previously held various roles, including the Rig Manager of the Sevan Louisiana offshore drilling unit, the Head of Quality, Health, Safety, and Environment (QHSE), the Technical Leader of the West Neptune deepwater drillship, and Technical Superintendent. Before his employment at Seadrill, Mr. Torkay was a Project Engineer at Archer and an Application Engineer at National Oilwell Varco. Mr. Torkay holds an M.S. in Technology Commercialization from the University of Texas at Austin's Red McCombs School of Business and a B.S. in Mechanical Engineering from California State Polytechnic University, Pomona. In 2015, he became an alumnus of the International Institute for Management Development (IMD) Business School in Lausanne, Switzerland.

Sylvie Tran

Member

Sylvie Tran has been working in the energy industry for over 20 years. She joined Suncor in 2019 and is the Vice-President of Operational Excellence Management Systems. Before this role, she was the vice president of Engineering, Exploration, and development, the vice president of Environment, Health, and safety, and, most recently, the Operational Risk Management vice president. Previously, Sylvie worked in various leadership roles for Shell in the United States and Canada, covering safety, environment and regulatory affairs, portfolio management, and asset management. Finally, before joining Shell in Canada (2004), Sylvie worked as a drilling engineer and rig supervisor with various companies worldwide in Canada, Australia, France, and Algeria. Sylvie holds an MBA from Harvard Business School and a bachelor's in mechanical engineering from McGill University. She, her husband, Jeb Campbell, and their two daughters (Ellie and Natalie) live in Calgary. Sylvie is passionate about community service and serves on several Boards, including the National Academies of Sciences Marine Board, True School, and the Suncor Energy Foundation.

Michael Williams

Member

Mr. Michael (Mick) Will is a Houston-based consultant (MRW Operations Consulting LLC). He is a chemical engineer with more than 42 years of experience in the oil and gas industry. In the last decade, his primary focus has been on the implementation and assessment of the Bureau of Safety and Environmental Enforcement (BSEE) Safety and Environmental Management Systems (SEMS) regulations which were developed as a result of the 2010 Deepwater Horizon incident. Mr. Will served on the Joint Incident Command Staff for the Deepwater Horizon as part of BP's Gulf Restoration Organization as the Deputy Area Incident Commander and Incident Commander. Prior to his appointment on the Incident Command Staff, he was employed by BP/Amoco for 32 years and managed both onshore and offshore operations and attended the BP Operations Academy at MIT. Mr. Will has experience in the development and implementation of SEMS Programs and is a registered SEMS auditor with over 3000 hours of SEMS Audit experience, both as an audit team member and as a subject matter expert for operators. In 2020, he authored the book An Operations Guide to Safety and Environmental Management Systems, which aims to help operations engineers and managers understand the SEMS requirements and priorities from an operations perspective. Mr. Will is a registered Professional Engineer in Colorado and Wyoming and holds a B.S. in chemical engineering from the Colorado School of Mines.

Ding Zhu

Member

Dr. Ding Zhu is a Professor in Texas A&M University's (TAMU) College of Engineering and a faculty affiliate of the Energy Institute at TAMU. Her research areas are complex well performance optimization, well stimulation, intelligent well modeling and well completion. She has been a PI for many government-funded projects and JIPs. Dr. Zhu is an author of more than 180 technical papers, a co-author of the textbooks Petroleum Production Systems (2nd edition, Prentice Hall), Multilateral Wells (Society of Petroleum Engineers) and Modern Completion Technology for Oil and Gas Wells (McGraw Hill Education). She has been a committee member and chairperson for many conferences, events and standing committees with the Society of Petroleum Engineers (SPE), and selected as Distinguished Lecturer for SPE in 2012-2013 and 2018-2019. She is a Distinguished Member of SPE. Dr. Zhu holds a B.S. in mechanical engineering from the University of Science and Technology, Beijing, China, and an M.S. and a Ph.D in Petroleum Engineering from the University of Texas at Austin.