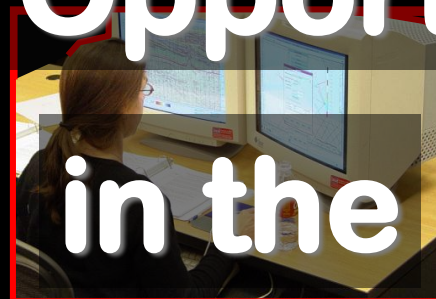
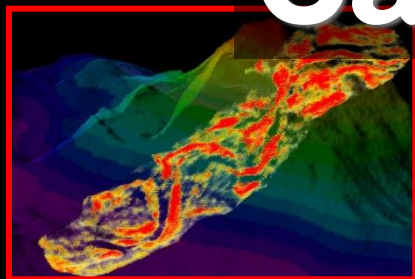
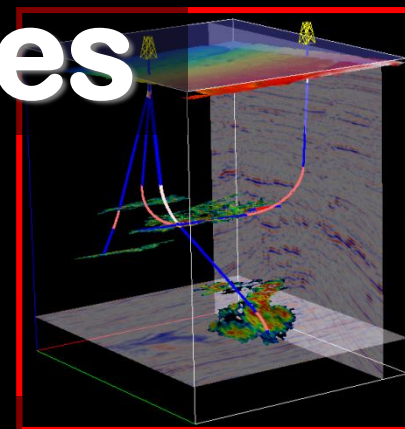


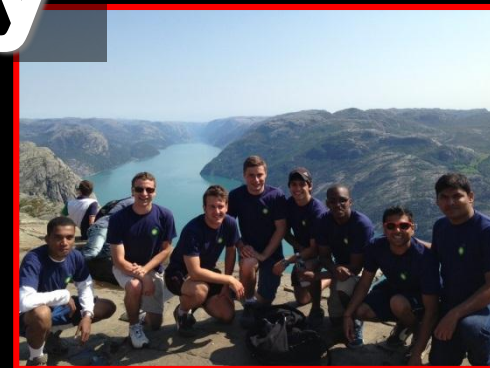
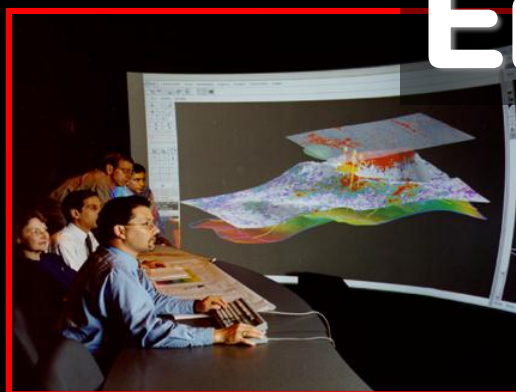
# Career Opportunities



in the



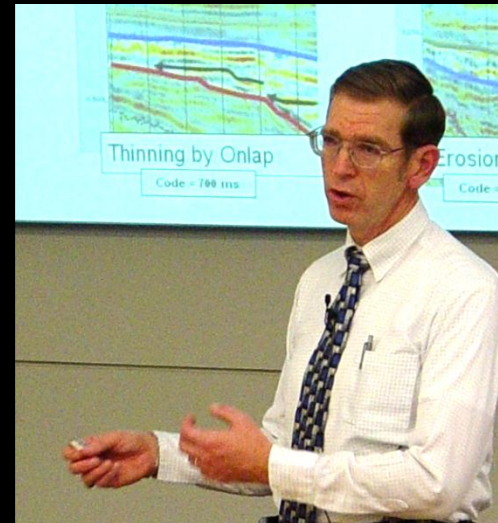
# Energy Industry



# Outline

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- A Bit about Me
- What We Do in the Energy Industry – G&G
- My Outlook for Energy Industry Careers
  - Three Big Positive Factors
  - Two Major Concerns
- How Can You Prepare
- Q&A



# My Training & Career Path

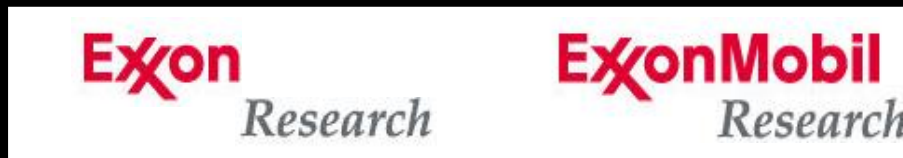
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4 years,  
B.S. in Engineering Physics



5 years, M. Phil. and  
PhD in Marine Geology



32 years, EPR-URC  
Seismic R&D, Training



6 months as a  
Visiting Lecturer



3 years as a  
Tutor



3 years as a  
Geological Advisor

# *Coming Out of Grad School*

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I Was Triple Blessed:

1. Industry just started a hiring boom
2. I received an offer from Exxon Research
3. I was assigned to the Seismic Stratigraphy section and was mentored by:



**PETE VAIL**



**BOB MITCHUM**

***The Fathers of  
Seismic Stratigraphy***

# My Areas of Study

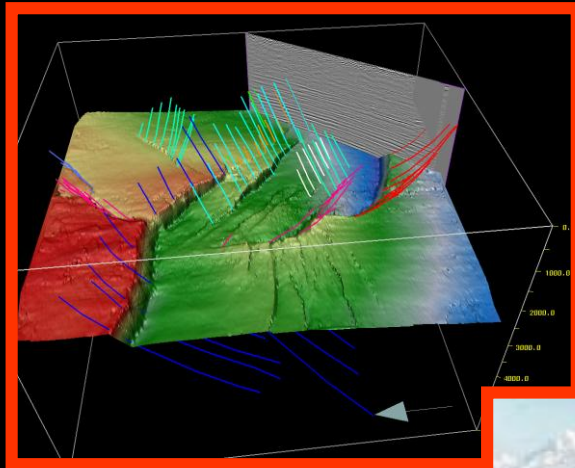
1. R&D New Methods
2. Apply New Methods
3. Training/Mentoring

- Seismic Interpretation (2D & 3D)
- Seismic Stratigraphy
- Basin Modeling
- Seismic Attribute Analysis
- Volume Interp & Visualization





# What We Do in the Energy Industry

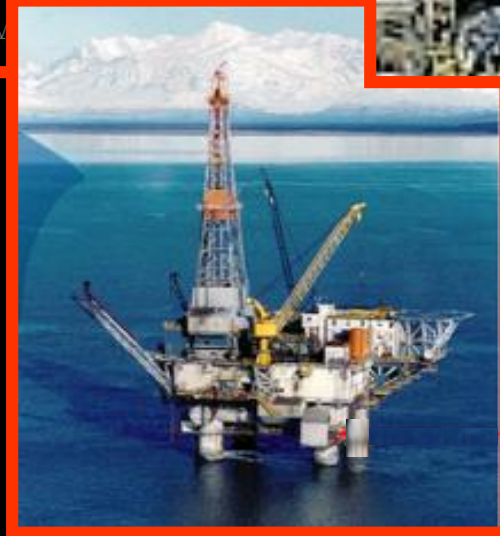


*Exploration*

**Upstream**



**Downstream**



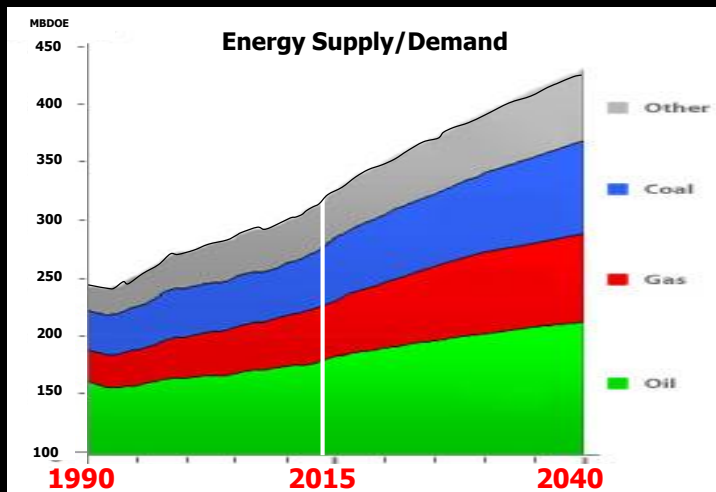
*Production*

*Refining*



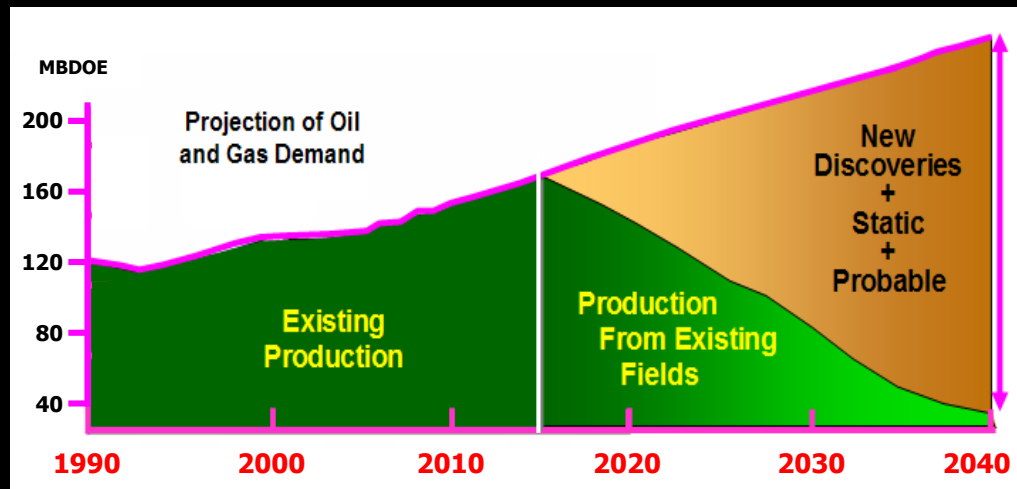
*Marketing*

# Challenge for the Upstream



**Worldwide demand for energy will increase steadily out to 2040 and beyond**

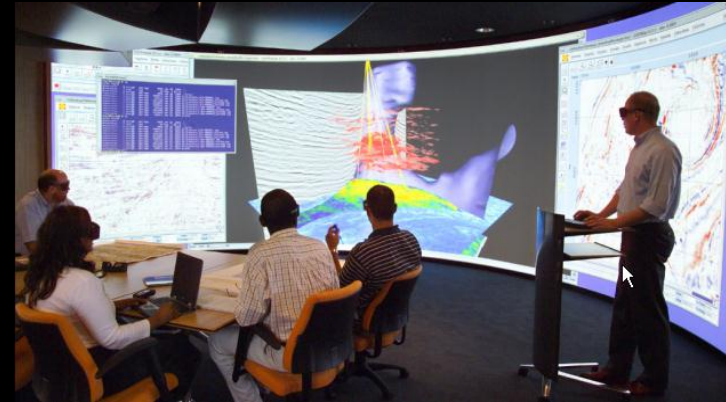
**Projected demand for oil and gas in 2040 is 45% more than it is in 2015**



**There is a huge GAP between projected production from existing fields and what needs to be produced through 2040 to meet the demand**

# What We Need

- We need to drill 'good' wells, ones that have low risk and maximize the return on our investments
- Since wells can be very expensive, some more than \$200 million, we must position each well with care
- We need as accurate an understanding of the subsurface as possible so we can:
  - Maximize oil & gas recovery from known fields
  - Move probable & static assets to proven reserves
  - Discover new reserves beneath & adjacent to known fields
  - Find and produce oil & gas in new areas

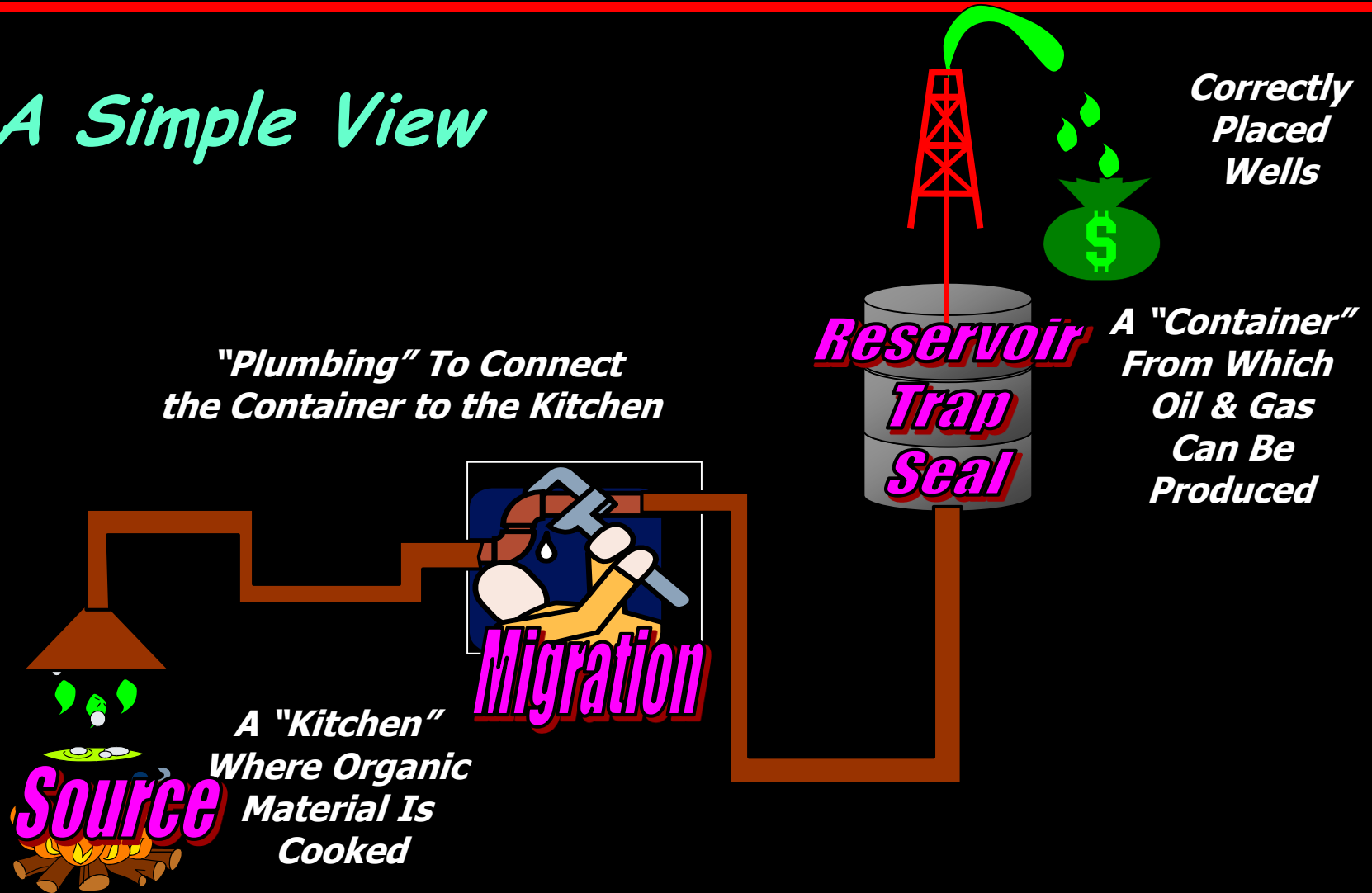


***Conclusion: The energy industry needs new geoscientists with the talent and drive to find, develop and produce the energy that people will need.***



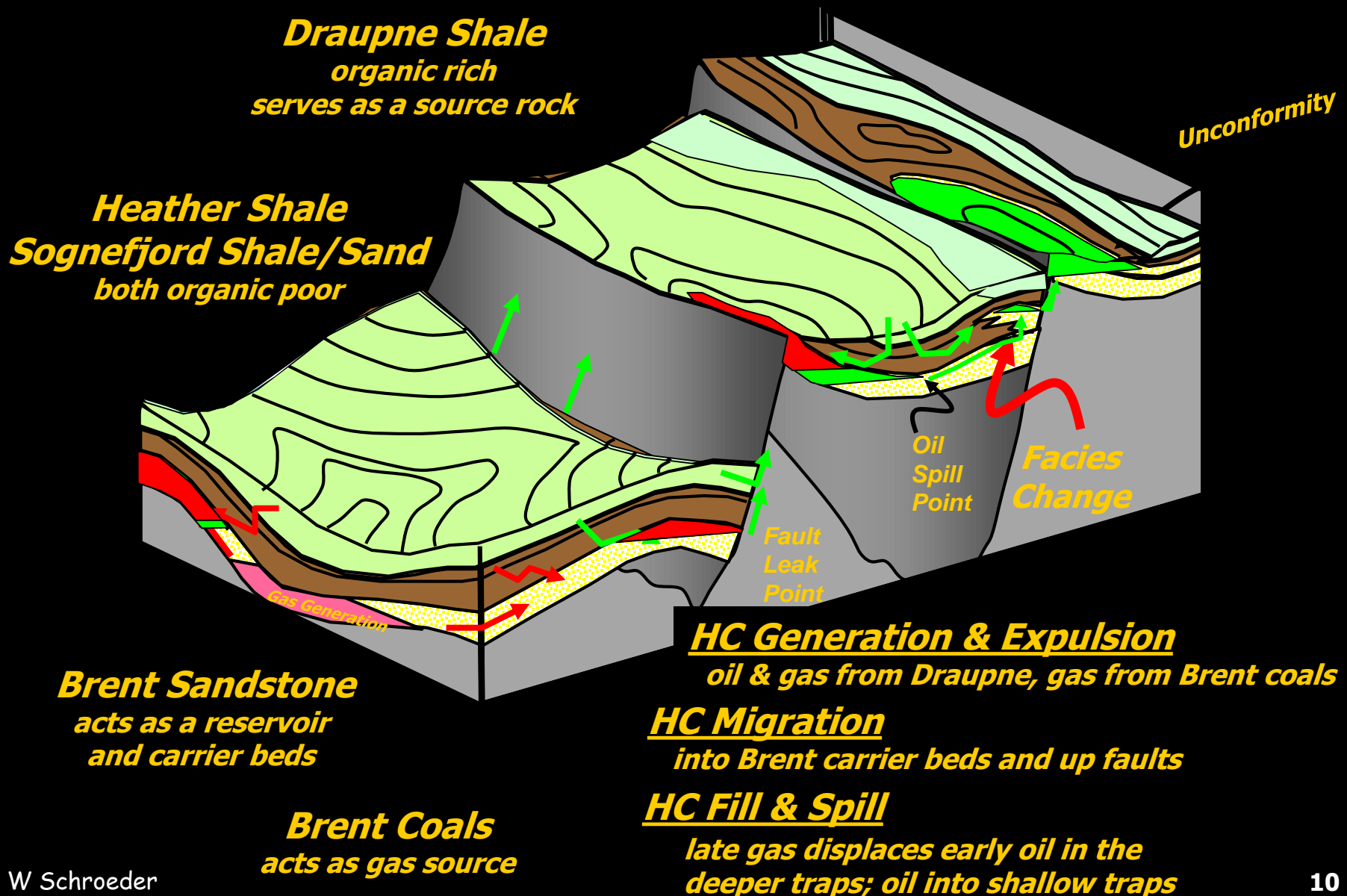
# What We Need for Success

## A Simple View



# Summary of the North Sea HC System

Schroeder & Sylta, 1993



# ***My Outlook for Careers in Industry***

---

***Is this a good time to start  
a career in the energy  
industry - one that will last  
30+ years?!***

***Long-term - the timing is Good!***

***But short-term it may be Poor***



# Oil & Gas Prices

---

- The energy industry goes through cycles (of about 7 – 10 years)
- These cycles are dictated by oil and gas prices
- Right now prices are low and companies are tightening belts
- 2015 will see a reduced number of job openings and internships
- When prices rebound, the demand for new hires will spike
- We have to wait for the sun to come out from behind the cloud

# *Three BIG Positive Factors*

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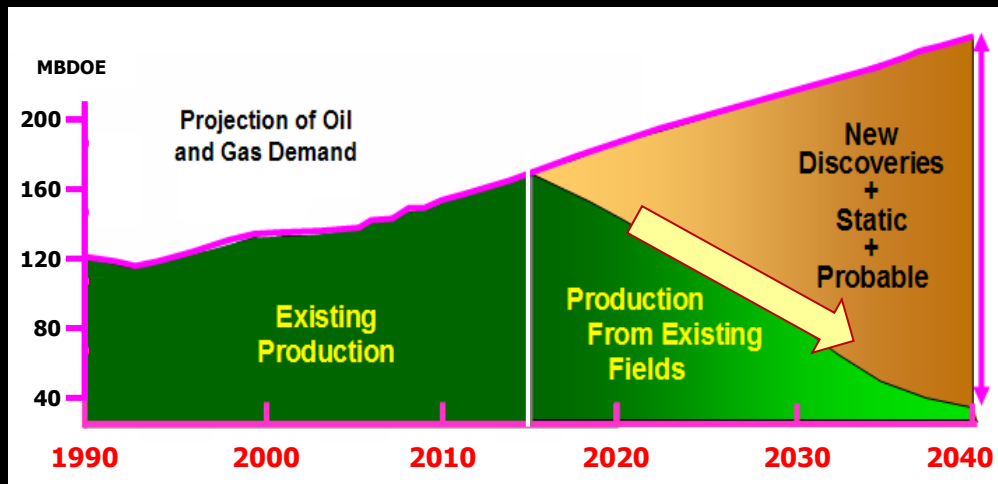
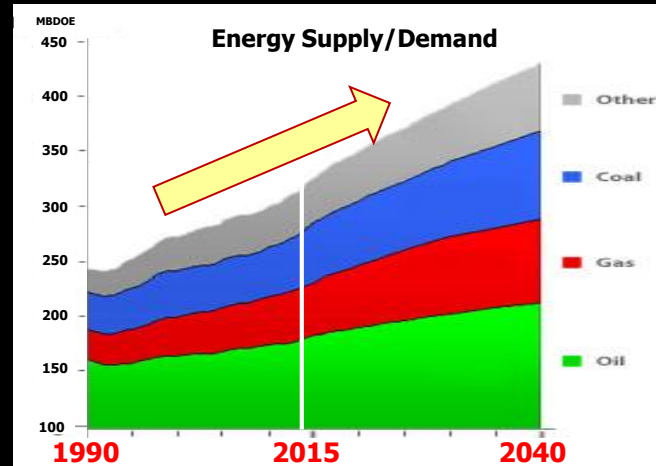
1. Energy Demands
2. Technology Needs
3. Industry Demographics





# Energy Demands UP, Existing Production DOWN

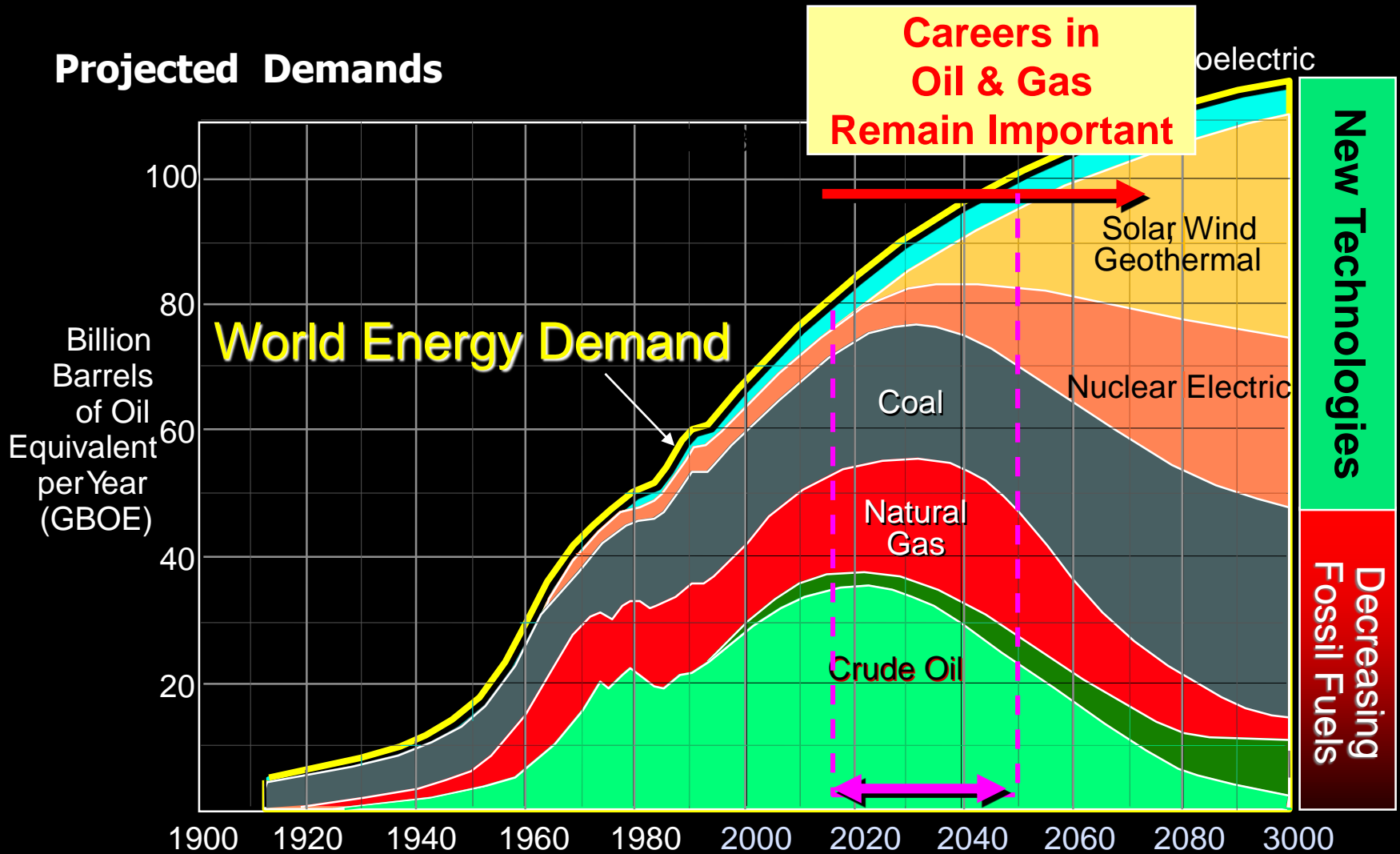
As You Have Seen...



Geoscientists  
are Needed  
to Fill this  
GAP?

# Sources of Energy Forecast

## Projected Demands



after Edwards,  
AAPG 8/97  
F W Schroeder

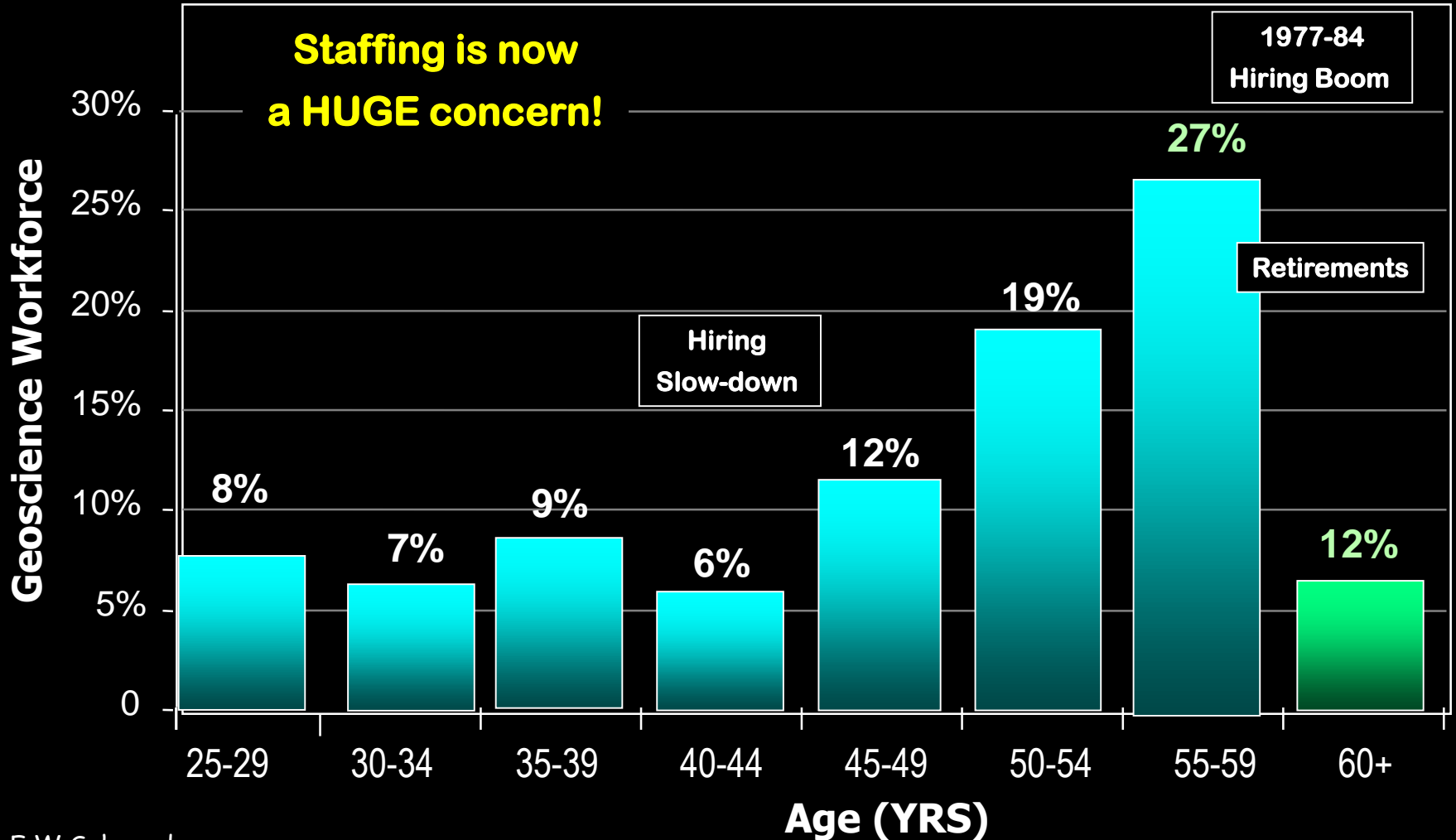
# *Technology Needs*

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- To meet energy demands, we can't count on simply making 'giant new discoveries'
- In addition to making new discoveries, we need to get more out of what we already have found:
  - New life in old fields
  - Make 'uneconomic' reserves economic
- Technology, and the people to develop and apply it, will be the key

# Industry Demographics

Age Brackets for a Typical Major Oil Company (2013)



# Career Forecasts – by 2021

---

**262,627 geoscience jobs today**

**~130,000** geoscientists expected to **retire** by 2021

**72,000** geoscience job **growth** by 2021 (BLS)

**15,000** total new graduates (MS or PhD)

**OR**

**45,000** total new graduates if hiring BS/BA



**Net deficit** of over **150,000**  
geoscientists by 2021

From: Eric M. Riggs  
and

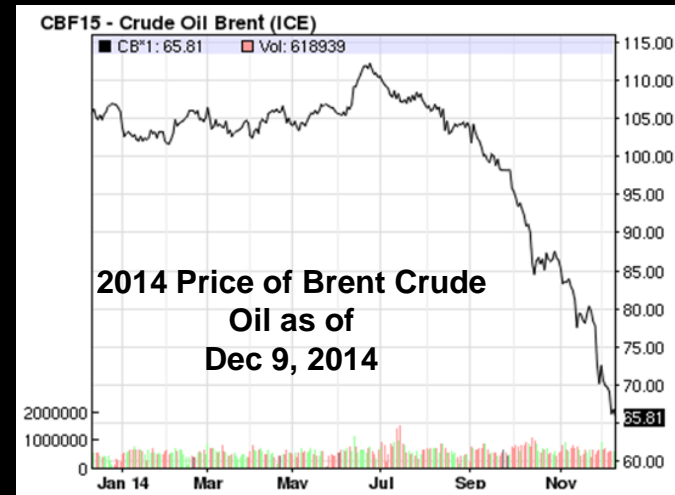




# Two Major Concerns



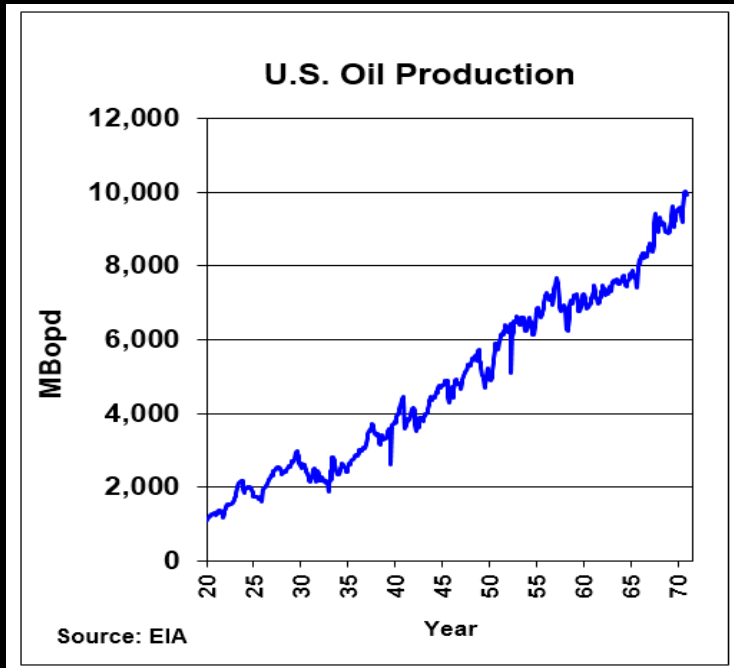
- **Recent drop in the price of oil (down almost 40%)**



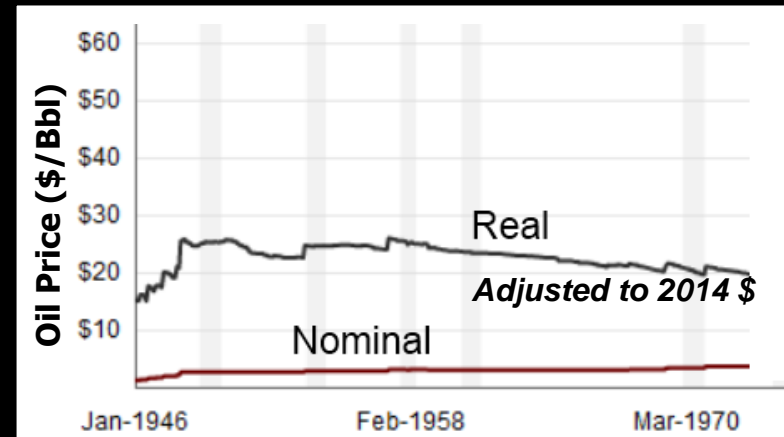
- **Number of Geoscience Majors is high**  
**a recent AAPG/SEG Student Expo**



# Some History: 1946 to 1970



- **US demand was less than our production capacity – the spigots were not open 100%**
- **We did not require imported oil to meet our needs**
- **Oil prices were quite stable**



# ***More Recent History: 1970 - 2014***

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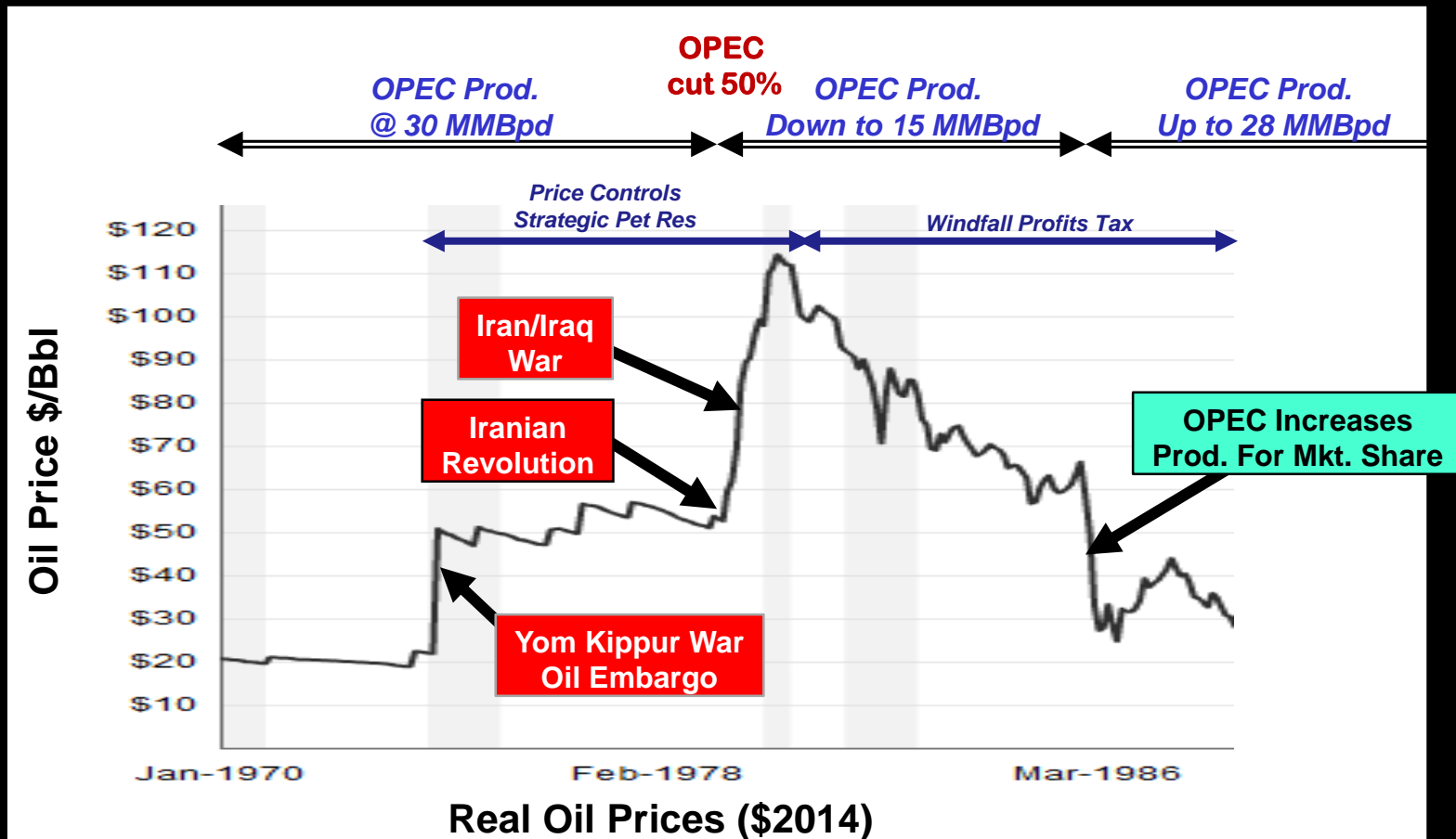
- **US demand exceed US production capacity – the spigots were opened 100%**
- **Henceforth we required imported oil to meet our energy needs**
- **World economic and political events drive price extremes**
  - 1. Concerns over supply disruptions**
  - 2. Production quotes of suppliers**
  - 3. World financial instabilities**
  - 4. Production from Unconventionals**



***Oil Embargo led to long gas lines***

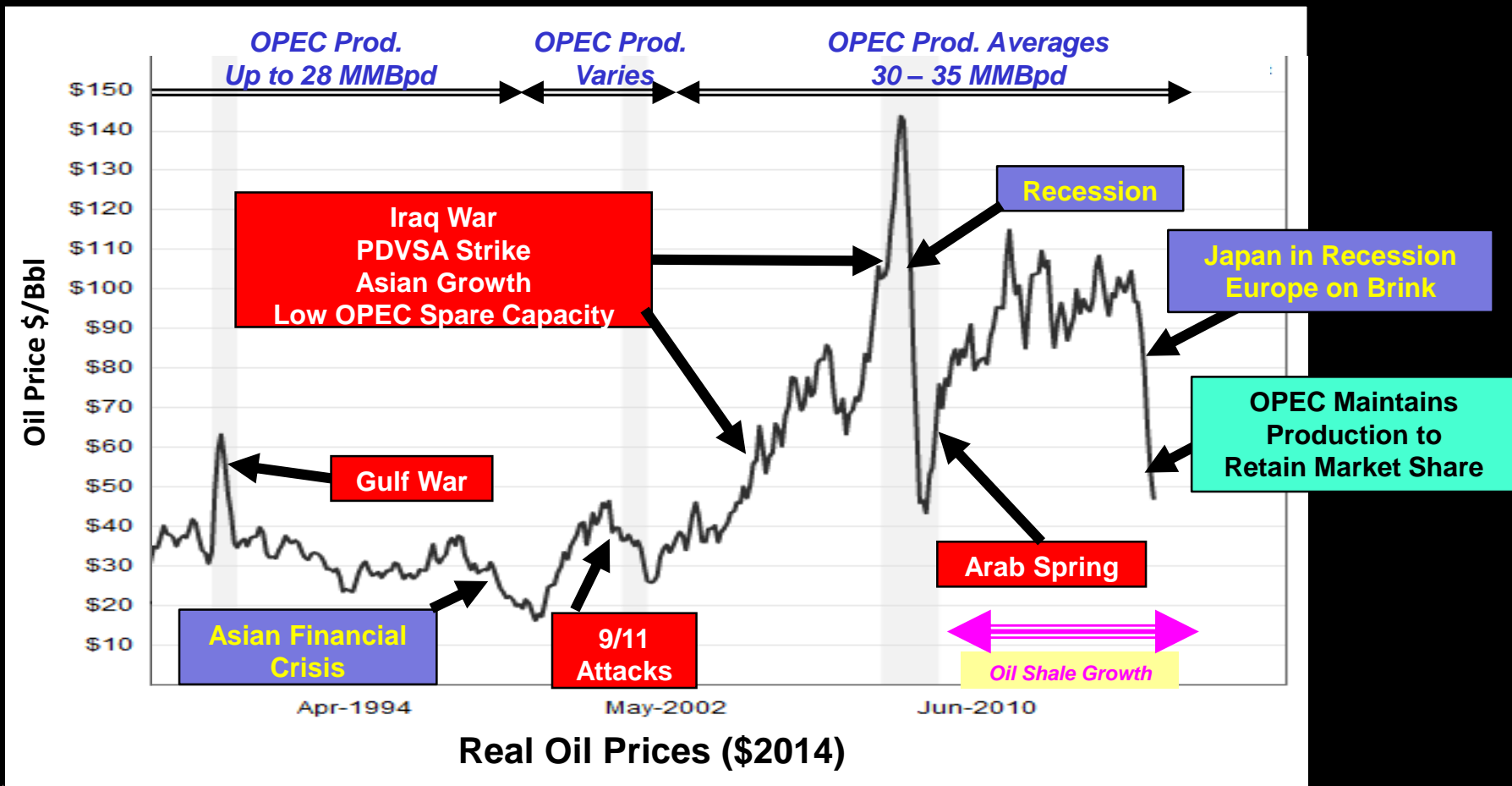
# Oil Prices: 1970 - 1988

1. Concerns over supply disruptions
2. Production quotas of suppliers



# Oil Prices: 1988 - 2014

1. Concerns over supply disruptions
2. Production quotes of suppliers
3. World financial instabilities
4. Production - Unconventionals





# ***Current Price Collapse***

---

- **Significant production from unconventionals has added to our supply**
- **OPEC has not reduced production (as they traditionally would have)**
- **We have a slight over-supply (more produced in a day than consumed)**
- **This has caused oil prices to drop ~50%**
- **Wells, especially in unconventional fields, are being shut in, which will lower daily production**
- **With time, we'll balance supply with demand and prices will stabilize at \$? /barrel**

# ***G&G Students***

---

- **Long term – we will need a lot of geoscience professionals to replace those retiring and to accommodate the predicted job growth**
- **Short term – Many are graduating at a time when companies are cutting expenses**
- **Starting a career during the next 12 (?) months will be challenging**
  - ❑ **Companies will be very selective**
  - ❑ **Great qualifications and a lot of effort**
- **After oil prices rise and stabilize, hiring will spike to make up for the hiring slowdown**

# Therefore.....

---

- Thinking long-term, this is an ideal time to be working towards a geoscience degree
- Recruiting activity should dip but then RISE
- When prices rebound, Demand >> Supply

## For those with ...



*Analytical  
Thinking*



*Bright  
Ideas*

## You will find ...



*Timing*

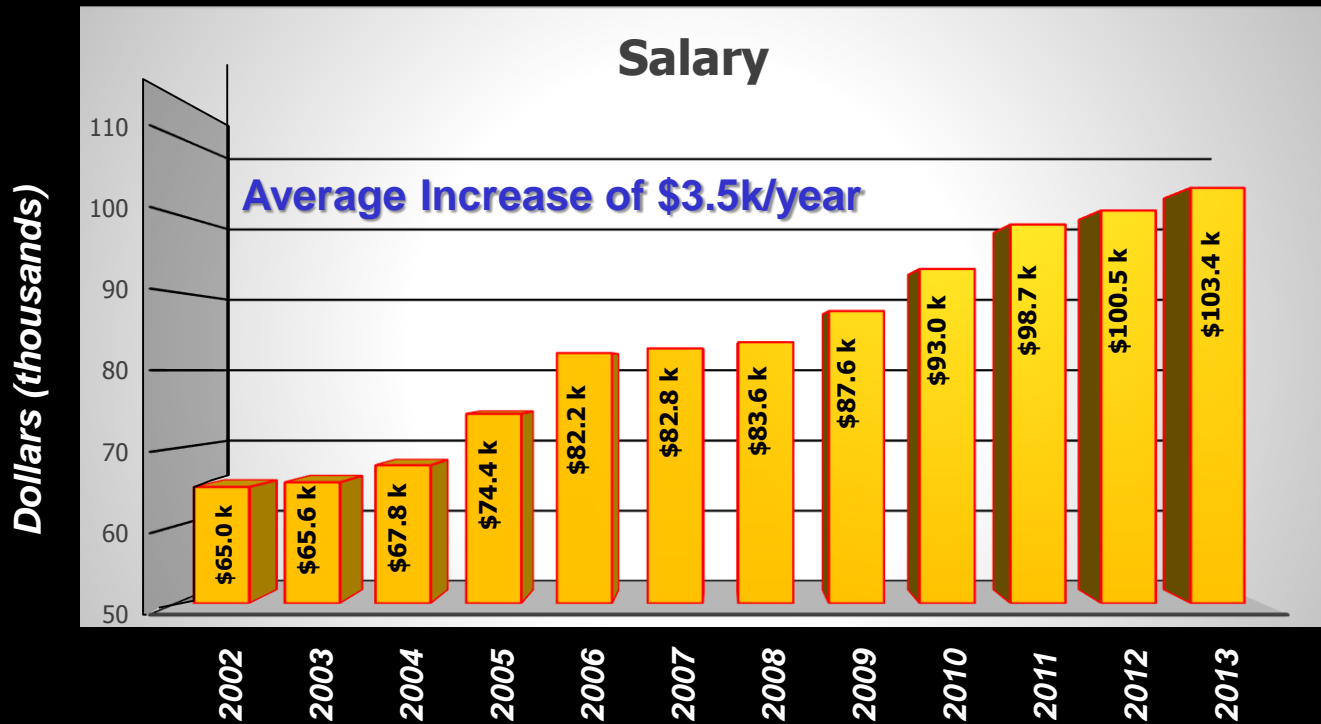
*Will be ~~is~~ Great*



*Excellent  
Pay*

# Current Salaries: 0 – 2 Years Experience

## Average Salaries



### Salaries by Degree 0 – 2 Years

|  | B.S.     | M.S.      | Ph.D.     |
|--|----------|-----------|-----------|
|  | \$92,000 | \$103,800 | \$115,000 |

Source: AAPG Explorer

# *Which Degree Should I Get*

---

- BS or BA
  - A geotech for a large company, not recruited
  - In the trenches for a small company
- Masters
  - Bulk of people in industry
  - Able to hold any position, may be hard to get into a research role initially
- PhD
  - Some companies may think you are over-qualified
  - Advisable if you want to do applied research for a mega-company
  - Advisable if you may want to become a Prof.
  - Small difference in starting salaries for 2+ more years

# *How Can I Prepare?*

---

- Undergrad Level
  - Excel in all your courses – high GPA
  - Take fundamental, classic geoscience courses
  - Get exposure to all disciplines – attend seminars
  - Scan professional society journals – take note of who is working on topics that interest you
  - ASAP decide on a sub-discipline
  - Choose a “senior topic” that you have a lot of interest in, work it well, be creative and application-minded

# *How Can I Prepare?*

---

- Grad Level
  - Choose a high-caliber university with a great geoscience department
  - Excel in all your courses – high GPA
  - Take courses that will give the depth & breadth
  - Look for way to demonstrate leadership potential
  - Get some good work experience – internship
  - Choose a research topic that we have passion for; better to have a superb thesis topic on something unrelated to industry than a mediocre thesis
  - Polish your resume/CV – sell yourself
  - Gain interviewing experience



# *Big vs. Small Companies*

---

## A BIG company

- Competition is great
- Work with great minds
- Pressure to perform
- Can specialize
- Able to shift a lot
  
- May rank below average
- No special treatment
- Mega-bureaucracy

## A SMALL company

- Competition is still high
- Work more friendly
- A bit less pressure
- Jack of all trades
- Not much latitude
  
- May rank above average
- Individual rewards
- Less bureaucracy

# *What to Look For*

---

- Salary, vacation, work hours
- Location
- People & facilities
- Training program
- Benefits, includes a pension?
- Job and work environment
- Stability – what happened in down cycles?
- Bureaucracy
- Initial assignment
- Opportunities to grow/move

# Questions?