

2009 CSEG Challenge Bowl

Calgary, May 5, 2009

Submitted by Brian Russell, Chairman CSEG Foundation

The third annual Canadian SEG (CSEG) and CSEG Foundation Challenge Bowl took place on May 5, 2009 during the CSPG/CSEG/CWLS joint annual convention. Our field this year consisted of eight teams from geoscience departments all across Canada. The universities represented were the University of Alberta, the University of Calgary, the University of Saskatchewan, Brandon University from Manitoba, the University of Western Ontario and Memorial University of Newfoundland. I am pleased to note that this was our first participation from Brandon University. They fielded two teams of geology students (since they don't have a geophysics program at their university) and both teams made it to the second round!

The event was organized by SEG Past-President Brian Russell and moderated by Challenge Bowl founder (and also SEG Past-President) Peter Duncan, with score-keepers Annette Milbradt and Helen Isaac (who have been score-keepers for all three bowls), timer Mark Lane and judge Larry Lines, our current SEG President. I also want to thank Stephen Kotkas, whose tireless enthusiasm persuaded several teams to join the contest.

The teams were all very evenly matched but after two exciting elimination rounds we were left with two teams: Hossein Aghabarati and Fereidoon Vasheghani from the University of Calgary (and last year's runners-up), and Joel Shank (Western Ontario) and Vicente Oropeza (Alberta). Although Hossein and Fereidoon eventually prevailed, the contest went down almost to the last question. Our congratulations go to both of these teams and to all the teams that competed in this year's Challenge Bowl. We also thank the students in the audience who made the event so much fun. Our congratulations go to Hossein and Fereidoon, who win an expense-paid trip to the 2009 SEG Convention in Houston, October 2009, to compete in this year's Challenge Bowl final.



2009 CSEG Challenge Bowl Sponsors and Winners (L R): Larry Lines (SEG President, U of C), Peter Duncan (SEG Challenge Bowl Host, Microseismic Inc.), Winners: Fereidoon Vasheghani (U of C), Hossein Aghabarati (U of C), Brian Russell (CSEG Foundation, CGG Veritas), Runners-UP: Joel Shank, (UWO), Vicente Oropeza (U of A). (Photo courtesy of Mark Lane).

2009 CSEG Challenge Bowl Entrance Teams

1. Fereidoon Vasheghani, U of Calgary Graduate Student, Geophysics
Hossein Aghabarati, U of Calgary Graduate Student, Geophysics
2. Abdolnaser Yousefzadeh, U of Calgary, Dept. of Geoscience
Mostafa Naghizadeh, U of Alberta, Dept. of Physics
3. Bridget Stoile, U of Brandon Undergrad, Geology
Jessica Derbonka, U of Brandon Undergrad, Geology
4. Joel Kotkas, U of Calgary Undergrad, Geophysics
Matt Ng, U of Calgary Undergrad, Geophysics
5. Tyler Tolton-Ropchan, U of Saskatchewan Undergrad, Geology
Kyle Heffner, U of Saskatchewan Undergrad, Geology
6. Jon Furlong, Memorial University of Newfoundland, Geophysics
Ryan Norris, Memorial University of Newfoundland, Geology
7. Mackenzie Desautels, U of Brandon Undergrad, Geology
Danny Wright, U of Brandon Undergrad, Geology
8. Joel Shank, University of Western Ontario, Geology
Vicente Oropeza, University of Alberta, Geophysics