



## THE GERG ACADEMIC NETWORK

### *EVENT 2010*

**3 & 4 June 2010  
Brussels**

#### **Introduction**

Following the success of the 1<sup>st</sup> GERG Academic Network Event in June 2009, a second Event, scheduled for 3 & 4 June 2010, is being planned.

If you are interested in taking part in this Event, you should apply as soon as possible to secure the opportunity to present your work and win a substantial cash prize. Please note that the 2009 Event was oversubscribed.

#### **Do you qualify?**

Are you a post-graduate student working towards a Ph.D. funded by, or relevant to, the gas industry?

Would you like:

- the opportunity to present your work in Brussels in a very select forum set up by those responsible for research in the European gas industry;
- the opportunity to win a substantial prize;
- the opportunity to meet a potential employer?

#### **What's it all about?**

GERG, the European Gas Research Group, has established an academic network to enlarge and strengthen links between selected universities and the European gas industry's research centres.

Its objectives are many, but key amongst them are:

- to ensure that the academic community is aware of gas industry R&D issues;
- to encourage a dialogue between experts in industry and academia;
- to demonstrate that:
  - the gas industry is high-tech;
  - that the gas industry invests in R&D;
  - the gas industry is interested in sustainable energy;
- to show post-graduates that the gas industry offers challenging and rewarding careers.

Details of GERG members, current activities and R&D priorities can be seen on the GERG website: [www.gerg.eu](http://www.gerg.eu) along with the recently published 'GERG Research Roadmap to 2030'.

The event in Brussels is set to become a regular date in the diary and applications will be closely scrutinised to maintain a very high standard.

**N.B.** All travel and accommodation expenses, for presenter (student) and supervisor, will be paid by GERG.

#### **What next?**

To apply for an invitation, or for more information, contact:

Dave Pinchbeck  
Secretary General  
GERG – The European Gas Research Group  
E: [davepinchbeck@gerg.eu](mailto:davepinchbeck@gerg.eu)  
T: + 32 22 30 80 17



## THE GERG ACADEMIC NETWORK

### **BENEFITS TO THE ACADEMIC WORLD**

- Links to industry, including manufacturers, international energy producers, transporters and suppliers;
- Potential for employment by major European energy companies;
- Opportunity to be a part of the gas industry's contribution to an energy sustainable future;
- Possible source of:
  - new funding;
  - new projects;
  - new project partners;
- Access to:
  - a wider industry knowledge base;
  - information on real technical issues/problems of international significance;
  - new potential applications for R&D results;
  - an implementation route;
  - European Commission, National Energy Regulators and other National Government Agencies;
- Closer links with gas industry experts across Europe;
- Opportunities to research applicability of latest technologies;
- Invitation to GERG Programme Committee meetings;
- Sharing knowledge;
- Sharing problems;
- Potential for post-graduate placements in laboratories across Europe;
- Awareness of international/world energy issues;
- Opportunity to:
  - be part of a large international network;
  - publish papers and promote successful R&D;
  - share knowledge;
- The GERG prize.

#### ***What is GERG?***

GERG, the European Gas Research Group, is a research and development organisation with a unique role in Europe, in that it provides both support and stimulus for the technological innovation necessary to ensure that the European gas industry can rise to meet the technological challenges of the new century.

GERG was founded in 1961 to strengthen the gas industry within the European Community and it achieves this by promoting research and technological innovation in all aspects of the gas chain. Established as a network to enable exchange of information between a select group of specialist R&D centres to avoid duplication of effort, it has grown steadily to its current size whilst retaining and expanding its original aims. Its priorities are networking, technical information exchange, and the promotion of collaborative R&D.

GERG membership currently stands at 21 members from 12 countries, each actively involved in natural gas R&D. It's worth noting that despite, or maybe as a result of, the changes in the European natural gas landscape, GERG membership has doubled in recent years.

GERG is based in Brussels to benefit from proximity to the institutions of the European Union and great emphasis is placed on maintenance of links with the EU, working for recognition of the importance of natural gas-related R&D and providing support to members in setting up collaborative R&D projects under the European Union's R&D Framework Programmes.

It is worth reinforcing the point that the members of GERG represent some of the most expert technical performers in the international natural gas R&D community, combining to contribute key skills and experience that would be impossible to resource at the purely national level. GERG is, without doubt, very well-equipped to undertake energy sector research and technological development and make a significant contribution into the 21st century.