



It is a common notion these days that most employers feel that recent graduates aren't ready for the workforce by simply attaining a bachelor's degree. Certain faculty of UH are spearheading the effort when it comes to bridging the gap between industry and academia. Their goal is to help familiarize students with the workplace before they enter the workforce.

One of the ways they are able to accomplish this is by offering company visits, workshops, etc. Just recently University of Houston's Dr. Robello Samuel, who is a close friend of the PTI, was able to assemble a fantastic three day certification class hosted by Wild Well which covered safe drilling practices when encountering an oil and gas kick, and how to successfully kill a well if one should happen. This class is the equivalent of a \$1,200 certification recognized by IADC (International Association of Drilling Contractors).

This was a great opportunity in which students were able to interact and work with industry professionals from all over the world with more than a century's worth of cumulative experience. Students were able to learn and directly apply concepts taught in the closest possible manner to real life problems via Wild Well's state-of-the-art well simulators. These classes also directly reflect those required of rig-site managers and E&P supervisors which means that those in attendance will have a leg up over their peers. It also allowed for students to become much more well versed in regard to the oil and gas industry, and sharpened their problem solving and team building skills; all things that will help in landing that dream job.

Opportunities like this don't come along for students that often and when they do, you should jump at the chance to become more well-rounded. Each time you take advantage of something such as this certification class you are not only adding to your worth, but you are also adding one more tool to your toolbox that you can utilize upon graduation.