

Julie LeFever Receives AAPG Award



Sue Cluff, President of the Rocky Mountain Section of the American Association of Petroleum Geologists (right) presents the John D. Haun Landmark Publication Award to Julie LeFever during the 2015 annual meeting of AAPG.

At the American Association of Petroleum Geologists (AAPG) annual meeting in April, the Rocky Mountain Section of AAPG awarded the 2015 John D. Haun Landmark Publication Award to Leigh C. Price (deceased) and Julie A. LeFever for their 1992 paper entitled: Does Bakken horizontal drilling imply a huge oil-reservoir base in fractured shales?, *in* J. W. Schmoker, E. B. Coalson, and C. A. Brown, eds., *Geological Studies Relevant to Horizontal Drilling: Examples from Western North America: Denver, Colorado, Rocky Mountain Association of Geologists*, p. 199-214. The following was obtained from the Rocky Mountain Section website "This award, newly named after Dr. John D. Haun, longtime Rocky Mountain geologist and past president of the AAPG and AIPG, recognizes the authors or editors of a book, guidebook or other publication that over the past decade has had exceptional influence on developing new hydrocarbon plays or deeper understanding of fundamental geology within the Rocky Mountain region. As

noted in the nomination, this article is "an exceptionally data-rich and well-reasoned paper published a decade before the shale gas and shale oil 'boom' started. Price and LeFever make the case for the exceptionally large, but at that time untested, oil potential of the Bakken Formation in the Williston Basin. With uncanny accuracy, they predict the essential characteristics of the Bakken shale oil play and the utility of horizontal wells. It took a full decade for fracture completion technology in horizontal wells to be developed and tested in the formation, thereby proving their prediction. To support their case, the authors draw comparison of the Bakken Formation with other self-sourced, fractured shale reservoirs that at the time were producing oil commercially. Now it is the Bakken Shale that is the industry gold-standard, the model for shale resource play exploration globally."