

# Alaska State Legislature

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SB 168

S Finance *Patil*

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Bio for Presenters: Dr. Shirish Patil, John Cheshire, Thomas Polasek

I am pleased to introduce Director Shirish Patil, and undergraduate students John Cheshire and Thomas Polasek, are with us today to explain the role their engineering research plays in optimizing oil field development.

You are also invited to their presentation for Lunch and Learn today in the Beltz Committee Room next door, where you can learn more about how Alaska can increase oil production.

**Dr. Shirish Patil**, PhD, is professor of petroleum engineering and the Director of the Petroleum Development Laboratory (PDL) at the University of Alaska Fairbanks (UAF). He holds a Ph.D. in mineral resource engineering; MS degrees in petroleum engineering and engineering management, all from UAF; MS in mechanical engineering from the University of Pittsburgh and a BS in mechanical engineering from the University of Poona, India. He has over 28 years research experience in the areas of Methane Hydrates, PVT/phase behavior, miscible/immiscible displacement, GTL transportation studies, asphaltene deposition studies and economics. He has managed/co-managed several multi-year U.S. Department of Energy, Alaska Science and Technology Foundation (ASTF), co-operative projects with international oil companies and other research grants. He has been PI or Co-PI of over 20 successfully completed projects and has authored or co-authored over 100 technical papers and reports. He was the recipient of the 2005 Alaska Society of Petroleum Engineers; Engineer of the Year and Alaska all Engineering Societies Engineer of the Year and 2006 Society of Petroleum Engineers Western North America Region Service awards. He also received the 2007 University of Alaska Fairbanks Emil Usibelli Distinguished Service award for his service to the university, profession, community, state and the nation. Patil is also a recipient of the 2010 UAF Distinguished Alumnus award and was recognized as the 2012 Society of Petroleum Engineers (SPE) Distinguished Member.

Shirish serves on the FNSB Transportation Commission as well as the FNSB Sister City Commission for one year. Shirish organizes the Namaste India cultural programs on UAF campus as the groups faculty advisor and also has been engaged in raising funds for Fairbanks Heart Walk program for the past 3 years.

- a) Shirish's wife Anjali is a 30 year resident of Alaska, has an MS in Science Management, and works for UA K-12 programs;

- b) Their son Samir has a BS and MS in Engineering, 28, born and brought up in Fairbanks, works as an engineer for ConocoPhillips in Anchorage; and
- c) Their daughter Mitali has a BS and MS in Biology and BioChemistry, 25, born and brought up in Fairbanks is completing her PhD in Bio-Medical Engineering at the University of Pittsburgh.

The Patil family together have 8 degrees from UA! The Patil's enjoy Alaska's natural beauties and love camping and traveling throughout the state in summer months.

**John Cheshire**, Undergraduate Research Assistant, Petroleum Development Laboratory.

John is a senior student in the petroleum engineering department at the University of Alaska Fairbanks. He was born in Columbus, Ohio and grew up outside of Pensacola, Florida. After high school, he enlisted the United States Marine Corps Reserves and served one tour in Iraq. While serving in the reserves, he also completed a degree in International Studies at the University of West Florida. He then worked in Japan for some time before moving to Alaska in 2011. After graduation, John will start work at an integrated oil and gas company with major interests in Alaska's oil fields.

John lives in Fairbanks with his wife, who is also a student, and four-year-old son. In his free time, John enjoys spending time outdoors hiking, fishing, or camping with his family; an annual trip to Valdez for salmon fishing is part of their tradition. His son loves of any kind of car, truck or vehicle, and his wife enjoys photographing the beautiful natural scenes of Alaska.

**Thomas Polasek**, Undergraduate Research Assistants, Petroleum Development Laboratory.

Tom was born in Texas and grew up in California. He spent 6 years in the Marine Corps Reserves while helping his brother start a contracting business. Tom worked as a firefighter in the US Forest Service prior to returning to school at UAF to pursue a degree in Petroleum engineering.

Tom moved from California to Alaska in 2011 to pursue an undergraduate degree in petroleum engineering from the University of Alaska Fairbanks.

For the past two summers he has interned with a major Alaskan oil company in Anchorage. During his free time, Tom and his wife enjoy being outside doing activities such as rock climbing, hiking, mountain biking, skiing, hunting and fishing."

Upon graduation in May 2014 he will stay in Alaska and begin working in the Alaskan petroleum industry based out of Anchorage. Tom is the student project leader for the Permafrost Subsidence Senior Design Project with the Petroleum Engineering department at the University of Alaska Fairbanks.