



Strategic cooperation agreement between Hellenic Petroleum Group, the University of Piraeus and the Technical University of Crete

Hellenic Petroleum, the largest energy Group in Greece and the wider region, consistently invests in education, research and innovation through collaborations with Universities and research centers in Greece and abroad. In this context, on Tuesday March 7th 2007, two important, **3-year strategic cooperation agreements** were signed, between Hellenic Petroleum, **the MSc Program in Energy Strategy, Law & Economics of the University of Piraeus**, and **the MSc Program in Petroleum Engineering of the Technical University of Piraeus**.

Hellenic Petroleum's contribution to these specialized postgraduate programs consists in the support and award of a **significant number of scholarships (a total of 25)**, and aims at the development of the scientific/research collaboration between the Group and the scientific manpower of these Programs, with synergies in all fields of strategy, law & economics of energy, as well as in the field of locating, producing and exploiting oil.

The research and teaching in the two Postgraduate Programs will be conducted in English, by applying innovative methods which will include seminars, educational visits, research projects that are connected with the Energy Market and the Oil Industry, and teaching on-the-job as well as where decisions are made, in and out of Greece, emphasizing on the wider Balkan and South-East Europe region, where HELPE Group is active.

Present at the signing ceremony were: For **HELPE**, Bod Chairman Mr. **Efstathios Tsotsoros** and CEO Mr. **Grigorios Stergioulis**; for the University of Piraeus, Associate Dean and professor **Pantelis Pantelidis**, and the Director of the MSc in Energy Strategy, Law & Economics Program, professor **Nikolaos Farantouris**; for the Technical University of Crete, the Dean and professor **Vassilis Digalakis**, and the Director of the MSc in Petroleum Engineering program, professor **Nikolaos Pasadakis**. As they all mentioned in a joint statement, **"the goal and shared vision for this specific collaboration is to lead to a research and innovation forum, which will act as a pool of ideas and as an incubator for executives, who will attain leading positions in businesses, in public administration, in international organizations, Independent Authorities and generally in key decision-making fields in the countries of SE Europe, and who will enrich with new ideas the rapidly developing energy and hydrocarbons sector in the wider SE Europe region."**

In detail:

- A cooperation agreement was signed with the **University of Piraeus' MSc program in Energy Strategy, Law & Economics**, for the organization and operation of the English-speaking department of Energy, with the course title "**MSc in Energy**

Strategy, Law & Economics". Hellenic Petroleum supports fifteen (15) student scholarships for the specific program, up to ten (10) of which will come from the foreign countries where the Group operates and five (5) from Greece. The main goal of the program will be the training of students in order for them to acquire the scientific basis across the entire range of energy affairs, in the context that the energy sector is a main part of the strategic developments of the 21st Century, as well as the state energy policies within bilateral, multilateral and EU policies, law and institutional issues of energy resources and energy and transport networks, existing or new. The contents and philosophy of this Postgraduate Program are configured to respond successfully to the specific scientific needs generated by the understanding, the analysis and the thorough research of the energy business, where strategy, law, economy and regional issues intertwine with and influence each other. The program aims to train and prepare qualified and competent scientists and researchers, who will promote and take an active role in shaping the institutional/regulatory framework of the Greek and European policy.

At the same time, the Postgraduate Program aims, through close cooperation between the academic community and HELPE Group, at the exploitation and dissemination of scientific research results, in the engraving fields of energy policies, bound up with those of international affairs and business level strategy and decision-making.

- The support of the **MSc in Petroleum Engineering of the Technical University of Crete (*Master of Science in Petroleum Engineering*)**, regards to grant, on an annual basis, **ten (10) students**, residents of the countries where **HELPE Group** operates (*Greece, Cyprus, Montenegro, Bulgaria, Serbia, FYROM*). The aim of the program will be the training of students in order to acquire the appropriate scientific background for hydrocarbon extraction and practical implementation in the Petroleum Engineering field. The main points of the Postgraduate Program are: The development of extroversion by attracting more students from abroad, the reinforcement of the interconnection with the petroleum industry through the attraction of more specialized scientists from companies in the sector and from academic institutions, the implementation of projects on subjects relevant to HELPE's activities on locating and producing oil, as well as the utilization of the existing laboratory infrastructure and expertise on matters of mutual interest. Furthermore, the financial support of the Postgraduate Studies Program will be leveraged in order to enhance the collaboration of the TUC with other Universities in Greece that develop similar educational and research activities. The goal of this collaboration is to develop a solid postgraduate studies center in the petroleum field, with two specialization areas: Geosciences, with a main specialization in geology, geophysics and geochemistry of petroleum and their application in the exploration and location of oil fields, and reservoir engineering and production engineering. Moreover, the existing distance-learning platform will be further developed in order

to create an educational center for executives in petroleum companies from Greece and abroad.