

A Tribute to The Silberberg Principles

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This poster is dedicated to my teacher and mentor of 33 years, while he is not going to be at this 19th Symposium on thermophysical properties, his interest is always in thermodynamics, both measurements, correlations, estimations and predictions of fluid properties of interest to the chemical and petroleum engineers. He graduated from UT Austin and all his degrees are in chemical engineering (his Advisors were the late Chairman of Chemical Engineering Department, Dr. Kobe and the former Dean of the College of Engineering, Dr. John McKetta). After a brief stay at Mongolia Oil Company (now Mobil Oil), he spent the rest of his career at UT (1959-2010) and became the Associate Director of the Texas Petroleum Research Committee, with residency in the old Petroleum Engineering Building. During my era at UT, he was my Graduate Advisor and the Chairman of the Graduate Study Committee in the PE Department. I had daily consultation with him during the development of K-value correlations and the improved cubic equation of state (which I have affectionately named the Lawal-Lake-Silberberg (LLS) cubic equation). I can surely see his influence in my post-graduate career. It is his invocation that is an impetus for me to seek the copy of the 1890 English Translation of the Van der Waals dissertation from the Library of Congress in DC and seek to read the Speech of the 1910 Nobel Prize Lecture of Van der Waals; and his influence made me to engage on the solution to the VdW cubic equation of state. I was his last PhD Trainee and graduate assistant and he co-Chair my PhD Project with Dr. Larry Lake of PE Department. I would like to share my thought with those who are attending the 19th Symposium on thermophysical properties and watch me perform brilliantly in the abstracts submitted for posters and presentations and I hope you will share some of those thoughts with colleagues and your students. Here are my recollections (or axioms) of working as graduate student with Dr. I. H. Silberberg: