



The Engineering Institute of Canada

Fellow Citation 2002

Ms. Margaret Y.C. Simons – A Member of the Canadian Society for Engineering Management

Ms. Simons graduated from the University of Toronto with a Bachelor of Applied Science in Chemical Engineering. She subsequently returned some years later to obtain a Masters in Business Administration from the same institution. She is now Associate Dean in the Faculty of Engineering at the University of Calgary, and President of MiT Management Inc.

Ms. Simons has combined an academic career with a business career concentrated on the development and production of oil and gas in Alberta, with particular reference to oil sands development, certainly one of the most exciting areas of innovative engineering in Canada. With Gulf Canada in the early part of her career she worked in refinery process development, as a process engineer in research and development. This included key technical roles on the startup for major new refinery process units. Subsequently as Vice-President of Petro Canada's Western Canada Oil Business Unit, she led turnarounds in the performance of exploration, development and production business. This resulted in major production growth and reductions in unit operating cost. She was at the same time a Director of the Syncrude development and Petro Canada's representative on the Board of Directors and Management Committee of Syncrude's Oil sands project.

Ms. Simons' talents then concentrated in perhaps her greatest area of strength, change management and process improvement initiatives. Having led teams that included a broad variety of talent she is able as president of MiT Management Inc. to manage change for improvement and optimization of industrial processes and human talents. She has continued this by simultaneously helping develop Engineering Internship programs with the University of Calgary, and by managing the complete "student experience" from registration, evaluation against program criteria, promotion and discipline, through to graduation, in the faculty of engineering.

Ms. Simons has provided her talents to local, provincial and federal programs for the development of young people. As such she has been or is currently on the National Advisory Board on Science and Technology, Chair for Women in Science and Engineering and member of the Dean's Advisory Council, and other prestigious groups.

Ladies and Gentlemen – a Canadian Engineer who has distinguished herself in the development of two of Canada's most important strategic resources - oil and gas, and in particular, the oil sands; and, the young people who will develop these resources. And now a Fellow of the Engineering Institute of Canada.

Mr. President - Ms. Margaret Simons