

Harold "Skip" York, PhD

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Global Energy Executive Profile

Accomplished Oil & Gas Industry professional

Dr. Harold York is the founder of DSC Advising, LLC, a strategic advisory firm focused on the energy and mining industries. He is responsible for looking at strategic directions in the energy industry, with specific expertise in global oil and gas asset portfolio optimization and developing viable business models for new energy companies. His most immediate prior role was as Head of Commodity Strategy - Petroleum for BHP. He has additional industry experience with ExxonMobil and management consulting with McKinsey & Company, Charles River Associates, and Wood Mackenzie. Skip holds a PhD in Economics from the University of Virginia and an undergraduate degree in Economics from the University of Wyoming. He did post-graduate work at IIASA (International Institute of Applied Systems Analysis) in Vienna, Austria.

Areas of Expertise

- Strategic Leadership
- Global Markets
- Industry Research
- Mergers & Acquisitions
- Commercialization
- Consulting
- Critical Thinking
- Stakeholder Engagement
- Program and Project Management

Accomplishments

- Devised US\$30B petroleum market exit strategy.
- Served on Joint Review Panel for Enbridge's US\$10B, 731-mile Northern Gateway Pipeline.
- Expanded expertise and client base of global research and consultancy firm with new emphasis on integrated energy markets.

Professional Experience

Center for Energy Studies, Baker Institute for Public Policy, Rice University, Houston, TX 2025 to Present
Nonresident Fellow for Energy and Global Oil
Focusing on intellectual contributions and thought leadership on issues impacting the global oil industry. I conduct independent and collaborative research to provide expertise to policymakers, business leaders, and institutional stakeholders.

DSC Advising, LLC, The Woodlands, TX 2024 to Present
Founder
Founded DSC (*Dubiatio Scientae Cedat*) on the belief a well-informed strategy can be a competitive advantage. We work with firms making long-dated decisions to achieve their aspirations by leveraging capabilities through accountable actions.

- Developed insights into changes in petrochemical capacity impacting oil demand to assist a government agency in regulatory assessment
- Consulting with a School at a major university to update their strategic vision

University of Wyoming, Laramie, WY 2023 to Present
Adjunct Professor, College of Engineering and Physical Sciences
Teaching "Strategy in the Energy Transition" in the Department of Petroleum Engineering. This course provides students with the basic knowledge of drafting an organization's purpose statement, forming a strategy, designing methods for execution, and ways to measure success. Within the context of the Energy Transition, the course covers designing a strategy that meets the organization's purpose in an evolving and potentially uncertain external environment.

Turner Mason & Company, Dallas, TX

2022 to Present

Chief Energy Strategist

Leads client engagements evaluating strategic options and direction in industries tied to ever-changing energy markets. Serving as firm's primary media contact. Provides thought and process leadership to the firm's suite research offerings.

- Advised industry players on risks and key pinch points of legacy infrastructure in the energy transition
- Led portfolio valuation and assessment of network synergies for a US Petroleum Refining Company

BHP (Woodside Energy June – October 2022), Houston, TX

2017 to 2022

Head, Commodity Strategy (Petroleum), Portfolio Strategy & Development

Align strategic direction of global oil and gas assets portfolio with the broader corporate vision of owner of onshore and offshore oil and gas production and processing facilities, as well as underground and open-cut mines. As subject matter expert (SME) on petroleum markets, contribute to overall Group strategy formulation; evaluate proposed strategies, consider relative competitiveness, devise scenarios, and define options. Partner with internal stakeholders on cross-commodity and cross-functional initiatives. Lead, train, and develop 15 PS&D staff.

- Set strategic path for BHP's exit of petroleum market with divestiture of \$10B of US shale and merger of remaining \$20B with Australia-based Woodside Petroleum Ltd.
- Assessed the strategic value of BHP's LNG position in the North West Shelf plant and developed potential alternatives for expanding the LNG portfolio.
- Determined attractiveness for new business opportunities resulting in \$30MM of venture capital investment to date in several start-up companies in geothermal and carbon sequestration and storage.

Wood Mackenzie, Houston, TX

2009 to 2017

Vice President, Integrated Energy

2014 to 2017

Expanded expertise base of global research and consultancy firm specializing in natural resource and energy industries. Coordinated development of integrated energy offering for North American clients that included initiatives on liquid infrastructure, crude oil differentials, and shale. SME and C-suite contact on North America energy issues in addition to serving as primary media contact. Led global and local teams of as large as 20, with an average size of five.

- Subscription base for research products soared 20% following addition of studies of US crude oil export impact on crude price differentials, among other enhancements.
- Relationship Managers credited media-driven increase in brand recognition led to additional \$200K in fees.
- US shale-driven client base growth expanded commercial application of research previously viewed as of only technical interest. The result was five new clients and over \$500K in annual fees.
- Guest host of Bloomberg's "Surveillance" television program and appearances on CNN, CNBC, and Fox Business.

Principal Analyst, Refining & Chemicals Research

2012 to 2014

Framed new research agendas in consultation with clients and consideration of evolving energy industry and market conditions. Led company's Cross Resources Advisory Group that assessed business risk of new initiatives. Mentored junior staff members.

- Named to Joint Review Panel for Canada \$10B USD, 731-mile Northern Gateway Pipeline.
- Engaged as Expert Witness to appear before Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, California Air Resources Board, and Canadian National Energy Board, generating over \$300K in fees. Testimony ranged from pipeline tariffs and capacity allocation to crude oil CO₂ intensity and low-carbon fuels.

Vice President, Downstream Consulting, Americas

2009 to 2012

Orchestrated growth of firm's downstream consulting and research capabilities, with emphasis on Atlantic Basin. Managed major projects, such as portfolio strategy, commercial optimization of assets, and new business entry. Guided commercialization of new service lines, developed new accounts and sources of fee income, and supported clients as an Expert Witness in regulatory hearings.

- Firm's Global Leader of Transaction Support, advised BP, Buckeye Pipeline, Chevron, ConocoPhillips, Global Infrastructure Partners, Husky, Phillips 66, and SembGroup on over 20 potential transactions.
- Built consulting revenue to annual run-rate of \$1.2M, with typical project size of \$150K to \$250K.

Charles River Associates, International, Boston, MA

2007 to 2009

Principal, Global Industrial Consulting (Oil & Gas)

Counseled oil and gas clients of international, multi-industry advisory firm. Helmed major client projects that included M&A transactions, commercialization endeavors, and strategy validations. Recruited new consulting associates, with focus on top graduates from schools such as Boston University, Dartmouth, Harvard, Rice, Texas, Texas A&M, Tufts, and Yale.

- Spearheaded research on rise of imported liquid natural gas (LNG) on local markets and price-setting mechanisms.
- Led team supporting portfolio transformation of an integrated Canadian petroleum oil & gas company. Generated over \$3M in fees over two years from supporting two oil sands, one refinery transaction, and creation of wholesale fuels marketing business, including leading commercial negotiations on setting transfer prices.

Previous Experience

Reliant Energy, Incorporated, Houston, TX | Director, Fuel Market Analysis

McKinsey & Company, Houston, TX | Engagement Manager

Exxon Mobil Corporation, Houston, TX | Senior Representative, Upstream Public Affairs | Advisor, Asia-Pacific Regional Planning Center | Senior Analyst, Corporate Planning, Exxon Company International | Economic Analyst, U.S. Treasurer, Exxon Company USA

Additional Experience

West Point Parents Club of Greater Houston, Houston, TX | Board Member

2022 to Present

Interstate Hydrogen, Houston, TX | Advisor

2021 to 2022

- Uncompensated advisor to alternative energy start-up focused on popularizing hydrogen fuel cell vehicles.

Education

Post-Doctorate Study in Applied General Equilibrium Modeling
International Institute of Applied Systems Analysis, Vienna, Austria
Ford Foundation Fellow.

Doctor of Philosophy in Economics
University of Virginia, Charlottesville, VA
Thesis: "*A General Equilibrium Model of International Tax Competition.*" | *DuPont Fellow.*

Master of Arts in Economics
University of Virginia, Charlottesville, VA
Editor-in-Chief, Virginia Essays in Economics.

Master of Science in Economics
University of Wyoming, Laramie, WY
Thesis: "*Patriotic Considerations in International Trade.*"

Bachelor of Science in Economics, *Minor: Philosophy*
University of Wyoming, Laramie, WY | *summa cum laude* | Phi Beta Kappa (Alpha Chapter) | *Richardson Fellow.*