

2026 SPRING SYMPOSIUM

The Innovation Pivot: Geophysical Breakthroughs That Changed Everything

APRIL 22–23, 2026 | NORRIS CONFERENCE CENTERS – HOUSTON/CITYCENTRE | HONORING TOM SMITH

816 Town & Country Blvd, Suite 210 • Houston, TX 77024



DAY 1

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 22

SESSION 1

CURRENT STATE OF GEOPHYSICS AND HOW IT IMPACTS BUSINESS

- 8:00–8:05** **KURANG MEHTA** • KM GEO-CONSULTING SERVICES LLC
OPENING REMARKS
- 8:05–8:30** **ANU VENKATARAMAN** • EXXONMOBIL
The Evolving Strategic Role of Geophysics: Enabling Decisions Across E&P and Carbon Storage
- 8:30–9:00** **ROCKY DETOMO** • OMOTED GEOPHYSICAL CONSULTANTS • The Innovation Pivot: How Geophysics Shapes Business Outcomes
- 9:00–9:30** **FAQI LIU** • TGS
Elevating the Outcomes through FWI-driven acquisition and Processing: From Structural Imaging to Reservoir Properties
- 10:00–10:30** **HENRY PETTINGILL** • ROSE AND ASSOCIATES
Integrated DHI Prospect Evaluation: Lessons from a 26-year Consortium Collaboration
- 10:30–11:00** **MARIANNE RAUCH** • LUMINA TECHNOLOGIES
The State of the Industry: Mergers, AI and New Talent?

SESSION 2

INNOVATIONS IN GEOPHYSICS: ACQUISITION, PROCESSING, AND INTERPRETATION

- 1:30–1:35** **RENE MOTT** • EMPRESS EXPLORATION
OPENING REMARKS
- 1:35–2:00** **BRUCE KARR** • FAIRFIELD GEOTECHNOLOGIES
Delaware Basin DRAGen Slaying, Geophysics Style; Illumination of reservoir using the most recent geophysics acquisition design to solve near surface geology
- 2:00–2:30** **JOHN NARANJO** • BP
Advancing Deepwater OBN Acquisition: Recent Tests in the Gulf of America
- 2:30–3:00** **FABIO MANCINI** • DUG
Beyond Velocity: The Present and Future of Full Waveform Inversion
- 3:30–4:00** **ZHIGANG ZHANG** • VIRIDIEN
FWI for reservoir properties: Are we there yet?
- 4:00–4:30** **CHUCK DIGGINS** • DIGGINS GEO, LLC
Cascade Tomography Applied to Karsting in Carlsbad

DAY 2

THURSDAY, APRIL 23

SESSION 3

IMPACT OF AI/ML ON GEOPHYSICAL ANALYSIS

- 8:00–8:05** **KURANG MEHTA** • KM GEO-CONSULTING SERVICES LLC
OPENING REMARKS
- 8:05–8:30** **KUMAR LAKSHMIPATHY** • AMAZON
Agentic AI for the energy industry
- 8:30–9:00** **UN YOUNG LIM** • CHEVRON
QI workflow automation and uncertainty quantification through the integration of machine learning (PI-NN based ensemble network) and sampling methods (PT-MCMC)
- 9:00–9:30** **KATIE GURSES** • BP • Advancing Integrated Subsurface Workflows Through Rapid Technology Deployment, Digital Enhancement, Modern Interpretation, Modeling, and 4D Analysis
- 10:00–10:30** **DEBORAH SACREY** • GEOPHYSICAL INSIGHTS
Machine Learning: The Next Disruptive Technology Changing Sub-Surface Interpretation
- 10:30–11:00** **PRASENJIT ROY** • CHEVRON
Connecting the QI AI Stack: AVA Screening, ML-enhanced Inversion, and Workflow Integration
- 12:00–1:30** **PETER DUNCAN** • MICROSEISMIC INC
Challenge Bowl

SESSION 4

2026 AND BEYOND - WHAT ABOUT GEOPHYSICS AND GEOPHYSICIST?

- 1:30–1:35** **RENE MOTT** • EMPRESS EXPLORATION
OPENING REMARKS
- 1:35–2:10** **BOB FRYKLUND** • S&P GLOBAL
Compressing the Exploration life cycle – what role will geophysics play ?
- 2:10–2:45** **FREDERIC BILLETTE** • BP
The Gulf of America (Mexico) - Great Seismic Transformation: what has been done and what is next
- 3:15–3:50** **WAFIK BEYDOUN** • GLOBAL ENERGY & CROSS-CULTURAL LEADERSHIP
2026 and Beyond: The Cultural Skills Geophysicists Will Need
- 3:50–4:25** **ROCKY RODEN** • ROCKY RIDGE RESOURCES
Trends in Geophysical Technology: Today and in the Near Future