

HONORS AND AWARDS COMMITTEE 2024-2025 REPORT

Committee chair: Rick Miller

Committee members: Arthur Cheng, Maurice Nessim, Anna Shaughnessy, Ken Tubman

Board liaison: Arthur Cheng

Staff liaisons: Mandi Duckworth and Kenzie Cole

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Nominations were solicited from the membership at large following IMAGE '24, and 15 individuals were selected to receive established awards from the Society. Selections for Best Paper were provided by the editor of *GEOPHYSICS*, the editorial board of *Interpretation*, and the editorial board of *The Leading Edge*.

HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE PAST YEAR

Nominations and supporting materials for the 2025 awards were submitted through a new online system. The architecture of this platform solicited critical background information and accomplishments for each candidate tailored to the award criteria, ensuring the committee received complete and accurate information as defined in SEG policy and procedure. The new format and interface provided greater consistency across nominations and supporting materials for committee review.

The committee met weekly from early February through early April to review, present, discuss findings, and vote on each nominee. After thorough review and discussion, awards were recommended by the committee, approved by the Board of Directors, and conferred at the Honors and Awards Ceremony during IMAGE '25. The list of recipients follows.

Citations for each honoree are available in *The Leading Edge* and the [SEG Wiki](#).

MAURICE EWING MEDAL

Gary Mavko

HONORARY MEMBERSHIP

Gerard Schuster

VIRGIL KAUFFMAN GOLD MEDAL

Yunyue Elita Li and Xinming Wu

REGINALD FESSENDEN AWARD

Jonathan Ajo-Franklin, Yang Liu, and Shaoping Lu

SPECIAL COMMENDATION

Yi Shen

LIFE MEMBERSHIP

Baishali Roy and Shaohua Zhang

J. CLARENCE KARCHER AWARD

Lindsey Heagy, Zhendong Zhang, and Jingjing Zong

OUTSTANDING EDUCATOR

Xuan Feng and Carlos Torres-Verdín

Selections for Best Paper were recommended by the editor of *GEOPHYSICS*, the editorial board of *Interpretation*, and the editorial board of *The Leading Edge*, and approved by the SEG Board. Awards were presented during the Editor's Reception at IMAGE '25.

BEST PAPER IN GEOPHYSICS IN 2024

"Self-supervised, active learning seismic full-waveform inversion"

by Daniele Colombo, Ersan Turkoglu, Ernesto Sandoval-Curiel, and Taqi Alyousuf

HONORABLE MENTION (GEOPHYSICS)

- "Probabilistic physics-informed neural network for seismic petrophysical inversion" by Peng Li, Mingliang Liu, Motaz Alfarraj, Pejman Tahmasebi, and Dario Grana
- "WISE: Full-waveform variational inference via subsurface extensions" by Ziyi Yin, Rafael Orozco, Mathias Louboutin, and Felix J. Herrmann

BEST PAPER IN THE LEADING EDGE IN 2024

"Diverse applications of DAS and their added values: A case study from Minami-aga pilot CCUS project, onshore Japan" by S. Nakayama, Y. Yamada, K. Fujita, T. Mouri, P. Bettinelli, J. Le Calvez, Y. Maehara, T. Mizuno, P. Armstrong, O. Podgornova, R. Bidyck, M. I. Rahmat, and D. Hill

HONORABLE MENTION (THE LEADING EDGE)

- "Integration of FWI-derived reflectivity in seismic interpretation" by Dhananjay Kumar and Raihaan Ali
- "On-demand high-resolution areal scouting via unmanned aerial vehicles enables sustainable near-surface geoscience data acquisition" by Ahmad Ihsan Ramdani, Pavel Golikov, Khaled Alsoqair, Valerii Serpiva, and Ezzedeem Alfataierge
- "Novel approaches to uncertainty estimation in seismic subsurface characterization" by Matt Walker, Alistair Crosby, Angus Lomas, Eric Kazlauskas, Reetam Biswas, Pedro Paramo, Kevin Wolf, and Madhav Vyas

BEST PAPER IN INTERPRETATION IN 2024

"Seismic expression of shallow-water carbonate structures through geologic time" by Marcello Badali

HONORABLE MENTION (INTERPRETATION)

- "Uncertainty assessment in unsupervised machine-learning methods for deepwater channel seismic facies using outcrop-derived 3D models and synthetic seismic data" by Karelia La Marca, Heather Bedle, Lisa Stright, and Kurt Marfurt
- "Modeling mobile shales under contraction: Critical analyses of new analog simulations of shale tectonics and comparison with salt-bearing systems" by Tim P. Dooley, Juan I. Soto, Jacqueline E. Reber, Michael R. Hudec, Frank J. Peel, and Gillian M. Apps

ENHANCEMENTS FOR NEXT YEAR

The nomination process for the 2025 awards was significantly improved through the new online platform. Feedback from nominators and committee members informed additional updates that will streamline next year's process, making it more efficient and concise for nominators, supporting referees, and the committee.