

DISTINGUISHED LECTURE COMMITTEE

2024-2025 REPORT

Committee chair: Boris Gurevich

Committee members: Ray Abma, Aria Abubakar, Saleh Al-Dossary, David Alumbaugh, Laura Bandura, Dimitri Bevc, Cyril Boateng, Miguel Bosch, Shivaji N. Dasgupta, Rocky Detomo Jr., Maitri Erwin, John Etgen, Sergey Fomel, Lisa Gavin, Jean-Paul Van Gestel, Sherif Hanafy, Felix Herrmann, Patricia de Luga, Lucy MacGregor, Alison Malcolm, Matthijs Van Der Molen, Partha Routh, Gerard Schuster, Ali Tura, Nimisha Vedanti, Umair Bin Waheed

Board liaison: Sergio Chávez-Pérez

Staff liaison: Melissa Presson

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The SEG Lectures Program—which includes the *Distinguished Lecture (DL)*, *Honorary Lecture (HL)*, the *Virtual Near-Surface Global Lecture*, and the new *Global Sustainability Lecturer*—continues to be one of SEG's most effective outreach initiatives. As of 20 October 2025, the program has reached a total of 2,153 registrants, with 919 unique views across two virtual lecture series.

Due to insufficient funding and limited industry sponsorship, 2025 marks the first year the *Distinguished Lecture* and *Near-Surface Lecture* programs were paused. The committee continues to explore opportunities to attract renewed industry and community interest to relaunch these programs in the future.

An *Office Hour* option is regularly offered immediately following each lecture, allowing lecturers to engage in informal virtual discussions with their audiences.

Plans for 2026:

Through the generous support of Shell, the *Honorary Lecture Program* will feature two traveling lecturers, each assigned to a specific region. These lecturers will deliver 10-20 in-person presentations and two virtual lectures for SEG's global audience.

HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE PAST YEAR

In 2025, several lecturers delivered in-person presentations within their regions despite limited funding availability.

- **Latin America Honorary Lecturer:** María Ángela Capello visited Mexico and Peru in September and will make an additional stop at Instituto Mexicano del Petróleo (IMP) in November. To date, she has engaged more than 120 participants across four in-person sessions.

- **2024 Distinguished Lecturer:** Jean-Paul toured in January and February 2025, presenting in Austin, Houston, San Francisco, and Denver, reaching more than 90 attendees in person.
- **Global Sustainability Lecturer:** Ron Harris achieved significant impact and reach in Indonesia. During June and July 2025, he visited 13 universities, companies, and communities in Jakarta, Padang, Manado, Bandung, and Timor-Leste. His tour drew more than 780 in-person participants and 462 online attendees.

2025 SEG Lectures

Pacific South Honorary Lecturer

Barrett Cameron – Geophysics in the Energy Transition

Europe Honorary Lecturer

Emer Caslin – Geoscience in Action: Advancing Sustainable Development

South and East Asia Honorary Lecturer

Jianwei Ma – From Dictionary Learning to Deep Learning in Geophysical Technology

North America Honorary Lecturer

Alan G. Jones – Natural Source EM for Mineral Exploration

Middle East and Africa Honorary Lecturer

Ahmed Mohamed Elshenawy – Integrated Hydrogeophysical Approaches for Sustainable Water Security in Arid Regions: Bridging Science, Policy, and Community Action

Latin America Honorary Lecturer (selected in 2024; toured in 2025)

María Ángela Capello – Rocking Sustainability: Geophysics' Role in a Greener, Prosperous, and Socially Conscious Latin America

ONGOING COMMITTEE INITIATIVES

The committee continues to advance two initiatives that were launched in 2023:

1. Organizing a special session at the annual IMAGE meeting to showcase the most impactful Honorary Lectures.
2. Preparing an article for *The Leading Edge (TLE)* highlighting a recent Distinguished or Honorary Lecture.