

CONTINUING EDUCATION COMMITTEE

2024-2025 REPORT

Committee chair: Umair Bin Waheed

Committee members: Yangkang Chen, Zhang Gulan, Sherif Hanafy, William Harbert, Osman Hassan, Mahmoud Hedefa, Malcolm Lansley, Karen Leopoldino, Jing Li, Saleh Nasser, Marco Nieto, Shuki Ronen, Atish Roy, Michal Ruder, Gerald Schuster

Board liaison: Joseph Ebeniro

Staff liaison: Jim Munkres

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The SEG Continuing Education (CE) Program experienced a strong revival in 2025, marked by a renewed focus on rebuilding the program's global reach, updating its course portfolio, and re-engaging the professional geophysics community. Key initiatives included conducting member surveys to assess educational needs, recruiting new committee members from multiple global regions, and introducing a new pricing structure to improve accessibility for participants in developing countries.

In total, six new courses were approved and five courses were successfully delivered. The committee also launched a Continuing Education webinar series that reached more than 600 attendees worldwide, further expanding the Society's educational impact.

HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE PAST YEAR

1. Relaunch of Public CE Courses

After a year-long hiatus in 2024, the Continuing Education Program was successfully reactivated with courses offered in both virtual and in-person formats.

2. Expanded Global Representation

The committee was revitalized with new members from South America, North America, the Middle East, and China, broadening regional diversity and expertise.

3. New Course Offerings

Six new courses were approved, and several were successfully conducted, including:

- *Field Safety Basics* – Kevin Bohacs (May 2025)
- *Geophysics Under Stress: Geomechanical Applications of Seismic and Borehole Acoustic Waves* – Colin Sayers (URTeC, June 2025)
- *Innovations in Land Seismic Acquisition* – Andrea Crook (IMAGE, August 2025)
- *Introduction to Scientific Machine Learning for Geophysicists* – Umair Bin Waheed (IMAGE, August 2025)
- *Storage of Carbon Dioxide in Saline Aquifers* – Philip Ringrose (September 2025)
- *Demystifying 4D Time-Lapse Seismic* – Jan Stammeijer (September 2025)

- *Seismic Stratigraphy and Seismic Geomorphology into the 21st Century* – Henry Posamentier (October 2025)

4. Expanded Reach and Accessibility

- The CE Webinar Series attracted more than 600 global participants.
- A new pricing structure was introduced to reduce financial barriers for members in World Bank Regions 3 and 4, promoting equitable access to professional education.

5. Strategic Partnerships

- The first SEG course was successfully presented at URTeC, strengthening cross-disciplinary collaboration.

GOALS FOR THE COMING YEAR

The Continuing Education Committee has identified several strategic priorities for 2026:

- **Enhance digital offerings:** Expand on-demand and recorded course availability.
- **Increase participant engagement:** Use short webinars as promotional gateways to full-length courses.
- **Improve financial sustainability:** Grow registrations and optimize course costs.
- **Advance global outreach:** Further adapt content and pricing to serve geoscientists in underrepresented regions.

CHALLENGES AND OUTLOOK

Despite a strong year of recovery and expansion, the committee continues to address ongoing challenges, including:

- **Financial sustainability:** Strengthening revenue streams amid variable industry conditions.
- **Curriculum relevance:** Continuously updating the CE catalog to reflect emerging technologies and evolving professional needs.
- **Global accessibility:** Expanding participation from developing regions through innovative pricing and delivery formats.
- **Visibility and communication:** Increasing awareness of CE opportunities through targeted outreach and marketing.