

## **Secretary of the U.S. Department of Interior Secretary Gale Norton Speaks at GCEM 2004**

The New Orleans chapter of the Society of Professional Earth Scientists (SIPES) was honored to be one of the host societies for Secretary of the U.S. Department of Interior Secretary Gale Norton at the second annual Gulf Coast Energy Market (GCEM 2004). Secretary Norton spoke at the GCEM 2004 evening reception to a large audience of oil and gas businessmen and women about the U.S. Department of Interior plans and activities concerning access to petroleum rich public land as well as the active role the oil and gas community has taken in helping to preserve the environment.

Secretary Norton is a lifelong conservationist, public servant and advocate for bringing common sense solutions to environmental policy, was sworn in as the 48th Secretary of the U.S. Department of the Interior in January 2001. The first woman to head the 153-year-old department, Norton has made what she calls the Four C's the cornerstone of her tenure: Consultation, Communication, and Cooperation, all in the service of Conservation. At the heart of the Four C's is the belief that for conservation to be successful, the government must involve the people who live and work on the land.

GCEM is a non-profit community project initiated by petroleum professionals in the greater New Orleans. GCEM's purpose is to present a local venue for multi-disciplinary networking and oil and gas business in the Gulf of Mexico basin. The GCEM is supported by the local technical and professional societies as one of the Joint Energy Societies of New Orleans projects. GCEM is endorsed by: American Association of Drilling Engineers, API-Delta, Southeastern Geophysical Society, Society of Independent Professional Earth Scientists, Council Of Petroleum Accountants Societies (COPAS), and the New Orleans Geological Society. More information about GCEM 2004 can be found at [www.gcem.net](http://www.gcem.net).



Secretary of the U.S. Department of Interior Gale Norton at the recent 2004 Gulf Coast Energy Market (GCEM) held in New Orleans, Louisiana.