

#### On the Cover

Numerous buttes, spires and mesas dot the landscape in Monument Valley Navajo Tribal Park in northeastern Arizona. These erosional remnants are composed of Permian age massive cliff forming aeolian sands of the De Chelly Formation which lie atop fluvial shales of the Organ Rock Formation and are overlain by conglomerates of the Moenkopi Formation. Despite its remoteness, the park is visited by nearly 400,000 visitors annually who enjoy several driving tours and guided hikes. The iconic rock formations in the Monument Valley area have served as a backdrop for many famous movies and television shows in the last 80 years.



#### From the Editor...

Greetings Everyone,

As we finish another NOGS fiscal year, I will be transitioning off the NOGS Board as NOGS LOG Editor and will be replaced with our Editor-Elect Brittany George. Please help Brittany next year by sending her any technical articles, meeting announcements, or personal adventures of geological interest and she will make sure it gets published in the NOGS LOG. I would like to thank co-editors Ed Picou, Fran Wiseman, Emmitt Lockard, and Brittany George for helping to find all the minor typos and grammatical errors in the initial NOGS LOG proofs prior to publishing. Special thanks to our NOGS administrator Christy Himel for pulling together all the separate components of the NOGS LOG into a finished published edition, and thanks to Charles Miller for publishing the NOGS LOG each month online. It has been a truly interesting and fulfilling experience being your NOGS LOG Editor this past year.

Thanks, and try to stay cool this summer!

Mare J

David Reiter
2022/2023 NOGS LOG Editor

## **August Meeting**

MONDAY, AUGUST 28, 2023 11:30 AM -ZEA'S NORTHSHORE & ONLINE

#### PROFESSIONAL ETHICS FOR GEOSCIENTISTS AND ENGINEERS

## William H. Schramm

#### George Losonsky

Ethics has many definitions; it is a study of the rules of human behavior, the standards of right and wrong, that part of science and philosophy dealing with moral conduct, duty, and judgment, the voluntary actions specifically taken by an individual with sufficient knowledge of the options available. The development of these "rules" depends on the formative influences on the individual. They derive from the social structure, ethnic culture, predominant religion, educational philosophies and personal life experiences.

Professional ethics incorporates and expands on these societal rules for a well-defined group of specialized, highly trained and educated persons in a specific career field. The ethics for professionals are particularly developed to address issues peculiar to that field. Examples are: medical, legal, police, military, science, and business, and in our case today, geoscience!

In our everyday lives we encounter many examples of ethical decisions, requiring us to establish a hierarchy or prioritization of decision making. We will investigate the conundrums of some of these situations, offer examples, and discuss the history and logic/science of ethical decision making.

**George Losonsky, PhD, PG,** Losonsky & Associates, Inc., Baton Rouge, LA

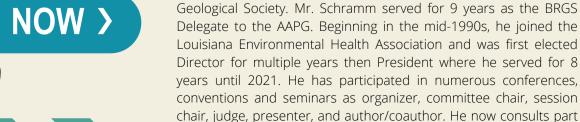
Dr. George Losonsky has practiced in the environmental and water resources fields for over 30 years as a hydrogeologist, groundwater modeler, and remediation design expert. He has worked on soil and groundwater remediation projects throughout the USA and worldwide. George completed his BS in Geology at Oberlin College and MS and PhD in Geology at the University of Cincinnati. He currently serves as President of the Baton Rouge Geological Society.

William H. Schramm is a 28-year retired veteran of the Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality. As a Geologist he worked closely with industry, consultants, regulators, and private citizens, to investigate and remediated over 3000 contaminated sites. As Geologist Supervisor, he managed a staff of 16 Geologists, Environmental Specialists, and support personnel in the Remediation Division. Beginning in 2005 he was an Adjunct Instructor on the staff of the Department of Geology at the University of Louisiana-Lafayette and served on numerous Graduate Thesis Committees. Mr. Schramm retired from the State of Louisiana in 2017. Governor John Bel Edwards appointed Mr. Schramm to the Louisiana Board of Professional Geoscientists in 2018 where he was elected Secretary. He was subsequently elected to Chair the board in late 2021.

He holds a BA and MS in Geology and a Teaching Certification for K-12 in Science and Earth Science. He is a 30+ year member, past Director, and thrice Vice-President/President of the Baton Rouge

time as Senior Geologist with Losonsky and Associates.

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### A MESSAGE FROM 2022/2023 NOGS PRESIDENT

**DOUGLAS BRADFORD** 

To all members and friends of the New Orleans Geologic Society.

As the outgoing President I want to thank everyone for making my term a very pleasant and memorable year. It has been good having a year of again attending the monthly in-person luncheon meetings and associating with other NOGS members after the restrictions of the Covid pandemic.

I want to thank all the other board members and committees for their outstanding work contributions in every task and for stepping up and taking every opportunity to serve.

In-person events and activities are coming up that should be fun to attend, starting with the 25th Annual Deepwater Technical Symposium which will be July 24-26 at the Sheraton Hotel in New Orleans. The NOGS portion will be all day Monday July 24 and will feature Dr. Michael Hudec's presentation entitled "Introduction to Salt Tectonics". More information about the symposium and registration is available on the NOGS web page and at ttps://www.deepwaternola.org/.

Another event coming up on August 2-3, 2023 is the 14th Annual Louisiana Water Conference (LAWater 2023), taking place at Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge. The co-hosts of the event are the Louisiana Water Resources Research Institute, the Louisiana Geological Survey, and the Baton Rouge Geological Society. The Water Conference presents an excellent opportunity to earn 1 PDH Ethics Lecture credit. Certificates of Continuing Education Units (CEUs) will be provided for participants.

The 24th Annual Greater New Orleans Joint Industry Luncheon is scheduled for August 22, 2023 at the WW II Museum, BB's Stage Door Canteen, 945 Magazine Street, with two lunch presentations; First by Dr. Greg Upton and second by Cynthia Nicholson and Marianna Knister Downer.

Watch for announcements of other events on the NOGS website, many of which will need volunteers.

As always, a reminder of dues renewal if you haven't already done so, \$35.00 for Regular membership and \$15 for Student membership. I encourage you to pay your dues and to give consideration to adding a special donation to the Memorial Foundation to help us continue our worthwhile local community, university, and education programs.

Thanks everyone, stay safe and well!

Best regards,

Doug Bradford 2022-2023 NOGS President



## A MESSAGE FROM 2023/2024 NOGS PRESIDENT

To all members and friends of the New Orleans Geologic Society:

I would like to acknowledge and thank the outgoing NOGS Board leadership team headed by Doug Bradford and welcome the new team that I will be serving with. After serving as President-Elect, I came away very impressed by the dedication and professionalism of the 2022/2023 NOGS Board. We are losing five experienced board members who have made their contribution to keeping NOGS moving forward during some difficult and challenging times. Please thank **Douglas Bradford**, President; **Charles Holman**, Vice-President; **Michael Merritt**, Secretary; **David Reiter**, Editor and **Jason Bourgeois**, Director A for their contributions to NOGS as they step aside for the new board members. We are all very fortunate and express our gratitude to have had them volunteer their time and efforts to the New Orleans Geological Society.

I'm looking forward to serving NOGS this coming year with several remaining experienced Board members assuming new roles along with some new members as well. **Jared Bullock**, who previously served as the Treasurer will be the new President-Elect. **Brittany George** will be assuming the role of Editor after serving as the Editor-Elect. **Charlie Miller** and **Emmitt Lockard** will provide some additional stability to the board as they continue to serve as Directors A and B respectively. We also have some new NOGS Board members that have joined us this month. **Leslie Broussard** and **Don Dubose** will be joining the board as new Vice-Presidents. **Nick Meyers** will be the new Treasurer, **Brian David** will be the new secretary, **Brian Bothner** will be the Editor-Elect, and **Carol Avery** will serve as Director C.

I also want to acknowledge **Christy Himel**, our NOGS administrator. She does a lot of work behind the scenes to keep NOGS functioning and organized. I look forward to working with Christy in the coming year also.

I've been a NOGS member for 39 years and look forward to giving back to and helping our Society in a leadership role. We're planning on reinstating several events that were put on hold these past few years due to the Covid Pandemic. I hope to have an announcement very soon on a fall Kickoff Party. We are also working on reinstating the NOGS Christmas Party as well.

The 25th Annual Deepwater Technical Symposium will be July 24 to 26 at the Sheraton Hotel in New Orleans. NOGS is sponsoring a one-day seminar on the first day of the Symposium, July 24 by Dr. Michael Hudec entitled "Introduction to Salt Tectonics." If you haven't registered for the seminar yet please consider signing up. This is a great continuing education opportunity to hear the latest about salt tectonics from one of the leading voices in salt research from the Bureau of Economic Geology at The University of Texas at Austin. There should be a link to the Symposium in this month's NOGS Log.

Enjoy your summer and stay safe. Plan a trip to a National Park. I'll be at Glacier Park Montana the week prior to the symposium in July revisiting the first mountain range I've ever experienced. If you haven't renewed your membership yet, please do so. If you have any questions or suggestions feel free to reach out to me by email at <a href="markw@llox.com">markw@llox.com</a>.

Best regards, Mark Wojna 2023-2024 NOGS President

# Thank you

Please join us in thanking members of the 2022/2023 NOGS Board for their time and dedication to NOGS



Doug Bradford
Charles Holman
Michael Merritt
Dave Reiter
Jason Bourgeois





## Meet Your NOGS Board

Mark Wojna



**PRESIDENT** 

Jared Bullock



PRESIDENT ELECT

Leslie Broussard



VICE PRESIDENT

Don Dubose



VICE PRESIDENT

Nicholas Myers



**TREASURER** 

Brian David



**SECRETARY** 

## Meet Your NOGS Board

Brittany George



**EDITOR** 

Brian Bothner



**EDITOR ELECT** 

Charles Miller



DIRECTOR A

**Emmitt Lockard** 



**DIRECTOR B** 

Carol Avery



DIRECTOR C

# PICTURE FROM THE PAST

always smile!





Left to right: Tom Klekamp (09-10), Bill Hintze (65-66), Don Andrews (63-64), George Severson (72-73), Mike Fein (06-07), Scott Wainwright (05-06), Tom Bergeon (02-03), Bill Whiting (08-09), Kelli Hardesty (President-Elect 13-14), Will Jorgensen (12-13), Duncan Goldthwaite (82-83), Art Johnson (07-08), Bob Branson (90-91), Ed Picou (92-93), Paul Jurik (93-94), Jack Langford (91-92), Bob Douglass (87-88), Charles Corona (81-82).

Attended but not in photo: Jack Bryant (02) and Will Conatser (97-98)

NOGS Secretary John Dombroski presents a "Thank You" gratuity to Gloria Bovia at the December 1997 Luncheon at the New Orleans Petroleum Club. For many years, Gloria was responsible for our luncheon arrangements at the Club in the Energy Center Building in the CBD.

Submitted by Ed Picou, Chairman - Historical Committee

NOGS Presents
Opening Geoscience Seminar
Monday, July 24, 2023
8:00 am - 4:30 pm
Sheraton New Orleans







**Dr. Michael R. Hudec** 

## Early Bird Registration Members \$150 Non-Members \$200

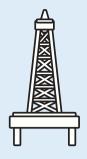
The course is an introduction to the principles of salt tectonics that will include how and why salt structures evolve and the three-dimensional forms that result. Additional topics include evaporite deposition and flow, salt structures, salt systems, and practical applications. The course is for students, professional geologists, geophysicists and engineers in the petroleum industry, environmental science professionals and geotechnical engineers.





## **DRILL BITS**

## OFFSHORE GULF OF MEXICO SHELF AND DEEPWATER ACTIVITIES BY AL BAKER



During May 2023, the Bureau of Safety and Environmental Enforcement (BSEE) approved 81 Gulf of Mexico (GoM) drilling permits. Twenty of the permits were for shelf wells, and the remaining 61 permits were for deepwater wells. There were 5 new well permits issued; 1 was on the shelf, and 4 were in deepwater.

The single shelf new well permit was for a development well. Cantium received the permit for their Main Pass 38 #BG-11 well.

The 4 deepwater new well permits were for exploration wells. EnVen Energy Ventures received a permit for their Green Canyon 78 #1 well. Chevron U.S.A. obtained 3 permits for their Green Canyon 807 #AP-5 well in Anchor Field, their Mississippi Canyon 608 #1 well and their Mississippi Canyon 937 #1 well.

On May 26th, S&P Global Petrodata indicated that the GoM mobile offshore rig supply stood at 47, which is 2 more than last month. The marketed rig supply consisted of 34 rigs, of which 29 were under contract. The marketed rig supply and the contracted rig supply number were each 4 more than last month. The marketed contracted versus total rig supply utilization rate stood at 72.3%, and the marketed contracted versus marketed supply utilization rate stood at 85.3%. By comparison, the May 2022 total fleet utilization rate stood at 82.4% with 34 rigs under contract out of the 46 rigs in the fleet.

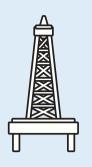
On May 26th, Baker Hughes reported that there are 20 active mobile offshore rigs in the GoM, which are 2 more than last month and 69% of the rigs under contract mentioned above. Currently, four rigs are drilling on the shelf, and 16 rigs are drilling in deepwater. The 4 shelf rigs are located in the Eugene Island (2), Vermilion and Main Pass Areas. The deepwater rigs include 4 rigs in the Mississippi Canyon and Walker Ridge Areas, 2 in the Alaminos Canyon Area, 2 in the Garden Banks Area, 2 in the Green Canyon Area and 1 rig each in the Keathley Canyon and Ewing Bank Areas.

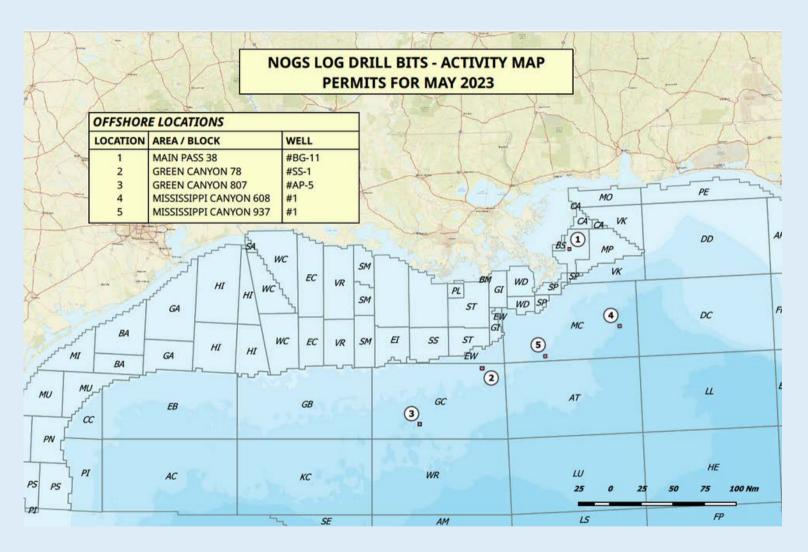
On May 26th, the Baker Hughes total U.S. rig count stood at 711 rigs, which is 44 less than reported at the end of April 2023. Of the 711 rigs, 576 (81%) are oil rigs and 137 (19.3%) are gas rigs. Four rigs are listed as miscellaneous. A year ago, there were 727 rigs working in the U.S. inferring that the current rig figure represents an 2.2% decrease in rigs year over year. Presently, Texas continues to have the largest number of rigs with 359, which is 50.5% of the total number of rigs in the U.S. Louisiana currently has a total of 54 rigs, which are 6 less than last month. Louisiana ranks third behind New Mexico, which has 108 rigs.

On May 25th, the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM) updated the Phase 2 acceptance of bids received at GoM OCS Sale 259 held on March 29, 2023. A total of 110 bids have been accepted leaving 203 bids remaining under evaluation. The BOEM has a 90-day evaluation period following the sale to determine bid sufficiency.

## **DRILL BITS**

NEW WELL PERMITS OFFSHORE GULF OF MEXICO SHELF AND DEEPWATER ACTIVITIES MAP BY KEVIN TROSCLAIR







## Have you renewed your NOGS Membership?

Thank you for your continued support as a member of NOGS! We greatly appreciate your dedication to our organization and the valuable contributions you have made to our community.

Your membership renewal plays a vital role in sustaining the work we do at NOGS. It enables us to organize events, provide educational resources, and promote the field of geology to a wider audience. By renewing your membership, you continue to be a part of our vibrant community and support our mission of advancing geological knowledge and fostering professional growth.

Alongside your membership renewal, we would like to invite you to consider making a donation to the NOGS Memorial Foundation. This foundation plays a crucial role in supporting the education of Geology and Earth Science students attending LSU, UNO, and Tulane Universities. Your generous donations directly contribute to the scholarships we provide to these students, helping them pursue their dreams and achieve academic success.

#### To make your donation, please click here

Every contribution, no matter the size, makes a meaningful difference and helps us continue this important work. Your support ensures that future generations of geologists and Earth scientists have the resources they need to succeed. We deeply appreciate your commitment to NOGS and your dedication to the advancement of geology. Thank you for considering membership renewal and making a donation to the NOGS Memorial Foundation. Together, we can make a lasting impact on the geology community and the future of our field. If you have any questions or require further assistance, please do not hesitate to reach out to us - admin@nogs.org

Thank you once again for your continued support and for being an invaluable part of NOGS.



## NEW ORLEANS GEOLOGICAL SOCIETY MEMORIAL FOUNDATION INC.

Founded March 14, 1978, the mission of the New Orleans Geological Society Memorial Foundation is to promote earth-science related educational or scientific purpose by granting of scholarships to outstanding Geology students at the universities in Southeast Louisiana offering a degree in Geology. The Bill Craig Memorial Fund provides for any earth science related educational or scientific purpose that is a direct benefit to grades K-12 teacher or teachers within the Greater New Orleans Area. This area encompasses New Orleans, Jefferson, Plaquemines, St. Bernard and St. Tammany Parishes.

THE MEMORIAL FOUNDATION IS AN IRS TAX EXEMPT CODE #501(C)(3) ORGANIZATION. THE FEDERAL ID IS 72-1220999. PLEASE CONSIDER MAKING A DONATION TO THE FOUNDATION. YOUR INDIVIDUAL SUPPORT IN ANY AMOUNT WILL HELP MEET THE IRS **GUIDELINES FOR** OUR FOUNDATION. THANKS!

\$10,000

Gibbet Hill Foundation - In Memory of Steve & Marion Millendorf, William J. Prutzman, Roger G. Vincent, Ron Youngblood, Uno Numella and Dr. Robert T. Sellars, Jr.

\$250-\$999

Edward B. Picou - In Memory of
Robert "Bob" Branson, Thomas Klekamp,
Donald Andrews, William Furlong,
Duncan Goldthwaite, John D. Silvernail,
Beverly Christina, Carlo C. Christina, Paul C.
Perrett, Sr., Emmett C. Guderian, Jr, Anthony
Catalanotto, Sr., Joseph E. Boudreaux,
Jackie D. Stewart and Richard L. Meinert

Al Melillo

Charles & Trudy Corona - In Memory of Beverly Christina

Hilary Brook

Thomas Bergeon In Memory of Art Johnson

Paul Jurik In Memory of John Silvernail

William Whiting

\$1,000

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Nancye Dawers - In Memory of Duncan Goldthwaite

Arthur Christensen- In Memory of Tom Klekamp

Fran Wiseman - In Memory of Steve Widdicombe, Bill Ward

Scott Gilreath - In Memory of Al Gilreath

Richard Olsen
Michael Duhon
John Gambil
Jeff Jandegian
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LSU AAPG is developing a library that will provide a **wealth of valuable resources** to students. Our goal is to foster a **collaborative environment** where students can **explore** topics in petroleum geology, **empowering** them to **pursue careers** in the energy sector... **BUT WE NEED YOUR HELP!** 

#### How can you support us?

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- ✓ Monetary donations

ALL donors will receive recognition in the library!

Donations over \$150 will receive an award!

Follow the link to learn how to donate!

https://bit.ly/3 WfLuGa



#### **Recent Energy Headlines...June 2023 Recap**

6/15/2023 - Shell's Olympus Gulf of Mexico platform offline for maintenance - Top U.S. Gulf of Mexico oil producer Shell (SHEL.L) on Thursday said its Olympus production platform in the U.S. Gulf of Mexico is offline for planned maintenance. The work started a week ago on Wednesday, June 7 and is expected to last 14 days, Shell said. The offshore hub, along with its Mars and Ursa platforms that underwent turnarounds last year, produce Mars sour crude. Prices for Mars crude oil has edged down in the last few days, but the grade is trading this week at a premium to U.S. crude oil futures at the Cushing, Oklahoma, hub. Read Full Article

6/12/2023 - Petrofac Expands Gulf of Mexico Decom Scope of Work - Petrofac has expanded its Gulf of Mexico scope of work, adding a third field and expanding the scope of its existing contract to decommission two fields. The provider of services to the global energy industry noted that following this significant contract expansion, the legacy offshore fields and assets now include 12 platforms, 211 wells and 32 pipeline segments, as well as operations and logistics services. The scope includes the safe, efficient, and assured decommissioning of the fields and operation of the fields during the execution of the decommissioning work, the company said in its statement. With over two decades of safe and predictable decommissioning experience and in-house well engineering capability, Petrofac said it will use its proven decommissioning program management systems, tools, and processes to deliver the project. Its integrated local team, wider global decommissioning organization and supply chain partners, have collectively plugged and abandoned more than 2,300 wells and decommissioned over 250 facilities. Read Full Article

6/9/2023 - TGS and SLB start Engagement Phase 4 in Gulf of Mexico - The sparse OBN programme will expand the contiguous data coverage from previous phases into the western Green Canyon area. Norway-based seismic survey company TGS and oilfield services company SLB have started Engagement 4 Ocean Bottom Node (OBN) multi-client acquisition in the Gulf of Mexico. The sparse OBN programme, which is currently under way, focuses on the acquisition of the 152 Outer Continental Shelf block. It is designed to expand the contiguous data coverage from previous phases into the western Green Canyon area. According to SLB, the new phase extends the company's seamless OBN multiclient coverage to the western edge of Green Canyon and unlocks potential new prospect opportunities in the previously under-explored location. Read Full Article

6/7/2023 - Harbour Energy in merger talks with the Gulf of Mexico's Talos Energy - Following its announcement that it would scale back UK spending, Harbour Energy (LON: HBR) has been reported to be in merger talks with the US Talos Energy (NYSE: TALO). Four sources told Reuters that the talks between the firms are ongoing. Harbour, the larger of the two companies is valued at \$2.5 billion, has held on-and-off talks about a combination for at least six months with the US firm but discussions have resumed recently, according to Reuter's sources. The move would allow the UK's largest producer of oil and gas to list on the New York stock exchange and provides more opportunities for operations overseas. A source confirmed that if the deal is to come to fruition, the combined business would list in New York as opposed to London, where Harbour stock is currently traded. Talos Energy stock climbed 11% in value following the news first being reported. Read Full Article

#### **TOP 10 REASONS TO JOIN NOGS**

- Proclaim your professionalism
- With an 80 year history and over 300 active members, NOGS is the premier professional organization for geologists in New Orleans. Adding your name to the ranks declares your pride in the profession you have chosen.
- Advance your career

  NOGS members enjoy educational opportunities and top speakers designed to increase knowledge and keep up with the newest trends in geoscience, both on the national and local levels.
- Advertise your integrity

  NOGS has a reputation of over 75 years for upholding high standards. Align yourself with like-minded geologists and related fields.
- Further your cause

  NOGS was organized for the purpose of facilitating the development of the profession and science of Geology, at the time with a focus on production of oil and gas. Since Hurricane Katrina our objectives expanded to include the dissemination of the geological facts of flood control, engineering and environmental geoscience.
- Network with others who do what you do

  Making connections, between people and ideas, is an important part of any scientific endeavor. Meet others who can help you make those connections.
- Advocate for your profession

  Serious-minded professionals know that serving the profession means responding to calls for action from those who represent the profession. NOGS monitors trends in geoscience education, regulation, and practice standards and periodically advises members on required action.
- Serve your profession and community

  Opportunities for individuals to serve on NOGS committees that work on a variety of issues from building educational programs to sharing knowledge with others to providing scholarships to young geologists in our area.
- Don't reinvent the wheel ... use available resources

  NOGS members can provide you with the resources you need to do your job well. Long-time members remain active and are happy to share their knowledge and best practices.
- Play a part in elevating the status of geosciences.

  Your membership in NOGS and your dedication to geoscience elevates the entire profession.
- Do it for YOURSELF!

  It's all about YOU! NOGS' educational, networking, and career planning programs will take you where you want to go!





## **LAWATER 2023:**

## 14TH ANNUAL LOUISIANA WATER CONFERENCE

August 2-3, 2023

LSU DALTON WOODS AUDITORIUM ENERGY, COAST & ENVIRONMENT BUILDING BATON ROUGE, LA

The Louisiana Water Conference aims to disseminate the latest water-related research and activities within and around Louisiana, promote education and public awareness of Louisiana's valuable freshwater resources, and promote engagement of water-use sectors.

The conference will offer certificates of Continuing Education Units (CEUs) and one PDH Ethics for Professional Geoscientists (PG) and Professional Engineers (PE).

Click here for more information

Hosted by:



Louisiana Geological Survey

#### **Important Dates:**

Abstracts due: June 26th
Eary registration ends: July 1st

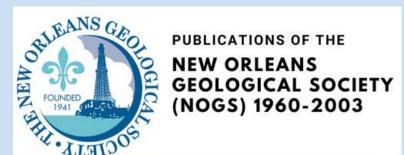
#### Fees before/after July 1st:

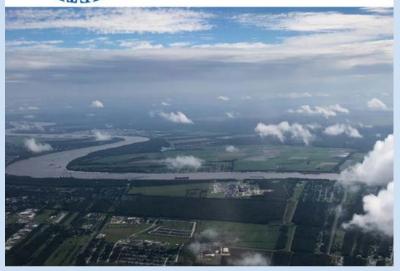
Students \$20/\$20 Faculty \$40/\$50 Professionals \$80/\$100

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