

THE EARTH WE NEED

Driving Solutions for
Society and Planet through Geoscience,
Technology, and Innovation



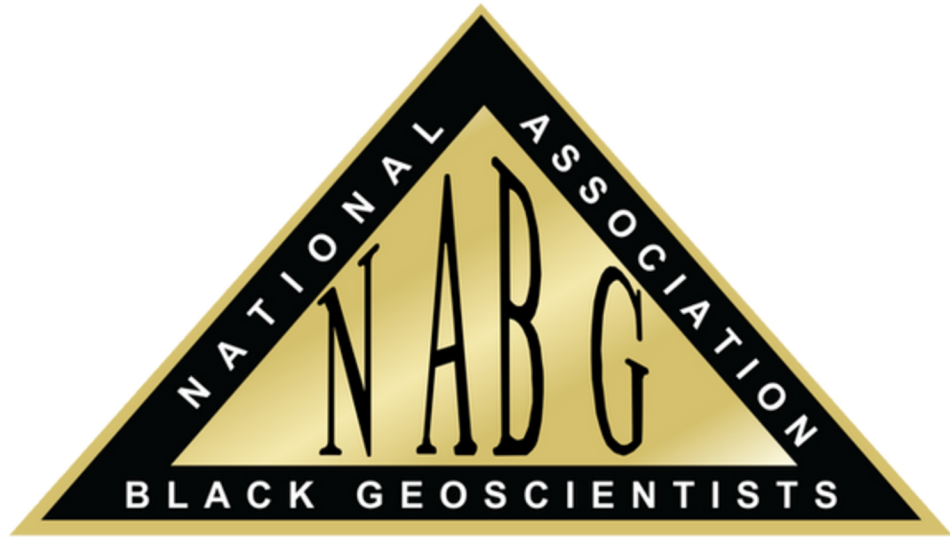
ExxonMobil



**COLORADO SCHOOL OF
MINES**

**44th Annual Technical Conference of the
National Association of Black Geoscientists**

GOLDEN, CO | COLORADO SCHOOL OF MINES | SEPTEMBER 3-6, 2025



CONFERENCE SPONSORS

**THANK YOU TO OUR
2025 CONFERENCE SPONSORS**



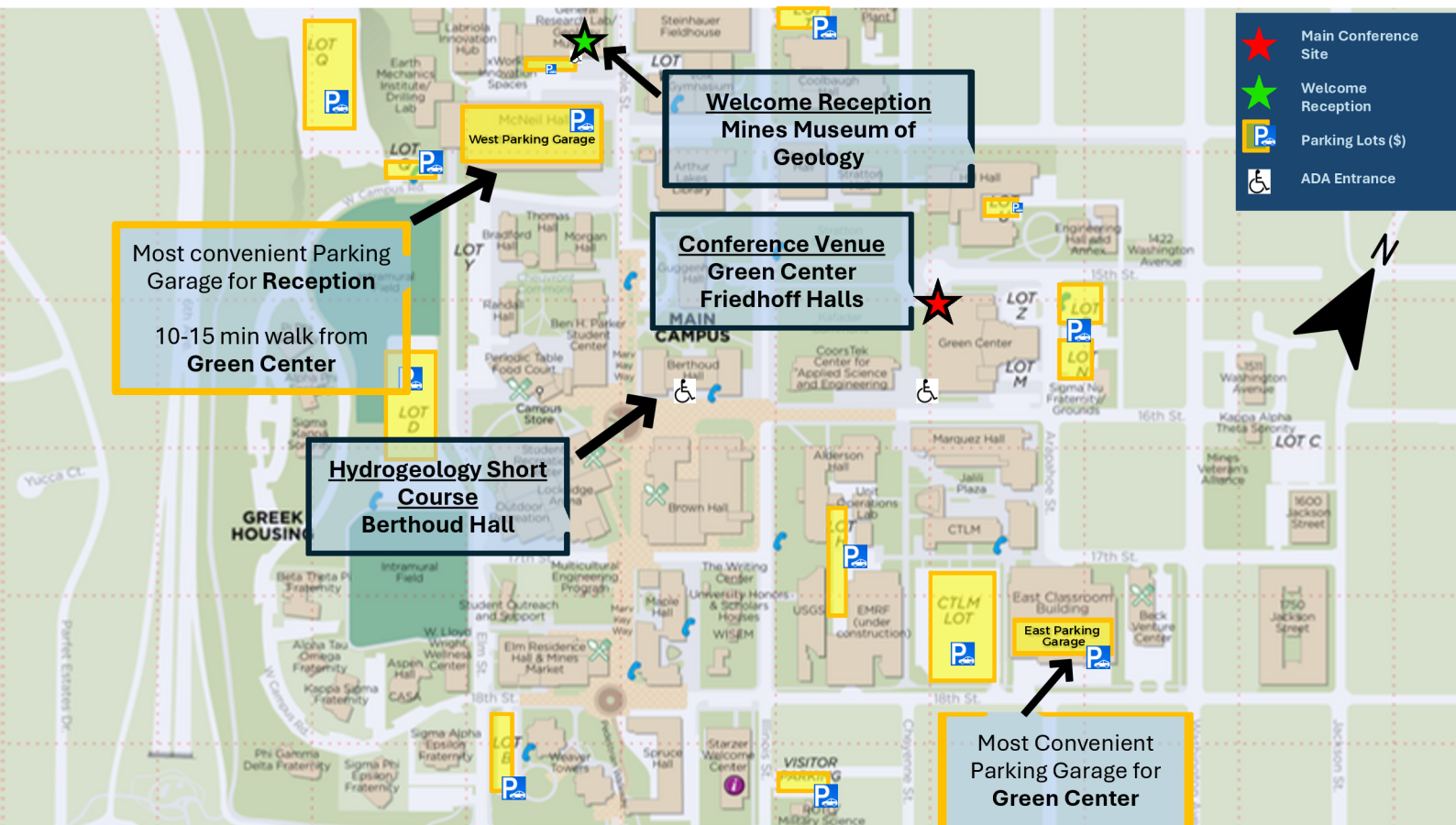
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VENUE AND LOGISTICS



KEY EVENT SPACES

WELCOME RECEPTION

REGISTRATION

FOOD AND BEVERAGE STATIONS

INTERVIEW ROOM

EXHIBITOR HALL

SHORT COURSES

PLENARY SESSIONS

POSTER SESSION

FRIDAY SOCIAL

Mines Geology Museum

Green Center Lobby

Green Center, Friedhoff 3

Green Center 200E

Green Center Lobby

Green Center 200A, C, F

Green Center, Friedhoff 1

Green Center, Friedhoff 2

Green Center, Friedhoff 1/2



SHUTTLE TIMES

WEDNESDAY, 9/3

MINES MUSEUM OF GEOLOGY → HOLIDAY INN	8:30 PM - 10:15 PM
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THURSDAY, 9/4

HOLIDAY INN → GREEN CENTER	7:15 AM - 8:15 AM
GREEN CENTER → HOLIDAY INN	6:00 PM - 7:30 PM

FRIDAY, 9/5

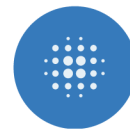
HOLIDAY INN → GREEN CENTER	7:15 AM - 8:15 AM
GREEN CENTER → HOLIDAY INN	8:30 PM - 9:30 PM

Shuttles will run approximately every 30 minutes, completing round trips between campus and the host hotel, the Holiday Inn Express - West Denver/Golden @ 17140 W. Colfax.

Note: Limited seating will be available.

We strongly recommend booking uber/lyft/taxis in advance to ensure timely arrival and departure from conference events.

CODE OF CONDUCT



The National Association of Black Geoscientists (NABG) is committed to a safe, inclusive, and harassment-free environment for all participants, regardless of gender, sexual orientation, disability, appearance, race, ethnicity, religion, or nationality. This Code applies to all attendees, speakers, staff, volunteers, and exhibitors, both in-person and online.

Expected Behavior

- Be respectful. Treat all participants with courtesy; value diverse perspectives.
- Communicate professionally. Focus on ideas, not individuals; use civil language.
- Foster inclusion. Intentionally welcome people of all backgrounds.
- Act with integrity. Present research honestly; credit all contributors.
- Report issues immediately. Speak up if you witness or experience misconduct.
- Support others. Intervene or seek help if someone is being mistreated.
- Follow venue rules. Comply with all rules and policies of all venues associated with the event.
- Act responsibly. If you choose to consume alcohol, do so responsibly.
- Ensure accessibility. Be mindful of accommodation needs of others and support NABG's commitment to inclusion.

Unacceptable Behavior

- Harassment, intimidation, or discrimination.
- Unwelcome physical contact.
- Disruption of sessions or events.
- Displaying inappropriate images in public or online spaces.
- Threats, retaliation, or violations of privacy.

Online and Social Media Conduct

The Code of Conduct also applies to online platforms, including NABG social media channels, LinkedIn, chats, and other digital spaces. Professional and respectful behavior is always expected, and inappropriate conduct online will be treated as seriously as in-person violations.

Reporting a Violation

If you witness or experience a Code of Conduct violation, report it immediately. All reports are handled confidentially.

- In person: Speak with a NABG leadership member at the registration desk.
- Email: communications@nabg-us.org

NABG will take prompt action, which may include warnings, removal from the event, or further disciplinary measures.

For the full Code of Conduct, visit:

[🔗 www.nabg-us.org/code-of-conduct](https://www.nabg-us.org/code-of-conduct)

NABG43 by the



NUMBERS

222

Attendees



70+

Pre-Conference
Workshop Attendees



45

Institutions &
Organizations
Represented

95

Abstracts
Presented



19

Unique Themes Across
the Geosciences

\$10K

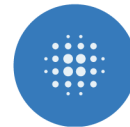
Awarded in
Scholarships



\$3K

Presentation
Awards Given

LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT



TRAMOND BAISDEN

Dear NABG,

We are thrilled to welcome you to the National Association of Black Geoscientists (NABG) 44th Annual Technical Conference, the premier event for Black geoscientists! This year, our conference brings the best and the brightest geoscientists to the beautiful Rocky Mountains and the campus of the Colorado School of Mines from September 3rd - 6th.

2025 has brought a dramatic shift to the political and social landscape, affecting many of us and our colleagues in different ways. Today, it is even more important than before that we remain connected, informed, and engaged as we continue to deliver upon our mission. That is why I am tremendously excited to welcome nearly 200 students and professionals from across the country to Golden to network, share technical expertise, engage in personal and professional development, and experience the breathtaking geology of the Rocky Mountains.

This year's theme, "The Earth We Need," focuses on taking stock of where we are today in order to paint a clearer picture of where we're going and what we must do to get there - equitably and with respect for nature. Challenges in energy, sustainability, and environmental justice remain prevalent, and without the right people working on the right problems and advocating for the unheard, the right solutions will not come to fruition. Please take this opportunity to gain fresh perspectives, make connections, and build a deeper understanding of the vital role we play in advancing science and standing up for our communities.

Thank you for joining us at our 44th Annual Technical Conference, and remaining committed to advancing the field of geoscience. I am so excited to join you in beautiful Colorado - one of my favorite states and a training ground in the geosciences for many of us. I wish you a great time sharing science, networking, furthering your personal pursuits, and recruiting students into your programs or organizations.

Welcome to Golden!

Tramond Baisden

President, NABG

CONFERENCE CHAIR GREETINGS



LEIAKA WELCOME

Dear NABG Family,

On behalf of the 2025 National Association of Black Geoscientists (NABG) and Colorado School of Mines (CSM) Conference Planning Committee, it is my great pleasure to welcome you to the 44th Annual Technical Conference of the National Association of Black Geoscientists (NABG) in Golden, Colorado: Welcome to the Centennial State!

In today's rapidly evolving geoscience landscape, we are proud to present a multidisciplinary conference designed to engage, empower, and showcase the innovations and ideas shaping the future of our field. In alignment with NABG's mission, this year's conference is a space for creating meaningful connections across sectors, developing both technical and soft skills, and celebrating the achievements and lived experiences of our geoscience community.

Our theme, "The Earth We Need: Driving Solutions for Society and Planet through Geoscience, Technology, and Innovation," reflects our commitment to address today's most pressing environmental, societal, and technological challenges. We have curated a dynamic agenda that highlights the intersection of geoscience, technology, policy, and society, with growth opportunities tailored for students, early-career professionals, and seasoned experts alike.

Attendees can look forward to a robust program of short courses, workshops, technical sessions, field trips, and professional development opportunities. You will engage with leading voices from academia and industry in areas such as energy, critical minerals, CCUS, sustainability, environmental geoscience, natural hazards, and public policy. We are especially excited to welcome our 2025 Keynote Speaker, Dr. Melissa Burt, whose leadership in climate science for all continues to inspire the next generation.

We hope this year's thoughtfully curated conference fosters cross-sector collaboration, interdisciplinary research, and broader engagement with geoscience knowledge and practice. We invite you to take full advantage of the opportunities to connect with students, educators, industry professionals, sponsors, and members of the Colorado School of Mines community.

To our NABG family, welcome to Colorado, home of the majestic Rocky Mountains and the vibrant CSM campus. We are honored to host you for what promises to be a memorable and transformative 44th Annual Technical Conference.

With gratitude and excitement,

Leika Welcome

2025 Conference Chair, NABG

NABG HISTORY



In 1979, there were rumblings from a number of minority professionals that they felt the need to connect, communicate, and network with other minority professionals in the geosciences. The voices of our colleagues became louder as time passed and on one given afternoon there was extensive conversation regarding the possibility of setting up an organization that would reach out and let others know that there was an opportunity for individuals with an aptitude in math and science to become Geoscientists. The people involved in these discussions were: Mr. Curtis Lucas, Mr. Allan Harris, Mr. James Briggs, Mr. James Davis, and Mr. Michael Carroll. Mr. Lucas was a dominant force at that point with a multiplicity of ideas of what he felt the direction of such an organization should be. In 1980, we met and compiled a list of geoscientists that we knew in the Houston area. This list was compiled with the intention of setting up an initial meeting to table our ideas and to at least contact other minority geoscience professionals. There was communication with Mr. Briggs in Dallas and Mr. Davis in Denver, and they were charged with establishing similar sessions in their respective cities.

In Houston, we needed a central location to meet, a willing host, and we also needed to have a figure that everyone knew and respected to get the organization off the ground. We found all of this at the home of Dr. Mack Gipson, who had been a college professor at Virginia State University.

Dr. Gipson was contacted and asked if he would host an Ice Breaker/Planning Session at his home. When the intent was discussed, he indicated that there had been a lot of conversations about doing this kind of thing in the past. At that point, we indicated to him that we were involved with a group of individuals who were planning to do more than talk about it. He agreed to host the session. Mr. Lucas and Carroll split a list of twenty-nine names and began calling and making an appeal to individuals to attend this meeting. A warm responses was received from the majority of people contacted and the promise from several to spread the word.

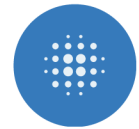


The meeting was a success. There was a room full of geoscience professionals buzzing with ideas, energy and enthusiasm. Dr. Gipson, along with Mr. Lucas, were central figures that evening. It became tremendously obvious that this was, at the least, a meeting that everyone there had been looking forward to for some time. Setting up an introductory session and getting people to attend was one thing; setting up an organization and getting everyone moving toward the same objectives would be quite another story. The meetings that followed were held at the homes of some of the charter members. The majority of the meetings were held at the home of Mr. Ken Yarbrough. He was gracious enough to allow us to meet at his home, which quickly became a forum for debate and conjecture on how the organization should be set up, what the objectives should be, who should compose the membership, should we incorporate, etc. At times, it seemed as though the discussions were endless.

Other prominent figures arose in these sessions. A fiery, young woman from Sierra Leone, Ms. Rachel Taylor who was at the time with Sohio, shared her passion and energy to chair a committee to establish the constitution and bylaws of the organization. Ms. Laverne Gentry, Mr. John Chance, Ms. Zelma Jackson, and Ms. Millicent McCaskill tore into building and established a foundation on which the organization could stand. Mr. Walter Alexander, an established independent at the time, became a strong advocate of the organization. Dr. John Leftwich and Mr. Reginald Spiller became champions of ideas to involve and inspire youth to consider careers in the geosciences. At a very early point in these series of meetings, we selected an organization name and a set of objectives that were reviewed, amended, and voted on by the charter members. The name that was agreed upon was The National Association of Black Geologists and Geophysicists. The objectives that we established were accepted and remain a focus of our organization today. Our programs of scholarship support, local interaction with schools and professional meetings work well to support the increased participation of Black Geoscientists. Through the years, the NABG has awarded over \$300,000 to over 130 students for undergraduate and graduate study. In the early 2000's, in acknowledgement of our inclusivity of earth scientists outside of geology and geophysics, the organization was renamed as the National Association of Black Geoscientists.

Since 1990, NABG has been recognized as a national professional organization by becoming a member society of the American Geological Institute (AGI) and the Geological Society of America (GSA). NABG has member representation on the National Petroleum Council (NPC) which reports to the Secretary of Energy. NABG is also affiliated with the American Association of Petroleum Geologists (AAPG), The Earth Day Network, and the Digital Library for Earth System Education (DLESE).

NABG was established and incorporated in 1981 in Houston, Texas and has been an active organization nationwide with members in the energy industry, academia, in government, and most importantly in colleges and universities.



2024 - 2026 NABG NATIONAL OFFICERS

PRESIDENT	Tramond Baisden, Shell
VICE PRESIDENT	Dr. Karena Gill, Arizona State Univ.
SECRETARY	Dr. Tobi Ore, bp
TREASURER	David Davis, Rutgers Univ.
PARLIAMENTARIAN	Elizabeth Freeman, U. of Alaska Fairbanks
MEMBER-AT-LARGE	Elizabeth Sunday, U. of Wisconsin
MEMBER-AT-LARGE	Kimbra Quezergue, ExxonMobil
IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT	Jerome Murphy, ExxonMobil

ADVISORY BOARD

DR. STEPHEN BOSS	University of Arkansas
MICHAEL CARROLL^{1,2}	Hunt Oil
DR. ISAAC CRUMBLY	Fort Valley State University
ZELMA JACKSON-MAINE^{1,2}	Washington Dept. of Ecology
DR. DAVID PADGETT	Tennessee State University
REGINAL SPILLER²	CEO Azimuth Energy
DR. WESLEY WARD¹	USGS
ELIJAH WHITE¹	ExxonMobil
DARRYL WILLIS	Microsoft
KEN YARBROUGH^{1,2}	Osyka Corp

1.Denotes Retired 2.Denotes NABG Co-Founder



2025 CONFERENCE PLANNING COMMITTEE

CHAIR

Leiaka Welcome, Co. School of Mines

SCHOLARSHIPS

Roxanne Lamb, USGS

Kimbra Quezergue, ExxonMobil

TECHNICAL ABSTRACTS

Dr. Chven Mitchell, Sandia Nat'l Labs

MARKETING

Elizabeth Freeman, U. of Alaska Fairbanks

WEBMASTER

Tramond Baisden, Shell

LOGISTICS

Leiaka Welcome, Co. School of Mines

STUDENT ENGAGEMENT

Elizabeth Sunday, U. of Wisconsin

Dr. Karena Gill, Arizona State University

FIELD TRIP

Moses Adebayo, Co. School of Mines

David Nworie, Co. School of Mines

REGISTRATION

JoAnn Kvamme, Retired

SPONSORSHIP & FUNDRAISING

David Davis, Rutgers

2025 CONFERENCE VOLUNTEERS

David Nworie

Dr. Safiya Alpheus

Moses Adebayo

Dr. Quentin Stubbs

Dr. Eileen Martin

Dr. Manika Prasad

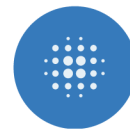
Dr. Adrienne Marshall

Hafiz Issah

Dr. Lesli Wood

Dr. Tobi Ore

2025 SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS



UNDERGRADUATE SCHOLARS

MEAGAN FIGUEROA

Rutgers University, Newark

ANIYA HINTON

Arizona State University

GRANT HOLLY

Georgia Institute of Technology

MISHANTI JOHNSON

Southern University and A&M

DAPHNE VARMA

Texas Christian University

Thank you to our undergraduate scholarship donor, Mr. Mantez McDonald

GRADUATE SCHOLARS

AYOMIPOSI FALADE (PHD)

University of Memphis

PRECIOUS OSO (MS)

University of Kansas

OLUWAKUNLE OGUNSAKIN (PHD)

Missouri University of Science & Technology

TOBECHUKWU UDE-AKPEH (MS)

University of Texas - Permian Basin

DESTINEE WHITAKER (MS)

Georgia State University

Congratulations, Scholars!

CONFERENCE AGENDA

Wednesday, September 3

Session Time (MDT)	Title	Presenter	Location
10:00AM - 2:00PM	Pathways to Geoscience Careers: High School Leadership Event	The National Energy Education Development Program & Shell	CANCELLED
12:00 - 5:00 PM	CCUS Short Course	Dr. Manika Prasad	Green Center 200F
2:00 - 5:30 PM	Data Analytics Short Course	Dr. Eileen Martin, Dr. Tobi Ore, Hafiz Issah	Green Center 200A
4:00 - 6:00 PM	Hydrogeology Short Course	Dr. Adrienne Marshall Moses Adebayo	Berthoud Hall & Clear Creek
6:30 - 9:00 PM	Welcome Reception / Check-in		Mines Museum of Earth Science

CONFERENCE AGENDA

Thursday, September 4

Session Time (MDT)	Title	Speaker	Location
7:30 - 8:00 AM	Check-in/Registration		Green Center Lobby
8:00 - 8:30 AM	Conference Welcome and Opening Remarks	Tramond Baisden President, NABG Dr. Alexis Sitchler Colorado School of Mines	Friedhoff 1
8:30 - 9:00 AM	Exhibitor Intros	All Exhibitors	Friedhoff 1
9:00 - 9:15 AM	Oral Presentations Segment 1	Oluwaseyi Dasho	Friedhoff 1
9:15 - 9:30 AM		Riliwan Abioye	
9:30 - 9:45 AM		Damilola Ajewole	
9:45 - 10:00 AM		Temidayo Popoola	
10:00 - 10:15 AM		Emmanuel Audu	
10:15 - 10:25 AM	BREAK		
10:25 - 10:40 AM	Oral Presentations Segment 2	Caroline Apraku	Friedhoff 1
10:40 - 10:55 AM		Beatrice Ogbuagu	
10:55 - 11:10 AM		Charlotte Annan	
11:10 - 11:25 AM		Zantia King	
11:25 - 11:55 AM	Tech Talk: Subsurface Predictions and Decision Making	Kimbra Quezergue ExxonMobil	Friedhoff 1
11:55 AM - 1:20 PM	LUNCH		
12:20 - 1:00 PM	Brown Bag Lunch Talk: Workforce Gap and Challenges	Dr. John Bradford Colorado School of Mines	Friedhoff 1
1:00 - 1:10 PM	BREAK		
1:10 - 2:50 PM	Workshop: Mapping your Mentor Network	ADVANCEGeo Partnership	Friedhoff 1
2:50 - 3:00 PM	BREAK		
3:00 - 3:50 PM	Lightning Talks Segment 1	Kashauna Mason	Friedhoff 1
		Eli Nyawunu	
		Nicollette Mitchell	
		Raven McRae	
		Rachel Iweka	
		Olalekan Alamoh	
3:50 - 4:00 PM	BREAK		
4:00 - 6:00 PM	Poster Presentations : Session 1		Friedhoff 2
4:00 - 6:00 PM	Exhibitor Booths + Networking		Green Center Lobby

CONFERENCE AGENDA

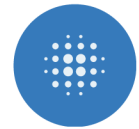
Friday, September 5			
Session Time (MDT)	Title	Speaker	Location
7:30 - 8:00 AM	Check-in/Registration		Green Center Lobby
8:00 - 8:10 AM	Welcome & Logistics		Friedhoff 1
8:10 - 9:40 AM	Oral presentations Segment 3	TBD	Friedhoff 1
		Tobechukwu Ude-Akpeh	
		Emuobosa Patience Ojoboh	
		Ariyanna Reedy	
		Richard Asirifi	
		Nicollette Mitchell	
9:40 - 9:50 AM	BREAK		
9:50 - 11:20 AM	Oral presentations Segment 4	Barnabas Adeyemi	Friedhoff 1
		Phylindia Gant	
		Tochukwu Onyebum	
		Ahmed Adeyekun	
		Patrick Morton	
		TBD	
11:20 - 12:00 PM	LUNCH		
12:00 - 12:45 PM	Keynote Address	Dr. Melissa A. Burt Colorado State University	Friedhoff 1
12:45 - 1:00 PM	BREAK		
1:00 - 1:30 PM	Geology at the Heart of the Energy Transition	Olamide Dada, CPA Heelstone Renewable Energy	Friedhoff 1
1:30 - 2:00 PM	Global Initiatives, International Partnerships, and Building Inclusive Research Communities	Dr. John Bradford, CSM Dr. Luka Powanga, Regis U.	Friedhoff 1
2:00 - 2:10 PM	BREAK		
2:10 - 2:50 PM	Geoscience Townhall	Karena Gill Arizona State University Sherilyn Williams-Stroud Texas A&M	Friedhoff 1
2:50 - 3:40 PM	Lightning Talks Segment 2	Khalil Buckmire	Friedhoff 1
		Jane Onu	
		Greatness Ojum	
		Raymond Aderoju	
3:40 - 5:30 PM	Poster Session 2		Friedhoff 2
3:40 - 5:30 PM	Exhibitor Booths + Networking		Green Center Lobby
5:30 - 6:00 PM	BREAK		
6:00 - 6:30 PM	Conference Closing & Awards		Friedhoff 1
6:30 - 8:30 PM	Student Social		Friedhoff 1/2



WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 3RD - 10:00AM

**PATHWAYS TO GEOSCIENCE CAREERS: HIGH SCHOOL LEADERSHIP
EVENT (**CANCELLED**)**

The National Energy Education Development Project (NEED) designs and delivers teacher- tested educational materials, evaluation techniques and tools, recognition of student achievement, and professional development for educators. NEED materials and training programs provide comprehensive, objective information about the scientific concepts of energy and the sources of energy – their use and their impact on the environment, the economy and society. Together with Shell, NEED will expose high-school students to the earth sciences, including geology, geophysics, climate science, and sustainability, through hands-on activities with real-world applications.



WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 3RD - 1:00PM - 5:00PM

CARBON CAPTURE, USAGE, AND SEQUESTRATION SHORT COURSE

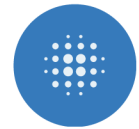


DR. MANIKA PRASAD
Colorado School of Mines

Carbon Management from Capture to Sequestration to climate modelling: needs, urgencies, and requirements!

This short course will explore the ins and outs of carbon capture, usage, and sequestration. Attendees will gain insight on the following topics with a specific view towards understanding the drivers behind CCUS:

1. Climate Change data and analysis
2. Sustainability - economic, climate, and environmental justice
3. Energy and CO₂ emissions
4. Geosystems and GHG storage and utilization



WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 3RD - 4:00PM - 6:00PM **HYDROGEOLOGY SHORT COURSE**

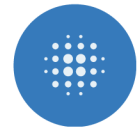


DR. ADRIENNE MARSHALL
Colorado School of Mines



MOSES ADEBAYO
Colorado School of Mines

This workshop will be an interactive session on water issues in the western U.S. We will take a walk to Clear Creek, a snowmelt-fed stream, where we will discuss and demonstrate key principles of hydrogeology through hands-on activities. The session will include open discussions, Q&A, and live demonstrations of how field data, like discharge measurements, are collected and used in models to better understand and manage water-related issues.



WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 3RD - 2:00PM - 5:30PM

DATA ANALYSIS AND VISUALIZATION FOR EARTH SCIENTISTS



DR. EILEEN MARTIN
Colorado School of Mines



TOBI ORE
bp



HAFIZ ISSAH
Colorado School of Mines

Join us for a hands-on introduction to data analysis and visualization in Earth science using Python and R. This interactive workshop covers essential tools, free resources, and real-world examples.

No advanced coding required—just bring your curiosity and laptop!



FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 5TH - 11:20 AM

Dr. Melissa A. Burt

Associate Professor

Associate Dean for Access and Success

Department of Atmospheric Science
Walter Scott Jr. College of Engineering
Colorado State University



Dr. Melissa Burt is a dynamic leader and scholar at Colorado State University, where she serves as Associate Professor and Associate Dean for Access and Success in the Department of Atmospheric Science and the Walter Scott, Jr. College of Engineering. Her research explores the intersection of atmospheric science and social justice, with a focus on creating a more inclusive and equitable environment in STEM. Burt previously served as Vice President of the Earth Science Women's Network (ESWN), a non-profit 501c(3) dedicated to supporting professional success and career advancement within the geosciences. Burt is a co-founder of Science Moms, a non-partisan group of climate scientists and mothers working to give our children the planet they deserve.

She is a Fellow of the American Meteorological Society and recipient of the Charles E. Anderson Award for her contributions to promoting diversity in atmospheric science. Dr. Burt holds a B.S. in Meteorology from Millersville University and an M.S. and Ph.D. in Atmospheric Science from Colorado State University.



THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 4TH

11:25 AM

Subsurface Uncertainties and Decision Making

Kimbra Quezergue, ExxonMobil

Stacie Gibbins, ExxonMobil



This presentation highlights geoscience and geoscientist, as a key player in handling subsurface uncertainty. We'll explore key sources of uncertainty, practical methods for quantifying and mitigating these uncertainties to improve decision-making.

ExxonMobil



THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 4TH

12:10 PM

The Energy Workforce Gap: An Opportunity for Africa

Dr. John Bradford

Colorado School of Mines



John Bradford received dual BS degrees in Physics and Engineering Physics with a concentration in Chemical Engineering from the University of Kansas in 1994. He received his PhD in Geophysics from Rice University in 1999. In 2001 he joined the Center for Geophysical Investigation of the Shallow Subsurface at Boise State University, where he served as director from 2006-2009. In 2017 he moved to the Colorado School of Mines where he served as the Geophysics Department Head until 2019, Vice Provost and Dean from 2019 – 2020, and is currently Vice President for Global Initiatives.

He remains active in research and is focused on developing methodologies for quantitative analysis of near-surface seismic and ground-penetrating radar data with emphasis on using these tools to solve interdisciplinary science and engineering problems. He has published on a diverse array of topics that include hydrocarbon detection as both resource and environmental contaminant, geothermal characterization, hydrogeophysics, glaciology, and archaeology. In 2015/2016 he served as the President of the Society of Exploration Geophysicists. In this role, he was Chairman of the Board for a global corporation with four subsidiary corporations and offices in Tulsa, Beijing, and Dubai.



FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 5TH

1:00 PM

Geology at the Heart of Energy Transition: A Finance Perspective on Oil, Gas, and Mining

Olamide Dada, CFA, Heelstone Renewable Energy



Geology and finance are more closely linked than most realize. The core principle of geology, uniformitarianism, the idea that the past is the key to the future, also underpins the world of finance, where we value assets based on expected future cash flows derived from today's inputs and assumptions. In this session, we'll explore how this shared mindset drives decision-making in the energy and natural resources sectors. From oil and gas exploration to critical minerals for renewables, we'll examine how geological insight informs capital allocation, investment strategies, and risk management. Attendees will gain a unique view of the energy transition, seeing how science and financial forecasting work together to shape the future of oil, gas, and mining in a decarbonizing world.



FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 5TH

1:00 PM

Geology at the Heart of Energy Transition: A Finance Perspective on Oil, Gas, and Mining

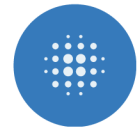
Olamide Dada, CFA, Heelstone Renewable Energy



Olamide Dada is Vice President of Finance at Heelstone Renewable Energy, where he oversees corporate and project-level finance, capital raising, and strategic planning for a growing portfolio of utility-scale solar and battery storage projects across the United States. He has over a decade of experience in corporate finance, asset valuation, and capital markets, with a proven track record of executing over \$150 million in asset sales and raising more than \$100 million in both debt and equity capital.

Dada began his career at BHP Billiton (“BHP”), where he worked on asset valuation, reserve estimation, and reservoir modeling, and was part of the unconventional asset divestment team that completed the \$10 billion U.S. Lower 48 asset sale to BP. He later held a business development and project valuation role with a private equity-backed natural gas company, evaluating acquisitions and major capital projects.

He holds a B.S. in Geology from the University of Oklahoma and an M.S. in Petroleum Geology from the University of Louisiana. A CFA charter holder and active member of the CFA Society Houston, Dada blends technical insight with financial expertise to deliver innovative financing solutions and advance the energy transition.



FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 5TH

1:30 PM

Global Initiatives, International Partnerships, and Building Inclusive Research Communities



DR. JOHN BRADFORD
Colorado School of Mines



DR. LUKA POWANGA
Regis University

In this dynamic fireside chat, Dr. John Bradford and Dr. Luka Powanga will explore the transformative potential of global initiatives, international partnerships, and the creation of inclusive research communities. Drawing on their extensive experience in academia, industry, and global collaboration, they will discuss strategies for bridging diverse fields and geographies to address complex global challenges.



FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 5TH

1:30 PM

Global Initiatives, International Partnerships, and Building Inclusive Research Communities

Dr. Luka Powanga, Regis University



Dr. Powanga is globally recognized as a creative problem solver, a visionary, and a thought leader. He has developed and taught courses in logistics, economics, finance, international business, strategy, and commercialization. He was involved in pioneering the Online MBA Program at Regis University, which grew to over 4,000 students. He chaired the MBA program and helped develop the Physicians MBA and joint graduate degrees with Management Concepts, the University of ITESO (Mexico), and Ulster (Ireland). He was a founding member of the board which established the Sullivan Center for Entrepreneurship at Regis University. He served on the committee that evaluated the viability of programs at Regis University.

Luka has chaired, keynoted, organized numerous national and international academic and business conferences and is a regular contributor and reviewer to important global reports in the renewable energy space. He has appeared on local and foreign media outlets such as 9News and AllAfrica.com. Luka founded the Energy Africa Conference, the world's premier energy conference on Africa. He develops and implements energy projects and connects investors from all over the world to projects in Africa. He is also the founder and host of the Executive Speaker Night Series at Regis University.

Luka is a founding member of the Denver Chapter of the Angel Capital Group. He participated in the film, Hot money. He sits on many boards designed to advance business or recast the lives of the underserved communities. Luka's passion is to make the world a better place for everyone.



THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 4TH - 1:10 PM

Mapping Your Mentor Network Building Strategic Relationships for Career Success



**DR. ASMERET
ASEFAW BERHE**
UC Merced



**DR. MELISSA
BURT**
Colorado State U.



**DR. ERIKA
MARIN-SPIOTTA**
U. of Wisconsin

This interactive workshop introduces geoscientists to the proven Mentor Map methodology for strategically building supportive professional support networks. Participants will learn about the value of mentoring networks, as opposed to relying on sole mentors. They will also assess their current mentoring relationships across several categories, depending on their career stages and mentoring needs. Through a hands-on exercise, attendees will identify gaps in their support systems and develop actionable plans to cultivate meaningful relationships with mentors, sponsors, and collaborators. The session will be valuable for students, other early-career professionals and others seeking to advance in academia or industry.

About ADVANCEGeo

ADVANCEGeo Partnership is a National Science Foundation funded effort. ADVANCEGeo started with partnership of the Earth Science Women's Network, Association for Women Geoscientists and the American Geophysical Union to address harassment and other exclusionary behaviors that lead to hostile working and learning environments in the earth, space and environmental sciences. A primary goal of the partnership is to improve workplace climate conditions by developing bystander intervention education and other types of interventions for department heads, chairs, faculty and grad students to appropriately respond to and prevent exclusionary behaviors in research environments. For more information: www.serc.carleton.edu/advancegeo/



FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 5TH - 2:10 PM

Geoscience Townhall



**DR. KARENA
GILL**
Arizona State U.



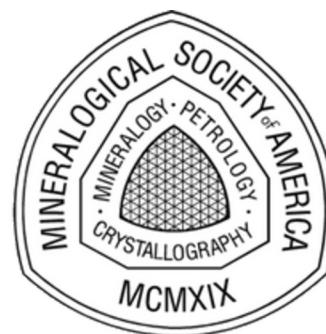
**DR. SHERILYN
WILLIAMS-STROUD**
Texas A&M

Join us for an open, honest conversation about navigating the geosciences as students and early-career professionals. This informal session is a space to talk about real challenges like securing funding, exploring career pivots, and navigating academic and professional spaces, including the unique experiences of international students. We will build community through shared stories and candid dialogue. All are welcome. Come ready to listen, share, and connect.

2025 EXHIBITORS



THE
GEOLOGICAL
SOCIETY
OF AMERICA®



EarthScope
Consortium



PennState
College of Earth
and Mineral Sciences
Department of Geosciences

THE UNIVERSITY OF
ALABAMA®

Barefield
College of Arts & Sciences
Geological Sciences



Stony Brook University



TEXAS Geosciences

The University of Texas at Austin
Jackson School of Geosciences





AMERICAN GEOPHYSICAL UNION

Our Mission: To support and inspire a global community of individuals and organizations interested in advancing discovery in Earth and space sciences and its benefit for humanity and the environment.

Our Programs: No matter your career stage, professional and career development are important to advancing yourself and helping guide others. AGU provides career and educational resources, webinars, mentoring services, and support for students and professionals at all levels in Earth and space science. At AGU, we're especially committed to inspiring and educating present and future generations of diverse, innovative, and creative Earth and space scientists. Continue to explore our [website](#) and our [career center](#) to learn more about all the programs AGU has to offer.

Contact Pranoti Asher (pasher@agu.org) or Ashanti Edwards (aedwards@agu.org) with your questions about AGU programs.

<https://www.agu.org/advancement>

<https://findajob.agu.org/>



UNIVERSITY OF ALABAMA

The Department of Geological Sciences (DGS) at The University of Alabama (UA) offers MS and PhD degrees, providing students with focused research opportunities in a range of Earth science specialties including hydrology, climatology, geochemistry, geobiology, geophysics, and critical resources, among others.

Selected students, both domestic and international, are guaranteed two years of support for the MS and five years of support for the PhD. Funded students are provided with either a teaching assistantship, research assistantship, graduate fellowship, or a combination of these throughout their degree program, which includes a monthly stipend, tuition, health insurance, and coverage of college fees.

The DGS is a partner institution in the AGU Bridge Program.

bp

As a leading global energy company with a presence in over 61 countries, bp is dedicated to delivering energy to the world, today and tomorrow. Across the bp landscape, we're home to a range of brands across many areas of our industry. For over 100 years, we've focused on discovering, developing, and producing oil and gas in the nations where we operate. Delivering our strategy sustainably is fundamental to achieving our ambition to be a net zero company by 2050 or sooner. It's an exciting time to join bp. From wellbeing programs to mentorship and career growth opportunities, we aim to ensure you can thrive – in work and in life.

Go to www.bp.com/uscampus to explore early career opportunities.



COLORADO GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

The Colorado Geological Survey strives to reduce the impact of geologic hazards in Colorado, promote responsible economic development of mineral and energy resources, provide geologic insight into water resources, and offer sound geologic advice and information to diverse constituencies.

Our mission areas include:

- Geologic and geologic hazard mapping,
- Land use reviews for county and municipal planners throughout Colorado,
- Hydrogeology from the perspectives of water resources and water quality,
- Minerals, mineral fuels, and geothermal resources, and
- Outreach

On the outreach front, one of our goals is to help spark the interest of students from diverse backgrounds in the geosciences. CGS, along with several collaborators, assists CABPES, the Colorado Association of Black Professional Engineers and Scientists, with a geoscience course for the JETS (Junior Engineers and Tomorrow's Scientists) program each year. The course is for high school age students and is held one night per week in Aurora from January through April.

We would very much appreciate additional guest lecturers willing to join us in person in Aurora to give an introduction to their specific field of practice, discuss their work and/or projects, and share what they enjoy about being a geoscientist!

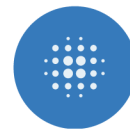
For more information and to volunteer to guest lecture at the JETS geoscience class, please visit the CGS table to pick up a flyer or email Jill Carlson at carlson@mines.edu



EARTHSCOPE CONSORTIUM

EarthScope Consortium is a university consortium dedicated to supporting transformative global geophysical research and education. Our vision is an engaged society, resilient to geohazards, informed by geophysical discovery and global collaboration. EarthScope Consortium operates NSF's GAGE and SAGE Facilities previously operated by UNAVCO and IRIS. EarthScope offers paid summer internships for undergraduate and graduate students and recent graduates.

For more information, and to see the work of our previous internship cohorts, please visit: www.earthscope.org/internships/



EXXONMOBIL

ExxonMobil is an energy company that works around the world, utilizing the most advanced technology to safely and responsibly deliver the energy needed for economic and social progress. We know that science, technology and engineering in the hands of people with integrity are keys to the global energy challenge: to expand supplies of energy to meet growing demand, while increasing efficiency and reducing emissions. We are working to provide the energy needed for progress... for today and tomorrow.

The Geoscience Recruiting team will be interviewing candidates for both internships and full-time employment opportunities, while at NABG. They're looking for candidates with a strong fundamental background in geoscience (geology and/or geophysics) and scientific curiosity that are pursuing a MS or PhD. Candidates must have the permanent right to work in the US. If that's you please stop by the ExxonMobil booth!

GEOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF AMERICA

The Geological Society of America helps a diverse community of geoscientists find the tools, confidence, and connections they need to navigate the complexity involved in advancing our science and driving their careers to fulfilling new heights. Our mission is to advance geoscience research and discovery, service to society, stewardship of Earth, and the geosciences profession. We offer numerous grants, fellowships, and awards to students and early career scientists to support them in their education, research, and conference attendance. We encourage NABG attendees and members to consider nominating a colleague (or themselves!) for one of our Awards!



MINERALOGICAL SOCIETY OF AMERICA

The Mineralogical Society of America promotes the science and appreciation of minerals (mineralogy) and crystals (crystallography), and their uses in science, industry, and the arts. The MSA encourages and supports researchers from students to established professionals, teachers from K-12 to college, and gem and mineral enthusiasts ranging from museum visitors to collectors. With members from across the globe, the MSA represents the U.S. internationally. Membership in the MSA (including student membership) includes Elements magazine and the American Mineralogist, and discounts on all MSA publications, Short Courses, workshops, and events.

PENN STATE UNIVERSITY

The Department of Geosciences pursues fundamental, cutting-edge and strategic research in areas of the geosciences that have great societal impact and educates students for careers that advance the forefront of knowledge in the geosciences. The College of Earth and Mineral Sciences advances knowledge, talent and leadership to understand Earth processes and history, harness and sustain natural resources and materials, and develop novel solutions to major challenges in energy, environment and well-being. Strong departmental and college communities, alumni networks, and industry and government connections provide a foundation for learning and research that prepares students for rewarding careers that have an impact on the world. We offer funded undergraduate research (REUs) and graduate (MS and PhD) programs



STONY BROOK UNIVERSITY

The Department of Geosciences of Stony Brook University, New York offers undergraduate and graduate programs. We sponsor international students. Undergraduate degree programs include a B.S. and a minor in Geology in addition to a B.A. in Earth and Space Science. Teaching focused degrees that are offered include a B.A. in Earth and Space Sciences/Science Education and a combined B.A. and a Masters of Arts in Teaching Earth Sciences.

Graduate students may choose among degree programs with emphasis in different areas in Geosciences. Ph.D. programs are offered with areas of emphasis that include seismology and tectonics, mineral and rock physics, crystal chemistry, geochemistry, petrology, sedimentary geology, stratigraphy, paleoclimate, planetary geosciences and hydrogeology. New Ph.D. students in these programs are typically supported with a full tuition waiver and a competitive annual salary. Other graduate student fellowship opportunities offered by Stony Brook University are another means of support. The department sponsors international students.

The department also offers a non-thesis M.S. program in hydrogeology focused primarily on training professionals in environmentally related fields. In addition, there is a Masters of Arts in Teaching Earth Sciences, which leads to initial certification for teaching Earth Science in secondary schools of New York State. There is also a M.S. in Geosciences with concentration in Earth and Space Sciences. These programs generally do not provide tuition waivers or salary support.

Stony Brook University serves as the academic base affiliated with the Turkana Basin Institute (TBI), whose primary research focus is human prehistory.



TEXAS CHRISTIAN UNIVERSITY

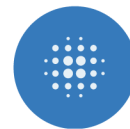


UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS - AUSTIN

The Jackson School of Geosciences has opportunities for geoscientists at all career and educational stages. Undergraduates and postbaccalaureate students from geoscience and STEM majors are encouraged to apply to the NextStep Geoscience program, a paid, 9-week summer internship focused on enhancing the participants' technical and professional skills by engaging in geoscience research and professional workshops. One of the primary goals of this program is to help prepare undergraduate students for graduate school and the geoscience workforce.

Prospective graduate students can pursue MS and PhD degrees in Geoscience through the Department of Earth and Planetary Sciences. The Energy & Earth Resources program offers interdisciplinary Masters degrees and dual degrees in policy and business.

We encourage aspiring graduate students to apply to attend the Gateway to Graduate Studies (G2S2), a free and expenses paid two-day graduate preview at UT Austin, November 6 & 7, 2025. This program is in-person and based in Austin, Texas. As a result, we can only accept applications from domestic students. It is intended for recent graduates or students who are nearing completion of their undergraduate degrees.



SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 6TH

8:00 AM - 12:00 PM

A LOOK AT THE PALEOZOIC TO MESOZOIC ROCKS OF THE FRONT RANGE: A JOURNEY FROM RED ROCKS TO DINOSAURS

Dr. Lesli Wood, Colorado School of Mines

A geologic journey through Golden, Colorado.

This field trip is designed as a 0.5 day excursion to examine the Lower Cretaceous, Dakota Group rocks along the central Colorado Front Range. These are amazing exposures that allow us to peer into the details of incised valleys and associated shoreface sequences that have produced nearly 2 billion barrels of hydrocarbon in the adjacent subsurface of the Denver-Julesburg Basin (Figure 0.1.1) The excursion will consist of stops in the foothills of the Front Range along the west side of Denver where we will first examine the units that underlie the Dakota Group.

We will spend the later part of the morning on a pleasant walk to see the stratigraphic framework of the Dakota Group, including the Lytle, Plainview, Skull Creek and Muddy J Sandstones. Stops 1 and 2 will establish the structural framework of the Front Range and look at the braided stream deposits of the ancestral Rockies which overlie basement. Stop 3 will continue our stratigraphic climb as we examine the Morrison Formation and its plethora of dinosaur fossils, and the overlying Dakota Group incised valleys and associated reservoir facies that are producing in the D-J Basin. We will look at several temporal transects as well as lateral character in this large incised-valley systems that is feeding reservoirs into the more eastward D-J Basin.

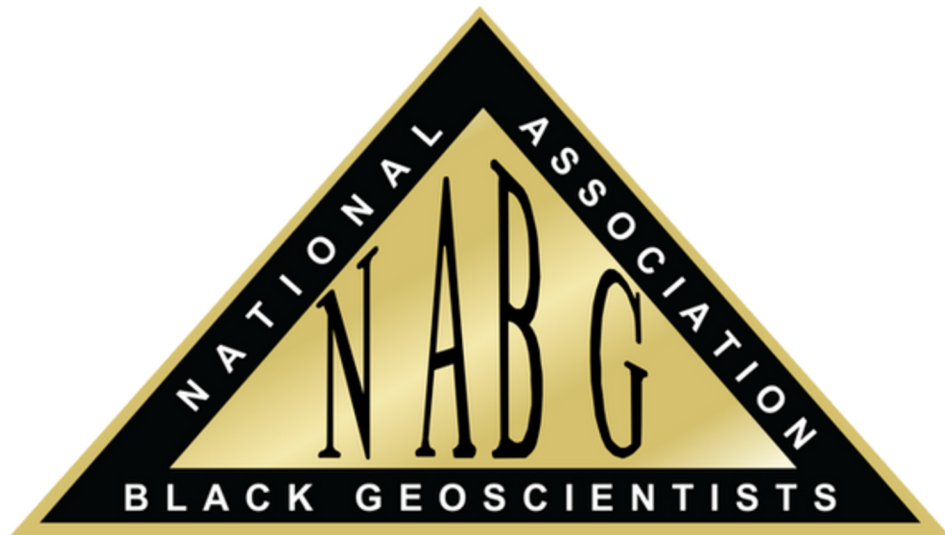
Logistics

Transportation, snacks, water, and lunch will be provided.

The bus will depart the Holiday Inn Express (17140 W. Colfax) at 8am.

At the end of the field trip, the bus will return to the Holiday Inn Express.

The bus will depart for Denver Int'l Airport at 12 Noon.



IN LOVING MEMORY

OF



MARILYN J. SUITER

