

INVITATION TO ATTEND



Dear Colleague,

I am truly delighted to invite you to attend the 24th annual SAGEEP in Charleston, South Carolina! Our theme this year is "Geophysical Stewardship", and that theme will resound through several components of the conference. There are several reasons for this conference to be a "must-attend" for geophysicists and engineers who specialize in the near surface environment as well as those who sponsor or contract for our expertise.

Technical Chair Dr. Greg Baker has developed an unsurpassed technical program with support from a devoted group of session chairs and special assistance from Dr. John Bradford as SEG liaison. The call for papers resulted in a new record of 270 papers that have been accepted for presentation at the conference, which required having four simultaneous sessions rather than the typical three, along with 60 poster presentations.

The Keynote Address on Monday will be presented by Dr. John Reynolds, author of the popular textbook "An Introduction to Environmental and Applied Geophysics."

Dr. Reynolds has vast experience in near surface geophysics, spanning the academic, government, and commercial sectors. Those who have read his textbook have only

begun to understand the breadth and depth of his experience. We are very pleased that he has agreed to 'cross the pond' and join us from the UK.

As usual, several timely short courses will be offered at SAGEEP, and for the second year, we will offer specialized workshops. New short courses this year include a summary of the emerging nuclear magnetic resonance (NMR) methods, and an advanced MASW course. We will also be offering David Fitterman's popular time-domain EM course, and a new course on dams and levees that emphasizes the client's perspective and requirements. Two special workshops will be presented: "Advances in Near-surface Electromagnetic Induction Geophysics", and "Application of Geophysical Technologies to Agroecosystems". The agricultural workshop is paired with a technical session to highlight the growing use of geophysics in agriculture.

A special component of the Charleston SAGEEP will be an EEGS Foundation-sponsored luncheon on Wednesday to promote the Geoscientists *Without Borders*[®] (GWB) program. Dr. Stephen Moysey, Clemson University, will present results from his GWB project in India. The luncheon will be free to students. A donation of \$35 or more is requested from other attendees. Be sure to sign up in advance as a limited number can attend!

The Monday Business Luncheon will feature a presentation on cutting-edge research from the EEGS-Geonics Early Career Award winner, Dr. James Irving. Please join us on Tuesday at this year's Gala event which will be held at the historic Charleston Place Hotel. As with all SAGEEPs, this year's conference will feature an exhibition with about 40 vendors, and an associated outdoor demonstration that will be held across the street from the hotel!

Charleston is recognized for having been the site of one of the largest earthquakes known to have occurred in the continental US - the 1886 earthquake measured a Richter magnitude estimated at 7.3. SAGEEP attendees will have the opportunity to participate in a walking tour of earthquake evidence in downtown Charleston on Sunday afternoon. There will also be a field trip on the Charleston harbor aboard the Corps of Engineers new survey vessel, the "Evans" to learn about the survey systems in real time. The 43-foot Evans supports the latest in dual frequency side scan, multi-beam bathymetric, and single beam sonar.

With Charleston's earthquake past in mind, the University of Texas will be bringing the triaxial vibroseis truck, "T-Rex" to SAGEEP for a liquefaction demonstration at a nearby field site. Transportation to and from the site for the Monday demos will be provided at no cost to conference attendees.

Charleston has a rich history and is spectacular in the springtime. Coincidentally and interestingly, SAGEEP 2011 will convene during the sesquicentennial of the first shots of the U.S. Civil War on April 12 1861, which were fired at Fort Sumter in Charleston harbor. Special events will be offered by local historical groups during the SAGEEP conference. You can visit Fort Sumter, explore the aircraft carrier USS Yorktown, or wander one of the many plantations located nearby. Be sure to explore all that Charleston has to offer while you are there, and bring your spouse!

See you there,

Bill Doll

SAGEEP 2011 General Chair

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