



# **Society of Petroleum Geophysicists**

## **North American Chapter**

### **2017 Newsletter**



**SPGNA Social during SEG in Houston, Texas**



**Dear Friends,**

Greetings for the holiday season! I am pleased to compile the fourth newsletter of the SPG North American Chapter (SPGNA). This newsletter is intended to summarize the activities during the current year and outline plans for next year. We had a successful year for SPGNA in 2017. However many of our members in Houston were impacted by Hurricane Harvey.

SPG, India 12<sup>th</sup> Biennial International Conference and Exposition was held from November 17-19 in Jaipur. Dr. Dhananjay Kumar instructed a short course on AVO modeling in this conference.

Many thanks to everyone who have donated this year. We hope in 2018 we will receive more donations to help support students and faculty from India. Please review the links and resources in our website ([www.spgnorthamerica.org](http://www.spgnorthamerica.org)). We also have Facebook and LinkedIn pages for social and technical interactions.

Wish you and your family Happy Holidays and Happy New Year in 2018.

Regards,  
Samarjit Chakraborty

# NEWSLETTER HIGHLIGHTS

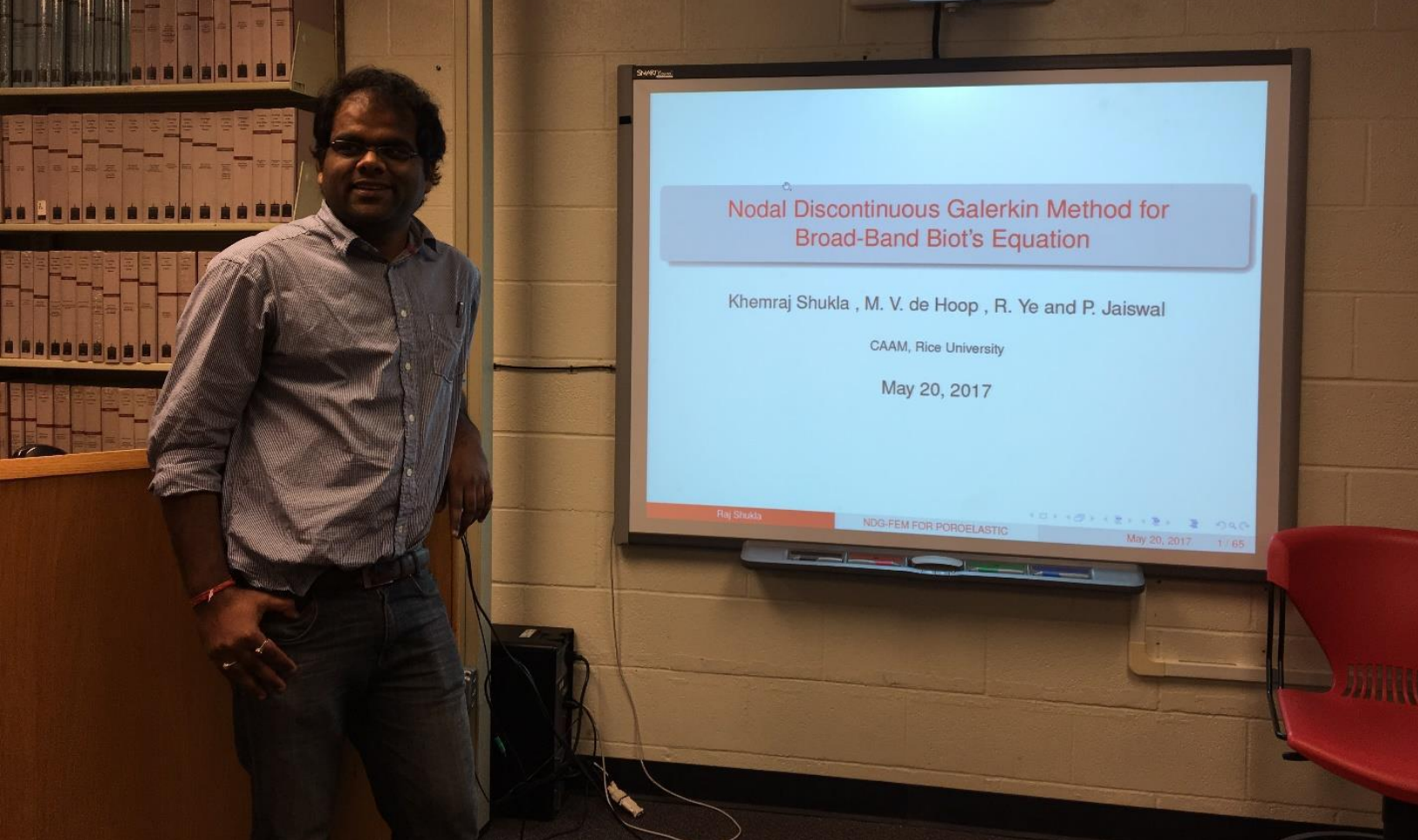
SPGNA 2017 Q2 meeting was held at the University of Houston on May 20, 2017. Khemraj Shukla, a student from Rice University presented his Ph.D. thesis work.

SPGNA provided partial financial support to Supriya Dube, an undergraduate student from IIT Roorkee to pursue her internship at University College London in UK.

SPGNA organized two networking events during 2017 SEG Annual Meeting in Houston.

SPGNA provided travel grants to three research scholars from India, Arun K. P., Jitender Kumar and Pankaj K. Mishra to help present their research at SEG Houston.





## SPGNA 2017 Q2 MEETING

The SPGNA 2017 Q2 meeting was held at the University of Houston on May 20, 2017. Khemraj Shukla, a student from Rice University presented his Ph.D. thesis work on Biot's wave equation to explain fluid flow in poroelastic media. Khemraj interned at the High Performance Computing (HPC) Center in BP this summer.

We recognized Abhijit Gangopadhyay's contribution to manage the SPGNA funds diligently over the past few years. We also recognized Abhijit's contribution to coordinate financial support for Supriya Dube, an undergraduate student from IIT Roorkee to pursue her internship at University College London in UK. Supriya is an undergraduate student in the Department of Earth sciences at IIT Roorkee, currently pursuing 5-year Integrated Master of Technology in Geophysical Technology.

## SPGNA at SEG Houston

SPGNA organized two networking events during 2017 SEG Annual Meeting in Houston. Members met during lunch at the George R. Brown Convention Center in Houston on Tuesday, September 26. The social was held at King's Court on Wednesday, September 27. The lunch and social events were not sponsored by SPGNA.

Both events were well attended by students, faculty and industry professionals. Members discussed the opportunity to help students collaborate with academia and industry.



Arun K.P. receiving travel grant from Soman Chako.

“The SEG International Exposition and 87<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting, 2017 was an excellent platform for me to learn and assimilate knowledge exchanged through various technical sessions. I presented my paper on 27, September, 2017 on the topic “Constrained AVO inversion using genetic algorithm and FDR-PSO method and the estimation of gas-hydrate and free-gas in Mahanadi offshore Basin, India”. This was a great learning opportunity for me as I received numerous feedbacks and advices after my presentation.

I want to thank SPGNA for providing me with the financial support to attend this conference and I am extremely grateful to Dhananjay sir for providing accommodation in his house during the entire conference. I was also very lucky to learn lots of valuable points concerned with research and I was always welcomed to ask any number of queries/doubts pertaining to my research.

The entire team of SPGNA is very lively and despite with their busy schedules, they are always ready to help students. Without the support of SPGNA, I would have struggled to meet the expenses for the conference. It is indeed a great initiative from the side of SPGNA for making it possible for young researchers like me to attend such global conferences and meetings. Initiatives like this will surely motivate young researchers to expand his/her research to a new dimension.”

- ARUN K, P., GRADUATE STUDENT, NGRI

## SPGNA at SEG Houston

“The SEG International Exposition and 87<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting, 2017 held on Houston, USA from 24-29 September, 2017. SEG Conventions serve as an ideal platform to get inspired, be connected and get prepared to present, share and learn.

I am Jitender Kumar pursuing PhD Under Dr. Kalachand Sain at CSIR-National Geophysical Research Institute, Hyderabad, India. I presented my paper on 28, September, 2017 on the topic “Application of Spectral Decomposition for Gas hydrate exploration: A case study from Mahanadi basin, India”. This was a great learning opportunity for me as, I received numerous feedbacks and advices for improving my research work. The main advantage of attending the SEG conference was that I was able to interact with a group of scientists, professors and various experts from different companies and clarify my doubts and share my views with them. I gained lot of experiences and ideas, which will be helpful for my research work.

SPGNA chapter helped me take this opportunity by providing me with financial support and accommodation to cover my expenses towards attending the conference. The members of SPGNA have always been a constant source of encouragement for me in all my endeavors. From the knowledgeable guidance of Dr. Mrinal Sen to the friendly advices of Dr. Dhananjay Kumar, Mr. Samarjit Chakraborty and Mr. Sanjay Sood, all the members have constantly motivated me to pursue my work. I could feel the family that the group has in itself and how they take time out of their busy timetables to help students. Words are too short to describe the kind of support that I have received from the members of SPGNA. Yet, through this testimonial, I would like to thank the SPGNA family for been such a support. I would also like to suggest all students to approach SPGNA for their valuable suggestion.

I hope that SPGNA will continue to support students and help us reach peaks of glory and success in our careers.”

- JITENDER KUMAR, GRADUATE STUDENT, NGRI



Jitender Kumar receiving travel grant from Sudarshan Singh.

“I am Pankaj K Mishra, a final stage PhD. student at IIT Kharagpur. I am deeply grateful to SPGNA for providing me partial financial support to attend SEG Annual meeting 2017 in Houston.

SPGNA is a group of some awesome people who are dedicated to help Indian students for getting international exposure. More than the financial support, I was happy to see a homely environment in Houston.

It was an amazing experience for me and I would love to attend the group meeting again. I will definitely contribute to this group in near future so that some other student may get the financial support from SPGNA.”

- PANKAJ MISHRA, GRADUATE STUDENT, IIT KGP



Pankaj Mishra receiving travel grant from Mrinal Sengupta.



ABOVE: (LEFT TO RIGHT) PRIYANK JAISWAL, MANIKA PRASAD, SUDARSHAN SINGH.

## RECOGNITIONS

Dr. Manika Prasad was awarded the 2017 Virgil Kauffman Gold Medal from SEG for her extensive experimental work in rock physics at the Colorado School of Mines.

Abhijit Gangopadhyay and all other Office Bearers including Samarjit Chakraborty and Sagnik Dasgupta were recognized for leading SPGNA from 2014 to 2017.

SPG, India 12th Biennial International Conference and Exposition was held from November 17-19 in Jaipur. Dr. Dhananjay Kumar from BP, Houston instructed a short course on AVO modeling and inversion in this conference.

BELOW: SPG INDIA CONTINUING EDUCATION COURSE ATTENDEES.



## PLEASE CONTRIBUTE TO SPGNA

SPGNA has a scholarship fund to help Indian geophysics students and faculty members for their research, training and attending international conferences. We need financial support from members and patrons. We are requesting you to contribute generously.

In 2011, SPGNA signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with GSH (Geophysical society of Houston) under which GSH has created a sub-account for SPGNA in their bank. You can contribute to SPGNA through GSH (tax free in USA). GSH is a nonprofit tax-exempt organization under 501(C)(3) of the IRS tax codes. There are three ways you can contribute to SPGNA.

- 1. Contribute with your company's give and match program:** Most of the companies based in USA have some kind of sponsorship program, in which the company will match the employee's donation to a registered non-profit organization up to some amount. This way you automatically save income tax and the non-profit organization you choose to donate to gets more money with your contribution. When donating using your company's give and match program, please select Geophysical Society of Houston (EIN 742171855) as the organization name and put "for SPGNA" as program to make sure your contribution goes to SPGNA. Also send an email to [spgnam@gmail.com](mailto:spgnam@gmail.com).
- 2. Contribute with your personal check:** You can also write a check as donation to SPGNA and still get tax benefit in USA. Write your check payable to "GSH" and mention "SPGNA" in memo to make sure it goes to the SPGNA fund. Please send your check to Sanjay Sood (Sanjay Sood, 2327 High Landing Ln, Katy, TX 77494). Please also send an email to [spgnam@gmail.com](mailto:spgnam@gmail.com).
- 3. Contribute by cash:** Please give your cash donation to any SPGNA team member and send an email to [spgnam@gmail.com](mailto:spgnam@gmail.com).

There is no annual membership fee for SPGNA. Thank you for your support.

North American Chapter, Society of Petroleum Geophysicists



## 2018 PLAN

More aggressive campaign to receive donation in SPGNA fund.

Members are encouraged to visit universities in India when they visit India and talk to students and faculties.

Work with young geophysicists in India specially students to inform them on various opportunities and help them locate funds for attending SEG and AGU.

Organize events to increase members participation.

## 2017 Event Calendar

Q2 meeting: May 20, Houston

Q3 meeting: September 26, SEG, Houston

Q3 social: September 27, SEG, Houston

## SPGNA Board

President: SAMARJIT CHAKRABORTY

General Secretary: SANJAY SOOD

## Contact Us

Email: [spgnam@gmail.com](mailto:spgnam@gmail.com)

Web: [www.spgnorthamerica.org](http://www.spgnorthamerica.org)

## SPGNA Advisors

Dr. DHANANJAY KUMAR

Dr. ABHIJIT GANGOPADHYAY

Mr. DIP SHANKAR NANDA

Dr. CHANDAN KUMAR

Dr. MRINAL SEN

Dr. SUBHASHISH MALLICK

Dr. RAGHU CHUNDURU

Dr. PARTHA ROUTH

Dr. SUDARSHAN SINGH