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PAVILION TALKS 2026



Join your fellow SPE members for a range of informative presentations across technical sections, awards, JPT[®] and much more.

Wednesday, 21 October

📍 SPE Pavilion, Exhibit Booth 1023

● 0930–1000

The State of Energy - Insights from the Editors of JPT & TWA

📍 Theatre

The session will highlight key technological trends, emerging technologies, while offering insights into how industry professionals can engage with the Journal of Petroleum Technology and The Way Ahead as readers, authors, and subject-matter experts. Adam Wilson, Megan Couch, Trent Jacobs, Jennifer Pallinich, and Pam Boschee will share their expertise and perspectives throughout the discussion.

● 1200–1230

The SPE Competency Matrix and Certification Exam: A Structured Path to Professional Excellence

📍 Theatre

Dr. Olga Popova, Chair of the Engineering Professionalism Committee, highlights the impact of SPE Certification on career advancement and organizational excellence, and shares how the competency matrix can help guide professional growth and skills development.

● 1230–1300

What's New in SRMS

📍 Theatre

Join a member of the CO₂ Storage Resources Committee (CSRC) as they discuss key developments and emerging updates related to the CO₂ Storage Resources Management System (SRMS). The session will also offer broader insight into current areas of focus and ongoing work surrounding SRMS.

● 1400–1430

A Decade of Transformation: Petroleum Engineering at University of Houston

📍 Theatre

Explore a decade of transformation in Petroleum Engineering at the University of Houston with Ganesh Thakur and Shree Vikas. This session will highlight the program's evolution, key milestones, and the people and initiatives that have shaped its growth over the past ten years.

● 1530–1600

SPE Journal: Insights from the Editorial Board

📍 Theatre

Demystifying peer review, maximizing research visibility, and driving high-quality submissions. Join the SPE Journal editors for a discussion of the current state of the journal, how to submit, and best practices for authors and reviewers. The session will conclude with the presentation of this year's A Peer Apart award recipients.

● 1600–1630

SPE Foundation Community Fireside Chat

📍 Coffee Screen

Join members of the SPE Foundation Executive Committee for a conversation about the Foundation's history, impact, and transition. Attendees will be able to ask questions and learn how the Foundation's legacy and programs will continue to support the SPE community.

● 1630–1730

Celebrating the SPE Foundation Legacy Reception

📍 Coffee Screen

Stop by the SPE Pavilion to celebrate the legacy of the SPE Foundation and recognize the dedicated service of its Trustees, volunteers, and supporters. The reception honors the Foundation's lasting contributions and impact on the SPE community.



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Thursday, 22 October

📍 SPE Pavilion, Exhibit Booth 1023

● 1000–1030

Geothermal Resources Management System

📍 Theatre

Join us to learn more about the Geothermal Resources Management System. This session will provide a general overview of current topics, updates, and ongoing efforts related to the system.

● 1100–1130

Using Volunteerism to Get Ahead

📍 Theatre

Volunteerism allows you to demonstrate dedication, reliability, and a willingness to go above and beyond while building your network and advancing your career. This session will explore how to identify volunteer roles that align with your goals, find the right opportunities, and make the most of them.

● 1200–1230

From Grand Challenge to Growth Engine: Geothermal Across SPE's Technical Disciplines

📍 Theatre

SPE CEO Simon Seaton and Project InnerSpace founder Jamie Beard discuss their partnership to address SPE's geothermal Grand Challenge by institutionalizing geothermal across the Society's core technical disciplines. The session debuts the JPT Geothermal Supplement, a print edition showcasing how oil and gas expertise is translating into geothermal field applications today, and highlights ongoing activities across SPE's Technical Disciplines that members can join today. At its core, this is a conversation about why the subsurface skills built through a century of oil and gas innovation are essential to scaling geothermal at speed.

● 1530–1600

The Secret to Excelling as an SPE Outstanding Technical Section

📍 Theatre

Join the Asset Management Technical Section (AMTS) Chair Hitesh Mohan as he shares the strategy and spirit behind winning the 2026 SPE Presidential Award for Outstanding Technical Section and how your team can build an unstoppable movement too.

● 1600–1630

26ATCE Startup Village Energy Startup Competition Award Ceremony

📍 Coffee Screen

Hosted by Startup Village Chairperson Bryant Mueller with special guest Susan Howes, 2027 SPE President, the ATCE Startup Village Energy Startup Competition showcases emerging energy technology companies as they pitch to investors and industry leaders. Winners receive recognition, networking and mentorship opportunities, cash prizes, and are honored at the awards ceremony.

Friday, 23 October

📍 SPE Pavilion, Exhibit Booth 1023

● 930–1000

Shine a Light on Excellence: How to Craft a Standout SPE Awards Nomination

📍 Theatre

High achievers deserve the spotlight! Join Lori Davis, SPE's International Awards & Recognition Manager, to learn how to craft a standout SPE International Awards nomination, celebrate exceptional colleagues, and discover how to encourage your peers to nominate you, too!

● 1030–1100

No One Succeeds Alone: The Power of Social Support at Work

📍 Theatre

Great ideas rarely happen in isolation. Join Yasmin Al Mheiri, ADNOC to explore how strong social networks create trust, encourage collaboration, and unlock the innovation, creativity, and knowledge sharing that drive organizational success.

● 1200–1230

Making the Most of Your Student Membership

📍 Theatre

Student Membership is changing at SPE and knowing how to make the most of it is a key to ensuring its value is being utilized. When used well, student membership can be the springboard from classroom socials to national and international recognition. In this session we will explore, what SPE can do for you, and how to keep your career momentum high.