



Accommodations and Registration

A block of hotel rooms has been reserved for symposium attendees at the Westin Galleria Houston located in Uptown Houston. The Westin is part of the Galleria, Houston's premier tourist destination. The Westin has made its 487 rooms available to symposium delegates at a very favorable rate.

Professional Development Hours (PDH) will be available for the symposium. Childcare services will be offered during symposium hours and events.

Information on symposium registration, exhibition, accommodation and sponsorships can be found at www.armasymposium.org or by contacting Peter Smeallie, Executive Director, ARMA, info@armarocks.org, 703-683-1808.

Call for papers—2016, Houston Texas



600 Woodland Terrace
Alexandria, VA 22302

Register by May 2016
and save on the
registration fee!

Register Online at: www.ARMASymposium.org



50th US Rock Mechanics/Geomechanics
Symposium to be held in Houston, Texas,
26-29 June 2016



Photos courtesy of Houston Convention and Visitors Bureau

Invitation to Houston

The American Rock Mechanics Association invites you to its 50th US Rock Mechanics/Geomechanics Symposium to be held in Houston, Texas, USA on 26-29 June 2016. The 2016 program will focus on new and exciting advances in rock mechanics and geomechanics. In addition to being the central hub of the petroleum industry, Houston is one of the country's most cosmopolitan and diverse cities that offers a great variety of activities and destinations for visitors. Houston's deep cultural offerings include world-class fine arts museums and the Natural Science Museum as well as its Symphony, Grand Opera, and Hobby Center for the Performing Arts. The Houston Astros baseball team is in full swing in June, and Galveston beckons with its beaches, bay, and bustling boardwalk. And NASA's Houston Space Center is an icon that cannot be missed.

Technical tours and field trips are being planned. Sight-seeing tours will include various city landmarks, social activities and other attractions. Short courses and workshops will be held immediately prior to the symposium and will be listed as they are confirmed. Details will be provided on the symposium web page as they become available.

Subject Areas

This symposium encompasses all aspects of rock mechanics, rock engineering, and geomechanics. We invite scientific and engineering papers in:

- Petroleum engineering,
- Civil engineering,
- Geology and geophysics,
- Mining engineering, and
- Underground construction.

Further details will be provided on the symposium web page as they become available.

THE SYMPOSIUM ENCOMPASSES ALL ASPECTS OF ROCK MECHANICS, ROCK ENGINEERING, AND GEOMECHANICS.

Organizing Committee

David Yale.....	ExxonMobil (Ret.)
Joe Carvalho.....	Golder Associates, Inc.
John Kemeny.....	University of Arizona
Doug Blankenship.....	Sandia National Laboratories
Doug Stead.....	Simon Fraser University
Sherlyn Williams-Stroud.....	California Resources Corporation
Karim Zaki.....	Chevron Energy Technology Company
Azra Tutuncu.....	Colorado School of Mines
Andrew Bunker.....	University of Pittsburgh
Colleen Barton.....	Baker-Hughes
Ahmad Ghassemi.....	University of Oklahoma
Gang Han.....	Aramco Services Company
Ellen Mallman.....	BP
Edward Wellman.....	SRK Consulting
Kate Baker.....	ARMA Board
John Curran.....	ARMA Treasurer
Peter Smeallie.....	ARMA Executive Director

Abstract Submission

Abstracts of 250-500 words, in English, can be submitted online at <http://www.armasympposium.org>. Abstracts should include a brief description of work performed, results, and significance. Figures may be included as necessary to explain the abstract. All abstracts and accepted papers will be peer-reviewed by experts in respective subject areas through an online process. To facilitate travel arrangements, invitation letters to attend and participate in the symposium may be issued upon request after acceptance of an abstract. A presentation slot will be tentatively assigned at that time, with final confirmation after approval of the paper.

Deadlines for abstract and paper submittal are as follows:

1 November 2015—Abstract submittal

6 January 2016—Notification to authors

15 February 2016—Paper submittal

The focus of the symposium is on fundamental, practical and educational issues facing our profession. Topics of interest include, but are not limited to:

- Geomechanics for civil engineering—stability of slopes, pits, foundations, dams, underground storage
- Geomechanics for petroleum engineering—well design, injection, production and depletion of reservoirs, well stimulation, sand control
- Geomechanics/rock mechanics for mining engineering—rock excavation and breakage, dynamic loading
- Geomechanics and environmental risk—hazards and hazard mitigation, risk assessment and uncertainty
- Induced/triggered seismicity
- Waste disposal-produced water, CO2 sequestration
- Depletion-induced surface subsidence
- Interdisciplinary rock mechanics/geomechanics topics
- Rock mass, fault zone, fractured rock, weak rock, rock fabric characterization
- Stability and support of underground openings and structures
- Fracture mechanics—initiation, propagation and interaction, unconventional reservoirs
- In situ stress, pore pressure measurements, prediction
- Geomechanics in geothermal exploration and production
- Laboratory and field measurements, testing, equipment
- Coupled processes—geomechanics, fluid flow, heat, transport
- Numerical/analytical/constitutive modeling of rock and rock processes
- Computational advances and data analytics
- Geophysics and geology in geomechanics
- Rock heterogeneity across all length scales