

Geoscience Careers in the Petroleum Industry Wednesday, 18 September 2019, 11 a.m. MDT

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About the Webinar

This two-part presentation will provide a high-level review of what geoscientists do and information about starting a career in the petroleum industry. In part one, Fred will give a short bio so you know his experience and then talk about the petroleum industry, a major employer of geoscientists. He will introduce you to the life cycle on an asset (field) and then focus on petroleum exploration. Fred will use a series of questions to illustrate the types of challenges a geoscientist faces each day. In part two, Maryevalyn will cover what to expect when starting a career in the Oil & Gas industry, as well as how to transition from being a full-time student to an early career professional. She will discuss the geoscience technician hiring process at ExxonMobil and key skills, experiences, and characteristics recruiters search for in geology majors. Maryevalyn will also describe her personal experience with the company and what she loves most about her career.

About the Presenters



Fred W. Schroeder, Ph.D., holds a B.S. in engineering physics from Lehigh University and a Ph.D. in marine geology from Columbia University. Fred started his petroleum industry career in 1977 when he joined Exxon Production Research in Houston Texas. He began as a seismic stratigrapher, being mentored by Pete Vail and Bob Mitchum. Fred worked for Exxon and then ExxonMobil for 32 years, primarily in their research organization. While at Exxon/ExxonMobil, Dr. Schroeder's efforts focused on three main themes: R&D of new methods, tools, and techniques related to seismic analysis, applying cutting-edge technology in exploration offices, and teaching/mentoring. His areas of expertise include seismic stratigraphic basin modeling, seismic facies, seismic attributes, DHI/AVO, and visualization. Starting in late 2009, Fred was self-employed for two years as a geoscience course developer and presenter. Fred worked full time for Noble Energy for 3.5 years starting in late 2011. He was their corporate expert in seismic/sequence stratigraphy. Dr. Schroeder has also been awarded by AAPG's Visiting Geoscience Program (VGP) for his teaching efforts and received the James Hartman service to students award in 2019.



Maryevalyn Wren is a Little Rock, Arkansas, native whose keen interest in our planet and the outdoors goes back as far as she can remember; however, her passion for the earth sciences really gained momentum in college. After completing a physical geology course, Maryevalyn discovered that she was drawn to the artistic side of scientific data. From creating detailed maps in ArcGIS and building new data-management structures, to using food and art supplies to teach students how Earth's systems interact, Maryevalyn enjoys finding creative ways to showcase data in unique and tangible ways.

Before graduating from University of Arkansas Little Rock's Donaghey Scholars Program with a bachelor of science degree in geology, Maryevalyn spent a year in Taipei, Taiwan, where she studied Mandarin Chinese. She now works in Houston as a geoscience technician in ExxonMobil's Upstream Integrated Solutions supporting Exploration and New Ventures with a focus on South America New Opportunities and Operations. When she's not at work, you can find Maryevalyn climbing rocks, cooking vegan meals for her friends, and striking up conversations with strangers in a checkout line at T.J. Maxx.

