



## HGS/GESGB Africa Conference 2026: Overview

Houston will again host the (25<sup>th</sup>) HGS-GESGB Africa Conference, October 26-27 at the Norris Center. See (<https://www.hgs.org/hgs-gesgb-africa-conference-speaker-agenda>) for full information. The Call for Papers (CFP) will issue in January so get working now on your abstract. As always, two member-led international professional organizations, namely the Houston Geologic Society (HGS) and the Geoscience Energy Society of Great Britain (GESGB), bring their individual advantages to this trans-Atlantic cooperation.

The conference theme of Unlocking Africa's Future: Sustainable Energy Exploration points both to the desire to continue to explore for the continent's (and world's) energy needs, and in ways that combine local skills to address uneven access to, and distribution of, energy resources. To that end, we are including a session featuring the best Africa-focused presentations from the 2025 Switch Energy Competition. We also plan a related Thematic Issue of the HGS Bulletin so prepare for the possibility of being invited to publish your talk or poster. HGS initiated the practice in 2024 with three conference presentations (including a keynote and the Danforth-Bate Best Talk). Check them out in the December 2024 issue of the HGS Bulletin which, with another 60-odd geotechnical societies' publications is available online at AAPG's DataPages (<https://www.datapages.com/content-partners>).

### Conference Objectives

We offer a platform for stakeholders from diverse backgrounds - industry experts, researchers, policymakers, and practitioners to exchange insights, share best practices, and forge collaborations aimed at driving positive change. We intend that conference participants will share their broad and varied perspectives and experiences to enrich discussions and trigger ongoing initiatives. For sponsors, this conference presents a valuable opportunity to support a local society (particularly one with global involvement by its members) and showcase your expertise in the energy sector. Let our Sponsorship team provide more information to illustrate the possibilities and related benefits.

The conference date offers fair weather and the venue sits next to the inviting outdoor bars and restaurants of City Centre and the adjacent Town and Country Village. Hoisting a pint at the Yard House or sharing a cuppa joe at a coffee house with other attendees may provide greater benefits than what you learn in the official talks. Come take advantage of the networking possibilities, both casual and programmed.

See you in October. As they say in Texas (although I still can't get the accent right) Y'All Come!

William Dickson  
Chair, 2026 Africa Conference Committee

