

2018 SEG Life Membership Award ([Link](#))

Xianhuai Zhu



Xianhuai Zhu is recognized for his meritorious service to the Society and SEG China. Xianhuai, a 2012 recipient of SEG's Reginald Fessenden Award, served on the SEG Board of Directors from 2014 to 2017 as a director at large. He also served as a GEOPHYSICS associate editor from 1997 to 2002. In addition to those duties he has served as member or chair of several committees and continues to be a valued volunteer for SEG.

By Alfred L. Liaw

Xianhuai Zhu, a native of Yixing, China, and currently the president and CEO of Forland Geophysical Services, is awarded SEG Life Membership for his voluntarily rendered, meritorious service to professional societies and the geophysical community.

He is not only a recognized technical leader in geophysics as an SEG Reginald Fessenden Award recipient, but also a business leader. Xianhuai obtained his bachelor's degree from the China University of Petroleum in 1977 and completed his doctorate degree in geoscience at the University of Texas (UT) at Dallas in 1990. During his studies, he served as president of the UT-Dallas SEG Student Chapter from 1987 to 1989.

Xianhuai worked at Anadarko in Fort Worth for six years. He was then the manager of reservoir imaging at PGS for six years, vice president of seismic imaging at Fusion Petroleum Technology for four years, and team lead of land seismic and acquisition research at ConocoPhillips for 10 years. In 2016, he founded Forland Geophysical Services in Houston, with a mission to develop and apply advanced technologies for land, shallow water, and ocean-bottom node seismic data acquisition, imaging, and interpretation.

Xianhuai started his SEG volunteering engagement in 1981 when he participated in the first joint technical symposium of SEG and the Chinese Geophysical Society in Beijing. He was a member of the SEG Annual Meeting Technical Program Committee from 1993 to 2017, an associate editor of *GEOPHYSICS* from 1997 to 2002, a member of the SEG Research Committee from 1998 to 2018, a member of the Audit Committee from 2014 to 2017, and a director at large for the SEG Board from 2014 to 2017. He eventually chaired the SEG Audit Committee from 2016 to 2017.

Xianhuai has been recognized as a technology champion for near-surface velocity estimation, turning-ray tomography, full-waveform inversion, and reflection tomography. Due to his technical knowledge, he was invited to cochair the Technical Program for the 2014 CPS/SEG Beijing International Geophysical Conference and to serve on the Technical Program Committee of the 2015 SEG Deepwater Exploration Workshop in Shenzhen, China. He was also invited to serve as the technical cochair of the 2016 SPG/SEG International Conference and to chair the first ever 2017 SEG/Sinopec Foothill Exploration Technical Forum in Nanjing, China. The successful forum will be a recurring event, which will be organized by SEG China in the near future.

Xianhuai was elected to serve as the first vice president of the Geophysical Society of Houston from 2016 to 2018 as well as president and chairman of the board for the Chinese American Petroleum Association (CAPA). During his legacy leading CAPA, he was instrumental in the signing of CAPA as an Associated Society of SEG.

I am truly honored to prepare this citation to commemorate Xianhuai's well-deserved SEG Life Membership Award.