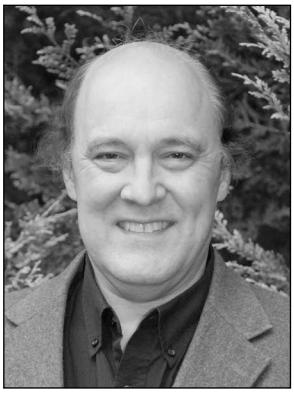
About the Editors

Y. Zee Ma received his Ph.D in Mathematical Geology and Geo-informatics in 1987 from Institute National Polytechnique de Lorraine (INPL) – Ecole de Geologie de Nancy (France), Masters degrees in Remote Sensing and Geostatistics respectively from INPL and Ecole de Mines de Paris, and a Bachelor degree in Geology from China University of Geosciences. He has worked nearly 24 years for major oil and service companies, including Total (previously Elf Aquitaine), Western Atlas, ExxonMobil, and Schlumberger. He is currently a principal geoscientist at Schlumberger in Denver, Colorado.

His interests include geostatistics, reservoir characterization and modeling, subsurface resource evaluation and uncertainty analysis for both conventional and unconventional plays. Ma has conducted or advised on about a hundred reservoir studies for major, independent, and national oil companies from around the world. He has conducted research that establishes close linkages among geology, petrophysics, geophysics, geostatistics, and philosophy of science, which has lead to development of a number of quantitative techniques for more accurate reservoir analysis. He has published numerous articles on abductive and inductive inferences in geology, propensity analysis using sequence stratigraphy and sedimentology, spatial reference class for hierarchical analysis of subsurface heterogeneities, and classification of errors and pitfalls in petroleum geoscience. In 2010, he received the "Best Paper Award" for his article *"Simpson's Paradox in Natural Resource Evaluation"* from Mathematical Geosciences—the flagship journal of International Association of Mathematical Geoscientists. He has given lectures on petroleum resource evaluation, reservoir modeling, applied statistics/geostatistics, and philosophy of science to the distinguished lecture series or colloquia at University of Wyoming—School of Energy Resources/Department of Mathematics, and China University of Geosciences—School of Energy Resources.



Paul R. La Pointe received a B.A. in Geology Magna Cum Laude from Amherst College, an M.S. in Geology from the University of Wisconsin-Madison with a specialty in structural geology, and a Ph.D. in Rock Mechanics and Rock Engineering from the College of Engineering at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, during which time he began his life-long focus on stochastic modeling and fracture characterization for geomechanical and flow simulation, and the quantitative integration of geology and engineering.

He is currently Practice Leader for Fractured Reservoirs and a Principal at Golder Associates, a global consulting firm with nearly 7000 employees operating in more than 30 countries. Prior to joining Golder in 1992, La Pointe was a senior engineer, principal geologist, and research director for various operating companies within Atlantic Richfield (ARCO) for more than 10 years, where he carried out applied research in fractured and conventional reservoir characterization, numerical modeling of the mechanical evolution of folds and faults, development and application of new technologies for assessing quantities of undiscovered oil and gas, and predicting flow and geomechanical behavior in unconventional reservoirs. He has published numerous papers and several books on the mathematical characterization and modeling of complex geological systems, and has served as an expert witness in the fields of statistics and fractured reservoirs. Away from work, many of his hours are spent in his sea kayak *Flying Mole* contemplating hydraulic turbulence off the Washington coast and in the Puget Sound region where he has lived since 1992.