

Last year at the 2025 IMAGE meeting the “Clastic Diagenesis Group” was formally replaced by the new Sedimentary Petrology Research Group (Sed Pet RG). This year’s IMAGE meeting was about reviewing the objective of the group, providing an update on the past year’s activities, and discussing how to go forward. You can go to the SEPM Sedimentary Petrology RG webpage to find a link to the presentation that guided the meeting discussion, but here are the highlights:

In case you needed a reminder, the objectives of the RG are to:

- Provide a forum and mechanism for collaborating and integrating across scales and focus areas
- Highlight value of fundamental and applied research in clastic sedimentary petrology and petrography
- Proactively build and expand community

Over the past year activities and conversations have indicated an increasing interest in the group.

- Current active email distribution was 45 individuals with 10 more online requests to join in June-July.
- Represented by industry, geologic surveys and academic professionals and students

Over the past year, activities and conversation also highlighted the growing awareness of a need to fill the growing gaps in the skillsets of newer geoscientists. Sedimentary petrology has a particularly large “gap”. There are many possible ways the Sed Pet RG can help with this need. Please refer to the meeting presentation for details.

Our RG community is relatively small, but mighty. We recognize the importance of what we do and have a lot of passion for it. The group discussed various opportunities to increase, broaden and connect the community. Refer to the presentation package to check it out!

Activities since the IMAGE 2025 RG meeting

✓ Short Course offered at GSA San Antonio 2025

Using basic Sandstone Petrology Concepts and Petrography Data to Understand the Resource and Storage Potential of Porous and Permeable Formations

- It was a small class, but the course was well received. Students were pleased to learn about how to use petrography and petrology to understand the porosity and permeability of sandstone reservoirs. The cost of travel and the course was prohibitive for some. Student financial support for future offerings will be pursued.

✓ IGSC-SEPM II Conference in Golden, CO 2026

- Marsha French, Joann Welton, and Chris Matson co-chaired a session: “New advances in reservoir characterization to aid in evaluating sedimentary systems through time”. Talks covered modeling, reservoir quality and shale pore systems.
- Short Course was taught: Using Sedimentary Petrology to Characterize Sandstone Reservoirs, Aquifers and Repositories (Suzanne Kairo, with contributions from Tim Diggs and David Awwiller). Twelve students registered, attendees were interested and engaged, and all indicated in anonymous survey that they would recommend the course.
- Meeting of the Sedimentary Petrology RG: Attendees represented a more diverse cross-section than those attending IMAGE 2025. Included representatives from academia, consulting, and modeling and from carbonate and mudstone petrology and stratigraphy. The main topic of discussion: the status of sedimentary petrology training in colleges and universities.