

# FROM THE NOGS PRESIDENT ROBERT ROONEY



Go Tigers! What a season for the football team, and for the Golden Band from Tigerland! It has been a pleasure to watch the team and band share their talents and perform in top fashion. Congratulations to LSU, the students, fans, and to all those in Louisiana who have supported the team and the program over the years!

Likewise, I hope 2020 is shaping up to be a good year for you. In reflecting back to the beginning of this administration of the NOGS 2019-2020 Board, it is easy to get caught up in the challenges that NOGS, and other Geological societies face. One of the initial struggles as president to come to grips with the financial workings of our Society. If we breathe a sigh of relief at our financial status, it is because of two factors: 1) our first Board meeting passed a motion to immediately cease physical publication of our newsletter and go to a fully online version. This motion allowed Christy Himel to build the online pdf-flip version of the *NOGS LOG* that we now have, and saved the Society from the expense of printing and mailing, which was not sustainable; and 2) the investment account of NOGS has performed well enough due its portfolio position and the current economic momentum.

We can improve on our mission to further the profession of geology in our region by increasing our participation in industry conventions by providing organizational and administrative resources, field trips, short-courses and seminars. Within the past year, NOGS participated in the Deep Water Technical Symposium, which was a success thanks to Chris McLindon and the other organizers and volunteers. In my opinion, we need to participate more in these geological and technical conventions such as GeoGulf (formerly called the GCAGS convention). GeoGulf Chairman James Willis, of LGS, addressed our technical luncheon in January and explained the joint support of NOGS and BRGS, in helping with the Lafayette GeoGulf Convention, which will be held in Sept. 30 to Oct. 2, 2020. I urge our membership to be supportive of the GeoGulf convention by offering your help. It is my hope that NOGS will be able to host at least one field trip and at least one short-course, submit abstracts per the call for papers in this *LOG*, and attend the convention. NOGS will benefit directly through any sponsored events that we host, and NOGS can also benefit through your attendance when you choose NOGS as your affiliated society on the registration form. So please consider helping with the GeoGulf this year in any way you can.

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Go to [www.geogulf.org](http://www.geogulf.org) for more information, or contact me at [Robert.rooney@cantium.us](mailto:Robert.rooney@cantium.us) to discuss your field trip, seminar or short course ideas. Locally, NOGS continues to provide our industry members and colleagues with relevant technical presentations at our monthly luncheons, which generate much discussion. I believe these presentations move the scientific understanding of petroleum geology in a constructive direction. Some people learn through probing of issues, raising contrary viewpoints and accepting compromise. The Q&A sessions following our presentations provide the membership the opportunity to probe deeper into the speaker's content by asking questions and providing their viewpoints. This is a conventional method of social discourse where, through give and take, we build relationships and move forward in understanding.

Likewise, I hope that all feel free to offer feedback to me if you have any questions or suggestions as to how I can better help NOGS to serve our mission. Coming soon, the February 3rd luncheon meeting will be presented by Thomas W. Bjerstedt of the BOEM titled Relating GOM Shallow Water Flows to Drainage of Pleistocene Proglacial Lakes which is a great opportunity for geologists involved with deep water exploration, development, drilling and well planning to hear from an expert in the field. We hope to see you at the Holiday Inn on February 3rd!

We are now over the half-way mark for this 2019-2020 administration of the NOGS Board. It is my hope that there are NOGS members who may be inclined to run for a board position. Please consider putting your name in the mix by contacting the NOGS Nominating Chairperson Jennifer Connolly at [Jennifer.Connolly@shell.com](mailto:Jennifer.Connolly@shell.com). It is a great opportunity to put your talents to work in support of this unique organization, which will be approaching its 80th anniversary next year. It is my opinion that NOGS is unique in our community in that it is an organization that has a specific mission to support the profession of geology.

Best wishes for an enjoyable and safe Mardi Gras season!

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Robert Rooney". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.