

RILEY BRINKERHOFF

Hive Partners
Provo, Utah

Academic Degrees

2012–Executive MBA, The University of Utah, Salt Lake City, Utah
2007–M.S., Geology, Brigham Young University, Salt Lake City, Utah
2005–B.S., Geology, Brigham Young University, Salt Lake City, Utah

Experience

2024–Present – Partner, Hive Partners, Utah
2019–2023 – Exploration Manager, Wasatch Energy Management, Provo, Utah
2016–2019 – Staff Geologist, Newfield Exploration, The Woodlands, Texas
2011–2016 – Senior Geologist, SM Energy, North Rockies Asset Team, Billings, Montana
2008–2011 – Senior Geologist, Questar, Salt Lake City, Utah
2007–2008 –Geologist, BP America

AAPG Activities

Joined AAPG in 2005
Member EMD
2024–25 – Past President, Rocky Mountain Section
2024 – Delegate, House of Delegates
2023–24 – President, Rocky Mountain Section
2022–23 – President Elect, Rocky Mountain Section
2021–22 – Secretary/Treasurer, Rocky Mountain Section
2020–21 – Secretary/Treasurer-Elect, Rocky Mountain Section
2019–20 – Visiting Geoscientist, Visiting Geoscientist SIG
2018–20 – Member, Visiting Geoscientist SIG
2008–10 – Member, AAPG Young Professionals

Other Affiliations and Service

2020–21 – President, Utah Geological Association
2015–16 – President, Montana Geological Society

Why I Accepted the Invitation to be a Candidate for an AAPG Office

By Riley Brinkerhoff

Serving the AAPG as the Vice President of Sections represents both a professional honor and a personal opportunity to give back to the geological community that has meant so much to me. The role offers a unique opportunity to strengthen the ties between affiliated societies (like my UGA and RMAG), the sections, and the broader national organization. I hope to ensure that the voices of individual members are amplified while advancing the mission of AAPG. My desire to serve in this capacity stems from a commitment to fostering collaboration, promoting professional development, and ensuring that the geological sciences continue to thrive in both local and global contexts. One of the most compelling reasons I seek this position is the ability to bridge the gap between national leadership and local sections. National organizations such as the AAPG provide resources, visibility, and credibility that local groups often struggle to achieve. By serving on the executive committee, I will help ensure that local sections receive the support they need, through multi-section collaboration, educational programs, or networking opportunities. I want to help empower local chapters to host impactful events, attract new members, and provide meaningful professional development. In turn, the vitality of local groups strengthens the national body, creating a cycle of growth and innovation. My goal is to make sure that every section feels heard, valued, and equipped to succeed.

AAPG thrives on the exchange of ideas across our affiliated societies. As VP of Sections, I would prioritize initiatives that encourage collaboration between sections, especially the Mid-Con section with the other sections, allowing best practices to be shared and adapted to local contexts. For example, the successful student outreach program in Houston could be replicated elsewhere, while innovative technical workshops could be scaled nationally. By fostering these connections, I would help ensure that local groups benefit from the collective wisdom of the entire organization. My candidacy is strengthened by a set of skills and experiences that align directly with the responsibilities of this office. First, I bring strong organizational and leadership abilities, honed through years of coordinating multidisciplinary teams and managing complex projects. Second, I bring excellent communication skills, which are essential for engaging with section leaders, listening to their concerns, and representing their interests at the national level. Finally, I bring a passion for mentorship and education. I have consistently worked to support students and younger geologists, helping them find pathways into the profession and encouraging them to contribute to the AAPG community. These skills, leadership, communication, and mentorship, equip me to serve effectively and meaningfully in this role. Ultimately, my desire to serve as VP of Sections is rooted in a belief that AAPG's strength lies in its sections. By supporting all the affiliated societies through sectional and national leadership, we ensure that the organization remains vibrant, relevant, and forward-looking. I am committed to advancing AAPG's mission, fostering collaboration across sections, and bringing my skills to bear in service of the geological community.