



# AI/Machine Learning

## VIRTUAL SYMPOSIUM

August 26, 2026 – [www.aegevents.org](http://www.aegevents.org)

### Speaker Bios

**Dr. Scott Deaton** is President and Founder of Dataforensics, a software company that specializes in helping geo-engineers use technology to improve and streamline their data collection, data management, reporting, analysis and visualization processes. He has guided Dataforensics to become the first software vendor that can import and export DIGGS data in their software and pioneered the usage of DIGGS within the OpenGround Cloud environment. Dataforensics is responsible for many enterprise implementations of OpenGround in North America for organizations like the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, LADOT, OHDOT, NMDOT, MSDOT, MODOT, ILDOT, WSP/Golder/ Wood, Haley & Aldrich, S&ME, Braun Intertec and many more.

**Dr. Stratis Karantanellis** is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Geological Sciences at California State University, Fullerton, specializing in Remote Sensing, Engineering Geology, and Geohazard assessment. He has collaborated on projects focused on geohazard risk reduction and response, using close-range remote sensing and Object-Based Image Analysis (OBIA). Stratis brings extensive experience in landslide and rockfall hazard assessment and mitigation planning, contributing to research in the USA, Europe, and globally. He has received multiple awards for his contributions to the field, including the Excellence Early Career Award from Aristotle University of Thessaloniki in Greece.

**Dr. John Kemeny** is Professor Emeritus in the School of Mining Engineering & Mineral Resources at the University of Arizona. His specialties are geomechanics, slope stability, rock fracture mechanics, numerical simulation in rock mechanics, and developing 3D imaging and sensing technologies for geotechnical applications. Dr. Kemeny was Partner and Co-Founder of Split Engineering LLC, a spin-off company from the University of Arizona started in 1997 that became a world leader in the development and sales of vision-based rock fragmentation measurement software and point-cloud based rock mass characterization software. The company had offices in the US, Chile, Peru, South Africa and Australia and was acquired by Hexagon Mining in 2019. Dr. Kemeny has also been heavily involved in innovative approaches to engineering education, including the development and teaching of online, flipped and executive ed courses for over 20 years. Dr. Kemeny has over 40 years of experience in rock mechanics and rock engineering. At the University of Arizona over the past 35 years, Dr. Kemeny has published over 175 papers, given over 80 invited technical talks and workshops and graduated 15 PhD and over 50 masters students. Dr. Kemeny has been at the University of Arizona since 1989 and was Head of the Mining and Geological Engineering department from 2015 through 2019. More recently, Dr. Kemeny was the 2024-2025 AEG/GSA Richard H Jahns Distinguished Lecturer where he gave 48 lectures at colleges and professional chapters across the US. He is currently working with several colleagues on new approaches to geotechnical hazard assessment using modern geospatial and AI tools.

***Dr. Thomas Oommen*** began his academic career at Michigan Technological University, serving 13 years in geological engineering and progressing from assistant to associate to professor. He has contributed significantly to understanding earth materials, geologic processes, and geohazards, applying those insights to engineering and hazard mitigation. Oommen's research leverages remote sensing and machine learning to address critical issues in site characterization, infrastructure monitoring, and geohazards. Recognized for developing collaborations across academia, government, and industry, he has secured over \$12 million in research funding from various agencies and industry partners, authored over 100 peer-reviewed journal publications, and advanced transformative approaches to engineering geology. An active leader, Oommen has served as past chair of the Geological Society of America's Environmental and Engineering Geology Division. He currently chairs the American Society of Civil Engineers–Geo-Institute's Engineering Geology and Site Characterization Committee, is chair of the Awards Committee of the American Geophysical Union Natural Hazards Section and is AEG's co-editor for the Environmental & Engineering Geoscience journal. With a strong commitment to mentorship, he guides students and cultivates a supportive, research-focused environment.