

## Member Spotlight

A monthly highlight featuring an ASEG member. All past member spotlights can be found in our newsletter [archive](#).



We welcome **Karra Fenine Lopez** under the spotlight in this issue as she shares her enlightening story!

Karra is a Master of Geoscience student at Curtin University Majoring in Geophysics.

*I am currently pursuing a Master of Geoscience with a Major in Geophysics at Curtin University in Western Australia. I graduated with a Bachelor of Science in Geology from Mapua University, where I conducted undergraduate research on the geomorphology of Bohol, Philippines, with implications for geohazard assessment.*

**1. How long have you been a geologist?**

*I have been working as a geologist since 2015 and have worked in an oil and gas company for 7 years.*

**2. If you weren't a geologist/geophysicist, what would you be?**

*I once thought of becoming a flight attendant.*

**3. What is your best interview tip?**

*If it will be a face-to-face interview, always be punctual and do background research on the company.*

**4. Where was your best sunrise/sunset location?**

*Sunrise in Mt. Batulao, Philippines*



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**5. What are you reading at the moment?**

*I am currently reading David Isles and Leigh Rankin's Geological Interpretation of Aeromagnetic Data. I am working on magnetics for my Master's Research Project this semester and this book is really helpful.*

**6. What made you decide to be a geologist/geophysicist?**

*Initially, I was unsure about which bachelor's degree to pursue. Luckily, I was awarded a full undergraduate scholarship from the government under the Department of Environmental and Natural Resources, which focused on science-related courses. At that time, the geology program wasn't well-known in our country and had very few students enrolled, so I decided to take it. Looking back, I'm incredibly happy with my decision. Geology has opened up a world of fascinating opportunities and allowed me to grow both personally and professionally.*

**7. What's your most treasured textbook?**

*Twilight by Stephenie Meyer. Yes. I am a twilight fan.*

**8. What do you do in your spare time?**

*I enjoy watching good movies and series.*

**9. What is a challenge you have overcome and how did you do so?**

*Probably one of the biggest challenges for me was to live in a different country, speak their language, and learn their culture. When I moved here to study, the first few weeks were difficult. This move was a big step for me and took me out of my comfort zone, and it was also the first time I had been away from my family for a long time. But as time went on, it got better. Constant communication with family and friends also helped.*

**10. What reaction do you mostly get when you tell someone that you are a geologist/geophysicist?**

*I often get this response when asked, "What's that?"*

**11. When you are asked what you do – what do you do?**

*I like to say I am an Earth detective and a real-life treasure hunter! I study rocks and uncover what's beneath the earth to search for resources like minerals, oil, and gas.*

**12. What is the best way that the ASEG could let the public know about geophysics and its benefit to the everyday life?**

*I think the best way for the ASEG to inform the public is through engaging and interactive outreach programs. This could include social media campaigns showcasing real-world applications of geophysics, educational workshops and exhibits, and partnerships with schools to integrate geophysics into the science curriculum. By highlighting how geophysics is used in natural resource exploration, environmental monitoring, and natural disaster prediction, we can make it more relatable and impactful.*