

**All of our member spotlights are listed on [our website](#). Please have a read, they're illuminating!**

Dear spotlight audiences, This time, we have the new ASEG WA president **Michel M. Nzikou** as the spotlight.

**1. What do you like most about being a geophysicist?**

The challenge in interpreting the unknown using techniques such as Full Wave Inversion. Besides that, the opportunity to work with a team of bright fellow as well as the opportunity to work in remote areas with a great and awesome landscape.

**2. What's one thing that you wish to know before entering this field?**

Mentors are important and need to network a lot to help transition between student life and professional one.

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

First in Magnum campsite in the Pilbara, WA and in Boulia, QLD, with Moombarriga Geoscience during IP acquisition project for Rio Tinto and MT for Anglo-American.



#### **4. What made you decide to be a geophysicist?**

The complexity in understanding how oil and gas were extracted from my country of origin. Amazed by that, I thought I could add value in mining, oil and gas exploration, therefore, needed to study science in general and in long-term Geophysics/Geoscience.

#### **5. What do you do in your spare time?**

I tend to keep my fitness level up to its highest, so training about three times a week with my team Fury River Dragon Boat. Also, regularly play volleyball indoors and outdoors.

#### **6. What is a challenge that you see in geoscience today, and how do you see the community overcoming it?**

The demand of skilled people is exponentially growing while training is diminishing. The community everywhere needs to start acting that should involve government to help build the intake trend in universities.

#### **7. Where do you think exploration geophysics will head in the next 10-15 years?**

Close to today's rhythm with a focus on passive technique to align with the vision of a green future.

#### **8. Do you think AI will take over your job or will the human element remain vital to exploration successes?**

Ethical AI will not take over, so field experts will always be needed or required to navigate all the algorithms.

#### **9. What do you think of the covid impact on the geophysical industry?**

One of the positive impacts is the flexibility to work anywhere for most staff. However, the delay in expected research output was validated from data acquired during this time.

**10. What aspect of geophysics do you enjoy most?**

Researching new alternatives to quickly process and interpret data.