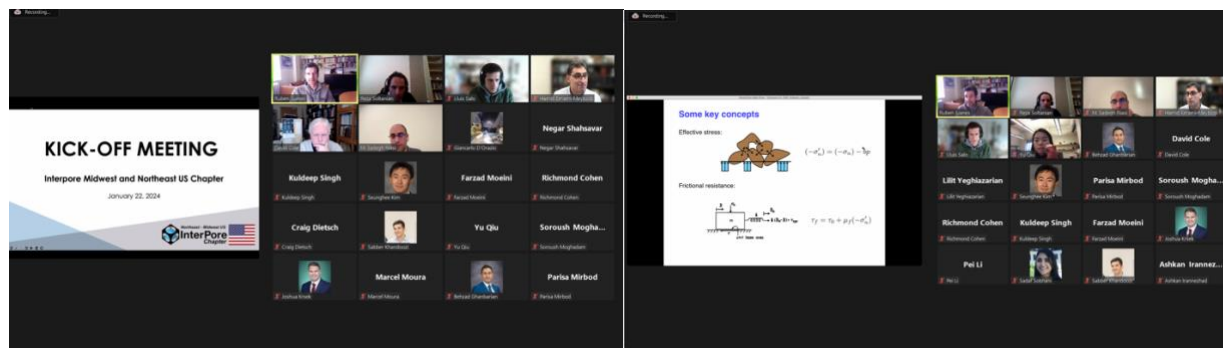


Report on the Northeast-Midwest US Chapter Kick-off Meeting



The kick-off meeting of the [Northeast-Midwest \(NEWM\) United States InterPore](#) Chapter was held on Monday, January 22, 2024, 1-4 PM EST. The meeting was organized by the chapter's founding committee and was hosted virtually at the University of Cincinnati. Approximately 40 participants registered and actively participated in this engaging 3-hour event.

The meeting commenced with a warm welcome from Prof. Lilit Yeghiazarian, who provided insights into the history and objectives of InterPore chapters. She also shared the journey leading to the establishment of the NEWM chapter. Following this, an informal introduction allowed participants to briefly discuss their research interests within the general field of porous media science.

At 1:45 PM, Prof. Reza Soltanian introduced the first plenary speaker, Prof. David Cole from Ohio State University. Prof. Cole delivered a captivating and comprehensive lecture titled "Structure, Dynamics, and Reactivity of C-O-H Fluids at Interfaces and in Nanopores." The 30-minute presentation sparked a lively 15-minute Q&A and discussion session.

Continuing the momentum, at 2:30 PM, Dr. Sadegh Riasi presented the progress made in forming the NEMW InterPore Chapter. He outlined key steps, including the establishment of the Founding Committee, drafting the chapter proposal, creating the [official website](#), and organizing the kick-off meeting. Dr. Riasi then discussed the formation of the chapter's Steering Committee, detailing roles, responsibilities, and the election process. The ensuing brainstorming session saw participants sharing ideas on chapter activities and ensuring diversity within the steering committee and overall chapter initiatives.

At 2:45 PM, Prof. Soltanian introduced the second plenary speaker, Prof. Ruben Juanes from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. Prof. Juanes delivered an enthralling lecture on "Man-made Earthquakes and the Energy Transition," initiating a dynamic Q&A and discussion. This lecture also marked the beginning of his [InterPore Kimberly-Clark Distinguished Lecturer of 2024](#) series.

Prof. Soltanian brought the meeting to a close, offering final remarks on the future of the NEMW chapter and providing a brief introduction to the recently established InterPore Journal.