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**August Greetings to all Biogeosciences Section Affiliates!**

**Lots of news this time of year! We announce and extend sincere congratulations to our section’s AGU Award winners below and share several updates and new opportunities. As always, feel free to contact us with any questions or section business.**

**Sincerely,**

**Ariel, Elise and Laura (****anbar@asu.edu****,** **e.pendall@westernsydney.edu.au****,** **lauraw@indiana.edu****)**

**Upcoming Events & Deadlines:**

* Biogeosciences Section events [calendar](http://biogeosciences.agu.org/sfg-calendar/): http://biogeosciences.agu.org/sfg-calendar/
* Deadlines
	+ **August 9**: Fall Meeting student travel grant application deadline, [click here for more.](https://education.agu.org/grants/student-travel-grants-application-requirements/fall-meeting-student-travel-grant-reviewer-info-form/)
	+ **September 6:** Ocean Sciences Meeting student travel grant application deadline
	+ **September 6:** Ocean Sciences Meeting submissions for abstracts, town halls, workshops, and auxiliary functions
	+ **September 30:** [Virtual Poster Showcase](https://education.agu.org/virtual-poster-showcase/) abstract submission deadline for students
	+ **October 2**: AGU Open API Challenge (cash prize opportunity—see below!)
* Events
	+ **August 6-11**: AOGS 14th Annual Meeting

**2017 AGU Honorees Announced (Medals, Fellows, Awards, Prizes)**

**We are very pleased to announce our Section members who have been designated as 2017 AGU Fellows. We look forward to celebrating with them at the Section Luncheon in New Orleans!**

David D. Breshears, University of Arizona

Josep Canadell, Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation

Nancy B. Grimm, Arizona State University

Fortunat Joos, University of Bern

Samantha Benton Joye, University of Georgia

Alan Knapp, Colorado State University

Richard Norby, Oak Ridge National Laboratory

Margaret S. Torn, Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory & University of California, Berkeley

Susan Ustin, University of California, Davis

**2017 Union Award for** **Excellence in Earth and Space Science Education:** James Ehleringer and Thure Cerling, University of Utah

**Section Award winners:**

**2017 Sulzman Award** **for Excellence in Mentoring and Education**: Claudia Czimczik, University of California, Irvine

Complete lists of honorees:

• 2017 Union Medals, Awards and Prizes recipients <https://eos.org/agu-news/2017-agu-union-medal-award-and-prize-recipients-announced>

• 2017 Class of AGU Fellows <https://eos.org/agu-news/2017-class-of-agu-fellows-announced>

• 2017 Section and Focus Group Awards and Lectures <https://eos.org/agu-news/2017-agu-section-and-focus-group-awardees-and-named-lecturers>

If you have any questions regarding this year’s announcements, please feel free to contact Beth Paredes at eparedes@agu.org.

**Executive Announcements:**

* **Consider Volunteering for AGU – Tell Us About Your Interests Now**

AGU relies on volunteers to achieve its [mission](http://send.agu.org/link.cfm?r=BXR3dMUwqmRm-tKrQl98dQ~~&pe=XSPoUkD9oAoWcLGZWHrBILU57jyzlPeX5zV9M2Sk-9YCsbS0P6T964qRsZbx78Bvt4stf75m8BidsHh6icc3FQ~~). A variety of opportunities are available over the next few years with a range of time commitments. Diverse perspectives are needed. To help AGU identify opportunities that match your skills and interests, [fill out an online profile](http://send.agu.org/link.cfm?r=BXR3dMUwqmRm-tKrQl98dQ~~&pe=N55x6PgT3MnSAAtE2Aqwwsf6KdssjWv407PEWkeklSlJYur_3F4pvQyvzyEJ8TCHthUh8tcuF5lQwXW_ROTmGQ~~). Not everyone will be matched, and there's no obligation to accept opportunities offered to you. Sign up now!

**• AGU’s Open API Challenge**: AGU has launched the Open API (Application Program Interface) Challenge to improve the exchange of ideas within the scientific community, and support integrated, interdisciplinary Earth and space science information. This year we invite you to develop a web-based tool that adds value to an API containing data from the Fall Meeting Scientific Program.

**Submission Deadline:** 2 October, 11:59 P.M. ET

**Prizes:**

1st Prize: $15,000
2nd Prize: $10,000
3rd Prize: $5,000

Each winning team will also receive up to four complimentary one-day passes to Fall Meeting to attend the award ceremony. [Learn more.](http://developer.agu.org/)

**•  Ocean Sciences Meeting Abstracts and Presentation Evaluation**: Submissions for abstracts, town halls, workshops, and auxiliary functions are now being accepted for the 2018 Ocean Sciences Meeting taking place in Portland, Ore., 11-16 February. Membership in AGU, ASLO, or TOS is NOT required to submit. [Read the guidelines](http://send.agu.org/link.cfm?r=BXR3dMUwqmRm-tKrQl98dQ~~&pe=QxyqFsYr3es0F4MdVvFErMi5GYeea0QVWtRlGL38EKdC7UlIOcS_tiCDenjPtNR07psT6XSlx3OAxRDxVl5E7A~~). Submission deadline: **6 September, 11:59 p.m. ET.** Students who would like to gain valuable feedback on their oral or poster presentation can participate in the [OSM Student Paper Evaluation](http://osm.agu.org/2018/students/student-paper-evaluations/) activity. Non-student volunteer evaluators are also needed. Students and volunteer evaluators can indicate their interest in participating by checking the box on the special programs page when submitting their abstract.

* **Data Visualization and Storytelling Competition:** Students with innovative data visualization ideas have the chance to showcase their skills on the NASA Hyperwall at the AGU Fall Meeting. This competition provides substantial travel funds to the grand prize winners to attend the AGU Fall Meeting and present their innovative data visualization on the NASA Hyperwall. [Click here](https://education.agu.org/grants/data-visualization-storytelling-competition/) to learn more.

**•  Be a Beta Tester for AGU Connect**: AGU has created a networking and collaboration platform called **AGU Connect**, where you can connect with colleagues in your field; meet potential new collaborators; and participate in discussions about research questions, timely issues in Earth and space science and related current events, and opportunities for career advancement. We have launched a beta version. We will be inviting participants in batches, to ensure a consistent user experience and support, and all AGU members will have access to AGU Connect by the end of the summer. *However, if you are interested in being a beta tester for the site, please send an email to**connect@agu.org**with the subject line: Beta Tester, and we will ensure that you are given early access to the platform.*

**• AGU Webinars Launch**: The newly launched AGU Webinars channel is a great informational source for the Earth and space sciences. Each week will feature guest speakers from the Earth and space science community presenting topics important to you! Tune in Thursdays at 2 p.m. ET. and visit [webinars.agu.org](http://webinars.agu.org) for the schedule of upcoming webinars and to watch past webinars.

The AGU Webinars team is always on the lookout for great topics and speakers. Feel free to send your ideas and feedback to webinars@agu.org.