

Greetings EPSP folks,

On behalf of the Earth and Planetary Surface Processes Section, it is our pleasure to congratulate our 2020 award winners:

- G. K. Gilbert Award: **Suzanne P. Anderson**, University of Colorado Boulder
- Luna B. Leopold Early Career Award: **Jaap Nienhuis**, Utrecht University
- Marguerite T. Williams Award: **Jane Willenbring**, Stanford University

The Gilbert and Leopold awardees will make remarks after officially receiving the awards during the EPSP Business Meeting at the Fall Virtual meeting. As the Leopold awardee, Dr. Nienhuis will present the **2020 Robert Sharp Lecture**.

This is the inaugural year for the **Marguerite T. Williams Award**, and we share information here about Dr. Williams and the new award. The Marguerite T. Williams Award will be presented annually to recognize significant contributions to research and community-building by a mid-career scientist in the field of earth and planetary surface processes. Marguerite T. Williams was a Black woman who, by receiving her PhD in Geology in 1942, pioneered to broaden participation in STEM. Dr. Williams was already mid-career when she returned to school to earn higher degrees in geology, finishing her PhD in 1942 at the age of 47. Dr. Williams devoted her career to teaching, and she faced and overcame immeasurable barriers in her education and career, underscoring the enormity of her accomplishments. For the Marguerite T. Williams Award, contributions in research can be illustrated through at least one contribution that significantly advanced the field of EPSP-related studies and/or collective contributions that have influenced the field, including but not limited to: development of new tools or techniques; discovery of new links between surface processes and their drivers; and application of surface processes research to sustainability. Contributions in community-building can be illustrated through, for example: sustained mentorship of students and/or early career scientists; broad reach in science communication and outreach; evidence of efforts to improve equity, diversity, and inclusion and/or efforts to improve accessibility and community climate; excellence in service roles such as peer review or panel participation, editorships or assistant editorships, or committee and leadership roles.

Union Awards and Fellows will be announced later in October. To all of the nominators and nominees who were not selected this year, please consider nominating again next year, as there were many more deserving nominations than could be awarded. We are grateful to all nominators and letter writers for sharing their time so generously during this process.

Dorothy Merritts, President, EPSP section
Gordon Grant, President-Elect, EPSP section
Noah Snyder, Secretary, EPSP section

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