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Earth and Planetary Surface Processes

AGU ADVANCING EARTH AND SPACE SCIENCES

Hi All,

Welcome to the September EPSP newsletter. As we are gearing up for AGU26, there are a number of updates we'd like to share with you.

EPSP Caregiver Awards

We're pleased to announce that we will once again be offering Caregiver Awards for members of our community to help ease the financial burden of attending AGU26. This year, we will offer two Caregiver Awards, of $500 each. We have a broad definition of caregiving to include child care, elder care, or any other type of care giving you may engage in. We have more information about the award here, and you can apply for the award here. The application was designed to be relatively simple and not time consuming, in the hopes that applying for the award is not an overdue burden on any individual. Applications are due by 1 October, we will judge applications based on this rubric, and we hope to notify winners by the end of October.

EPSP Sticker Contest

Our annual EPSP Sticker Contest is back! For the third year in a row we will be accepting submissions for EPSP-inspired stickers. We will post all the submissions online and ask you to vote on your favorites for us to print and distribute at AGU26. More information is available here, and you can submit your submission here. Submissions are due on or before 30 September.

EPSP Graduate Student Mentoring Program

Are you a new grad student studying earth and planetary surface processes embarking on your advanced degree? Or are you nearing graduation with valuable insights to pass on and looking for mentorship experience? There's a place for you in the new EPSP Student Mentorship Program.

Interested individuals can apply HERE to either give or receive mentorship throughout the Fall 2026 semester. **The application deadline is 25 September, 2026.** In this EPSP-sponsored program, new Master's and PhD students with at least one year of graduate school remaining will receive guidance in a one-on-one discussion format from experienced graduate students. The discussions are an opportunity for students at all levels to share experiences and advice on a range of topics and skills to foster academic success.

Experienced graduate students with at least two years of graduate school experience will have the opportunity to lead three structured discussions with new Master's and PhD students during the Fall Semester. The topics for these discussions will vary with each group, but potential options include taking advantage of networking opportunities, pursuing funded research, attending conferences, and the scientific publishing process. Suggested discussion materials and group training sessions (on relevant ethics, diversity, equity, and inclusivity) will be provided to the mentors with the hope that their personal experience will supplement the discussion.

Events will begin in mid-October 2026 and will continue through January

2027. This is a great opportunity for both early and late-stage graduate students to learn from one another and build connections across age and experience. Apply today!

Questions? Contact: snath40@gatech.edu.

Participate As A Volunteer Reviewer For AGU's New Outstanding Emerging Presenters (OEP) Program!

AGU's Outstanding Presenters Award (OSPA) Program has evolved into the new Outstanding Emerging Presenters (OEP) Program. In the past, OSPA volunteer reviewers attended presenters' presentations at the Annual Meeting and provided feedback afterward, but the new OEP Program brings that valuable feedback **before AGU26,** giving presenters an opportunity to build confidence, refine their presentations, and, as a result of your feedback, deliver their best work at the meeting.

How It Works

As an OEP volunteer reviewer, you will:

- Review **three presentation drafts,** assigned based on the section preferences you select on the volunteer form.
- Provide feedback online through a combination of **multiple-choice questions and written comments.**
- Complete your reviews during the review period of **10-24 November 2026.**
- Share feedback that is **not anonymous**, allowing presenters to benefit from direct, constructive guidance.

You **do not need to attend AGU26 to volunteer.** To participate, you simply need to be an AGU member who has **attended an AGU meeting within the past five**

years.

We'd love for you to be part of the new OEP Program and help emerging presenters shine at AGU26. If you're interested in participating as an OEP reviewer, **please complete the volunteer form before 2 October.**

AGU Elections (including for the next EPSP President-Elect) and New Incoming EPSP Secretary

AGU Elections will be taking place this October and are open to all current AGU members (if you haven't renewed your membership for this year, please do so). On the ballot is your chance to vote for the next EPSP President-Elect (thanks to Mikael Attal and David Mohrig for agreeing to run!). The new President-Elect will step into that role in January 2027, at the same time Eric Kirby will move from President-Elect to President, Suzanne Anderson will move from President to Past-President, and Kimberly Hill will rotate off as Past-President. Big Thanks Eric, Suzanne and Kimberly for all their service to EPSP!

New this year, AGU gave Sections the option of either appointing a Secretary or holding an election. At EPSP, we decided to appoint a secretary both because it has been hard to get volunteers to run for this position in the past, and because with an appointed position, no one loses an election. Starting in January 2027, Joanmarie Del Vecchio will take over as EPSP Secretary and I (Joel Scheingross) will step down from the role. Thanks Joanmarie for stepping up!

AGU26 Registration Open And Full Scheduled Announced Soon

Registration (and housing) is now open for AGU26, you can register here. We encourage you to register before November 6 in order to secure the early (discounted) rates. The full schedule of sessions will be available in early to mid-September (and, due to delays between the writing and sending of this message, may be available by the time you're reading this).

EPSP Events At AGU26

Beyond all the great science sessions that we'll hold, we'll have a few EPSP-specific social and networking events as part of AGU26. These include:

- Our EPSP Section Gathering is scheduled for Tuesday evening, 8 December.
- A panel on career transitions intended for early career members of EPSP on Wednesday morning, 9 December. This is a ticketed event with advanced registration required during the AGU registration process.
- While not part of AGU or EPSP, we have been told that Gilbert Club is planned for Saturday, 12 December in Berkeley.

Consider Donating To EPSP

For those of you who can, we wanted to remind you that you are able to make donations directly to EPSP through the AGU Giving Website (select the "Earth and Planetary Surface Processes Fund"). All donations we receive go exclusively to support our community through activities like our caregiver award, student travel grants, and helping to subsidize refreshment at early career focused events like the panel on career transitions we will be hosting at AGU26. Thank you for considering EPSP as part of your philanthropy.

Help With EPSP Social Media (BSKY and Instragram)!

We're looking for a few folks to help us with our website and social media. If you're interested in joining our volunteer team to help out, please e-mail Susannah Morey at susannah.m.morey@vanderbilt.edu for more information.

Stay Connected With EPSP

As a reminder, in addition to this newsletter, we make many EPSP-related announcements on our Bsky account (@aguepsp.bsky.social), Instagram account (agu_epsp), as well via the Gilbert Club and IAG Geomorph-List (GEOMORPH-L) community list-servs (which are both great ways to stay up to date with the broader geomorph community as well).

AGU is a global community supporting more than half a million advocates and professionals in the Earth and space sciences.

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