



We are excited to announce a new EPSP Section award, the [Marguerite T. Williams Award](#). This award was proposed by a group of early and mid-career EPSP scientists- kudos to them for leading this effort!

The Marguerite T. Williams Award will be presented annually (including this year) and recognizes significant contributions to research and community-building by a mid-career scientist in the field of earth and planetary surface processes. Dr. 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.

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.

Nominations for the Williams Award are now open as part of this year's awards cycle, via a [special nomination submission site](#). The process is similar to other AGU section awards, with a modified deadline: nomination packages for the Williams Award are due **June 15**.

We also need and encourage nominations for the [Luna B. Leopold Early Career Award](#) and the [G.K. Gilbert Award in Surface Processes](#). Nomination packages for these awards must be uploaded to the [AGU submission site](#) by **1 June**. As a reminder, the eligibility window for the Leopold Award has been extended compared to previous years, such that the nominee must be within *ten (10)* years of receiving their Ph.D. or the highest equivalent terminal degree.

We recognize this is a challenging time to be soliciting support letters and assembling nomination packages. Please reach out to EPSP leadership for help with this process, and please nominate your colleagues!

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AGU galvanizes a community of Earth and space scientists that collaboratively advances and communicates science and its power to ensure a sustainable future.

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