

Global Environmental Change at the Fall AGU

At the 2017 AGU Fall meeting in New Orleans, the GEC Focus Group will host number of interesting sessions and talks. 70 sessions were proposed last year (out of 1100 total). This year 75 sessions were proposed in GEC (out of 1167). That's a 7.1% increase over last year and constitutes 6.4% of all sessions submitted to the fall meeting. We are the fourth largest section or focus group in the AGU!

Last year GEC received 1447 abstracts (out of a total of 22770) and 1358 this year (out of a total 22236) This is a slight decrease for the whole union and a decrease of 6.2% for GEC. After mergers the final tally of GEC oral sessions is 62. GEC will also host three named lectures and approximately 60 poster sessions. We hope to see, listen to, and interact with you at the sessions.

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New Global Environmental Change Fellows



Richard Norby



David Breshears



Josep Canadell

Congratulations to the new GEC Fellows: **Richard Norby** (ORNL), **David Breshears** (Arizona), and **Josep Canadell** (CSIRO). The GEC Fellow is an honor given to AGU members who have made exceptional scientific contributions and gained prominence in their respective fields of Earth and space sciences. No more than 0.01 percent of the total membership of AGU is recognized annually. We also acknowledge the Fellows' Committee for the many hours they dedicated to the careful selection of the very best candidates among the numerous highly qualified nominations.

The Fellows will speak at Session GC13N (13:40 - 15:40 PM) on Monday, December 11, 2017 titled **Vegetation and Carbon on a Changing Planet: Perspectives from the New Global Environmental Change Fellows**. The presentations will be followed by a one-hour panel discussion at 14:40 PM. Convention Center, Room 260-262.

Bolin, Schneider and Tyndall Lectures

Wednesday, December 13, 2017, Session GC31I-01 (09:00 - 10:00 AM), Bolin Lecture: The essential interactions between understanding climate variability and climate change, **J. David Neelin**, University of California Los Angeles, Los Angeles, CA, USA. Convention Center, La Nouvelle C.

Thursday, December 14, 2017, Session GC43K-01 (13:40 - 14:40 PM), Schneider Lecture: Uncertainty in Climate Change Research: An Integrated Approach, **Linda Mearns**, National Center for Atmospheric Research, Boulder, CO, USA. Convention Center, La Nouvelle AB.

Thursday, December 14, 2017, Session GC43M-01 (14:40 - 15:40 PM), Tyndall Lecture: Gordian Knots of Prevision: The lessons of history, **James Rodger Fleming**, Colby College, Waterville, ME, USA. Convention Center, La Nouvelle AB.

GEC Business and Awards Reception

The GEC Section will hold its Business Meeting on **Tuesday, December 12, 2017 from 6:15 to 7:00 PM** in the Convention Center, Room 271-273. We will be honoring our Award winners, acknowledging our GEC volunteers, and continuing the opportunity to network with GEC members. Please join us for this brief, but important, meeting after which we will adjourn to the GEC Reception at Mardi Gras World (see details below).

The Global Environmental Change (GEC) Section will hold its Reception on Tuesday, December 12, 2017 from 7 to 8:30 PM at Mardi Gras World, #2 Earth Covering Neighborhood. There will be passed and stationed hors d'oeuvres and an open bar. This is a ticketed event (\$15.00). Mardi Gras World is located in the south end of the Convention Center at 1380 Port of New Orleans Place. Details are available here:

<https://fallmeeting.agu.org/2017/section-focus-group-events/>

Early Career Networking Reception:

The Global Environmental Change (GEC) Section is sponsoring an Early-Career Networking Event on **Monday, December 11, 2017 from 6:30 to 8:30 PM** at the Gordon Biersch Brewery, 200 Poydras Street. This Networking / Panel event is entitled "Translating Knowledge into Action: Developing Strategies for Careers, Funding, and Public Communication." We have three panelists who will discuss these issues: James T. Randerson (UCLA), winner of the GEC Piers Sellers Mid-Career Award, Phillip Taylor (USC) who has experience as an NSF Program Manager, and Jennifer Burney (UCSD), a 2017 GEC Early-Career Awardee. This event is free, compliments of AGU and GEC, and will include Hors D'oeuvres / Appetizers and non-alcoholic drinks. There will be a cash bar. The venue is located a short 8 to 10 minute walk from the Convention Center. Please join us!

Volunteer Opportunities:

We have two urgent needs for volunteers. If you are planning to attend the Fall Meeting we will need your help to judge student presentations and posters for Outstanding Student Paper Awards (OSPA). This year we have over 100 student presentations (including both oral presentations and posters) in GEC sessions that are eligible for OSPA. To win an award a student's presentation must have 3 judges. If you are interested in becoming a judge, please go to <http://ospa.agu.org/2017/ospa/> to register and sign up for student presentations you wish to evaluate. Dan Li is the chair of GEC's OSPA and can be reached at lidan@bu.edu. Please volunteer to ensure that every eligible student paper has the opportunity to compete for an OSPA this year.

GEC also needs a volunteer to replace our web editor. Dr. Chuck Hakkarinen has served as the web editor since 2009. The AGU/GEC website content receives some basic support from AGU HQ staff, who provide Wordpress for the web editor's use. Some knowledge of Wordpress is desired but not absolutely necessary. Please volunteer by contacting the GEC Secretary (ali.h.omar@nasa.gov) or President (thompson.4@osu.edu).

Incentive Program to Support GEC Activities: AGU has implemented an incentive program to increase AGU member donations and at the same time increase AGU's support of the sections and focus groups. GEC supports monetary awards for the new GEC Early Career Award and travel to the AGU Fall meeting by early career GEC focus group members, especially those from developing countries. Here is how it works! AGU will reimburse our focus group as follows:

If 5% of our primary affiliated members donate, AGU contributes \$1000 to the GEC focus group.

If 7% of our primary affiliated members donate, AGU contributes \$2000 to the GEC focus group.

If 10% of our primary affiliated members donate, AGU contributes \$3000, and so on.

Only members who make contributions of \$50 or greater (to ANY AGU fund) will count.

Sharing News, Events, and Accomplishments of GEC members:

If you would like to share your significant accomplishments, news, and events with other GEC focus group members, contact the secretary, **Ali H. Omar**, at ali.h.omar@nasa.gov or at 1-757-864-5128.