AWG Outstanding Educator Award

Established in 1988, the premier professional award of the Association for Women Geoscientists acknowledges the role of teachers and mentors in every woman geoscientist’s life story. The Outstanding Educator Award honors well-established women college or university teachers who have played a significant role in the education and support of geoscientists within and beyond the classroom, in advancing the persistence of females and underrepresented minorities in geoscience careers, and in raising the profile of the geosciences by teaching to and for the broadest audience of students.

Review Criteria

The Outstanding Educator Award is a career award, and the committee will consider nominations for women educators with 20 or more years of service to the geoscience community. Beginning in 2016, nominations will be evaluated on the basis of exemplary contributions in at least two of the following three areas.

1. Mentoring- Outstanding impacts in mentoring may include, but are not limited to the following.
   - Going “above and beyond” to support junior colleagues and students in advancing their careers and degrees
   - Mentoring student participation in research, including service on undergraduate, master’s, and Ph.D. committees and scientific abstracts and publications co-authored with students
   - Initiating or contributing to programs devoted to helping women, underrepresented minorities, and first-generation students persist in the geosciences
   - Leading courses, short courses, or workshops, and writing articles or publications (formal or informal) with the aim of encouraging career persistence and professional success in geoscience fields

2. Instruction and Curriculum- Outstanding impacts in instruction and curriculum may include, but are not limited to the following.
   - Variety, innovation, or other value of the nominee’s portfolio of courses, short courses, or workshops.
   - Publications on instruction and curriculum ranging from peer-reviewed articles demonstrating effectiveness of teaching innovations to publicly available assignments and assessments.
   - Professional service, both on the nominee’s campus and in professional societies, toward valuing and improving instruction and curriculum.

3. Outreach- Outstanding impacts in outreach may include, but are not limited to the following.
   - Significant service to or collaboration with institutions of informal science education (museums, nature and science centers, etc.).
   - Presentations, short courses, or workshops; videos or other outreach materials; and articles or publications (formal or informal) explicitly aimed at communicating effectively about science concepts for a general audience (K-12 students or teachers, professionals in other fields, or the overall public).
Nomination Process

The deadline for nominations is April 1, 2023.

Nomination packets must include a current vitae and at least six nomination letters from male or female current or former students and professional colleagues. Nominators are encouraged to address the review criteria within their letters. AWG is an international organization, and nominees and nominators may be residents of any nation (with the exception of sanctioned countries).

Compile all documents in one PDF file and email your nomination as an attachment to the Chair of the AWG Outstanding Educator Award selection committee, Dr. Lauren Neitzke Adamo, at oeawg.org.

Awards are distributed at the award ceremony at the annual Geological Society of America meeting.

OEA Past Recipients

2022- Laura Guertin, Pennsylvania State University, Brandywine
2021- Carol de Wet, Franklin & Marshal College
2020- Karen Harpp, Colgate University
2019- Estella Atekwana, University of Delaware
2018- Gabriela Mángano, University of Saskatchewan
2017- Susan Conrad, Dutchess Community College
2016- Barbara Dutrow, Louisiana State University
2015- Jo Laird, University of New Hampshire
2014- Tekla Harms, Amherst College
2013- Diane Smith, Trinity University
2012- Jean Bahr, University of Wisconsin-Madison
2011- Marcia Bjornerud, Lawrence University
2010- Susan Lozier, Duke University
2009- Anita Grunder, Oregon State University
2008- Janet Herman, University of Virginia
2007- Sue Rimmer, Southern Illinois University Carbondale
2006- Dorothy Merritts, Franklin and Marshall College
2005- Molly Miller, Vanderbilt University
2004- Pat Manley, Middlebury College
2003- Patricia Kelley, University of North Carolina Wilmington
2002- Gail Ashley, Rutgers University
2001- Judith Schiebout, Louisiana State University
2000- Suzanne O'Connell, Wesleyan University and Trinity College
1999- Pamela Hallock Muller, University of South Florida
1998- Julia Ann (Jan) Tullis, Brown University
1997- Lisa M. Pratt, Indiana University
1996- Linda M. Abriola, University of Michigan Ann Arbor
1995- Mary E. Savina, Carleton College
1994- B. Charlotte Schreiber, Queen's College
1993- Margaret L. Delaney, University of California Santa-Cruz
1992- Marie Morisawa, SUNY-Binghamton
1991- Laurie Brown, University of Massachusetts
1990- Sharon Mosher, University of Texas at Austin
1989- No award given
1988- Maria Luisa Crawford, Bryn Mawr College