

# AMERICAN GEOGRAPHICAL SOCIETY

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## **American Geographical Society Elects New Councilors**

*Description: The American Geographical Society (AGS) announced the election of Dr. Michael Steinberg and Mr. Mark Safran, as the newest AGS Councilors.*

[New York City, NY] - [February 20, 2018] - The American Geographical Society (AGS) announced the election of Dr. Michael Steinberg, Associate Professor at The University of Alabama, and Mr. Mark Safran, Program Manager for Geospatial Solutions at BAE Systems, as the newest members of the AGS Council.

As a professor of geography and environmental studies, Dr. Michael Steinberg has taught at Prescott College, the University of Alabama, the University of Hawaii, and the University of Southern Maine. Dr. Steinberg currently directs the Natural Resources Conservation Lab in the Department of Geography at the University of Alabama. He works with students and other academics to research human-wildlife interactions with the goal to develop pivotal conservation strategies. Michael Steinberg is a well published author on topics of wildlife and natural landscapes and has been published in *Geographical Review* and *FOCUS on Geography*. Dr. Steinberg is currently an editor of *FOCUS on Geography* and provides the publication with a wide range of conservation insights.

At BAE Systems, Mr. Mark Safran is responsible for producing and maintaining geospatial data and cartographic products for use by government agencies. Under Mr. Safran's guidance, BAE Systems has grown to be an important center of mapping programs that provide customers with accurate location data and cartography catered to customers' needs. Mr. Safran first joined AGS as an AGS Fellow to bridge his interests in geography, mapping, and remote sensing with broader communities that focus on efforts such as renewable energy, climate change and sustainable development. As a Councilor at AGS, he hopes to weave these initiatives together by pursuing an interdisciplinary dialogue between science, business, education and government and placing geography at the center of it.

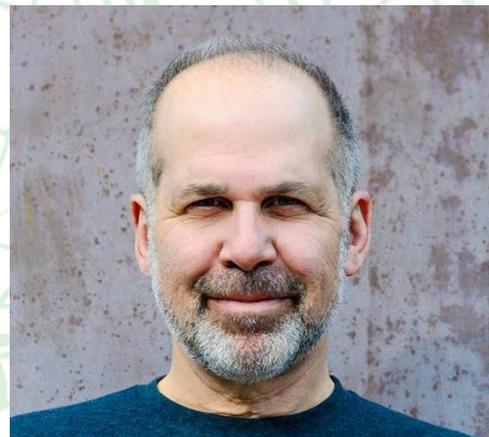
The AGS Council is the governing board of the Society and has been leading the organization since 1851. Some of the nation's most prominent historical leaders have served on the Council including Henry Grinnell, Seth Low, Isaiah Bowman, Archer M. Huntington, Franklin D. Roosevelt, John Noble Wilford, and many of the leading geographers, business leaders, and political figures throughout the decades. "We are so proud to add Dr. Steinberg, an internationally known geographer from the University of Alabama and Mr. Safran who is a Senior Executive from BAE Systems, to the Council," said Dr. John Konarski, CEO of the

American Geographical Society. “They join some of the most prestigious names, past and present, in geography and geospatial science,” added Dr. Konarski.

The American Geographical Society (AGS) is a 21st century learning society dedicated to the advancement of geographic thinking, knowledge, and understanding across business, government, academe, social sectors, and most importantly with teachers and students. Established in 1851, AGS is the oldest professional geographical organization in the United States. It is recognized worldwide as a pioneer in geographical research and education for over 166 years. The mission of AGS is to advance and promote geography in business, government, science, and education. Our goal is to enhance the nation’s geographic literacy so as to engender sound public policy, national security, and human well-being worldwide. AGS seeks to engage the American public, from its youngest to its oldest citizens, with new and amazing ways to understand and characterize our changing world. The Society maintains its headquarters in New York City.



Dr. Michael Steinberg



Mr. Mark Safran

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