The American Geographical Society Awards 2023 Council Fellowship to Ms. Celeste Gunderson

Description: The American Geographical Society (AGS) awards Ms. Celeste Gunderson of the University of Wisconsin-Madison the 2023 AGS Council Fellowship.

[New York City, NY] – [March 20, 2023] — The American Geographical Society (AGS) announced the recipients of the 2023 AGS Council Fellowships to support master’s and doctoral research. Ms. Celeste Gunderson, a Master’s candidate at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, is one of three recipients of the 2023 Fellowship. Established in 2013, graduate students from universities around the world are eligible to apply for the $2,000.00 award. AGS will recognize the three Fellows during its annual Fall Symposium, Geography 2050, to be held November 16-17, 2023 in New York City.

Ms. Gunderson’s fellowship funds will be used to cover fieldwork costs in Peru for her project, Patterns and drivers of oil palm expansion and deforestation in Ucayali, Peru. “This project examines the development of oil palm and the impact on forests in the Amazonian department of Ucayali in Peru. I will investigate both the spatial patterns and the underlying socio-economic and institutional drivers of oil palm expansion and deforestation among smallholder and industrial producers,” explained Ms. Gunderson. “I am grateful to receive the AGS fellowship to help cover the cost of field work in Peru.”

Dr. Marie Price, President of AGS and Chair of the Selection Committee, remarked on this year’s recipients, “Every year the AGS Council members and I look forward to reviewing the applications for the Council Fellowship. It is exciting to see the research that young scholars are doing both domestically and internationally. This is the 10th year of the Council Fellowship program and the applicants are better than ever.” Dr. Price added, “Our challenge as a Society is to find more financial support to grow this important program.”

The American Geographical Society 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 170 years. The mission of AGS is to convene a diverse global community of innovators, thinkers, and practitioners; create and curate geographical knowledge, learning and exploration; and advance geographic science and technologies to address society’s challenges and opportunities. The Society maintains its headquarters in New York City.
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