

# AMERICAN GEOGRAPHICAL SOCIETY

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## **American Geographical Society Awards Van Cleef Memorial Medal to Dr. Edward Malecki**

*Description: The Van Cleef Memorial Medal, awarded by the American Geographical Society (AGS), is the latest of prestigious awards to be made by the Society and is presented to Professor Edward J. Malecki of Ohio State University for outstanding work in the field of urban geography. Dr. Malecki received the medal at the American Geographical Society's Geography 2050 Symposium at Columbia University on 19 November 2014 in New York City.*

New York City, NY] — [2 December 2014]—The American Geographical Society (AGS) awarded the Van Cleef Memorial Medal on November 19<sup>th</sup> at the Low Library, Columbia University, during their inaugural event *Geography 2050: Mounting an Expedition to the Future*. Before a varied audience of AGS Councilors, geographic scholars and innovators, press and Columbia faculty, AGS Chairman of the Honors and Awards Committee Dr. Doug Sherman and AGS President Dr. Jerome Dobson presented the award to Dr. Malecki.

The Van Cleef Memorial Medal was established in 1970 through a gift from Dr. Eugene Van Cleef, Professor Emeritus of Geography at the Ohio State University, who contributed the fund in memory of his wife, Frieda. In 1923 Dr. Van Cleef gave the first course in urban geography in an American University and in 1937 published the first book on urban themes by an American geographer. The award is conferred on scholars who have done outstanding original work in the field of urban geography, preferably, though not necessarily in applied rather than theoretical aspects. The medal was designed by Joseph DiLorenzo.

Professor Edward J. Malecki, of the Department of Geography at Ohio State University, has worked there since 2001, after a lengthy tenure at the University of Florida. He has served as the Director of the Center for Urban and Regional Analysis, is affiliated with the John Glenn School of Public Affairs, the department of City and Regional Planning, and the School of Public Policy and Management, all at Ohio State. As he travelled abroad during the 1980s and 90s, his observations of the different urban structures and lifestyles in Europe and Asia led to his "...interest in how leading world cities deal with the challenge of combining new technologies with historical urban form and architecture." Those are his words, and they describe an incredibly successful scholarly mission, exemplified by a number of professional publications that approaches 300. He is the author or co-author of five books, including *Technology and Economic Development: The Dynamics of Local, Regional and National Competitiveness*, and *The Digital Economy: Business Organization, Production Processes and Regional Developments*. Dr. Malecki has held visiting positions at Wirtschaftsuniversität Wien and the University of Newcastle-upon-Tyne. He has been recognized as the Dr. Martha L. Corry Faculty Fellow in Geography, at The Ohio State University, was elected a Fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, and received Distinguished Scholarship Honors from the Association of American Geographers.

Established in 1851, the American Geographical Society (AGS) is the oldest professional geographical organization in the United States. It is recognized worldwide as a pioneer in geographical research and education and has been awarding medals for outstanding accomplishments in Geography for over 117 years. The mission of the American Geographical Society is to link business, professional, and scholarly worlds in the creation and application of geographical knowledge and techniques to address economic, social, and environmental problems. The Society's work serves to increase geographical knowledge and the recognition of its importance in the contemporary world. With members worldwide, the Society

maintains its Headquarters in Brooklyn, New York.

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