

# AMERICAN GEOGRAPHICAL SOCIETY

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## **American Geographical Society to Award Melamid Medal to Dr. Martin J. Pasqualetti**

*Description: The Alexander and Ilse Melamid Memorial Medal, awarded by the American Geographical Society (AGS), is one of several prestigious honors given by the Society. Dr. Martin J. Pasqualetti, Professor in the School of Geographical Sciences and Urban Planning at Arizona State University and Senior Sustainability Scientist in the Julie Ann Wrigley Global Institute of Sustainability, will receive the medal on the 20th of November during the AGS Fall Symposium, Geography 2050: Exploring our Future in an Urbanized World, to be held at Columbia University.*

[New York City, NY] -- [25 September 2015]-- The American Geographical Society announced today that Dr. Martin J. Pasqualetti, Professor in the School of Geographical Sciences and Urban Planning at Arizona State University and Senior Sustainability Scientist in the Julie Ann Wrigley Global Institute of Sustainability, has been selected to receive the second Alexander and Ilse Melamid Memorial Medal. The medal will be presented on November 20, 2015 at 11:30am during the Society's annual Fall Symposium to be held at Columbia University.

The Alexander and Ilse Memorial Medal was established in 2002 through an endowed gift from Ilse Melamid, who also designed the medal. Her husband Alexander Melamid was a member of the American Geographical Society Council from 1975 until his death in 2001. Mrs. Melamid continues her philanthropic work in New York City and is a trustee of the Alexander and Ilse Melamid Charitable Foundation. The award is conferred on scholars who have done outstanding work on the dynamic relationship between human culture and natural resources. For more than 40 years, Professor Martin J. Pasqualetti has conducted and published innovative yet practical research concerned with the nexus of energy and society, especially with regard to energy security and the geographical aspects of alternative energy development. "His substantial and sustained contributions to our understanding of the geography of energy make him uniquely qualified to be recognized for this award by the American Geographical Society in 2015" stated Chair of the University of Alabama Geography Department and Chairman of the AGS Honors and Awards Committee, Dr. Douglas Sherman.

Dr. Pasqualetti, who also serves as Co-Director of the Energy Policy Innovation Council, is a world-renown scholar. He has published books on wind power, nuclear power, and landscape development, and his many articles have been cited extensively in related research projects and publications in the US and abroad. One of Dr. Pasqualetti's recent research projects focused on the energy/water nexus and its particular relevance in arid environments like the Colorado River Basin in North America and the Sultanate of Oman. Serving as Chairman of the Governor's Solar Energy Advisory Council and as a member of the Arizona Solar Center's Board of Directors, Dr. Pasqualetti has played an important role in promoting solar energy development in Arizona. Dr. Pasqualetti's research and instruction have taken him to Mexico, China, the United Arab Emirates, Singapore, Canada, the United Kingdom, Israel, the Czech Republic, Germany, Guyana, and Palestine, among others. Regarding his appointment to receive the Melamid medal, Dr. Pasqualetti responded, "Naturally, it is a great honor to be recognized by the American Geographical Society. To be the recipient of this award is quite humbling. And, I might add, quite pleasant."

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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