FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

American Geographical Society Announces Launch of New Digital FOCUS on Geography

Description: The American Geographical Society announces the launch of the new FOCUS on Geography digital journal.

[New York City, NY] – [July 15, 2016] — The American Geographical Society (AGS) announces the launch of the new digital FOCUS on Geography (www.focusongeography.org), continuing in the tradition of the original paper magazine, but in a more dynamic and interactive format. Dr. Marie Price AGS President and Councilor and Dr. Antoinette WinklerPrins also an AGS Councilor and Publications Chair, spearheaded the project to transform FOCUS into its new digital format. The new FOCUS is a peer-reviewed digital publication that will include richly illustrated articles and essays from geographers and others who write about geography. Digital FOCUS will begin with Volume 59 and is accessible online immediately. Volumes 1-58 are still available via www.onlinelibrary.wiley.com/journal/10.1111/(ISSN)1949-8535.

The editors of the new FOCUS are Dr. Deborah E. Popper of Princeton University and the College of Staten Island/CUNY, Dr. Wesley Reisser of the George Washington University and Dr. Michael Steinberg of the University of Alabama. The editors will work closely with a new editorial board, geographers from a wide variety of backgrounds and experiences. In addition, all elements of the digital FOCUS on Geography will initially be Open Access, as this format will better serve the needs of AGS Affiliates, subscribers, and the geographically and geo-spatially passionate public. The digital journal has three distinct features: feature articles, photo essays, and geo-quizzes.

“My introduction to the society was through Focus on Geography when I published a paper as a graduate student” says Marie Price, “thus I have always loved the publication. Going to a digital format means we have new tools to tell geographical stories to excite people about what is going on in the world around them.”

Unsolicited submissions are welcome for photo essays and feature articles. Inquiries and submissions can be sent to focus@americangeo.org.

Established in 1851, the American Geographical Society is the oldest professional geographical organization in the United States. It is recognized worldwide as a pioneer in geographical research and education in geography for over 165 years. The mission of AGS is to advance geographic knowledge and the recognition of its importance in the contemporary world. AGS promotes the use of geography in business, government, science, and education with a goal to enhance the nation’s geographic literacy so as to engender sound public policy, national security, and human well-being worldwide. AGS is the only organization focused on bringing together academics, business people, those who influence public policy (including leaders in local, state and federal government, not-for-profit organizations and the media), and the general public for the express purpose of furthering the understanding of the role of geography in our lives. AGS provides leadership to frame the national discussion of the growing importance of geography and geospatial tools. The Society maintains its headquarters in Brooklyn Heights, New York.