

AMERICAN GEOGRAPHICAL SOCIETY

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American Geographical Society Awards Cullum Geographical Medal

Description: The Cullum Geographical Medal, awarded by the American Geographical Society (AGS), is one of several prestigious honors given by the Society. Dr. Jerome Dobson, Professor of Geography at the University of Kansas and a Jefferson Science Fellow with the National Academies and U.S. Department of State, will receive the prize during the AGS Fall Symposium, to be held virtually later this month.

[New York City, NY] – [November 11, 2020] — The American Geographical Society (AGS) announced today that Dr. Jerome Dobson, Professor Emeritus of Geography at the University of Kansas and a former Jefferson Science Fellow with the National Academies and U.S. Department of State, has been selected to receive the 55th Cullum Geographical Medal. The prize will be presented on Thursday, November 19, 2020 during the Society’s annual Fall Symposium to be held online due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic.

The Cullum Geographical Medal was established in 1896 and was the first medal awarded by the AGS. It was founded through a bequest from Major General George W. Cullum, Commandant of the United States Military Academy, who was also an AGS Councilor and Vice President from 1874-1892. According to the terms of General Cullum’s will, the medal is awarded “...to those who distinguish themselves by geographical discoveries, or in the advancement of geographical science.”

Dr. Jerome “Jerry” Dobson is an innovator and popular writer and speaker in the fields of geography and geographic information science. He is happiest at the ends of the earth, the cutting edge of technology, and the forefront of science. He has been called a pioneer of the geographic information revolution and holds two lifetime achievement awards from professional societies in that booming field. He previously served as a distinguished research and development staff member at Oak Ridge National Laboratory and later as senior scientist in the Office of the Geographer and Global Issues at the U.S. Department of State.

Dr. Dobson has published more than 200 professional articles, editorials, and reports on geographic information systems (GIS), continental drift, coastal change analysis, and human evolution. “Dr. Dobson keeps charting new paths in geography, and not just in one area or direction” said Dr. Deborah Popper, Vice President of AGS. She added, “Dr. Dobson can quite accurately be described as a geographical explorer who has planted his flag in many arenas.”

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 169 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 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. Jerome Dobson

Contact Information:

American Geographical Society
32 Court Street
Brooklyn Heights, NY 11201-4404
917-745-8354
ags@americangeo.org
www.americangeo.org



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