



Press Release

AGS Welcomes New Councilors-Elect

December 2023: The American Geographical Society (AGS) welcomes our new Councilors-Elect, Mx. Todd Barr, Dr. Catherine Nakalembe, and Mr. Ian Warner to our AGS Council, the governing board of the Society, which has led the organization since 1851. Some of the nation's most prominent historical leaders have served on the Council including Henry Grinnell, Seth Low, Isaiah Bowman, Archer M. Huntington, Franklin D. Roosevelt, John Noble Wilford, and many of the leading geographers, business leaders, and political figures throughout the decades. We are glad to welcome leaders of geographical knowledge and geospatial science and technology to our leadership, to continue our mission of promoting geographic literacy, geographic thinking, geospatial innovation, and geographically informed public policy.

Mx. Barr is a seasoned Geospatial professional with over 20 years of experience in the field. Their current position is Director of Geospatial Product and Solutions at Verisk - Extreme Event Solutions (EES) - collaborating with Scientists and Risk Analysts to model the impact of natural and man-made events and determine their financial impact. Starting their career as a Geospatial Developer, they've been lucky enough to work in several verticals in the field of Geography. Todd has worked in Intelligence and Defense, Emergency Response, Public Health, Transportation, Precision Agriculture, and Oil and Gas.

Dr. Nakalembe is an Associate Research Professor at the University of Maryland, the Africa Program Director under NASA Harvest, and a member of the NASA SERVIR Applied Sciences Team on which she serves as the Agriculture and Food Security Thematic Lead. She has broad research interests, including satellite remote sensing and machine learning applications to agriculture, land use and land-use change mapping, humanitarian mapping, and climate change. She leads methods and systems development projects for smallholder agriculture in Africa using remote sensing and machine learning. Her work led to developing and establishing satellite data-based crop monitoring initiatives in multiple African countries.

Mr. Warner currently serves as the Director of Industry Workforce Development and Innovation for Trimble where he focuses on emerging technologies and implementations across educational institutions, key accounts, and individual project case studies. Ian received a BA in Architectural Studies, BS in Business Administration, and MA in Architectural Management with an emphasis in Design-Build Construction Management from the University of Kansas while working in the trades and construction. With several decades of agricultural, forestry, construction, architectural and facilities experience, he advocates for the integration of technological advances and continuous education to help increase efficiency, safety, quality, equity and sustainability across numerous industries.