Call for Nominations: 2021 UCGIS Carolyn Merry Mentoring Award

UCGIS invites nominations for its 2021 Carolyn Merry Mentoring Award, given to an individual who has demonstrated exceptional mentoring abilities and practices. Professor Carolyn Merry embodied the spirit of a mentor by sharing her wisdom and experience with colleagues, particularly junior scholars, as a scientist, educator, and academic leader. Dr. Merry, professor emerita of Civil, Environmental and Geodetic Engineering at The Ohio State University, was known for her scholarship and leadership in remote sensing and geographic information science. In addition to leadership roles as department chair at her university and president of the American Society for Photogrammetry and Remote Sensing (ASPRS), she served from 2002 to 2004 on the executive committee of UCGIS. While UCGIS President, Carolyn's leadership style reflected her strengths as a mentor. During and after meetings, she was known for her engagement with participants and careful listening during every conversation. The goal of the Carolyn Merry Mentoring Award is to recognize her commitment to mentoring and the investment of others who share this philosophy.

Evidence of exceptional mentoring service may include (but not be limited to):
- Distinguishing characteristics of mentoring activities such as:
  - Offering sound counsel and valuable information that positively advances the career of mentees;
  - Generously sharing his/her time to evaluate and critique scholarship and/or instruction;
  - Publicly promoting the activities of the mentee;
  - Involving mentees in research projects such as grants and publications;
  - Behaving as a role model by promoting excellence within the discipline and to the broader community;
- The reach and long-term impact of the mentoring efforts;
- The efforts made toward supporting women and other underrepresented minorities involved with GIScience.

Eligibility: Individuals worldwide are eligible for the award (excluding any individuals currently holding an elected or appointed UCGIS leadership position). Nominees need not be affiliated with a UCGIS member institution, though nominators must be. UCGIS particularly encourages nominations from minority and under-represented groups.

Nomination process: Nominations for the award can only be made by individuals from UCGIS member institutions (www.ucgis.org/members). To nominate an individual for the Mentoring Award, prepare the following documents:

1. A nomination letter that details the ways in which the nominee has demonstrated excellence in mentoring (<3 pages),
2. One or two other letters of support from an additional colleague (maximum of two), and
3. A current CV for the nominee, or a link to where a current one is online.

An online nomination form will be available after December 1, 2020, at the UCGIS Awards page (www.ucgis.org/awards), at which the requested documents can be uploaded. The deadline to submit a nomination is **Monday, February 15, 2021.**

Review process: The main criterion for choosing the awardee is demonstrated impact on and commitment to mentoring activities. The Mentoring Award Review Committee reserves the right to not make an award in a given year. The award will be presented during the 2021 UCGIS Symposium, June 7 – June 11, 2021 (online).

Previous Recipients*, UCGIS Carolyn Merry Mentoring Award:*

2016	2017	2018	2019
Nina Lam, Louisiana State University	Budhu Bhaduri, Oak Ridge National Lab	Keith Clarke, UC Santa Barbara	Guido Cervone, Penn State University
2020 Sara McLafferty University of Illinois			