

The Seismological Society of America will present its most prestigious awards to the following honorees at the Society's 2018 Annual Meeting, to be held 24–26 April 2018 jointly with the Latin American and Caribbean Seismological Commission in San Juan, Puerto Rico.

The 2017 SSA Medal, also known as the Harry Fielding Reid Medal of the Seismological Society of America, will be awarded to **George Plafker** of the U.S. Geological Survey for his transformative work on megathrust earthquakes in subduction zones. Plafker and his colleagues did painstaking fieldwork after the 1964 magnitude 9.2 Alaska earthquake, covering hundreds of kilometers of Alaskan shoreline in small boats, helicopters, and float-equipped aircraft. His research on the 1964 earthquake and subsequent re-examination of the 1960 magnitude 9.5 Chile earthquake helped to launch a new field of megathrust earthquake geology. In nominating him for the Medal, Plafker's colleagues noted that his thorough and imaginative research has also impacted earthquake engineering and popular writing about earthquakes and tsunamis. His work also has highlighted the potential seismic risk of key regions such as the Cascadia subduction zone off the west coast of the United States and Canada.

The 2017 Charles F. Richter Early Career Award will be awarded to **Annemarie Baltay** of the U.S. Geological Survey. Baltay's research has focused on various methods for estimating earthquake source parameters—in particular, radiated seismic energy and stress drop—and how they control the amplitudes of strong ground motion as functions of ground-motion frequency and earthquake magnitude. In her thesis work, Baltay analyzed data from recent great earthquakes, including the 2004 magnitude 9.1 Sumatra and 2011 magnitude 9.0 Tohoku-oki events. As part of a new wave of interest in earthquake source parameters, Baltay has made valuable contributions to the Next Generation of Attenuation (NGA) engineering seismology ground-motion models and the Extreme Ground Motion (ExGM) project, her colleagues noted in their support for her receipt of the Richter award.

The 2017 Frank Press Public Service Award will be awarded to **Lori Dengler** of Humboldt State University. For more than 30 years, Dengler has been a tireless force in preparing coastal communities in California and around the world for tsunamis. She participated in postevent field teams studying tsunamis in 1998 in Papua New Guinea, 2004 in Indonesia, 2010 in Chile,

and 2011 in Japan, among others, and as a result was a coordinating co-author of the UNESCO-IOC International Post-Tsunami Survey Field Guide. For the United States, Dengler served as a member of the group that developed the National Tsunami Hazard Mitigation Program and authored the program's initial Strategic Implementation Plan for Mitigation Projects as the Scientific Lead from California. In 2015, Dengler co-authored *The Extraordinary Voyage of Kamome: A Tsunami Boat Comes Home*, a bilingual Japanese-English children's book about a small fishing boat that was swept across the Pacific Ocean by the 2011 Japan tsunami and came ashore in Crescent City, California, two years later. The book and a surrounding outreach project are the basis of a new school curriculum in California on earthquakes and tsunami preparedness.

The SSA Distinguished Service Award will be awarded to **Keith Knudsen** of the U.S. Geological Survey. In their nomination of Knudsen for the award, five past presidents of SSA commended him for his advice on multiple issues related to SSA operations as SSA Secretary from 2007 to 2016. In particular, Knudsen was recognized for his work in reviewing and updating the SSA Bylaws and Board Policy manual, for his role as chair of the Management Committee in instituting a more formal annual review of the Society's Executive Director and in serving as a member of the 2015 Executive Director Search Committee, and for his role in developing a new strategic plan for SSA in 2012.

The following SSA student members were selected to receive SSA Student Presentation Awards in recognition of the outstanding quality of their research presentations at the 2017 SSA Annual Meeting:

- **Niloufar Abolfathian**, University of Southern California
- **Karianne Bergen**, Stanford University
- **David Castro Cruz**, Centre for Studies and Expertise on Risks, Environment, Mobility, and Urban and Country Planning (CEREMA), France
- **Phoebe DeVries**, Harvard University
- **Manuel Florez**, Massachusetts Institute of Technology
- **Alex Grant**, University of Washington
- **Christie Hale**, University of California, Berkeley
- **Lisa Linville**, University of Utah
- **Molly Luginbuhl**, University of California, Davis
- **Avinash Nayak**, University of California, Berkeley
- **Sunyoung Park**, Harvard University

- **Grace Parker**, University of California, Los Angeles
- **Leah Salditch**, Northwestern University
- **Gregor Schweppe**, University of Cologne, Germany
- **Yumeng Tao**, University of Texas, Austin
- **Daniel Trugman**, University of California, San Diego
- **Ekaterina Tymofyeyeva**, University of California, San Diego
- **Jagdish Chandra Vyas**, King Abdullah University of Science and Technology, Saudi Arabia
- **Yongfei Wang**, University of California, San Diego
- **Qimin Wu**, Virginia Tech

The following student members of SSA were awarded travel grants to attend the SSA 2017 Annual Meeting in Denver, Colorado:

- The ESC-SSA Travel Grant was awarded to **Gregor Schweppe**, Cologne University, Germany.
- International Travel Grants were awarded to **Anton Biryukov**, University of Calgary, Canada; **Zoya Farajpour**,

International Institute of Earthquake Engineering and Seismology, Iran; **Frederick Jackson**, Western University, Canada; and **Sanjay Singh Negi**, Wadia Institute of Himalayan Geology, India.

- Student Travel Grants were awarded to **Elizabeth Berg**, University of Utah; **Edward Brooks**, Northwestern University; **Yenan Cao**, University of Notre Dame; **Rosa García Castro**, Universidad de El Salvador, El Salvador; **Wenyuan Fan**, University of California, San Diego; **Alex Grant**, University of Washington; **Tiegan Hobbs**, Georgia Institute of Technology; **Hannah Mejia**, Baylor University; **Manuel Mendoza**, University of California, Riverside; **Sunyoung Park**, Harvard University; **Maeva Pourpoint**, Pennsylvania State University; **Nader Shakibay Senobari**, University of California, Riverside; and **Tim Sonnemann**, University of Iceland, Iceland. ✉

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