



23 August 2019

Dear Colleagues,

Thank you so much for your interest in the AGU Fall Meeting 2019, the world's largest Earth and Space sciences meeting. By submitting your session proposal, you are playing an important role in building what is sure to be a dynamic and vibrant meeting. As we have just completed another successful abstract submission period and you will begin your scheduling duties in the coming weeks, we would like to remind you of two key issues that are of importance to the Fall Meeting Program Committee and AGU.

Because 2019 marks our Centennial celebration, we want to highlight the crucial need to continue to build up and strengthen the next generation of Earth and space scientists. These are the individuals who will ensure both an ongoing commitment to AGU and a strong future for the Earth and space sciences. To accomplish this goal, conveners were encouraged to include diverse and early career scientists among your co-conveners so that they may gain the skills needed to take the reins and lead future sessions of their own. As you begin scheduling your oral and/or poster sessions, please review the conveners and chairs assigned and encourage the continuation of diverse and early career scientists among the co-conveners or in cases where only two conveners have been identified to include diverse and early career scientists among your final list of co-conveners or session chairs. Please note, if you are allocated more than one session you may assign different conveners and chairs on each allocated session. Similarly, we hope you will also enjoin these diverse and young researchers to play active roles in your final sessions as oral presenters as well.

The second area of consideration comes from the analyses of prior Fall Meetings since 2013; we need to incorporate more diverse ethnic and gender voices among our cadre of co-conveners and session presenters. The data show that we are on the right track, but it is well worth keeping up our efforts. Scientific merit and interest in submitted abstracts should remain the paramount driver with respect to selecting co-conveners, chairs and session presenters but diversity must be considered as well.

Therefore, on behalf of AGU and the Program Committee, we hope that you consider these recommendations to help make Fall Meeting a shining example of exemplary gender diversity and the promotion of diverse and early career scientists.

If you have any questions regarding this correspondence or the Fall Meeting please email [abstracts@agu.org](mailto:abstracts@agu.org).

We look forward to seeing you in San Francisco in December.

Best,

Denis-Didier Rousseau  
AGU Fall Meeting Program Chair

Robin Bell  
AGU President