

14 July 2020



Dr. Karen St. Germain
Director, Earth Science Division, NASA
300 E Street, SW
Washington DC 20546-0001

Dear Director St. Germain:

On behalf of the American Geophysical Union (AGU), I want to congratulate you on your new role as the Director of NASA's Earth Science Division (ESD). As an organization representing a community of 130,000 Earth and space scientists, AGU stands ready to work with you and your staff to support ESD's critical work that underlies our national security, public health, and economic prosperity. AGU member research covers the breadth of the Earth and space sciences – from the depths of the oceans to the expanses of space – and our members work daily to promote discovery for the benefit of humanity.

NASA's mission of science in the name of service and discovery and ESD's mission to increase our understanding of Earth's interconnected systems, global and local alike, aligns fully with AGU's own dedication to discovery and solutions to address societal challenges. We agree wholeheartedly with your recent comments that understanding of Earth science will be critical to the future of humanity and appreciate your optimism and drive to achieve the ambitious mission set forth in the Decadal Survey.

As you focus on your top priorities for ESD, we hope you will consider AGU a resource and partner. From building a more resilient society, to supporting robust funding and promoting a culture of scientific integrity, AGU looks forward to collaborating with you on the critical work done by ESD and NASA.

In that spirit, I would like to suggest a meeting in the near future with Randy Fiser, who will start as AGU's new CEO and Executive Director on 17 August 2020, to discuss your priorities and goals for ESD and find areas where AGU can support your work. AGU's Director of the Executive Office, Mary Bender, can help to facilitate a meeting. She can be reached at mbender@agu.org. Please feel free also to contact me at any time if I can be of assistance. I look forward to working with you to strengthen NASA and our nation's scientific enterprise.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Julie Freeman". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Julie Freeman
Interim CEO and Executive Director
American Geophysical Union
jfreeman@agu.org