

## 2021 Policy Priorities

The American Geophysical Union (AGU) is a global Earth and space science society with a community of 57,000 scientists and partners across the United States dedicated to discovery as well as solutions to societal challenges.

### **Fund Discovery and Solution-based Earth and Space Sciences for the Benefit of Humanity**

- AGU supports a significant infusion of funds for America’s Earth and space science agencies to address some of our nation’s most pressing challenges and make up for what has been woefully stagnant funding for many years.
- At the least, AGU requests at least a real 4% increase in funding that can be sustained year over year for America’s Earth and space science agencies in appropriations and authorization legislation.

### **Create a Just, Equitable, Diverse and Inclusive Scientific Community**

- AGU supports policies that seek to increase diversity and inclusion in the sciences, including those that advance the international scientific enterprise.
- AGU also supports policies that seek to increase access to STEM education and opportunities to historically underrepresented students, including racial minorities, gender minorities, rural, disabled, socioeconomically disadvantaged students and others.

### **Build a Climate and Hazard Resilient Nation**

- AGU supports climate mitigation and adaptation policies that are based on strong scientific principles and incorporate ongoing scientific input, facilitate the ready use of actionable climate data and risk information by the public and private decision makers, and enable further research.
- AGU also supports policies that seek to further our understanding of and help to address the factors that lead to environmental and climate injustice.
- Additionally, AGU supports the creation of guidelines to ensure that climate solutions and other federal laws and policies do not perpetuate or exacerbate inequalities.
- AGU further supports policies to strengthen research into natural hazards, their impacts, and their underlying processes, as well as those that seek to apply new science to improve disaster preparedness, mitigation, response, and recovery efforts.
- Finally, AGU supports policies that recognize the pivotal role the ocean plays for a resilient planet.

### **Protect Environmental and Human Health**

- AGU supports policies that seek to further Earth science research, which aids in our understanding of and ability to address the complex interactions between the environment and well-being of different populations, such as those involved in pandemics, climate change, and water and air quality.
- AGU supports policies that expand “community science” - collaborative approaches between scientists and communities - to promote resilience and generate research into and solutions for environmental and health challenges.