Call for Nominations: 2020 UCGIS Carolyn Merry Mentoring Award

UCGIS invites nominations for its 2020 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;
  - Publically 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 individuals currently holding an elected UCGIS leadership position). Nominees need not be affiliated with a UCGIS member institution.

Nomination process: Nominations for the award can only be made by individuals from UCGIS member institutions. 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.

Once the documents are ready, the nomination form can be accessed at the UCGIS Awards page (www.ucgis.org/awards). The deadline to submit a nomination is Friday February 7, 2020. This date will not be extended.

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 not to make an award in a given year. The award will be presented during the UCGIS Symposium in Honolulu, Hawaii, in May 2020.