NAGT Shea Award Committee

2019 Annual Report

The James H. Shea Award committee is pleased to report that the 2019 award recipient will be **Marcia Bjornerud of Lawrence University**.

Marcia Bjornerud received numerous Shea Award nominations, in fact, five glowing nominations. These nominations came from across the country and one even from Scotland! The praise centers around Bjornerud’s well-received books, *Reading The Rocks; The Autobiography Of The Earth*, and *Timefulness: How Thinking Like A Geologist Can Help Save The World*. Let me just list a few nomination quotes:

 “I love Bjornerud’s writing. She writes like the most engaging professor I have ever had, with a sense of proper proportion and enthusiasm.”

 “*Timefulness*... is an exceptional work that comes at a critical time.”

 “Dr. Bjornerud’s writing style… is approachable and entertaining for both geoscience educators and the broader public.”

 “Bjornerud’s voice is strong and passionate…. Her writing is beautiful too.”

 “with such eloquence and, yes, poetry.”

It should be noted that “*Timefulness*” received the PROSE Award (Popular Science category) from the American Association of Publishers, and it was a finalist for the 2018 Los Angeles Times Book Prize in Science and Technology. Bjornerud’s written work can also be enjoyed in the *New Yorker*’s science and technology blog, “Elements”, where she is a contributing writer. Finally, she is also highly regarded for her classroom teaching of Earth Science; she was named Outstanding Educator in 2011 by the Association of Women Geoscientists.

This was another exciting year for the Shea Award committee. Once again, many excellent and worthy nominees! As all of us on the committee agree, this is a good “problem” to have considering the importance of this award.

The 2019 James H. Shea Award committee included the following members:

* Anne Egger
* Karin Kirk
* Karen McNeal
* Tim Bralower
* Andy Buddington (Chair)

The committee would like to congratulate Marcia Bjornerud for being the 2019 recipient of the James H. Shea Award.

Andy Buddington

James H. Shea Committee, Chair