

## **Neil Miner Award, 2020**

The Neil Miner award committee made the 2020 award to Dr. Lori Ziolkowski, Assistant Professor at the University of South Carolina, School of the Earth, Ocean and the Environment.

The Neil Miner Award recognizes an individual for “exceptional contributions to the stimulation of interest in the Earth sciences.” The nomination letter for Dr. Ziolkowski noted her positive impact on students, and consistently high praise for her teaching in both introductory and majors-level courses. In addition to her thoughtful classroom teaching, Dr. Ziolkowski is extensively involved in outreach to the Columbia, SC community, giving climate science seminars to neighborhood associations, churches, and high schools. Colleagues noted her diplomacy and skill in talking about climate science with audiences of all kinds, noting that “Lori is constantly thinking about her audience, what is important to them, and what will help them learn.”

Letters from current and former students at the University of South Carolina described “Dr. Z’s” ability to make climate science accessible to all students. Students praised her dedication to mentoring in research and communication, and supporting them in achieving their goals. The review committee was impressed by Dr. Ziolkowski’s dedication to teaching climate science both in the classroom and in the community and in supporting and mentoring students.

The 2020 Neil Miner Award Committee members were:

Karen Viskupic  
David McConnell  
Mike Phillips  
Jennifer Wenner  
Stephen Mattox