The 54th annual meeting of the Association of Earth Science Editors will take place in Columbus, Ohio, September 29–October 3, 2021. This year’s theme, “Effectively Communicating Geoscience in the Public Sphere,” invites presenters and attendees to explore the challenges and successful approaches to informing the public about geology and its impacts on everyday life.

The annual meeting will include insightful technical sessions as well as excursions to examine the geology of central Ohio and the unique resources available to researchers of all levels, from hobbyists to professionals. And we’re very excited about our keynote speakers, Dr. Lonnie Thompson and Dr. Ellen Mosley-Thompson.

Keynote Speakers
This year’s keynote address will be delivered by renowned speakers and climate researchers Dr. Lonnie Thompson and Dr. Ellen Mosley-Thompson. Their keynote address, titled “Global Climate Change: Stories from the Ice,” will examine their research of polar and glacial ice and how melting of global ice reveals the mounting environmental challenges to habitats, biodiversity, and human endeavors such as agriculture, diseases, food and safe water availability, and economics.

Lonnie G. Thompson is a Distinguished University Professor in the School of Earth Sciences at the Ohio State University. His research has propelled the field of ice core paleoclimatology out of the polar regions to the highest tropical and subtropical ice fields. His team has developed lightweight solar-powered drills to acquire histories from ice fields in the tropical South American Andes, the Himalayas, and on Kilimanjaro. Special emphasis has been placed on the El Niño and monsoon systems that dominate the climate of the tropical Pacific and affect global-scale oceanic and atmospheric circulation patterns. His observations of glacier retreat over the last three decades confirm that glaciers around the world are melting and provide clear evidence that the warming of the last 50 years is now outside the range of climate variability for several millennia, if not longer. He is a member of the National Academy of Sciences, the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, and the American Philosophical Society and is a Fellow of the American Geophysical Union and the American Association for the Advancement of Science. In 2007, he received the U.S. National Medal of Science. Full vita here.

Ellen Mosley-Thompson is a Distinguished University Professor in the Department of Geography (Atmospheric Science Program) at the Ohio State University. She uses the chemical and physical properties preserved in cores collected from both polar ice sheets and high mountain glaciers to reconstruct Earth’s complex climate history. These records indicate that Earth’s climate has moved outside the range of natural variability experienced over at least the last 2,000 years. She has led nine expeditions to Antarctica and six to Greenland to retrieve ice cores. In 2010, she led the field team for the ice-core drilling project on Bruce Plateau (Antarctic Peninsula), a U.S. contribution to the International Polar Year, where the team collected a 448-meter core to bedrock. She has published 141 peer-reviewed papers and is the recipient of 57 research grants. She is a member of the National Academy of Sciences, the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, and the American Philosophical Society and is a Fellow of the American Geophysical Union and the American Association for the Advancement of Science. Fill vita here.

Acknowledgements
We are grateful to the Ohio Geological Survey for serving as this year’s meeting host. Special thanks to the Ohio State University, Byrd Polar and Climate Research Center, and Orton Geological Museum for their cooperation with this year’s programs.
Field Trip & Excursions

Geologic Field Trip
This year’s meeting will be hosted by the Ohio Department of Natural Resources, Division of Geological Survey. Traditionally referred to as the Ohio Geological Survey, it is Ohio’s oldest natural resources agency, dating back to 1837, and a charter division of the ODNR in 1949. The AESE meeting field trip will be led by Erika Danielsen and Sam Hulett, both with the Ohio Geological Survey. The day trip will highlight Central Ohio geology, which features Devonian and Mississippian rocks, and the influence of the Acadian Orogeny at the western edge of the Appalachian Basin. Stops will include several public parks, with the trip culminating at Blackhand Gorge State Nature Preserve in Licking County.

Ohio Statehouse Fossil Tour
Another excursion, led by Dale Gnidovec (Orton Geological Museum) and Mark Peter (Ohio Geological Survey), will guide attendees on a tour of the Ohio Statehouse and Capitol grounds to examine the magnificent fossil specimens found in the building stones. Constructed primarily of the Devonian Columbus Limestone, the Ohio Statehouse might be the most fossiliferous capitol in the United States.

Tour of the Byrd Polar and Climate Research Center
A third excursion will offer meeting attendees a very special look at the Byrd Polar and Climate Research Center at Ohio State University, just a short jaunt from the meeting site. The Byrd is a world-class research facility focused on conducting detailed polar and climate studies and supporting public engagement to communicate its findings and educate others. The AESE 2021 meeting will include a tour of the Byrd facility, including its ice-core repository. Learn more at byrd.osu.edu.
Hotel Information
The meeting hotel is the Hilton Garden Inn – University Area, near The Ohio State University campus. Learn about the hotel's amenities at www.hilton.com/en/hotels/cmuagi-hilton-garden-inn-columbus-university-area.

A block of rooms has been set aside for meeting attendees, at a rate of **US$134 per night** for single or double occupancy. Attendees are encouraged to book their rooms early because we have set aside only a small block of rooms. Hotel reservations must be made by **12 AM EST, August 29, 2021**.

**Hotel contact information:**
Hilton Garden Inn Columbus – University Area
3232 Olentangy River Rd.
Columbus, OH 43202
Phone reservations: **614.263.7200** and mention group code **ES2**
For online reservations, click here

Meeting Registration Details
Full registration fees cover admission to all sessions, opening reception, business luncheon, awards banquet, and field trip. Nonmember full-meeting registration includes membership for the remainder of AESE’s fiscal year and following year. Two-day registration fees for the technical sessions include opening reception, business luncheon, and awards banquet. Payment can be made by check or money order or using PayPal. **Early registration deadline is July 24.** Complete registration information is available here.

Travel Information
Getting to Ohio’s capital city is convenient by both plane and automobile. Two airports are available for air travel:
- **John Glenn Columbus International Airport** (CMH) is the largest airport in the region and just minutes from the meeting site. CMH is serviced by more than a dozen air carriers.
- **Rickenbacker International Airport** (LCK) is in the southeastern portion of Franklin County and is about a 25-minute drive to the meeting site. LCK is serviced by Allegiant.

Get more air travel info at flycolumbus.com. For road travelers, Interstates 70 and 71 and U.S. Route 23 offer easy access into the city. To learn more about Columbus and all it has to offer visitors, surf online to experiencecolumbus.com.

More Information
The annual meeting is open to anyone interested in earth science or science editing and communication. Have questions? Need more information? Have an idea for a talk, session, or workshop? Contact host chair Chuck Salmons, Ohio Geological Survey, charles.salmons@dnr.ohio.gov. We hope you’ll join us for what promises to be a great meeting!

Check for meeting updates on the AESE website (aese.org) or at the following AESE social media sites:
- Twitter – twitter.com/AESErocks (@AESErocks)
- Facebook – facebook.com/AESErocks
- Blog – geoeditors.wordpress.com
- LinkedIn – www.linkedin.com/groups/3885431
- Pinterest – www.pinterest.com/associationearth
- Instagram – www.instagram.com/aeserocks

About AESE
The Association of Earth Science Editors is an organization of editors, journal managers and others concerned with publication in the earth sciences. The goals of the organization are to strengthen the profession of earth-science editing, and to foster education and improve communication in the earth sciences that will lead to more effective dissemination of earth-science information to the scientific community, educators, students, and the public. Our members include editors of North American earth-science journals, editing and publishing personnel with state/provincial and federal geological surveys and with commercial firms, editors of reports prepared for geological consultants, and others interested in earth-science publishing.