FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE (Escondido, CA): The American Geographical Society (AGS) has named Kristy Jurgensen of San Pasqual High School in Escondido, California as a 2019 AGS Geography Teacher Fellow. The AGS Geography Teacher Fellow program is a year-long professional development opportunity that enables Geography teachers to implement open-source mapping into their classrooms and provides supplementary resources and materials to the teachers.

Teachers were selected from across the United States and will receive special opportunities to support their teaching activities for the year. Ms. Jurgensen is one of 50 teachers selected from across the United States to participate in this fourth year of the initiative.

Ms. Jurgensen teaches Advanced Placement (AP) Human Geography in Escondido, California. As part of the award for being selected as an AGS Geography Teacher Fellow, Ms. Jurgensen will attend the AGS Fall Symposium on November 21 and 22, 2019 at Columbia University in New York City. The Symposium provides Teacher Fellows with the opportunity to interact with geography and geospatial leaders from across the country, as well as receive professional training in open-source mapping. “It is an honor for AGS to name Ms. Kristy Jurgensen as a 2019 AGS Geography Teacher Fellow. Ms. Jurgensen joins a very exclusive group of the best geography teachers in the United States,” said Dr. John Konarski, CEO of the American Geographical Society. “We are eager to work with her and look forward to November when she meets with the other AGS Geography Teacher Fellows in New York City at our annual Symposium,” he added.

“Ms. Jurgensen's recognition as an AGS Teacher Fellow is a testament to her commitment to being a life-long learner, rapport with students, and innovative teaching practices,” said Martin Casas, San Pasqual High School Principal. “We are proud to have her represent San Pasqual on the national level.”

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Geography 2050 is the most important and widely recognized geographical/geospatial event in North America during the fall semester. CEOs and senior executives from preeminent geospatial companies along with leading experts and representatives from government, not-for-profits, and academia attend the AGS Fall Symposium. The AGS Geography Teacher Fellow initiative has been made possible by support from the AGS Corporate Angels Partners, whose contributions enable resources for teacher professional development throughout the year.

The American Geographical Society (AGS) is a 21st century learning society dedicated to the advancement of geographic thinking, knowledge, and understanding across business, government, academe, social sectors, and most importantly with teachers and students. Established in 1851, AGS is the oldest professional geographical organization in the United States. It is recognized worldwide as a pioneer in geographical research and education for over 166 years. The mission of AGS is to advance and promote geography in business, government, science, and education. Our goal is to enhance the nation’s geographic literacy so as to engender sound public policy, national security, and human well-being worldwide. AGS seeks to engage the American public, from its youngest to its oldest citizens, with new and amazing ways to understand and characterize our changing world. The Society maintains its headquarters in New York City.