



eGY Spotlight in Eos

GUIDELINES FOR CONTRIBUTORS

INVITATION

Eos, AGU's news publication, extends a special invitation to authors to submit contributions that spotlight scientific data and information (informatics) issues in the Earth and space sciences. This invitation is part of the Electronic Geophysical Year (eGY) effort – see www.egy.org, and provides an outlet for news and views as the scientific world adapts to and exploits the opportunities of the information era. Provocative and controversial contributions designed to trigger debate are welcome.

SCOPE

The themes of eGY are: open and ready access to data, data discovery, data release, data preservation, capacity building (reducing the digital divide), and education and outreach. A central feature of eGY is the promotion of virtual observatories and similar cyber-based systems for providing ready access to data, information, and services. The eGY Spotlight series of items in Eos covers all of these topics as well as broad technical and policy issues in data science and informatics.

To get a list of planned contributions, contact: cebarton@gmail.com

CONTRIBUTION CATEGORIES

eGY Spotlight contributions will appear within the regular context of Eos and not in a separate column or in a special issue. The categories of Eos content are: Feature Articles, Brief Reports, Meeting Reports, News Items, Forum, Letters to Editor, Comments and Replies, Obituaries, Reviews (of Books, Software, and Web Sites), and GeoFIZZ. The eGY logo will appear with the text or near the headline to distinguish *eGY Spotlight* items.

Guidelines for the various categories of Eos contributions, with information on length requirements and scope are at:

http://www.agu.org/pubs/eos_guidelines.html and [Guide for Authors of Eos](#). If you have any questions about how to calculate the length of your contribution, please ask the Eos staff at eos@agu.org.

SUBMISSION

Manuscripts must be submitted to Eos in the normal fashion through GEMS, the online manuscript submission system, accessible at

<http://eos-submit.agu.org/cgi-bin/main.plex>

If submission via GEMS is a problem for you, please get in touch with the eGY Secretary: Bill.Peterson@lasp.colorado.edu

Please notify cebarton@gmail.com of your submission or plans so we can keep track of contributions and inform others.

REVIEW

All contributions will be reviewed by Eos editors and/or the Eos editor in chief.

Eos REQUIREMENTS

- Contributions to Eos must not present unpublished data or research conclusions; these are for a research journal.
- Each contributions must be written in a way that shows clearly why it is important to a broad section of Eos readers.
- Items must inform the reader immediately of the most important aspects of the information being presented. Unlike the typical research article, which builds to the conclusion, a well-written item in Eos begins with the conclusions and provides details later. Specialists and non-specialists alike should not need to read to the end to discover what is interesting and important.
- The writing style should be brisk and readable. A short fast-paced item will be read and remembered; a lengthy one may not.
- Avoid using specialized terminology; eschew jargon. Terms that are not common to all disciplines AGU embraces should be explained or defined.
- Avoid using mathematics. If equations are necessary for a deeper understanding of the topic, you should also include a brief narrative explanation in parallel for the casual reader.
- Keep references to a minimum, using only those which will help point the interested reader to more information or which you have relied on heavily. Eos is not a research journal, and therefore it is not necessary to document meticulously all sources.

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