

GEOGRAPHICAL RECORD

THE AGS AT THE AAG CENTENNIAL

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In 2004 the Association of American Geographers (AAG) returned to its roots by holding its centennial meeting in Philadelphia, the city where it was founded. One of the highlights of the centennial celebration was a special session that explored and reviewed the relationships between the AAG and the American Geographical Society (AGS) as partners in geography. The session was organized by Dean Clifton W. Pannell of the University of Georgia and chaired by Professor Jerome E. Dobson of the University of Kansas, president of the AGS.

President Dobson opened the meeting by presenting to John C. Western, professor of geography at Syracuse University, the Wrigley-Fairchild Award for the best article published in the *Geographical Review* during the past three years. Later in the session AGS Executive Director Mary Lynne Bird emphasized that the award, named for two former editors of the *Geographical Review*, had been established and endowed by Douglas R. McManis, the journal's editor emeritus.

Dobson then briefly described a century of extraordinary collaboration and cooperation between the two organizations. In the early years the AGS published the *Annals of the Association of American Geographers*, hosted and paid for the AAG's annual meetings, and financed the legendary Transcontinental Excursion of 1912. Professor Alexander B. Murphy of the University of Oregon, president of the AAG and vice president of the AGS, continued by describing how generously the AGS had supported the AAG in its fledgling years. He was the first of several speakers who quoted the presidential address of Charles R. Dyer, AAG president in 1914, who expressed gratitude and satisfaction that the members of the AAG were sons who had foregathered from afar at the house of the great mother.

Professor Dorothy Drummond of Indiana State University reminisced about her days as aide to Wilma B. Fairchild, longtime editor of the *Geographical Review*. She said that the AGS had strongly encouraged the formation of the AAG in 1904 and had published the presidential address of William Morris Davis in its *Bulletin*. Cyrus C. Adams, editor of the *Bulletin*, was elected second president of the AAG, and AGS President Archer M. Huntington financed the Transcontinental Excursion. From 1914 to 1922 the AGS hosted and paid for joint annual meetings with the AAG, established a joint fund for expeditions and other research, and, until 1948, sent complimentary copies of its journals to all AAG members.

Yours truly, erstwhile executive director and later president of the AAG—and an AGS member since 1948—boasted of having published more articles in the *Geographi-*

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