



Annual Report

2022

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1st Vice-President

Goals for NAGT work over the past year

Describe the goals you defined in your mid-year report or any new ones that you've developed since then.

I used the NAGT goals and actions as a guide in drafting my mid-year report. To summarize from that report and to include more recent updates, see here for ways in which I work to address each of the NAGT goals and actions.

Goal #1: Promoting high-quality Earth education

I have focused on increasing visibility of NAGT, Earth education, and related resources via Twitter and other social media, by sharing opportunities to colleagues at my university and in my networks, by featuring what we do and offer as part of conference presentations, etc. I am also exploring options to host a future EER in Atlanta. As the recipient of both the 2022 GSA Biggs Award for Excellence in Earth Science Teaching and the 2022 AGU Dorothy Stout Education Lecture Award, I hope to bring increased visibility to the importance of Earth education and our work at NAGT.

Goal #2: Fostering and disseminating research in geoscience education

I have shared research papers on social media and in my networks and continued to collect data in my own courses. I also contributed to the GSA Today editorial response regarding the value of GER. I continue to stress the importance of GER to faculty at my institution and elsewhere and encourage all to look to NAGT to grow their knowledge.

Goal #3: Driving change toward equitable and inclusive system of geoscience education

This is a major emphasis for me given my role as an Undergraduate Director at a minority-serving institution, being a Ford Fellow, and in doing various activities to expand pedagogy that is culturally responsive and inclusive. I am leading the TED DEI committee and related work on a DEI position statement. I attended pre-meeting activities for the AGU Justice in the Geosciences conference. I have focused on compiling and developing career and classroom resources for marginalized and diverse students. I secured funds to have the TWP come to GSU and work with our faculty on Supporting the Success of All Students, which included collecting data on student perspectives to help drive DEI efforts. I've also worked to implement changes in the curriculum at my institution with DEI in mind including direct mentoring of TAs and students. This year I'm also attending SACNAS and supporting students in presenting at the meeting to help expand my knowledge of this organization. I'm also collaborating on several projects to create bilingual resources for Spanish speakers. During GSA, I'll be hosting a NAGTea session to further promote DEI conversations.



Goal #4: Support current and future geoscience educators throughout their careers

I have encouraged others to participate in PD offered by NAGT via conversations with colleagues, graduate students, as well as while interviewing faculty candidates and in reviewing promotion packages as an external reviewer for others. I have connected to local educators via Atlanta Science Festival events, presentations at the regional SEGSA and Environmental Educator Alliance meetings, and in other settings to direct them to opportunities and resources offered by NAGT for their classroom and career goals.

Action #1: Increase the value of NAGT membership and programming for K-12 teachers.

I helped establish the K-12 ad hoc committee in supporting Ryan and Laura Hollister in that work. Likewise, I have guided Ryan and Laura in now overseeing the OEST awards. I'm submitting an abstract for NSTA to speak in part about NAGT/TTE to K-12 educators. I also communicated with the GSA K-12 rep to help promote virtual options pre-GSA.

Action #2: Increase the value of NAGT membership and programming for students

Most of my work related to this action item has been at my own institution and networks in building awareness, but I have a few ideas related to opportunities that we could offer students via NAGT. I wish I had a group like NAGT during my student years!

Action #3: Re-envision and strengthen our framework for sections

I'm supporting Margaret in running the section ad hoc committee and have led in conversations related to reimagining sections, both in how better to support them via structural changes and resources as well as in redefining geographic boundaries to have fewer but more robust sections that additionally include enhanced alignment to GSA.

Action #4: Diversity and expand our membership, leadership, programming participants, and award winners

I've advocated for changes to TTE to increase visibility of DEI as part of what we do in educational resources that we promote, in alignment with this action item. During a summer meeting focused on fundraising/development needs, I proposed a DEI-related campaign to have an option for contributions to be given to NAGT specifically to support a suite of programming and resources specific to DEI. I am really interested in pursuing further this idea in part to also demonstrate a stronger commitment to DEI in our work. In addition, I am very much interested in finding new ways to have an expanded reach for EER, including models that might include a separate but related virtual participation. I recognize that hybrid models are complex, but I also think more could be explored in that regard, in a way that allows participants from home to 'belong' and engage in EER. Several members have raised the idea of offering streaming for key presentations and a handful of virtual only sessions/workshops at the same time. Educators at institutions with fewer resources, or who may have competing needs due to personal limitations, and/or have other challenges in being able to join in person could benefit from a deeper look at options. I'd like to see NAGT do more in reaching across the aisle as well in communicating further with organizations in geosciences specifically focused on DEI. These items are necessary in my mind to elevate the focus of this particular action item.



Progress towards goals: Participation and achievements as an officer of NAGT

Describe permanent and ad hoc committees you've served on and your role on those committees, participation and/or leadership in the professional development program, liaison work with external organizations, and any other work that you have done in your role as an officer to advance NAGT's mission and goals. A combination of bullets and narrative style would be appropriate here; consider what the membership should know about your work.

Here I've included a snapshot of the ways in which I have or currently contribute to NAGT. There are other divisions that I've held or hold membership in but have not been as actively involved and so they are not listed here. Other committees, such as for the Miner Awards, represent additional responsibilities as part of my work on ExCom. More recently, I've also contributed to conversations related to an increased focus on membership, fundraising, and more. The primary activities I have done as part of service to these groups is included here.

- ♦ **NAGT ExCom:** *2nd Vice-President (2020–2021), 1st Vice-President (2021–Present)*
 - Regular responsibilities and as they come up for the presidential line and ExCom
 - Running and contributing to planning of NAGT council meetings over the last year
 - Related roles:
 - GSA Associated Societies Liaison (2020–Present)
 - Actively participated in conversations related to modality at meetings
 - Investment Committee: *Ex-Officio Member (2020–2021)*
 - Joined discussions related to exploring/moving/diversifying investments
- ♦ **K-12 Ad Hoc Committee:** *Founding Member (2020–Present)*
 - Contributed to drafting charge, recruiting members, outlining tasks, etc.
 - Compiled items for Earth Science Week and material for K-12 promotion
- ♦ **Section Ad Hoc Committee:** *Founding Member (2020–Present)*
 - Contributed to drafting charge, recruiting members, outlining tasks, etc.
 - Led conversations focused on section efforts at council meetings, developed Jamboards, compiled insight and information related to redefining section boundaries, etc.
 - Proposed and received approval for a change to the section liaison model now with an Executive office and ExCom member along with more on the shared workspace to come
 - Outlining a vision of next steps, timelines, and resources needed for elevating sections
- ♦ **Teacher Education Division:** *ExCom Liaison & TED DEI Committee Chair (2020–Present)*
 - Attended meetings, a few methods forums, and chaired TED DEI meetings
 - TED DEI work has mostly focused on drafting the DEI position statement in 2022 and encouraging more cross-communication on DEI initiatives throughout all of NAGT
 - Hosting an NAGTea event at GSA to promote community and conversation re: DEI
- ♦ **SE Section:** *President (2014-2016), GA Representative & OEST Coordinator (2017–2020)*
 - Still aiding the SE section such as via communication and support for officers, OEST awards, and events including contributions at the SEGSA lunch meeting for the section



Progress towards goals: Other achievements and work relevant to NAGT

Describe any other work that is relevant to your role in NAGT.

I continue to be active in contributing to and learning from other related groups/organizations whether as part of my involvement in leading relevant programs on education/outreach such as for Atlanta Science Festival or the Paleontological Society and National Park Service or as an attendee and/or presenter at various professional meetings. My conference participation, much of it with students, over this last year includes SEGSA (April), Strong Start to Finish (May), GSA (October), SACNAS (October), AGU (December), and the Environmental Education Alliance for the SE region (September), and I am in the process of preparing a submission to NSTA for spring. Of particular note, I'll also be giving a featured lecture at AGU on education/outreach as part of receiving an award. This year, after a pilot year of development, I officially launched the Paleontology in the Parks program to expand access to educational opportunities for students as well. At Georgia State University, I'm on the QEP College to Career Executive Committee, serve as chair of our High Impact Practices Implementation Team for USG, and am the Senior Faculty Associate for Signature Experiences. Through these roles I have contributed to work related to career readiness and discussion regarding change to our core curriculum including focused areas of emphasis such as on global human-environmental challenges. Many of the university conversations begin with work I do in the Department of Geosciences with goals of an expanded reach beyond GSU. Much of what I do in the classroom for my own courses and as Undergraduate Director in Geosciences overlap with many of the NAGT goals by promoting high-quality Earth education and supporting my colleagues and students in their journeys. The TWP on Supporting the Success of All Students was highly valued by our faculty; I look forward to contributing to ongoing work in my department along these lines, including most recently as part of GSU receiving a Cultural Transformation in the Geosciences Community grant from NSF.

Goals for NAGT work in the next year

Describe the goals you would like to work towards in the coming year, highlighting their alignment with NAGT's mission and goals, and making connections to the membership or subsets of the NAGT membership as appropriate.

- Update the section model and make necessary changes to the bylaws
- Rekindle inactive sections and strengthen existing sections via structural supports
- Improve cross-section communication and shared resources on the workspace
- Complete the draft DEI position statement and move forward in that process
- Increase connections between members doing DEI work in the NAGT community
- Have DEI be a more integral part of activities, reporting, fundraising, and more
- Engage more with other organizations to look for collaboration opportunities
- See an increase in interest from K-12 members and events/resources for them
- Enhance promotion and recognition of OEST awards within and beyond NAGT
- Explore options for future EER meetings both with virtual components and in Atlanta
- Learn more about opportunities for student members and ways to get involved
- Organize and collate various resources I've worked on with students to expand access
- Be flexible, learn, and listen to needs of NAGT members as the incoming president! ☺