

APRIL 2019



THE GER EXCHANGE

Promoting high-quality scholarly research in geoscience education.

Going to the Rendezvous this summer?

The GER division is sponsoring a Monday-Wednesday morning writing retreat at this year's Earth Educators' Rendezvous in Nashville, TN. This is being spearheaded by an excellent writer - Dr. Peggy McNeal at Towson University. You'll have 9 hours of dedicated writing time with built-in accountability so you can make progress on that draft, data analysis, grant proposal, etc.

The writing retreat is a new option for the 2019 EER, so we're trying it as a working group. We do have a limited number of slots based on room size and we expect those who participate in the working group to attend all three morning sessions. **Please email Peggy at pmcneal@towson.edu ASAP if you are interested in joining the working group.** We will email working group participants in early April with instructions for how to join the working group when you register for the Rendezvous; please do not register for the Rendezvous til then.

NAGT GER at the 2019 GSA Annual Meeting in Phoenix, AZ

The GER Division is pleased to once again be sponsoring the GSA Topical Session,

"Making Sense of Methodologies and Theoretical Frameworks in Geoscience Education Research" at the Annual Meeting in Phoenix, Arizona. Please note the [abstract deadline](#) of June 25th at 11:59pm Pacific. We welcome your submissions!

Nominations for GER officers by April 10th

Are you looking to get more involved in the GER Division or know someone who is? Consider submitting your nominations for one of the open officer positions! We are looking for nominations for the following positions:

- **Vice President**
- **Treasurer**
- **Media Director**
- **Graduate Student Liason**

For more information about the duties for each position, the officer responsibilities are described in the [GER bylaws](#). Submit nominations to [Karen McNeal](#) (the chair of the nominating committee) by **April 10th**.

JGE Call for Papers: Polar Education Special Issue

This theme issue focuses on polar education related to both the Arctic and Antarctic regions. Contributions to the theme issue will describe education, outreach, and communication activities that engage learners in exploring polar regions, the climate system, physiogeography, the people that live in the Arctic, fauna and flora of polar regions, the future of polar regions, and how citizens across the globe are connected to changes in the polar regions. Papers summarizing educational research results that shed light on effective ways to engage learners in polar topics are encouraged. We welcome contributions from the formal (K-12, college) and informal science education sectors.

For more information, check out the call for papers on the [JGE website](#). Submission deadline **June 15**

Featured Article

STEM faculty who believe ability is fixed have larger racial achievement gaps and inspire less student motivation in their classes

"An important goal of the scientific community is broadening the achievement and participation of racial minorities in STEM fields. Yet, professors' beliefs about the fixedness of ability may be an unwitting and overlooked barrier for stigmatized students. Results from a longitudinal university-wide sample (150 STEM professors and more than 15,000 students) revealed that the racial achievement gaps in courses taught by more fixed mindset faculty were twice as large as the achievement gaps in courses taught by more growth mindset faculty. Course evaluations revealed that students were demotivated and had more negative experiences in classes taught by fixed (versus growth) mindset faculty. Faculty mindset beliefs predicted student achievement and motivation above and beyond any other faculty characteristic, including their gender, race/ethnicity, age, teaching experience, or tenure status. These findings suggest that faculty mindset beliefs have important implications for the classroom experiences and achievement of underrepresented minority students in STEM."

E.A. Canning et al. (2019) STEM faculty who believe ability is fixed have larger racial achievement gaps and inspire less student motivation in their classes," *Science Advances* DOI: [10.1126/sciadv.aau4734](https://doi.org/10.1126/sciadv.aau4734) accessed from <http://advances.sciencemag.org/content/5/2/eaau4734>

Job Opportunity

- [Assistant Professor in Science Education](#) **West Chester University, Pennsylvania**
- Review of applications begins immediately

Summer Conference Opportunities

[Earth Educators Rendezvous 2019](#), July 15-19, Nashville, Tennessee

- Travel stipend application deadline **April 7**
- Early registration deadline **May 1**
- Review Camp and NGSS Tagging Camp application **May 1**
- Late poster/Share-a-thon submission deadline **May 15**

2019 Summer Institutes on Scientific Teaching

- June 17-21 - California - University of California, San Diego (Application Deadline: April 15 (Extended))
- July 15-19 - Northwest - University of Oregon (Application Deadline: May 27)
- July 22-26 - Gulf Coast - Louisiana State University (Application Deadline: May 15)
- July 28-August 1 - Northeast - Stony Brook University (Application Deadline: June 10)

Grant, Award, and Scholarship Deadlines

- NAGT Dorothy Stout Professional Development Awards (for faculty and students at two-year colleges and K-12 teachers) deadline **April 15**
- Geological Society of America and the Geology & Society Division E-an Zen Fund Geoscience Outreach Grant deadline **June 1**
- Association for Women Geoscientists Minority Scholarship deadline **June 30**
- Association for Women Geoscientists Sand and Takken Student Research Presentation Travel Awards deadline **August 10**
- Association for Women Geoscientists Professional Excellence Awards deadline **August 15**
- National Science Foundation Improving Undergraduate STEM Education: Education and Human Resources (Exploration and Design Tier for Engaged Student Learning &

Institution and Community Transformation) Submission Window **October 01, 2018 - September 30, 2019**

Submit to the GER Exchange

NAGT-GER provides monthly updates on professional opportunities, funding, articles of note, researcher profiles, and other content of interest to our membership. Please consider [contributing items](#) of interest for inclusion in future editions of the Exchange!

For questions, or to join the GER Communications Committee, contact Media Director [Emily Ward](#).



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This monthly email goes out to all GER Division members to share opportunities and ideas relevant to the community.

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