

FEBRUARY 2020



THE GER EXCHANGE

Promoting high-quality scholarly research in geoscience education.

Feb. 2020 Spotlight:

The February 2020 [GER Spotlight](#) is Patricia Jaimes (Paty), a PhD Candidate at Geocognition Research Laboratory at Michigan State University. This laboratory, housed in the Earth and Environmental Sciences Department, encourages interdisciplinary geoscience education research across a wide ranged of disciplines (higher education, sociology, political science, community sustainability, philosophy, etc.). Check out the full [February 2020 Spotlight here!](#)



Featured Article:

education research: A synthesis of the literature 2008–2018

Authors: Allison Mattheis, Megan Murphy, and Erika Marin-Spiotta

Abstract

This article reviews geoscience education research published since the December 2007 “Broadening Participation” issue of the *Journal of Geoscience Education* to examine how research in the field has taken up—or not—calls for greater inclusivity. We also applied recent calls to actively confront and lessen reports of discrimination and harassment in the sciences and looked for evidence of how these goals are included in geoscience education research. This synthesis of the extant literature in geoscience education research was guided by a framework that draws from the concept of intersectionality (Collins, [2015](#); Crenshaw, [1991](#)) and interventions that can build learning environments that provide physical and psychological safety for diverse students, educators, and field professionals synthesized by a 2018 report from the National Academies of Science, Engineering, and Medicine. We identified three primary themes in the literature reviewed and illustrate these with examples from published articles: (a) increased challenges to science as neutral, (b) continued assumptions of meritocracy in higher education, and (c) assimilation as representation. We also highlight exemplary articles that were most closely aligned with our conceptual framework, and then present three recommendations for future research efforts. A key goal of the present article is to call on researchers to more deeply consider the role of social identities in studies of geoscience education.

Notifications of Changes to GER Bylaws

The GER Division announces revisions to the bylaws. To this version of the bylaws, we add term lengths for the Media Director and Graduate Student Liaison, and clarify that elected officers must be dues-paying members for the duration of their term. We hope these changes better serve the GER community and welcome feedback. Please review the new bylaws and provide feedback by visiting this page: https://nagt.org/nagt/divisions/geoed/ger_bylaws.html

Participate in a New Survey on Ph.D. Mental Health

By L. Maren Wood,

Published in "The Chronicle of Higher Education" on JANUARY 26, 2020

Two separate surveys found that nearly 40 percent of graduate students have moderate to severe anxiety — a rate six times that of the general population. On social media and in countless "Quit Lit" essays, doctoral students have shared their personal mental-health struggles.

And graduate educators have started to pay attention. Recently the Council of Graduate Schools announced a multiyear study to learn more about mental health and wellness in doctoral training, and to find workable solutions.

To read more and to participate in the study, go to https://www.chronicle.com/article/Participate-in-a-New-Survey-on/247899?cid=wcontentgrid_hp_9

Job Opportunities

- [Assistant Professor in Astronomy, Planetary Science, and/or Geoscience Education Research](#) at Arizona State University, The College of Liberal Arts and Sciences: School of Earth and Space Exploration. To apply, please submit electronically the following materials to <http://apply.interfolio.com/71949>
- [Research Associate in Social Science Applied to Severe Storms](#)- The Center for Analysis and Prediction of Storms ([CAPS](#)) at The University of Oklahoma (OU) is seeking a Research Associate to assist a Senior Scientist. To apply, please visit the following website for instructions: <http://drdaphneladue.oucreate.com/uncategorized/im-hiring/>
- [Assistant Professor in Discipline-Based Experiential Learning](#)- The Department of Earth, Ocean and Atmospheric Sciences (EOAS) at the University of British Columbia (UBC) invites applicants for a full-time, tenure-track Assistant Professorship in Discipline-Based Experiential Learning. Visit <https://www.hr.ubc.ca/careers-postings/faculty.php> and select job ID 36144 to apply.
- [Specialist - Teacher](#)- The Center for Integrative Studies in General Science (CISGS) at Michigan State University is seeking a fixed term faculty instructor / scholar to participate in the ongoing priority initiative of providing high-quality science education to future teachers and non-STEM majors. Apply on the [university website](#).
- [Postdoctoral Research Associate](#)- The University of Colorado at Boulder Environmental Studies Program is hiring a postdoctoral researcher to work

Call for Nominations for GER Transformation and Collaborations Award

Nomination process is now open!

These awards recognize those who have made significant contributions to the development of and capacity for geoscience education research, including non-GER colleagues (e.g. geophysicists, educational psychologists, education researchers, etc.) who have infused the GER community with new ideas.

Find out more [here](#) and ***make your nominations by May 15th!***

Upcoming Conferences and Professional Development Opportunities

Big 12 Teaching and Learning Conference

The 7th Annual Big 12 Teaching and Learning Conference being held next summer, June 10-12 in Kansas City is now accepting proposals through February 3rd.

Proposals focusing on the following themes are invited:

- Classroom-level interventions enhancing student learning
- Institution and beyond interventions enhancing student learning
- Assessment of Student Learning
- Inclusive Teaching Practices
- Educational Research on Teaching & Student Learning (Research to Practice)

Post-Doctoral and Graduate Students and highly encouraged to submit. Discounted conference rates for presenters, 2YC faculty, and students are available.

More information can be found at the [conference website](#)

2020 PKAL STEM Leadership Institute

[The Project Kaleidoscope \(PKAL\) STEM Leadership Institute](#) is designed for STEM faculty at the early to middle stages of their careers as educators, researchers, program directors, principal investigators, or department/college-level

practice of navigating the politics of change, addressing inter- and intra-personal conflicts, and re-structuring the institutional systems that limit the capacity for global competitiveness in science and technology.

Location: The Claggett Center, Adamstown, Maryland Institute

Dates: Institute I: *July 8-13, 2020*, *Institute II: July 15-20, 2020*

Early Action Deadline: January 15, 2020

Regular Deadline: March 16, 2020

[Call for Papers on "Water Literacy and Education"](#)

Contributions are invited for a Special Issue of the journal *Water* (ISSN 2073-4441), focused on water education efforts to foster water literacy. Submissions should describe research on the design, implementation, and impact of innovative water education programs that support learners to develop understanding of core horological concepts and relationships between water and human activities. Such programs might include K-12 or postsecondary curricula or courses, outreach programs with youth or adults, preservice teacher education, and/or professional development with K-12 educators, informal educators, or postsecondary faculty, each of which may focus on education about some aspect(s) of natural and/or managed water systems. Please see the journal's special issue website for more information. This is a wonderful opportunity for GER community members to showcase their empirically-based water education programs.

The submission deadline is May 13, 2020.

[Visit the website for more information.](#)

Grant, Award, and Scholarship Deadlines

- 2020 Emerald/HETL Education [Outstanding Doctoral Research Award](#) deadline **March 1, 2020**
- Association for Women Geoscientists [Chrysalis Scholarship](#) deadline **March 31, 2020**
- Association for Women Geoscientists [Outstanding Educator Award](#) deadline **April 1, 2020**

[Education and Human Resources](#)

- Institutional and Community Transformation Capacity-Building- February 4, 2020
- Engaged Student Learning and Institutional and Community Transformation Level 1- February 4, 2020
- Institutional and Community Transformation Capacity-Building- August 4, 2020
- Engaged Student Learning and Institutional and Community Transformation Level 1- August 4, 2020
- Engaged Student Learning and Institutional and Community Transformation Level 2 and 3- December 1, 2020

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, [Lauren Neitzke Adamo](#).



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