



THE GER EXCHANGE

Promoting high quality scholarly research in geoscience education.

Researcher Spotlight

The March 2016 GER Spotlight is on Dr. Cathy Manduca, Director of the Science Education Resource Center at Carleton College. She describes her career trajectory as a geoscience education researcher, shares insights about the value of collaborating across disciplinary boundaries to gain new lenses onto teaching and learning research, and highlights the changing landscape of the process of geoscience education research in the current environment. Read the full March spotlight [here!](#)

Upcoming Grant and Award Deadlines

- The Association for Women Geoscientists [Outstanding Educator Award](#) (due 4/1/16)
- EPA [Environmental Education Grants](#) (due 4/8/16)
- Society for Science and the Public [Advocate Grant](#) for mentoring underrepresented middle and high school students ([application](#) due 4/13/16)
- NSF [Tribal Colleges and Universities](#) (due 4/14/16)
- Spencer Foundation [Small Research Grants](#) (due 5/2/16)
- NSF [Scholarships in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics Program](#) (due 5/16/16)
- GeoCUR [Undergraduate Research Mentor Award](#) (nominations due 6/1/16)

Featured Article

Barriers and Opportunities for 2-Year and 4-Year STEM Degrees: Systemic Change to Support Students' Diverse Pathways



Nearly 40 percent of the students entering 2- and 4-year postsecondary institutions indicated their intention to major in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) in 2012. But the barriers to students realizing their ambitions are reflected in the fact that about half of those with the intention to earn a STEM bachelor's degree and more than two-thirds intending to earn a STEM associate's degree fail to earn these degrees 4 to 6 years after their initial enrollment. Many of those who do obtain a degree take longer than the advertised length of the programs, thus raising the cost of their education. Are the STEM educational pathways any less efficient than for other fields of study? How might the losses be "stemmed" and greater efficiencies realized? These questions and others are at the heart of this study. Download the free PDF from National Academies Press [here!](#)

Upcoming Meetings and Conferences

- NARST Annual International Conference, [Toward Equity and Justice: Many Different Voices, Cultures, and Languages in Science Education Research for Quality Science Teaching and Learning](#), April 14-17, Baltimore, MD
- [Earth Educators' Rendezvous](#), July 18-22, University of Wisconsin, Madison ([early registration deadline 5/2/16](#)).
- [AGU Virtual Poster Showcases for Undergraduate and Graduate students](#) (Abstract sites open for submission 8/8-9/28/16).
- [Transforming Undergraduate STEM Education: Implications for 21st Century Society](#), November 3-5, Boston, MA ([Proposals due 3/24/16](#)).

Mentoring Network for Women in Geography (CSWG) Seeks Mentors

The American Association of Geographers's (AAG) Committee on the Status of Women in Geography seeks faculty, staff, and professionals willing to serve as mentors in its newly established Mentoring Network for Women in Geography (CSWG) being launched at the 2016 annual meeting. A previous call for participants yielded an unprecedented number of requests for mentors. Mentors need not hold senior posts at their home institutions or places of employment, have tenure if they are employed at an academic institution, or identify as female. For more information, please e-mail [Lisa Davis](#) (CSWG Chair).

Job and Internship Opportunities

- [Executive Director](#), Texas Institute for Discovery Education in Science, University of Texas at Austin (review begins immediately)
- [Senior Research Scientist](#) in Education Technology, The Concord Consortium (review begins immediately)
- Postdoctoral Fellowship, Science Partnership STEM Achievement in Baltimore Elementary Schools, Johns Hopkins University School of Education (contact [Carolyn Parker](#) for details; review begins immediately)
- [Postdoctoral Fellow](#) in Science Education, ReSTEM Institute and Department of Learning, Teaching, and Curriculum, University of Missouri (due 4/1/16)
- Postdoctoral Research Associate in STEM Education Research, University of Washington (contact [Dr. Scott Freeman](#) for details; due 4/1/16)
- [Assistant Professor of Practice](#) (non-tenure track) in Meteorology, Department of Earth and Atmospheric Sciences, University of Nebraska-Lincoln (review begins 4/1/16)
- [Executive Director](#), American Geosciences Institute (review begins 4/16)

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 contribute** your favorite GER-related articles, researcher spotlights, or other items for future issues!

For questions, contact Communications Committee Chair [Kelsey Bitting](#).

©2015, [National Association of Geoscience Teachers](#)



Newsletter design by [Jason Rimmer](#)