



National Association of Geoscience Teachers

Central Section Newsletter

<http://serc.carleton.edu/dev/nagt/organization/central/index.html>

August 2005

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Central Section States

(in rotation order for new
2nd Vice President)
2006 Michigan
2007 Indiana
2008 Wisconsin
2009 Kentucky
2010 Minnesota
2011 Iowa
2012 Ohio
2013 Illinois

Note above our new website URL!

President's Message

On behalf of NAGT and the officers of the Central Section, it is a pleasure to write to you at the beginning of the 2005-2006 school year. I hope you have all had a pleasant summer and are ready to return to teaching with renewed energy and enthusiasm as I am. Though I spent three weeks in Italy touring volcanoes in Sicily and visiting with my family, I found a more refreshing experience in an unexpected place much closer to home – Camp Miniwanca, Michigan, where I attended a workshop for college faculty over Memorial Day weekend. A colleague in the Physics department at Iowa State University mentioned the Wakonse workshop to me last fall. I showed a polite interest as he recounted the workshop and the impact it had on his approach to teaching, but forgot all about it a few hours later. In the spring, he emailed to ask me if I would like him to propose my name for the list of faculty that ISU was going to bring to Wakonse this year. I told him 'sure' without much conviction or commitment. Something told me that it could be interesting. That 'something' was my love for teaching and the apprehensive realization that I was becoming cynical about it after four years of teaching introductory geology and meteorology to several hundred students that did not seem to have much interest in what I had to teach them. In my mind, I had tried everything and was close to giving up resigned to just 'go through the motions' to get the job done. Maybe I would learn some new technique at this workshop?

I joined some 30 ISU colleagues I had never met before at 5 AM to set

(cont. on p. 3 **President's Message**)

Two Fall Field Conferences

We are co-sponsoring two fall field conferences in Iowa on the weekend of September 24th, 2005:

- Great Lakes Section of SEPM Field Conference, led by Greg Ludvigson, Brian Witzke, Norlene Emerson, Jean Young, and Jeff Dorale
<http://www.isgs.uiuc.edu/gls-sepm/>
- 66th Annual Tri-State Field Conference, led by Jane Dawson, Matt Graesch, Neal Iverson, and Bill Simpkins, and Chris Harding
[http://www.ge-](http://www.ge-at.iastate.edu/events/tristate05)

[at.iastate.edu/events/tristate05](http://www.ge-at.iastate.edu/events/tristate05)

For more information and to sign up, see their websites and announcements in this newsletter.

2006 North-Central GSA Meeting Akron, Ohio Events Sponsored by NAGT Central Section

Field Trip

"Guide to the Building Stones and Cultural Geology of Akron."

Date: Wednesday 19 April 2006

Leader: Joe Hannibal

This trip will explore the relationship between the setting of Akron on a major divide underlain chiefly by the Sharon Formation and its development as a city. It will pay special attention to the use of building stone, including the Sharon, in constructing the city. Individual stops, chosen for their geological, cultural, and historical importance, will include the Portage Path, historic stone buildings, canal locks, the John Brown Monument, a garden-style cemetery with a large Civil War Memorial, stone fences and bridges, and modern buildings clad in limestone and granite. This trip is open to educators and guests as well as professional geologists.

(cont. on p. 2 **NC-GSA**)

(cont. from p. 1 NC-GSA)

Workshop

"Teaching Evolution in the K-12 Classroom"

Date: Friday, April 21, 2006

Facilitator: Patricia Princehouse, Case-Western University, evolution@case.edu.

Classroom techniques for teaching the basic concepts of evolution throughout the K-12 curriculum

Theme Sessions

1. Evaluating Student Learning in Geoscience Courses
David Steer, University of Akron, Akron, OH, 330-972-2099, steer@uakron.edu
David McConnell, University of Akron, Akron, OH, 330-972-8047, dam6@uakron.edu

This session is intended as a forum for reporting on the effectiveness of innovative methods, exercises or learning environments designed to promote learning in the geosciences. Papers that report on assessment instruments or assessment data are encouraged.

2. Issues in Geoscience Education
Annabelle Foos, University of Akron, Akron, Ohio, 330-972-7991, afoos@uakron.edu
Cinzia Cervato, Iowa State University, Ames, IA, cinzia@iastate.edu

This session will present innovative ideas that promote K-16 geoscience education, in-service teacher training and public outreach. Authors are encouraged to submit examples of inquiry based learning, field experiences, workshops and curriculum development.

3. Countering Creationism in the Classroom
Patricia Princehouse, Case Western University, evolution@case.edu

PLEASE CONSIDER SUBMITTING AN ABSTRACT!
ABSTRACT DEADLINE IS JANUARY 25, 2006

Special Event

Central Section NAGT Luncheon and Business Meeting, Friday, April 21st.

Your Dues at Work

This year Central Section is financially supporting:

- NC-GSA workshop for teachers, May 2005
- Tri-State Field Conference, September 2005
- GLS-SEPM Field Conference, September 2005
- Poster for NC-GSA in Akron, 2006

Outstanding Earth Science Teacher (OEST) Award – Call for Nominations

Nominations for the OEST award are still being accepted. Please take the time to nominate a deserving teacher in your state or encourage them to nominate themselves. If you have any questions or need additional information, contact Sallie Greenberg (greenberg@isgs.uiuc.edu).

Opportunity for K-12 Teachers to go to sea aboard the drilling vessel Joides Resolution

Immediate openings are available for 10 energetic and creative middle school, secondary and informal educators in The School of Rock Ocean-going Research Expedition for Earth and Ocean Science Educators, from **29 October through 13 November 2005**.

The Integrated Ocean Drilling Program's (IODP) United States Implementing Organization (USIO) (see <http://iodp-usio.org/>) is excited to take advantage of a 16-day break between scientific operations and carry out a seagoing pilot Earth systems research and education workshop aboard the JOIDES Resolution during a transit from Victoria, B.C., Canada, to Acapulco, Mexico. During this workshop, 10 educators will be mentored and taught by scientists who are actively engaged in IODP research and the USIO Education Director and staff. In addition, shipboard technical staff will provide guidance and content related to hands-on laboratory activities.

Sailing educators will have daily opportunities to conduct geological, physical and/or chemical analyses of sediment and hard-rock cores in the ship's twelve laboratories. Instruction will be provided on topics such as seafloor spreading, mid-ocean ridges, composition and structure of the oceanic crust, magnetism, paleoceanography, biostratigraphy and sedimentology, as well as methods for sampling the subseafloor environment.

Qualified applicants must have at least three years teaching experience, pass a physical exam, and agree to participate in the translation of these Earth science techniques and topics into classroom activities and to conduct at least two professional development workshops for teachers in their local communities.

Application Deadline: Friday, 26 August 2005

A fact sheet and application (PDF) can be found at: <http://www.iodpusio.org/Education/workshop.html>

(cont. from p. 1 **President's Message**)

off to Michigan by bus. I did not know that those 5 days on the eastern shore of Lake Michigan were going to completely change my attitude towards teaching and restore my faith in college students! We spent time discussing in small groups, attending lectures by exceptional educators, playing team-building games with the undergraduate students that were also part of the workshop, climbing dunes and learning to use GPS, and building a network of friendships with a very diverse group of faculty from seventeen US institutions across a broad variety of disciplines. I do not have many opportunities to interact with colleagues from non-science disciplines and it was fascinating and eye opening to find out how much we all have in common!

It is very hard if not impossible to describe why I found the Wakonse experience so life changing and inspirational both professionally and personally, but I can strongly encourage all college professors who care about teaching (and I know you all do!) to consider participating in the 2006 Wakonse conference. For more information consult the <http://www.wakonse.org/> web site. I would also like to recommend Ken Bain's book 'What the best college teachers do' (<http://www.hup.harvard.edu/catalog/BAIBES.html>) as an exceptionally useful reading. I am completely revising my syllabus and notes for my fall Geology 100 class based on what I learned from the book and at the conference – a clean slate. Wish me luck!

I wish you all a productive teaching year and look forward to seeing many of you at the North-Central GSA meeting in Akron. I encourage you to submit abstracts for one of the three theme sessions that we are sponsoring. Note that GSA now allows you to give two papers if one of them is for an education session.

Cinzia Cervato

YOUR E-MAIL ADDRESS

If you change your email address, please tell me – jdt@prin.edu. It makes the secretary's job a lot easier to have an updated list of e-mail addresses. Thanks!

Starting next year, we will only send our newsletter by email. It will also be posted on our website: <http://serc.carleton.edu/dev/nagt/organization/central/index.html>. If you do not have access to either media, please notify me: Janis Treworgy, Principia College, 1 Maybeck Pl., Elmhurst, IL 60120.

NAGT CENTRAL SECTION New Officers

A big "Welcome" to our new officers! Kathleen Bower of Eastern Illinois University has stepped into the 2nd Vice President position. John McDaris of Carleton College is our new Website Coordinator. Mark Francek of Central Michigan University has been nominated to fill the 2nd Vice President position next spring. Thank you all!

New State Representatives

We now have at least one state representative for each state in our section! A big "thank you" to this year's volunteers:

- Paul Doss, faculty member at the University of Southern Indiana, our new rep for Indiana
- Fred Siewers, faculty member at Western Kentucky University, our new rep for Kentucky
- Chris DeWolf, a teacher at Chippewa Hills High School in Remus, MI, our new rep for Michigan
- Ron Fabick, a teacher at Brunswick High School, Brunswick, OH

We are happy to have two reps per state so if anyone is interested in serving in this capacity for an indefinite term length, please contact Janis Treworgy (jdt@prin.edu).

Here are the State Representatives:

- IL – David Voorhees
- IN – Paul Doss
- IA – Cinzia Cervato and Sherman Lundy
- KY – Fred Siewers
- MI – Chris DeWolf
- MN – Kate Pound
- OH – Ron Fabick, Bill Slattery
- WI – Bob Baker and Kerry Keen

To contact an officer or rep, see our website:

<http://www.nagt.org/nagt/organization/central/contacts.html>

If you are interested in serving the Central Section of NAGT, we welcome your help. There are several different avenues you can serve in:

- (1) You can be an officer
- (2) You can be a state representative
- (3) You can help host a workshop or field trip for K-16 educators when the North-Central GSA meeting is in your area
- (4) You can help staff our booth at the next North-Central GSA meeting

To find out about the duties of each position, go to our website:

<http://www.nagt.org/nagt/organization/central/duties.html>

Geologists Needed to Teach BSA Geology Merit Badge

During the week of July 25-August 2nd, 2005, 33,000 Boy Scouts participated in the National Jamboree at Ft. A.P. Hill, Virginia. During that time, over 400 of those scouts participated in Geology Merit Badge at the Merit Badge Midway. The AAPG Foundation, the principal sponsor of the Geology Merit Badge Booth, recruited several individuals to assist in teaching the Geology Merit Badge to the Scouts. Notices were placed in the GSA Today and in the JGE encouraging Scouters from these organizations to participate in the Geology Merit Badge activities at the Jamboree. While most of the Merit Badge instructors were associated with the AAPG, there were a few of us from other organizations who took part in this exciting opportunity for Geoscience Education Outreach. We could have used more

instructors! We certainly had the scouts who were interested in the Geology Merit Badge, but what we really needed were more Scouters with a Geology Background to assist with the program.

The next National Boy Scouts of America Jamboree will be in 2010, hopefully at Ft. A.P. Hill again, celebrating the 100th anniversary of Scouting in the United States. It would be great if more Scouters who are involved in Geology could be there to help teach the Merit Badge and work on activities with the Scouts. Even if you cannot be there for the entire week, your efforts for a couple of days will help encourage the study of the geosciences for the next generation. Think about it and make plans to attend a fantastic Scouting event.

Sherman Lundy

Journal of Geoscience Education

Published by National Association of Geoscience Teachers (NAGT)

NAGT Membership Application or Renewal Form / JGE Subscription Form

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Mailing Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____ Country: _____ Postal Code: _____

Fax: _____ Email: _____ (email address is required to receive newsletters)

____ College/University Professor @ _____

____ Precollege Teacher @ _____

____ Other @ _____

Checks, MasterCard, or VISA (US funds only) are payable to:
National Association of Geoscience Teachers

Mail to: NAGT, PO Box 5443, Bellingham, WA 98227-5443

☐ Check

☐ Credit card: MC/VISA (circle one) Card #: _____

Signature: _____ Exp. Date _____

Membership Rates (US funds)

Regular	\$35 _____
Outside USA	\$47 _____
Student*	\$20 _____
Student* outside USA	\$32 _____
Retired NAGT member	\$30 _____

Library Subscriptions

Regular	\$55 _____
Outside	\$67 _____

_____ New _____ Renewal

The membership year runs from January through December, and members receive five issues of JGE per year. Subscriptions received after June 1 will begin receiving the *Journal* in January of the following year. Back issues are available for \$15 (foreign \$18) each.

*To qualify for student rate, indicate and obtain verification from a NAGT member: _____ Undergraduate _____ Graduate

Signature of NAGT member

School

Great Lakes Section SEPM Fall Field Conference 2005

Facets of the Ordovician Geology of the Upper Mississippi Valley Region

September 23-25, 2005

Headquartered at the Oaks Steakhouse
1101 Highway 9, Decorah, Iowa

Co-led by:

Greg Ludvigson, Iowa Geological Survey & University of Iowa
Brian Witzke, Iowa Geological Survey & University of Iowa
Norlene Emerson, University of Wisconsin-Richland
Jean Young, Luther College
Jeff Dorale, University of Iowa

The fall 2005 GLS-SEPM Field Conference on the Ordovician geology of the Upper Mississippi Valley will be headquartered in Decorah, Iowa. We will visit a number of well-exposed sections that display details of the Ordovician stratigraphic record, along with stops illustrating some salient features of the local karst geology and hydrology in carbonate strata of the Ordovician Galena Group, and the detailed records of Quaternary paleoclimatology that have been extracted from spelean carbonates contained in that karst system. The trip will include looks at the St Peter, Glenwood, Platteville, Decorah, Dunleith, Wise Lake, Dubuque, and Maquoketa formations. A special highlight will include a stop at a newly-discovered *Konservat Lagerstätten* in carbonaceous shales of the St. Peter Sandstone. The field conference guidebook will contain a collection of short research papers by a community of scientists who have been actively researching various facets of the Ordovician geology of the Upper Mississippi Valley region in recent years. This will include exciting information on a newly-emerging record of Ordovician global change.

The Saturday field trip will be by charter bus, and guidebooks, Friday evening welcoming reception, lunch, snacks, and Saturday evening banquet will be included in the conference registration (professional rate @ \$50; student rate @ \$35). The Saturday evening banquet speaker will be Chris Holmden of the University of Saskatchewan, who will address the dynamics of Ordovician epeiric seas as revealed through stable and radiogenic isotope chemostratigraphy.

Co-sponsored with the *Geological Society of Iowa*

Financial support for the field conference has been provided from co-sponsorships by:

Iowa Limestone Producer's Association

Iowa Ground Water Association

Central Section National Association of Geoscience Teachers

For updated information on the field conference and registration, visit the GLS-SEPM website at:

Great Lakes Section SEPM: <http://www.isgs.uiuc.edu/gls-sepm/>



66th Annual Tri-State Geological Field Conference

When: September 24-25, 2005

Where: Iowa State University, Ames, Iowa

Price: \$65, includes transportation to field stops,
lunch, dinner
\$60 Student rate (thanks to CS-NAGT)



(Ledges State Park)

Field Stops:

- Ada Hayden Lake: Hydrology of the water supply for the City of Ames and its history
- Bjorkboda Marsh: Moraine formation and history of the Des Moines Lobe
- Dolliver State Park, Ledges State Park: Paleozoic sediments: depositional environment, paleogeographic setting, current geomorphology
- Des Moines River valley: Erosion and terrace formation with the retreat of the Des Moines Lobe
- Montour Quarry near LeGrand: Formations of the lower Mississippian overlain by Pleistocene paleosols

Field Guides: Jane Dawson, Matt Graesch,
Neal Iverson and Bill Simpkins

Contact: Chris Harding (charding@iastate.edu)

Web site: <http://www.ge-at.iastate.edu/events/tristate05>

Web registration:

[Printable registration form \(check and money orders only\)](#)

[ISU Department of Geological and Atmospheric Sciences](#)
[Ames Visitors Bureau](#)



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Geoscience Teachers (NAGT)

<http://www.nagt.org/nagt/organization/central/index.html>



NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF GEOSCIENCE TEACHERS

OUTSTANDING EARTH SCIENCE TEACHER

Nomination Form

Name of Nominee _____ Years Teaching _____

Home Address (street, city, zip) _____

Telephone (Home) _____ (Work) _____ E-Mail _____

College/University Attended _____

Degrees _____ College Major _____ Minor _____

Annual percentage class time devoted to teaching earth science _____ Grades _____

Name of School _____ Telephone _____

School Address _____

Name and Address of School Superintendent _____

Name and Address of Local Newspaper _____

Respond to the following, using no more than one (1) typewritten page per item. Include supporting documentation in the form of letters, products, or publications as appropriate.

1. Teaching ability: What techniques does the nominee/applicant employ? What is his/her teaching philosophy? Are his/her courses challenging and comprehensive? Do students enjoy his/her classes?
2. Inventiveness: What new ideas, materials, software, instructional strategies, or techniques has the nominee/applicant developed?
3. Initiative: How does the nominee/applicant handle new situations and accommodate students of various abilities? Be specific.
4. Cooperativeness: How does the nominee/applicant cooperate in the total school program and in other academic areas?
5. Strengths: What are the principal strengths of the nominee/applicant?
6. Community involvement: How is the nominee/applicant involved in community and/or youth activities?
7. Other activities: List other professional activities and noteworthy accomplishments.

Name of Recommending Person (Nominator) _____

Address _____ Telephone _____

Nominator's Signature _____

Send all forms, materials, and supporting documentation in one package to:

Sallie Greenberg, OEST Chair of Central Section NAGT
Illinois State Geological Survey
615 East Peabody Drive
Champaign, IL 61820

Please feel free to copy this form for nomination purposes.