



## National Association of Geoscience Teachers

# Central Section Newsletter

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

Spring 2006

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### Central Section States

(in rotation order for next  
2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President)

2006 Michigan  
2007 Indiana  
2008 Wisconsin  
2009 Kentucky  
2010 Minnesota  
2011 Iowa  
2012 Ohio  
2013 Illinois

## President's Message

These last few months have been particularly exciting and encouraging for us science teachers faced with the challenge of countering the spreading of Intelligent Design as alternative to Darwin's theory of evolution in school curricula across the nation. The milestone ruling in favor of the teaching of evolution in science classes in the Kitzmiller vs. Dover (Pennsylvania, Dec. 2005) and the rapid solution of the Hurst vs. Newman (Lebec, California, Jan. 2006) lawsuit have once again proven the unconstitutionality of the teaching of ID as science. The Ohio Board of Education's vote to remove the 'critical analysis of evolution' model lesson plan this February is another victory but more still needs to be done. NAGT has put together a position statement on the teaching of evolution that can be viewed on line at

[www.nagt.org](http://www.nagt.org). Comments on the draft statement can be sent to Ian McGregor, NAGT Executive Director, before March 10 [past]. Following the approval by NAGT members, the final version of the statement will be published in the upcoming issue of the Journal of Geoscience Education. For more information on the above mentioned court rulings and the teaching of evolution in general, please visit the web site of the National Center for Science Education (<http://ncseweb.org/>).

Our annual appointment with the North Central GSA meeting (cont. on p. 3 **President's Message**)

## North Central GSA Meeting

University of Akron

Akron OH, April 19-22, 2006

*Events sponsored by NAGT*

## Business meeting and luncheon

NC-GSA, Akron OH, Friday, 4/21/06

## Theme Sessions

### 1. Evaluating Student Learning in

**Geoscience Courses.** Thursday, 4/20/06; 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

Thursday, 4/20/06; 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

Friday, 4/21/06 Across the country, creationists are getting more militant, attempting to wedge "intelligent-design" creationism or fraudulent "critical analysis," or so-called "evidences against" evolution into curricula. This results in impoverished earth science and biology education and students who are deeply confused or misinformed about the nature and methods of science. This thematic session will discuss scientific, philosophical, historical, (cont. on p. 2 NC-GSA)

(NC-GSA cont. from p. 1)

pedagogic, and legal dimensions of creationism in the K–12 and college classroom, with emphasis on practical solutions.

**4. Climate Change, Natural Hazards, and the Teaching of Earth System Science**

Friday 4/21/06 Students need to be informed about practical issues surrounding science if we are to prepare them for the community. Therefore, teachers need to bridge the gap between applied and theoretical science and show the “why” when we teach science concepts. Climate change and natural hazards can be used to reinforce earth system science concepts. How do teachers and professors use current events and real world examples to teach earth system science concepts? How do they “bridge the gap”?

**Workshop: Teaching Evolution in the K-12 Classroom**

Saturday, 4/22/06 9 am-4 pm  
Facilitator: Pamela Keiper, Cleveland Museum of Natural History. Classroom techniques for teaching the basic concepts of evolution and the diversity of life throughout the K-12 curriculum. Fee: \$5, includes resource packet and continental breakfast.

**Field trip: Guide to the Building Stones and Cultural Geology of Akron**

Wednesday 4/19/06 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. Fee: \$50, includes morning coffee and donuts, lunch (sandwich and fruit), transportation, and field guide.

**For details and registration, go to:**

<http://www.geosociety.org/sectdiv/Northc/06ncmtg.htm>

**Fall Field Conferences**

**Fall 2005 – Thank you!**

We would like to thank all participants and helpers for making Tri-State '05 a success (despite a bit of rain). We have put some photos of the event as well as the guidebook online (complete and in parts) - the URL is:

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

Chris Harding, Ph.D.

Iowa State University, Ames, IA

**Fall 2006 – Two in One**

The GLS-SEPM and Tri-State Field Conferences are being combined as one this coming Fall. Central Section of NAGT will again co-sponsor the field conference. The leader is Dr. Jed Day "James E. Day" [jeday@ilstu.edu](mailto:jeday@ilstu.edu) of Illinois State University in Normal, IL. See the 1<sup>st</sup> announcement below.

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**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](mailto:greenberg@isgs.uiuc.edu)).

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**Report on NAGT-sponsored session at North-Central GSA, Minneapolis, May 2005**

A detailed report by Kate Pond on this NAGT activity, “Inquiry-based, hands-on, classroom exercises, lab demonstrations and field investigations in Geoscience Education,” is on our web page:

[http://www.nagt.org/nagt/programs/activities\\_collection.html](http://www.nagt.org/nagt/programs/activities_collection.html)

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**Did You Receive This Newsletter Through The U.S. Postal Service?**

Then I need your current email address. Please email me: [janis.treworgy@principia.edu](mailto:janis.treworgy@principia.edu). We are posting the newsletter on our website: [http://www.nagt.org/nagt/organization/central/minutes\\_newslatters.html](http://www.nagt.org/nagt/organization/central/minutes_newslatters.html). We recognize that a few of you do not use email. If you would like to receive a hard copy, please contact Janis Treworgy (phone: 618-374-5294).

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

(April 20-21, Akron, Ohio) is rapidly approaching. This year the Central Section of NAGT is sponsoring four very interesting sessions that are going to give us all a strong incentive to participate in the meeting. The sessions are:

- **Evaluating Student Learning in Geoscience Courses**, convened by D. Steer and D. McConnell
- **Issues in Geoscience Education**, convened by A. Foos and C. Cervato
- **Climate Change, Natural Hazards, and the Teaching of Earth System Science**, convened by S. Rutherford
- **Countering Creationism in the Classroom**, convened by P. Princehouse

GSA has posted on their web site the technical schedule for the meeting but I expect that all four sessions will include many interesting oral and poster presentations. Given the high level of participation in the sessions dedicated to the evolution vs. ID controversy during the national GSA meeting in Salt Lake

City, we can expect that the session on creationism in the classroom will probably attract a lot of attention. On behalf of the Central NAGT executive committee, I wish to thank those of you who have submitted an abstract and will participate in the sessions, contributing to the success of the science education sessions at the meeting.

Other NAGT events in Akron include the NAGT booth in the Exhibits area and the Central NAGT luncheon (ticketed event: \$20) on Friday 21 April. Annabelle Foos (University of Akron) will take over as Central Section NAGT President for 2006-2007. Please consider joining us at this popular event to congratulate this year's NAGT award recipients and welcome Annabelle and the new officers to their new roles.

Cinzia Cervato

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### **Serving Central Section NAGT**

**We are soliciting nominees from Indiana for 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President for 2007.**

Please send your nomination (you may self-nominate) to Janis Treworgy.

### **Central Section 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

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 ([janis.treworgy@principia.edu](mailto:janis.treworgy@principia.edu)). 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>

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### **Invitation to NAGT Eastern Section 2006 Annual Meeting, Parkersburg, WV**

The NAGT Eastern Section 2006 meeting committee invites all members of the Central Section to join us in Parkersburg, WV from May 18-21, 2006. Email recipients of this newsletter will receive by email parts of the Winter Bulletin for the Eastern Section of NAGT that will provide details on the Eastern Section's annual meeting. Parkersburg, WV, being on the Ohio River, is extremely close to many states within the Central Section. We look upon this as an opportunity to interact with fellow NAGT members whom we might not otherwise meet. We extend a special invitation to join us as we explore the geology of some of the youngest rocks in the Appalachian Basin. I hope you will consider spending some time with us. We would like to meet you! If you have any questions, please contact me at West Virginia Geological Survey [repine@geosrv.wvnet.edu](mailto:repine@geosrv.wvnet.edu).

Tom Repine

### **New online web-based manuscript management system for JGE**

Starting in January 2006, JGE will only be accepting manuscripts in pdf format through its new online web-based manuscript management system.

To access the system, new authors are to log on at the following address:

[https://www.digibinder.com/member\\_login.asp?ID=645](https://www.digibinder.com/member_login.asp?ID=645)

Username: jgesubmission

Password: jge2468

Upon receipt, the Editor will contact the author with a unique username and password.

This system will be used throughout the editorial process.

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### **1<sup>st</sup> Announcement of the Fall 2006 Joint Meeting of:**

**Great Lakes Section –Society for Sedimentary Geology (SEPM) 2006 Field Conference &  
67<sup>th</sup> Annual TRI-STATE Field Conference  
October 7<sup>th</sup>, 2006  
Rock Island, Illinois**

## **New Perspectives on Paleozoic Epeiric Seas and Carbonate Platforms of the Iowa and Illinois Basins**

The 2006 joint GLS-SEPM and 67<sup>th</sup> TRI-STATE field conference will focus on a variety of aspects of the sequence stratigraphy, carbonate sedimentology, diagenesis, chemostratigraphy, paleoceanography-paleoclimatology, paleontology, and paleoecology of Paleozoic epeiric carbonate platforms of the Iowa and Illinois basins. The trip will be headquartered and run in the Quad-Cities area of eastern Iowa and western Illinois, with the conference hotel located in Moline, Illinois.

### **PRELIMINARY SCHEDULE**

<b>Registration and Check In:</b>	<b>Friday October 6<sup>th</sup></b>
<b>Field Conference:</b>	<b>Saturday October 7<sup>th</sup></b>
<b>Informal Post-Conference Trip</b>	<b>Sunday, October 8<sup>th</sup></b>

**Field Conference Coordinator:** Dr. Jed Day, Vice President Elect GLS-SEPM, Department of Geography-Geology, Illinois State University, Normal, IL, Phone: 309.438.8678, Fax: 309.438.5310,

**Guidebook Editors:** Drs. Jed Day and John Luczaj

John Luczaj, President-Elect of GLS-SEPM, Department of Natural and Applied Sciences, University of Wisconsin - Green Bay, 2420 Nicolet Drive, Green Bay, WI 54311, Phone: 920.465.5139, [luczaj@uwgb.edu](mailto:luczaj@uwgb.edu)

Jed Day, Vice President Elect GLS-SEPM, Department of Geography-Geology, Illinois State University, Normal, IL 61790-4400

**For further information, contact Jed Day VP GLS-SEPM** [jeday@ilstu.edu](mailto:jeday@ilstu.edu)

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**NAGT at NSTA Annual Meeting  
April 6-9, 2006, Anaheim, CA**

The National Association of Science Teachers (NSTA) annual meeting will be held in April of this year in Anaheim, CA

(<http://www.nsta.org/conferences>). NAGT will be having a booth with the Coalition for Earth Science Education (CESE) group and the Executive Committee would welcome any members attending the meeting to stop by and to volunteer for booth duty.

At the Anaheim meeting, NAGT will be joining with NESTA in sponsoring a Share-a-thon. The

Executive Committee would welcome any teachers and university/college faculty to participate in the Share-a-thon. Be sure to let the NESTA staff know you are there to help on behalf on NAGT. If you plan to participate, please let Ian MacGregor

([nagt@gordonvalley.com](mailto:nagt@gordonvalley.com)) know.

Finally, if any of the members know of OEST awardees who are going to attend NSTA in Anaheim, please alert them that NAGT will provide them with \$200 to help defray their expenses if they are willing to participate in the Share-a-thon. They would also be more than welcome to serve at the NAGT booth.

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## **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

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Signature of NAGT member

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School





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.