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UPCOMING EVENTS!

GSA North-Central Section

49th Annual Meeting
Madison, Wisconsin
19 & 20 May 2015

The Central NAGT section will pay the cost of the section NAGT business luncheon to K-14 professionals (members and non-members) who a) cannot afford the cost themselves, and b) make a presentation on any topic at the NC GSA conference that year. **Application forms are at the end of this newsletter.**

Education and Outreach Themed Sessions

Please consider submitting abstracts to these sessions. The deadline is February 17, 2015.

Theme Sessions:

T19. Teaching and Learning Earth Science: K-16 Educational Pedagogy.

Katie Lewandowski, Eastern Illinois Univ., kjlewandowski@eiu.edu; C. Renee Rohs Sparks, Northwest Missouri State Univ. This theme session encourages abstract submissions from K-16 educators who would like to share insights into teaching and or learning of earth-science content. The goal for this session is to attract presentations showcasing a myriad of activities using diverse instructional strategies in the classroom, lab, and field. As educators, many of us search for interesting and effective activities that will help our students to learn better and more efficiently. We also welcome abstracts from researchers offering insights into cognition and processing of earth-science information that will help us to teach more effectively.

T20. Geology in the Classroom and the Community: Reaching a Broader Audience.

Mike Phillips, Illinois Valley Community College, mike_phillips@ivcc.edu. Geologists appreciate the need to reach a broad audience in order to address community needs, such as hazard avoidance, resource identification and extraction, and proper land-use planning. However, as scientists, we are often torn between the need to provide an important perspective and the risk of becoming mired in unwanted controversy. This session

will be a broad exploration of geoscience from inquiry through practice and will include discussions application through education, community outreach, and work with policy makers.

T22. Thinking Outside the Display Case: Innovative Geological Outreach at Museums, Parks, and Surveys.

Joanne Kluessendorf, Weis Earth Science Museum, joanne.kluessendorfuwc.edu; M. Carol McCartney, Wisconsin Geological & Natural History Survey.

This session highlights innovative geological outreach at museums, parks, and surveys that extends beyond the classroom and standard exhibits. Topics could include targeting underserved audiences, using novel approaches to school field trips, creating demonstrations and activities to explain concepts and principles, and engaging the adult public in new ways.

T23. Earth Science Week Activities and Events.

Katie Lewandowski, Eastern Illinois Univ., kjlewandowski@eiu.edu.

This theme session will focus on sharing activities and events conducted to celebrate Earth Science Week, which occurs each fall.

Central Section NAGT Luncheon:

As we do each year at NC GSA, we will have a Luncheon meeting in Madison at the meeting. I will communicate the location closer to the meeting. We usually have it on the Thursday of the meeting, so please mark it on your calendars. Hope to see many of you there.

**Central Section NAGT:
Call for Service**

Please consider serving as an officer or state representative. We need a 2nd Vice President to serve beginning this spring. Second VP becomes 1st VP the next year and then President in the 3rd year. We need more people involved. In addition, if you would be interested in taking over the responsibilities of Secretary (3 year term), please let me know (kjlewandowski@eiu.edu). I would be happy to discuss the responsibilities, etc. with anyone interested. I will step down from this role in the spring of 2016.

Mastodont Dig in Your Classroom!

Need a new idea for your geology lab or class? Want to have your students do real science? Then you need to take advantage of the Aurora Mastodont Project-Matrix Analysis Project. We will send to you enough sample free (you pay postage when you return it) to have your entire class process screenwash from the 2004 Mastodont dig. After sorting through the screenwash additional paleoenvironmental interpretations can be included as part of the lab. For more information, contact David Voorhees, dvoorhees@waubonsee.edu or go to <http://www.waubonsee.edu/faculty/dvoorhees/MastodontMatrix/index.html>

Central Section OEST Awardee for 2014! Ella Bowling, Mason County Middle School, Maysville, KY



Since 2004, **Ella Bowling** has been shaping the lives of young scientists as a science educator in Kentucky's public schools. She graduated with a BA in Middle Grades Science and Social Studies Education in 2003 from Morehead State University, in 2005 with a MA in Instructional Leadership from Eastern Kentucky University, and in 2011 with a Rank 1 (30 hours beyond MA) from Morehead State University in Director of Pupil Personnel and Supervisor of Instruction certification. She has won numerous awards and accolades for her efforts in the classroom including the 2012 KY Middle School Science Teacher of the Year, 2013 Butler-Cooley National Excellence in Teaching Award, 2013 PASCO STEM Educator Award from the NSTA, 2013 University of Kentucky Teachers That Make a Difference Award, 2014 National Association of Biology Teachers Environment/Ecology Teaching Award, and the 2014 Kentucky Education Association/NEA Excellence in Teaching Award. Ella has written numerous successful grants

to further the teaching of Earth Science in her school including grants from Centiva Corporation and the National Education Association Foundation. In addition to duties as a classroom teacher, Ella also sponsors the school science club leading trips to the Great Smoky Mountains, Carter Caves, and Sea World/Disney World in Orlando, FL as well as adventures in canoeing on the Licking River, fossil hunting in the expansive road cuts in the region that are rich in Ordovician fossils, and geocaching in local nature preserves. In addition to this, her passion for geology has often led her on various adventures adding to her personal rock and fossil collection that is a remarkable asset to her classroom teaching! In her spare time, Ella enjoys working on the family farm with her husband and son where they raise beef cattle. She also is an avid explorer of the great outdoors enjoying time hiking, camping, hunting and fishing. Her passion for bowhunting turned into a skill utilized at school where she now coaches the high school and middle school archery teams.

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

Nominations for the OEST award are being accepted for 2015. 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 Susan Kornreich-Wolf (susanwolf@augustana.edu). All nominations must be submitted online at the NAGT website, <http://nagt.org/nagt/programs/oest.html>. The deadline for 2015 OEST Award is May 1st.

NAGT: New Memberships or Renewals

New or renewing members may find the application form at: <http://nagt.org/nagt/membership/index.html>

ANNOUNCING
Dorothy LaLonde Stout
**NAGT PROFESSIONAL
DEVELOPMENT GRANTS**



In honor of Dottie Stout's outstanding work and lifelong dedication to Earth Science Education, NAGT will award three grants in support of the following activities:

- Participation in Earth science classes or workshops
- Attendance at professional scientific or science education meetings
- Participation in Earth science field trips
- Purchase of Earth science materials for classroom use

One grant of \$500 will be awarded to a Community College Faculty

One grant of \$500 will be awarded to a Community College Student

One grant of \$500 will be awarded to a K-12 Educator

Eligibility: Community College Faculty and K-12 teachers who teach one or more Earth science courses and Community College students actively pursuing a career in the Earth sciences are encouraged to apply for these awards.

Application Process: Interested applicants are asked to submit a 1-2 page proposal describing how the grant will be used to support their professional growth in, or classroom teaching of Earth science. The application may be found at <http://nagt.org/nagt/programs/stout.html>

Applications must be received by April 1 with awards being made by April 15th.

Announcements:

Postdoctoral Research Opportunity in Nuclear Forensics, University of Notre Dame

We are seeking a geochemist, environmental radiochemist, or individual from closely aligned discipline to study, characterize and investigate the geochemical behavior of radionuclides in the environment, and/or aid in developing new isotopic standards using advanced spectroscopic and micro-beam techniques for the purposes of forensic analysis of nuclear materials. The candidate will help design, conduct and

oversee laboratory experiments involving oxidative dissolution or speciation of nuclear materials, and/or detailed chemical and isotopic characterization of nuclear materials and certified standards at high spatial resolution. The candidate is expected to apply advanced spectroscopic and analytical techniques (e.g., LA-(MC)-ICP-MS, SIMS, SEM, TEM, FIB, XAS) to characterize laboratory and natural samples. The candidate will work in an interdisciplinary research team at the University of Notre Dame, and scientists and staff from the Nuclear and Radiochemistry Group (C-NR) at Los Alamos National Laboratory. Applicants must be citizens or permanent residents of the US, its territories or possessions.

Start date is negotiable but preferably prior to Jan. 1/2015.

For more information please contact Prof. Antonio Simonetti (simonetti.3@nd.edu). Interested researchers are invited to submit their full CVs prior to December 31/2014.

Inclusive Geoscience Education GRA Opening at the University of Cincinnati

Graduate Research Assistant position available at the University of Cincinnati

Focus: One graduate research fellowship is available for a motivated student researcher in Geoscience Education focused on diversity, specifically related to access and inclusion in the Geosciences. The academic home for this position is negotiable; situated either in the School of Education, Department of Curriculum and Instruction OR College of Arts and Sciences, Department of Geology, at the University of Cincinnati. Two years of funding are currently available, with potential for an additional two depending on grant writing, interest and research progress towards a PhD, and agreement with the advisor. Qualified candidates must have earned a BA or BS in geology or a geoscience-related degree by the time the graduate assistantship begins. Additional coursework or experience in education or instructional design preferred, but not required. Degree will be offered through the Department of Curriculum and Instruction AND/OR Department of Geology, depending on the career interests of the successful applicant.

Contact and Application: Interested students should submit a Graduate Application online including your CV and statement of career goals and research interests at <http://grad.uc.edu/admissions.html>. All inquiries should be directed to Dr. Chris Atchison (christopher.atchison@uc.edu).

Doctoral applications must be received by December 15, for summer/fall 2015 enrollment. Application deadlines for master's degree students are rolling, but those submitted before February 1 will receive priority consideration – the position can begin as early as summer 2015

Central Section NAGT Business Meeting Fee Application

(available to K-14 professionals)



The North-Central NAGT section may pay the cost of the section NAGT business luncheon to K-14 professionals (NAGT members and non-members) who

- a) cannot afford the cost themselves, and
- b) make a presentation on any topic at the NC GSA conference that year.

Name *(please print)* _____

Mailing Address _____

City _____ State/Province _____ Zip/Postal Code _____ Country _____

Phone (____) _____ Fax (____) _____ E-mail _____

Check one: ☐ College Faculty at _____

☐ Teacher at _____

☐ Other at _____

Date of North-Central GSA meeting: _____

Name of presentation at meeting: _____

Description of presentation: _____

Mail to:

K. Lewandowski
Central Section NAGT
Department of Geology/Geography
Eastern Illinois University
600 Lincoln Avenue
Charleston, IL 61920-3099

Email to:

kjlewandowski@eiu.edu

NAGT Membership Application / Renewal



Name (please print) _____

Mailing Address _____ City _____

State/Province _____ Zip/Postal Code _____ Country _____

Phone (_____) _____ Fax (_____) _____ E-mail _____

Affiliation (Institution Name / Location) _____

MEMBERSHIP OPTIONS

JGE = Journal of Geoscience Education; ITT = In the Trenches

| 1 YEAR | 3 YEARS | Simplify your life and NAGT's: Sign up now for three years and avoid renewal reminders! | JGE online | ITT in print | ITT by PDF |
|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|--|---------------|-----------------|---------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$65 | <input type="checkbox"/> \$195 | REGULAR/ACTIVE (full-time faculty & geoscience professionals) US and Canada International | • • | • | • |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$100 | <input type="checkbox"/> \$300 | SUSTAINING (regular/active & \$35/year donation* to NAGT professional development fund) US and Canada International | • • | • | • |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$45 | <input type="checkbox"/> \$135 | K-12 FACULTY US and Canada International | • • | • | • |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$45 | <input type="checkbox"/> \$135 | ADJUNCT/PART-TIME/RETIRED (faculty & geoscience professionals) US and Canada International | • • | • | • |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$25 | <input type="checkbox"/> \$75 | STUDENT (undergraduate/graduate) US and Canada International | • • | • | • |

ADDITIONAL OPTIONS

| | | | |
|--------------------------------|--|---|----------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$35 | <input type="checkbox"/> \$105 | Receive print copies of JGE mailed to an address in the US or Canada | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$55 | <input type="checkbox"/> \$165 | Receive print copies of JGE mailed to an international address | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$7 | <input type="checkbox"/> \$21 | Membership in NAGT's Geo2YC Division | see back for details |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$7 | <input type="checkbox"/> \$21 | Membership in NAGT's Geoscience Education Research Division | see back for details |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$7 | <input type="checkbox"/> \$21 | Membership in NAGT's Teacher Education Division | see back for details |
| <input type="checkbox"/> _____ | Make a tax-deductible donation of \$ _____ to NAGT* | | |

\$ _____ **TOTAL** [Make checks payable in \$US to National Association of Geoscience Teachers and mail to the address below.
Or register and pay by credit card online at <https://nagt.org/members/>]

* Donations to NAGT are tax-deductible to the full extent permitted by law.

NAGT/ NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF GEOSCIENCE TEACHERS

NAGT SECTIONS

Your NAGT membership includes membership in your geographic section. Activities at the section level reach deep into the grassroots of geoscience education in North America.



THE SECTIONS / <http://nagt.org/nagt/sections/index.html>

The sections are really where the “rubber hits the road.” Some sections run extensive field conferences that are very popular with K-12 teachers and two-year college faculty. Others have regional meetings where educators can gather to share ideas and materials. All of the active sections have award programs for educators and students.

NAGT DIVISIONS

In addition to its geographic sections, NAGT has created three divisions to help geoscience faculty connect others outside their local area with whom they share particular professional interests. A small additional fee is charged for membership in each of these groups. Benefits vary by division and include web resources, discussion boards, email lists, and newsletters.



GEO2YC DIVISION / <http://nagt.org/nagt/divisions/2yc/index.html>

The Geo2YC Division is a home for NAGT members who have a shared professional interest in geoscience education at two-year colleges. This includes faculty at two-year colleges and others who recognize that they are a significant feeder track for geoscience majors to four-year colleges and universities.



GEOSCIENCE EDUCATION RESEARCH DIVISION / <http://nagt.org/nagt/divisions/geoed/index.html>

The Geoscience Education Research Division (GER) is committed to the promotion of high quality, scholarly research in geoscience education that improves teaching and learning in K-12, higher education, and informal learning environments.



TEACHER EDUCATION DIVISION / <http://nagt.org/nagt/divisions/ted/index.html>

The Teacher Education Division (TED) seeks to improve geoscience teaching by improving teacher content and pedagogical knowledge and by encouraging research on best teaching practices for faculty, staff, administrators, and students who work with K-12 teachers and on curricular and pedagogic strategies that will produce successful geoscience teachers.