



# **National Association of Geoscience Teachers**

## **2014 Annual Report**

Prepared for the 2014 Annual Meeting

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## Annual report - Aida Awad - NAGT President

My tenure as NAGT President began at GSA in October 2013. The focus of the GSA meeting for me was to insure a smooth transition from the 1st VP role to the President role across the many meetings and events in which NAGT plays a part. Events that I attended and participated in include:

- meet and greet past NAGT presidents to learn about their views related to ongoing NAGT efforts in the community and present a vision for engagement in the community moving forward to insure a positive impact and continued membership growth
- continue discussions with AGI on the future of the AGI/NAGT Lab Manual and lay the groundwork for a new collaboration between AGI and NAGT on an NGSS Summit
- liaison to the GSA Education Committee and continue in ongoing discussions of NAGT's role in the GSA Action Plan
- co-author a talk highlighting NAGT's commitment and role in the implementation of NGSS
- author a talk on the importance of dual credit Geoscience courses as a channel to attract new majors into post-secondary geoscience degrees and careers
- address the attendees of the NAGT/GSA Ed Comm/CUR luncheon and encourage outreach and engagement as a vision for growing NAGT's influence in geoscience education and membership
- participate in the JGE Associate Editors meeting and collaborate with the editor on moving the slate of regular and theme issues forward
- complete JTPC duties and begin the transition to a new NAGT JTPC representative
- continue discussions with GSA, AGI, and AGU on a collaborative project to promote geoscience education professional development activities to the K-12 community, EarthPD
- participate in the NAGT Council meeting

### Goal: Increasing NAGT presence with associated societies and sponsorships

Following closely on the heels of the GSA meeting I collaborated with the Executive Director's office to engage the Executive Committee in discussions and votes on sponsorship requests, to identify and put forth candidates to serve on committees of associated societies, and to prepare letters of support. I will be co-presenting one of the four-pack of geoscience education workshops being offered at the 2014 GSA Annual Meeting in Vancouver focusing on infusing curricula with the spirit of NGSS.

### Goal: Promoting synergy among NAGT publications

The two primary NAGT publications, Journal of Geoscience Education and In the Trenches, remain a focus. Collaborations with the editor for ITT and the continuing editor for JGE are ongoing, as is a focus on a series of thematic issues featuring special guest editors. The JGE Editors contract is being reviewed to recommend a two year extension.

### Goal: Increase membership

Working with the Executive Director's office efforts have been undertaken to insure a high percentage of membership renewals. These efforts include working directly with section officers to contact lapsed members, and a survey of non-renewals to better understand member benefits that they value, and reasons for not renewing their membership in NAGT. A new membership campaign is being planned with a goal of reaching 2000 members in 2015.

Goal: Establish NAGT as the leader in supporting NGSS integration across K-12 & teacher prep

In collaboration with the NAGT Past President and AGI Staff a proposal for an NAGT/AGI NGSS Summit was written and submitted for funding. Having received funding, we are in the planning stages for a Summit and are hoping to convene it in the spring. The summit will focus on identifying and initiating ways in which key players in the Earth and Space Sciences community can work together to help states and school districts fully implement the Next Generation Science Standards.

Goal: Support the start-up of two new divisions

Working with the Executive Director's office staff and members of the two newest divisions, TED and GERD, a slate of candidates for their officers was prepared and voted on. A plan to offer a webinar focusing on opportunities for the geoscience education community around climate and the NGSS is in the works. Webinar presenters are slated to be NAGT Past President Susan Buhr, and current NAGT president, Aida Awad. Together we presented a similar webinar for a K-12 audience in December 2013 on behalf of NSTA and featuring NAGT membership information.

As NAGT President I have also continued to engage with other groups including:

- the PKAL/SISL Professional Development Committee. A \$500 grant was made available to NAGT members to offset the costs of dissemination of geoscience / sustainability curricula
- giving a short presentation on NAGT member benefits at the Ocean Science Meeting in February.

In preparation for the 2014 GSA Annual Meeting:

- Neil Miner awardee was selected
- Geoscience Teachers in the Park program vision meeting scheduled
- luncheon agenda set

Finally, in collaboration with the Executive Director's office plans were made for virtual Executive Committee meetings in January, a face-to-face meeting of the group in April, and virtual Executive Committee and Council meetings in June, and September.

Annual Report: Oct., 2013 – Sept., 2014

James D. Myers, 1<sup>st</sup> VP

October, 2013 - GSA Annual Meeting – Denver, CO

- NAGT
  - Attended and presided over Executive Committee and Council Meetings
  - Attended AGI-GSA Associated Societies Meeting
  - Attended NAGT-GSA Education Division Luncheon and Awards Ceremony
    - presenter for Scott Linneman, winner Chirstman Award
  - Volunteered at NAGT booth
- Related activities
  - taught short course: *Teaching Energy: Important, But Unfamiliar, Concepts, Emerging Themes & Grand Challenges*

2013

- NAGT meetings
  - participated in virtual Executive Committee meetings:
    - January 21, 2014
    - March 5, 2014
  - participated in virtual Council meetings
- Attended GSA Associated Societies Meeting in Boulder, CO, March 15-16, 2014

Future Goals:

- **Continue to grow membership:** As with past presidents, growth of our membership will be a primary focus for me. To this end, NAGT must continue to support our new divisions and work with them to recruit members from community and small colleges as well as K-12. Yet, we must also find new potential membership pools. As a faculty member from a R1 university, I have been struck by the lack of representation from this class of educational institution at NAGT events and workshops. Given the large size of this faculty pool, I am interested in exploring ways we as an organization can reach out and involve geoscience faculty at R1 universities on a larger and more permanent scale with NAGT. In addition to representing a potential large recruiting pool, these institutions reach large numbers of students in major's courses as well as large introductory geoscience classes. If we can find a way to encourage these faculty to become active NAGT members, our organization could make a significant contribution to better preparing a larger population of students as geoscience literate citizens while promoting recruiting of geoscience majors. To recruit successfully R1 geoscience faculty, we will have to identify those membership services that will keep these individuals as continuing members.
- **Continue ongoing NAGT programs:** NAGT must continue to acknowledge the efforts of exemplary geoscience educators through the Shea, Miner, Stout, and OEST awards while recognizing and supporting students via the Outstanding TA award and Field Camp scholarships. In light of recent events, the Teachers in the Parks program will need to be examined and ways of strengthening the program found. In the coming year, NAGT will continue to serve on the

Joint Technical Program Committee for GSA's annual meeting, participate in GSA's Associated Societies meetings and programs, publish JGE and ITT, while also offering section meetings, workshops at GSA and AGU, and field trips.

- **Examine potential opportunities for JGE content:** In co-operation with the editorial staff of JGE and ITT, I would like to explore the possibility of expanding the types of articles deemed suitable for these publications. Following the examples of the *Journal of Chemical Education*, *Physics Education*, and *The Physics Teacher*, I believe there may be an opportunity to develop a category of article that provides our readership with articles designed to increase their content knowledge in areas they may teach but is not their primary research focus. In addition given the increasingly interdisciplinary nature of the geosciences and the scientific-influenced societal problems the nation faces, these articles could also provide background in a range of perspectives that are not traditionally covered in geoscience programs, but that are important in solving the grand challenges humanity faces. Conceptually, this class of article could be viewed as a print version of our workshops. Indeed, potential authors for such articles might be recruited from workshop participants and resultant publications serve as a more formal complement to Web content generated from workshops. Offering such articles might also be a way of increasing the attractiveness of NAGT membership to R1 faculty by providing them the content- or topic-focused information they can use to move their introductory and major classes beyond the boundaries of traditional disciplinary teaching. In addition to providing fundamental, vetted background information, they would introduce readers to the pertinent research literature (both historic and current), useful Web sites, popular media sources, and perhaps multimedia resources. Accompanying resources could also provide instructors with educational materials, e.g. graphs, datasets, flowcharts, conceptual diagrams, line drawings, etc., they could freely adopt and adapt for their own instructional purposes.
- **Improve transition of new officers to their NAGT leadership role:** To facilitate the transition of new officers into their leadership roles and to get them up to 'speed' faster, I intend to explore ways to assist our newly elected officers with understanding the administrative duties they are responsible for, the timelines for various meetings as well as their roles in them, and their reporting responsibilities. I intend to pass this information on to my successor and work to institutionalize these procedures to aid future generations of NAGT officers.

## 2014 Year-end report for NAGT – Randall M Richardson, 2<sup>nd</sup> VP

- NAGT: Meetings
  - attended Council Virtual Meeting 27 Sept 2013
  - attended Executive Committee In-person Meeting 3-4 April 2014 in FL
  - attended Executive Committee Virtual Meeting 9 June 2014
  - attended NAGT Workshop Planning Virtual Meeting 9 June 2014
  - attended NAGT Workshop Planning Virtual Meeting 30 July 2014
  
- NAGT: Other Service
  - managed sponsorship requests arriving via NAGT online submission form for GSA sessions and other sponsorship requests
  - Co-led Building Strong Departments Visiting Workshop to the University of Nevada Reno 8-9 May 2014
  - Attended the Leaders Meeting for the NAGT Traveling Workshops Program 21-23 July, Carleton, MN
  - GSA Joint Technical Program Committee (JTTC)
    - Collaborated with GED Reps on session organization for GSA Vancouver
    - Reviewed proposed sessions
    - Managed NAGT sponsorship of education-focused proposed sessions
    - Collaborated on session scheduling
    - Managed reorganization of abstracts into sessions & poster sessions
    - With GED Reps, established guidelines for improved JTTC process in the future

**2014 NAGT Secretary/Treasurer Report**  
**Janis Treworgy**

- NAGT's Oakmark Equity and Income Fund has performed well, growing 15.2% over our fiscal year 2013-2014. Our Oakmark funds total over \$1 million now, giving us a solid endowment from which we draw conservatively as budgeted each year.
- NAGT has been diligently working to grow its membership, a primary source of income, in order to increase its support of the Cutting Edge workshop program, which NSF is no longer fully funding. A committee that includes NAGT representation is working to reconfigure this program and support for it such that it will be self-sustaining and perhaps under the direction of NAGT. The Executive Committee has determined that the CE program is critical to our mission, but the EC is equally concerned that we use our resources sustainably.
- As treasurer,
  - I collaborated with the Executive Director to develop the FY15 NAGT budget.
  - I participate by email in many discussions with the full Executive Committee or subsets thereof during the year both from a budget point of view and from having served on the EC for several years now.
  - Deposits of annual contributions to endowed funds were made to our Oakmark account. A withdrawal was made based on our policy for using income from the various endowed funds.
    - August 31,2014 Oakmark Fund Account Report – see next page
- As secretary, I participated in and recorded minutes at the Executive Committee meetings and for the NAGT Council meetings.
- As a former past president, I participated in the Nominating Committee, finding officers for 2 councilor positions and 2<sup>nd</sup> vice president.
- I also serve on the nominating committee for the Neil Miner Award.



OAKMARK EQUITY & INCOME FUND			
<b>NAGT Endowed Funds</b>	Shares As of 12/2013	August 31, 2013	August 31, 2014
Horberg	2,117.632	\$ 62,248.31	\$ 70,765.85
Rosalsky	599.237	\$ 17,614.72	\$ 19,971.10
Field Camp Endow	4,101.654	\$ 120,569.11	\$ 140,738.26
Honors	136.583	\$ 4,014.89	\$ 4,568.44
NAGT Endowment	21,175.283	\$ 622,452.51	\$ 715,257.60
<b>NAGT Funds</b>			
Minority	98.007	\$ 2,880.93	\$ 3,386.13
Stout	620.546	\$ 18,241.11	\$ 19,447.95
Reserve Fund	3,997.443	\$ 117,505.79	\$ 138,111.65
	<b>32,846.385</b>	<b>\$ 965,527.37</b>	<b>\$ 1,112,246.97</b>

OAKMARK MONEY MARKET FUND			
<b>NAGT Endowed Funds</b>	Shares As of 12/2013	August 31, 2014	August 31, 2014
NAGT Endowment	15,003.960	\$ 15,004.50	\$ 15,004.68

<b>FY14 Year End Oakmark Funds, August 31, 2014</b>			
<b>as reported on Oakmark website</b>			
Fund: OAKMARK EQUITY & INCOME FUND			
Shares:	32,192.387	Total:	\$1,112,246.97
Fund: OAKMARK MONEY MARKET FUND			
Shares:	15,004.680	Total:	\$15,004.68
<b>Portfolio Total:</b>	<b>\$1,127,251.65</b>		

**FY14 Year End Oakmark Fund Transactions**

Friday, August 22, 2014

Deposit of \$2,872.00 (83.610 shares, NAV \$34.35) donations to the following funds:

- \$10 to the Horberg Fund (0.291 shares)
- \$350 to the Field Scholarship Fund (10.189 shares)
- \$2,512 to the NAGT Endowment (73.130 shares)

Thursday, August 21, 2014

Withdrawal of \$25,385.00 (737.293 shares, NAV \$34.43) from the following funds:

- \$150 from the Honors Fund (4.357 shares)
- \$1985 from the Stout Fund (57.653 shares)
- \$2,400 from the Horberg Endowed Fund (69.707 shares)
- \$730 from the Rosalsky Endowed Fund (21.202 shares)
- \$1320 from the Field Scholarship Endowed Fund (38.339 shares)

## NAGT

### 2014 Annual Report of the Past President's Activity

Susan Buhr Sullivan

Priorities for this year were to support NGSS offerings from NAGT, membership and workshop committees, JGE business.

#### Meetings-GSA, AGU, AGI, NAGT business meetings

- Attended January virtual meeting
- Attended Spring Face to Face meeting
- GSA 2013 business meetings-Past President's breakfast, gave an invited talk on NAGT support for NGSS, student breakfast.
- Represented NAGT at GSA Anniversary event at headquarters.
- Represented NAGT at AGI Leadership forum on Disabilities as an aspect of diversity.
- Attended Geo Congressional Visit Days as a member of the Colorado delegation and representative of NAGT.

#### NGSS progress:

- Gave an invited talk on NAGT support for NGSS at GSA.
- Contributed to an ITT article on NGSS with Wendy Williams and Anne Egger.
- Worked with AGI (Ann Benbow) on NSF request for workshop funds. Needs assessment is in progress. Ed Robeck took over Ann's position. He is interviewing state and district leads with an interview instrument, to be made into a survey for member societies and pre-college leads. Summit to be in spring, dates to be determined pending Steve Pruitt's availability.
- Organizing 4-pack workshop on NGSS for GSA 2014. Aida, Susan, Sara Harris co-convening a workshop on adapting curriculum to reflect NGSS. Cheryl Manning contributing.

#### Sponsored projects:

- Integrate: Attended assessment team meeting, was lead assessment team member for Coastal Hazards course (now piloting) and climate fiction module (now at Checkpoint 4).
- CLEAN: NAGT sponsored project-co-I for collection review, marketing. Climate.gov, which syndicates CLEAN resources, won Webby awards for the Teaching Climate section, both juried and People's Choice.
- Integrate/Cutting Edge/NAGT megaworkshop: Drafted budget and reserved spaces for hosting mega-workshop at University of Colorado.

#### JGE:

- Attended editor's meeting at GSA.
- Associate Editor and Guest editor for the Climate Literacy theme issue.
- Member of JGE Editor 3-year review committee. See Randy's report for outcomes.

#### NAGT Committees:

- Co-Chair with Heather MacDonald for the workshop committee.
- Member, membership committee-reviewed new materials, progress for recruitment, and gave feedback to NAGT staff for changes.
- Member, JGE editor 3-year review committee. See report from Randy.
- Chair, Nominating committee. Solicited input for the list of nominees, convened meetings and developed slate of candidates for NAGT Leadership offices.

Results from GEO CVD:

Staffers were interested in the jobs situation in Geo and the need for prepared students. This tied into NGSS and I was invited to give input for a teacher preparation bill in preparation.

Staffers were unaware of the House prohibition against NSF 3% increase in funds going to GEO or to social sciences. They were also unaware of the prohibitions against funding for particular climate-related activities. Continuing resolution was being voted on, the time for action is during prep for appropriations when staffers will need to be reminded about the problematic provisions.

Talking points that resonate across aisles include:

- Geoscience jobs, including those for energy across the portfolio.
- Tech transfer examples from Geo to private industry.
- Decision-support that saves money or lives.

## **Executive Director's Annual Report September 2013 – September 2014**

### **Cathryn A. Manduca**

Priorities for the Executive Director's office this year have included

- Improving membership and donation campaigns and services
- Establishing services in support of subscription holders
- Establishing the Teacher Education and Geoscience Education Research Divisions
- Working efficiently and effectively with sections and programs
- Establishing a strong NAGT Professional Development Program building on the success of and collaboration with Cutting Edge, Building Strong Geoscience Departments, and InTeGrate
- Capitalize on collaborations with AGI, AGU and GSA to improve support for professional development program and NGSS.
- In conjunction with the Executive Committee strengthening collaborations with other parts of the STEM education community (AAAS, Triangle Coalition, ISSUES collaboration)

Looking forward we anticipate two additional priorities for next year

- Support the increased synergy between our publications (JGE and ITT)
- Targeted subscription drive for 2015

As stated in our 2013 annual report, these priorities continue to reflect the twin goals of increasing the value of NAGT membership and stabilizing the societies financial base. Without a substantial membership NAGT cannot speak with authority for geoscience education, enable dissemination of educational research and effective practice through its publications or create the networking opportunities desired by our membership. Without robust programming, NAGT does not serve its membership fully and membership declines. The society's financial stability rests on membership, subscriptions, and publications revenue. Thus a stable and productive future requires strong programming as well as strong membership and subscriptions. The sections and division are full partners in achieving these goals.

Now that we have a year of experience with providing the membership services to NAGT, the SERC office staff is starting to finesse our approach. Matt Lauer continues to develop web tools to facilitate accepting online payments, moving forward with the auto-renew option for members, creating automatic detailed receipt delivery to members and tracking members. Molly Kent re-built the NAGT website and has reviewed these updates with executive committee members and member usability studies. John McDaris continues to produce the NAGTNews and the ITT supporting web pages. Charlotte Betsinger provides accounting and budgeting services to the organization. Erica Zweifel contributes to the membership services aspect of the office through direct contact with members, providing customer service. She also works on membership retention and new member promotions. This year we have moved to a more targeted approach to membership. We used the information in the member survey to inform our approach, and wrote customized letters by member type. This fall we will target members by renewal date and by category. We will continue to work with the sections and division toward our membership goals.

This was also our first year managing the JGE subscriptions. We initially addressed quite a few back issue problems that we inherited from Allen Press. We now have a process for handling these requests and back issue requests are markedly down now that we control the JGE mailing list. Our next big focus will be the 2015 membership drive. Erica and Ellen C worked on this over the summer

and will be rolling out the drive this fall. Erica is working with Kristen on a process to capture JGE authors as members.

This year we added two new divisions to our already wildly popular Geo2YC division. All three divisions ran elections in the spring and elected new officers and they will all be meeting at GSA. The new Teacher Education Division (TED) and the new Geoscience Education Research Division (GER) both are in the process of putting their by-laws in place, organizing their programming for this year and creating communication plans to engage their members. Section activity remains strong in our active sections. They held field trips, annual meetings, participated in our awards programs and much more.

We made major progress in establishing the NAGT Professional Develop Program working with Cutting Edge, InTeGrate and the Travelling Departments Workshop leaders. Last year's program was successfully implemented and this year's program put in place with excellent leadership in a timely fashion. In partnership with InTeGrate and with their financial support we hosted a planning meeting for the travelling departments program (including newly selected leaders). We are putting in place new supporting materials for the leaders, advertising and managing the increased interest in the program. The planning committee is engaged in discussions of a new multi-workshop activity and on-going review of teaching materials. The management team is considering how to engage professional societies and sponsors. GSA has confirmed its contribution for the current year and AGU is working to secure their contribution.

We are working with Susan Buhr and Aida Awad and Ed Robeck at AGI on an NSF funded NGSS workshop and with Ed Robeck on the next edition of the lab manual. GSA and AGU are actively engaged in supporting the professional development program and are participating in the management committee. We are engaged with the ISSUES group of education representatives from STEM professional societies supporting their organization into an ongoing group and participating in collective action. We are supporting Ex Comm representatives as they work with AGI, AGU, GSA, AAAS, and the Triangle Coalition.

This summer the executive office had the pleasure of mentoring a Carleton summer intern. We submitted our request for an intern to Carleton College in early spring and we were very fortunate to be one of the organizations selected for their intern program. Ellen Currier spent ten weeks learning the operations of the NAGT non-profit world. She worked on all aspects of our program, from the daily mail run to making a recommendation for our subscription drive. Ellen focused the majority of her project time on the membership survey and she submitted a successful GSA application to present on this issue.

In addition to routine operations of the Executive Directors office including budgeting, bookkeeping, support for ongoing programming, publication of the e-news, maintenance of the website, support for sections and divisions, and support for seven meetings of the executive committee and/or council, we also:

- Supported the 3<sup>rd</sup> year review of JGE editor Kristen St. John
- Supported By-law and Constitutional changes as directed by the board
- Emailed a program update to field camp donors, that resulted in a \$500 donation
- Sent letters to department chairs of our Outstanding TA winners

You can find a complete list of the regular tasks executed by the Executive Director's office at: [http://serc.carleton.edu/serc/office\\_workspace/nagt\\_yearly.html](http://serc.carleton.edu/serc/office_workspace/nagt_yearly.html).

## Sept 2014 Report to NAGT Executive Committee on JGE.

Submitted by Kristen St. John [jge@jmu.edu](mailto:jge@jmu.edu)

### **1. Editorial Board.**

I have continued as Editor-in-Chief, although I am working without a contract, which depends on a delayed performance evaluation. Dan Dickerson (ODU) and Karen McNeal (NCSU) have stepped down as Editor for Curriculum and Instruction and Editor for Research, respectively. Dan and Karen were excellent Editors and I thank them for this multi-year service; the Journal and the geoscience education community benefited greatly from their contributions. I welcome Heather Petcovic (Western Michigan University) and Alison Stokes (University of Plymouth, UK) as the new Editor for C&I and Editor for Research. Currently there are 19 regular Associate Editors, and 2 guest editors (see theme issues below). I anticipate some changes to the AE pool, including invitations to new AEs (helping to fill Alison and Heather's positions), and retirement of some AEs. ***Strong reviewers and authors will be considered as potential AEs. I also welcome suggestions for potential AEs.***

In addition, a JGE personnel change occurred at Allen Press: Jean Baldwin retired, and I welcome Rachel McMurray as the Allen Press Managing Editor for JGE.

### **2. Journal Summary.**

Thirty-one manuscripts were submitted to JGE between March and September 1 2014 (**Table 1**): 12 Research manuscripts, 17 C&I manuscripts, 2 Commentaries. On average the turn-around time is OK, however there are large discrepancies in workflow rates among the voluntary members of the Editorial Board and among reviewers (neither shown). I am working to add new AEs in the next couple of months, and ask that some AEs retire. Also, while there was a slight decline in submissions from the last two reporting periods, I think this will rise again as the deadline for the Teaching Oceanography theme issue approaches in November 2014. ***I encourage the Ex Com to promote the upcoming Teaching Oceanography Theme issue call for papers. See the JGE website for description of this theme.***

The Editor, AEs, and Reviewers continue to work hard to nurture manuscripts submissions in the peer-review and revision process, providing detailed constructive feedback to authors on submitted manuscripts and manuscript revisions. In addition, with input from the Editorial Board, ***I updated the manuscript preparation and submission guidelines ([http://nagt-jge.org/userimages/ContentEditor/1409751421117/AuthorGuidelines\\_Aug20.2014.pdf](http://nagt-jge.org/userimages/ContentEditor/1409751421117/AuthorGuidelines_Aug20.2014.pdf)) to make them more clear and streamline.*** These have been updated on the JGE website and in the AllenTrack submission system.

I made a technical change to help improve the response time on manuscript correspondence. At my request AP staff has changed a setting in AllenTrack so email communication between AEs and reviewers is more direct, and therefore timely. Email replies will now go directly to the AE or Editor who triggered the email exchange, rather than being filtered through the general JGE email address ([jge@jmu.edu](mailto:jge@jmu.edu)), which only I can access.

In addition it is important to help manage the workload of Editors and AEs. There are some cases where authors do not satisfactorily address critical review comments in their revised manuscripts, even after multiple rounds of revision. ***We are therefore moving towards a "3 strikes and you are out" approach, so that revisions that still do not address critical feedback after the 2<sup>nd</sup> revision (so 3<sup>rd</sup> version of the manuscript) will be rejected.***

**Table 1. Journal Summary Report 2009-2014**

6-month time window <sup>1</sup>	Total # submitted manuscripts	Acceptance Rate	Days from Receipt to First Decision	Days from Receipt to Final Decision
September 2009 thru February 2010	32	67%	85	246
March 2010 thru August 2010	18	83%	132	272
September 2010 thru February 2011	21	86%	181	299
March 2011 thru August 2011	22	71%	129	265
September 2011 thru February 2012	27	80%	117	210
March 2012 thru August 2012	35	68%	121	204
September 2012 thru February 2013	58	73%	129	178
March 2013 to August 2013	62	88%	168	224
September 2013 thru February 2014	38	64%	123	190
March 2014 thru August 2014 <sup>2</sup>	31	(20%)	64	53

<sup>1</sup> Minor differences in historical data reported here compared to that reported in the April 2014 report. This is because additional actions on manuscripts submitted during those prior time windows may have occurred affecting in particular final acceptance rates and time to decisions, and because of an adjustment in the time window reported.

<sup>2</sup> Meaning 20% of manuscript submitted during have been accepted for publication (although decisions for rejection, reject-recommended resubmission, and accept with revision have occurred.)

### **3. Pages, Articles, Themes, and Budget**

While the number of articles and pages is variable from issue to issue, we have seen an increase in the number of pages and the number of articles, especially in 2014 (Table 2). Theme issues certainly resulted in this increase (Table 3). These data demonstrate that we are meeting the goal of increasing the number and diversity of manuscripts in JGE. ***JGE has a strong submission and publication record. However, if JGE continues to be a strain on the NAGT budget, I recommend exploring how co-sponsorship of JGE with another professional society may benefit JGE and the geoscience education community.*** The purpose of JGE is not to increase membership; that is an additional and desired benefit. The purpose is to be an academic outlet for peer-review publication of geoscience education commentaries, C&I papers, and Research papers. While we require that the corresponding author of accepted manuscripts be, or become, a NAGT member (or pay an equivalent fee), the geoscience education community that JGE serves is broader than NAGT membership (see for example my editorial from Nov 2012, <http://nagt-jge.org/doi/pdf/10.5408/1089-9995-60.4.289>). It is not a “members-only Journal”. Therefore, as long as the NAGT budget is so very tight and NAGT membership numbers are not as high as desired, it will be very difficult for JGE to continue to grow without potentially seeking partnerships for its publication.

**Table 2. JGE Summary of Pages and Articles 2009-2014**

JGE Issue	Total no. pages (Avg no. pages/issue)	Total no. Articles <sup>1</sup> (Avg no. articles/issue)
2009 v 57	385 (64.5)	44 (8.8)
2010 v 58	312 (62.4)	36 (7.2)
2011 v 59	262 (65.5)	29 (7.3)
2012 v 60	411 (102)	46 (11.5)
2013 v 61	475 (118.8)	48 (12)
<b>estimate 2014 v62<sup>2</sup></b>	<b>729 (182)</b>	<b>68(17)</b>

<sup>1</sup> Number of articles listed include commentaries, C&I papers, Research papers, Editorials and Calls for Papers

<sup>2</sup> 2104: Feb (16 papers, 155 pages), May (11 papers, 133 pages), August (23 papers, 243 pages), November (est 18 papers @ 11 pages each = 198 pages).

**Table 3. Theme Issue Update**

<b>Theme</b>	<b>Theme Issue Editors/AEs</b>	<b>Status</b>
Outcomes from Climate Literacy Efforts	Karen McNeal, North Carolina State University; Susan Buhr, University of Colorado, Boulder; Kristen St. John, James Madison University	Published in 2 parts: Aug & upcoming Nov 2014. 32 papers total.
Teaching STEM Principles Using Oceanography Content	John Van Hoesen, Green Mountain College; Elizabeth Nagy-Shadman, Pasadena City College (Guest AE); Mirjam Glessmer, Hamburg University of Technology, Germany (Guest AE)	Call for papers in Feb 2014 issue and on JGE website. Submission deadline Nov 30 2014, anticipated publication Fall 2015.
Undergraduate Research as a Teaching Practice	n/a	Potential future theme. Pat Manley from CUR proposed this idea. The Ed Board was supportive of this idea, and I have encouraged her to submit a rationale and description.
Teaching Evolution	n/a	At the JGE Ed Board meeting in Fall 2013, the suggestions was made that we consider a theme issue on Teaching Evolution for early 2016 because that would coincide with anniversary dates in the battle to get Evolution taught in schools. I believe Cindy is interested in a parallel theme for ITT. <b><i>If this has support by the JGE Editorial Board, we will identify Editors and announcing this theme soon after GSA.</i></b>

#### **4. JGE Outstanding Reviewer and Paper Awards**

There were two nominations for the outstanding paper and seven for outstanding reviewer. We congratulate Anthony Feig and Cinzia Cervato:

***Outstanding Paper: Anthony D. Feig (2013) The Allochthon of Misfit Toys. Journal of Geoscience Education: August 2013, Vol. 61, No. 3, pp. 306-317.*** He is in the Department of Geography & Integrated Science Education Council, Central Michigan University, Mount Pleasant, Michigan. An Associate Editor made a strong case that his paper was outstanding for several reasons: "First, it is a landmark paper in that it is the first to examine the issues and challenges in the geo-ed research community....This type of work is really important in defining a coherent research agenda for GED and marking ourselves as a real discipline in the geosciences. Second, this is an outstanding example of the quality and scholarly rigor possible in qualitative work....Anthony in this paper clearly explains and justifies his methodological stance and approach, allows the lived experiences of his participants to come through, and provides a call to action for the community based on his findings. All hallmarks of this type of research. Finally, having handled or reviewed 32 papers for JGE.... this is hands down the best written one I've ever seen... just a delight to read."

***Outstanding Reviewer: Cinzia Cervato. She is in the Geologic and Atmospheric Sciences Department & the Office of the Senior Vice-President and Provost, Iowa State University, Ames, Iowa.*** Cinzia always has quality reviews; she included insightful comments and solid assessment of the strengths and weaknesses of the 5 papers she has reviewed since Jan 2013. The average time in returning review comments is a short 12 days.



## 5. JGE Indexing

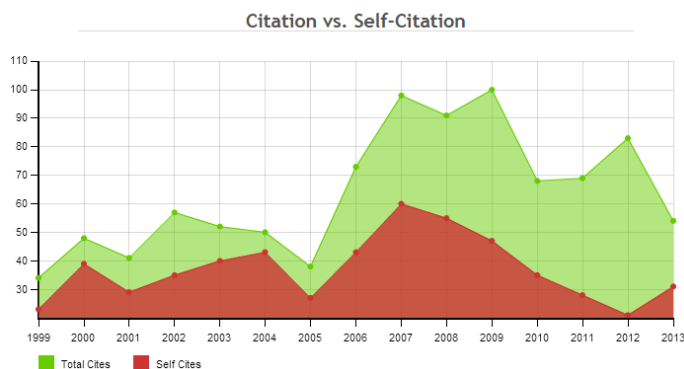
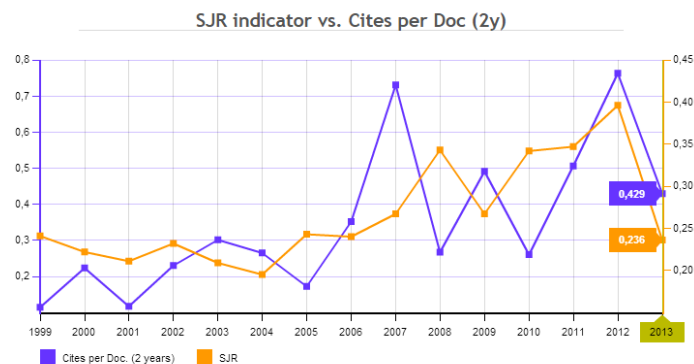
The two graphs below are from **Scopus indexing**

(<http://www.scimagojr.com/journalsearch.php?q=24418&tip=sid&clean=0>) through 2013.

**I am concerned about these data:**

- Their measure of our scientific influence (SJR) has decreased. The SJR indicator measures the scientific influence of the average article in a journal; it expresses how central to the global “scientific” discussion an average article of the journal is. Our recent rankings have moved us down from the 2<sup>nd</sup> quartile to the 3<sup>rd</sup> quartile (1<sup>st</sup> quartile is highest ranked, and 4<sup>th</sup> is lowest).
- The total citations have decreased, while the self-citations have increased. Cites per Doc. (2y) measures the scientific impact of an average article published in the journal, it is computed using the same formula that journal impact factor™ (Thomson Reuters).

These numbers/rankings may reflect the fact that our journal is not well known outside the relatively small geoscience education community. It is not open access, not well indexed, and the subscriptions are small, even though the number of articles published has increased (see Tables 1-2). ***Our papers need to be cited in other (education or geoscience) journals for this ranking to increase. To assist with this we need to do more to be indexed widely and to increase subscriptions, so a wider population can find the journal and articles to cite it, thus increasing ratings.*** I will be working with the Geoscience Education Research Division to identify potential indexing options. In July NAGT and JGE were invited to list our journal in ERIC (education indexing), and both the GERD officers and I have contacted the Ex Com President asking for approval to move forward with indexing. We are waiting on that go-ahead. ***We would like to move forward with this immediately. Please see the well-articulated argument for indexing made by the GERD leadership (letter) and the draft contract from ERIC.***



## **6. Next Steps:**

The following are action items that I plan to focus on over the next two years (if my term as editor is renewed) to (1) make manuscript submission and peer-review manuscript processing more efficient and user-friendly, or (2) expand the visibility of the Journal to more educators and researcher for their use and their referencing:

- Revised the AE guidelines.
- Identify new AEs and either reinstate term limits for AEs or establish simple performance-based criteria to remove weak AEs.
- Write a guide on how to write a quality review.
- Revise the citation format so it is consistent with either GSA journals or APA style so that EndNote or other programs can be used to automatically generate reference lists.
- Get JGE indexed with key searchable databased (e.g., ERIC) identified by the Geoscience Education Research Division for raising the Journal impact (i.e., impact factor) and visibility.
- Work with the NAGT office to expand library subscriptions.

## **September 2014 Report to NAGT Council on *In The Trenches*.**

Submitted by Cindy Shellito [Lucinda.Shellito@unco.edu](mailto:Lucinda.Shellito@unco.edu)

### **1. Upcoming Themes and Guest Associate Editors**

January 2015 – Complex systems and/or climate literacy? (Planning to solicit articles from GSA Abstract authors – but I'm open to ideas!)

April 2015 - Incorporating Research in the first 2 years (Kaatje Kraft, Mesa Community College as Guest Editor)

July 2015 - ?? **Need Guest Editor** for this issue. Another NGSS theme? Perhaps an issue on teaching about fracking? Or an InTeGrate-focused issue?

October 2015 – Oceanography (originally slated for Jan 2015 – but will do this later to align with JGE issue on the same topic – Possible Guest Assoc Editor: Katryn Wiese)

### **2. Notes and New features**

- Favorite Demonstration – I think we might have more luck finding authors for this column. People want to share their teaching ideas, but don't want to spend a lot of time writing up a full article.
- A note about columns: In the past year, we have also started 'Diving into the Trenches' for early career faculty. I would like this to be one of several columns that we rotate through – including Favorite Demo, and perhaps interviews with awardee recipients, or other subjects that are of interest to a broad audience.
- Photo solicitations: In the past, we discussed the possibility of having a 'cover photo contest.' However, we have never moved forward with this, in part because we would need to have some sort of award for contest winners. My email request for cover photos for the current issue brought us a good number of excellent photos to choose from! So, I may continue to take this approach in the future.

### **3. Items we would like to consider including** (some of these ideas were mentioned at previous meetings, but we would need assistance implementing them):

- Transcribed interviews with individuals – Possible column?
- Have 'Overview' editions that cover new developments in a field of science
- Have an 'Editorial board' – or individuals responsible for specific sections of Trenches.
- Regularly link articles on particular topics with NGSS.
- Regularly present info about what GSA, AMS, AGU are doing to inform teaching.

## **NAGT Website and News Report**

September 2014

John McDaris

Molly Kent

Matt Lauer

In the period from September 2013 to September 2014, the NAGT website continued to add new content and make improvements. Online supplements for In the Trenches, community advertisements, and announcements have been added to the site. The website content has received a high-level review and overhaul as well as usability testing on the resulting improvements. The site overall saw an 8.6% decrease in the number of visits and a 10.8% decrease in the number of users compared to the previous year, accompanied by an increase in the percentage of returning visitors. A detailed breakdown of traffic can be found below.

### **Accomplishments since April 2014**

- Completed usability testing and implemented changes based on tester feedback.
- Online supplements for April and July issues of In the Trenches posted to the website.  
<http://nagt.org/nagt/publications/trenches/index.html>
- Monthly NAGTNews emails – April, May, June, July, August, September – articles from the newsletter added to the site as news items.
- Integration of the NAGT Facebook page with the NAGT Twitter feed
- 8 Community Advertisement posted on the website.
- 9 Community Announcements posted on the website.

### **Website Use**

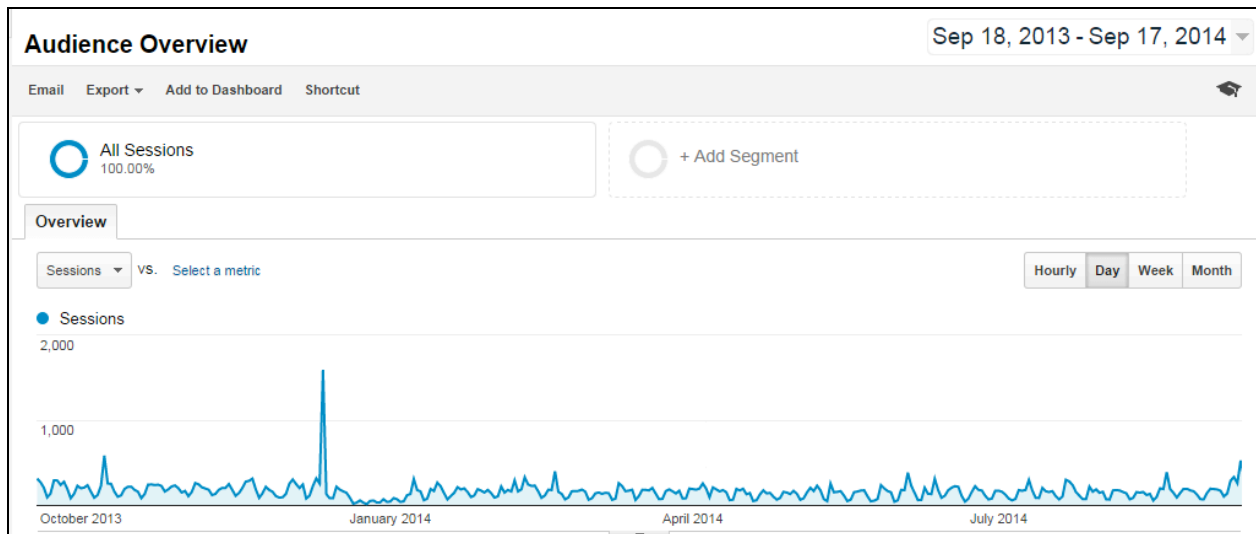
Between September 18, 2013 and September 17, 2014, the NAGT website received 60,853 visits from 45,595 unique users of which some 27% were repeat visitors. The most popular parts of the site for this period were JGE (19% of unique pageviews), Teaching Resources (15%), Programs (11%), and Professional Development (9%).

By comparison, for the same period 2012-13, there were 66,569 visits from 51,105 unique users of which some 25% were repeat visitors. The most popular parts of the site for this period were Programs (33% of unique pageviews), JGE (20%), Teaching in the Field (7%), and News (6%).

### **More detail about the numbers:**

Overall traffic saw an 8.6% decrease year on year. The JGE area of nagt.org continues to see decreasing use as more content is added to the site maintained by Allen Press leading to an 11% drop in unique page views. The most popular parts of the site for the 2013-2014 year are in a state of flux due to the reorganization of the structure of the site. For example, the Programs part of the website no longer exists with its content mostly now residing in the Professional Development area. Over the next year, the popular parts of the website will come to fully reflect the updated structure of the site.

There was a large spike of site traffic on December 12, 2013. We believe that this was related to the overhaul of the NAGT website. Otherwise, the normal weekly and yearly patterns are visible in the use statistics.



### Section and Division Website Usage (for those hosted at SERC)

All 4 sections which host their websites at SERC showed decreased use during this period compared to last year. Traffic to each site dropped by more than half, ranging from -51% for New England to -73% for North Central. These large percentages are on small absolute numbers ranging from about 50 unique pageviews per year for North Central to 200 for Central.

With two new Divisions, traffic to this area of the website has increased. The Geo2YC Division received just under 1200 visits. The Geo Education Research (GER) Division received just under 1000 visits. The Teacher Education Division (TED) received just over 300 visits.

The only Division with a web presence long enough to have reliable year on year statistics is the Geo2YC Division. Compared to the 1800 visits the previous year, this year's 1200 is a drop of a third. Given that the initial spike in activity has passed and the Division is entering a period of more steady state activity, this is not unexpected.

### NAGT's Social Media Presence

In an effort to increase the number of avenues through which NAGT can interact with the community, the organization's Facebook timeline and Twitter feed were connected such that items posted to the NAGT News would flow automatically through both social media platforms. In addition, several On the Cutting Edge workshops generated pictures and other content which were shared via the NAGT social media presence and showed an increase in engagement with members who make use of those platforms. Staff in the Executive Director's office are currently devising a more comprehensive plan for making use of social media for member engagement and interaction.

### Website Reorganization and Overhaul

In collaboration with the Membership committee of the NAGT Council, SERC staff undertook a study of the old NAGT Website layout, followed by a reorganization of the pieces into a structure that more efficiently organized the various areas of the site. Feedback received during usability testing led to a second round of editing and updates, including a new calendar on the front page and updated Donations, About, Sponsored Programs, and Workspace pages, among others.

### NAGT Member Services Support

During the first full year of the member portal services hosted at SERC we experienced a steady flow of member sign ups. The steady flow indicates the member portal is easy to use for NAGT members. The portal processed all volumes of traffic including a peak of 83 membership renewals over a 12-hour period on September 17th, 2013. As of September 1, 2014 the portal automatically started accepting renewals for the 2015 membership year.

We added a new auto-renewal option for members during the 2014 membership year and approximately 15% of members (about 200) selected this option during a renewal. Members enrolled in the auto-renew program will be notified 30 days prior to any charges and on January 1, 2015 will be charged for a 2015 membership. Members can opt-in or opt-out of the auto-renew program at any time in their member account online at <http://nagt.org/members>. This new option provides members a safe and easy way to continue their NAGT membership every year and avoid multiple renewal notifications.

## Executive Committee Report: Ellen Currier, Summer Intern 2014

My summer internship ran from June through August of 2014. I will continue to work in the SERC office for 2 hours/week this fall as part of my Carleton work-study assignment. In October, I will also attend GSA with the SERC/NAGT staff and give a presentation on the results of the spring 2014 current and lapsed member survey.

My goals for this internship included:

1. Exploring careers within non-profit organization and management

Over the summer, I was immersed in the daily routine of managing NAGT's membership needs and member database. I discussed other local non-profit organizations and volunteer opportunities with my supervisor, Erica Zweifel. We attended a Rotary Club meeting, at which I met other members of the community who were involved in non-profit and volunteer work. Based on the positive experience I had over the summer, I would be happy to pursue a career with a non-profit organization in the future. I also look forward to educational and networking opportunities at the GSA annual meeting in October.

2. Implement marketing and customer relations skills in membership retention efforts

One of my longest and most important projects over the course of my internship was the 2014 membership renewal drive. I was able to see past examples of letters and emails for membership retention efforts, and incorporate this rhetoric in my own campaigns. I was also able to speak with members directly during the phone campaign, and gather feedback on NAGT's services from those who chose not to renew. My experience working with these lapsed members helped me to prepare for NAGT's 2015 renewal drive, which will target current members who have not yet renewed for 2015.

3. Gain experience working within a group and independently

My daily tasks included updating the member database, updating text on the NAGT website, mailing publications, and responding to emails. I was able to complete these independently each day. The larger projects I worked on, including the membership renewal drive, subscription drive, and interpreting the results of the member survey, involved group collaboration and independent work. I also received help with editing my press releases and my GSA abstract from a number of the SERC staff. Overall, I'm very happy with the work I accomplished and I appreciate all the help I received.

To summarize, the tasks I completed during the summer of 2014 include:

- Member database upkeep
- Managing JGE and ITT mailing
- Updating information and creating pages on the NAGT website
- Creating private workspaces on the NAGT website
- Sitting in on weekly office meetings, NAGT Division meetings, GSA publication/planning meetings, etc.

- Writing and sending press releases, workshop advertisements, donor recognition letters
- Creating mockups of subscription applications and designing subscription drive components
- Membership renewal drive
- Summarizing and interpreting current and lapsed member survey results
- Preparing invoices for subscription renewals
- Preparing emails for 2015 membership renewal drive
- Preparing an abstract for GSA

More in-depth information about the membership renewal drive, the current and lapsed member survey, and the subscription drive are available in separate documents on the ExComm September meeting webpage.



Councilor-at-Large Annual Report 2013-2014  
Tamara Shapiro Ledley

Meetings attended to participate in NAGT meetings and as NAGT Representative

- Participated in NAGT virtual Executive Committee and Council meetings
- Participated in NAGT meeting and luncheon at the GSA Meeting in Denver Colorado in October 2013
- Attended AAAS meeting in Chicago Illinois in February 2014 as NAGT Liaison.

Other Activities and Service

- Coordinated 2 Climate Literacy sessions and was the Advocate and chair of one of those sessions at the GSA Meeting in Denver Colorado in October 2013
- Presented as part of the NAGT 4-Pack a workshop (with 3 other presenters) on accessing and using climate change educational resources at the GSA Meeting in Denver Colorado in October 2013
- NAGT Liaison to AAAS – term through Feb 2017 – NAGT is affiliated with two sections of AAAS – Geology & Geography and Education. I suggested that NAGT also affiliate with Atmospheric and Hydrospheric Sciences. The application to include that affiliation was submitted.
- Distributed NAGT promotional materials during various windows of opportunity at the NSTA meeting in Boston, MA April 2014. Windows of opportunity included 1) at the three sessions at which I gave presentations, 2) at TERC booth, 3) two NESTA Share-a-thons, and at my NESTA Lunchtime Presentation.
- Coordinator and Advocate for Climate Literacy sessions to be run at the National GSA meeting to be held in Vancouver, BC, Canada in October 2014.
- American Geophysical Union liaison
  - Education chair in the AGU Fall Meeting Planning Committee – 3 year term, Meetings attended in May 2014 and September 2014.
  - Coordinator of Climate Literacy sessions involving ~30 convenors at Fall AGU meeting – San Francisco in December
    - 2013 – Resulted 140 papers presented in 10 oral and 6 poster sessions and a Union session focused on helping AGU scientists understand what they might do, individually and through their organizations, to support increasing climate literacy
    - 2014 – About 100 papers were submitted and will be presented in 7 oral and 5 poster sessions and a Union session focused on the use of the National Climate Assessment by the broad community of climate literacy stakeholders.

All of my activities have been to

- 1) Contribute the discussions that ensure the smooth running of NAGT
- 2) Increase the visibility of NAGT by individuals and other professional organizations
- 3) Disseminate materials resulting from NAGT sponsored projects – most specifically the CLEAN Collection and Pedagogical Support Pages, Earth Exploration Toolbook, and EarthLabs but also the work of the professional diverse community represented by the CLEAN Network - through presentations and dissemination of promotional materials.

## NAGT Annual Report 2013-2014

John Taber, Councilor at Large

### NAGT meetings

- NAGT ExComm and Council Meetings, 10/27/14
- NAGT ExComm virtual meeting, Jan 1/21/14
- NAGT ExComm meeting, 4/5/14, partial virtual attendance
- NAGT Council virtual meeting, 5/28/14

### Other selected education-related meetings and workshops attended

- Geoscience education summit, Austin, TX, Jan 2014
- InTeGrate virtual quarterly leadership meeting, Jan 2014
- UNAVCO ECE committee, Mar 2014, virtual
- IRIS EPO Standing Committee, Washington, DC, Mar 2014
- NSTA, 4/3/14-4/6/14, IRIS booth, led sessions, collaborated with NESTA
- EarthScope E&O committee, 6/4/14-6/5/14
- InTeGrate leadership meeting, 7/1/14-7/2/14
- Cutting Edge workshop: *Undergraduate Research in Earth Science Classes: Engaging Students in the First Two Years*, Aug 2014

### Other activities

- Mentor for NSF Ideas Lab, Leesburg, VA , 3/3/14-3/7/14
- USA Science and Engineering Festival, Washington, DC, 4/25/14-4/27/14
- Organizing committee for InTeGrate Risk and Resilience workshop, May, 2014
- Organized ½ day Broadcast Meteorology short course at their annual meeting, *Hydraulic fracturing and earthquakes – Should the public worry?*, Lake Tahoe, CA, 6/17/14
- Co-PI for Early Career faculty workshop: *ENAGAGE: Encouraging Networks between Geoscience and Geoscience Education*, with N. LaDue, Northern Illinois University. Applications open 9/30/14, workshop to be held 1/18/15-1/20/15 in Arlington, VA
- Author or co-author on 8 education-related presentations at GSA and AGU

NAGT  
2014 Annual Report  
Basil Tikoff

October 2013

Attended NAGT functions in at 2013 GSA Annual Meeting in Denver, including:

- Executive Committee meeting
- Organizational meeting of Teacher Education Division (TED)

Academic year 2013-14

- Acted as a liason for Teacher Education Division (TED) of NAGT
- Agreed to teach one of the NAGT short courses at the 2014 Annual Meeting (with T. Shipley, Temple University, and Bridget Garnier, University of Wisconsin-Madison)
- Worked on subcommittee to find editor for new lab manual editor for NAGT/AGI lab manual
- Worked on subcommittee interfacing with GTIP (Geoscience Teacher in the Park)
- Attending conference calls of the NAGT Executive Committee

Goal: Understanding functioning of NAGT as an organization

I had somewhat limited goals for my first year on the executive committee. I felt that I needed to understand how NAGT operated as an organization and how it was financed before I could make significant contributions toward a goal. I am still on the steep end of the learning curve, but I will be able to contribute more in the next year.

Goal: Brainstorming how disciplinary geoscience research faculty can be brought into NAGT

My main objective is how to draw the geoscience research community more fully into the educational practices at NAGT. I feel that teaching at research universities is still traditional and not taking advantage of new approaches. I have been thinking about possible ways to improve this situation.

**Annual Report for NAGT 2013-2014:** Wendi J. W. Williams / Councilor-at-Large (2012 – 2015)

My second year as a Councilor began with involvement at the GSA Annual Meeting located in Denver during October 2013. I participated in the Executive Committee meeting, during which I was assigned new Liaison roles for two sections (Midcontinent and Texas, both of which are currently inactive), as well as Liaison for the 2YC division. I am also part of both the Teacher Education (TED) and Geoscience Education Research (GER) divisions. I also attended the Council meeting. Later in the week, I assisted at the booth in the Exhibit Hall.

I attended the NAGT-GSA Education Division luncheon and the Geoscience Educators' Social Reception, in addition to several talks and posters in sessions sponsored by NAGT. Further, I co-presented during the NAGT-sponsored technical session T117 Developing and Sustaining Thriving Geoscience Programs and Departments: Strategies and Examples from Two-Year and Four-Year Colleges and Universities (Poster). Our work was titled: *Universal Design in Geoscience Education: Promoting Student Success with Accessibility using Local 3D Printing for Learner-Centered Instruction*. For abstract, see <https://gsa.confex.com/gsa/2013AM/webprogram/Paper232739.html> . I will be attending the Annual GSA meeting in Vancouver in October; I will be assisting two GSA OTF students at the meeting as a Mentor.

During this past year of service, I have participated in NAGT ExCom and Council meetings, provided several other STEM-related services, and contributed time to both JGE and ITT efforts:

- Participated in NAGT 2013-2014 Virtual Meetings
- Reviewer for “2014 – 2015 Einstein Fellowships”  
<http://www.trianglecoalition.org/einstein-fellows>
- Triangle Coalition for STEM Education as a newly elected to Board of Directors (Nominated By and Now Represent NAGT and Higher Education on BOD) This is a three year commitment (2014 - 2017). Work to date includes participating in webinars about STEM Initiatives on the Hill, conference calls, and in person Board Meetings in Arlington, VA in early March and D.C. in early October. <http://www.trianglecoalition.org/about-the-coalition/board-of-directors>
- Reviewer for *Journal of Geoscience Education*
- Co-Author with Susan Buhr Sullivan and Anne Egger for “NAGT Shares Vision of Next Generation Science Standards” (April 2014 with *In the Trenches*)
- CISL Diversity in the Computational Geosciences Workshop (June 2014)  
Invited to represent NAGT and the International Association of Geoscience Diversity during an inaugural workshop for Geoscience Computing hosted through NCAR and NSF in Boulder, CO. I provided NAGT resources to all participants during the multi-day workshop.  
<http://nia.ecsu.edu/ur/2014/140623ucar/> (that's me in an image...writing on the tablet)  
<https://www2.cisl.ucar.edu/compgeo-2014/presenter-abstract-and-bios>
- Beginning involvement in the NAGT GTIP process.
- Beginning involvement in the joint NAGT-NESTA Dual Credit/Concurrent Enrollment statement.
- I have personally participated in a number of training webinars through NSTA, CAST, IRIS, NESTA, and other educational sources. I have included links to a number of relevant NAGT / SERC materials in the archived chat forums. Disseminating our geosciences materials to audiences from the broader K-12/higher ed forums.

## **NAGT Councilor's Annual Report**

Karl Wirth

September 2014

### **NAGT Meetings Attended**

September 2013 Virtual ExComm Meeting (24 September)

September 2013 Virtual Council Meeting (27 September)

2013 Annual GSA Meeting in Denver, Colorado (26-30 October)

- NAGT Annual Face-to-Face ExComm Meeting
- NAGT Annual Face-to-Face Council Meeting

2014 Annual Face-to-Face Executive Committee Meeting, Boca Raton, FL (04-05 April)

May 2014 Virtual Council Meeting (28 May)

June 2014 Virtual ExComm Meeting (09 June)

June 2014 NAGT Workshop Planning Committee Virtual Meeting (09 June)

July 2014 NAGT Workshop Planning Committee Virtual Meeting (30 July)

### **Other Activities and Services**

Most of my efforts during the past year have been directed toward the Traveling workshop programs. Specifically, the re-envisioning of the Distinguished Speaker Series into the Traveling Teaching Workshops program, and more recently, the Building Stronger Courses Program.

During this past year, I helped with the re-alignment of the two NAGT traveling workshop programs (*Building Stronger Geoscience Courses*, and *Building Stronger Geoscience Departments*). These two programs now share a common website and application process.

I also co-led a workshop at CSU-Bakersfield (23 May) with Diane Doser that was a combination of two traveling workshop programs. This provided an opportunity to learn more about the Building Stronger Geoscience Departments workshops program, and provided insights into how the two traveling workshop programs might be even more closely aligned.

During July 2014 I participated in the selection process for the next round of traveling workshop programs. This year we had five applications, and two were awarded during the first round of reviews. After a few years of low application pressure, it seems that the program may finally be getting some interest.

During the past year I also explored opportunities for NAGT participation at some international geoscience and education conferences.

## Central Section of NAGT 2014 Annual Report

submitted by Katie Lewandowski

Serving Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kentucky, Michigan, Minnesota, Ohio, Wisconsin, and southern and western Ontario

### A. Officers for 2013-2014

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#### OEST Award Chair

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### B. Activities Report

#### 1. Sponsored Field Trips

In the past the Central Section of NAGT has sponsored a few field trips in the area,

particularly the **SEPM-GLS Fall Field Excursion**. Our section sponsored the 2014 Fall Field Conference: Stratigraphy, Paleontology, and Depositional Setting of the Upper Devonian Black Shale and Associated Strata of Northeastern Ohio which was fun Friday–Sunday, October 3–5, 2014

**2. OEST (Outstanding Earth Science Teacher Award) :** The Central Section of NAGT received 11 nominations for the award. Our section award winner was Mrs. Ella Bowling of Mason County, Middle School, Maysville, KY. We also awarded state OEST awards to Paul Genzman (OH), Beth Spear (WI), Martha Goings (IN), Keni Rienks (IL).

## 1. Meetings and Conferences

### a. Past Meetings

**North-Central GSA** in Lincoln NE, April 24-25, 2014

**Theme Sessions** sponsored by Central NAGT

- Geoscience Education for K-16: Novel approaches and current research (Katie Lewandowski, Eastern Illinois University and Mindi Searles, University of Nebraska, Lincoln)

**Teacher Workshops** sponsored by Central NAGT (Cancelled due to underenrollment)

- Exploring Earth Science and Climate Change for Teachers
  - Principal Organizer: Katie Lewandowski, EIU

Central Section NAGT **Business Meeting** was held during the NAGT luncheon at NC GSA in Lincoln at the Green Gateau on April 24, 2014. Twelve people attended.

### b. Upcoming Meetings

**North-Central GSA in Madison, WI, May 19-20, 2015**

**Theme Sessions:**

- Teaching and Learning Earth Science: K–16 Educational Pedagogy. Katie Lewandowski, Eastern Illinois Univ., [kjlewandowski@eiu.edu](mailto:kjlewandowski@eiu.edu); C. Renee Rohs Sparks, Northwest Missouri State Univ.
- Earth Science Week Activities and Events. Katie Lewandowski, Eastern Illinois Univ., [kjlewandowski@eiu.edu](mailto:kjlewandowski@eiu.edu).

Both an Officer’s meeting and a Business Luncheon are planned during North-Central GSA.

- 2. Treasurer’s Report (from the Central NAGT Business Meeting at NC GSA in May 2013)**— Michael Wolf reports that Central section of NAGT is in good financial standing. The only expenditures this past year were for a booth at NC GSA in Lincoln, the OEST Awards, and field trip sponsorship. We received \$500 from national NAGT.

**National Association of Geoscience Teachers  
Eastern Section Report, 2014**

**Eastern Section Officers**

**President:** Eric Pyle, James Madison University, Geology & Environmental Science, 7125 Memorial Hall, MSC 6903, Harrisonburg, VA 22807; 540-568-7115; email <pyleej@jmu.edu>.

**Vice-President:** Randy Newcomer, Randy's Books, PO Box 214, Akron, PA 17501; 717- 823-0579 (C); email <randy@randysbooks.com>; <www.pageology.info>.

**Treasurer:** Renee Aubry, 1179 Glen Rd., Shrub Oak, NY 10588; email <raubry@otunet.com>.

**Editor:** Martin F. Schmidt, Jr., 2718 Appleseed Rd., Finksburg, MD 21048; (H) 410-526-6685, (W) 410-581-4757; Fax: 410-581-7038; email <mschmidt@umbc.edu>.

**Archivist:** Jim Hensel, 196 Calvert Blvd., Tonawanda, NY 14150; 716-866-3790; email <henseljim@verizon.net>.

**Past President:** Karen Aucker, 527 E. Guard Lock Dr. Lock Haven, PA 17745; 570-748-4581; email <mska1@comcast.net>.

**2nd Vice-President:** Deb Hemler, Coordinator of Geoscience Education, Fairmont State University, 1201 Locust Avenue, Fairmont, WV 26554; 304-367-4393; email <dhemler@fairmontstate.edu>.

**Secretary:** Rosemarie Sanders, 914-721-0948; email <Rose.Sanders@me.com>.

**NAGT 2YC Division Representative:** Rich Gottfried; Dept. of Science, Frederick Community College, 7932 Opossumtown Pike, Frederick, MD21702; 301-846-2581(W), 540-822-5561(H); email <RGottfried@frederick.edu>.

**Annual Section Meeting**

The Annual Section Meeting was held May 15-18, 2014, in Harrisonburg, Virginia. Hosted by James Madison University, the event was attended by 35 members and spouses, which is slightly below normal, but given that the event was scheduled at the early end of the normal meeting window, this was considered an acceptable attendance.

Thursday night began with a light reception followed by an exclusive show in the John C. Wells Planetarium, presented by Shanil Virani.

Friday morning began with a series of concurrent sessions:



- Lynn Fichter and Steve Whitmeyer presented on the changes to the JMU BS and BA curricula, with their innovative Stratigraphy, Structure, and Tectonics (SST)/Advanced Structure, Stratigraphy, and Tectonics courses;
- Jon Tso discussed the Geology of Virginia CD-ROM series that was created at Radford University during 2000-2003. It is being updated as a new web based version.
- Jason Petula hosted a round-table discussion of the challenges faced by science education in public schools as a result of high-stakes testing;
- Martin Schmidt provided a session related to NGSS, titled *A Local Geology Lesson Using ArcGIS Online to meet NGSS Expectations*;
- Steve Lindberg provided several tables of minerals, fossils, and instructional supplies for sale, with a portion of the proceeds donated to the section.
- The JMU Mineral Museum was also open at during this time, as well.

Friday afternoon offered a choice of an IRIS educator workshop, which is significant considering the recent Louisa, VA M5.8 earthquake. This workshop introduced faculty to a collection of recently developed inquiry-based, data-rich classroom modules. The other choice was a local field trip, which featured two stops. Frazier Quarries will provided a local plant tour in the Edinburg Limestone quarry, from which the bulk of the original JMU campus is built. The second stop was a brief hike up Mole Hill, an Eocene volcanic neck composed of basalt last with mantle-sourced olivine and spinel.

Friday evening was capped with the Annual Geo-Auction, with many materials donated by Steve Lindberg, Janet Crampton, and many other section members. Steve Lindberg served as auctioneer, backed-up by Eric Pyle.

Saturday offered a choice of day-long field trips. Trip 1 took participants across late-Proterozoic metavolcanic rocks, into the core of the Blue Ridge, and then on into the Piedmont, including some of the diverse terranes that were accreted onto the flanks of Laurentia. Trip 2 also started at the Blue Ridge, but traveled west across the Page Valley and Massanutten Mountain, ending in the peaks of the Valley & Ridge.

Saturday evening was capped by the annual recognition banquet, celebrating the awardees listed below. The speaker was Callan Bentley, Northern VA Community College, who presented *Metamorphic metaphors, digital detritus, and awful analogies: Visualizing and communicating the epic geologic history of the Mid-Atlantic*.

The annual meeting was concluded Sunday morning with the Section business meeting. The financial status was shared, contributions to the event were recognized, and Karen Auker, outgoing President, presented the Section gavel to incoming President Eric Pyle.

## Awards

The Eastern Section congratulates all of our 2014 OEST recipients on being selected for the OEST recognition. The 2014 OEST Eastern Section awardee is **Victoria Gorman**, of Memorial Middle School in Medford, NJ, where she teaches 7<sup>th</sup> Grade science and in Memorial's Citizen

Science Education Program.

*State awardees include:*

**James Miller**, Montville Township High School, New Jersey;  
**Mark Percy**, Williamsville Central Schools Planetarium, New York;  
**Michael Baer**, Elizabeth Forward School District, Pennsylvania;

The section “Digman” award is designed to recognize an individual who works to bring Geoscience to the general public. This year the section recognized **Dr. Michelle Selvans**, a Postdoctoral Fellow at the Center for Earth and Planetary Studies, National Air and Space Museum, Smithsonian Institution.

### **Plans**

Randy Newcomer, the Section Vice President is making a complete collection of previous section field trip guides, back as far as he can go. He will digitize this collection, making it available to section members as an educational resource.

The 2015 Section Meeting is being organized by Dr. Deb Hemler of Fairmont State University. The conference will be held May 14-17, 2015, in the Beckley, WV Area. Details will be forthcoming in the next section newsletter.

### **Financial Section**

I am working with our Section Treasurer, Renee Aubrey, to complete the section financial information form.

Feb 2014 financial statement showed \$7714.38 in savings and \$1507.25 in checking. Section insurance was \$641, with a need for lower insurance rates to be investigated.

May 2014 Current balances were: \$8566.77 total; \$852.39 in checking, \$503 from GeoAuction, and \$7714.38 in savings.

Total revenue from the annual section meeting was \$2520, and total expenses were \$2169, leaving a net profit of \$351

## Far Western Section's Report 2014

1. This past May the FW and the SW sections held a joint meeting at the Grand Canyon. It went off very well even though we were changing speakers, or locations on the fly but Merry Wilson was masterful. We had a few problems with the National Park Service but in the end we had a great time. The format was very relaxed with half-day hikes, lots of food and liquid refreshment, and telling stories about ourselves around the campfire each night. In retrospect having a joint meeting is not as simple as it sounds, especially when we had about 6 months to bring it all together. Next time we will give our selves a bit of breathing room.

2. We have contracted with a professional web developer to update our website. Our plans are to make it much more interactive such as ordering field guides on line, registering and paying for meetings on line, newsletters, and an open page for all members to post interesting news about themselves or their section.

3. We have our fall meeting at Sacrament State University in October. Focus will be on earth surface processes such as river and mine remediation, sand and gravel quarries, and the San Joaquin Delta where a twin tunnel to divert water has been proposed and actively resisted.

4. We have meetings lined up in Bakersfield focusing on hydrocarbons, Northridge focusing on the Ridge Basin, and Santa Barbara out to the Channel Islands.

Prt

Paul R. Troop RN-C, MPA  
President NAGT-FWS  
Graduate Student in Sedimentary Geology  
CSU Fresno

## New England Section of NAGT 2013-14 Annual Report

### A. 2013-2014 Section Officers

- President: Steve Winters, Department of Earth Sciences, Holyoke Community College, Holyoke, MA, science\_matters@yahoo.com; swinters@hcc.edu
- VP#1: Elizabeth Gordon Department of Geophysical Sciences, Fitchburg State University, MA, egordon3@fitchburgstate.edu
- VP#2: Available
- Treasurer: Julia Daly, Department of Geology University of Maine, Farmington, dalyj@maine.edu
- Secretary/Newsletter Editor: Richard Little (retired), Greenfield Community College, Greenfield, MA, RDLITTLE2000@aol.com

### Past Presidents (Councilors):

- Tarin Weiss, Westfield State University, Westfield, MA tweiss@westfield.ma.edu
- Bruce Rueger, Colby College, Waterville, ME bfrueger@colby.edu
- Christine Witkowski, Middlesex Community College, Middletown, CWitkowski@mxcc.commnet.edu
- Tom Vaughn, College of Professional Studies, Northeastern University, Boston, MA, tvaughn17@comcast.net
- Karen Kortz, Community College of Rhode Island, Lincoln, RI, kkortz@ccri.edu

### OEST Awards Coordinators

Richard Little (retired), Greenfield Community College, Greenfield, MA,  
RDLITTLE2000@aol.com

### Executive Committee Liaison

Tamara Shapiro Ledley, tamara\_ledley@terc.edu

### B. Reports

Wellesley High School's Rita Chang is our 2014 OESTA winner. Rita has an amazing resume which includes many organizations and accomplishments. Besides her career as a science teacher at Wellesley High School, she is the creator, co-founder, and CEO of Classroom Encounters, a teacher-scientist-student-filmmaker collaboration and public-private educational initiative to improve science education. "Classroom Encounters with Global Change Scientists" is a six-part series on DVD featuring leading scientists, high school students, and students of art and music, which has received rave reviews. You can get a glimpse of this at [www.classroomencounters.org](http://www.classroomencounters.org). We are extremely pleased to honor Rita as our Outstanding Earth Science Teacher for 2014.

### C. Annual Activities/Functions

1. 17<sup>th</sup> Annual Pioneer Valley Institute Gem & Mineral Show/2013 Annual Business Meeting at Greenfield Community College, Greenfield, MA, November 10. Tarin Weiss, Dick Little, and Steve Winters led a local afternoon field trips for the group.
2. Steve Winters (Earth Science Department, Holyoke Community College, Holyoke, MA; swinters@hcc.edu) and Lori Weedon (Environmental, Earth and Atmospheric Sciences, Univ. Massachusetts Lowell, MA; lori\_weeden@uml.edu) represented the section at the March 23-25, 2014 GSA NE conference in Lancaster, PA. They

presided over a theme session titled "Service Learning in the Geosciences: Deep Learning Through Critical, Reflective Thinking, and Civic Responsibility."

3. Planned 2014-15 Activities:

- a. Annual Business Meeting. Saturday, December 6, 2014 at Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cambridge, MA. Final details will be forthcoming, but members should not miss this gathering. We will be given a presentation by noted geologist Samuel Bowring. Many thanks to Dr. Bowring and Councilor Tom Vaughn for setting the stage for a fun and productive day.
- b. NAGT luncheon at the 2015 GSA NE conference in Bretton Woods, NH, March 23-25. Date and time of luncheon to be determined.

D. New England Section NAGT financial (updated information forthcoming)

Non-Profit Business Now account

Starting Balance (9/2012): \$126.15

Interest rate: 0.01%

Interest accrued:

Ending balance (9/2013):

One-to-One Business Saving account

Starting balance (9/2012): \$3578.61

Interest rate: 0.09%

Interest accrued:

Ending balance (9/2013):

Total funds available: \$3704.76 (as of 9/12)

## **Pacific Northwest Section of NAGT 2013-14 Annual Report**

### **A. Current Section Officers**

#### **a. Executive Office**

##### **President**

Cassandra Strickland – Columbia Basin College, 2600 N 20th Avenue, Pasco, WA 99301, [CStrickland@columbiabasin.edu](mailto:CStrickland@columbiabasin.edu)

##### **Vice-President**

Frank Hladky- Frank Hladky - Coquille High School, Coos Bay, OR 97420, [fhladky@coquille.k12.or.us](mailto:fhladky@coquille.k12.or.us)

##### **Secretary-Treasurer**

Scott Linneman - Department of Geology, Western Washington University, Bellingham, WA 98225, [Scott.Linneman@wwu.edu](mailto:Scott.Linneman@wwu.edu)

##### **Past President**

Ron Metzger - Southwestern Oregon Community College, 1988 Newmark Avenue, Coos Bay, OR 97420-2912, [rmetzger@socc.edu](mailto:rmetzger@socc.edu)

#### **b. Communications**

##### **Newsletter Editor**

Carla Whittington – Highline Community College, P.O. Box 98000, 2400 S. 240th St, Des Moines, WA 98198, [cwhittington@highline.edu](mailto:cwhittington@highline.edu)

##### **Website Coordinator**

Cassandra Strickland – Columbia Basin College, 2600 N 20th Avenue, Pasco, WA 99301, [CStrickland@columbiabasin.edu](mailto:CStrickland@columbiabasin.edu)

#### **c. State-Province Councilors**

##### **Alaska**

Cathy Connor, University of Alaska Southeast, Juneau, [cathy.connor@uas.alaska.edu](mailto:cathy.connor@uas.alaska.edu)

Michael Collins, Geologist, Epoch Well Services, Anchorage, [collins\\_micha20@hotmail.com](mailto:collins_micha20@hotmail.com)

##### **Idaho**

Shawn Willsey, College of Southern Idaho, [swillsey@csi.edu](mailto:swillsey@csi.edu)

Dean Garwood, Idaho Geological Survey, [dgarwood@uidaho.edu](mailto:dgarwood@uidaho.edu)

##### **Oregon**

Frank Granshaw, Portland State University, [fgransha@pcc.edu](mailto:fgransha@pcc.edu)

Ron Metzger, SWOCC, [rmetzger@socc.edu](mailto:rmetzger@socc.edu)

Eriks Puris, Portland CC, [eriks.puris@pcc.edu](mailto:eriks.puris@pcc.edu)

##### **Washington**

Jeff Tepper, University of Puget Sound, [jtepper@ups.edu](mailto:jtepper@ups.edu)

Beth Norman, Pierce College, [bnorman@pierce.ctc.edu](mailto:bnorman@pierce.ctc.edu)

##### **British Columbia**

Brett Gilley, University of British Columbia, [bgilley@eos.ubc.ca](mailto:bgilley@eos.ubc.ca)

Tark Hamilton, Camosun College, Victoria, B.C., [thamilton@cmosun.bc.ca](mailto:thamilton@cmosun.bc.ca)

Todd Redding, UBC Penticton, [tredding@okanagan.bc.ca](mailto:tredding@okanagan.bc.ca)

#### **d. Awards**

##### **OEST Awards Coordinators**

Lynda Sanders, Marshfield HS, S. 10<sup>th</sup> and Ingersoll, Coos Bay, OR 97420,

[LyndaS@coos-bay.k12.or.us](mailto:LyndaS@coos-bay.k12.or.us) and Jodie Harnden, Sunridge Middle School, 700 SW Runnion Ave, Pendleton, OR 97801, [Jodie.Harnden@pendleton.k12.or.us](mailto:Jodie.Harnden@pendleton.k12.or.us)

## **B. Reports**

### **a. Annual Business Meeting**

The annual business meeting of the Pacific Northwest Section NAGT was held on June 20<sup>th</sup> during the Pacific Northwest Section annual meeting at Wenatchee Valley Community College. Votes from the 2014 election were tallied and new officers/continuing officers elected. Cassie Strickland was promoted to section President, Frank Hladky elected VP, and Scott Linneman and Carla Whittington retained their positions as treasurer/secretary and newsletter editor, respectively. All state councilors remained the same, with the addition of four new councilors: Dean Garwood, Idaho (elected mid-year), Todd Redding, British Columbia, Eriks Puris, Oregon and Ron Metzger, Oregon. Treasurer's report was discussed (included in this annual report). Membership trends were discussed and future locations for annual conferences. Participation in the 2014 GSA National meeting was discussed, as well as scholarship uses for excess section funds. Potential funding student registration was the primary concern for members.

### **b. 2013 OEST Awards**

- State Winners:
  - Darren Kellerby, Alaska State Winner, Eagle River, Alaska
  - Laura Orr, Oregon State Winner, Ukiah, Oregon
  - Randy Taylor, Washington State Winner, Kennewick, Washington
- Section Winner (attended 2014 conference)- Dale Lehman, PNW regional winner, Tahoma, Washington

## **C. Annual Activities/Functions**

### **a. Events Sponsored by Pacific Northwest Section NAGT 2013-14**

PNW NAGT Annual Meeting, June 18-22, 2014, Wenatchee Valley Community College, hosted by Ralph & Cheryl Dawes. Attended by over 50 participants. Conference schedule:

1. Wednesday, June 18: Field Trip – Blewett Pass and Ingalls Ophiolite
2. Thursday, June 19: Field Trip – Periglacial Geology of the Wenatchee Valley
3. Friday, June 20: Conference Day at Wenatchee Valley College Dinner with guest speaker
4. Saturday, June 21: Field Trip – Glacial Geology of Lake Chelan Area, an dinner at private residence in Trinidad overlooking West Bar
5. Sunday, June 22: Field Trip – Ice-Age Floods and Flood Basalts of the Soap Lake to Odessa Area

Cheryl Dawes produced a brochure for use in promoting the section. At the 2014 business meeting, members agreed to update the brochure with current officers, and use excess section funds to print and distribute the brochures.

The section website continues to be updated by Cassie Strickland: [www.nagtpnw.org](http://www.nagtpnw.org)

The section newsletter continues to be produced by Carla Whittington (Highline CC). Newsletters collect information from section officers & members at large, and are distributed electronically, or available for download at: [www.nagtpnw.org/News-or-Reviews.html](http://www.nagtpnw.org/News-or-Reviews.html).

At the Wenatchee meeting out-going President Ron Metzger recognized Dr. Joseph Hull with the award for outstanding service to the Pacific Northwest Section of NAGT. Dr. Hull was not present; an award notification and gift were sent following the meeting.

b. Planned 2014-15 Activities

- Annual PNW NAGT meeting at Camosun College, Victoria, British Columbia, scheduled for the third week in June, 2015. Host- Dr. Tark Hamilton
- Future conferences: **2016- Hell's Canyon, ID** (Field Conference)- held in Hell's Canyon, hosted by Spokane CC. **2017- Craters of the Moon National Monument**, Arco, ID, hosted by the National Park Service.

**D. Financial Report, NAGT Pacific Northwest Section**

Savings Account with Whatcom Educational Credit Union, Bellingham WA  
Submitted by Scott Linneman, Sept 17, 2014

Balance: \$12,892.78

<b>INCOME</b>	
NAGT rebate	282.50
Guidebooks/donations	357.00
Conference @ WVC	813.32
Interest	59.84
<b>EXPENSES</b>	
Kahle Fund scholarship	480.00
Balance on 5/14/14	12,892.78
	of which \$1400 is Kahle fund

Previous Report, June 20, 2013

<b>INCOME</b>	
NAGT rebate	235.00
Guidebooks	113.00
Conference @ SCC	4516.01
Interest	48.48
<b>EXPENSES</b>	
Hull (guidebook mail)	22.77
Rebate to SCC for their overpayment	2933.74
Balance on 6/20/13	10529.85
	of which \$1405 is Kahle fund



# **Southeastern Section Annual Report for 2014**

By David C. Kopaska-Merkel

## **Southeastern Section Officers**

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**Secretary:** Gerald Pollack  
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## **Presidential Note**

I would like to thank all of the state representatives and officers who participated in this year's OEST Southeastern Section award competition and who keep our section active and relevant. I especially want to thank Bill Witherspoon, newsletter editor, for his steady work keeping our lines of communication open.

## **Southeastern OEST winners for 2014**

**Southeastern Section: Lisha Hylton**  
Alabama: Wendy Bramlett  
Georgia: Donna Governor  
North Carolina: Mark Townley  
South Carolina: Lisha Hylton

## **Southeastern newsletter**

Thanks to Bill Witherspoon for his effort to pull the newsletter together and to all who submitted articles. We don't quite have every state participating, but it still looks great. Here is the link to the newsletter, on the SENAGT web site at: <http://facstaff.gpc.edu/~pgore/nagt/Winter-Spring2014.pdf>.

## **Past Activities**

SE NAGT held its last annual business meeting, and elected Christy Visaggi as our new VP/President-elect, at the 2014 SE GSA spring meeting in Blacksburg, Virginia, this past April 10-11. Also, we sponsored two technical sessions on geoscience education at that meeting.

## **Future Activities**

For the 2015 southeastern GSA meeting in Chattanooga, a session and fieldtrip on teaching evolution have been proposed, but I don't yet know if they will become part of the meeting. The fieldtrip will include a visit to the **Dayton, TN courthouse and other places**. Even if they do not, our next business meeting will be held there and members of our section will surely make education related presentations. We are in the process of recruiting an additional State Representative for Mississippi, and will recruit for other states in the near future.

## **Financial report**

Thanks to Pamela Gore for keeping track of the financial status of the section:

NAGT Section Financial Report

Section: Southeast Section

Treasurer: Pamela Gore

President: David Kopaska-Merkel

Date: Aug 25, 2014

<b>Income</b>	Current Year (2014 calendar year)	Previous Year (2013 calendar year)
National Dues	\$365.00	\$227.50
Interest	\$0.43 (12 months)	\$0.31 (8 months)
Field Guides/Publications	None	None
Other/please specify	None	None
Other	None	None
<b>Total</b>	\$365.43	\$227.81

<b>Expenses</b>	Current Year	Previous Year
Awards	0	0
Meetings/Conferences	0	0
Bank Fee	0	0
Other	0	0
Other	0	0
<b>Total</b>	0	0

<b>Bank Account</b>	Current Year	Previous Year
Savings	0	0
Scholarship Fund	0	0

Other	0	0
Other	0	0
<b>Total</b>	0	0

<b>Summary</b>	<b>Current Year</b>	<b>Previous Year</b>
Beginning balance	\$4824.14	\$4596.33 Jan 1 2013
Income (+)	\$365.43	\$227.81
Expenses (-)	0	0
Current Balance	\$5189.57	\$4824.14

## **SE NAGT State Representatives**

### **Alabama**

Denise Hills  
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### **North Carolina**

Randy Bechtel  
NC Geological Survey

### **Florida**

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### **South Carolina**

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### **Louisiana**

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### **Georgia**

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### **Tennessee**

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Ann Holmes  
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Division of Energy, Mineral  
and Land Resources  
1612 Mail Service Center  
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[Randy.Bechtel@ncdenr.gov](mailto:Randy.Bechtel@ncdenr.gov)  
919.707.9204

New Orleans, La. 70124  
[2ydnew2@gmail.com](mailto:2ydnew2@gmail.com)  
504.218.4787



## NAGT Southwest Section Report 2013-2014

**Current officers for NAGT-SW:** President: Dan Stephen, Utah Valley U.  
Vice-President: Merry Wilson, Scottsdale C.C.  
Secretary: Laura Lukes, Rio Salado C.C.  
Treasurer: Jennifer Hargrave, Southern Utah U.  
OESTA Coordinator: Kaatje Kraft, Mesa C.C.

Greetings fellow NAGT members,

It's my honor to report that the NAGT Southwest Section had another good (but quiet) year. Members of NAGT-SW remain active in the professional community, with many ongoing research projects, presentations, and publications. Several of our officers and other members gave talks at the annual Geological Society of America conference last year in Denver, and some of us plan to speak at this year's meeting in Vancouver as well. Furthermore, I know our members also attend other meetings and events, including regional GSA conferences and the fantastic "On the Cutting Edge" workshops.

On the other hand, our section continues to struggle with low membership numbers and discouragingly meager participation in section activities. Sadly, it seems that I have not yet succeeded in adequately informing geoscience teachers in our region of the many advantages of membership in the organization, and I have also failed to motivate our "active" members to participate in activities such as field trips.

Following a long period of stability, the past year has seen a dramatic turnover in the section leadership of NAGT-SW, with a change in 3 out of the 5 positions. After many years of outstanding service, Dr Steve Semken stepped down as Treasurer; we welcome to the officer corps Dr Jennifer Hargrave who has accepted this important duty. Like Steve, Dr Kaatje Kraft has served our section with distinction for many years in a variety of roles, most recently as OESTA Coordinator. Unfortunately for us, Kaatje has decided to relocate. Although we're sad to see her leave our section, we're happy for her as she pursues new dreams in the Pacific Northwest. In addition, Dr Laura Lukes recently announced her resignation as Secretary due to her acceptance of a new job. Laura did great work for us while cheerfully persevering the abundant idiosyncrasies of the other section officers (okay, I'm mostly referring to myself).

We congratulate Laura on her new position. Our former officers will be missed, though we hope to continue to see them often, and we wish them well in their exciting new endeavors. We're presently looking for replacements for the Secretary and OESTA Coordinator positions.

Here are a couple other noteworthy items:

**Fieldtrips:** NAGT-SW held its annual spring field conference in May this year. For the 2014 adventure, we headed to the Copper State. This year, we teamed up with the Far West Section of NAGT for a joint meeting. Our big, enthusiastic group enjoyed hiking, camping, and geologizing in the unrivalled magnificence of the Grand Canyon. Dr Steve Semken led us on a tour of the renowned "Trail of Time", which he helped to create, and he provided insights on the details of what went into developing the trail and how and why it was subsequently modified. Drs Merry Wilson and Kaatje Kraft also shared their enthusiasm and expertise as they led other hikes in and around the canyon. While NAGT-SW organized the educational agenda, our neighbors from NAGT-FW organized the logistics (a monumental task) of feeding our happy bunch of geoscience educators, which included people from every branch of the educational tree – K12 through R1 – and even a few non-geo types. I think it's safe for me to say that all participants felt it was a very successful conference. Special thanks go to Crystal Hootman and Paul Troop of NAGT-FW for their organizational help.

We strive to keep NAGT-SW field excursions affordable for the average teacher, despite the remarkable agendas and spectacular locations. We're already looking forward to the 2015 trip to Utah, with Dr Randy Skinner (BYU) and myself helping to organize the effort.

**Money:** Our new Treasurer, Dr Jennifer Hargrave, reports that NAGT-SW continues to be in good financial standing (*i.e.*, we do not have a deficit). As usual, the past year saw very little activity in our bank account, which currently stands at \$1207.

Many more details of our activities can be found in the **NAGT-SW newsletter** that we publish online. One of our major goals remains increasing awareness of NAGT-SW in the geoscience education community of the region, especially at the K12 level, and growing our membership at every level. We want all of our earth science education colleagues in the area to share in the excitement and be energized by the geological ecstasy that erupts like explosive volcanic ejecta whenever we gather.

Sincerely yours,

Dan

*Dr. Daniel A. Stephen, Associate Professor  
Earth Science Department, Utah Valley University  
800 W. University Parkway, Orem, UT 84058 USA  
phone: 801-863-8584 fax: 801-863-8064  
email: daniel.stephen@uvu.edu*



National Association of Geoscience Teachers c/o Carleton College B-SERC  
One North College Street, Northfield, MN 55057 • Phone 507-222-5634 • Fax 507-222-5175

Report to the NAGT Executive Committee  
Geo2YC Division  
September 22, 2014

#### Current Division Officers

President: Merry Wilson, Scottsdale Community College, AZ (2013-2014)  
Past -President: Lynsey LeMay, Thomas Nelson Community College, VA (2013-2014)  
Vice President: Ben Wolfe, Metropolitan Community College, MO (2013-2014)  
Vice President-Elect: Kaatje van der Hoeven Kraft, Whatcom Community College, WA (2014-2015)  
Secretary/Treasurer: Allison Beauregard, Northwest Florida State College, FL (2011-2014)  
Newsletter Editor: Callan Bentley, Northern Virginia Community College, VA (2011-2014)  
Webmaster: Kaatje Kraft, Whatcom Community College, WA (2011-2014)  
Archivist: Suzanne Metlay, Western Governors University, UT (2011-2014)

Geo2YC is in year three of existence as a division of NAGT. We currently have 213 members and \$2664.47 in the coffers. Three main questions continue to drive the activities of the division: Who are we? What do we want? How can we best help our community? In large part, answering these questions is still our focus as we work to promote the division, better understand who makes up the broad Geo2YC community, and work to better support Geo2YC colleagues.

Below is a summary of activities completed and in progress:

1. The Executive Board has met via teleconference four times this year to discuss ongoing projects and share Geo2YC related news.
2. With help from many contributors, we have published four newsletters, *Foundations*, in 2013-2014 (December, February, April, and September) and distributed through the Geo2YC website and the Geo2YC listserv. The newsletters include a variety of content, including field tips, reports from recent workshops, information from NSF officers, and much more..
3. We have received nominations for our Outstanding Adjunct Faculty Award, with two of the nominees showcased in newsletters. One outstanding adjunct will be highlighted in each edition of the newsletter, and one nominee will be chosen for the annual award to be presented at GSA. The first annual award is slated to be given in 2014.
4. We continue efforts to better identify our membership and characterize the Geo2YC community to determine how we can best serve. Spearheaded by Dave Voorhees, a survey was broadly disseminated through the Geo2YC community to collect information on the variety and diversity of geoscience programs at 2YC's. A follow-up survey will be administered within the coming year focusing on teaching practices.

5. We continue to partner with AGI to update the existing “master” database of two-year colleges, aiming to include Geo2YC information in the Directory of Geoscience Departments. The survey data collected will also help with this effort.
6. We are authoring two white papers to be presented in draft form at our annual meeting at GSA. These papers, “Importance of the GeoSciences in Undergraduate Curriculum” and “Importance of FieldTrips,” are expected to be finalized and included in our December issue of Foundations.
7. Geo2YC partnered with NASA for a Webinar Series. The first three were held in March through June, and will start up again in February of 2015.
8. Geo2YC gave to the GSA “On To The Future” fund to support diversity in the geosciences. Our funds were allocated to help a community college student attend GSA.
9. External support of the Geo2YC community continues, and Geo2YC has been able to advertise those opportunities through the Geo2YC listserv. This includes funding support from NSF to attend GSA administered through Eric Baer, funding through Subaru for 2YC attendees at GSA, and participation in the PolarTREC program.
10. We will be participating in GSA 2013 activities.
  - a. Geo2YC is a co-sponsor of several short courses and technical sessions:
    - 519A. Digital Mapping and Data Collection for Field Environments
    - 519B. GigaPan and GigaMacro for the Geosciences
    - 519C. Google Maps Engine, Earth Engine, and Big GeoData
    - 519D. Using Google Earth to Teach Interpretation of Geologic Processes, Bedrock Structures, and Geologic History
    - *T62: Supporting Student Success in Colleges and Universities*
    - *T64: Transdisciplinary Thinking in Geoscience Education at Two-Year and Four-Year Colleges: Innovations in Curriculum, Pedagogy, and Assessment in Introductory Geoscience Courses*
  - b. The third business meeting of the Division will be held October 19, 2014 at GSA.
  - c. We will continue to promote the Division with the use of Geo2YC brochures and scale pencils.
11. We continue to work with members to serve as NAGT and GSA Sectional liaisons to help us identify members and promote the division at sectional and regional meetings. We are currently working to recruit liaisons.
12. Our website is continually maintained. We will work to keep this updated and hope to make the website more robust by including more information about the broader Geo2YC community, in the hopes that it can eventually become a Geo2YC web portal.
13. We have gone through our first election cycle!! Our incoming board will take over at GSA.
 

**Christine Witkowski** Secretary/Treasurer <[cwitkowski@mxcc.commnet.edu](mailto:cwitkowski@mxcc.commnet.edu)>  
**Thomas Whittaker** Newsletter Editor <[twhittak@unm.edu](mailto:twhittak@unm.edu)>  
**Frank Granshaw** Webmaster <[fgransha@pcc.edu](mailto:fgransha@pcc.edu)>  
**Amber Kumpf** Archivist <[amber.kumpf@muskegoncc.edu](mailto:amber.kumpf@muskegoncc.edu)>

Merry Wilson  
 Scottsdale Community College  
 Geo2YC Division President



**NAGT – Teacher Education Division (TED)**  
**Annual Report to the NAGT Executive Committee**  
**September 2014**

**Introduction**

The Teacher Education Division (TED) is committed to the recognition and critical importance of promoting and sustaining quality preparation of Earth Science teachers. Based upon science education research and best practices in geoscience teaching, TED members strive to improve teacher education in a diverse range of settings including higher education, K-12, professional development, and informal learning environments.

To achieve this mission, TED:

- Provides a forum for exchanging ideas, concerns, resources, and information about the role of geoscience in teacher education;
- Develops a network of full-time, part-time, and adjunct faculty, and other education professionals to improve geoscience instruction for teachers and teacher education;
- Makes recommendations to the NAGT Council and membership on activities of special interest and benefit to geoscience faculty, staff, administrators, and students who work with K-12 teachers;
- Shares and disseminates curricular and pedagogical strategies that will produce successful geoscience teachers;
- Collaborates in and supports research in geoscience teacher education

TED was founded in August, 2013 by NAGT Executive Board approval. The first year of TED's existence was largely devoted to proposing the Division, soliciting volunteers to help organize it, and initial planning activities. As we pass TED's 1-year anniversary, our major accomplishments include electing the first slate of officers, writing Division bylaws, conducting a member survey to determine how TED can best meet interests and needs of its membership, and planning activities for the 2014 Fall GSA meeting.

**Elected Officers**

Past President: Kyle Gray, University of Northern Iowa (2014-15)

President: Heather Petcovic, Western Michigan University (2014-15)

Vice-President: Jeff Thomas, Central Connecticut State University (2014-15)

Secretary/Treasurer: Mark Abolins, Middle Tennessee State University (2014-17)

Media Director: Steve Mattox, Grand Valley State University (2014-16)

**Summary of Activities for 2014**

Below is a summary of the completed and ongoing Division activities:

- In February, Kyle Gray contacted individuals who had volunteered to help organize the Division. These individuals formed a working group that was charged with writing bylaws and seeking volunteer nominations for officers. Working group members included (in alphabetical order):
  - Jim Ebert, SUNY Oneota
  - Kyle Gray, University of Northern Iowa
  - Steve Mattox, Grand Valley State University
  - Ellen Metzger, San Jose State University

## NAGT-GER Division Annual Report

Report to the NAGT Executive Committee  
Geoscience Education Research Division  
September 18, 2014

### **Current Division Officers**

The division is in its first year. Similar to the evolution of 2YC, we are in the early stages where we are asking 3 main questions: Who are we? What do we want? How do we get it?

Our first priority was to officially establish the division and write bylaws to have ready to vote on at the annual meeting of GSA. We accomplished this goal and they are available for review on our NAGT page. We also established our bank account so that we can access NAGT division funds.

Our second goal has been to figure out who we are as a division. In the summer, we met weekly to discuss this topic. We have consulted with other division leaders, our liaison, NAGT leaders, and other geoscience education researchers in the community. We have reviewed the NAGT member survey data to get a better sense of our membership population as well, which led us to create a division member survey to help inform us as we decide which initiatives to focus on for this year. This survey is in its final review and will be live before GSA. Additionally, we agreed that indexing of JGE was critical to our community and composed a letter to the NAGT executive committee about our concerns.

Our third goal was to have a presence at GSA and establish initial lines of communication with our members and be poised to actively recruit new members from within and outside the geoscience education community. We created advertising materials for the NAGT booth/brochure and a division logo. We are currently preparing for the new tables at the geoscience education reception at GSA. We activated the listserv and sent out a first message of more to come. We created an email address to direct mail so any officer can check it. We also have a list of initial initiatives for member involvement.

Laura Lukes  
George Mason University  
Geoscience Education Research Division President

- Julie Monet, California State University Chico
  - Heather Petcovic, Western Michigan University
  - Eric Pyle, James Madison University
  - Jeff Thomas, Central Connecticut State University
  - Wendi Williams, Northwest Arkansas Community College
  - By April, the working group had solicited nominations for officers both from within the group members and from the current TED membership. The group also finalized both the officer positions and nominees and had a working draft of Division bylaws.
  - Officers were elected in April/May during the national NAGT election.
  - As of June 24, TED had 100 members!
  - As of August, the bylaws were finalized by the elected officers. Bylaws were posted on the Division website and an email notice sent to the Division listserv alerting members to the upcoming vote. Officers will vote on the bylaws at the Division Business Meeting to be held during GSA.
  - We are currently conducting a member survey to determine:
    - Who makes up the TED community (basic demographics, how members are employed, and how members are involved in teacher education)
    - How we prefer to communicate (how frequently and in what format members prefer to receive information from officers, and how members prefer to communicate with each other)
    - How we can distinguish ourselves from other existing professional organizations devoted to teacher education
    - What type of information, announcement, and opportunities would be of greatest interest to members
    - Where and how TED should focus its efforts in the coming year
- We are in the process of converting the survey to an online format and anticipate gathering member data from late September through early October. We will prepare a report of the results to share at the GSA Business Meeting, post on the Division website, and share in the first Division newsletter.
- We have a room reserved at the GSA national meeting for the TED Business Meeting. Officers will be developing an agenda in the next few weeks.
  - We will put out a call for member input for the first Division newsletter in late September. We anticipate releasing the newsletter (via listserv and website) after GSA, likely November/December.

### **New Business for 2015**

Our primary goal in the near future is to better understand the TED community that we serve so that we can best support our members and promote the Division – in short to answer the basic questions: Who are we? How can we be different from what exists now? How can we best help our peers? We anticipate that the results of the member survey, coupled with member input and discussions during the GSA Business Meeting, will guide decisions on our major tasks for the coming year. We also will focus on setting up organizational structures in accordance with our bylaws.

Tasks that we plan to undertake include:

- Setting up regular, virtual and/or in-person meetings of the Executive Board.
- Recruiting ex officio representatives for the TED Executive Board. Our bylaws allow for representatives from other organizations (such as the GSA Geoscience Education Division, AGU Education, the National Science Teachers Association, etc.) to become non-voting members of the board.
- Setting up and recruiting volunteers for TED Standing Committees (Nominations and Elections, Long Range Planning, and Conference Committees) and Ad Hoc committees
- Recruiting TED members to serve as liaisons to external organizations focused on earth science teacher education
- Updating and maintaining the TED website
- Developing a newsletter and/or other methods for disseminating information to TED members
- Developing a forum in which members can communicate and share ideas with one another
- Create promotional materials and finalize the TED logo

Other possible activities include:

- Sponsoring sessions at GSA and/or AGU in 2015-16 (both national and section/regional meetings)
- Sponsoring short course workshops at GSA and/or AGU
- Sponsoring or hosting NAGT initiative and activities related to teacher education
- Support other third-party initiatives that align with TED's stated mission and vision
- Working with NAGT journals (Journal of Geoscience Education and In the Trenches) to promote dissemination of research and best practices in teacher education

### **Budget**

We currently have a balance of \$750 in our budget. Our estimated expenditures are present are:

<b>Item</b>	<b>Estimated Cost</b>
Meeting room for 2014 GSA Business Meeting	\$85
Publicity and materials for 2014 Business Meeting (stickers, banner, photocopies)	\$200
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$285</b>

Submitted by Heather Petcovic (2014-15 TED President)

Approved by the TED Executive Board on September 18, 2014

# William Prothero



2106 Las Canoas Rd • Santa Barbara, CA 93105 • 805-687-1005  
E-Mail: [Your E-Mail] Web: <http://es.earthednet.org>

Date: 9/12/2014

NAGT Executive Committee

Dear NAGT Executive Committee:

This is the second year that the new OEST award nomination procedure has been in place. The new system included a simple nomination form followed by additional, more extensive, information provided by the nominee. The intent was to simplify the nomination process and encourage more nominations. There were 41 nominations this year, compared to 35 (on time) last year. Several of the sections, including Pacific Northwest and Far Western, have their own nomination forms on their web sites, so are not included in this count.

I believe that there is potential to substantially increase the number of nominees. To facilitate this, I will start early to encourage the section OEST chairs to begin recruitment. The OEST chairs, as a whole, are enthusiastic about the award, and I feel that additional support, encouragement and ideas will bear fruit. I will begin to communicate with the sections in October.

There will also be a procedural change to improve the process. The existing procedure is for the initial nomination to be entered into the NAGT nomination form, then a request for more information to be sent to the nominee, who will access the NAGT web site and provide additional information and documents. The nominee notification and request for more information was sent only after the deadline for all nominations, which created a very short turn-around time and it was not always possible for the nominee to respond in a timely and thoughtful manner. In the future, notifications of each nomination will be sent to the nominee soon after the nomination is made. This will give the nominee sufficient time to access and fill out the forms that were created for this purpose, on the NAGT web site.

A list of the number of nominations made at the NAGT nomination web site for each section is included below (provided by Erica).

## 2014 OEST Awards Spring Update

### **Nominations by Section in National Queue**

Central - 11  
Eastern - 9  
Far Western - 1  
Midcontinent - 0  
New England - 2  
North Central - 0  
Pacific Northwest – 0 (but had several in their own queue)  
Southeastern - 14  
Southwest - 2  
Texas - 2

### **Awards given in 2014**

Central – in process  
Eastern – 1 section, 3 state winners  
Far Western - ?  
Midcontinent - 0



New England – in process

North Central - 0

Pacific Northwest – 1 section, 3 state winners (but had several in their own queue)

Southeastern - 1 state winner so far, I expect more to come

Southwest - in process

Texas – 1 section winner

Best regards,

*William A. Prothero Jr.*

William A. Prothero

## Dorothy Stout Award 2014

In 2014 we had 9 applicants for the Dorothy Stout grant proposals. These applications were reviewed by a committee of one university professor (Scott Linneman, Chair), one 2 Year College faculty (Lynsey LeMay), and one High School teacher (Wendy VanNorden). The committee granted three awards this year.

This year's winners are:

### **Joel Aquino, West Hall High School, Oakwood, GA**

The Dorothy Stout Professional Development grant will allow **Joel Aquino** to attend the 2014 Geological Society of America conference in Vancouver, Canada. Joel is in a unique situation in that he teaches the cross-disciplines of geology and physics/physical science in a K-12 high school (West Hall High School), introductory college (University of North Georgia) and graduate-level education (Piedmont College). Joel's attendance and participation at GSA will assist him in achieving his goals of remaining up-to-date on current Earth science pedagogy and Earth science research. This grant will allow Joel to update his professional knowledge, skills, and connections in order to better serve his broad spectrum of students and future science educators.

### **Ella Bowling, Mason County Middle School, Maysville, KY**

The Dorothy Stout Professional Development grant will allow **Ella Bowling** to attend the *History of Life—In the Fossil and Rock* workshop with the Geoscience Adventures of the Bighorn Basin. Currently, Ms. Bowling teaches a wide array of Earth science concepts including the rock cycle, plate tectonics, and weathering and erosion. This grant will allow her to experience this type of geology first hand in a field study basis that would enhance her content knowledge, improve her skill set, and greatly expand what she is currently doing regarding Earth science education in her 7<sup>th</sup> grade classroom.

### **Andrew Buddington, Spokane Community College, Spokane, WA**

The Dorothy Stout Professional Development grant will allow **Andrew Buddington** to facilitate an undergraduate student research project involving a combination of field and laboratory research on newly recognized (and geologically important) Precambrian rocks of the Inland Northwest region. The area of study (Cougar Gulch) was recently age dated by researchers from Washington State University. The geologic ages produced were completely unexpected and represent some of the oldest known rocks in the Pacific Northwest (1.86 to 2.64 billion years old). This grant will provide funding for sample preparations and analysis needed to complete an important phase of the project.

Report for the NAGT Teaching Assistant Awards  
Jeff Niemitz, Coordinator

I am pleased to report our progress on increasing the number of TA awards for this year from 6 to 8. This is double that of two years ago but still less than 2011. Once again I am indebted to Erica Zweifel for shepherding the administrative process of collecting nominations and helping to review the nominees' references. These students are very impressive not only in their academic pursuits but especially so in the ways in which they help their students learn better in a laboratory setting. The diversity of schools nominating students is also impressive with liberal arts colleges and international universities represented along with the major US research institutions. Our goal for next year is to again increase the number of nominations as well as further expand the diversity of institutions making nominations. We have yet to mount a direct outreach to NAGT member faculty to be on the lookout for and encouraging to excellent teaching assistants particularly in the introductory classes. We intend to make that push this coming award cycle. Thank you again for allowing me to service NAGT.





## **ANNUAL REPORT 2014: NAGT/USGS COOPERATIVE SUMMER FIELD TRAINING PROGRAM**

The 2014 Field Season for the NAGT/USGS Cooperative Summer Field Training Program marked the 49<sup>th</sup> year of what is now one of the longest running science internship programs in the nation. It also maintained the program's average historic levels of intern numbers. More than 2,300 students have participated in this program since it was first conceived in 1965 by William "Bill" Pecora, then the newly appointed Director of the US Geological Survey. Many of these students have gone on to become well-known leaders, influential professors and outstanding contributors to the knowledge base of geoscience. (More information about the history, operation of this program, and this year's interns can be found at: <http://education.usgs.gov/nagt/NAGTFlyer2014.pdf>.)

This year, 96 students were nominated by field camp directors, and 66 of those students completed an application for the program. After receiving 62 proposals from USGS scientists (who cost-share student support with the Director's office), and after the proposal review panel met and matched students to projects, a total of 49 students were placed with USGS science projects. Since bringing new life back into this historic program ten years ago, we have now gone from 8 placements in 2002, to numbers that are consistent with the historical average for this program.

Summary of information and tasks completed in 2014:

- This year, in an effort to reduce the number of applicants – and, concomitantly, the number of potential rejections – the USGS reduced the number of nominees from each field camp as follows:
  - One student if the camp enrollment is 20 students or less (previously 15)
  - Up to 2 students if the camp enrollment is 40 students or less (previously 30)
  - Up to 3 students if the camp enrollment is 60 students or less (previously 45)
  - Up to 4 students if the camp enrollment is greater than 60 students (previously 45)This has worked well, though as the program continues to be attractive to an increasing number of USGS scientists, we plan to monitor the number of field camp nominees allowed on an annual basis.
- In addition to the letter that NAGT sends out to all nominated students congratulating them on their nomination and providing instructions for applying to the program, USGS continues to send individual letters to each nominated student with notes of congratulations and application instructions.
- This year we continued the practice, introduced three years ago, of requesting that Field Camp Directors include a brief description of the attributes of the particular nominees selected. This greatly helps the USGS Placement Panel in their efforts to place a student with a project best suited to their abilities while also helping USGS mentor scientists in preparing to conduct their interviews with students.
- We continue to receive a growing number of proposals from our life scientists; they love the skill sets, field-based abilities, and commitment of these students. As USGS has a large (systems-science) portfolio of research responsibilities, it requires us to do some awareness building on the attributes and benefits of engaging in authentic research – no matter how many disciplines may be involved. Thus far, we have been successful in conveying this understanding. At the same time, and while understanding the program's budget constraints, the USGS needs to be more successful at soliciting a greater number of solid earth projects (classic field mapping and mineral studies, for example).
- As information available on geology field camps often tends to be inaccurate or out of date, we again spent considerable time this year updating our comprehensive listing of geology field camps nationwide – including, in most cases, contact names and websites. Using the same research procedures employed when the list was developed three years ago, we were able to cross-check and identify 114 active field camp programs during the 2014 academic year. Website links were identified for each program, as well as specific contact information for the

respective field camp instructors. This listing is now maintained on the USGS Education website and also placed on NAGT's website.

- Program evaluations continue to be sent to both scientists and interns. USGS takes the lead in sending evaluations to the scientists and NAGT takes the lead in sending evaluations to interns. As there is much attention in the federal system placed on student program evaluations, personalizing the evaluation request to the student interns and *early* request for feedback continues to be important. These evaluations, copies of information referenced in the bulleted items above, and detailed, multi-year comparative program information, will be provided in the full packets to those attending our Annual Joint NAGT/USGS Internship Meeting on Sunday, October 19<sup>th</sup>, from 2:00-4:00pm.
- The USGS, Office of the Director, continues to provide 50% cost-shared, intern salary support for a period of up to 12 weeks. Individual scientists, through their science centers, supply the other 50% support. Although final expenditures will not be determined until later next month, it is estimated that the collective support for this program will be ~\$400,000.
- A recently introduced Federal Recent Graduates program provides a much sought-after opportunity for NAGT/USGS interns to continue employment for up to three years, with the intent of permanent hire (if funding is available).
- **Of particular importance** to this historic internship program, and to the leadership of NAGT, is the pending retirement of the USGS National Education Coordinator, Robert Ridky. Of the myriad of educational activities of USGS, this internship program is of the highest priority. Position approval for Bob's replacement has been received, and we are presently conducting a national search. It is critically important that the candidate has strong academic ties and an NAGT affiliation that will continue the prioritization of this program. We request that NAGT leadership continue to identify appropriate candidates. Please see the EOS position announcement below:

"The U.S. Geological Survey invites applications from individuals with established leadership and advanced knowledge in earth or natural science as well as educational program accomplishments that will contribute to STEM workforce development of the next generation. The selectee will manage a range of recognized programs that integrate research and education, and actively engage USGS scientists in STEM development and formal and informal youth related outreach activities. The selectee will provide leadership to maintain and develop STEM education partnerships with other Department of Interior bureaus, other natural resource agencies, scientific and educational societies, academia, and other related citizen organizations. The formal announcement at <https://www.usajobs.gov/GetJob/ViewDetails/376292200> contains details on the application process. The position will be filled at the GS 14/15 level. Inquiries may be addressed to Dr. Robert Ridky (National Education Coordinator, [rRIDKY@usgs.gov](mailto:rRIDKY@usgs.gov)). United States citizenship is required. Applicant should have nationally recognized achievements in science and in managing science education programs."

9/10/14

Robert W. Ridky /s/  
National Education Coordinator  
U.S. Geological Survey

Penny Morton /s/  
NAGT Internship Representative  
University of Minnesota, Duluth

## NAGT/USGS 2014 Cooperative Summer Field Training Program Internship Placements

<b>Student Intern</b>	<b>Project Title</b>	<b>Researcher</b>
Paul Alessio BS Geology California State University, Long Beach	Hydrologic field studies to improve the forecasting of storm-driven landslides	Jonathan Stock San Francisco, CA
Bengino Alonzo BS Geology Northern Illinois University	Seismic imaging at Mount St. Helens	Seth Moran Vancouver, WA
Nikita Avedivitch BA Geology Macalester College	Tectonic geomorphology of the Bartlett Springs Fault System in Northern California	Stephen DeLong Menlo Park, CA
Erica Bays BA Environmental Science & Political Science Western Michigan University	Nutrient retention and productivity in Rocky Mountain streams under alternative stable states	David Walters Fort Collins, CO
Heather Bervid BA Earth and Space Sciences University of Washington, Seattle	Geomorphology and Quaternary assessment studies along the Willamette and Columbia River corridors	James O'Connor Portland, OR
Joseph Biasi Senior, Geological Sciences Indiana University	Cenozoic landscape evolution and tectonics of Southern Rocky Mountains and Alaska/Yukon geophysical/geological reconciliation	Scott Minor and Jonathan Caine Denver, CO
Ben Campanaro BS Geology SUNY Binghamton	Assessing climate change impacts on Pacific northwest glaciers	Matthew Bachmann Takoma, WA
Andrew Canada BS Geology Sonoma State University	Network operations of Northern California seismic stations	David Croker and David Oppenheimer Menlo Park, CA
Joshua DeVore BS Geology University of Kentucky	Geologic investigations of active faults in the Basin and Range province	Scott Bennett Golden, CO
Thomas Doody BS Geology University of Maryland, College Park	The effect of floodplain geomorphology on nutrient biogeochemistry and water quality	Gregory Noe Reston, VA
Ciel Elizalde BS Geology University of Texas, Arlington	Improved model assessment and development of shale-gas systems in the Gulf Coast Basin	Paul Hackley Gulf States
Sydney Gunnarson BS Geology Western Washington University	Utilizing Quaternary geochronology to unravel geomorphic histories	Cal Ruleman and Shannon Mahan Denver, CO
Jason Hallman BS Geological Sciences University of North Carolina	Quaternary mapping along the Willamette River Corridor, and linking geomorphic features with Pacific lamprey habitat	Rose Wallick Portland, OR
Melissa Harrington BS Earth and Space Sciences University of Washington	Microbial degradation of organic compounds in hydraulic fracturing produced waters	Denise Akob Reston, VA
Erin Hayes BS Geology University of Rochester	Transport of contaminants in groundwater	Allen Shapiro Reston, VA
Anna Hissem BS Geology Colorado State University	Evaluating the spatial and temporal distribution of marine mammals and seabirds off the Northern Pacific Coast	John Takekawa and Isa Woo Vallejo, CA
Dylan Jamison BS Earth and Space Science, Geology University of Washington, Seattle	Earthquake early warning modeling studies in the Cascadia Subduction Zone	Joan Gomberg Seattle, WA
Michael Jeletic BS Geological Sciences University of Oregon	Assessing foodweb resources for juvenile salmonids in the lower Columbia River..	Jennifer Morace Portland, OR

Clayton Jernigan BS Geology University of Alabama	Geophysical studies relating geothermal, mineral, and water resources to natural hazards in the Western U.S.	Jonathan Glen Menlo Park, CA
Genevieve Kidnman BS Geology Southern Utah University	National rivers and streams assessment survey	Tom Cleasby Helena, MT
Krystal Kiel BS Geology Oregon State University	Surface and borehole geophysical surveys for hydrologic framework assessment	John Lane Storrs, CT
Talia Klein BS Geology Brigham Young University	Geophysical investigations of hazardous faults and seismic ground motions for earthquake hazard assessments	William Stephenson Golden, CO
Todd Knobbe BS Geology University of Arkansas	Interactions between riparian wetland geomorphology, hydrology and ecology pertaining to ecosystem restoration	Cliff Hupp and Ed Schenk Reston, VA
Jacob Kolke BS Geological Sciences University of Minnesota, Duluth	Chemistry of groundwater wells in Pennsylvania counties with contrasting amounts of unconventional shale gas extraction	Jeff Chaplin Pennsylvania
Christopher Leach BS Geology Fort Lewis College	Fate and transport of biodegrading chlorinated solvent contaminants in fractured rock aquifers	Thomas Imbriotta Lawrenceville, NJ
Natalie Leibovitz BS Earth Science Northeastern Illinois University	Modeling and measurement of unsaturated zone flow processes	John Nimmo Menlo Park, CA
Robert McDermott BS Geology University of Pittsburgh	Earthquake hazards studies in the Central and Eastern U.S.	Walter Mooney Menlo Park, CA
Coulter McPhail BS Geology SUNY Fredonia	Benthic nutrient flux of biologically reactive solutes in the headwaters of the Klamath River Basin	James Kuwabara Menlo Park, CA
Daniel Morel BS Geology Macalester College	Assessing the influence of natural copper-nickel bedrock on water quality	Perry Jones Mounds View, MN
Monica Mustain BS Geology Illinois State University	Geophysical studies relating geothermal, mineral, and water resources to natural hazards in the Western U.S.	Jonathan Glen Menlo Park, CA
Tanya Petach Senior, Environmental Engineering/Earth and Planetary Sciences Harvard University	Plant phenology impacts on migration and fitness of Mule Deer	Geneva Chong Jackson, WY
Alexandra Pickering BS Geology San Francisco State University	Geological and geophysical studies of the San Andreas Fault system	Shane Detweiler Menlo Park, CA
Ellyn Rickels BS Geology/Environmental Studies Iowa State University	National rivers and streams assessment survey	Tom Cleasby Helena, MT
Lucas Rietmann BS Geology Oregon State University	Geodetic monitoring of Cascade Range Volcanoes and Yellowstone National Park	Michael Lisowski and Benjamin Pauk Vancouver, WA and Yellowstone
Timothy Roberston Senior, Geological Sciences/Chemistry University of Missouri	Geochemical analyses of terrestrial input into Upper Klamath Lake	Nancy Simon Reston, VA
Aaron Salin BS Geological Sciences University of Texas at Austin	Paleoseismic studies of active faults in Northern California	Carol Prentice Menlo Park, CA
Tyler Schleider BS Geology Oregon State University	Melt and fluid inclusion analysis for resource studies The effect of floodplain geomorphology on nutrient biogeochemistry and water quality	Albert Hofstra Denver, CO
Brian Selk		

BS Geology Brigham Young University	Nitrates and pesticides in groundwater relating to human health in siliciclastic aquifers	Jeffrey Chaplin Western Pennsylvania
James Smith Senior, Geology Louisiana State University	Response of Colorado Front Range watershed to fire and flood disturbances	Sheila Murphy and Deborah Martin Boulder, CO
Luke Stephens BS Environmental Geosciences/Biology Concord University	Sea turtle movements and habitat use, and American crocodile nest monitoring	Kristen Hart Florida
Kelsey Taylor BS Environmental Geoscience University of Oregon	Investigating factors determining the niche of the American pika living in rocky talus slopes	Erik Beever Yellowstone, Glacier NP, Nevada, Oregon
Evan Thaler BS Geology University of Arkansas	Understanding the ecological repercussions of high flow events in suburban streams	Judson Harvey Reston, VA
Kara Vadman BA Geology Colgate University	Impact of nitrogen and sea level rise loading on carbon sequestration in coastal salt marsh ecosystems	Meagan Eagle Gonneea Woods Hole, MA
Walker Weir BS Earth Sciences University of California, Santa Cruz	Developing new automated devices and methods for analysis of stable isotopes in geological, hydrological and biological materials	Craig Johnson and Matthew Emmons Denver, CO
Crystal Weststad BS Geological Sciences/Anthropology Indiana University, Bloomington	Earthquake activity and fault slip rates along the southern San Andreas Fault	Katherine Scharer Pasadena, CA
Jenna West BS Geology University of Texas at Arlington	Cenozoic landscape evolution of the Southern Rocky Mountain Regions	Kenzie Turner Denver, CO
Patrick Whalen BS Geology University of Kentucky	Geologic mapping and stratigraphic studies at Cascade Volcanoes	James Vallance Vancouver, WA
Shana Wolff BS Geology University of Wyoming	Geographical variation of elemental and isotopic signatures to determine the provenance of Rosewood from Madagascar	Ty Coplen Reston, VA
Holly Young BS Geology Idaho State University	Restoration assessment of fish population in the Wind River Watershed	Ian Jezorek and Patrick Connolly Cook, WA