Moving your Research to a Two-Year College

Scholarly Activity for Two-Year College Faculty

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Presentation Outline

- Trends in Geoscience Education at Community Colleges
- Research - Challenges
- Research - Strategies
- Other Scholarly Activities
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Figure 1.19: For-Credit Fall Enrollments at Post-secondary Institutions

Source: AGI Geoscience Workforce Program, data derived from NCES, Digest of Education Statistics, 2007
Figure 1.21: Geographic Distribution of Community Colleges that Offer Programs in Geoscience Disciplines
Figure 1.22: Geographic Distribution of Community Colleges that Offer General Geoscience Programs

Source: AGI Geoscience Workforce Program, data derived from the NCES College Navigator.
Figure 1.23: Geographic Distribution of Community Colleges that Offer Dedicated “Core” Geoscience Programs
Figure 1.24: Geographic Distribution of Community Colleges that Offer Programs in Geoscience Engineering and Geoscience Technical Programs
Figure 1.25: Trends in Geoscience Associate Degrees from Community Colleges
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Challenges

• Insufficient time
• Insufficient funds
• Insufficient research space
• Insufficient support
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Strategies

• Partner with a local university
• Make research a part of your courses
• Education-based research
• Community-based research
• Reduce your teaching load
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Other Scholarly Activities

• Publications
  – Guidebook of local geology
  – Fieldtrip guide
  – Textbook writing/editing
  – Write book review for professional journal
Other Scholarly Activities

• Volunteer for Professional Service
  – Propose/Chair a session at a meeting such as GSA, NAGT, AGU, NSTA
  – Officer of a professional society/Division
  – Committee member of a professional society/Division
  – Journal reviewer
Other Scholarly Activities

• Enrich your school’s curriculum
  – Set-up new equipment (campus weather station, seismograph)
  – Support GPS use or earthcaching
  – Contact local surveyors, drillers, landscaping firms, etc. for materials for classroom/campus use
  – Run field trips for non-geology faculty
Other Scholarly Activities

• Enrich your department’s visibility
  – Be actively involved in Earth Science Week
  – Develop a geoscience program website
  – Collaborate with geology faculty from nearby universities
  – Have students create geoscience-themed art (murals, photos, fossil displays, framed geologic maps)
Other Scholarly Activities

• Community Service
  – Involve yourself and/or your students in elementary and middle school classes
  – Lead a field-trip for in-service teachers
  – Volunteer to judge a local science fair, or develop one at a school that does not have one
  – Work with scouts for geology merit badges