

NAGT Annual Report
Fall 2021
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Past President, 2020-2021
Report prepared: October 9, 2021

Goals from last report:

My goals from my mid-year report were to learn how to code in R, make progress on a submitted proposal (if funded) and to make preparations for serving as Chair of the Pd Committee. I did start learning to code in R, but stalled on making further progress in order to resubmit rejected NSF proposals to the new July IUUSE deadline.

NAGT Executive Committee work:

As Past President I attended all meetings of the Executive Committee (ExComm) and the Council, including several calls of the Presidential Line to help prepare the agendas for meetings.

NAGT Council work:

I attended all Council meetings.

NAGT Committee work:

I have been serving as the NAGT representative on the NSF-funded [Bridging to STEM Excellence](#) project led by Rick Moog from the POGIL project. The project created a consortium of organizations that provide professional development (POGIL, BioQuest, NAGT, National Center for Science and Civic Engagement, and the Summer Institutes for Scientific Teaching) to pilot a consultancy program. Five pilot institutions identified challenges, and the BTSE project provided 3-person teams of PD providers to lead consultancy visits to each campus and provide recommendations for professional development. I led a team of three consultants (myself and representatives from NCSCE and BioQuest) to Bakersfield College in California in March, 2020 and co-authored a report based on findings from that visit to provide suggestions to the institution for improving student success in math courses. The group has continued to meet virtually, but only two of the pilot institutions have been able to have in-person consultation visits.

I have been promoting NAGT PD programs (especially the TWP) through the BTSE project. One of the pilot institutions, Georgia State University, applied to host a TWP in January of 2022 (thanks to efforts from NAGT 2nd Vice President Christy Visaggi). I also helped to solicit a TWP leader (Rachel Teasdale) to co-lead a workshop in the Biology Department at BTSE pilot institution California State University at Chico. This workshop was offered in partnership with a facilitator from BioQuest, another partner organization in the BTSE project.

I serve as a member of the Professional Development Planning Committee and attended all meetings. The PD committee oversees all professional development activities for NAGT. The PD committee was expanded to include a graduate student representative. We will need to work on finding new committee members as some members complete their terms, and should also think

about staggering terms to keep consistency in membership. We also began discussions about how the PD committee could respond to new ideas for programming.

I was present at the NAGT virtual booth at the UTeach virtual conference in June, 2020. No meeting attendees visited the booth while I was present.

I met twice with Executive Director Anne Egger, Rory McFadden, and SERC staff to think about redesigning the NAGT homepage.

Executive Director Anne Egger, SERC Director Ellen Iverson, NAGT member Sue Ebanks and I submitted a proposal to the NSF IUSE program to seek funding to administer the National Geoscience Faculty Survey two more times. This proposal was revised and resubmitted based on reviews from a December 2020 submission.

Councilor-at-Large Katherine Ryker and I have been meeting to brainstorm ways to expand NAGT activities for students. To begin, we will propose the creation of an Outstanding Teaching Assistant Awards Committee that would solicit and review nominations for the awards and help promote the involvement of award recipients in NAGT activities (e.g. networking activities, special invitations for EER registration, etc.). I will continue to work with Katherine to further develop and implement our ideas.

I am a workshop leader for the Travelling Workshops Program (TWP). I participated in an URGE pod for TWP facilitators led by TWP chair Catherine Riihimaki. These discussions were valuable for me personally, and have been important for thinking about both how the TWP operates and the programming we provide. I attended the virtual TWP leader training in January, 2021 focused on leading virtual workshops, the training in May 2021 focused on DEI, and the July 2021 training focused on revising and updating TWP materials. I led a 2-day Building Strong Geoscience Departments workshop with Julie Bartley at Mississippi State University in October, 2021, and am scheduled to lead a 2-day Supporting all Students workshop with Patrick Belmont at Central Washington University in November, 2021.

I served as the chair of the Nominations Committee. The committee solicited nominations from the NAGT community for two Councilor-at-Large positions, Secretary/Treasurer, and 2nd Vice President. I enjoyed working with past presidents Anne Egger, Randy Richardson, and David McConnell to review nominations and invited a strong set of candidates to be put forward to the NAGT community for approval by vote.

Liaison activity:

I am the liaison to the Geo2YC Division, but was not invited to attend any officers meetings during the reporting period.

Conference/meeting participation:

I attended the virtual Earth Educators' Rendezvous in July 2021, where my graduate student, Greg Shafer, gave a talk about desired workforce skills in bachelors-level geoscientists based on an analysis of job advertisements. I will also attend the October 2021 GSA meeting in Portland.

Other activities relevant to NAGT:

I co-led an NAGT webinar about [graduate student onboarding courses](#) in March of 2021. We had approximately 50 participants and the webinar recording remains available. The informal group of instructors involved in this webinar is led by Michele Cooke at UMass Amherst. We had a commentary about onboarding courses published in Nature Geoscience, and we will lead an NAGT-sponsored virtual workshop at AGU in December 2021 about the same topic.

I was invited to speak with the National Academies [Roundtable on Systemic Change in Undergraduate STEM Education](#) about the current state of undergraduate geoscience education. The meeting took place on February 16, 2021.

At my own institution (Boise State University), I serve as a member of the Department of Geosciences Undergraduate Program Committee. I am also the PI on an NSF S-STEM grant that awards scholarships to BS Geoscience students at Boise State. As part of the project activities, I developed a new course, GEOS 301 Career Exploration and Planning in the Geosciences that I teach each Fall.

During the Fall 2020 semester, I worked with three co-instructors to facilitate a one-credit Race and Racism in the Earth and Environmental Sciences readings seminar for undergraduate and graduate students in the geosciences, biology, and human and environmental systems communities. The 15 enrolled students proposed action plans at the end of the semester based on course readings and discussions. I am continuing to work with one of these students on exploring strategies for training teaching assistants in our department.

I am advising a PhD student, Greg Shafer, who is investigating desired workforce skills and the alignment between these skills and undergraduate geoscience programming. Greg presented his work at the 2021 EER, and will be giving a talk at GSA..

Goals for the next reporting period:

This is my last report as a member of the NAGT Executive Committee. I have served as a member of the ExComm since the Fall of 2014 when I began a 3-year term as Council-at-Large. Thank you to NAGT for helping me to find a place in the world of geoscience education, and for giving me an opportunity to learn from and contribute to an amazing community. I'm pretty sad to be leaving, but will still be in touch with ExComm through my role as Chair of the PD Committee.