Report to the NAGT Executive Committee from the Geo2YC Division

15 August, 2019

Current Division Officers

President: Joy Branlund, Southwestern Illinois College
Past President: Callan Bentley, Northern Virginia Community College
Vice President (& President-Elect): Jackie Hams, Los Angeles Valley College
Secretary/Treasurer: Gretchen Miller, Wake Tech Community College (replaced Wendi J. W. Williams, South Texas College, who resigned August 2, 2019)
Newsletter Editor: Suki Smaglik, Yakima Valley Community College
Webmaster: Chris Johnson, Salt Lake Community College
Archivist: Peter Berquist, Thomas Nelson Community College

Geo2YC is in its eighth year as a division of NAGT. We currently have 264 members in the division, having gained 52 new members since last year and lost 75 to attrition. Our account balance is $7,915.05, currently residing with NAGT HQ.

Below is a summary of activities completed and/or in progress:

1. The Executive Board opted to switch from quarterly to monthly meetings (via teleconference) to better discuss ongoing projects, brainstorm solutions to problems, and share Geo2YC related news. We met five times between November and August, although we only had a quorum for three of those meetings.

2. The Long-Range Planning Committee is working to ensure continuity in the Division. For example, they are planning to re-execute a survey of Geo2yc faculty that was completed years ago and investigate changes relevant to our members.

3. The Executive Board reviewed the Bylaws for the first time since the Division’s founding. Some revisions have been proposed, including formalizing the Outstanding Adjunct Faculty Award Committee and making the Past-President a voting member of the Board. These changes will become effective in Geo2YC’s next year.

4. The Executive Board drafted a budget that allows the Division to award mini-grants to help community college faculty pursue professional development. These opportunities will be announced during the annual business meeting at September’s GSA.

5. We publish a quarterly newsletter, Foundations, which is distributed digitally through the Geo2YC website and the Geo2YC listserv. The newsletters include a variety of content, including field tips, reports from recent workshops, contributions of teaching pedagogies
for 2YC faculty, photographs of our distinctive “scale pencil” in the field, and incorporation of geoscience educational resources in the classroom, just to name a few. This year, our newsletter editor has experimented with different modes of production to streamline her job.

6. We awarded an Outstanding Adjunct Faculty Award (OAFA) to three quarterly winners and one annual awardee. Each awardee is showcased in newsletters and awarded a membership to both NAGT and the division, and the annual awardee is also awarded $750 of professional development funds provided by Pearson publishing.

7. We had a large presence at the Earth Educator Rendezvous (EER) and co-hosted a happy hour social one evening (with the Geoscience Education Research and Teacher Education divisions of NAGT). Attendance (and good conversation) was strong at this event, and participants received one of our popular scale pencils. Our sponsorship of workshops and technical sessions at GSA also helps promote the division and its mission.

8. We will be participating in the following GSA 2019 activities:
   a. Geo2YC is a sponsor for two technical sessions, one short course and one field trip. In one of the technical sessions, we will be honoring Dr. Heather Macdonald’s contributions to geoscience in two-year colleges.
   b. The eighth business meeting of the Division will be held Sunday, September 22nd, 2019, at 4:30pm, at GSA.
   c. We will continue to promote the Division with the use of Geo2YC brochures and newsletters and our distinctive scale pencil, co-sponsored with NAGT national and Little River Research and Design.

9. 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, regional, and local events. We are always working to recruit liaisons.

10. Our website is continually updated. We’ve worked to store more of our records on password-protected places of our website, but need to work to make the publicly accessible website more robust. In addition, we explore ways to solidify our presence in social media, given that current officers may not readily post in Facebook (Geo2YC) or Twitter (@geo2YC).

11. We have elected
   a. An incoming Vice-President, Sean Tvelia, from Suffolk County Community College, who will serve subsequent one-year terms as President and Past-President.
   b. Gretchen Miller of Wake Tech Community College was elected as Secretary/Treasurer, and agreed to step in early when Wendi Williams resigned before her term ended.
   c. Bridget James from DeAnza College was elected to serve as our new Webmaster.

12. Jackie Hams of Los Angeles Valley College will assume duties as President of the division (and Joy Branlund will transition to Past-President) at our division business meeting at GSA.

Respectfully submitted,

Joy Branlund
Southwestern Illinois College
Geo2YC Division President