

**NAGT Year-End Report
Fall 2020
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2nd Vice President, 2019-2020
Report prepared: October 19, 2020**

NAGT Executive Committee

Over the past year, I attended all but one of the Executive Committee meetings (I was not present at GSA in 2019 to attend the in-person meeting there). I've also attended various presidential line meetings as those have arisen. All the meetings I've attended have been virtual, as even our usual spring face-to-face executive committee meeting was held virtually this past May due to COVID.

Over this past year, the executive committee has overseen the hiring of a new Executive Director and has helped lead and confirm successful searches for new editors for both the Journal of Geoscience Education (JGE) and In The Trenches (ITT).

Other executive committee work has involved bylaws changes, the development of a new committee on Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee, and a transition to all online experiences and workshops, the largest of which to manage was the Earth Educators' Rendezvous (EER).

NAGT Council

I have been in attendance at NAGT Council meetings this past year and, as incoming 1st VP, I expect to run these meetings for the coming year to help relay information between the executive committee and council members.

NAGT Committees

- **Advocacy Committee**

Though I am a member of the Advocacy Committee, the scheduling and some individual commitments have made it difficult to make many of the meetings. I have provided input where I can, even when not in attendance. Under lead of the chair of the committee, work has been done to revise and refine procedures on the development and review of position statements.

- **Investment Committee**

I've served on the Investment Committee for this past year and have attended called meetings. This has been an interesting learning experience for me, as I've done some research into financial advising terms and processes. We continue to evaluate the best investment options for NAGT.

- **JGE Editor Search Committee**

From late last year and into late this summer, I served as the chair of the search committee for the new editor in chief of the Journal of Geoscience Education (JGE). Due to COVID and the unanticipated interruption of the spring semester, we extended the application deadline and then transitioned our interview schedule to Zoom instead of doing face-to-face interviews at EER.

I'm pleased that the committee had a successful search and JGE is in process of transitioning to the new editor within the next couple of months. This fulfilled one of my reported goals on the mid-year report.

Liaison activity

- **AGI Liaison**

AGI has had one internationally attended virtual meeting since I officially became the liaison and I was in attendance. I'll also be attending their virtual meeting at GSA this year.

As AGI Liaison, I also served on an ad hoc Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion committee for AGI where a statement with suggested guidelines on best practices was created. That has recently been distributed to member societies for review. Another of my mid-year report goals was to refine this process. Some of that work has been completed and perhaps with the upcoming website revisions, more of that may be completed.

- **GSA Joint Technical Program Committee**

As the JTPC representative for NAGT, I was involved in the scheduling of geoscience education section presentations and posters. A significant amount of online work was involved, including one full afternoon of Zoom, during which the geoscience education subcommittee of the JTPC worked to ensure the proposed sessions were all well represented and that all sessions aligned with allowable participant numbers within the given timeframes for scheduling as guided by GSA. Scheduling was obviously a bit different this year, due to the transition of GSA to a virtual format.

The JTPC representative also works on the NAGT end to communicate with proponents (and the NAGT executive committee and executive director, if necessary) to approve any NAGT sponsorship requests for sessions, events, and workshops, whether for GSA or other events.

Conference/Meeting participation

Unfortunately, I was unable to attend EER this year, as my home internet connection was not stable enough at the time to handle a full workshop type of event.

Other activities relevant to NAGT

I continue to incorporate material from EarthLabs into a course on Earth Systems Science for Teachers. This fully online course is geared primarily toward preservice middle school science teachers, and I hope the introduction of this site to them will encourage them to use these and other NAGT and SERC related resources in their teaching careers.

I am working with an undergraduate preservice science teacher (a chemistry and education double-major) to incorporate concept sketching into my classrooms and evaluate the use of concept sketching as a pedagogical tool for the students. Although COVID has definitely hindered our ability to do the full project that we intended to do, we were still able to collect one semester of information and he is writing his senior education research thesis on this topic.

As everything transitioned to online this past spring, I shared a lot of NAGT and SERC resources with my colleagues, as many of them had never taught fully online before COVID.

Upcoming activities

I will be attending GSA online this year and will be involved in NAGT and AGI meetings in the week prior to GSA. I'll also be attending a state event, KAS in November, as the undergraduate student doing research on concept sketching will be doing his presentation.

Goals for next reporting period

I plan to continue as the JTPC representative for GSA and the AGI liaison for NAGT, while also transitioning to 1st Vice President of NAGT. Part of becoming 1st VP will also involve learning to run the Council meetings. I hope to attend more Advocacy Committee meetings this coming year and be more involved in that work.