

NAGT Annual Report
Fall 2020
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Councilor-at-Large, 2018-2021
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Activities since Annual GSA meeting, October 2020

My final year as a member of the Executive Committee has been busy and filled with changes. My work generally fell into three areas: facilitator and chair of the Traveling Workshop Program, chair of the Advocacy Committee, and co-leader of programs at the Earth Educators' Rendezvous.

Traveling Workshop Program: This year, the TWP was able to fully adapt to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic and to conduct a series of three workshops for our facilitators. I personally was lead facilitator for a two-day virtual workshop for the University of Pennsylvania December 14-15, 2020 with co-facilitator Walt Robinson. Although the End-of-Workshop evaluation had poor participation, we conclude that the workshop was highly successful based on post-workshop conversations with the department chair, who highlighted specific actions that resulted from the strategic planning completed during the Traveling Workshop.

With funding from NSF secured by Reginald Archer and David Blockstein, I helped plan and implement three virtual workshops for our facilitators to assess our program, revise our materials, and practice facilitation techniques. On January 8, 2021, the facilitators met to discuss how to transition to virtual Traveling Workshops. On May 20-21, 2021, facilitators from the Traveling Workshop Program, Workshop for Early Career Geoscience Faculty, and Preparing for an Academic Career Workshop, met for professional development led by Nancy McHugh entitled "Toward a More Equitable Geoscience: A Training Workshop for Facilitators." This workshop marked a first for collaboration across workshop types and for combining resources from distinct NSF grants (to TWP and the Early Career Workshop). On June 22, 2021, the TWP facilitators met again to revise materials and plan for next steps.

Finally, I led an Unlearning Racism in the Geosciences (URGE) pod of 12 facilitators and participated in several meetings as a member of the TWP Management Team. I look forward to another year as TWP Chair, with Walt Robinson now acting as Co-Chair.

Advocacy Committee: This year, the Advocacy Committee has continued our focus on serving all NAGT members to become effective advocates. To that end, we had three primary activities this year:

- A series of *In the Trenches* articles focused on how NAGT members can kickstart their advocacy (several articles in the [April 2021 issue](#) and one in the [July 2021 issue](#)).
- Continuing revising existing NAGT [position statements](#), with a revised statement on Climate Change Education to be voted on by the NAGT Council in October 2021. Don Haas conducted a webinar in February 2021 to get community feedback on the statement, a nice model that we hope to continue in the other statement revisions.
- A roundtable discussion on advocacy at the 2021 Earth Educators' Rendezvous.
- A draft update to the procedure for NAGT signing on to other organizations' position statements, now awaiting discussion by the Executive Committee.
- A draft policy for NAGT to consider discriminatory laws that might affect participants when choosing event venues.
- Revising the committee membership to have nine total members on three-year rotations.
- Successfully advocating to the Executive Committee that NAGT should sign on to the ACE National Strategy Framework for the United States

Mike Phillips will now be taking over as committee chair, because the chair must be a member of the Executive Committee. I will remain on the Advocacy Committee for at least one more year.

Earth Educators' Rendezvous: I was proud to attend the second virtual Earth Educators' Rendezvous (EER) in July 2021, keeping my streak alive of having attended each one. I co-led the Preparing for an Academic Career workshop Monday-Wednesday mornings and presented a virtual poster Wednesday afternoon on the TWP URGE pod. Thursday and Friday mornings, I participated in the workshop on students' mental health and well-being. As a leader and a participant, I congratulate all involved in planning and implementing the virtual EER. I thought it went really well!

General NAGT work: Finally, I'm proud to have been an active member of the Executive Committee, attending all but two meetings of the ExComm and the Council this year. I also represented NAGT at its virtual booth at the GSA annual meeting. It is a pleasure working with all of my great NAGT colleagues! I will miss being on the Executive Committee, though my new position in private industry will make full engagement more difficult. Still, I am looking for ways in which my new company, 2NDNATURE Software Inc., can collaborate with NAGT.