



Modern-day and Pleistocene wave cut platforms separated by vertically dipping Cretaceous deltaic sediments; note unconformity of Pleistocene beach sediments lying vertically dipping Cretaceous; Bowling Ball Beach, Point Arena, CA.

NAGT Annual Report: 2004-2005
GSA 2006, Salt Lake City, UT

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A. Executive Committee Reports

a. Presidents

i. President (Geoffrey Feiss)

Annual Report of Activities -- 2005

1. Attended Council Meeting and ExComm meeting in Denver, Nov. 6 & 8, 2004
2. Attended and arranged ExComm Meeting, Williamsburg, May 6-8, 2005
3. Member of Advisory Board for NAGT-AGI Environmental Geoscience textbook (college text)
4. Chair, Advisory Board for AGI High School Environmental Science text
5. Prepared letter (May, 2005) on behalf of NAGT to Massachusetts Board of Education in support of retaining competencies in earth science (attached)
6. Served as chair of 2005 Biggs Award Selection committee
7. Dealt with controversy surrounding by the Marcus Ross article in the May 2005 issue of *JGE* entitled "Who Believes What? Clearing up Confusion over Intelligent Design and Young-Earth Creationism [Ross, *JGE*, v. 53, p. 319-323]." Prepared newsletter article for members (attached). Through this process established contact with NCSE for support in future.
8. Investigated use of MSA to outsource membership management.
9. Prepared draft policy for NAGT Policy Statements (attached)
10. Confirmed AGI/NAGT lab manual memorandum of understanding on shared royalties and signed continuing agreement for new edition under same terms as before.

Letter to Massachusetts Board of Education

P.O Box 8795
Williamsburg, Virginia 23187-8795
757/221-1993, Fax 757/221-2791, email pgfeis@wm.edu

May 18, 2005

Office of Student Assessment
Attention: Public Comment
350 Main St.
Malden, MA 02148

Dear Sir/Madam:

I understand that the Massachusetts Board of Education is proposing Amendments to the Massachusetts Comprehensive Assessment System and Standards for Competency Determination that will add Science and Technology/Engineering to the MCAS exams for high school graduation. I write as the President of the National Association of Geoscience Teachers, the largest organization of earth science teachers in the country. Our membership strongly supports actions that enhance science/engineering and the public awareness of these fields. However, we are troubled that the proposed standards omit competency assessment in the fields of astronomy, environmental science, geology, meteorology, and oceanography.

Earth and space sciences are part of all major science standards (Project 2061 Benchmarks, the National Science Education Standards, and Science for All Americans). There are few problems facing modern society – whether it is adequacy of natural resources, environmental pollution, water quality, climate change, human health, coastal and marine policy, natural hazards including flooding, severe weather, earthquakes, tsunamis, or volcanic risk – whose resolution does not require deep understanding of the earth sciences. To fail to include a substantive assessment of earth and space science in the Massachusetts standards will ill-serve your students and jeopardize the quality of science and technology training of your high school graduates.

Commendably, earth science remains one of the three strands of science in the Massachusetts curriculum framework alongside the physical and life sciences. Hence, I urge that you give earth science parity in your competency determinations for high school graduation in order that they remain a central component of high school science instruction.

Sincerely yours,



P. Geoffrey Feiss
President, National Association of Geoscience Teachers
Provost, College of William and Mary

July 28, 2005:

Letter to NAGT members concerning May 2005 issue of *JGE* entitled “Who Believes What? Clearing up Confusion over Intelligent Design and Young-Earth Creationism [Ross, *JGE*, v. 53, p. 319-323].

Fellow NAGT members,

Many of you have likely read the article in the May 2005 issue of *JGE* entitled “Who Believes What? Clearing up Confusion over Intelligent Design and Young-Earth Creationism [Ross, *JGE*, v. 53, p. 319-323].” Several members of the Executive Committee and Council have received inquiries and questions about this article. Some object to the content; others question the appropriateness of the subject. There are also questions as to how the article was reviewed and selected for publication as well as anxieties expressed that publication of this article in some way legitimizes creationist or intelligent design (ID) theories of evolution. A few even suggested that the article be retracted. In addition, concerns were raised by some on the basis of the fact that the author is listed as a fellow of the Center for Science and Culture (CSC), a program of the Discovery Institute dedicated to challenging Darwinian evolution and to promoting ID. These are important questions and the Executive Committee and Editor of *JGE* have agreed that it might be helpful for me to respond in the interests of keeping our members fully informed of our publication policies and practices and to keep the conversation in the open.

First of all, the Executive Committee has emphatically recommended against any consideration of retraction of the article in question. Second, we want publicly to support the Editor’s decision to publish this article and, furthermore, to indicate that he has our full confidence. I explain these decisions at some length below.

Why have we reached these conclusions? NAGT is committed to academic freedom and open intellectual inquiry within the normative paradigm of science. These goals are in our strategic plan of 2003 (see <http://nagt.org/files/nagt/NAGTStratPlan.pdf>). This means, in my own words, that we are obligated in all that NAGT does as either sponsor or partner to critical analysis of ideas and equal access to our programs and publications for authors whose work meets the rigorous standards of the traditions of science. What does that mean? Each of us might have our own different definitions, but I think it is safe to say that a broad consensus of NAGT members would characterize these traditions as a commitment to:

- the scientific method
- unfettered critical thinking
- openness to new and challenging ideas
- evidence- and observation-based testing of all ideas

In addition, NAGT stands firmly with other earth science societies in opposing unscientific doctrines like creationism and ID, especially when they posit that organic evolution is not a scientifically proven theory. Mike Gibson, NAGT Councilor-at-Large, is working on an NAGT Statement on Evolution that will be similar to that of the Paleontological Society (<http://www.paleosoc.org/evolutioncomplete.htm>) and of GSA (<http://www.geosociety.org/aboutus/position.htm>) for discussion and possible approval at the October Council meeting.

Does the article in question meet our standards? We think so. The author uses a cladistic analysis to classify belief systems as they relate to evolution. He makes no effort to establish the primacy of any single system. *JGE* has published papers with comparable goals in the past (see Wise, D.U., 2001, Creationism's propaganda assault on deep time and evolution," v. 49, p. 30-35 or Dutch, S.I., 2002, Religion as belief vs. religion as fact, v. 50, p. 137-144). The Ross article takes a stand that is implicitly agnostic with respect to creationism and ID. This may bother some; they might interpret this to imply that unscientific systems are equivalent in some ways to Darwinian evolution. This concern would be fair enough were an analysis of the validity of competing belief systems the purpose of the article. It is not. The article is a classification schema for helping teachers better understand where their students may be "coming from" as they, the students, study evolution in science classes

Is the article appropriate for *JGE*?

Some may see the content as too philosophical, perhaps even too close to the culture wars for comfort. However, our Instructions to Contributors are explicit (<http://www.nagt.org/nagt/jge/instructions.html>):

[t]he *Journal of Geoscience Education* publishes papers related to pedagogical, educational, historical, philosophical, and cultural, aspects of all the geosciences, including such related fields as geophysics, geochemistry, oceanography, astronomy, meteorology, soil science, and environmental sciences. Broadly speaking, it is the objective of the Journal to improve geoscience instruction at all levels and in all settings. Although material published

in the Journal should somehow be related to instruction, review papers on topics that are experiencing significant change will be considered.

Others may feel that there is a "political" agenda behind the article, particularly in light of the author's public affiliation with the CSC. However, this agenda is neither explicit nor implicit in the article and, again, we have published similar articles before. Furthermore, we feel that it is inappropriate for us to reject articles that otherwise meet our standards based solely on the author's affiliations. This is too close to censorship to meet our standards for fair and open discourse. Thus, the Executive Committee feels that the Editor and his appointed reviewers, including a well-known paleontologist, correctly applied our criteria in accepting this article for publication.

Do we all agree with everything said in the article? Probably not. But, that is the give-and-take of science. Which brings us to the next question. Should we be encouraging comments, rebuttals, discussions, angry letters to the editor? Normally, and by "normal" I mean the realm of normal scientific discourse, we might say we should and would; but there is an aspect to this particular circumstance that argues caution. Some proponents of non-scientific theories like creationism and ID have a public strategy to use our mode of scientific discourse as an entering wedge for the promulgation of their own,

nonscientific ideas¹. They have made their intentions clear to use the medium of scientific publication to further their own political agenda. Hence, rebuttals in scientific journals to articles such as the one that concerns us here will be characterized by them as *prima facie* evidence that there is an active debate among scientists as to the validity of Darwinian evolution². We could, then, play into their hand even when we engage in the normative practice of correcting wrong science. A scientist rebuts an incorrect statement with respect to ID or creationism; the author rebuts the rebuttal; and the proponents of ID tout this as proof of an on-going debate within the scientific community over the substance of Darwinian evolution.

Hence we have not encouraged such a response. We do,

of course, encourage additional articles that may address and challenge incorrect or simplistic ideas in this, as in any article, published in *JGE*.

Geoff Feiss, President
NAGT

¹ To those unfamiliar with this strategy, I recommend <http://www.antievolution.org/features/wedge.html>.

² In point of fact, some might argue that even publishing an article of this kind plays into that same strategy. We fully expect that *JGE*'s publication of this article may be cited by proponents of ID as evidence that reputable scientific journals publish articles challenging the primacy of Darwinian evolution. There are two problems here. First, the article does not so argue; thus, we are not contributing to such an assertion though it will undoubtedly be made. We can not control what overzealous advocates may say in promoting their own special interests. Second, we must, as a scientific society, balance the competing value of openness and free discourse against our desire to see unscientific methods denied legitimacy. We should not be silenced by the political agendas of unscrupulous or sectarian devotees of belief systems who intend to deny scientists and teachers the intellectual freedom in which to pursue their work. Unfortunately, there are few bright lines here, but we believe that the Editor of *JGE* has made the right call.

Proposed Procedure for Approval of NAGT Position Statements:

1. Any member of NAGT may propose that Council consider a formal position statement on behalf of NAGT.
 - a. That proposal need not, at this stage, include a draft statement, but should include a brief justification that provides the context for the statement and an explanation as to how this statement aligns with NAGT's mission.
 - b. Such a proposal may be made via any officer of NAGT.
2. The NAGT ExComm will determine by a majority vote (either email or at an ExComm meeting) that Council consider such a statement. The President, with the concurrence of a majority of the ExComm, shall appoint a committee to prepare a draft statement for the next meeting of the NAGT Council.
 - a. An email vote suffices only if no member of ExComm objects. Should there be an objection, the proposal must come to meeting of ExComm for further discussion.
 - b. Typically, the drafting committee will consist of at least three members in good standing of NAGT of which one member will be a member of Council and one the author of the proposal (if not the same person)
 - c. If the committee does not prepare a draft proposal within six months, the President may consider appointing a new committee or ask ExComm if they wish to withdraw support for this position statement.
3. Once the drafting committee has completed their work, the draft position statement will be reviewed by ExComm and, if supported by a majority, sent to members via the next NAGT Newsletter no later than eight weeks prior to the next NAGT Council meeting (held in conjunction with the GSA Annual Meeting). The draft statement may also be posted on the NAGT website.
4. All NAGT members will have an opportunity to comment on the draft position statement via email to the Executive Director. The comment period will close no less than three weeks prior to the next Council meeting. Comments will be collected and shared with Council members prior to the Council meeting.
5. NAGT Council will consider the draft position statement and member comments and may approve, modify, or reject by a 2/3 vote of those attending.
 - a. If approved, NAGT members will be so informed via the Newsletter and the position statement will be posted on the NAGT website. Council may recommend to the ExComm additional modes of distribution.
 - b. If Council makes substantive modifications to the draft position statement before approval, it returns the modified statement to the drafting committee for comment before approval. In such cases, Council may authorize ExComm to approve the revised version on its behalf if all substantive modifications are acceptable to the drafting committee.
 - c. If rejected by Council, the statement would have to go back to step 1 for reconsideration.
6. A position statement, once approved, can only be altered or modified for cause by a 2/3 vote of NAGT Council.

ii. 1st Vice President (Scott Linneman)

2004-2005

Liaison with Pacific Northwest Section of NAGT. I promoted and attended the PNW Section meeting in Coos Bay OR, organized by Ron Metzger of Coos Bay Community College. The meeting was very well organized with THREE days of field trips and one meeting day. I presented a session on the challenges posed to teachers by the Intelligent Design movement and greatly enjoyed two days of field trips. Attendance at the PNW Section conferences remains stable. Their next field conference will be in Bellingham-- hosted by my department and organized by Bob Christman, ubervolunteer.

NAGT Mid-Year Meeting. I attended the NAGT mid-year meeting at the College of William and Mary. Issues were discussed, lists of tasks were generated, some even accomplished.

GSA Joint Technical Program Committee. I served as NAGT's representative to GSA's program committee. Along with Dave Mayo (incoming chair of GSA's GeoSciEd Division), I solicited sessions, worked with session advocates, solicited abstracts, reviewed and organized sessions. There are 25 education-related sessions at the 2005 Annual Meeting and NAGT are sponsoring or co-sponsoring most of them (see next page).

NAGT Tri-fold Brochure. I solicited opinions, researched, vetted and selected a new brochure and membership application. The brochure was designed and printed by WWU Publishing Services and will be available at the NAGT booth at the SLC GSA meeting. The much-sought-after Distinguished Speakers will distribute the brochures on their lecture tours.

Geoscience Education at GSA Salt Lake City

P4. Speaking Out for Evolution: Rationale and Resources for Supporting the Teaching of Evolution

T97. Innovation, Evaluation, and Best Practices in Informal Geoscience Education

T106. Methods of Assessing Teaching and Learning in the Geosciences
Geoscience Education I

T104. It's About Time: Teaching the Temporal Aspects of Geoscience
(Posters)

Geoscience Education II

T102. International Undergraduate Field Trips: Logistics, Challenges, and Successes

T106. Methods of Assessing Teaching and Learning in the Geosciences
(Posters)

T103. Is it Science? Strategies for Addressing Creationism in the Classroom and the Community I

T99. Imparting Hands-on Geological Education: Reaching out to Undergraduates and K-12 Students (Posters)

Geoscience Education (Posters)

T107. Minorities, Women, and Persons with Disabilities in the Geosciences: Avenues to Success

T49. Geology in the National Parks: Research, Mapping, and Resource Management

T100. Integrating Research into Undergraduate Geoscience Coursework

T103. Is it Science? Strategies for Addressing Creationism in the Classroom and the Community II

T49. Geology in the National Parks: Research, Mapping, and Resource Management (Posters)

T89. Efficient and Effective Practices in Using Web Sites and Technologies to Support and Manage Information, Student Learning and Recruitment, and Public Education

T50. Geology of Parks and Public Lands: Effective and Innovative Informal Earth Science Education for the Masses

T101. Interdisciplinary Education: Applications of GIS and the Infusion of Spatial Concepts Across the Curriculum (Posters)

T108. Museum-College Connections: Rich Opportunities for Earth Science Education (Posters)

T114. We Can Continue to Do Better: More Alternatives to the Same Old Lab Lecture Format in the College Classroom I

T110. REU at 25: Its Impact on Undergraduate Geoscience Education

T114. We Can Continue to Do Better: More Alternatives to the Same Old Lab Lecture Format in the College Classroom (Posters)

T105. Let's Rock Their World: Integrating Planetary Science Data into Undergraduate Geoscience Courses

T114. We Can Continue to Do Better: More Alternatives to the Same Old Lab Lecture Format in the College Classroom II

Also: NAGT/GSA Educ Div Luncheon (SU 12-2)

iii. 2nd Vice President (Karen Havholm)

(Karen Havholm, 2nd Vice-President and Chair of Distinguished Speakers Committee)

1. Participated in Neil Miner Award selection committee
2. Represented N.A.G.T. National at the Central Section's meeting in Minneapolis in May (along with Cathy Manduca)
3. D.S. Program news: Ian has been successful in getting Joint Oceanographic Institutes to financially support three additional D.S. speakers, bringing our roster to 18 speakers for the 2005-2006 year and increasing its ethnic diversity. The committee needs to consider what process should be used to "vet" these outside speakers.

iv. Past President (Cathy Manduca)

Year of the Field: Papers for the JGE special issue on Teaching in the Field have been reviewed and are currently being revised. John Carpenter is the co-associate editor.

NSF awarded a grant to develop the capacity for individual NAGT members to contribute and edit pages for the website. We proposed that the first use of this tool would be to create a website on field trips and their use in teaching and professional development. This site will document specific field trips and their design as well as the field guides and other descriptive materials that were developed for them. In the end we will have a searchable collection of field trips across the US with the documentation that others need to modify them for different audiences (teachers, students, professionals). We are currently developing the technology and the templates for contributions. Next we will engage section officers and other NAGT members in creating a demonstration set of materials. That will be followed by a broad call for contributions. This tool will be equally suitable for collections surrounding other NAGT strategic initiatives.

Website: See website report. An important next step will be a meeting to review and complete the website content. Funds for this meeting were requested for the 2005-2006 budget. This year we will focus on engaging officers and members in contributing to the website via the news section, the section pages, and the field project.

Section Communication: The section officers list is fully up to date. I attended the Central section officers meeting and recommended names for officers. SERC hosts the Central section website and we collaborated with Central section members in creating a teaching materials section for the NAGT website in association with a sponsored session at the NC GSA meeting. This is a model for other sections who might want to offer similar sessions. It also could be expanded to be a larger national resource for teachers on our website, complementing JGE.

On the Cutting Edge Professional Development Program: The full program for this year including activities at GSA and AGU can be found on the website <http://serc.Carleton.edu/NAGTWorkshops>. A major focus this year is on program evaluation and on development of a renewal proposal.

Meetings: In addition to papers at AGU and GSA: American Chemical Society to present paper on the On the Cutting Edge program. European Geophysical Society to present paper on NAGT sponsored websites at SERC.

Officer Nominations: Were completed.

b. NAGT Officers

i. Executive Directors

1. Co-Executive Director (Robert Christman)

Christman's Budget Report (Sept. 1, 2004 to August 31, 2005)

Additional Income and Expenses from MacGregor's Office to be added

Budget approved, Seattle, WA, November 2004

Income for 2004-05	Approved	Actual
Dues (new) and Royalties		
Membership dues for 2005	\$ 45,000	40,523.00
Prepaid dues (for 2006 & 2007)	15,000	7,798.00 (2006)
		3,659.00 (2007)
Royalties	<u>50,000</u>	<u>4,819.33*</u>
*Major royalties paid to Calif. Office	110,000	56,799.33
Donations		
From members for field camp scholarships	1,500	1,381.00
Contributions to restricted funds	<u>3,900</u>	<u>3,410.00</u>
	5,400	4,791.00
	Proposed	Actual
Endowment	2,000	2030
Stout	1,000	790
Horberg,	300	190
Rosalsky.	50	80
Minority	450	220
Honors	100	100
Journal of Geoscience Education		
Subscriptions	45,000	44,496.30
Advertisements	500	300.00
Page charges	<u>5,000</u>	<u>6,175.00</u>
	50,500	50,971.30
Sale		
Slides and posters	100	146.00
Back issues	<u>500</u>	<u>522.00</u>
	600	668.00
Other Contributions**		
USGS Program	2,000	0
State Geologists	<u>1,000</u>	<u>0</u>
Refund		<u>500</u>
** Funds to CA office	3,500	
Interest and transfer***		
Interest (Whatcom Educ Credit Union)	3,000	3,874.92
Transfer from Restricted funds***	1,700	
(Endown: \$1000; Horberg, \$500; Rosalsky, \$200)		
Transfer from Dottie Stout	<u>1,500</u>	<u>0</u>
***Transfers to be made at CA office	6,200`	3,874.92
Total income	<u>175,700</u>	<u>117,604.55</u>

Expenses for 2004-2005

	Approved	Actual	
Funds not available			
Contributions to restricted funds	3,350	\$ 3,135.00	
Multiple years dues for next 2 years (10,379.00)	<u>15,000*</u>		
*Set aside (not an expense)	18,350	3,135.00	
JGE			
Publication of Journals	54,000	36,844.01	
Clerical	15,000	1,665.96	
Other	<u>2,000</u>	<u>7,681.76</u>	
	71,000	46,191.73	
Travel and Meetings			
Executive Committee			
President, Feiss	1,800		
1 st Vice-Pres, Linneman	1,800	1,163.98	
2 nd Vice-President, Havholm	1,800		
Past-President, Manduca	1,800	183.79	
Editor, Drummond	1,800		
Sec/Tres, Wheeler	1,800	1,312.08	
Newsletter, McKain	1,800	1,119.68	
Webwizard	5,000		
Councilors-at-large			
Asher	1,800	369.40	
Repine	1,800		
Tolhurst	1,800		
Gibson	1,800	260.94	
Yuretich	1,800	897.89	
Riggs	<u>1,800</u>	<u>1,296.59</u>	
	28,400	6,604.35	
NAGT Management			
Outgoing Executive Director, Christman	1,000	1,159.77	
Incoming Executive Director, MacGregor	5,000	3,654.19	
Past-past president to Denver GSA, Geary	500	424.88	
Past councilor to GSA, Good	900	552.05	
Representatives to other meetings	8,000	491.74	(Jill)
Section meetings/Liaisons (Roberts)	3,000	493.50	
Priority Action/Implementation Committee	3,000		
GSA meeting, Denver 2005	4,000	2,938.13	
NSTA meeting, Dallas, 2005	1,000		
AGU booth		461.00	
	<u>24,700</u>	<u>16,779.61</u>	

2. Executive Director (Ian MacGregor)

A. Meetings attended

11/1/04-1/07/04: GSA, Denver 2004:
12/11/04-2/17/04: AGU: NAGT Booth
2/25/05-2/28/05: GSA Associated & Allied Societies meeting; Boulder, CO:
2/28/05: National park service: Bob Higgins
3/31/04-4/02/05: National Science Teachers Association (NSTA)
5/5/05-5/6/05: Mineralogical Society of America (MSA)
5/7/05-5/8/05: Executive Committee; Mid Year

B. Meeting Reports:

Report: GSA Associated & Allied Societies (2-05)

1. Discussion on Free and Open Access

a) Sharon Tahirkheli (AGI) presented new policies promulgated by NIH on guidelines (rules) for providing **open access to all publications** resulting from NIH-supported research. Websites that provide the specific information are as follows:

- grants2.nih.gov/grants/guide/notice-files/NOT-OD-05-022.html
- www.nih.gov/about/publicaccess/022405QA.pdf

Stimulus is on authors to provide html/pdf version of reviewed paper published in journal. Discussions on how journals should respond to this charge. The concern is how other agencies, e.g. NSF will follow NIH's lead. NAGT/JGE needs to follow this discussion. GSA is forming a policy statement on this issue. Statement is put together by the G&PPC Committee.

b) Walt Snyder presented a draft statement from GSA's Geology & Public Policy Committee on "**Open Data Access**" (**Reference 1**). Their basic position is as follows: "The GSA strongly supports free and open access to scientific for research and education". It was agreed that "open access to data" and "open access to reviewed publications" were two different although related issues.

I sent a comment on "open data access" which is attached as **Reference 2**.

Issue:

1. NAGT should track the progress of the G&PPC's policy statements and ensure that they align with our values and goals. If possible, a common position with GSA would be most effective.

2. NAGT should consider starting a debate on what are the infrastructure needs for collecting and recording the research data that supports geoscience education research.

3. GeoscienceWorld (see website: www.geoscienceworld.org)

Geoscience World is now up and working – free use through March.

Issue: Should JGE be combined in the GSW package?

4. Strategic Plans

General discussion of Associated Societies that have developed their strategic plans. NAGT is in fairly good shape with the steps that we have taken so far and have followed what was identified

as best practices in developing the plan. However, new items that NAGT has yet to discuss in how our implementation strategy aligns with a business plan. We have no business plan!

Other societies' strategic plans are available if we are interested.

Issue: Should we not be developing a business plan parallel to our implementation strategy? This will help us define priorities and clarify how and why we make our budget decisions.

5. Digital publishing

Societies in various stages of the transition to fully digital format for publishing of their journals. A number of societies already provide online access. For AAPG the default option for members is electronic; MSA provides free online access to its journal (American Mineralogist). Problems that arise are how to deal with revenue earning components, e.g. advertising, membership. In case of advertising AAGP and GSA use additional formats such as Explorer and GSA Today that are not provide in print only. Professional societies will have to look at the balance between the “services” and “publications” they offer as stimuli to maintain membership.

Issue: NAGT needs to examine this area and come up with a new long term policy. This is a critical and timely need.

6. Congressional Fellow

GSA is soliciting funds from Associated Societies for support of second Congressional Fellow (see Reference 3).

Issue: Does NAGT want to participate?

7. Announcements and cursory discussions

- GSA wants to advertise its “Virtual Student Expo” and “Mentor Programs” (see GSA website).
- GSA 2005 Annual Meeting: 155 topical sessions; 8 Pardee sessions; Abstracts due by 11th July; Soc. Econ. Geol. 100th Anniversary
- Does NAGT want to cooperate with GSA on tsunami-related issues?

Reference 1

GSA Position Statement

Open Data Access

Contributors:

Walter S. Snyder (chair), Cinzia Cervato, James B. Finley, Emi Ito, Chris G. Maples, Jonathan G. Price, David Simpson, Gerilyn S. Soreghan, and Thomas K. Weddle

POSITION: The Geological Society of America strongly supports free and open access to scientific data for research and education.

The Geological Society of America supports open access to the full spectra of scientific data, including derived products, to support critical research and decision-making processes. Geoscience data, both physical and digital, are concerned with Earth's atmosphere, hydrosphere, biosphere and solid Earth of both today and the past four billion years. They pertain to diverse, societally relevant topics, such as weather, climate and paleoclimate, water quality and availability, extinction and evolution, earthquakes and volcanoes, and Earth resources which

have economic and strategic importance. These data are a prerequisite for conducting the next generation of Earth science research, and for providing the basis for the continued improvement of Earth science education. Open access to and synthesis of these data are important for building a broader public awareness of the importance of science to society, and for providing a factual basis to decision-makers involved in environmental, natural-resource, global-change, hazards, and other science-based issues.

Recognizing that acquiring, publishing, and archiving scientific data have real costs, we encourage public agencies to adopt policies making unclassified data free and open to the public. We also encourage the private sector, when possible, to make scientific data available for free to educators and scientific researchers for use in publicly available forums, including lectures and the peer-reviewed scientific literature. The publication of scientific results and interpretations remains the cornerstone of scientific research. Therefore, whereas we recognize the importance of maintaining the copyright status of the publications over the published analysis and interpretation of data, we encourage the development of seamless links among peer-reviewed publications and public databases and so the data are openly available to all researchers and the public. We support efforts to save and archive physical samples in museums, universities, government agencies, and other repositories, and making these samples and data more readily available to the research community and the general public. We recognize that building and maintaining open access to science data are shared responsibilities among researchers, public and private institutions, and government agencies at all levels. Academic institutions need to fully recognize the individual scholarship and scientific merit as well as the economic and societal value inherent in the development and maintenance of geologic data sets and repositories.

These geoscience data are international as well as national resources. As a global society, we need to build on the research results of our predecessors in the most efficient and effective way we can. The Geological Society of America position is consistent with and endorses the conclusions of a series of reports by the National Research Council (NRC), American Geophysical Union (AGU), International Union of Geological Sciences (IUGS), International Council for Science (ICSU), U.S. Global Change Research Program, World Meteorological Organization (WMO), Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC) of UNESCO, World Climate Program, Committee on Earth Observations, Satellites (CEOS), International Earth Observing System (IEOS), International Council for Science (ICSU), and the Global Climate Observing System (GCOS). The Society supports the continued efforts by the National Science Foundation, US Geological Survey, the American Association of State Geologists, and other federal and state agencies to develop mechanisms to make data broadly available.

In summary, only through open access to data and derived products can we maximize our stewardship of Earth's resources and environment. Consequently, the Geological Society of America supports laws, regulations, funding, policies, and institutions that allow the preservation and enhancement of open access to the full suite of unclassified science data while preserving the economic viability of the entities that generate and publish data and the analyses and interpretations based on these data.

Reference 2
Letter from MacGregor to Walt Snyder-Chair, G&PPC
2/28/05

Walt,

The draft statement from the G&PPC is very well written and captures essential elements of the value of providing open access to scientific data.

On a philosophical note, open access to data is one of the fundamental pillars for the advancement of science and for the use of science by society. Without it science would stagnate and be malused by society. GSA should do all it can to encourage its members to participate in this process. Setting a lead by stating sound policies is one effective mechanism. By helping to develop a culture of transparency for all scientific data, GSA can influence the culture of science so that in future debates this issue is more broadly accepted. The support of open access is critical since it sets an important example in future debates dealing with data sets collected by other national, and industry groups. The atmospheric sciences has already had complex negotiations with the international and industry issues (Check with Jarvis Moyers (ATM/NSF)), and the gesosciences have to deal with the restrictions placed by companies on earth science data sets that they collect.

Requiring “open access to data” has the potential of revolutionizing the way science is done and will lead to accelerated progress in scientific research. It is fundamental to the scientific process. Organizations such as IRIS and UNAVCO have led the way in illustrating how the process proceeds.

Essential operational elements of the process are as follows:

- Require open access to all data collected. This means real open access and not introducing partial restrictions such as is done by the two year delay allowed by the Ocean Drilling Programs.
- Organize the data collection around intellectual communities that have common goals (seismologists, geodesists, analytical geochemists, field geologists, GIS-types, paleontologists, geoscience education etc.). Organize the data collecting and archiving systems so that it is this intellectual community that drives its management.
- Make the process democratic for all members in that community; all members can have equal access and participate in the debate of how the data is collected, archived and managed. This affects and improves the standards of how data is collected, the instrumentation requirements, cost constraints, mechanisms for archival, management, and use of the data – all essential components for the advancement of science
- In so far as possible keep the data sets as “live” bodies of information
- Find ways to fund sustainable operations; this is often the difficult part. Do you charge the user or add up front costs for submitting the data and long term management? This often seems a burden. As you (Walt) pointed out IRIS spends approximately \$3M/year on this responsibility. My rejoinder is that this is the critical part of the IRIS operation. Without the Data Management Center the advances we have seen in seismology over the last 15 years would not have been possible. Data collection and open access is not just a luxury it is an essential part of the research infrastructure and funds to support it are just as important as support of the primary research.

- Find ways to make the data sets appropriately accessible to other communities. This could be to other research communities, the K-12 educational communities, the societal communities, and decision makers

These latter comments are operational considerations, but I think that they speak to the importance of open access to data, and acknowledge the importance of the process of research in the advancement of science. Data collection and its unrestricted availability is part of that process. Ignoring this responsibility will stifle the progress of science. Another desirable outcome is that it is a self disciplining mechanism that improves the operational capabilities of all scientists. It accrues benefits to the individual and the collective community.

In a maximally competitive environment open access to data provides the most effective unit, the individual, a critical advantage and in the long term leads to optimal advances for the community. Unfortunately, industry does not fully realize this for ironically, competition is perceived to be inimical to their bottom line. Hence the emphasis is on secrecy and restriction of data sharing. Data has a commercial rather than a scientific value. Better understanding of the long term and collective benefit of free data access will help mitigate this tendency to secrecy and hoarding.

Reference 3

DRAFT

PROPOSAL TO GSA ASSOCIATED AND ALLIED SOCIETIES FROM

THE GEOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF AMERICA

Establish the Geological Society of America Associated and Allied Societies Congressional Science Fellowship or Executive Branch Fellowship

February 2005

There is a clear need for additional geoscience input into the decision making process in both the legislative and executive branches of the US Government. One way to provide geoscience expertise is through the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS) Congressional Science Fellowship and Executive Branch Fellowship Programs. Currently AGI, AGU, GSA, SSSA, and AMS support Congressional Science Fellows in the geosciences or related fields. None of these organizations currently support an Executive Branch Fellow.

Congressional Science Fellowship

GSA with support from the US Geological Survey has been supporting a Congressional Science Fellow since 1986. Congressional Science Fellows work as special legislative assistants within the congressional staff system. Fellows select positions to work on varied legislative, oversight, and investigative activities. The AAAS provides a two-week orientation program and coordinates seminars throughout the year for all Fellows.

The purpose of the program is threefold:

- *contribute to more effective use of scientific and technical knowledge in government;*

- *provide a unique public policy learning experience and educate the earth science community about the public policy process;*
- *broaden the perspective of the earth science and governmental communities regarding closer interactions between scientists and policy makers.*

After the Fellowship approximately one third of the participants remain working on the Hill or in some related public policy organization. One-third return to their prior position and one-third move on to some new position.

The 2005–2006 GSA/USGS Fellow will receive a stipend of \$49,000 plus limited allowances for health insurance, relocation, and travel in connection with the fellowship. The period of the Fellowship is from September 2005 through August 2006. The fellow may have the option to extend the period of service through December 2006. Total costs for the program is approximately \$84,000.

Proposal: It is proposed that the Associated and Allied Societies jointly sponsor either a Congressional Science or Executive Branch Fellow beginning in September 2006. The costs per organization would be between \$2,000 and \$4,000 depending on the number of contributors.”

C. Management

1. Membership

- Membership data bases continued to be managed by S.A.M., Bellingham; Bob Christman served as the manager of this function
- Collected data to evaluate potential of NAGT moving to electronic (web-based) management system; provide information base for Executive Committee review and decision (GSA, 2005)

2. Distinguished Speaker Series

- 2004-2004

- 9 Speakers
- Requests from 19 institutions; approximate cost \$14,500 – cost estimated because some DS visits not yet completed
- Reviews continue to be very positive
- Program engenders much goodwill for NAGT
- See attached spreadsheet for details

**Distinguished Speaker Program:
2004-2005**

University	Faulty Contact	Travel	Costs Honorarium	Speaker
Earth and Environmental Science Dept. New Mexico Tech	Susan Bilek	247.89	250.00	Morin Riggs Gerary Hall
Geology Department Southern Illinois University	Nicholas Pinter	618.70	250.00	Morin Hall Singer Taber
Dept. of Geosciences Western Michigan University	R.V. Krishnamurthy	235.77	250.00	O'Donnell Geary Hall Locke
Dept of Geology Central Michigan University	Kathy Benison	723.21	250.00	Havholm Suiter
Dept. of Geology San Jose State University	Richard Sedlock	621.39	250.00	Morin
Geology & Geophysics Univdersity of New Orleans	Frank Hall Laura Serpa	600.00	250.00	Suiter Hall Geary Riggs
Dept. of Geological Sciences New Mexico State University	Thomas Giordano	600.00	250.00	Geary Hall Singer
Dept . of Geosciences Univ. Wisconsin Milwaukee	Norman Lasca Terry Howard	147.00	250.00	Havholm Hall
Dept. Earth Science & Sci Ed. SUNY, Buffalo	Gary Solar	600.00	250.00	Morin
Department of Geological Sciences Arizona State University	Matt Fouch	Paid by ASU 66.00	250.00	Riggs
Geology Department Grand Valley State U-Geology	John Weber	729.70	250.00	Morin
Earth Sciences Department, American River College 4700 College Oak Drive Sacramento, CA 95841-4286	John E. Aubert	198.40	250.00	Riggs
University of Alabama	Andrew M.	600.00	250.00	Suiter

	Goodliffe Paul Ahron			Havholm Hall Taber
Dept. of Geology Northern Illinois Univ.	Mathieu Richaud	600.00	250.00	Havholm Taber
SUNY Cortland	Gayle Gleason	507.05	250.00	Hall
Bowling Green State University	Joe T. Elkins	553.79	250.00	Riggs
University of Dubuque	Dale Easley	222.75	250.00	Morin
Colby College	Robert A. Gastaldo	600.00	250.00	Geary
Environmental Resources and Policy Southern Illinois University	Reuben Heine	600.00	250.00	Morin
St Cloud State University, MN		77.60	250.00	Morin
New England Intercollegiate Geological Conference	Bruce Rueger Pres. Eastern Sect	340.00	250.00	Locke
Preparation costs (\$489.36 + \$290.40 (stamps))				
TOTAL Costs		9,489.25	5,250.00	
		5289.25	3500.00	
			9,569.01	

- 2005-2006
 - o 15 Speakers
 - o Co sponsored with JOI Inc. (Ocean Drilling Program)
 - o Already have 30 requests; anticipate larger number of visits this year
 - o Suggest allocation of \$20,000 for 2005-2006 program

3. NAGT Office

- Napa Office
 - o Transfer of financial accounts from Bellingham to Napa
 - o Manage NAGT finances
 - o Provide expenses for officers supporting NAGT-related activities
 - o Hired support staff
 - o Managed distinguished Speaker Program
 - o Prepared comparison of electronic database management systems for Executive Committee Review
 - o Prepared activities for Professional meetings

- GSA
 - AGU
 - NSTA
 - CSTA
- Serve as communication and information hub
- Bellingham Office
- Financial management; continued to manage funds related to closing of Bellingham office; includes S.A.M. membership database, preparation of 2004 Federal taxes, membership issues (elections, renewals, etc.), JGE replacement)
- Continue to manage (S.A.M. (membership data base))
 - Managed membership related issues
 - Elections
 - Replaced misplaced JGE mailings (members and libraries)
 - Membership registration and recording

4. NAGT Budget: (Combined Napa and Bellingham offices); see attached

5. Review of Electronic Membership Options; see attached

ii. Secretary-Treasurer (Greg wheeler)

Far Western Section: Attended the Far Western Section spring meeting in Zzyzx, California in February, 2005. Maintain communication with the active members of this section.

Strategic Planning: Attended the mid-year Executive Committee meeting in Williamsburg VA, May, 2005.

Secretary duties: Took notes and distributed the minutes for the NAGT Executive Committee meeting, NAGT Council Meeting, and the NAGT Planning meeting in Denver, Nov. 2004. Took notes and distributed the minutes for the NAGT Executive Committee Mid-Year Meeting, May 2005.

Treasurer Duties: Interacted with and monitored the budget activities of both the out-going and in-coming NAGT Executive Directors. Double checked the budget figures developed by Bob Christman and Ian Macgregor.

Investment Committee: Chaired a committee that included Geoff Feiss and Ian Macgregor to examine investment options for NAGT national funds not needed for annual operations. Solicited members, led discussion, and present three investment options at the NAGT annual meeting and mid-year meetings.

North-Central Liaison: This is a long inactive section that I was assigned to try and reactivate. I have worked with Sheila Roberts, at Univ. of Montana-Western to help stimulate this section. Sheila attended the Far Western Section meeting in Zzyzx, California. She has distributed a section newsletter and is planning the first section meeting as a field conference in summer of 2006.

c. Special Reports (Jill Whitman, past president)
Jill Whitman's Report as NAGT Liaison to
AGI Environmental Geoscience Awareness Committee and
NAGT/AGI Environmental Geoscience Textbook Committee
Meetings of October 18, 2005, Salt Lake City, UT

AGI Environmental Geoscience Awareness Committee

This committee is comprised of representatives from many of AGI's member societies. The committee's role is "to help identify and focus on the highest priority environmental informational needs and issues best addressed by the geoscience community." It is co-chaired by Drs. Philip E. LaMoreaux and Stephen H. Stow with AGI support provided by Travis Hudson. I have served on this committee since the fall of 1999. More information can be found at <http://www.agiweb.org/direct/advenv.html>.

One of the primary Environmental Geoscience projects being undertaken by AGI is the publication of the Environmental Awareness Series. These booklets are intended for general readers, legislators, teachers, and students. Eight in this series have been published to date and two more should be completed this year. Others are in various stages of publication and planning. These booklets are available for purchase from AGI and some can be downloaded as PDF's from the web at <http://www.agiweb.org/environment/publications/index.html>. They have wonderful illustrations and would make excellent course supplements.

AGI is also working on the writing and publication of an Environmental Science textbook for the high school level and an introductory Environmental Geoscience textbook for the college level (see below).

NAGT/AGI Environmental Geoscience Textbook Committee

This textbook, temporarily named *Living With Earth*, is a collaborative project between NAGT, AGI and Prentice Hall publishers. The concept is to develop and publish an Environmental Geoscience textbook for the non-science college student. AGI (Travis Hudson) and NAGT have assembled a textbook advisory committee and an expert panel to support and oversee the project. Prentice Hall, originally under the leadership of editor Patrick Lynch, has fronted funds to hire a science writer for the project and Dan Pendick was selected.

The project began with a workshop including the advisory committee and the author in March 2003, facilitated by Barb Tewksbury and Heather MacDonald. At this workshop the vision and goals and key components for the book were established. Chapter outlines were developed and pedagogical approaches to be threaded throughout the book were determined. An advisory committee was established and a panel of experts serves as a resource to the writer.

To date, writing on the chapters progresses and several have been reviewed by the advisory committee and some by outside reviewers. The reviews are quite positive - his style of writing is very engaging and reviewers see this as a refreshing change from many current environmental geoscience textbooks that are simply modified physical geology textbooks.

There is still no firm timeline for the project. Recently certain changes were made in the project oversight team. Travis Hudson (ageology@olympen.com) continues to represent AGI. Patrick Lynch has moved up to be director of science marketing for Prentice Hall and will be working to make sure that the book has a successful market niche. Chris Rapp has been named the new science editor for Prentice Hall (Chris_Rapp@Prenhall.com) and Ann Heath (Ann_Heath@Prenhall.com) has been appointed the project manager for this book. Ann will serve as "keeper of schedules, compiler and synthesizer of reviews, and general whip cracker" (to quote Travis). It is hoped that this may expedite the whole process.

Submitted 11/16/05

B. Councilors at Large

a. Pranoti Asher

GSA Meeting:

- Attended the N.A.G.T. Planning Meeting, NAGT Council Meeting, and the Executive Committee Meeting held in conjunction with the GSA meeting in Denver, CO 2004.

Activities since GSA:

- NAGT Field Scholarship Committee Member -- Reviewed 22 applications for the NAGT field scholarship and submitted rankings to Yildirim Dilek, Chair, NAGT Scholarship Committee.
- Hosted the Course Design Workshop during Summer 2005 on the Georgia Southern University campus.

SE section Liaison activities:

- Attended the SE GSA meeting in Biloxi in March, 2005. I met with the NAGT members for their meeting held on the last day of the conference. The SE section is a vibrant section with many active members. In addition to future NAGT sponsored theme sessions at SE GSA meetings, recruiting more members, nominating teachers for awards, etc were also discussed.
- The next SE GSA meeting will be held in Knoxville, TN in March 2006 and plans to have a NAGT booth were discussed.
- The 2007 SE GSA meeting is going to be held in Savannah and will be hosted by Georgia Southern University. I will be the general chair for this meeting. I spoke with several individuals about proposing NAGT sponsored theme sessions for the Savannah meeting.
- As part of the 2007 SE GSA meeting, plans were also being made to have an entire session or two devoted to K-12 issues and field trips to the Okefenokee Swamp and Tybee Beach to study coastal processes is being planned for K-12 teachers attending the meeting. I will send more details about our meeting as they become available through the section leadership.

Future plans:

- Participate actively in the Membership Committee
- Continue to participate in the NAGT Field Scholarship Committee member

Respectfully submitted,
Pranoti M. Asher

b. Michael Gibson

- Attended NAGT Planning Meeting and Council Meeting held in conjunction with national GSA meeting
- Agreed to spearhead drafting of NAGT Position Statement on the teaching of Evolution
- Agreed to approach Paleontological Society to discuss joint ventures on the Creation/Evolution/ID issue.

NAGT Mid-year Meeting (Williamsburg, VA)

- Participated in NAGT business meeting with special reference to making a progress report on Evolution position statement

Other Activities:

- Completed drafts of the NAGT Position Statement on the teaching of Evolution (one long version suitable for web-page and one short version for limited-space publications); submitted August 15, 2005.
- Met with Paleontological Society at Peabody Museum (Yale University) for their mid-year meeting and discussed joint ventures. Agreement was to work more closely and jointly on the issues.
- Coordinated with Southeastern NAGT Section Chair Doug Haywick concerning NAGT activities; made report to SE NAGT officers at the SE Section GSA meeting in Biloxi, MS (April, 2005).
- In role of Tennessee OEST Coordinator (through Tennessee Earth Science Teachers-TEST), I served on the committee of K-12 teachers who identify the state OEST nominee. I then coordinated with the nominee, Ms. Rose Lummus from Dyersburg, TN, to prepare her nomination packet for forwarding to SE Section Chair Doug Haywick for consideration as the SE regional OEST awardee.
- Organize a full-day workshop on mineral and rock resources and mining in Tennessee to be run November 18 in Nashville, TN at the Tennessee Area National Science Teachers Association Meeting. At this meeting we will have a NAGT display in conjunction with TEST.
- Continued in my roll as contributor to the SE NAGT Newsletter for issues related to Tennessee specifically, and forwarded from National.
- Continued discussions with Doug Haywick concerning Louisiana's lack of participation in the SE Section. Discussion has been along the lines of (1) determining if LA would prefer to have their NAGT affiliation coincide with the GSA divisions, and if so (2) approaching NAGT Council to recommend study and consideration of such a change. No resolution yet.

Mid-Continent Liaison Activities:

- Kept contact with Ron Schott (Fort Hays State U., Kansas), who has taken the reins to revitalize the section. Ron posted a website to gather information from Mid-continent members about their needs and especially desires about how to revitalize or redistribute the section. Little head has been made at this point.

c. Eric Riggs

Activities this academic year:

Conducted three NAGT Distinguished Speaker visits

- Arizona State University 9/2004
- Bowling Green State University 2/2005
- American River College 3/2005

Planned for Fall 2005

- University of Texas, El Paso 9/2005
- California State University, Fullerton 11/2005

Far Western Section meeting, Zzyzx, CA – CSU Fullerton Desert Studies Research Center

- Participated in first day field trip
- Participated in the FWS Executive Committee meeting.
- Led a second day workshop on field based education for pre-service teachers and non majors. Shared integrated field and classroom curricula designed to teach change through time as recorded in sedimentary rocks and showed research results from two related studies demonstrating the learning gains from guided-inquiry field work embedded in non-majors courses.
- Prepared and all research materials with workshop participants – some of this is online at my lab's web pages at SDSU, but could arrange for all of this to be on the web via NAGT as well if there is interest.

National Association for Research in Science Teaching (NARST) meeting, Dallas, TX

- Presented research in geoscience education session
- Met with international geoscience education researchers and our colleagues from colleges of Education who don't typically go to GSA.

SW section Liaison activities:

- I have been in touch with Kaatje Kraft throughout the year. In general the SW section had trouble scheduling a section meeting and is now tentatively aiming for next Fall after GSA. They have settled on Bisbee, AZ and the week of Nov. 4-6 for their meeting. Signs of life and health!

Reviewer for JGE

- Reviewed one manuscript for the *Journal*

NESTA/NSTA 4/2006 planning

- Have initiated NESTA field trip planning with Frank Ireton for the upcoming NESTA (at NSTA) meeting in Anaheim, CA. The trip will be co-led by Dr. Jeff Knott from CSU Fullerton.

Earth Science in San Diego high schools

- Have helped initiate a pilot effort within the San Diego City Schools for a three-school 9th grade earth science pilot, to hopefully extend district wide by 2006-07, possibly sooner. This pilot will also be built cooperatively with similar efforts in surrounding districts. NAGT may have a major interest in supporting this effort formally within the next few years, as it may help lead statewide efforts to bring the earth sciences formally into California high schools over the next 5 years – if successful!

d. Jeff Tolhurst

Summary

I attended the Spring NAGT FWS Conference hosted by El Camino Community College (Torrance, CA) held at the Desert Studies Center in Zzyzx (near Baker, CA). The conference had approximately 80 attendees, mostly from southern California, and was well run. I also submitted an ExComm report to FWS leadership at their board meeting and solicited comments/feedback from FWS leadership and members and brought back those concerns to the ExComm in Virginia (Issue #1 = loss of magazine style articles in JGE; is there any way to revisit this topic and give members what many want? Issue #2 = membership management, which we're working on).

I also attended the spring ExComm meeting at College of William and Mary, Virginia. We discussed membership database issues and I was assigned the task of working with Ian and Eric to continue with migration of membership database to a new, more functional system.

I am currently working with Ian and Eric to review bids on migrating our membership database to a more efficient system; we've reviewed one bid from MSA for \$22,000.09 for the following functions: 1) membership management; 2) financial management; 3) JGE; 4) services; 5) sales/marketing; 6) communications services; 7) authorized access; 8) up front costs; and 9) miscellaneous. We're awaiting the second bid and will hopefully have the two to compare at the Salt Lake City meeting. We have discussed the concept of raising membership dues between \$5 and \$15 to offset the cost of management of the membership database and will bring the idea to the ExComm in Salt Lake City. Ian has sent the MSA bid to Sean Fox and Cathy Manduca at SERC/Carleton College to see how the different options fit in with NAGT's existing web-based capabilities. We will have to wait to transfer the membership database until the ExComm makes a decision on the bids and feasibility of using SERC/Carleton College's capabilities. In the interim Bob Christman has generously continued to manage our old database.

Respectfully submitted,

Jeff Tolhurst

Contact Information:

Email: tolhurstj@yosemite.cc.ca.us

Phone: (209) 588-5235

Mailing Address: 11600 Columbia College Drive, Sonora, CA 95370

e. Richard Yuretich

GSA Annual Meeting 2004

- Attended the NAGT Executive Committee meetings on 11/6/04 and 11/8/04, and the Council Meeting on 11/6/04
- Helped staff the NAGT information booth in the exhibits

Other Activities

- Attended the mid-year NAGT Council meeting in Williamsburg, VA 5/7/05-5/8/05
- Served as a facilitator for NSF/NAGT “Early Career Faculty Workshop” run by Heather Macdonald 6/8/05-6/13/05
- Taught an on-line course “Planet Earth” oriented for the professional development of science teachers.
- Initiated a new project “STEM Earth Central” to expand the teaching of Earth Science topics in other K12 science courses. This involved a two-week residential workshop (8/1/05-8/12/05). Funded by NASA with sponsorship by NAGT.
- Coordinated a letter-writing campaign by Geoscientists to the Massachusetts Department of Education to have Earth Science included in the 10th-grade statewide science examinations. Our efforts were unsuccessful, but actions are continuing to keep Earth Science visible in the high-school curriculum.

Section Liaison

- I had a fruitful meeting with New England section president Bruce Rueger and newsletter editor Richard Little about ways to increase the vigor of the New England section. These included sending a section representative to the Eastern section meeting next spring and possibly discussing a combined meeting with them in the future. We agreed that the current collaboration with the NEIGC (New England Intercollegiate Geological Congress) works well for the annual meeting, but that we might be able to increase NAGT visibility in this effort

C. Sectional Reports

a. Central Section (Cinzia Cervato)

A. Section Officers for the Current Year:

President: Cinzia**Cervato,**

Iowa State University, 253
Science I, Ames, IA
50011, cinzia@iastate.edu,
(515)294-7583

Vice President:**Annabelle Foos,**

University of Akron,
Akron, OH 44325,
afoos@uakron.edu

Past President: Kerry

Keen, University of
Wisconsin – River Falls,
River Falls, WI 54022,
kerry.l.keen@uwrf.edu

Second Vice President:**Kathleen Bower,** Eastern

Illinois University,
Charleston, IL 61920,
cfkmb1@eiu.edu

Treasurer: Edward Hansen,
Hope College, Holland, MI
49423, Hansen@hope.edu

Editor: Janis Treworgy,

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IL 62028,

janisdt@principia.edu

Archivist: n/a

Secretary: Janis

Treworgy, Principia

College, Elsau, IL 62028,

janisdt@principia.edu

Publicity Chairperson: n/a

Councilors at large (State councilors):**David Voorhees,**

Woodstock, IL (Illinois)

Paul Doss, Univ. Southern

Indiana, Evansville, IN

(Indiana)

Cinzia Cervato, Iowa

State University, Ames, IA

(Iowa)

Sherman Lundy, Cedar

Falls, IA (Iowa)

Frederick Siewers,

Western Kentucky Univ.,

Bowling Green, KY

(Kentucky)

Cris deWolf, Chippewa Hills High School, Remus, MI (Michigan)
Kate Pound, St. Cloud State Univ., St. Cloud, MN (Minnesota)
Ron Fabick, Medina, OH (Ohio)

William Slattery, Wright State Univ., Dayton, OH (Ohio)
Robert Baker, UW River Falls (Wisconsin)
Kerry Keen, UW River Falls (Wisconsin) Awards/OEST

coordinator: **Sallie Greenberg**, Illinois State Geological Survey, Champaign IL 61820, Greenberg@isgs.uiuc.edu
John Mc Daris, WebMaster: Carleton College, Northfield, MN, jmcदारिस@carleton.edu

B. Report of Annual Business Meeting of Executive Committee

Minutes of the Central Section of NAGT Business Meeting
Minneapolis, MN, May 19, 2005 (12 noon-1pm)

<http://www.nagt.org/nagt/organization/central/index.html>

Rusty Low opened the meeting and presided as President.

- **Minutes** of the previous meeting (April 2004, St. Louis) were approved.
- Ed Hansen gave the **Treasurer's Report**. Our income continues to exceed our expenses, and we have about \$6000 in the bank. Since our goal is to support our mission and not make money, he encouraged us to discuss ways to effectively spend the money (see New Business).
- **Elections** (*new terms took effect at the end of the meeting*)

The following officers were promoted from previous positions:

New president – Cinzia Cervato, Iowa State U

New 1st Vice President – Annabelle Foos, U of Akron

The following officers were elected:

New 2nd Vice President – Kathy Bower (not present), Eastern IL U

New Website Coordinator – John McDaris, Carleton College

New OEST Chair – Sallie Greenberg, IL SGS (not present)

New State Representatives

IN – Paul Doss, University of Southern Indiana

OH – Rob Fabick (present)

MI – Cris DeWolf (not present)

KY – Fred Siewers, Western Kentucky University*

*Note: Following the meeting, Fred Siewers from Western Kentucky University volunteered to be the state representative for Kentucky. The officers approved this appointment.

Nominations

- Next year our 2nd VP should come from Michigan. Several names were proposed. Janis will follow up. (NOTE: As of June 9th Mark Francek has agreed to be nominated.)

Note that our order of states for the 2nd VP position is:

IL, MI (Spring 2006), IN, WI, KY, MN, IA, OH

- **OEST – Outstanding Earth Science Teacher Awards 2004 Presentation**
 - Rusty announced our OEST winners and Janis Treworgy presented the plaque to our section winner, who was in attendance with two family members.
 - Central Section OEST winner
 - **Matthew Leone** of Libertyville, Illinois
 - Central Section has selected two state winners
 - **Philip Lacey** of East Liverpool, Ohio
 - Award was presented at the Ohio Earth Science Teachers Convention by our new co-representative for Ohio, Ron Fabick
 - **Ken Fiscus** of Albert Lea, Minnesota
 - Award is to be presented by our former OEST Coordinator, Jim Meyers, at the Minnesota Earth Science Teachers Convention
 - Janis encouraged members to submit nominations for this year to Sallie Greenberg, OEST Chair, (greenberg@isgs.uiuc.edu) ASAP. She reminded everyone that the key function of our state reps is to solicit these nominations and to make contact with their state's earth science teachers' association to get their help.

- **Report from NAGT (National)**
 - Karen Havholm, 2nd Vice President of NAGT (National) gave a brief report from the NAGT Executive Committee. Cathy Manduca, past President (National) and current Liaison to the section was also present. Karen reported that NAGT's strategic plan is completed and on-line: <http://serc.carleton.edu/nagt/products.html> , and the ExComm is now focused on an action plan that begins to implement the goals. One important goal is "To assure that NAGT Sections thrive and serve their members." Open communication is an important way to help achieve that goal. She encouraged us to take advantage of two particular modes of communication about the organization and the field of geoscience education. As a section, as well as members of our various institutions, we can host speakers from the Distinguished Speakers Program: <http://www.nagt.org/nagt/programs/dsp.html>. We can also use the constantly improving web site <http://www.nagt.org/> as a tool for communicating within and beyond the organization.

- **Old Business**
 - Janis Treworgy pointed out that she is sending the **Newsletter** in its new format by email to 87% of our section members (all but 38 of 293 members). She encouraged members to tell her if they change their email address. She also solicited content from officers and other members.
 - Rusty reviewed the **Events Sponsored by Central Section NAGT 2004-2005.**
 - NC-GSA meeting, Minneapolis, MN, 2005
 - Technical sessions in Minneapolis
 - Thursday, 1:20pm: Integrating Real and Virtual Field Trips in K-16 Geoscience Education
 - Friday, 9am: Inquiry-Based, Hands-On, Classroom Exercises, Lab Demonstrations, and Field Investigations in Geoscience Education
 - Friday, 1:20-5:20pm: Posters
 - Luncheon business meeting
 - K-16 activities
 - Workshop on Inquiry-based, hands-on, classroom exercises, lab demonstrations, and field investigations in geoscience education in Minneapolis 2005

- Tri-State Field Conference and Great Lakes SEPM Field Conference combined:
 - Lake Winnebago and the Fox River Valley, WI, on October 2nd-3rd, 2004
- Past Activities for K-16 Teachers
 - Workshop on Inquiry-based learning in Lexington 2002
 - Field trip on local geology in Kansas City 2003
 - Mammoth Workshop at Principia College 2004 (NCGSA in St. Louis)
- **New Business**
 - We discussed use of Section funds. There were several suggestions, which the officers will consider and act on as they feel appropriate:
 - Subsidize K-16 workshops/field trips we sponsor at NC-GSA
 - Subsidize GLS SEPM Field Conference and Tri-State Field Conference
 - Add or increase monetary awards for section and state OEST winners
 - Support an OEST section winner to attend a geology field camp
 - **Future Activities**
 - Annabelle Foos, who is in charge of our NC-GSA program for next year and coincidentally is on the local planning committee, reported on the proposed NAGT program for the 2006 NCGSA meeting in Akron (April 20-21):
 - Theme Session: Evaluation of Student Learning in Geoscience Courses, organized by Dave Steer, University of Akron
 - Workshop: Teaching Evolution, by Patricia Prince-House from Case Western University
 - Greg Ludvigson, vice president of Great Lakes SEPM, asked if we would give financial support for their 2005 Fall Field Conference. We approved support of \$250. Trip details are:
 - “Facets of the Ordovician Geology of the Upper Mississippi Valley Region”, September 23-25, 2005, Decorah, Iowa (NE). For more information: http://www.isgs.uiuc.edu/gls-sepm/index_conf.html
 - We are co-sponsoring the Tri-State Field Conference for 2005 again this year. We voted to give them financial support of \$250. The trip is being organized by Chris Harding charding@iastate.edu. Trip details are:
 - From the Mississippian to the Des Moines Lobe in the Ames, Iowa, area, September 24-25, 2005, Iowa State University, Ames, Iowa. For more information: <http://www.ge-at.iastate.edu/events/tristate05>

C. Annual Budget

- Report:

In the past the newsletter has been among the major expenses of the section. The decision to distribute the newsletter through email has freed up a most of that portion of our budget for other purposes. Last year we spent \$40.00 on distributing the newsletter. However we increased our spending on meeting related activities. As has been our recent practice we sponsored a teacher's workshop at the North Central Regional GSA meeting. We are also co-sponsors of an upcoming SEPM field conference. Altogether we spent \$565.00 on these activities which accounted for 62% of our expenses. Most of the rest of our expenses were on miscellaneous items associated with our activities at the North Central GSA meeting. Our total income was \$935.00 all of which came from the national organization. Our total expenses were \$916.65. Thus our budget was balanced leaving us with savings of \$6482.78.

Our budget for next year (September 1 2005 to August 31 2006) is based largely on our expense from last year. It includes \$400.00 for teacher's workshops at the NCGSA meeting, \$325.00 for other meeting related expenses and \$40.00 for the newsletter. If the decision not to send out any paper copies of the newsletter is made official, this \$40.00 will probably not be spent. Our total projected expense for next year is \$765.00. Our projected income is \$767.50 (already received) from the national organization. Thus once again our budget should be balanced. This will leave us with over \$5,500.00 in savings: this money could be spent on activities designed to build up the section.

- Budget Spreadsheet (Income, expenditures, endowments, etc.): attached file

Section Expenses (2004-2005)

Category	Item	Proposed (2004-2005)		Actual (2004-2005)		Proposed (2005-2006)		
		Costs	SubTotal	Costs	SubTotal	Costs	SubTotal	
Travel & Meetings Officers	NCGSA Regional Meeting Booth Rental	175.00		175.00		175.00		
	NCGSA Regional Meeting - Shipping			76.5		50		
	NCGSA Regional Meeting Luncheon	75.00		60.00		100.00		
	NCGSA Teachers Workshops	350.00		315.15		400.00		
	SEPM Co-sponsorship of Field conference	0.00		250.00				
				600.00		876.65		725.00
Section Management	Newsletter	100.00		40.00		40.00		
			100.00		40.00		40.00	
Other	S							

			0.00		0.00		0
TOTAL EXPENSES			700.00		916.65		765

D. Report of Annual Sectional Professional Meetings/Conferences

- See above

E. Schedule, nature and location of planned future events (2005-2006)

- Business meeting and luncheon: NC-GSA, Akron OH, April 21, 2006
- Professional meetings: NC-GSA, Akron OH, April 21, 2006: **Theme Sessions**

1. Evaluating Student Learning in Geoscience Courses

David Steer, University of Akron, Akron, OH, 330-972-2099, steer@uakron.edu.

David McConnell, University of Akron, Akron, OH, 330-972-8047, dam6@uakron.edu.

This session is intended as a forum for reporting on the effectiveness of innovative methods, exercises or learning environments designed to promote learning in the geosciences. Papers that report on assessment instruments or assessment data are encouraged.

2. Issues in Geoscience Education

Annabelle Foos, University of Akron, Akron Ohio, 330-972-7991, afoos@uakron.edu

Cinzia Cervato, Iowa State University, Ames, IA, cinzia@iastate.edu

- This session will present innovative ideas that promote K-16 geoscience education, in-service teacher training and public outreach. Authors are encouraged to submit examples of inquiry based learning, field experiences, workshops and curriculum development.

3. Countering Creationism in the Classroom

Patricia Princehouse, Case Western University evolution@case.edu

- Workshops: "Teaching Evolution in the K-12 Classroom", Friday, April 21, 2006

Facilitator: Patricia Princehouse, Case-Western University, evolution@case.edu. Classroom techniques for teaching the basic concepts of evolution throughout the K-12 curriculum.

- Field trips: "Guide to the Building Stones and Cultural Geology of Akron."

Date: Wednesday 19 April 2006, Leader: Joe Hannibal

This trip will explore the relationship between the setting of Akron on a major divide underlain chiefly by the Sharon Formation and its development as a city. It will pay special attention to the use of building stone, including the Sharon, in constructing the city. Individual stops, chosen for their geological, cultural, and historical importance, will include the Portage Path, historic stone buildings, canal locks, the John Brown Monument, a garden-style cemetery with a large Civil War Memorial, stone fences and bridges, and modern buildings clad in limestone and granite. This trip is open to educators and guests as well as professional geologists.

F. Annual Awards

- o Central Section OEST winner
 - **Matthew Leone** of Libertyville, Illinois
- o Central Section has selected two state winners
 - **Philip Lacey** of East Liverpool, Ohio
 - Award was presented at the Ohio Earth Science Teachers Convention by our new co-representative for Ohio, Ron Fabick
 - **Ken Fiscus** of Albert Lea, Minnesota

G. Membership

- Status: 293 members (as of May 2005)
- Issues: We would like people to list on the membership renewal form their current email address (as NAGT has it) and request that they update it. It would also be useful to add to the form if they wish to receive a newsletter.

H. Communications

- Newsletter: two per year (April and August)
- Website: <http://www.nagt.org/nagt/organization/central/index.html>

I. Policy Issues

- Sectional: n/a
- National

b. Eastern (Alex Gates, President) EASTERN SECTION REPORT 2003-2004

Eastern Section Officers for the Current Year:

President: Alexander (Alec) Gates, Rutgers University at Newark New Jersey, 0411 Boyden Hall, agates@andromeda.rutgers.edu; (W) 973-353-5034, (H) 732-669-1455

Vice President: Parvinder Sethi, Department of Geology, Reed Hall, Box 6939, Radford University, Radford, Virginia, VA 24142; psethi@runet.edu; 540-831-5619

Treasurer: Frank Revetta, Dept of Geology, SUNY at Potsdam, Potsdam, NY., 13676-2294, revettfa@potssdam.edu, 315-267-2289.

Editor: Martin F. Schmidt, Jr., 2718 Appleseed Road, Finksburg, MD., 21048, mschmidt@umbc.edu, 410-526-6685(H) or 410-581-4757 (W).

Archivist: Jim Hensel, 196 Calvert Blvd., Tonawanda, NY, 14150, henselj@adelphia.net, 716-694-3489.

Past President: James M. Hensel 196 Calvert Blvd, Tonawanda NY 14150-4702, henselj@adelphia.net, 716-694-3489

Second Vice President: Deb Hemler, Fairmont State College, Fairmont, WV., 26554, dhemler@fairmontstate.edu, 304-367-4393.

Secretary: Barbara Anne Hall, 1120 Forest Lane, Spring Grove, VA 23881, banall@earthlink.net, 757-866-8272.

Publicity Chairperson: Rich Gottfried, Dept. of Science, Frederick Community College, 7932 Opossumtown Pike, Frederick, MD 21702, RGottfried@frederick.edu, 301-846-2581(W), 703-620-0057(H)

Councilors at large from the Eastern Section:

Keith McKain, 705 Cedarwood Ct., Milford, DE 19963, GEOSCI64@comcast.net.

Stephen Lindberg, 615 Indiana Street, Johnstown PA, 15905, minerlight@aol.com

Tom Repine, West Virginia Geological Survey, PO Box 879, Morgantown, WV 26507, repine@geosrv.wvnet.edu

The Eastern Section of NAGT gathered for their annual meeting during the weekend of June 5, 2004. The meeting was held at the Newark campus of Rutgers, the State University of New Jersey and The Newark Museum. Conference chair Alexander Gates, now current section president, offered participants multiple educational sessions and field trips within a well planned meeting. As in previous

years, this annual meeting demonstrated the active interest of organization members as 85 individuals were in attendance.

Friday morning offered provided an opportunity to browse and participate in 7 one half-hour sessions, a computer training session and an exhibit hall. The sessions included

Gail Bennington: Geologic Regions of New York State: A “virtual” Field Trip Integrating Classroom Activities with a Hallway Display and Internet Web Site

Bret Bennington: Tortoises and Lava Flows: Integrating Biology and Geology in a Field Course in the Galapagos Islands.

Frank Revetta: Interpretation of Seismograms of Local and Distant Earthquakes

Michael Passow: Earth2Class: Connecting Teachers and Research Scientists

Richard Kroll: New Jersey – Under the Ice: The Evidence of Glaciation in New Jersey

Gene Ulmer: The Use of Digital Imagery in Teaching Geoscience

Neil Holzman: The Digital Library for Earth System Education (DLESE)

The exhibit hall included displays by:

AEG-NE, AIPG-NE, DE Geological Survey, Deer Park-Poland Spring, GANJ, Langan Engineering,

McGraw-Hill Books, Montclair State University, NY Geological Survey,

NYSGA, PA Geological Survey, Rutgers University-Newark, U.S. Geological Survey – Trenton

Office and Reston Office and a poster:

Stephanie Brachfield: The Antarctic Peninsula REU: Research and Field-based Global Change Education in Undergraduate Geoscience Programs

Dr. Hover, Rutgers University, led a Friday afternoon field trip. Participants were treated to a “behind the scene” tour of the Meadowlands Environmental Research Institute in the Hackensack Meadowlands of New Jersey. Participants toured the Meadowlands and the research laboratories where the environmental monitoring takes place.

Friday Evening was the Social And Geo-Auction held at The Newark Museum and included a personal tour of the DYNAMIC EARTH exhibit. The exhibit was opened exclusively for the group and Dr. Ismael Calderon and Dr. Gates, the main creators of the exhibit led the tour.

Saturday was devoted to field trips. These included: Western Hudson Highlands – Harriman State Park (Gates, Rutgers-Newark), Cross-New Jersey Geological Traverse (Volkert and Monteverde, NJGS), Structure & Stratigraphy of the Newark Basin (Granger, Rutgers-New Brunswick) and Sterling Hill Mine and Geologic Setting (Puffer, Rutgers- Newark and Lindberg). As usual, an extensive and well-written field trip guide book was published by the eastern section to accompany the conference geology trips.

The Saturday evening banquet was held in the breathtaking Ballantine House at The Newark Museum. The keynote speaker Dr. Richard Lutz, Rutgers University-New Brunswick, who gave the talk: “Journey into the Abyss.” Dr. Richard Lutz produced the IMAX film “Volcanoes of the Deep.” Participants spoke of the banquet in superlatives. Several awards were distributed.

AWARDS

The 2004 Outstanding Earth Science Teachers Awards were presented at the annual banquet. Awards were presented to William C. Erler for Pennsylvania, Eileen Heady for Maryland, Michele Adams for West Virginia, Andrew Patrick for New York, Mark Shoengold for New Jersey and Mary Sue Burns for the Eastern Section. The Distinguished Service Award went to Lawrence R. Matson; the John H. Moss Award went to David J. Leveson; the Ralph Digman Award went to Mary Ann Schlegel and the James O'Connor Field Camp Scholarship went to Gary Daft.

The section business meeting was held on Sunday morning at the Rustic Mill Diner in Cranford. A review of our budget indicated the Eastern Section is financially sound. Our balance as of 09/08/04 was \$8803.25. After all bills and expenses were accounted for, the Newark meeting generated a net income of \$1,100. Business meeting discussions included the perceived communications difficulties between Eastern Section and the Executive Committee. There is also a decline in membership and interest in participation in the annual meeting. Ways to increase the participation in the section and to get the word out on awards and scholarships were discussed. The main topic of discussion was how to take advantage of a generous matching grant offer to the section of \$10,000.

Tom Repine, Councilor at large, related his impressions and suggestions based on facts learned by attending the 2003 mid-year Executive Council meeting. A thorough review of business meeting activity and discussion was made available to all members through Martin Schmidt's efforts. An abbreviated version of notes he published in the Summer 2003 Eastern Section Bulletin notes follows:

Rich Gottfried observed that he seldom finds references to NAGT on websites done by other science/education sites, such as state science teacher organizations or university geology departments. He encouraged everyone to contact webmasters of organizations you are connected to and ask him or her to put in a link for NAGT. Deb Hemler pointed out a perennial problem of too few OEST Award nominees. All members are encouraged to submit nominees to help improve this situation. This prompted discussion of ways to encourage OEST awardees to return to future meetings. It was suggested that a small stipend be allocated them to encourage attendance the following year. This stipend would be in contingent upon the awardee sharing their classroom experience (ie., give a presentation). It was further suggested that this idea be explored with the Executive Committee.

We discussed the problem of inactivity by section Councilors; everyone agreed we need their help in maintaining local contacts and submitting OEST & other award nominees. Anyone who would like to take an active role as a Councilor was welcomed to volunteer.

Indeed, it seems hard for many members to take an active role, including coming to the section meetings. We encourage those who haven't been to meetings to email the Section President outlining what would make future meetings more attractive. Simply saying "I don't have time", while true in one sense because we are all busy, is really a "I don't choose to do that" statement. We discussed what would make more people choose to come to our meetings? We would like input from those who don't attend meetings as well as those who do.

The Journal of Geological Education has a good supply of articles, but not many on K-12 education. We discussed ways of stimulating more K-12 teachers to submit material.

Future events involving Eastern Section representatives and members include the NE & SE Sections of GSA meeting in Fairfax, Virginia on March 24-27, 2004.. Our section and NAGT-SE are co-sponsoring two theme sessions, three workshops, a poster session and two field trips for teachers. Also, Steve Lindberg expects to be leading a NAGT co-sponsored field trip for K-12 teachers at the Field Conference of Pennsylvania Geologists in October 2003.

Our discussion of future Eastern Section meetings produced (always subject to change) New Jersey in spring 2004, Radford, Virginia in spring 2005 (with discussion of this developing into a joint meeting with the SE section), Parkersburg, West Virginia in spring 2006, and possibly Johnstown, PA in 2007.

The eastern section continues to publish and mail (with email electronic version now available) *The Bulletin* to all its members four times a year. The eastern section also maintains its own web site located at: <http://westy.jtwn.k12.pa.us/users/srl/NAGT.html>

The tentative schedule for the Eastern Section 2005 conference is provided here:

Joint Meeting of the Eastern and Southeastern Sections

Spring Meeting – May 12-15, 2005

Department of Geology, Radford University, Radford, VA 24142-6939

Conference Coordinator: Dr. Parvinder S. Sethi; psethi@radford.edu; Tel: (540) 831-5619

CONFERENCE WEBSITE <http://www.radford.edu/~geol-web>

Thursday, May 12, 2005

- 5 – 7 p.m. Check-in, on-site registration
7 – 7:15 p.m. Welcoming remarks – Dr. Ivan Liss, Dean, College of Arts and Sciences, Radford University
7:15 – 8:30 p.m. “Regional Geology of Southwestern Virginia: An Overview” by Dr. Jon Tso, Department of Geology, Radford University.
8:30 – 9:30 p.m. Social Mixer; Contemporary and traditional folk music by singer, songwriter and guitarist – Mr. Mackenzie Wills.

Friday, May 13, 2005

- 8 – 9 p.m. Registration
9 a.m. to Noon Workshops and Presentations
9 a.m. – 5 p.m. Educational and Commercial vendor exhibits
5 p.m. – 7 p.m. Dinner on your own
7 p.m. – 10 p.m. Geosocial – Auction!

Saturday, May 14, 2005

- 8:30 a.m. – 4:30 a.m. Field Trips (as listed below)
5:30 p.m. – 10 p.m. Annual Awards banquet and Keynote Address

Sunday, May 15, 2005

- 9:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. Breakfast and Business Meeting

** Due to the overwhelming positive response from the last Section Meeting hosted by Radford University, we will again be publishing a **“PROCEEDINGS VOLUME”** for the workshops and posters presented at the meeting. Full-length papers will be accepted for publication following peer review and the Proceedings Volume will be available at the meeting. Please watch (or refer to the meeting website) in early Spring 2005 for deadlines pertaining to initial submissions of abstracts and full-length papers. All papers will need to be written in the standard NAGT-Bulleting style.

** A **“FIELD-TRIP GUIDEBOOK”** covering the details of all the field-trips offered during the meeting will also be compiled and will be available for purchase at the meeting.

Field trips planned for the meeting include –

1. **“Mineral Mining of Southwest Virginia”** led by Mr. George Stephenson.
2. **“Hollowed Ground: Hydrogeomorphic and Environmental Aspects of Karst in the Valley and Ridge Province of Virginia”** led by Dr. Ernst Kastning.
3. **“Landslides of the Valley and Ridge: Ancient Giant Landslides of Southwest Virginia”** led by Dr. Skip Watts.
4. **“Geology of Burkes Garden Dome: the Lost World of Southwest Virginia”** led by Dr. Jon Tso.
5. **“Canoeing the Little River and Touring the Selu Nature Conservancy”** led by Mr. Gordon Love.
6. **“Rift to Drift: The volcanoes, glaciers, and beaches of Mt. Rogers”** led by Dr. Kim Knight.

NAGT-sponsored Events at NE-SE GSA Meeting

The meeting featured a reduced registration for K-12 teachers and NAGT members. The registration fee was \$25 dollars. The only other costs to teachers are listed after each event.

Co-sponsored Field trips:

- March 20th: Geologic Evolution of Northern Virginia
- March 27th: Terraces of the Potomac River at Great Falls
- March 28th: Geology and Paleontology of the Chesapeake Bay, Md

The cost is \$10 for the first trip, and \$5 for the last two trips.

Workshops:

- March 27th: AGI Workshop: Introduction to the Middle and High School Earth Science Curricula (new curricula initiatives by the American Geological Institute)
(cost : \$10)
- March 27th: NSF Workshop: Educational Funding Opportunities through NSF
(cost: free)
- March 27th: Exceptional Space Science Materials: A Multi-Sensory Approach for Grades 4-8 (cost \$10 and includes course material) (canceled)
- March 24th: Girl Scout Badge Training (cost \$25) (canceled)

Short Course:

March 27th: Interpretation of Seismograms of Local and Distant Earthquakes
(cost: \$5)

Tours:

March 26th: Tour of Smithsonian Museum of Natural History
(cost \$10)

March 25th: Tour of the U.S. Geological Survey National Center
(cost: \$10)

Theme Sessions:

- March 26th: Undergraduate Geoscience Education (oral and posters)
- March 26th: Geoscience Education K-12 (oral and posters)

For more information or to register, go to: <http://www.geosociety.org/sectdiv/northe/04nesemtg.htm>
or contact Rich Gottfried at rgottfried@frederick.edu

Other Activities

The Section continued its co-sponsorship of the "Earth2Class Workshops for Teachers" at the Lamont-Doherty Earth Observatory of Columbia University (www.earth2class.org.) This program provides opportunities for classroom teachers to learn about cutting-edge investigations through interactions with research scientists. Earth2Class now also receives support from the National Science Foundation Geoscience Education program. Earth2Class provides an ongoing service to geoscience teachers from the Section, as well as a format for making the Section known to classroom teachers who might otherwise never learn of our activities.

Financial Report

Submitted by Frank Revetta, Eastern Section Treasurer,
National Association of Geoscience Teachers

Financial Report for 2003

Savings Account Balance Brought Forward \$477.32

Income:

Dues	910.00
Frederick Meeting	266.30
Buffalo Meeting	1200.90
Guidebooks	199.00
O'Connor Fund (Janet Crampton)	100.00
Interest	<u>60.24</u>
	2736.44

Total Income (Balance plus Income) \$11,213.76

Duplication of Bulletin	714.34
Mailing Bulletin	292.16
Bulk Rate Fee	150.00
Insurance Premium	400.00
Filing Income Tax	150.00
Award Plaques	236.25
Award (Crystal Cammarano)	<u>500.00</u>
Total Expenses	2442.75

Present balance September 8, 2004 \$8,803.25

c. Far West (Garry Hayes, President)

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SECTION ACTIVITIES:

Spring Conference: February 11-13, Zzyzx, California

Sponsored by El Camino College

Faculty and student members from El Camino College's Earth Science Department planned and organized the conference. Participants included 73 attendees, 10 field trip and workshop leaders, 5 guests, and 11 staff members.

The Desert Studies Center at Zzyzx is a very picturesque location in the Eastern Mojave at the western boundary of the Mojave National Preserve at Soda Dry Lake. It was the starting point for the four area field trips on Saturday. Ted Weasma, of the Mojave National Preserve, led the *Geology and Mining Activity in the Standard Mining District, San Bernardino County, California* field trip. It focused on the history of mineral exploration and development in the area and included a stop at the old town site of Rosalie, a settlement surrounding the Copper World Mine smelter. Bob Reynolds, of LSA Associates, was the trip leader for the *Historical Geology of the Eastern Mojave Desert and the Sequence of Sedimentary and Structural Events*. This trip featured the Grand Canyon sequence at Mountain Pass, dinosaur tracks, Halloran area geology, Miocene tracks, the Shoshone area, and Mid Pleistocene tracks. Dee Trent, of Citrus College, and Rick Hazlett, of Pomona College, together coordinated the *Eastern Mojave Desert Geology Tour* which featured Seventeen Mile Point, Cima Volcanic Field, Kelso Depot, Cedar Canyon, Mid - Hills, Hole - in- the - Wall, and the National Park Service Visitor Center, as well as an overview of the major geologic highlights of the Eastern Mojave Desert. Robert Fulton, of the Desert Studies Center at Zzyzx, and John Dohrenwend, of Southwest Satellite Imaging, merged their field trips due to the similarity in routing of the two trips. *Geomorphic Quaternary Landscape Evolution and Climate Change and its Influence on the Distribution of Biota*, was the title of Rob's trip which focused on East Mojave natural history from a multi disciplinary approach. John's field trip, *Neogene Volcanism and Landscape Evolution of the Cima Area, Mojave Desert* focused on volcanism, the evolution of the Neogene landscape, and the formation of desert pavement. The mill site for the Copper World Mine was a stop on Ted Weasma's mining and geology field trip.

Doug Morton, of the United States Geological Survey, was the keynote speaker on Saturday evening. His talk was entitled, *Evolving Trends in Geology and Earth Science*. On Sunday, Dee Trent, and Rick Hazlett, led the second part of their Eastern Mojave Desert Geology Tour which featured the Vulcan Mine, Granite Cove, the University of California Research Station, rock art, and a return to Zzyzx via Interstate 40. In addition, Eric Riggs, of San Diego State University, conducted a workshop on *Integrated Field Work and Improving Deep Content Knowledge of Geologic Change Through Time*. Furthermore, faculty from California State University, Long Beach presented *Results of 3 Years of the Geodiversity Enhancement Program (GDEP)*. This program is designed to recruit under represented groups into the geosciences and the workshop included a discussion and the presentation of student work.

The Spring 2005 Conference was a successful due to the teamwork of the El Camino College Earth Science faculty and students, the support of the staff at the Desert Studies Center, the field trip and workshop leaders, and the conference participants.

Fall Conference: October 7-9, Sequoia National Park and the Coast Ranges

Sponsored by Porterville College

The conference is taking place only a week prior to the national meeting, so a full report will not be available until later. Expected Saturday field trips include a *Geologic Overview of the Southern Sierra* led by Mike Martin, M. L. King High School, *Crystal Cave, Sequoia National Park, and the Sequoia Roof Pendant* led by Richard Goode, Porterville College and Joel Despain, Sequoia Natural History Association, and a *Teachers Guide to Kings Canyon National Park* led by Garry Hayes of Modesto Junior College. The evening speaker will be Anthony F. Shakal of the Strong Motion Instrumentation Program at the California Geological Survey, Sacramento, CA.

Expected Sunday activities include a tour of Kaweah Dam, led by Richard Goode of Porterville College, and fossil collecting in the western San Joaquin Valley led by Mike Martin, M. L. King High School.

The work by Richard Goode and Mike Martin in organizing this conference is greatly appreciated.

Future Conferences:

Spring 2006 – Cuesta College, San Luis Obispo, CA

Fall 2006 – California State University, Stanislaus, Turlock, CA (?)

Spring 2007 - Open

Additional Conference Activities:

The Far Western Section provided \$500.00 scholarships to three deserving geoscience students:

- **Matthew Smith** has just graduated from USC, and plans to attend the University of Washington to get a graduate degree in Planetary Geology. He will attend field camp with Southern Utah State.
- **Tricia Collins** graduated last year from Cal State Northridge, and has been working on her MS at CSU Bakersfield since last fall. Her thesis topic will involve examining the evolution of magnetic fabrics and microstructures along well-defined finite strain gradients within a fold-thrust belt in Baja California. She will be attending field camp with the University of Missouri.
- **Mathieu Miller** has just completed his studies at Santa Rosa City College, and will begin at Sonoma State in the fall. His interest is hydrology..

Sales of Guidebooks that are produced for each conference continue to provide the financial support for the three \$500.00 scholarships awarded by the section. A list of publications available for purchase is posted on the section web site at <http://nagt-fws.org>.

The Far West Section unfortunately did not nominate an OESTA winner for 2005. It is a priority to find a deserving nominee this coming year.

The Far West Section will participate in events commemorating the 1906 San Francisco Earthquake in April, 2006. A distinguished speaker series, field trips and publications are all possible contributions.

MEMBERSHIP: 285

SECTION FINANCES:

Income (since January 5, 2005):	\$ 2,284.70
Expenses (since January 5, 2005):	\$ 2,632.62
Cash on Hand (August 21, 2005):	\$ 5,322.61

Certificate of Deposit	\$25,000.00
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C. Midcontinent (Ron Schott)

D. New England Section (Bruce Reuger, President)

A. Section Officers for the Current Year:

President: Tom Vaughn (as of 1 October, 2005)
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Vice President: Shelley F. Snyder
(as of 1 October, 2005)
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Second Vice President:
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Treasurer: Archie W. Berry
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Editor: Richard Little
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Archivist: Currently vacant

Secretary: Currently vacant

Publicity Chairperson:
Currently vacant

Councilors at large (State councilors):
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Awards/OEST coordinator:
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WebMaster:
Currently vacant

B. Report of Annual Business

D. Report of Annual Sectional Professional Meetings/Conferences

E. Schedule, nature and location of planned future events (2005-2006)

- Annual Meeting 9 October, 2004

The 2004 Annual Meeting of the New England Section of the National Association of Geoscience Teachers was held in conjunction with the 96th Annual New England Intercollegiate Geological Conference (NEIGC). The meeting was held in the new science facility on the campus of Salem State College in Salem, MA. The NEIGC is a three day field conference that is typically held in the fall of each year and is sponsored by different Geology Departments at New England colleges and universities on a rotating basis. Multiple field trips are held on each of the three days. At the 2004 conference, there was a field trip on Saturday, October 9 that was developed for NAGT members. The field trip was entitled The Geology and Geomorphology of the North Shore (Massachusetts) and was led by Dr. Rudi Hon (Boston College) and Dr. Lindley Hanson (Salem State College). It was very successful and well attended.

Following the field trip, the section held its annual meeting. New officers were installed and included Bruce Rueger (Colby College) – President, Tom Vaughn (Retired, Arlington, MA schools), Archie Berry (Retired, University of Maine, Farmington) – Treasurer, and Richard Little (Retired, Greenfield Community College) – Newsletter Editor and OESTA Coordinator.

Outgoing President, Larry Spencer (Plymouth State College) gave the address at the meeting. His address was a presentation of his research on the Great Barrier Reef in Australia. There were approximately 25 members in attendance. Many members then attended the Annual NEIGC banquet.

We have held our section meeting in conjunction with the NEIGC for the past three years and are meeting with them again in October of 2005. When the Northeastern Section of the Geological Society of America meets within New England, we will also have a New England Section Meeting of the NAGT at the same time. However, the GSA meetings have not been held in New England recently and will not be in New England in 2006.

- Leadership Meeting, 2 June, 2005

At this meeting, Section President Bruce Rueger met with Past President Richard Little and Dr. Richard Yuretich, New England Section Liaison regarding declining membership and participation in the section. We felt that the primary problems included meeting times and locations and communication. An outcome of that meeting was the development of an email list of all members of the section and an email list of all chairs of geoscience departments at colleges and universities in the section. This has led to better communication of events and hopefully increased attendance at activities.

- Annual Meeting, 1 October, 2005

The Annual Meeting for 2005 will be held in conjunction with the 97th Annual New England Intercollegiate Geological Conference. The meeting will be held on the campus of Yale University in New Haven, CT. Again, we have a field trip organized specifically for NAGT members. This year's field trip is entitled Reading the Rock and Landscape of the New Haven Region and is being led by Dr. Leo Hickey and Dr. Copeland MacClintock. We will hold our annual meeting following the field trip. New leadership will be installed at this time (see list above). The address will be given by NAGT Distinguished Speaker, Dr. Sharon Locke of the University of Southern Maine. Her talk is entitled "Access to Geoscience Education for All Students: Lessons Learned".

- Annual Meeting, 2006

Our annual meeting will again be held in conjunction with the NEIGC. Place and dates are to be determined.

- Elections

Results are given above

C. Annual Budget

Unable to obtain from section Secretary

F. Annual Awards

- OEST Awards (Name, affiliation, address, contact, etc.)

The 2004 OEST Award was presented to Bruce Mellin. Bruce is currently the Earth Science instructor at the Brooks School in North Andover, MA. At the Brooks School, Bruce teaches 10-12 Earth Science courses which include astronomy, meteorology and geology. He was nominated for the award by Tom Vaughn, incoming President to the New England Section of NAGT.

The 2005 OEST Award winner is Anita Marlene Honkonen, 126 High St, Norwell, MA 02061. Anita teaches 9th grade at Lincoln-Sudbury Regional High School. The award will be presented at our annual meeting on October 1.

- Special Sectional awards
None given in 2004-2005
- Other Recognitions and Awards of Note
Richard Little, Massachusetts Science Educators Hall of Fame
Dr. James Skehan, Massachusetts Science Educators Hall of Fame
Tom Vaughn, 2005 Sally K. Lenhardt Professional Leadership Award from Leslie University

G. Membership

- Status

We currently have 109 members registered in the section.

- Issues

Primary issues revolve around meeting places and times. We seem to have come up with somewhat of a solution by meeting with the NEIGC. This has benefits of being at approximately the same time of the year (fall) and they send out mailings well in advance. They have been more than willing to cooperate with our request. Attendance is fairly good at these meetings and we have had 25-40 at our past three meetings.

H. Communications

- Newsletter

We do have a sectional newsletter and it is ably edited by Richard Little. We generally put out our newsletter twice a year. It is published once in the spring and once in the fall. The fall newsletter promotes the Annual Meeting, while the spring newsletter provides other information and also provides some information regarding the fall meeting. See attached documents.

- Website

At present we do not have a website.

I. Policy Issues

- Sectional

Our section has one of the highest concentrations of colleges and universities in the country. One difficulty that we have experienced is a lack of participation by individuals at many of these institutions in the activities of NAGT. Membership should be higher and our communication with them could be better. One remedy for this would be to have state councilors that would serve on a board for the section and distribute information about the section to members and nonmembers alike.

Another concern is that there are a very small number of individuals that are trying to maintain the section, primarily, the newsletter editor and the president of the section. This past year we were contacted by our sectional liaison and we met with him and made some constructive progress.

Adding another venue in which NAGT members may participate has proven difficult. We have been successful with NEIGC. When GSA regional meetings are in New England, response has also been good. However, stand-alone NAGT sectional activities have met with little success. Combining with the Eastern Section of NAGT for their spring meeting and/or field trip may also be a possibility.

- National

We have no major issues with the National organization.

E. North Central (Sheila Roberts)

F. Northwest Section (Andrew Buddington, President)

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President's Report

2005 was another "stable" year for the Pacific Northwest Section. The membership numbers have remained relatively constant (although dropping slightly) as have the section finances (see report below) and the section enjoyed another very successful annual conference. The annual conference was held in beautiful Coos Bay, Oregon, and was hosted by **Ron Metzger** and Southwestern Oregon Community College (see below). Ron did an outstanding job organizing the conference that ultimately went off without a hitch. We have added two new state councilors since the 2004; **Shawn Willsey** (College of Southern Idaho) and **Tom Lindsey** (Portland State University). There have been no other changes in regards to the section officers or state councilors. In the spring of 2006, the section will have officer and councilor elections. The section put out three newsletters (Fall 2004, Winter 2005, Spring 2005) under the guidance of **Cassandra Strickland** (Newsletter Editor). This was Cassandra's first full year as editor and she has done a fantastic job in adding images and pizzazz to the newsletter. The section continues to be relatively (but not overwhelmingly) "active" with regards to membership interest in the annual conference with some participation by state councilors in state-related earth science functions at either the K-12 or college-levels. As of the writing of this report, the 2006 section conference site has **NOT** been officially announced. This is a concern because we are now significantly behind schedule in regards to the timetable for putting together the 2006 section conference.

In summary, we had a spike of interest with regards to the addition of new councilors in 2004-05, and we have a truly dedicated newsletter editor. Attendance at the section conference was surprisingly less than expected considering the spectacular beauty and fantastic geology of southwest Oregon. We made quite an effort beginning in the Fall of 2004 to promote the Coos Bay conference so section participation was disappointing. Only one member from of the national NAGT (**Scott Linneman**, also a NW section member) attended the section conference and that was nice because he brought an important organizational perspective to the meeting. But overall, participation by the section membership remains relatively benign. Finally, there continues to be minimal interest by the section to aggressively recruit new members and especially new members from the K-12 ranks throughout the Pacific Northwest.

Vice President's Report

The vice president of the Northwest section of NAGT position is kind of like the US vice president's job used to be -- not a lot to do, except stay in touch and help make things happen behind the scenes. In 2005, the highlight was our annual meeting in Coos Bay, which was a smashing success to which we owe Ron Metzger much thanks. I appreciated the thoughtful session there on so-called intelligent design, which I found encouraging because it reminded me that we in the geoscience education community have a very important job, teaching geology on the basis of logic, evidence, and a devotion to addressing the facts as they are rather than as people might prefer them to be. As long as we stick with that we will keep moving forward to a better-educated future. We are now trying to get the 2006 annual meeting for the Northwest section of NAGT arranged. I expect you will be hearing more about that soon as the site is verified and one or two more key volunteers step forward. I look forward to seeing you all there, along with your friends.

OEST Coordinator Report

The Pacific Northwest section has recognized two outstanding Earth Science educators this year. The Pacific Northwest Section OEST award this year goes to **Lynda Sanders** of Sunset Middle School in Coos Bay, Oregon. Ms. Sanders has been teaching in the Coos Bay public school district for over 15 years. One of the highlights of her application was her participation in an AGI pilot study testing the CUES (Constructing Understanding of Earth Systems) curriculum. Lynda has participated in the

National Science Teachers Association (and the state affiliate OSTA), been certified by the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards (NBPTS program) and is active in her community. The Washington State OEST Award this year went to **Mark Anderson** of the Housel Middle School in Prosser, Washington. Mr. Anderson is recognized as an educator who not only gets his middle school students to understand earth sciences, but also gets them excited about the subject. He utilizes his field experiences from industry in conjunction with his Master's in Teaching to generate an awareness of the local geology that surrounds his students. The Pacific Northwest section is fortunate to be able to recognize two dedicated and outstanding educators.

State/Province Reports

Alaska: the University of Alaska will be hosting the GSA Cordilleran Section meeting in May 2006 (Anchorage) and the Northwest Section of NAGT will be sponsoring a teacher workshop and geoscience education session along with a student poster session. **Cathy Connor** (Alaska state councilor) is the primary contact for this event.

British Columbia: N/R

Idaho: **Shawn Willsey** will be attending the "Great Rift Science Symposium" in Pocatello (October) on behalf of NAGT. This meeting coincides with the Idaho Science Teachers Association (ISTA) meeting. Shawn will attempt to network with earth science educators on behalf of Pacific Northwest section of NAGT.

Oregon: **Frank Granshaw** attended Oregon Science Teachers Association annual conference in Salem, Oregon on behalf of NAGT. Frank organized and maintained a booth at the conference along with **Mike Goodrich**, another NAGT member. Frank estimates that over 60 attendees visited their booth. Frank and Mike presented NAGT membership information along with information about teacher workshops at Portland State University. Frank reported that many of the K-12 science teachers were interested in the field trips offered at the annual Pacific Northwest Section conference.

Washington: **Joe Hull** attended the annual National Science Teachers Association meeting in Seattle, in November 2004. Joe met with K-12 science teachers on behalf of NAGT. As usual, the main question that came up regarding what NAGT has to offer to K-12 science teachers is "what do you have that I can use in my classroom, that works for my age and grade level, and how does it address either the **WASL** or the **state science standards**?"

Membership Report

Membership in 2005 dropped slightly from 2004. As of September, the total number of members had decreased to 130.

May 1999	119
May 2000	93
May 2001	142
May 2002	133
May 2003	129
May 2004	127
Sept. 2004	137
Sept. 2005	130

Treasurer's Report

Beginning Balance: 6/30/04	\$3720.00
Income:	\$675.25
Expenses:	\$239.41
Ending Balance: 8/30/05	\$4155.84

Income

Rebate:	\$322.50
Guide books sales:	\$68.00
Misc: Bellevue rebate	\$284.75
Total:	\$675.25

Section Newsletter

The Pacific Northwest Section has circulated three newsletters (Sept. 2004, Feb. 2005 and April 2005) during this fiscal year. Although the newsletter is under direction of a new editor, the format has remained relatively unchanged. Regular news items include "From the President" and "State News" (contributed primarily by state councilors). Other news items are welcomed from any NAGT member. Most submittals regard meetings (NAGT, GSA, state educational, etc.) and award programs (e.g. OEST); however, the newsletter has included several articles of teaching/educational interest.

Annual Section Meeting/Conference

The annual section conference was held in beautiful Coos Bay, Oregon (June 22-25) and was hosted by Southwestern Oregon Community College. Ron Metzger was the primary coordinator and he single-handedly put together a fantastic conference. Ron continued maintained several organizational "traditions" for the conference by holding it in late June soon after the completion of Spring term classes. He also coordinated a field-trip based format with various options for the attendees and their guests. And finally, the conference had a one day session of talks devoted to earth science teaching and the field-related local geology of southwestern Oregon. There were 3 days of field trips with one day of talks and discussion with a total of 36 people registered for the conference and 13 presenters. The pre-conference field trip included coastal geology, neotectonics, and Native American history of the Cape Blanco area. The second field trip visited the coastal geomorphology of the Oregon Dunes National Monument and the geology of the areas north of Coos Bay. The third and final field trip visited the spectacular coastline of Fossil Point and Cape Arago. The conference included a day of talks focused on the teaching of earth sciences with a two-hour session devoted to the controversial topic of "Intelligent Design" and the K/12 science curriculum. Mark Terry (Northwest School, Seattle) and Scott Linneman (Western Washington University) guided this very provocative and enlightening discussion. The evening dinner was capped with a presentation on *National Parks as Classrooms* by Bob Lillie of Oregon State University. The conference was promoted via numerous section and national announcements starting in the fall of 2004 along with a conference website developed by Ron Metzger.

Publications

The section continues to offer guidebooks (for sale) from the 1999-2005 conferences. The interest in these guidebooks has been encouraging and Joe Hull is continuing to work with conference organizers on consistency and how to have guidebooks prepared so they can be made easily available for sale. Guidebooks are available for purchase via the section website.

Section Web Site

The section website has moved to a new host site (<http://nagt.org/nagt/organization/northwest/>) is being actively maintained by **Jenny Thomson** (Eastern Washington University). The site is now being coordinated directly with the national NAGT website and the Pacific Northwest Section site is consistent in design and content with the national NAGT site.

G. Southeastern (Douglas Haywick)

II. Annual Sectional Report for Southeastern Section

A. Section Officers for the Current Year:

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B. Report of Annual Business

Meeting: SENAGT Business Meeting, Grand Casino, Biloxi, MS, March 18, 2005

Note: the site of the meeting was destroyed during the landfall of Hurricane Katrina.

Key points of discussion: Michael Gibson raised the possibility of an association with the SEGSA Education Committee for future geoscience education activities. He is the chair of that SEGSA committee and pointed out the obvious, that we are more or less doing the same thing and should pool our resources. Moreover, he stated that his committee finds itself in possession of \$1000.00 that might be used to partially fund an education workshop/activity at the 2006 SEGSA meeting in Knoxville. This suggestion was met with enthusiasm by the attendees who then went on to suggest that joint sponsorship for workshops, theme sessions and fieldtrips would increase the exposure of both organizations. Michael Gibson commented that GSA Ed will support/co-sponsor a session that brings in State Science Consultants and the \$1000 is there for us to spend. The SENAGT decided to cosponsor one theme on this topic at the next SEGSA meeting (Haywick and Gibson will convene it).

Discussion then turned to the outstanding Earth sciences teachers award (OEST). Last year we did pretty well in the region (4 states participated), but we have yet to achieve 100% state participation. It was decided to establish tighter controls on application deadlines:

State winners should be decided by June 1st. Each of the state winner's packages should be sent to the President no later than July 1st. At that time, the President will convene a committee to decide the regional winner which should be announced no later than July 31st.

That was the plan but several hurricanes destroyed this schedule this year. We are hopeful that we will be able to achieve this timetable by next year.

There was significant discussion at this point about the OEST award and some of the difficulties in finding a winner. It is certainly advantageous to have more than one state rep to help with the selection/decision making and Doug Haywick restated his wish to add additional state reps in SC and NC. Tennessee has had remarkable success in the past in finding excellent OEST representatives (and regional winners!), the result of hard work by Michael Gibson and recently retired state rep Stan Dunagan. The goal is to export this approach to other states in the SE Section.

A suggestion was made to automatically name OEST awardees SENAGT state reps. Discussion arose concerning the obligations of SENAGT reps (technically they are supposed to attend the business meeting etc.). OEST awardees are K-12 teachers and may not have the ability to fully perform SENAGT duties. John Wagner suggested that they be called SENAGT Associate State Reps. Michael Gibson suggested instead that they be called OEST State Reps. Nan Huebner liked this idea and we will apply this suggestion in a few states to try it out (e.g., Alabama). John Bryan asked a pertinent question at this time: why we wanted to do this? A comprehensive discussion followed. We need to increase exposure to geosciences in the public schools in order to increase majors in the universities. Geology is the least represented science in K-12 education and we have the fewest activists for our subject. This is one of the reasons why our discipline is threatened in a lot of science curricula. The more positive press and the more support we receive, the better off we will all be.

Discussion then turned to our plans for next year's SEGSA Meeting in Knoxville. Given our proposed association with the SEGSA Education Committee, it was suggested that we focus on state science education standards. Our organization did this 4 years ago at the meeting in Raleigh, NC. A suggestion was made to call it Tennessee State Standards – four years later. Or perhaps just State Standards – four years later. Those present felt that we could re-examine how standards have changed. The idea is to invite state science coordinators (or a qualified rep) from each state to discuss their situations. We would also request a national standards rep from Washington. Some felt that we might have to use the \$1000.00 SEGSA money to pay for travel grants or honorariums (it would have joint SENAGT/SEGSA Education Committee sponsorship). It was suggested that Don Byerly from Tennessee might be able to help, and also that we look for donated money from business and industry.

It was noted that in many cases, the state standards require teachers to be specific about the geology of their state. We need to come up with a list of state and regional resources. One suggestion was the Paleontological Research Institute publication, Teacher Friendly Guide to Southeastern Geology.

Other business had to do with Louisiana. We still need to sort out what is best for LA now that the state is no longer part of the SEGSA. The affiliation of the state of Louisiana changed in 1997 from the Southeastern Section to the South-Central Section. If we can find out who is representing LA for NAGT business, we can approach them and see if they want to move to another section (probably TX) or stay with us. This issue has been hanging over us for 2 years now. Doug Haywick said that he would try to sort things out. Whatever happens, there will have to be a vote. Texas NAGT would have to vote to accept LA, and LA would have to vote to leave SE-NAGT. National NAGT would need to send out a letter for LA to vote, but we would need to talk to TX first. Section changes are in the Council By-Laws. We need to look at our LA membership. Andrea Walker was our last known LA rep. LA needs representation in NAGT.

It was also decided that the next time we go to the SENAGT meeting, we will organize with the head office of the NAGT to get a decent display for the organization. Apparently

a display board is available and all we have to do is ask for it. We formerly contacted Bob Christman, but the new Executive Director is Ian McGregor. Geoff Feiss is now NAGT Chair. Someone said that Kathy Manduca will pay for any fees for a SE-NAGT booth at the SE-GSA meetings. Nancy Huebner will be in charge of getting a booth and display set up at our next meeting, as SE-NAGT Vice President.

Elections: Doug Haywick and Nan Huebner agreed to be nominated for, respectively, President and Vice President for 2005-2006. Pam Gore and Stan Dunagan agreed to stay on as, respectively, Treasurer/Secretary and Newsletter Editor. We were also advised by Florida State Rep John Bryan that a second state rep was appointed earlier in the year (Paul Cutlip, St. Petersburg College).

C. Annual Budget

As of June 1, 2005, the SENAGT had \$3948.55 in cash. We have been very frugal this year with our expenses. Charges that were pending for the use of a display table at the 2005 SEGSA meeting in Biloxi were never billed against us. The only other expenses were to ongoing costs of newsletter publications (estimated at approximately \$300.00-350.00/year). It should be noted that our only source of income is dues from membership fees, but this revenue roughly balances our expenses. Membership numbers have been dropping over the years which does not bear well for the future of the SEGSA. New sources of revenue will have to be established. A letter writing campaign is being initiated.

SENAGT Section Expenses (2004-2005)

Category	Item	Proposed (2004-2005)		Actual (2004-2005)		Proposed (2005-06)	
		Costs	SubTotal	Costs	SubTotal	Costs	SubTotal
Travel & Meetings Officers	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	Table rental at SEGSA meetings*	150.00	150.00	0.00	0.00	150.00	150.00
	Key note speakers for 2006 SEGSA meeting**	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,000.00	1,000.00
			150.00		0.00		1,150.00
Section Management			0.00		0.00		0.00
Other	Newsletter mailing expenses	150.00	150.00	150.00	150.00	100.00	100.00
	Newsletter printing expenses	150.00	150.00	150.00	150.00	100.00	100.00
			300.00		300.00		200.00
TOTAL EXPENSES			450.00		300.00		2,700.00

*Budgeted but never paid for. I think we feel through the cracks during invoicing

** The 2005-2006 proposed expense for keynote speakers at the 2006 SEGSA meeting will be provided through external funds provided by the SEGSA Educational Committee

*** We are starting to send the newsletter out electronically so we are expecting a rapid decrease in this expense starting this year.

D. Report of Annual Sectional Meetings/Conferences

SENAGT sponsorship activities at the 2005 SEGSA Meeting in Biloxi, MS.

Field trip. On the Beach – Geology and Ecology of a Barrier Island System.

Theme Session. K-16 Earth Science Education: Teaching Geology in a Shifting Socio-economical Environment. **Convener/Advocate(s):** Douglas W. Haywick, and John R. Wagner, Thursday, March 17, 2005: 1:00 PM-5:00 PM, Bayview Hotel at the Grand Casino Resort 1

1:00 PM: **GORE, Pamela J.W.**, UPDATE ON GEOSCIENCE EDUCATION IN GEORGIA

1:20 PM: **STAPLETON, Colleen P.**, ADJUSTMENTS TO TEACHING GEOSCIENCE IN A CLASSROOM OF ADULT STUDENTS

1:40 PM: **THOMAS, Christopher W.** BEST PRACTICES IN DESIGNING ONLINE GEOSCIENCE COURSES TO MEET GROWING DEMAND FOR ONLINE LEARNING

2:00 PM: **HAYWICK, Douglas W.**, CONNORS, James J. Jr, and SEBASTIAN, Glenn R., WHERE HAVE ALL THE GOOD STUDENTS GONE? TEACHING GEOLOGY IN A SHIFTING SOCIOECONOMIC ENVIRONMENT

2:20 PM: **WAGNER, John R.**, TEACHING GEOSCIENCE WITHIN A CULTURAL CONTEXT USING LOCAL CASE STUDIES

2:40 PM: **MAYGARDEN, Dinah F.** and GORDON, Heather L. STUDENTS UNDERSTANDING THEIR IMPERILED COASTLINE

3:00 PM: **CONNORS, James J. Jr**, DESIGN, INSTALLATION, AND UTILIZATION OF AN ON-CAMPUS WELL FIELD FOR MULTIDISCIPLINARY GEOLOGICAL INSTRUCTION

3:20 PM: **BOUKER, Polly A.**, STUDENT LEARNING DURING EXAMS - IT'S NEVER TOO LATE!

3:40 PM: **BRANDE, Scott**, USE OF MOVIE ANIMATION OF STILL IMAGES IN THE GEOSCIENCE LECTURE: IMAGEMAT!CS STILLMOTION CREATOR AND POWERPOINT PRESENTATIONS

4:00 PM: BRANDE, Scott, and **IJAZ, Qasim**, PROOF-OF-CONCEPT EXPLORATION AND PRODUCTION SIMULATION FOR THE INTRODUCTORY GEOSCIENCE LABORATORY DELIVERED VIA THE WEB TO A CLUSTER OF WIRELESS PDAS

4:20 PM: BRANDE, Scott, and **WOLFORD, David** WIRELESS DELIVERY OF WEB CONTENT TO THE GEOSCIENCE LABORATORY: CONSIDERATIONS OF CLIENTS AND NETWORKS

The session that we sponsored at the SENAGT was very well received. The room was almost filled for several presentations which is a vast improvement over previous years attendance in geoscience education theme sessions. Thanks to Gail Russell for a job well done in organizing this small, but exceptional meeting.

The On the Beach field trip was also well received. Eleven paid participants spent a magnificent Saturday wandering around West Ship Island. The field guide is being revamped (permission is being gathered to use some figures) in order for it to be posted on a geoscience education website. It is intended to be a free download publication. The National Park System in MS and several area schools have already requested the guide. And the best thing of all is that the fieldtrip did not lose any money. I think the SEGSA might have even made \$5 or \$6.

E. Schedule of Future Events

Business Meeting: March 23, 2006, Knoxville, TN (in conjunction with the 2006 SEGSA meeting)

Profession Meeting: March 23, 2006, Knoxville, TN (in conjunction with the 2006 SEGSA meeting)

Workshops: None this year

Fieldtrips: The Formation, Denudation, and Natural History of Mount Le Conte, Great Smoky Mountains National Park, Tennessee, Led by C. Scott Southward (Sponsored by SENAGT)

Theme Sessions: 1) The Formation, Denudation, and Natural History of Mount Le Conte, Great Smoky Mountains National Park, Tennessee Ben Tanner, Western Carolina University.

2) Current Status of K–12 Science Standards and Earth Science Education in the Southeast. Michael A. Gibson, University of Tennessee at Martin; Doug Haywick, University of Southern Alabama.

F. Annual Awards

OEST Awardees

Alabama - Ms Ashley Allen, Oneonta High School, 27605 State Hwy 75, Oneonta, AL

Florida - no nomination

Georgia - Mr Gregory Bailey, Southeast Whitfield High School, Dalton, GA 30720

Mississippi - no nomination

North Carolina - Ms Kathy Bosiak, Lincolnton High School, 803 N. Aspen St. Lincolnton, NC 28093

South Carolina - Mrs. Ida Wideman, St. Andrews Middle School, Columbia SC 29210

Tennessee - Ms Rose Lummus, Dyersburg Middle School, 400 Frank Maynard, Dyersburg, TN 38040

Regional Award Winner: Ms Rose Lummus, Dyersburg Middle School, Dyersburg, TN 38040

G. Memberships

As of June 1, 2005, the SEGSA had 128 paid members. This was down from 151 the same time one year ago. We have been concerned about the drop in membership numbers for several years. We are attempting to increase the exposure of the SENAGT in the state public school systems. Stressing the OEST awards is one way of doing this (it seems to be paying off in Alabama), but we certainly need new ideas. This is likely to be a major point of discussion at the next business meeting.

H. Communications

Newsletter: Available in print and on line at the SENAGT Website
Website: <http://www.utm.edu/staff/sdunagan/senagt/>

I. Policy Issues

No report

H. Southwest Section (Kaatje Kraft, President)

A. Section Officers for the Current Year:

President: Kaatje Kraft, Mesa
Community College, 1833 W. Southern
Ave., Mesa, AZ 85202
(k.kraft@mail.mc.maricopa.edu, (480)
461-7054)

Vice President: Merry Nowicki (will
take over President position after
November meeting)

Past President: Tom McGuire

Second Vice President: N/A

Treasurer: Steve Semken

Editor: Vicki Harder

Archivist: N/A

Secretary: Vicki Harder

Publicity Chairperson: N/A

Councilors at large (State councilors):
N/A

Awards/OEST coordinator: Kaatje
Kraft

WebMaster: Vicki Harder

B. Report of Annual Business

- Meeting 1: Major meeting will occur on November 5th. President and Vice President meet regularly
- Elections N/A
- Presidents Report: This past year has continued to be a challenging one from a membership perspective. We tried to have a meeting in the spring, with no response from members and minimal time for set-up from the President and Vice-President, so we re-scheduled for November in order to provide more time for planning. We're hoping to have better success with this later date. We attempted to garner support for local issues (school science requirements, testing, etc... with no response). The Vice President and I work together very well—she is in training to take over, but I'm concerned about the continuance of that trend. I hope we will be able to find someone excited and willing to take a step up into a more active role in the section.

C. Annual Budget

- To date, the only expenditures this past year have been the mailing last spring. Otherwise, most of our budget will be used toward hosting our speakers in November.

- Budget Spreadsheet (Income, expenditures, endowments, etc.): report from Treasurer not yet received, will send when I do.

D. Report of Annual Sectional Professional Meetings/Conferences

- Meeting 1: our Meeting will be held in conjunction with field trips in the local SW AZ region the weekend of Nov. 5th-6th.

E. Schedule, nature and location of planned future events (2005-2006)

- Our meeting in November will have speakers from the NAGT speaker series (the “Daves”) who have offered to do either a workshop or talk—discussions are still in the works. The meeting will be based out of Bisbee, AZ, with a field trip to Kartchner Caverns on the 5th (a very popular carbonate cave system) and hopefully (still working on the details) a field trip led by a local “expert” on Sunday the 6th.

F. Annual Awards

- OEST Awards TBA—will have a name by the end of Sept.

G. Membership

- Status: As of May 19th, we had 119 members.

- Issues: We continue to struggle with a lack of participation or interest in participating in any component of local section issues/activities. We hope to have a slightly better participation for the experience in Bisbee which may possibly show members a reason to want to be more involved.

H. Communications

- Newsletter: We had one previous newsletter. Our Newsletter editor was out of commission with two “new knees,” as a result, our publishing process was a bit slower this past year. We are hoping to get another newsletter out by mid-September about upcoming events in November.

- Website: Vicki continues to do a strong job with updating and maintaining our section website.

I. Policy Issues

- Sectional: getting participants involved and allow them a reason to see why they should participate.

I. Texas (Kevin Urbanczyk, President)

D. Communications/Publications

a. NAGT Publications Committee (Steve Good)

b. Journal of Geoscience Education

i. JGE Publications Committee (Steve Good)

ii. JGE: Editor, Carl Drummond
Journal of Geoscience Education
Editor's Report – November 2005

Summary of Volume 53

	Total Pages	No of Articles	Pages of Articles	No of Columns	Pages of Columns	Pages of Business	No of Ads	Pages of Ads
No 1	144	13	111	2	9	21	3	3
No 2	88	9	68	3	13	5	2	2
No 3	108	10	87	2	16	3	2	2
No 4	144	15	133	2	5	4	2	2
No 5	80	10	74	1	1	3	2	2
Total	564	57	473(84%)	10	44(8%)	38(6%)	11	11(2%)

Summary of Submissions

Year	Total Submitted	Rejected	Published	Accepted	In Progress	Acc Rt
2005	112	25	3	28	56	55%
2004	104	46	52	6	0	56%
2003	91	27	62	2		70%
2002	101	38	62	1		62%
2001	66	26	40			61%
2000	89	25	64			72%
Total	563	187	283	37	56	
Rate*		37%	56%	7%		

*based upon total editorial decisions to date 507

Year-to-date Submissions (October 4st)

Year	Papers
2005	1128
2004	104
2003	91
2002	101
2001	66
2000	89

*to date

c. NAGT News

i. JGE Publications Committee (Steve Good)

ii. NAGT News: Keith McKain (Editor – NAGTNews)

May - 2005

The ability of NAGTNews to keep members informed has been greatly improved thanks to the actions of the Executive Committee in May. With the new system through Serc - it is now possible to develop an issue in a matter of days (for editing and set-up) and a matter of minutes to send the issue to all members with Email. I have sent six issues in the last year – four thus far in 2005 (see below). I ask that all members of the Executive Committee keep sending any news to me via Email and I will arrange it for the next issue.

I continue to have several questions. When should an issue be sent? We had discussed the idea of a “schedule” but most thought issues “as needed” would be better. I can easily adjust to either method now that I have an understanding of the new mechanism for sending the E-newsletter. My current thinking is to collect news and announce an issue about a week before it will be sent. This allows anyone to send and last minute items and gives the database people (currently SAM) to get an updated list to me. Is this process satisfactory with the members of the Executive Committee? It seems to have worked quite well for the last two issues. If not - what should be done differently? How long will SAM continue as our membership database?

I am willing to continue as the E-news Editor and am available for this service to the organization at the whim of the Executive Committee. Any direction or suggestions will be welcomed. I am not certain about when I will be able to again attend a meeting. My mothers health prevented my attending the Williamsburg meeting and I will not be able to get away for Salt Lake City. The leadership in my school has completely changed since I was promised the time to attend NAGT Executive Committee meetings. Next year’s national meeting will be a good possibility since I live about 3 hours from Philadelphia! It is becoming more and more difficult to get the release time for attending any meetings. I will continue to work on this problem.

Keith A. McKain

NAGTNews – Vol 4, No. 1 February 2005

1135 Emails – 1135 issues sent 1:25am Sunday Feb. 20, 2005

NO BOUNCES??? [Discovered the bounce notification had been RESET – I have corrected the problem!

NAGTNews – Vol 4, No. 2 April 2005

1290 Emails – 1290 issues sent 10:04pm Friday April 22, 2005
(Total Membership in data base was – 1580 so we have only 290 without Emails!)

60 Bounces – sent to Bob Christman on 4/23/05

NAGTNews – Vol. 4, No. 3 May 2005 (sorry – statistics cannot be found)

NAGTNews – Vol 4, No. 4 July 2005

1354 Emails – 1354 issues sent 12:37pm July 15, 2005

32 Bounces – sent to Bob Christman

d. Website

iii. JGE Publications Committee (Steve Good)

iv. Website 2003-2004: Editor, John McDaris

v. **Website Post 2004: Editor, Cathy Manduca**

NAGT Website

Fall 2005 report

Cathryn A. Manduca, webmistress

The transition to SERC and the SERC content management system is now complete and the site has been reorganized to reflect conversations with the executive committee. Features of note include

- Full text articles for all issues of JGE beginning with v2, 2001. Routine has been established to update with new volumes and to maintain indexing.
- Section and national news, and sponsored sessions sections are routinely updated from newsletters and requests
- On line forms are in use for membership and OEST, and can be implemented upon request for other activities.

In addition, we have collaborated with the Central section to post teaching activities for K-12 teachers presented at the NAGT sponsored session at the North-central GSA meeting last spring. The Central and Pacific Northwest section sites are also hosted by SERC.

Services for on-line payment of dues are under exploration by Ian and we have participated fully in discussions of pros and cons.

An NSF award has been granted to develop capabilities for authoring and editing of single page contributions to the website by members. We will implement this functionality this fall and use it to develop a site addressing teaching in the field.

Website use:

In August 2005, the site received approximately 4500 visits from 3000 unique visitors. Of these visits, approximately 900 visitors saw 3 or more pages on the site, and approximately 400 visitors returned to the site within the month.

This compares with Sept 2004 when the site was visited by approximately 3000 visitors, and to an average of 2900 visitors/month in 2003.

The most popular part of the site is JGE which received approximately 2000 visitors, followed by the NAGT home page which received approximately 900 visitors. Last Sept, the home page was the most popular destination on the site. This indicates increased use of on-line JGE offerings.

E. Awards

a. Jim Shea Award (Carl Drummond)

Awardee: Dee D. Trent

b. Neil Miner Award (Geoff Feiss)

Awardee: Craig M. Ashbrook

Neil Miner Awards Committee

Committee: Geoff Feiss (chair), Karen Havholm, Cathy Manduca, Eric Riggs, Greg Wheeler

The Neil Miner Award Committee received three nominations for the 2005 Award. All documents were reviewed and the committee met virtually and voted by email. All three were determined to be eminently qualified.

The committee unanimously recommended that the 2005 Neil Miner Awardee be Dr. Craig M. Ashbrook, Professor of Environmental Management at Southwest Virginia Community College, Richlands, VA. The award will be presented at the annual NAGT/Geoscience Education Division luncheon on October 16, 2005.

The unsuccessful nominations will be forwarded to Scott Linneman, chair of the 2006 Neil Miner Award Committee, for future consideration. It should be noted that one of the two unsuccessful nominations did not include a current c.v. for the nominee as required by our procedures.

f. Dorothy Stout Award (Bob Christman)

Susan Howes Conrad, Dutchess Community College, Poughkeepsie, NY

Richard Lozinsky, Fullerton College, CA

Steven Murphy, International Community High School, Kirkland, WA

g. OEST Awards (John Wagner)

h. Outstanding Teaching Assistants

OEST COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORT

October 14, 2005

The OEST Committee followed the Law of Inertia this past year. Those sections with active OEST programs continued to produce winners, but not much else was accomplished. The total of five section winners and eleven state winners sounds better than it really is. OEST Section Representatives report unanimously that it is getting harder and harder to coax nominations from anyone. Maybe everyone is just too busy, but if OEST is that much on the back burner of everyone's "to do" list, it may be time to reconsider how important the continuance of this program is to NAGT.

For example, the Southeastern Section looks good on paper with five state OEST winners, but in at least three of those states (SC, AL, GA) there was only one nomination submitted. The teachers who won these awards are highly qualified (the Southeast Section does exercise some degree of quality control – we won't just give the OEST award to any warm body, there has to be some documentation of excellence)

but to call such an OEST search a “competition” is highly misleading. Other section representatives report similar low numbers of nominees.

NAGT spends a fair amount of money on plaques honoring our OEST sectional and state winners. We do get publicity when these plaques are presented at state science teacher’s conferences (as is common in NC, SC, GA, TN just to name a few). But is the benefit worth the expense and effort? That is a question only the Executive Board can answer.

As OEST Committee Chair, I don’t mind coordinating the paperwork and communicating with section representatives. But I don’t have the time or inclination to go recruiting OEST nominees in Michigan, Missouri, or California (or any of 46 other states). I’m involved enough trying to get nominees for the SC award. I also don’t have the time or inclination to recruit OEST Section Coordinators. This is clearly a section responsibility and Section officers must appoint people who are willing to do some legwork if the OEST program is to be successful in their section. I have mentioned this before, but if every member of the NAGT Executive Committee would nominate one teacher from their state (surely if you don’t know a good science teacher, your neighbor or colleague or niece or secretary certainly will) we could almost double the total number of OEST nominees. The OEST award doesn’t have to go to the VERY BEST earth science teacher in your state or section, just a good teacher, ANY good teacher will do. Please take the time to make sure someone from your section gets nominated.

I have not followed up yet with the persons running the AAPG Awards. We had originally discussed forwarding our sectional awardees to them as automatic candidates for the “AAPG National Earth Science Teacher of the Year Award”. I am somewhat embarrassed to have only five section winners to forward. Nevertheless, I plan to pursue this idea further during the coming year.

Last year, I presented a proposal to the Executive Committee (which I believe was approved) that no OEST winner would receive more than one plaque under any circumstances. For example, if a teacher wins the South Carolina State Competition and also wins the Southeast NAGT Section Competition, that teacher would receive the section plaque only (with an extra line noting that they are also the state winner for South Carolina). If a teacher wins the New York state award during a particular year, they must compete for the sectional award that same year or not compete sectionally at all. In 2005, the Eastern Section did not follow this protocol, but the cause may have been my lack of communication with the Eastern Section representative prior to their announcing their awards. I will make a more concerted effort this year to see if this problem can be solved.

Respectfully submitted,

John R. Wagner – Chair, OEST Committee

**NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF GEOSCIENCE TEACHERS
OEST Section & State Award Winners 2005**

Section OEST Winners

State OEST Winners

Central Section

OEST Alabama

Ashley Allen

Eastern Section

Bernard Picklo

OEST Georgia

Gregory Lee Bailey

FarWest Section

OEST Maryland

Carole Sue Diehl

Midcontinent Section

New England Section

Anita M. Honkonen

North Central Section

Pacific Northwest Section

Lynda Sanders

Southeast Section

Rose Lummus

Southwest Section

Chris Donovan

Texas Section

Heather Marshall

OEST Minnesota

OEST New Jersey

Ray Kucklinca

OEST New York

Eugene Genova

OEST North Carolina

Kathy Bosiak

OEST South Carolina

Ida Wideman

OEST Tennessee

Rose Lummus

OEST Virginia

David Kielbowick, Jr.

OEST Washington

Mark Anderson

OEST West Virginia

Ronald Sacco

North Carolina-Honorable Mention Certificate

*Kelly J. Ruff

OEST Mailing list

CENTRAL

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(701) 237-7149 (Fax)

Allan.Ashworth@ndsu.nodak.edu

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rmetzger@socc.edu

TEXAS

Heather Marshall
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(214)683-1786 (Cell)
marshalH@friscoisd.org

CHAIR

John R. Wagner
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Clemson University
Clemson, SC 29634-0919
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jrwgnr@clemson.edu

1st Member-at-large – Vacant

SOUTHEASTERN

Dr. Douglas W. Haywick
Associate Professor of Geology
University of South Alabama
LSCB 136, Earth Sciences
307 University Blvd. N.
Mobile, AL 36688-0002

[\(251\) 460-6381](tel:(251)460-6381)

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Mesa, AZ 85202
(480) 461-7054
katrien.kraft@mcmail.maricopa.edu

2nd Member-at-large – Vacant

**Awards Given by NAGT and Other Professional
Organizations to 2005 OEST Section Winners**

National Association of Geoscience Teachers – a plaque and a 2-year membership
(state winners get a plaque and a 1-year membership)

Geological Society of America – \$1000 (\$500 Classroom Improvement and \$500 Travel Assistance) and
3-year Teachers Associate Membership
(state winners get 1 year Teachers Associate membership)

Contact: Diane C. Lorenz
Program Officer
Grants, Awards and Medals
The Geological Society of America
P.O. Box 9140
Boulder, CO 80301-9140
Phone: (303) 357-1028
Email: Dlorenz@geosociety.org

American Geological Institute – one-year subscription to Geotimes Magazine
(state winners receive an assortment of recent AGI Publications)

Contact: Ann E. Benbow
Education Director
American Geological Institute
4220 King Street
Alexandria, VA 22302-1502
Phone: (703) 379-2480 x245
Email: aeb@agiweb.org

American Geophysical Union – one-year membership to AGU with weekly newsletter , EOS and a
subscription to Physics Today

Contact: Jill Karsten
Education and Career Services Manager
American Geophysical Union
2000 Florida Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20009
Phone: (202) 777-7508
Fax: (202) 328-0566
Email: jkarsten@agu.org

**Awards Given by NAGT and Other Professional
Organizations to 2005 OEST Section Winners**

National Earth Science Teachers Association – One year new membership or renewal in the National
Earth

Science Teachers Association (NESTA) that includes a subscription to *The
Earth
Scientist*, NESTA's quarterly journal.

Contact: M. Frank Watt Ireton
Science Systems and Applications, Inc.

10210 Greenbelt Road, Suite 400
Lanham, MD 20706
Phone: (240) 232-0300 x1054 (o)
Email: frank_ireton@ssaihq.com <http://www.nestanet.org>

American Institute of Professional Geologists – 1 year subscription to Professional Geologist

Contact: Wendy J. Davidson
Publications/Website
American Institute of Professional Geologists
8703 Yates Drive, Suite 200
Westminster, CO 80031
Phone: (303) 412-6205
Email: wjd@aipg.org

US Geological Survey – Assortment of instructionally useful materials

Contact: Robert W. Ridky
National Education Coordinator
Office of the Director
United States Geological Survey MS104
12201 Sunrise Valley Drive
Reston, VA 20192-0002
Phone: (703) 648-4713
Fax: (703) 648-5470
Email: rridky@usgs.gov

F. Special Programs

a. The Cutting Edge (Heather MacDonald)

On the Cutting Edge: Professional Development for Current and Future Geoscience Faculty
<http://serc.carleton.edu/NAGTWorkshops/index.html>

NAGT Report, October 2005

Heather Macdonald, Cathryn Manduca, David Mogk, and Barbara Tewksbury

The overall goal of the *Cutting Edge* project is to improve the quality of geoscience education for undergraduate students through the dissemination of exemplary practices and materials to current and future faculty through an integrated, synergistic set of workshops and a variety of web resources. We aim to bring advances in pedagogy and geoscience research to the broader community of those who teach geoscience to undergraduates.

We are grateful to NAGT for the advertising and publicity that NAGT provides (including ads in the *Journal of Geoscience Education*) and for its co-sponsorship of sessions at professional meetings. In addition, the opportunity to include *JGE* articles on the *Cutting Edge* website provides high-quality material to the website and increases the visibility of *JGE*. Both NAGT and Cutting Edge are contributors to the Geoscience

Education Social at GSA. We encourage NAGT members to suggest workshop topics for the 2006/2007 workshop series.

We are planning to submit a grant proposal to the National Science Foundation Division of Undergraduate Education (Course, Curriculum, and Laboratory Improvement Program) to continue and extend the program, *On the Cutting Edge*, and would like to continue to have NAGT as a sponsor of the program.

2005 - 2006 Workshops (more details are given on brochure)

- Discoveries from Mars: Using a Planetary Perspective to Enhance Undergraduate Geoscience Courses
- Teaching Public Policy in the Earth Sciences
- Teaching Sedimentary Geology in the 21st Century
- Designing Effective and Innovative Courses in the Geosciences
- Early Career Faculty Workshop: Teaching, Research, and Managing Your Career
- Preparing for an Academic Career in the Geosciences: A Workshop for Graduate Students and Post-Doctoral Fellows

2005-2006 Related Activities

- It's About Time: Teaching the Temporal Aspects of Geoscience - an Illustrated Community Discussion at a special poster session, Salt Lake City GSA meeting
- Teaching Climate Change: Lessons from the Past at the 2006 AMQUA meeting
- Academic Careers and Academic Job Searches in the Geosciences: A Workshop for Graduate Students and Post-Docs at the NE GSA meeting
- Effective and Innovative Course Design in the Geosciences, at the NE GSA meeting

WEB RESOURCES

The thematic collections typically link fundamental scientific research, pedagogical approaches, examples and activities, data and tools, images, and supporting services. We continue to use a range of approaches to providing resources derived from workshops to a broader audience via the web-site. In addition to new collections associated with workshops in the 2004-2005 workshop series, other new resources include a hurricane visualization collection, a tsunami visualization collection, an on-line course design tutorial, and new or expanded structural geology, mineralogy, and visualization collections. The website front page shows the range of topical resources:

Managing Your Career

- [Preparing for an Academic Career](#)
- [Early Career Faculty](#)

Geoscience Topics and Themes

- [Biocomplexity](#)
- [Geology and Human Health](#)
- [Geochemistry](#)
- [Hydrogeology](#)
- [Mineralogy](#)
- [Ocean Systems](#)
- [Petrology](#)

- Rates and Time
- Structural Geology

Enhancing Your Teaching

- Assessment of Learning
- Course Design
- Teaching in the Field
- Using Data
- Visualizations
- Web Design

b. Distinguished Speaker Series (Karen Havholm)

Karen distributed a report that showed 30 speakers on the roster for 2005-2006. The Distinguished Speakers Committee is looking for four more speakers for the 06/07 roster. There will probably be 16 presentations this year. There are few repeat institutions. Ian sends advertising to all Geoscience Departments, DLESE, and posts the speakers list on the NAGT website. We could advertise more in places like the GSA newsletters and NESTA. Are we reaching all types of institutions? Ian is also looking at speakers from other societies that we could help publicize. We need the membership tri-fold handout to help speakers do a good job of promoting membership in the organization. The DS Committee will put together a packet for speakers that include hand-outs, evaluation forms, and instructions to speakers on how to arrange visits to get the best results. The DS Committee will also work towards developing a coherent evaluation system for the program.

c. Field Camp Scholarship program (Yildirim Dilek)

NAGT Scholarship Committee

Dr. Yildirim Dilek, Chair NAGT Scholarship Committee

Department of Geology, Miami University, 116 Shideler Hall
Oxford, OH 45056; Phone: (513) 529-2212

Dr. Pranoti Asher, Dept of Geology & Geography, P.O. Box 8149,
Georgia Southern University, Statesboro, GA 30460-8149; Phone: (912) 681-0338

Ms. Laurel P. Goodell, Department of Geosciences, Guyot Hall, Princeton University,
Princeton, NJ 08544-1003; Phone: (609) 258-1043



Dr. Yildirim Dilek Professor of
Geology
Department of Geology Phone: (513)
529-2212
116 Shideler Hall Fax: (513)

7 March 2005

[Student name here](#)

[Home address](#)

[Phone number](#)

Dear _____:

On behalf of the **National Association of Geoscience Teachers (NAGT)**, I am happy to inform you that your application for an NAGT Field Study Scholarship has been successful, and that the Committee has chosen you as one of the sixteen recipients of this prestigious award for the Year 2005. Congratulations! We are delighted in that the **National Association of Geoscience Teachers** is able to contribute to your educational goals, career inspirations, and professional development through this scholarship, and we wish you the best in your future endeavours.

If the status of your field study application changes such that you would not be able to implement it as you stated in your original application, you should contact me in writing at once. We have a waiting list of other deserving students, who could then use this scholarship towards the completion of their degree requirements.

Please stay in touch and let us know how you have benefited from your field study experience, and visit the NAGT Booth next time when you attend the Geological Society of America Annual Meeting. Congratulations again and best of luck with your studies.

Yours sincerely,

Yildirim Dilek, Chair, Scholarship Committee; cc: Ian MacGregor, Executive Director; P.

Geoffrey Feiss, President; Cathy Manduca, Past President

Student Name	College/University Attending Now	Major	GPA	Field Course Program
Behrens, Sabrina	Univ. of Wisconsin-Madison	geology	3.53	Wasatch-Uinta, Park City, UT
Blanton, Amber	CSU Bakersfield	geology	3.67	Wasatch-Uinta, Park City, UT
Collins, Tricia	CSU Bakersfield	geology	3.85	CSU at Bakersfield
Dawson, Amy	West Virginia University	geology	3.56	Geology Field Camp

Dunaway, Jessica	Univ. of West Georgia	geology/physics	3.5	Univ. of New Mexico
Elger, Kathy	Illinois State University	geology	4	Geology 395: field geology
Ferguson, Julia	Illinois State University	geology/theatre	3.86	Field Camp - South Dakota, Wyoming
Hartwick, Emily	Central Michigan University	geology	3.88	Univ. of Missouri
Hidy, Alan	Utah State University	geology/physics	3.88	University of Wyoming
Johnson, Aaron	Southern Utah University	geology	3.67	Southern Utah Universty
Matell, Nora	Williams College	geosciences	3.58	Penn - YBRA
Orland, Ian	Washington Univ. in St. Louis	earth & planetary sciences	3.93	Univ. of Missouri
Osborn, Caleb	Southern Utah University	geology	3.94	GEOL 4960, Geology Field Camp
Peters, Rachel	Univ. of Puget Sound	geology & chemistry	3.8	Southern Oregon University
Shullenberger, Eric	Miami University	geology	3.77	Miami University
Takishita, Yuko	Univ. of Tennessee @ Martin	geology	3.85	University of Missouri
Marked in blue: top 3 most deserving students				

d. USGS/NAGT Cooperative Geosciences Internship program (Penny Morton, Executive Secretary)

The Director’s office of the USGS has continued to cost-share one-half of the support for twenty interns for up to twelve weeks for the summer of 2005. This was done with the support of Robert Ridky and Chip Groat. The USGS also continued to use Environmental Careers Organization (ECO) to administer the hiring and placing of these interns. ECO reduced their normal mark-up and added these interns to their existing contract with the USGS. This proved to be highly successful, because we placed 19 interns with the help of Jaina D'Ambra of ECO.

We canvassed 130 field camps and/or schools and we had 70 nominations from 42 different field camps (Table 1). Of those 70 nominations, 41 were men and 29 women. Letters were mailed to all students nominated (copy of nominee letter attached) and Jaina D'Ambra of ECO also contacted them. Of the seventy nominations, 50 students actually applied and later 19 more withdrew during the process for an attrition of 39 students (almost 56%). Of the remaining 31 students, 19 were placed. Nine men and 10 women took internships and their localities are listing in Table 2. A copy of the nomination letter is attached.

Requests for nominations for the NAGT/USGS 2006 program were sent via email on August 1. Hard copy will follow.

Table 1. Historical Data for NAGT/USGS Cooperative Internship Program														
Year	1966-92	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005
# of Schools/Camps canvassed	151	193	136	73	111	101	110	100	105	112	112	112	116	130
# Directors who nominated a student			60	37	49	52	48	33	31	44	32	48	39	42
# of Nominees	3405	150	177	77	139	104	115	73	76	106	87	123	60	70
# Nominees that applied										77	63	90	46	50
# Offers	1554	101	117	37	94	70	36	15	32	38	13	8	16	19
# who withdrew during process													14	19
ratio of offers to nominees	0.46	0.67	0.66	0.48	0.68	0.67	0.31	0.21	0.42	0.36	0.15	0.07	0.27	0.27
ratio of offers to applicants										0.49	0.21	0.09	0.35	0.38
Goal	1235	87	83	37	74	55	25	25	25	25	30	30	20	20
	av 46/yr													

Table 2: List of Interns and their locations for 2005

Intern's Name	Nominated by	Field Camp	College/University	Project Chief	Office Location
Celebrezze, Eric	Kurt Panter	Bowling Green University	Bowling Green State University	Ray Siwicki	Pittsburgh, PA
Chaisson, Megan	Bruce Douglas	Judson Mead Geologic Field Station, Indiana University	Tufts University	Denis Leblanc	Northborough, MA
Dark, Joshua	Penelope Morton	Wasatch Uinta Field Camp	University of Minnesota Duluth	Doug Druliner	Denver, CO
DeFrates, Joshua	David Malone and Mark Fisher	Illionois State University Rocky Mountain Field Camp	Illinois State University	Jonathan Caine	Denver, CO
Diefenbach, Angie	Jeff Lee	Oregon State University-Central Washington University	Central Washington University	Dan Dzurisin	Vancouver, WA
Duxbury, Jane	Frank J. Pazzaglia	LeHigh University	San Francisco State University	John Nimmo	Menlo Park, CA
Fox-Lent, Cate	Bruce Douglas	Judson Mead Geologic Field Station, Indiana University	Brown University	Joseph Walder	Vancouver, WA
Gilmore, Greg	Hassan Babaie	Georgia State University	Georgia State University	Ted Cooney	Columbia, SC
Gouldey, Jeremy	Beth Lincoln	Albion College	Albion College	Jeff Frey	Indianapolis, IN
Herriot, Trystan	Arthur Sylvester	UC Santa Barbara	University of California, Santa Barbara	Carl Thornber	Vancouver, WA
Hocking, Crystal	Karen A. Bielstein	Black Hills Natural Sciences Field Station	South Dakota School of Mines and Technology	Ron Zelt	Lincoln, NE
Maurer, Kathryn	Paul Link	Idaho State University Field Camp	Brown University	Brady Allen	Cook, WA
McKeown, Nancy	Bruce Douglas	Judson Mead Geologic Field Station, Indiana University	Stanford University	Wright Horton	Reston, VA
McMeans, Megan	Greg Baker	University of Buffalo	University of Southern Indiana	Celeste Journey	Columbia, SC
Morgan, Eugene	Hilde Schwartz	UC Santa Cruz	University of California, Santa Cruz	Brady Allen	Cook, WA
Robinson, David	Bart Kowallis	Brigham Young University	Brigham Young University	Denis Leblanc	Northborough, MA
Schlegel, Melissa	Bart Kowallis	Brigham Young University	Brigham Young University	Melinda Chapman	Raleigh, NC
Shannon, Neil	Leslie A. Melim	Western Illinois University Geology Field Camp	Western Illinois University	Suzanne Femmer	Rolla, MO
Thompson, Sarah	Michael Batzle	Colorado School of Mines	Colorado School of Mines	Steve Schilling	Vancouver, WA

**U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY COOPERATIVE SUMMER GEOSCIENCES
INTERNSHIP PROGRAM**

Penelope Morton, Executive Secretary

Department of Geological Sciences
1114 Kirby Plaza Drive
University of Minnesota Duluth
Duluth, MN 55812
pmorton@d.umn.edu
218 726 7962

November 18, 2004

Dear **ADD NAME HERE**

Congratulations! Because of your exemplary performance at summer field camp, you have been nominated by your field camp director to participate in the 2005 Cooperative Summer Geosciences Internship Program sponsored by the National Association of Geoscience Teachers (NAGT) and the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS). Through this program, a select number of outstanding graduates of summer field courses are invited to apply to the USGS for summer field, laboratory, or office internships. We are inviting you to submit an application. This is done via Environmental Careers Organization (ECO), which is the organization that manages this program.

These opportunities are available throughout the United States during the summer of 2005. Appointments are made for 12 weeks up to 20 weeks with candidates being assigned to field positions or to laboratory and office related scientific work throughout the United States, with main operational and administrative centers in the Eastern Region (Reston, Virginia); Central Region (Denver, Colorado); and the Western Region (Menlo Park, California).

This year, the USGS is looking to hire Geologists, Hydrologists, Physical Scientists, Geochemists/Chemists, Geophysicists, Geographers, Biologists, Cartographers, and Ecologists. As the emphasis on integrated science is increasing at the USGS, we are seeking candidates who have a broad background in earth sciences, geography, cartography, ecology, physics, biology, chemistry, and GIS. Salary range will be from 12.87 to 14.92 per hour depending on the geographic location of the position. If you are offered a position through this program, you will be informed of the specific salary for that area.

Student backgrounds will be matched with available opportunities throughout the country. The number of hires depends on the number of available opportunities and the number of students who have the necessary backgrounds and education. There is a questionnaire that you will be asked to fill out, giving you the opportunity to express what types of positions you are interested in. The completed questionnaire will be submitted along with your resume and transcripts.

We have an automated application process that makes it easy for nominees to apply. Go to: <http://www.eco.org/usgs>, select USGS/NAGT from the sidebar and then choose NAGT applicants. This website gives you information about the Program. Just download and complete the application form. Email it to Jaina D'Ambra at ECO and she will contact you to complete the process. (Note you will also need your resume and transcripts.) Applications are due by December 15, 2004.

This program provides a wonderful professional opportunity for you. Since the program's inception in 1965, over 1500 selected students have participated. It is one of the most highly regarded career experiences nationally available with many participants going on to distinguished careers in the geosciences. We appreciate your interest in this summer Program and look forward to receiving your application. We hope to have selections made by mid February, at which time we will contact you with the results. If you have questions or concerns, please contact Jaina D'Ambra, the USGS ECO Program Manager at jdambra@eco.org or me at pmorton@d.umn.edu with any questions or concerns that you may have.

Sincerely,

Penelope Morton
Executive Secretary, NAGT/USGS Cooperative Summer Internship Program

**G. Executive Committee: Midyear Executive Committee Minutes; May 8-9 2005,
Williamsburg Virginia (Greg Wheeler,)**

Present: Bob Christman, Carl Drummond ,Geoff Feiss, Eric Riggs, Michael Gibson, Karen Havholm, Scott Linneman, Ian MacGregor, Cathy Manduca, Jeff Tolhurst, Greg Wheeler, Richard Yuretich

A. Business

Agenda was approved with Year of the Field added.

Review and adopt minutes: Minutes for the Nov. 6, 2004 planning meeting, the Nov. 6, 2004 Council meeting, and the Nov. 8, Executive Committee meeting were approved.

B. Finances

Transfer of accounts -\$400,000 in general savings/checking account and \$143,603.57 of special fund money has been transferred to Ian MacGregor in the California Office. Bob has retained 15,973.66 in a savings account, 2051.28 in checking, and \$600 in the Bank of America credit-card account. These remaining funds will be transferred over the next few months, as activity shifts to Ian's office.

Mid-year status—Ian presented a spread sheet showing current fund allocations:

Checking Account: \$10,556.14

CD General (Discretionary): \$78,289.19

CD Endowment plus Awards funds: 143,856.44

Oakmark Mutual Fund (Reserve Funds): 300,471.63

Recommendations of Finance Committee – Chair Wheeler reported that the Committee had decided to keep the endowment funds and reserve funds in separate mutual accounts. The Committee discussed using an investment advisor but decided that the current policy of investing in a diversified mutual fund would have the same overall effect. The Executive Committee agreed with this strategy. Ask the Council in the fall if some of the invested money should be used for new initiatives.

Membership

Ian has had talks with the Mineralogical Society of America and the American Institute of Physics about on-line membership management. MSA spends about \$3-5 per member and AIP about \$6 per member on their membership systems. Ian estimates that it would cost NAGT between \$8,000 and \$10,000 per year to use one of these organizations to manage our membership list. **Ian, Cathy** and two others will go to Washington DC to learn the system details and make recommendations to the Executive Committee at the fall annual meeting. **Geoff** will ask the Clay Society President about their experience with the MSA managed membership list.

C. Publications

JGE report –The Journal averages 108 article submissions each year. As of May Carl has received 65 submissions this year. The increase in submissions is partly due to the planned special issue with AGU.

There are more peer reviewed articles, more journal pages, and more selective review than in the past. The on-line poll found a near 50/50 split between people that liked the Journal changes and those who didn't. Carl thinks the opinion split is due to a split in membership between those that are most research oriented and those who are looking for ideas to use in their class.

Currently JGE has about one article per issue dealing with K-12 curriculum. We should retain the Strategy Column and try to work with some of our OEST award winners to obtain some K-12 oriented articles. We should approach NESTA and explore publishing an on-line journal with them. We could highlight the new NESTA print publication on the NAGT webpage. **Cathy** will contact Mike Smith.

Journal image quality is very good, but Carl has been sending a CD of articles to authors because some of them can not receive the picture files on their computing system.

Georef includes JGE articles.

The NAGT webpage is posting articles at the time of JGE publication. Although the Executive Committee decided at the last Planning Meeting to not post whole articles immediately, permission to continue the experiment was given at this meeting. It is hoped that the articles will effectively advertise NAGT. **Carl** agreed to attach a membership form to the articles that are printed from the NAGT site. The webpage is receiving 3000 visitors per month. There are 500 unique visitors. **Cathy** will talk to sections to get information on upcoming field trips on the webpage.

Geoscience World –Carl says there is no reason for us to join this on-line publishing done by GSA. We can get our articles up faster and easier using our on webpage.

JGE/AGU special issue—We need to decide how best to handle the special joint issue of JGE. Publication as a sixth issue in one year will confuse library subscriptions. We should publish the joint issue as a separate, special edition. **Eric Riggs** is guest editor for NAGT and Claudia Alexander will edit for AGU. AGU has agreed we can put the special edition on line. **Carl** will check to see if we need to modify our postal permit to mail more than five editions of JGE in a single year. We have agreed to contribute \$5000 as our share of printing 4000 copies. Carl estimates that the total cost of 4000 copies will be \$20,000 when \$6000 clerical and printing at \$3.50 per copy is included. **Motion** to allocate \$10,000 for the NAGT portion passed unanimously.

Environmental Text/Lab Manual --**Ian** will try to obtain a formal agreement with AGU on profit sharing for joint publications.

Advertising/Announcements

Carl will continue to invoice advertisers and payments will go to **Ian**.

Karen and **Scott** will work on the membership brochure for completion this summer.

D. Communications

NAGT webpage—The newly designed version is up and running. We need to consider if we want to add book reviews, literature surveys (Have you read this), museum reviews and advertising. **Ian** will decide which items are advertising and which are announcements. We need to enhance the site with more section news. There was a consensus that we need to appoint “section managers” for the various parts of the webpage. The section managers should go to Carlton to review the webpage content and for training. **Cathy** will make a formal proposal and budget for this training. The money could come from the budget item “ priority action/implementation committee”. **Motion** to approve \$5000 for **Cathy** to continue to work on the Website was approved.

Newsletter – The Executive Committee reviewed the mid-year report from Keith McKain. The Committee unanimously voted to ask Keith to continue as editor of the e-newsletter.

E. Awards

Neil Miner-3 applicants. **Geoff** chairs the Selection Committee. **Greg** and two others selected by **Geoff** are on the Committee. **Geoff** will convene the Committee.

Dottie Stout –Bob has 5 applicants for three awards. The Selection Committee is Joan Baldwin, Ed Geary, Dottie’s 3 daughters (Donna, Deborah, and Diana Stellar) and Bob Christman.

Shea Award – **Carl** has received one application. He will consult with Jim Shea.

TA Awards –The selection process needs to be more formalized. **Richard** will develop an award description which includes submission dates and criteria for winning the award.

G. Section Liaison Reports

Pacific Northwest: Scott Linneman - The next Pacific Northwest Section meeting is in June in Coos Bay Oregon. The section website looks good. Members are getting involved.

Far Western : Jeff Tolhurst- The June meeting in Hawaii was not well planned and did not go well. The February meeting was at Zzyzx California. The trip was excellent and well attended.

North Central: Greg Wheeler-- Greg has found Sheila Roberts, Chair of Environmental Sciences at the Univ. of Montana-Western, in Dillon Montana to lead the section. We made her President of the Section. She attended the Far Western Section field conference in Zzyzx. She has written a spring newsletter for her section and is planning a field conference in Montana for June 2006.

Central: Cathy Manduca - All is going well. Both Cathy and Karen Havholm are planning to go to the next Section meeting.

Mid-Continent: Michael Gibson—This has been very hard to get going. An interest pole on the Section website got no responses.

New England: Richard Yuretich -- Rich Little is doing a good job as President. The section has a full slate of officers. They will have their meeting on Columbus Day, associated with the New England Intercollegiate Geologic Congress. The University of Massachusetts is trying to take Earth Science out of the high school curriculum. **Ian** will write a letter to The Massachusetts Department of Education to support teaching Earth Science in K-12. **Richard** will supply background information.

South Eastern: Pranoti Asher --- Pranoti was not at the meeting, but her mid-year report details many interactions with this active section. Pranoti attended the section meeting at the SE GSA meeting in Biloxi. She reports that she will be the meeting chair for the 2007 SE GSA in Savannah. NAGT will sponsor several theme sessions and plans are under way to conduct field trips to Okefenokee Swamp and Tybee Beach.

Other Liaison Reports: There were no reports of activity by liaisons to the other NAGT sections.

H. NAGT management

Publication Storage –We order 2500 copies of JGE but Angel Press always prints more. We could cut our order number, but we may not have enough to mail to late membership applicants. There is a substantial storage need. **Ian** will have to store back issues.

NAGT office – Ian has moved to Napa. His e-mail address is now NAGT@gordonvalley.com . Ian has established bank accounts and his office. His wife will act as a payed office assistant.

Meetings report – Details are in Ian’s mid-year report

Travel Expense Guidelines – The travel expense guidelines proposed by Ian were discussed. Committee members suggested these changes.

1. Move the comment about using good judgment from the section on accommodations to an introductory section
2. Change “bar bill” to “no alcohol” in the Charges not Allowed section
3. Delete “meeting registration” from the Charges not Allowed section
4. Specify fees paid to publish abstracts in the Charges not Allowed section

USGS/NAGT summer interns – **Geoff** will write a thank you letter to the USGS for their support of the summer intern program.

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE --- p. 7 of Ian’s mid-year report discusses his meeting with Bob Higgins. Should NAGT encourage a collaborative relationship with the Park Service?

Retired Earth Science Professionals – Do we want to develop a program to train retired earth science professionals to work as a resource to k-12 classes. There is a similar program for science and engineering professionals described at <http://www.reseed.neu.edu/overview.html> . **Ian** will find out more about this.

I. GSA plans

Ian passed out a chart of meetings at GSA with Executive Committee representatives expected to attend each meeting attached. Scott reported that we have 13 NAGT sponsored sessions at GSA.

The Geoscience Ed. Reception was well attended. Our share of the cost was \$974. We should seek other sponsors like DLESE. Because of a change in GSA personnel, **Ian** will spearhead organization of the Geoscience Education Reception at GSA in 2005. He will ensure that other organizations have the opportunity to bring brochures and banners to display.

GSA and NAGT need to remember to advertise both the Biggs and the Neil Miner awards.

J. Priority Action Plan

Numbers below refer to priority action agenda

1. The Membership Task Force is still working on analysis of the current membership. Ian has the questionnaire given members last year. The membership working group, **Ian**, **Jeff**, and **Eric**, will convert the data into Word format and examine it to see if useful data can be extracted. They will report the results to the ExComm by the fall meeting.

2. Ed Geary was in charge of developing several “white papers” for the NAGT website and for distribution when the occasion arises. These have not been done. **Scott** will head a committee to write these.

Mike Gibson has researched the various evolution position papers and thinks we should develop and endorse such a paper that emphasizes the aspects of teaching evolution. The Executive Committee suggested this paper should only be a few paragraphs long. The tone should emphasize that evolution is a robust scientific theory. Should NAGT work with the Paleo. Soc. on developing a curriculum for K-12? **Motion** for NAGT to work with the Paleo. Soc. in developing an intellectual framework for teaching evolution. Approved. We can put this paper on our website.

6. **Eric, Scott, and Cathy** will form a task force to draft a white paper on educational research initiatives. **Eric** will chair this group to develop a draft for the fall annual meeting.

7. **Ian** reported that no NAGT-FWS member has found the time to work on projects associated with the commemoration of the 1906 San Francisco Earthquake. NAGT will definitely be involved in leading field trips. The FWS doesn't want a third meeting in 2006 and the normally scheduled two meetings do not coincide with the April 18-22 commemoration. **Ian** will be the lead in working with the Seismological Society. We may be asked to contribute some money.

8. The “year of the field trip” material is complete and on the NAGT website.

K. Other

Congressional Fellows/ AGI Fellow – Do we want to contribute money to support another congressional fellow?

Heather MacDonald asked if NAGT wanted to sponsor a student to work on education issues at AGI. **Ian, Geoff, Karen, Scott, and Greg** will work on a spread sheet that shows how spending is correlated to the Strategic Plan.

Adjourned at 12 noon.

Respectfully Submitted



Greg Wheeler, Secretary/Treasurer