Building Strong Geoscience Departments: Resources and Opportunities

The Building Strong Geoscience Departments program aims to foster communication and sharing among geoscience departments in order to facilitate rapid dissemination of strong ideas and approaches. Online resources (serc.carleton.edu/departments/index.html) feature successful strategies and specific examples from a wide variety of geoscience departments across North America.

Curiacula & Programs
serc.carleton.edu/departments/programs/index.html
Webpages on:
- Curriculum design/revision
- Profiles of courses, curricula, & programs from a variety of departments
- Internships
- STEM education references

Preparing Students for Careers
serc.carleton.edu/departments/professional/index.html
Webpages on:
- Building a network of resources, including alums
- Employment trends
- What knowledge, skills, and abilities employers are seeking
- Integrating professional prep into your program

Student Recruitment
serc.carleton.edu/departments/recruiting/index.html
Webpages on:
- Featuring your intro classes
- Informing students about career opportunities
- Taking students beyond the classroom
- Advertising your program
- Assessing your efforts

The Future of Geoscience
serc.carleton.edu/departments/future/index.html
Webpages on:
- Multiple perspectives on the future of geoscience research
- Profiles of faculty members "on the cusp"
- Interdisciplinary research & teaching

Upcoming Workshops & Opportunities

Assessing Geoscience Programs: Theory and Practice
February 22-24, Carleton College
serc.carleton.edu/departments/program_assessment/index.html
Departments are increasingly called upon to assess the impact of their programs on students and to measure the degree to which they meet stated goals.

This workshop will showcase the methods and instruments that geoscience departments are using for this assessment, as well as providing opportunities to learn more about evaluation theory and practice from experts in the field. We will focus on using assessment to meet your own goals, as well as your institution's, and on increasing the quality and efficiency of assessment.

Strengthening Your Geoscience Program: A Practical Workshop with Ideas and Examples
June 2-4, College of William and Mary
This workshop will focus on areas of high interest to participants, such as curriculum, assessment, programming, recruitment, or management.

We will draw on strategies and examples from past workshops to develop practical solutions to the challenges facing participants' departments.

Visiting Workshop Program
Beginning in the fall of 2009, we will offer tailored workshops for individual departments. Departments will be able to select topics of high interest from a list of our areas of expertise.

We will work with your department to develop a customized program. Each session will feature presentations based on research results, discussions, and action planning.