Dear Education Section member:

Welcome to the second Education Newsletter! We are pleased to bring you another selection of exciting community news, events, and professional development opportunities in Earth and space science education.

As a new section, we are able to nominate colleagues who have contributed significantly to Earth and space science education and education research for an AGU Fellowship. Please nominate deserving Education Section colleagues for this honor before the 15 March deadline. For questions about the process, please see the Honors page or contact any of the Education Section leadership.

AGU has launched a new initiative to support young people in the Earth and space sciences from all over the world. Please consider donating to the Austin Endowment for Student Travel and help AGU achieve a $1 million match. This matching fund was established by an AGU member who remembers the amazing and positive impact that traveling to an AGU Fall Meeting had on him when he was a student himself. Whatever amount you give, you can be sure that your kind donation will help develop the next generation of Earth and space scientists as well as support our section. Thank you.

Best wishes,

Vincent Tong, Secretary, AGU Education Section; Communication Working Group Chair

Tanya Furman, President-elect, AGU Education Section

Mark Moldwin, President, AGU Education Section

**AGU and Other Education News Items**

- **Become a Mentor with Mentoring365**
  Looking to engage the next generation of geoscientists from all over the world? Mentoring365, AGU’s virtual mentoring program, facilitates the sharing of professional knowledge, expertise, skills, and insights among experienced and early career geoscientists through dialogue and collaborative learning. Apply to be a mentor today!

- **Symposium on Women in STEMM**
  The National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine Committee on Women in
Science, Engineering, and Medicine is hosting the Symposium Highlighting Evidence-Based Interventions to Address the Underrepresentation of Women in Science, Engineering, and Medicine on 11 March 2019 from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. EDT in Washington, D.C. Click here to register or learn more about this event.

• **Earth Educators’ Rendezvous in Nashville, Tennessee**
  The fifth annual Earth Educators’ Rendezvous will take place from 15 to 19 July 2019 in Nashville, Tennessee. This event brings together researchers, college faculty, graduate students, K–12 teachers, and all others who seek to improve their teaching and learning about the Earth. The deadline to apply to host a working group as well as to submit abstracts for the oral, poster, teaching demo, and Share-a-Thon sessions is 3 March. Travel stipend and event registration deadlines are 7 April and 1 May, respectively.

• **Opportunity to Share Your Science at the IUGG**
  The organizers are soliciting AGU members to give a presentation at the International Union of Geodesy and Geophysics (IUGG) 2019 General Assembly Geosciences Information for Teachers (GIFT) Workshop. The workshop is scheduled for 15–17 July 2019 at the 2019 General Assembly (GA) of IUGG in Montréal, Québec, Canada. The GIFT workshop typically is attended by 50–75 educators, primarily middle and high school teachers, but includes educators working in elementary schools and informal community-based education centers as well. Participating in the IUGG GIFT workshop is an excellent way to share your science and associated educational resources with an international group of teachers and help them bring these resources directly into their classrooms. IUGG is soliciting applications from teams composed of at least one scientist and at least one education specialist (e.g., outreach specialist, science teacher) if possible to provide presentations during the workshop. A "presentation" will be composed of a talk on an Earth or space science topic appropriate for K–12 educators coupled with one or more closely related hands-on classroom activities, with a total time for the presentation of 1.5 hours. If you are interested in presenting, please email Gar Bering at with the subject header [IUGG GIFT].

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**For Higher Education/Postsecondary Faculty**

• **Virtual Poster Showcase Information for Faculty and Researchers**
  Registration for the Spring 2019 Virtual Poster Showcase (VPS) is open! VPS is a great way to incorporate research poster preparation and presentation skills into your course or with your research advisees. To learn more about how faculty and researchers can benefit from utilizing VPS in their curriculum or simply with their research teams and mentees, click here.

• **Preparing TAs to Effectively Represent Their Disciplines**
  When it comes to introducing undergraduate students to academic disciplines for the first time, graduate-level teaching assistants (TAs) often provide students with their first impressions of these fields since they more frequently interact with students than professors and faculty. This posting from Tomorrow’s Professor provides advice and
exercises for professors to help TAs successfully communicate the importance of their disciplines to students.

- **Nominations for the NAGT Neil Miner Award and James H. Shae Award**
  The National Association of Geoscience Teachers (NAGT) annually presents the Neil Miner Award to geoscience educators who have demonstrated exceptional contributions to the stimulation of interest in the Earth sciences among students. NAGT also annually presents the prestigious James H Shea Award to individuals who have demonstrated exceptional contributions to the writing or editing of Earth science materials that are of interest to Earth science educators or the general public. The nomination deadline for both these awards is **1 April**.

- **Workshop for Early Career Geoscience Faculty in College Park, Maryland**
  The Early Career Geoscience Faculty workshop is sponsored by the National Association of Geoscience Teachers and will take place at the University of Maryland in College Park from 28 July - 1 August, with an optional visit to the National Science Foundation on 2 August. This workshop will focus on preparing faculty that are within their first 3 years of a tenure track or equivalent position for a successful faculty career through sessions focused on effective teaching strategies, establishing a productive research program, and time management. Applications to participate in this workshop are due on **24 March**.

- **Traveling Workshops Program**
  The National Association of Geoscience Teachers Traveling Workshops Program brings national leaders in sustainability, environmental, and geoscience education to your campus, regional or national event, or institution to strengthen its courses or programs. The deadline to apply for a fall 2019 workshop is **15 March**.

- **Perpetually Silent Students**
  Students who tend to remain silent during class sessions are not necessarily unprepared or unfamiliar with the course content. There are a wide variety of reasons why a student may struggle to speak up, from being introverted to suffering from depression or other medical challenges. This Tomorrow’s Professor article proposes some suggestions on how to encourage all students to express their thoughts in the classroom setting in an inclusive manner.

- **Student Support from Mentors and Faculty Varies Depending on Course of Study**
  Studies have shown the value of supportive relationships between students and mentors or faculty when it comes to confidence and positive postgraduate experiences. This Gallup and Strada Education Network article calls attention to the lack of personalized attention that students in science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) fields receive when compared to students in other courses of study such as the arts and humanities and why improving mentoring initiatives plays an important role in retaining students who wish to graduate as STEM majors.

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**For K–12/Secondary Teachers and Informal Educators**
• **Project Atmosphere Workshop in Kansas City, Missouri**
  The [Project Atmosphere Workshop](#) is a professional development program offered by the American Meteorological Society’s Education Program designed to increase teacher effectiveness and stimulate student comprehension and interest in atmospheric science topics at the precollege level. This in-person portion of the workshop will take place from 28 July to 3 August 2019 at the National Weather Service Training Center in Kansas City, Missouri. Participants must complete several online learning modules prior to the on-site meeting and will receive three semester hours of graduate credit through California University of Pennsylvania upon completion of the entire program. The application deadline to participate in the 2019 Project Atmosphere Workshop is **1 April**.

• **Maury Project Workshop in Annapolis, Maryland**
  The [Maury Project Workshop](#) is a professional development program offered by the American Meteorological Society’s Education Program aimed to introduce precollege educators to oceanography education topics and teaching resources to enhance student interest in the oceanic and hydrologic science fields. This workshop will be held in Annapolis, Maryland, from 14 to 26 July 2019. Participants who successfully complete the workshop will receive three semester hours of graduate credit through California University of Pennsylvania. The application deadline to participate in the 2019 Maury Project Workshop is **1 April**.

• **Earth Science Classroom Activities**
  Looking for engaging and informative activities to introduce your students to the Earth sciences? Check out this extensive list of activities put together by the American Geosciences Institute to find age-appropriate lesson material on a wide variety of Earth science topics.

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**For Undergraduate and Graduate Students**

• **Six College Experiences Linked to Higher Student Confidence During Job Searches**
  Many college students are uncertain as to whether their undergraduate education will provide them with the skills necessary to secure a job after graduation. This [Gallup article](#) discusses six collegiate experiences related to faculty support and experiential learning that are shown to boost students’ confidence in their ability to find successful jobs and opportunities after graduation.

• **Skill Development through Internships**
  Looking to gain valuable skills in a professional work environment? Internships are excellent opportunities to strengthen your analytical, collaboration, research, and project management skills. To learn more about a short study conducted by AGU and the American Geosciences Institute, click [here](#).

• **Importance of Developing Teamwork Skills**
  Both academic and nonacademic jobs are incorporating more team-based procedures into their work structures and culture to increase productivity. As a result, it is important for students to gain and improve their teamwork skills prior to entering the workforce. In this...
Inside Higher Ed article, Pallavi Eswara identifies several key skills for students to develop to effectively contribute to team-based projects after graduation as well as how to gain these skills while still on campus.

- **Graduate Student Career Development**
  As a pioneer of the graduate student career counseling movement, Julie Miller Vick offers three important pieces of advice to students preparing for their postgraduate lives and careers: develop an academic persona, take advantage of the resources offered at your university, and learn how your university works. This Tomorrow's Professor posting elaborates on her advice and the different approaches students can take to prepare for their professional endeavors.

AGU galvanizes a community of Earth and space scientists that collaboratively advances and communicates science and its power to ensure a sustainable future.