



The mission of C-GEO is to improve and sustain geography education in Oregon

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C-GEO News

Cuba Institute

C-GEO's summer 2023 advanced institute participants went to Cuba. Highlights of the trip included visiting old Havana, going to the Bay of Pigs museum and hearing the Cuban perspective of events, Cuban homestays, learning about the growing private industries in the country, talking to a representative from independent media, learning about the Cuban arts scenes, snorkeling in the Caribbean, horseback riding and going caving in rural Cuba, and riding in the vintage old cars. The list could go on. For more information on the trip see the [Cuba story map](#), which incorporates the 5 Themes of Geography, put together by the institute participants.



C-GEO institute participants in Havana



A vintage car in Havana



Cuba Institute participants learn how to role a Cuban cigar



Institute participants pose with the Cuban rap band members from La Reyna y La Real after getting a private performance in their home studio

Teaching Black Histories & Geographies through Primary Sources Workshop

We had our last in a series of workshops on Teaching Ethnic Studies and Black Histories and Geographies through Primary Sources at the High Desert Museum in Bend on June 17th. In 2024, be on the lookout for a free online e-book of lessons that is associated with the workshops.

GIS Institute

C-GEO partnered with PCC to provide an exciting opportunity for educators to participate in a summer institute focused on learning to apply Geographic Information Systems (GIS) and Geospatial Technologies in the classroom. The workshop reached 20 K-12 and Community College educators who all created some terrific lesson plans that will soon be on our website. Topics include:

- Storytelling with maps
- Building interactive web maps
- Mapping with drones
- Mapping cultural & natural landscapes

If you are interested in access to scientists, educators, and professionals in the Geospatial field, new skills and resources for implementing Geospatial tools in your classroom, and a network of educators pursuing similar interests, join us next summer when we offer this Institute again. More to come on that so stay tuned.

Professional Development

GeoFest 2024

Save the date! The annual C-GEO GeoFest will be Saturday, March 9, 2024. Stay tuned for more details.

C-GEO Advanced Summer 2024 Institute: Egypt's Geography through the Ages, July 9 – 21, 2024

Now accepting applications from Oregon preK-12 teachers who have successfully completed a C-GEO 5 -7 day institute and Oregon pre-service teachers.

Participants of this advanced institute will journey through Egypt, packing in the best of culture and adventure in 12 energetic days. We'll explore ancient sites along the Nile, including the most famous of them all, the Great Pyramids of Giza. We'll meet remarkable people and sample some traditional fare with a Nubian family in a local village. We'll experience the buzz of vibrant bazaars in Aswan and Luxor, but still manage to relax and watch life unfold on a 3-day cruise down the Nile. Participants will be eligible for 120 professional development units. **The application deadline is December 7, 2023**

[Learn more and Register](#)

Powerful Geography Opportunity

C-GEO has been asked to participate in a National Science Foundation application on Powerful Geography -- a teaching and learning approach that begins as a bottom-up learning process with a data-driven focus on individual student aspirations, needs, and state specific job and career opportunities. If we are to be involved, we need a couple of middle or high school geography teachers from Oregon to help with this effort (e.g., conducting a brief survey to acquire data on the life and career aspirations of your students; collaboratively create instructional materials that teach students how they can use geography to participate in civic issues and prepare for jobs and careers that interest them). If you are interested in being involved in the project, please email Nancee Hunter (nhunter@pdx.edu) no later than September 29th, 2023.

Professional Development from Other Organizations

Oregon Council for the Social Studies Fall Conference

Oregon Council for the Social Studies is holding a joint state conference with Oregon Council of Teachers of English and Oregon State Literacy Association on November 4 at Park Rose High School. (Automatically receive an annual membership to all three organizations for one year for registering!) Over 20 sessions from state educators representing multiple grade-level strands and subject areas/foci will be provided. Incredible swag bags and professional connections too! Elementary through university levels are encouraged to register at the early bird rate. (College and university educators are encouraged to bring students for a special discount!)

Register

NCGE Conference

The National Council for Geographic Education will have its 2023 annual conference from October 27-29 in Columbia, SC. The 3-day (long weekend) conference will provide you with the most engaging conference yet where you will be able to connect with geography teachers, professionals, and colleagues; attend engaging geographic education-focused sessions to increase your professional learning; and get the newest geographic tools and ideas to incorporate into the classroom and share with colleagues. For more information go to <https://ncge.org/>

Community Outreach

Oregon Giant Floor in Classrooms

This past summer, one of our Oregon Giant Maps was used by the Salem Keizer Public Schools Native Education Summer program.

C-GEO Steering Committee Meeting

The steering committee will hold its next meeting September 23, 2023 on Zoom to discuss programming topics.

C-GEO Social Media

C-GEO is **on Facebook and Instagram (cgeo_oregon)**. If you have any photos of you and students doing distance learning geography education in the classroom and would be willing to let us post those on Instagram to promote geography education you can email the photos to caranok@wou.edu with a brief blurb of what should go in the Instagram post description.

Meet a C-GEO TC

This issue's feature is about C-GEO TC **Dan Rideout**.

Tell us about yourself.

I am currently a special education teacher at Jefferson Middle School. I work with 8 students in a life skills setting. I began teaching in 1992, starting at a small private school where I had the keys to the activity bus, and we used it on a regular basis to explore the community. We took hikes in the forests, different parks and beaches, museums and even a trip to watch a fire team put out a fire (from a safe distance) in our school's neighborhood.



Dan Rideout

What has drawn you to geography education?

For years my wife and I take three annual trips a year: one in-state; one somewhere in the USA; and one trip to a foreign country. Each day on these trips includes an outdoor explore early in the morning, an educational or “must do” activity or experience, and an effort in the evening to connect with locals at an eatery. As an individual goal for each trip we take, I make a journey to “the” high point with a view of the area. Sometimes it's a manmade structure (think Space Needle) other times there is a small mountain or a big hill to climb for the sunrise vista.

Ever since I started journeying out of the State of Maine as a college student I knew that I wanted to see as much of the world as possible. I attended Maine Maritime Academy to play football and find work on the ocean to get to see more of the world. That idea quickly turned when the US Merchant Marine collapsed in 1982. Only the top 10 students would find jobs sailing under a USA flag; that was not me. I pivoted and became an officer in the US Navy. Wow! What an adventure. I sailed more than the seven seas: up and down the West Coast of the USA, to European ports in Spain, Portugal, England, Scotland, Norway, France, Italy, into the Indian Ocean, a stop in the Philippines, Singapore, Kenya, and Australia.

The C-GEO Institute for educators is awesome. Having the opportunity to explore the most sought after places in the world for an extended period of time is a dream come true. Passionate geography professors leading us while we collect experiences and materials to create geography lesson plans for the curricular spectrum of Oregon's classrooms is a serious bonus.

How are you promoting geography education in the classroom and beyond?

I have been promoting C-GEO to my peers since 2005, and made use of the C-GEO Grants at Salem-Keizer Schools, Scio School District, and Jefferson School District. I was awarded money to create a Family Geography Night at Houck Middle School; it was such a hit! Students took their parents around the campus to a variety of activities related to geography, including the “huge” Oregon floor map, placing dots on the places you've lived, places you visited and places you want to go. I was awarded money to purchase a class set of GPS handheld navigation devices, which were used by the science department and the cross country team. I am currently working with two other TCs at Jefferson Middle

School to enhance the library collection with 90 books pertaining to geography. There is an incentive for students to select a book, complete a series of “book reports” that are formatted to address Oregon State Geography Standards. Students keep track of the geography books they’ve read with a “passport” and receive a customs stamp for each book they’ve read and earn a series of awards for completing the book reports. I actually just finished presenting this incentive to all of the 6th graders, and I was very pleased to see their excitement to check out a book and plan which of the 3 “book reports” they would use and which incentive they wanted the most.

What have you enjoyed about C-GEO?

I have enjoyed everything about being involved with C-GEO: making new and lasting connections with fellow teachers throughout the state of Oregon; exploring parts of the world I could never imagine doing without the financial support of the Gray Family Grant and the leadership of Ken and Nancee; and taking a deep dive into the geography standards with fellow educators and then finding ways to create lesson plans in every discipline within the academic spectrum.

I need to take a moment to thank Nick Clawson for introducing me to C-GEO way back in 2005. It’s been a wonderful journey and I hope there are more adventures to come.

Keep Us Informed!

Please let the C-GEO Office geogall@pdx.edu know of any announcements, awards, special events or projects that may be of interest to TCs. Using the web makes it easy to showcase exemplary student work or students at work. Remember that you will need to have students’ permission before posting either student work or their photos in GEOBYTES. Also be sure to inform us of changes in address, school, or email.

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