



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

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GeoFest

Save the date! The annual C-GEO GeoFest will be Saturday, March 9, 2024 at Western Oregon University. Come join us for presentation topics, such as geo-tech sessions, bias in mapping, family geography night, urban geography, geography and economics, Tribal History/Shared History, ethnic studies strands, and much more!

Register for GeoFest

C-GEO TC Wins Civics Education Award

Congratulations to C-GEO TC **Amy Fifth-Lince** for being named the 2023-24 Peter & Leslie Richter Civic Educator of the Year!!

Amy will present at the upcoming C-GEO GeoFest on March 9th.

TC Presents at State Conference

Janelle Wren represented C-GEO, while presenting on "Exploring Geography through Picture Books" at the joint state conference of Oregon Council for the Social Studies, Oregon Council of Teachers of English, and Oregon State Literacy Association on November 4 at Parkrose High School.



Janelle Wren sharing her presentation, "Explore Geography through Picture Books"

Professional Development

Professional Development from C-GEO

C-GEO Advanced Summer 2024 Institute: Vietnam's Cultural Landscapes, July 8-22, 2024

Participants of this advanced institute will be immersed in Vietnam's mesmerizing culture and momentous history, journeying from the emerald mountains of the north to the sun-drenched beaches of the south. They will visit various UNESCO World Heritage Sites, including the imperial city of Hue and mystical Hạ Long Bay, where they will spend a night on a traditional junk sailboat. Participants will glimpse rural life on a hike through idyllic Mai Chau Valley, enjoy a cycle ride through the heart of bustling Hanoi, and descend into the famed Cu Chi tunnels in Ho Chi Minh City, where Viet Cong guerillas lived during the Vietnam War. Participants will be eligible for 120 for professional development units.

Application deadline is December 31, 2023. This is an advanced institute and only educators who have completed a C-GEO introductory multi-day institute and pre-service teachers are eligible to apply. [Apply to Institute](#)

Teaching with Primary Sources: Ethnic Studies through a Geographic Lens Institute, July 23-25, 2024 at Oregon Historical Society

The Center for Geography Education in Oregon (C-GEO) and the Oregon Historical Society (OHS) will offer a three-day institute on teaching the new Social Science Standards Integrated with Ethnic Studies through a geographic lens. This institute is for current K-12 Oregon educators. The application deadline is February 29, 2024.

[Apply to Institute](#)

Mapping the Local Landscape: Incorporating Geospatial Technologies in the Classroom Institute, August 5-9, 2024 at PCC, Sylvania.

C-GEO, in partnership with Portland Community College (PCC) Geography, is hosting another “Mapping the Local Landscape: Incorporating Geospatial Technologies in the Classroom” – a free summer institute primarily geared towards high school or community college level teachers (middle school and elementary may be considered, but not prioritized). This institute is funded by the National Science foundation. Application deadline March 31, 2024.

Apply to Institute

Professional Development from Other Organizations

Oregon Natural Resources Education Program Workshops

ONREP workshops are offered at NO cost to Oregon educators through external funding that covers all materials, fees, and instruction costs, unless otherwise noted.

To find out about upcoming workshops and registration information go to <https://onrep.forestry.oregonstate.edu/workshops>

NCGE Summer Institutes: Unveiling GeoCamp 2024 - Iceland and Amazon Adventures

The National Council for Geography Education has two international professional development opportunities for 2024 – GeoCamp Iceland and GeoCamp Amazon! These programs are designed to offer immersive, hands-on learning experiences in some of the world's most fascinating environments. For more information go to <https://ncge.org/>

Community Outreach

Oregon Giant Floor Maps Back in Classrooms

Our Oregon Giant Maps was used by two classes of future teachers at Western Oregon University this fall.

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 **Beth Oehler**.

Tell us about yourself.

I am in my 29th year of teaching in a middle school classroom. I started with a degree in outdoor education and decided to get a teaching credential in 1994. I have a passion for travel, and love meeting people and exploring new cultures. I've been lucky enough to travel to all of the 50 states, and 6 of the 7 continents. I'm planning on retiring this June and am looking forward to traveling even more!



Beth Oehler
C-GEO Cuba Institute

What has drawn you to geography education?

I love to travel, to learn about other cultures and develop a sense of place. I try my best to share what I felt while traveling with my students to instill a desire to experience first-hand the delights of learning about geography.

How are you promoting geography in the classroom and beyond?

Teaching is the best job in the world! I truly believe that the students that I teach today are tomorrow's decision-makers. As a teacher, my main goals for my students include learning to think critically; solving problems; asking questions and seeking information; becoming life-long learners by always seeking to better understand the universe in which they live and how people and place are connected.

What have you enjoyed about CGEO?

I was invited to travel to Chile with the Center for Geographic Education in Oregon in 2017. The professors that led that tour gave each person an assignment to research one area of our travels and asked us to be ready to present to our colleagues. It was obvious to me that they had the expertise and knowledge that they were asking me to research, yet they let me be the guide for my peers. I learned a ton more about the region by this activity than I would have if I had been a passive listener.

I attended a workshop in which we were asked, as adult learners (and middle school teachers), to design a solution to reduce the amount of plastic pollution in the oceans. We were given a tub of water, and random materials to use for our creation. It was one of the best activities of the whole week because we were engaged and solving a problem! Each group had a radically different solution, and all were fantastic.

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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