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C-GEO IN THE NEWS

Thank You to Gwenda Rice!

On December 31, 2014, Gwenda Rice stepped down as co-coordinator of C-GEO after serving in that role for the past 20 years. We want to send out our heartfelt gratitude to Gwenda for her years of service and advocacy of geography education at the state, national, and international levels! You have established a legacy that has placed our state at the forefront of geography education. Enjoy your new adventures, but please allow us to continue to consult you for your wisdom. Thank you, Gwenda!

2015 C-GEO Annual Conference at Western Oregon University on March 7

The C-GEO annual conference, Geography: Putting History In Its Place, will be at Western Oregon University on March 7th from 9am – 3pm. The keynote speaker will be Dr. Greg Smith, from Lewis and Clark Graduate School of Education, an expert in place-based geography. In addition to the great presentations and discourse, there will be a grand prize drawing for a free trip to the 2015 NCGE conference in Washington DC! Registration information is available online at www.pdx.edu/geography-education/node/94.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

The Center for Geography Education in Oregon Summer Programs

C-GEO is pleased to announce it has begun accepting applications for the following summer programs for Oregon teachers and preservice teachers:

- C-GEO 2015 Summer Geography Institute: Megalopolis: An Examination of the Historical Geography of the Northeastern Seaboard, June 19 - July 2, 2015
  The Institute will visit the five major metropolitan regions of the Boston-Washington corridor to understand the history of the physical and human geography of Megalopolis.

  This eight day institute in Washington, D.C. will have two parts: Exploration Days, when we explore the various geographies of Washington, D.C.; and Professional Development Days, when we attend the 100th Annual Meeting of the National Council for Geographic Education.

The application deadline for both programs is February 1, 2015. You can find out more about these institutes and access the flyers/application forms at this website: www.pdx.edu/geography-education/programs.

2015 National Conference on Geography Education

Connect with geography education leaders from around the world by attending the 2015 National Conference on Geographic Education, August 6 - 9, 2015 in Washington D.C. More conference details will be presented in the next issue of GEOBYTES.
If you are interested in presenting at the conference, details for submitting a proposal can be found at [http://www.ncge.org/proposal-page](http://www.ncge.org/proposal-page). The deadline for proposal submission is February 1, 2015.

**$1000 Scholarships for Amazon Rainforest PD Workshop**

**Educator Academy in the Amazon Rainforest + Machu Picchu**

The July 1-11, 2015 Educator Academy in the Amazon Rainforest of Peru is a cross-curricular professional development workshop for K-12 formal and informal educators to learn and use:

- **21st Century Instruction**: 5E Lesson Design ~ Inquiry-Based Exploration ~ STEM
- **Inquiry Protocols & Resources**: Project Learning Tree ~ Cornell Lab of Ornithology ~ & More!
- **Global and Cultural Perspectives**: Service Learning ~ Sustainability ~ Global Education

Join Al Stenstrup, Project Learning Tree (PLT); Lilly Briggs, Cornell Lab of Ornithology; Christa Dillabaugh, Amazon Rainforest Workshops; and Dr. David Pearson, *Wildlife Travellers’ Guide to Peru*; and work side-by-side with scientists Dr. Steve Madigosky, Widener University; and Randy Morgan, Curator/Entomologist, Cincinnati Zoo as you:

- Participate in [citizen science projects](http://www.amazonworkshops.com/educator-academy.html) and [inquiry based field studies](http://www.amazonworkshops.com/educator-academy.html) on a 1/4-mile Rainforest Canopy Walkway in one of the most biologically diverse environments on the planet.
- Spend a day in an Amazon village as you explore the complexities of sustainability and the role of education in creating a sustainable future for Amazon children.
- Work with fellow educators to explore strategies for using the Amazon as a vehicle for incorporating STEM education, inquiry-based learning, and sustainability science education into your classroom.

PLT Certification, BirdSleuth resources and 50 ASU PD Hours are included. Academic Credit and Machu Picchu Extension are optional. The $1000 scholarship deadline is March 1, 2015. Program cost is $1240 + air for scholarship recipients. Space is limited! Register early to secure your spot!

Get the details and download a syllabus and scholarship application at: [http://www.amazonworkshops.com/educator-academy.html](http://www.amazonworkshops.com/educator-academy.html)

Contact christa@amazonworkshops.com or 1-800-431-2624 for more information.

**Grant Opportunity: American Friends of Russian Folklore Applications**

American Friends of Russian Folklore invites middle and high school teachers to apply for the 2015 season of the Russian/American Educators' Exchange. Participants travel to rural Russia to collect Russian folklore by filming holiday celebrations, recording local singers, interviewing villagers about traditional lore, and photographing local handicrafts. They experience Russian village life first-hand, living in a village house and eating the local food.

They also visit Russian rural schools, where they will make presentations about American folklore and meet with Russian teachers to discuss matters of mutual professional interest.
Upon return, the American teachers will create and share curriculum materials incorporating some element of the Russian folklore they collected.

The three folklore expeditions are timed to coincide with important holidays of the Russian traditional calendar:

- Expedition 1: Easter in Volgograd province, Danilov district. April 8 - April 21 2015
- Expedition 2: Pentecost/Trinity Week in Smolensk province, Sevsk district. May 21 - June 3, 2015
- Expedition 3: Dormition Day traditions and first day of school traditions in Bryansk province. August 22 - September 4 2015

Knowledge of Russian is useful, but not required. Translators will be provided.

To qualify, you must:

- hold a valid US passport
- be employed as a teacher or curriculum specialist at a public or private school
- teach or work with curriculum at the middle or high school level (grades 6-12)
- prepare an American folklore presentation to share in Russia
- commit to creating, using and disseminating curriculum materials that incorporate Russian folklore (the curriculum materials can be in any subject)
- provide a letter of support from your principal

The program grant covers all expedition travel, food, and lodging, including an orientation meeting before departure and flights between New York and Moscow. Participants are responsible for obtaining their visas (around $300) and for travel between their homes and JFK.

All educators who work with middle or high school students or curriculum are encouraged to apply. Preference will be given to those whose schools are in rural areas—Census Bureau Locale Codes 41, 42, or 43.

**COMMUNITY OUTREACH**

**Western Oregon University Students Use Oregon Giant Map At State Capitol**

Shirley Lomax’s elementary social studies methods students spent the day of December 1, 2014 promoting geography education while sharing geography lessons that utilized Oregon’s giant map in the state capitol gallery.
ADVOCACY
C-GEO Steering Committee Retreat
The Steering Committee will hold a retreat on February 20 - 21 at the Bonneville Hot Springs Resort. The focus of the discussion will be the organization of the Steering Committee and funding possibilities.

RESOURCES
NatGeoEd Preservice Page Launched
Announcing the launch of the NatGeoEd Preservice page at http://education.nationalgeographic.com/education/new-teachers-preservice-education-geoliteracy/?ar_a=1. Thanks to the hard work led by Emily Schell, the National Geographic website now has a collection of resources for preservice educators and their professors.

C-GEO’s Facebook Page Providing Resources
If you haven’t already done so, please join C-GEO’s Facebook page for access to current and timely announcements and geographic resources. Several TCs have been contributing and sharing ideas and it would be great to have even more discussions and contributions.

Keep Us Informed!
Please let the C-GEO Office geogall@pdx.edu know of any awards, special events or projects that may be of interest to TCs, and announcements. 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.