OGA IN THE NEWS

OGA Annual Conference: Geographic Literacy in the 21st Century
OGA will hold its annual conference at Western Oregon University (WOU) on October 20th, 2012 in the Education Building from 9:00am - 3:00pm. The keynote speaker will be Dr. Maria Dantas-Whitney, Professor of Bilingual and ESOL Education at WOU. Sessions addressing geographic literacy will be offered by Population Connection, The Middle East Center at Portland State University, and Teachers’ Curriculum Institute (TCI). Other sessions include, ELL adapted lessons using the Student Atlas of Oregon, holding a Family Geography Night in your school, strategies for using the giant floor map of Oregon, bringing a student atlas workshop to your school, AP Human Geography, and teaching about climate change through literacy. There are two technology sessions, one
focusing on using Google Earth in your classroom and the other on how social networking sites can provide students authentic learning experiences to gain geographic literacy and cultural awareness.

We hope to see you all at the conference and depend on you to encourage your colleagues and student teachers in your building to attend. You are the best avenue for advertising this event. The cost is $20 ($10 for preservice teachers). To register: Go to the OGA website: http://geog.pdx.edu/oga/

OGA Receives National Award for Student Atlases
The National Council for Geographic Education (NCGE) has awarded the 2012 Geographic Excellence in Media Award to the Oregon Geographic Alliance and the Center for Spatial Analysis and Research, Portland State University for the Student Atlas of Oregon (English and Spanish version). The award will be presented at the National Conference on Geographic Education in San Marcos, Texas, October 4-6.

TC Award Winners
• Congratulations to Nancy Hunt, the 2012 Oregon Council for Social Studies, ‘Oregon Social Studies Teacher of the Year’. Nancy will receive her award at the National Council for Social Studies (NCSS) annual meeting in Seattle, November 16-18.
• Congratulations to Sara Dean, who will receive the NCGE 2012 Distinguished Teacher Award. Sara will receive her award at the National Conference on Geographic Education in San Marcos, Texas, October 4-6.
• Congratulations to Shirley Lomax, who has been elected to serve on the Curriculum and Instruction Committee of the National Council for Geographic Education.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES
Turkey Institute a Great Success
Participants in the Advanced Institute to Turkey were exposed to an amazing array of experiences which included historic and modern Istanbul, Ephesus, Cappadocia, a day in the life of a village, a home-stay in a Taurus Mountain village, and four days on a gullet boat on Turkey’s Turquoise Coast along the Mediterranean. A grant from the Turkish Cultural Foundation gave TCs an opportunity to purchase artifacts which will be placed in two Turkish Trunks, available for all TC to use. Learn about these trunks at the OGA Annual Conference.
OGA Holds Two-Day ELL Workshop
Twenty four participants took part in a two-day workshop at PSU on using the English and Spanish Atlases in ELL classrooms. TCs Karen Adams, Heidi King, and Chelsea Woods assisted and presented lessons. We hope that these participants will stay involved in OGA and eventually become full-fledged TCs.

OGA to Offer Two Summer Institutes in 2013
Supported by generous grants from the Oregon Community Foundation and National Geographic, OGA will offer an international advanced institute and an initial institute in 2013.

Initial Institute: Central Oregon, June 24-28, 2013
This institute will focus on the New Oregon Geography Standards and using fieldwork and map literacy to address those standards. Applications and information about the
institute will be available in early October so check your emails and the OGA web site regularly.

**Advanced Institute: Russia, Mongolia and China on the Trans-Siberian Express, July 18-28, 2013.**

Details on the institute and application deadlines will be sent to all TCs at the end of September. There will be a tight turn-around time so make sure to check your emails and the OGA web site regularly.

**2012 National Conference on Geographic Education**

This conference, with the theme, “Deep in the Heart of Geography”, will be held **October 5-7, in San Marcos, Texas.** National Council for Geographic Education’s annual gathering of geography educators will feature informative sessions, workshops, and fieldtrips; exhibitors showcasing innovative resources; and the opportunity to network with other dedicated educators. Field trips include, Culture Regions of the Hill Country, San Antonio River: Engineering and Restoration Tour, South Texas Oil Shale: The Good, the Bad, and the Ugly, The Blackland Prairie: Economy, Population, and Culture, and San Marcos River Field Trip: Place-based Education Using Your Local River. Visit the conference page at [www.ncge.org](http://www.ncge.org) for the latest news and announcements. OGA Travel Grants are available for TCs who present at the conference.

**2012 National Council for Social Studies Annual Conference**

Make plans now to attend the 92nd NCSS Annual Conference, **November 16-18 in Seattle, WA.** The conference theme is, ‘Opening Windows to the World’ and will attract attendees from both sides of the US/Canadian border. With its spectacular setting on Puget Sound, vibrant historical legacy, ever-changing cultural diversity and high tech aura, Seattle opens windows to a myriad of worlds. Information can be found at:
http://www.socialstudies.org/conference Several Oregon TCs will be presenting at the conference and are eligible to apply for an OGA Travel Grant.

COMMUNITY OUTREACH

Host a Student Atlas Workshop
Consider hosting a Student Atlas of Oregon/ El Atlas de Oregon par Estudiantes workshop. The workshops are free, three hours in length and include strategies for integrating math, reading science together with adaptations for ELL students. They can also be held for organizations like 4-H or Boys and Girls Club. Participants receive a free atlas and a CD ROM of geography resources and lesson plans. The host school will receive a classroom set of Atlases which include both English and Spanish versions. To sign up for a workshop, contact Gwenda Rice at ricesare@comcast.net.

Host a Family Geography Night
Attend the Family Geography Night session at the OGA Annual Meeting to learn how you can generate effective community outreach by hosting a Family Geography Night (FGN) at your School. Check the FGN Manual on the OGA webpage.
http://www.pdx.edu/geography-education/

ADVOCACY

Geography Awareness Week: Declare Your Interdependence

Geography Awareness Week (GAWeek), celebrated every third week of November (Nov. 11-17, 2012), is an awareness program focused on highlighting the importance of geo-literacy and geo-education. A new theme for each year is announced in midsummer accompanied by related online resources and activities, which are then available year-round. This year’s Geography Awareness Week theme, explores the idea that we are all are connected to the rest of the world through the decisions we make on a daily basis, including what foods we eat and the things we buy.
Have your students investigate their own interdependence by completing the “Global Closet Calculator”—an interactive game that aggregates the contents of their own closets by origin to generate a map showing their unique global footprint. Download and print this year’s [poster](http://www.pdx.edu/geography-education/) to find global connections with students by investigating the geography of the pencil or doing a hands-on version of the global closet game. Find everything you need to plan events in your own community, school, or neighborhood on the Geography Awareness Week [toolkit](http://www.geographyawarenessweek.org) page.

**RESOURCES**

**Updated “Geography for Life” Standards Now Available**

The 18 national standards and 6 essential elements, established in *Geography for Life: The National Geography Standards -1994*, have guided geography educators and curriculum developers as they conveyed geographic knowledge and skills. After a careful evaluation and revision process, the second edition of *Geography for Life* has been released and is available for $22.50 at the online store of NCGE at [www.ncge.org](http://www.ncge.org).


- Join OGA’s Facebook page for access to many useful resources [Oregon Geographic Alliance](http://www.geogres.pdx.edu/oga/) TCs have been contributing and sharing some great ideas.

- Oregon’s [New Standards in Social Science](http://www.ode.state.or.us/teachlearn/real/standards/) standards are available at: [http://www.ode.state.or.us/teachlearn/real/standards/](http://www.ode.state.or.us/teachlearn/real/standards/)

- OCSS will launch an electronic [Oregon Journal of the Social Studies](http://www.oregonsocialstudies.org) OCSS, under the leadership of board member Ken Carano, has brought back the Oregon Journal of the Social Studies, which is now accepting submissions. Manuscripts can be submitted to Ken at caranok@wou.edu Guidelines for submissions are presently available on the main OCSS web site -- [www.oregonsocialstudies.org](http://www.oregonsocialstudies.org)
• Reminder: Over the summer some of you changed schools, retired, or maybe moved. Please make sure that you let Melinda Glover at the OGA Office know about these changes so that we can make sure that we can let you know about up-coming opportunities, announcements, and resources.

**Have a productive and successful school year!**