GA IN THE NEWS

2012 OGA Holds a Successful Annual Conference

Over 100 participants, including a significant number of preservice teachers, attended the OGA Annual Conference on ‘Geographic Literacy in the 21st Century’ held at Western Oregon University (WOU), Monmouth. Participants heard an inspiring keynote presentation by Dr. Maria Dantas-Whitney, Professor of Bilingual and ESOL Education at WOU on “Creating Rich Academic Experience for All Students: Authenticity, Engagement, and Relevance”. They participated in a stimulating range of sessions and workshops. The conference was attended by a visiting group of geographers from Brazil. During lunch, TC, Jeremy Hirsch, put on a slide show of past OGA Summer Institutes, including Atlantic Canada, Botswana, and Turkey.
Images from the 2012 OGA Annual Conference
TC Awards
Congratulations to:

• TC, Norie Dimeo-Ediger, Oregon Forest Resource Institute’s Director of K-12 Education Programs. Norie received the first-ever State Forester's Award. State Forester, Doug Decker, said of Norie, “She is a teacher of teachers, having helped countless teachers open their students’ eyes to the wonder, richness and complexity of forests.”
• TC, Nancy Hunt (lower left), the 2012 Oregon Council for Social Studies, ‘Oregon Elementary Social Studies Teacher of the Year’. Nancy received her award at the National Council for Social Studies (NCSS) annual meeting in Seattle.

• TC, Sara Dean (above right), recipient of the NCGE 2012 Distinguished Teacher Award. Sara received her award at the National Conference on Geographic Education in San Marcos, Texas.

• OGA and the PSU Center for Spatial Analysis and Research recipients of the NCGE 2012 GEOGRAPHIC EXCELLENCE IN MEDIA AWARD. The award was presented at the National Conference on Geographic Education in San Marcos, Texas for the Student Atlas of Oregon.

• TC, Shirley Lomax (above far right), who has been elected to serve on the Curriculum and Instruction Committee of the National Council for Geographic Education.

**TCs Presenting at State and National Conferences**

It was a busy fall for OGA TCs who presented at a number of conferences. Nancy Hunt, Brant Mellor, Heidi King, Karen Adams, Chelsea Woods, Courtney Wehner, Judy Lowery, Shirley Lomax, Therese Clark, Judi-Mar Zaleski, and Christopher Highfield presented at the OGA Annual Conference at WOU. Debbie Swope, Courtney Wehner, Chelsea Woods, Shirley Lomax, and Judy Lowery presented at the NCSS Annual Conference in Seattle and Judy Lowery and Shirley Lomax presented at the National Conference on Geographic Education in San Marcos, Texas.
PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

OGA Bend Summer Institute still Accepting Participants
Encourage your colleagues to attend this five-day institute. The deadline for applications is April 1, 2013.

Oregon Geographic Alliance
Summer Geography Institute
June 24 - 28, 2013
Central Oregon Community College, Bend

Topic: Map Literacy for Earth Science & Social Studies Teachers

Participants will earn 2 graduate credits from Portland State University
- Get useful, up-date teaching materials (including the Student Atlas of Oregon, English and Spanish versions)
- Become familiar with the new Oregon Geography Standards
- Learn in the field and in the class
Cost: $200 and includes
- Housing
- Most meals (continental breakfasts, lunches and most dinners)
- Transportation from Portland (Sunday, June 23 and Friday, June 28)
- Two graduate credits in your choice of Geography or Curriculum and Instruction

Space is limited. Application form available at http://geoq.pdx.edu/geography-education
For more information contact the Oregon Geographic Alliance at 503-725-3564, or geoqaf@pdx.edu

Oregon Council for Social Studies Spring Conference
The Oregon Council for the Social Studies is pleased to join with the Confederation in Oregon for Language Teaching to present its spring conference, "Diversities and Dialogue" on March 2nd at Concordia University in Portland. The conference will have over 20 separate, intimate workshops designed to be immediately applicable for K-16 educators, both pre-service and in-service teachers. Our Keynote will be delivered by Tony Johnson, Education Director for the Shoalwater Bay Tribe and a key member of the
team that assembled the first dictionary of Chinook Wawa (Jargon). Mr. Johnson's appearance in generously sponsored by Discovery Education, and registration is now open at http://www.oregonsocialstudies.org/ocss-conference/spring-conference-registration

2013 National Conference on Geographic Education

Plan to join hundreds of educators (K-12 & University) and geography professionals from around the world this August 1-4, for the 2013 National Conference on Geography Education. Attend the 2013 conference in Denver to exchange ideas, research, and resources, learn about best practices in geography education and participate in stimulating field trips. Registration is now open and details can be found at: http://www.ncge.org/conference

Consider Presenting at a National Professional Meeting
Presenting at a national professional meeting is an excellent way to develop confidence, leadership skills, and an opportunity to network with educators from around the US and the world. TCs who are successful in getting their proposals accepted may apply for an OGA Travel Grant. Here are two opportunities for presenting at national conferences:

• The 2013 National Conference on Geography Education
NCGE is now accepting conference proposals for the National Conference ON Geography Education to be held in Denver, CO, August 1-4. The deadline for proposals is March 31, 2013. Information on submitting a proposal can be found at: http://www.ncge.org/conference

• The 2013 National Council for Social Studies Annual Meeting
NCSS is now accepting proposals to present at the 93rd NCSS Annual Conference in St. Louis, November 22-24, 2013. With the conference theme, "Gateway to the Core of Learning," we are looking for a variety of proposals across all grade levels and subjects. We encourage you to consider submitting a proposal. The submission deadline is February 25, 2013. Information on submitting a proposal can be found at:
Barbara Petchenik International Children Map Design Competition
Teachers are invited to have their students participate in this competition. The theme for 2013 is “My place in today’s world”. Entries can be nominated in four age groups: under 6 years, 6-8 years, 9-12 years and 13-15 years. The deadline for the participation in the contest is 1 April 2013. For more information about the competition, visit the website of the Commission on Cartography and Children (http://lazarus.elte.hu/ccc/ccc.htm). Examples of children’s maps from previous competitions can be found on the website entitled “Children Map their World” maintained by the Maps, Data and Government Information Centre at Carleton University Library (http://children.library.carleton.ca/).

Host a Student Atlas Workshop at Your School
Consider hosting a Student Atlas of Oregon/ El Atlas de Oregón para Estudiantes workshop at your school. The workshops are free, three hours in length and include strategies for integrating math, reading science together with adaptations for ELL students. 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. OGA now has trained teams of workshop presenters in the Portland area, Mid-Willamette Valley, Southern Oregon, Central Oregon, and Eastern Oregon. To sign up for a workshop, contact the OGA Office or email Gwenda Rice at ricesare@comcast.net.

Publish Your Original Lessons with NCGE
The NCGE is commissioning educators to draft classroom-ready lesson plans based on the 2012 Geography for Life: National Geography Standards, Second Edition. The goal is to publish downloadable lessons for each grade band for each Standard. Authors will receive a stipend for each completed lesson. E-mail Jacqueline Waite at jwaite@ncge.org for more information.

COMMUNITY OUTREACH
Successful Family Geography Night at Memorial Middle School, Albany
More than 180 students and family members attended a recent Family Geography Night at Memorial Middle School, Albany. The event was organized by TCs, Mallory Marquette and Kerrie Obrien. There were 12 stations and many participants claimed their grand prize of an inflatable globe for getting their passport stamped at all 12 stations. One of the stations was an opportunity to explore the Turkey Trunk, a collection of Turkish artifacts purchased and put together by participants of last summer’s OGA Advanced Institute in Turkey. This was the second year for this event and more staff members
were involved, enhancing a sense of community in the school. Leadership and Health student volunteers did a great job supporting the adults staffing each station and many of them earned service hours.

ADVOCACY

NCGE / Alliance Membership

The National Council for Geographic Education is excited to announce a new partnership with the Oregon Geographic Alliance. A new Alliance-affiliated membership category has been created for new and returning members who are affiliated with OGA. Individuals who join, or renew an NCGE membership through this new program will receive all the benefits of membership plus an additional conference registration discount, all for the low annual membership rate of $50.

The NCGE is a national organization dedicated to enhancing the status and quality of geography education. Members receive our flagship journal, the Journal of Geography,
and The Geography Teacher, free access to bi-monthly webinars for teachers on a variety of topics, and discounts to the only annual conference dedicated to geography education. AP® Human Geography teachers can register for free APHG daily warm-up questions, or bell-ringers, and can read our “Top 10 Tips for Teaching APHG to 9th Graders” column. All members will receive a weekly email blast with the latest NCGE news and opportunities for geographic educators.

RESOURCES
• Checkout OGA’s New Web Page at http://www.pdx.edu/geography-education/ for useful resources. These include:
  o A Manual for Using the Giant Map of Oregon (available soon). The manual includes instructions for borrowing the map, appropriate forms, and 18 activities and strategies for using the map. The map is particularly effective as part of a Family Geography Night.
  o Thirteen standards-based lesson plans using the Student Atlas of Oregon are now available. Each lesson has been adapted for ELL students.
  o The Multilingual Glossary of Key Atlas Terms is now available on the OGA website and can be downloaded as a booklet or as a giant poster. The glossary can be used to help ELL students whose native language is neither Spanish nor English and includes terms in Korean, Chinese, Russian, Vietnamese, Spanish, German, Tagalog, Japanese, French, and Arabic.

• 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 Social Science Teacher Update: If you want to stay informed about opportunities for Social Studies teachers in Oregon, be sure to check out this resource. http://www.ode.state.or.us/teachlearn/subjects/socialscience/curriculum/update/sstteacherupdate_113_jan2013.pdf. This excellent compilation of resources and opportunities from the Oregon Department of Education is put together by Andrea Morgan, the Oregon Department of Education’s Social Studies Specialist.

• Traveling the World with Google Earth: For those who missed the OGA Conference workshop, “Traveling the World with Google Earth”, Dr. Mary Bucy has made available an excellent step-by-step handout for you to use. This handout can be found at: http://www.wou.edu/~bucym/OGA

• Advanced Placement Human Geography (APHG) Bell-Ringers
New APHG daily warm-up questions are available starting in January 2013. Author and APHG guru Kenneth H. Keller, will also be available to take questions and feedback via email. Ken is an instructor of Advanced Placement (AP) Human Geography, United
States' History and Civics and Government at Danbury High School in Danbury, CT and an adjunct professor of geography at Western Connecticut State University where he has been teaching Principles of World Geography since the fall, 2009. Ken is a past member of the AP Human Geography Test Development Committee. AP Bell-Ringers are a member benefit. Please make sure your NCGE membership is up-to-date before registering.

• The Oregon Journal of the Social Studies

The Oregon Council for the Social Studies is excited to welcome you to the inaugural issue of The Oregon Journal of the Social Studies – with an initial theme focusing on the best practices for 21st century learning. The goal of the peer-reviewed electronic journal is to be an advocate for the social studies and a resource for social studies educators. http://www.oregonsocialstudies.org/

Keep Us Informed!

Please let the OGA 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 address.