

Pacific Northwest Section

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From the President

It's springtime again, meaning time for field trips and preparation for the annual section conference. This year's conference will be hosted by **Ron Metzger** and **Southwestern Oregon Community College** in beautiful Coos Bay, Oregon. This conference promises to be a dandy with excellent coastal field trips and as always, an informative day of talks and open discussions. Ron has some fantastic events planned, including a pre-meeting field trip examining the bedrock geology between Cape Blanco and Brookings, Oregon (southernmost Oregon). This trip should stimulate some exciting discussions about neotectonics and uplift along the northern California-southern Oregon coast. Just check out the conference website (http://www.socc.edu/dept/geo/nagt_05.html) to see the spectacular exposures of folded and banded cherts to get a feel for what's in store! There will also be a day devoted to coastal geomorphology and exploring the fantastic dune complexes of the Oregon Dunes National Recreation Area. Again, go to the website to see some great images of what we will experience! Finally, Ron has planned a trip to the phenomenal Cape Arago area to see a variety of bedrock exposures as well as intertidal zone adventures. Bring your rubber boots! One key objective to the conference field trips is to offer participants opportunities for photography and rock collecting that can be taken directly back into the classroom. Clearly from what's been planned, these field trips will exceed that objective! This will be a great conference and a wonderful opportunity to get caught up with your distant friends and colleagues. If you have any questions, feel free to send Ron an email or give him a call. I'm sure he isn't THAT busy this quarter.....! We look forward to seeing you at Coos Bay in June!

Andy Buddington, Spokane Community College



Sunset Beach, OR, is one of the many field trip destinations for this year's section conference. Photo courtesy of Oregon State Parks.

NAGT Pacific NW Section Meeting, June 22-25th, 2005

It's getting closer—June 22-25 isn't that far away! There's still time to register and submit an abstract for the meeting. So far we have local geology lectures arranged on coastal geology (**Jonathan Allan** from DOGAMI), fossils of the Oregon Coast (**Bill Orr**, emeritus faculty at UO, Director of the Condon Museum of Natural History, and co-author of numerous books on Pacific Northwest Geology), a general overview and discussion of educational opportunities at the South Slough National Estuarine Research Reserve (**Tom Gaskill**, South Slough Education Coordinator), an update on activity at Mt St Helens (**James Vallance** from the USGS's CVO), an overview of the Coos Basin coalbed methane project (**Steve Pappajohn**, president of Methane Energy Corporation) and a few additional speakers to be announced later. We have abstracts submitted by **Gene Kiver** on the Ice Age Floods Trail, **Jenny Thomson** et al. on an interdisciplinary summer course at EWU and **Diana Boyack** et al. on the digital geology of Idaho. We will also be hosting a special Session, entitled "Intelligent Design (the new creationism) and the Battle for the K-12 Science Curriculum" (read more about this session below). If you are interested in giving a talk send in an abstract ASAP—if there is time available we'll make room for you. Finally, for the conference day we culminate with a terrific banquet by Black Market Gourmet and a lecture on Parks and Plates presented by **Bob Lillie** of OSU.

You should already be aware of the great **field trip** localities that we will be visiting. The pre-meeting trip will include stops highlighted by **Cape Blanco** (the westernmost point in Oregon, and a spot where you can almost watch the terrace rise), **Rainbow Rock** and



*Weathered concretions in the Coaledo Fm., at Shore Acres.
Photo by R. Metzger.*

Indian Sands Beach (oldest archaeological site on the coast). Friday will bring a mixture of dune stops (including a motorized trek out into the dunes), and a variety of igneous stops, including a look at **Seal Rock** (most southern exposure of Columbia River Flood Basalts on the coast). Saturday will find us on **Cape Arago** visiting **Fossil Point, Sunset Bay** and the incredible angular unconformity at **Shore Acres**. This will be

followed by a trek down to **Bandon** for some blueschist and a look at **Face Rock**. The geology will be enhanced by the participation of Ian Madin (Mapping Section Supervisor for DOGAMI) and Don Ivy (Cultural Resource Coordinator for the Coquille Indian Tribe). Don will add native cultural history insight to our trip.

This is by no means everything—but let's leave something new to surprise you when you arrive in Coos Bay. If you haven't looked yet, check out the website: http://www.socc.edu/dept/geo/nagt_05.html.

Hopefully, we'll see you on the Oregon coast in June—pre-registration is only \$25 a day through May 15th. After that it's still only \$30 a day. Those prices include transportation, an amazing box lunch on the field trips, dune buggy ride, and a banquet dinner that should make it worth coming to the land of tsunamis! If you have any questions drop me a line at rmetzger@socc.edu. Otherwise, plan now to make time to come out to where the plates collide!



*Fossils of Patinopectin scallops in Miocene Empire Fm.,
photo by R. Metzger.*

Don't miss this Special Session!

Intelligent Design (the new creationism) and the Battle for the K-12 Science Curriculum

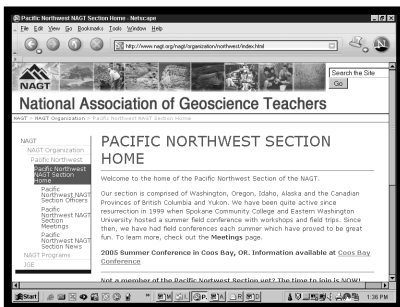
Northwest Section Annual Conference

Thursday, June 23rd, Coos Bay, Oregon 2005

This special session will include discussions on the national movement to require the teaching of intelligent design in K-12 curriculum, and will update us on which areas of the country this movement is taking a strong hold with particular emphasis on the developing events in Kansas. Session speakers include **Mark Terry** (The Northwest School, Seattle) and **Scott Linneman** (WWU). For some background information on what is happening on the topic, see Mark Terry's recent article for Phi Delta Kappan, *One Nation, Under the Designer* at: http://www.pdkintl.org/kappan/k_v86/k0412ter.htm. This promises to be an interesting and informative session designed to stimulate discussion, so bring your thoughts, ideas, and questions.

Check out the Section Website!!

<http://nagt.org/nagt/organization/northwest/index.html>



Just a reminder to all of you who may not be aware of the new Pacific Northwest Section web page, its just a click away at the web address above. If you ever have anything that you'd like to submit for the web site, send an email including the information to **Jenny Thomson** (Jennifer.Thomson@mail.ewu.edu). I can easily add a link to a web site that you have created.

Back Into The Fire: SCC Students Create a Mt. St. Helens Film Documentary

A trio of students taking a film making class at Spokane Community College has recently created a quite impressive, one-hour educational documentary of the 1980 eruption of Mt. St. Helens. The film explores the geologic history of St. Helens and the Cascade Range along with an in-depth view of the 1980 eruptions and their aftermath. It explores the cyclical natural history of Cascade volcanoes, and concludes with an interesting look at Mt. St. Helens today.

The "crew" of *Back Into The Fire* includes **David Carlson**, **Nina Carlson**, and **Robert Wickenhagen**. These three students have put together some very spectacular footage of the mountain in all its glory. The group visited the mountain for on-site film footage and even chartered a private flight for aerial filming. Along with archived U.S.G.S. images and interviews of U.S.G.S. and Washington DNR geologists, this passionate group has produced a documentary of television quality and high educational value. David Carlson, the main driver of the project, is planning on transferring to the University of Idaho where he wishes to pursue a BS degree in geology. Nina Carlson plans to follow her husband to U.I. but that's where her geological quests end; she plans to get her degree in the Veterinary Sciences. Wickenhagen, nicknamed "the anchor", plans to transfer to the University of Southern California where he wishes to complete a degree in film editing. If you are interested in obtaining a DVD copy of *Back Into The Fire*, contact Andy Buddington at abuddington@ccc.spokane.edu.

GSA in Salt Lake City, 2005

Time to start planning for the Geological Society of America's National Meeting, to be held October 16th-19th at the Salt Palace Convention Center, in Salt Lake City, Utah. The NAGT is sponsoring several innovative geoscience education topical sessions (listed below). The deadline for abstract submittal is July 12th. For more information on the sessions, a complete listing of topical sessions, or for meeting information in general, please access: <http://rock.geosociety.org/meetings/2005/>

<u>Session ID</u>	<u>Title</u>
89.	Efficient and Effective Practices in Using Web Sites & Technologies to Support & Manage Information, Student Learning & Recruitment, & Public Education
97.	Innovation, Evaluation, & Best Practices in Informal Geoscience Education
100.	Integrating Research into Undergraduate Geoscience Coursework
101.	Interdisciplinary Education: Applications of GIS & the Infusion of Spatial Concepts Across the Curriculum
103.	Is it Science? Strategies for Addressing Creationism in the Classroom & the Community
104.	It's About Time: Teaching the Temporal Aspects of Geoscience (Posters)
105.	Let's Rock Their World: Integrating Planetary Science Data into Undergraduate Geoscience Courses
106.	Methods of Assessing Teaching & Learning in the Geosciences
109.	Providing Future Elementary & Middle School Teachers with Meaningful Geoscience Content Knowledge
110.	REU at 25: Its Impact on Undergrad. Geoscience Ed.
113.	Strategies for Teaching Introductory Geoscience in Large Lecture Classes
114.	We Can Continue to Do Better: More Alternatives to the Same Old Lab Lecture Format in the College Classroom

State/Province Reports and News

Yukon: *Nothing to Report*

Alaska

Cathy Connor, State Councilor

Alaska Geological Society Technical Conference. Friday, April 29th, 2005, University Alaska Fairbanks. Annual showcase of Alaska Researcher and student work. <http://www.alaskageology.org>

GEOS 595: GIS/GPS for Alaska Teachers, June 2005. This is a special course for science and geography teachers, grades 8-12, of Alaskan Schools. It is an intense two-week course covering basic principles and hands-on experience in GPS measurements, Geographic Information Systems (GIS), and map making. Teachers learn how to use geospatial data (point measurements, aerial photos, satellite images, map data and other information) for developing small projects of significance in their local regions and schools. Sponsored

by Alaska Space Grant. Contact <http://www.gi.alaska.edu/~prakash/teaching/geos595/>

Matanuska Valley Rafting Field Trip, June 2005. The AGS Matanuska Valley Field Trip will be led June 25th-26th by Dr. Jeffrey Trop of Bucknell University. The trip includes a look at Wishbone Hill Coal and Cretaceous to Tertiary outcrops of Matanuska Formation as seen from rafts along Matanuska River. Cost: \$375, includes Guidebook. Contact <http://www.alaskageology.org/>

Dinosaurs of Darkness Exhibit: The World of Polar Dinosaurs. This exhibit is a joint effort between the Monash Science Center in Melbourne, Australia, the Queen Victoria Museum in Tasmania and University Alaska dinosaur researchers Roland Gangloff and Ann Pasch in conjunction with Alaska Museum of Natural History, at 201 N. Bragaw, Anchorage. Now Open

Juneau Icefield Research Program. This eight-week Glaciological field course July 1-Aug 24, 2005 begins in Juneau and traverses the Juneau Icefield to Atlin Lake, BC. <http://www.juneauicefield.org> or contact **Cathy Connor**, University Alaska Southeast cathy.connor@uas.alaska.edu

British Columbia

Brett Gilley and Mary Lou Bevier, State Councilors

New Field Geology Textbook Available. A new undergraduate textbook "Introduction to Field Geology, first edition" by Mary Lou Bevier (UBC) was published in March 2005 by McGraw-Hill Ryerson, Toronto (ISBN 0-07-093109-7). More information about the book can be viewed on-line at the McGraw-Hill Ryerson web site: <http://www.mcgrawhill.ca/>

EdGeo Program. On April 22nd an EdGeo workshop for high school teachers was held in Maple Ridge. This workshop provided teachers with samples (minerals, rocks and fossils), expertise and ideas to help them integrate earth science into their classrooms. Information about the EdGeo program can be found at <http://www.edgeo.org/>. This workshop was sponsored by the Geological Association of Canada's Cordilleran Section (<http://www.gac-cs.ca/>).

Articulation Committee Meeting, May 12-15th BC Colleges and Universities Earth Science Articulation Committee meeting will be held May 12-15 at Selkirk College in Castlegar, BC. The meeting involves 2.5 days of local field trips and a 1-day meeting to discuss transfer credit issues between colleges and universities in BC. For more information on the articulation process in BC visit <http://www.bccat.bc.ca/articulation/>

New Exhibits at the Pacific Museum of the Earth. Located in the Department of Earth and Ocean Sciences at University of British Columbia, the Pacific Museum of

the Earth is proud to report the addition of four new posters to our seismic display. These posters supplement real time seismic data with beautifully illustrated explanations of the nature of earthquakes, the tectonic environment off the coast of B.C., and the tectonic history of Canada. By the end of the month we also expect to install our new tornado machine, which will allow visitors to see and touch an actual wind vortex. For more information or to book a tour, call **Kirsten Parker** at 604-822-6992 or visit the museum website at <http://www.eos.ubc.ca/public/museum/>

Idaho

Shawn Willsey, State Councilor

IESTA 2005. The Idaho Earth Science Teachers Association will conduct their annual summer field workshop at ISU's Lost River Field Station (south of Challis, Idaho) on July 10-15, 2005. Topics and field trips will be announced soon. Please contact **Jim Cash** at Jimisty@msn.com for more information.

ISTA 2005. The Idaho Science Teachers Association will hold its fall conference in Pocatello, concurrent with the Great Rift Science Symposium on October 6-9. The Great Rift Science Symposium will be a gathering of scientists, educators, regional community leaders and the general public who share an interest in the unique landforms, biology and history of the great lava desert of Southern Idaho. The conference will include keynote speakers, workshops, presentations and field trips. For more information on the symposium contact: **Emily Dekker-Fiala**, Conference Planner, George Wright Society, efiala@georgewright.org, (906) 487-9722 or go to the conference website at: <http://www.georgewright.org/greatrift.html>

Oregon

Frank D. Granshaw and Tom Lindsay, State Councilors

2005 PNW NAGT Conference. In case you didn't read the first two pages of this newsletter, please note that the annual Section conference is June 22nd-25th, at Southwestern Oregon Community College in Coos Bay, Oregon. Contact **Ron Metzger** rmetzger@socc.edu

Washington

Joe Hull and Jeff Tepper, State Councilors

WSTA 2005. The Washington Science Teachers' Association will hold its annual Fall Conference at Eastmont Junior High School in East Wenatchee on October 14-15, 2005. For those who missed the 2004 NAGT Wenatchee conference last June, this is a chance to participate in geology field trips conducted by Ralph Dawes. Information, call for presenters and registration forms may be found on the website: <http://www.wsta.net>