

AAG Newsletter
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AAG Workshop Supports Educational Collaborations in the Americas

As part of our ongoing efforts to increase geography education, the AAG sponsored a workshop, "Expanding Geography Education Networks in the Americas" on 19-21 May, 2007, immediately prior to the Geography in the Americas conference in La Serena, Chile. The conference was co-sponsored by the AAG, Texas State University's Gilbert M. Grosvenor Center for Geographic Education, the Universidad de la Serena, and the Pan-American Institute of Geography and History (PAIGH).

Funded by a \$48,578 grant from the National Science Foundation, the workshop was designed to foster online collaborations among geography faculty and students in the United States and Latin America. The workshop built on the work of the AAG Center for Global Geography Education (CGGE), a project funded by NSF that promotes analysis and discussion of geographic issues between undergraduates in different countries.

The workshop was attended by 30 undergraduate students, graduate students, and professors from U.S. and Latin American geography programs and organizations. Over the three days, the participants worked in small groups corresponding to the CGGE online course modules (global economy, nationalism, and population). Each group engaged in exercises illustrating processes of international collaboration, intercultural communication, and designing inquiry-based student activities. With this preparation, the groups proceeded to develop new lessons for the CGGE modules focusing on issues, data, and case studies in the U.S. and Latin America. Workshop participants will continue to develop lessons learned throughout the summer and submit their materials to the AAG for publication on the CGGE website in December, 2007.

Organized by Michael Solem (AAG), the workshop featured presentations by Phil Klein (University of Northern Colorado), Osvaldo Muñiz (Texas State University-San Marcos), Jan Smith (Shippensburg University), and Waverly Ray (MiraCosta College).

CGGE modules and workshop materials may be accessed at www.aag.org/education/center. ■

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CGGE workshop participants in La Serena, Chile.

CREDIT: ANTHONY WARZECHA