

AAG Center for Global Geography Education Receives NSF Grant

The National Science Foundation has awarded a grant of \$495,481 to the Association of American Geographers to expand the AAG Center for Global Geography Education (CGGE). The three-year CGGE Phase 2 project is under the direction of Michael Solem (AAG), Phil Klein (University of Northern Colorado), and Osvaldo Muñiz (Texas State University – San Marcos). Researchers at the Association of American Colleges and Universities will monitor procedures, design and conduct an ongoing formative evaluation with annual reports, and prepare a summative evaluation of the project's learning resources and faculty development workshops.

CGGE Phase 2 will revise the library of instructional modules created under the first phase (*Nationalism, Global Economy, and Population*) while also developing three new titles: *Water Resources, Migration, and Global Climate Change*. This work will be informed by an extension evaluation study that assessed the effectiveness of the first set of CGGE modules during classroom trials between September 2004 and May 2005. The evaluation identified several instances of how the modules could be improved to enhance student learning of international perspectives.¹

In Phase 2, the CGGE modules will be redesigned to provide greater flexibility for undergraduate instruction. Each will include case studies that explore geographic issues from multiple international perspectives; student activities that support international learning collaborations using discussion boards, wikis, web cams, and other communication tools; and collaboration calendars for faculty wishing

to use CGGE modules for international teaching collaborations.

All of the resources will be published online in English, Spanish, and Arabic, with additional language support as the project develops over the coming years.

CGGE Phase 2 will also sponsor workshops aimed at expanding the network of collaborating faculty to areas in the Middle East and Southeast Asia, while retaining the existing networks of faculty in the Americas, Europe, and China. The first such workshop is planned for the AAG Annual Meeting in Boston (for details and to register, please

visit the workshop page at <http://aag.org/annualmeetings/2008/index.htm>). Workshops will also be held at upcoming international meetings, including the SEAGA Conference in the Philippines in June 2008, the IGU Congress in Tunisia in August 2008, and the HERODOT Liverpool Conference in September 2008. Information about these workshops and other project activities will be posted in the coming months at www.aag.org/education/center.

Please contact the CGGE directors with questions and to learn of upcoming opportunities related to the project. ■

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¹ Klein, P. and M. Solem. Evaluating the Impact of International Collaboration on Geography Learning. Forthcoming, *Journal of Geography in Higher Education*.