

Report of the CAG Geographic Education Study Group, 2006-2007

The Geographic Education Study Group consists of a small and dedicated group of faculty and students who are involved in geographic education research and practice in their universities and local school systems. The mission of the study group is to promote geographic education and the understanding of geographic education at all levels.

The study group held its third annual business meeting at Lakehead University, in June 2006. Study group members had a good discussion about how to foster geographic education and identified the promotion of geographic education and literacy among its top priorities while recognizing the limited resources available to pursue action at the national level. The study group also participated in discussions with the GIS Study Group as well as CAG Executive members to consider how the CAG might become more active in promoting Geography Awareness Week and GIS Day in November.

At the CAG – Ontario Division meetings, held at McMaster University in October some members of the study group facilitated and participated in a geographic education workshop. The workshop entitled *Professional Development Workshop for Graduate Students: Developing your Skills as an Effective Teacher* was well attended, especially by doctoral students. The workshop provides both a measure of interest in professional development in geographic education among future scholars and a model for others to follow. It would be interesting to learn of other geographic education initiatives among the regional divisions.

As the CAG Representative on the Canada Council for Geographic Education (CCGE), I can report on some of its excellent contributions in 2006. The CCGE further developed its series of lesson plans, funded a wonderful Summer Institute in the Saskatchewan grasslands, and also obtained funding to once again offer a Geographic Education Research Scholarship. At the study group business meeting in Saskatoon I will report of some upcoming initiatives.

The study group continues to maintain a geographic education website (<http://www.wlu.ca/%7Ewwwgeog/CAGEDU.htm>). Currently, much of the content on the site is archived material, and CAG members are invited to make submissions to better reflect current research efforts in geographic education.

Bob Sharpe, April 2007