

MISSION AND VISION

The mission of the Gilbert M. Grosvenor Center for Geographic Education is to encourage research and provide leadership in the movement to increase research in teaching and learning in geographic education. The Center was named to honor the vast contributions that Mr. Grosvenor and the National Geographic Society have made in advancing the national reform movement in geography.

The vision of the Grosvenor Center is developing and implementing innovative programs and events relative to how students and the general public learn geography. Research comprises an integral component of all these activities, with special attention paid to (1) teaching methods, (2) student and public learning of geography, (3) curriculum, (4) assessment, (5) cognitive mapping, and (6) the uses of technology. The Center’s efforts also serve to influence changes in public policy that elevate the importance of geography in societies throughout the world. The Grosvenor Center serves as a clearinghouse for resources in geographic education including those related to research, teaching, and learning geography.

Gilbert M. Grosvenor,
Chairman Emeritus,
National Geographic
Society

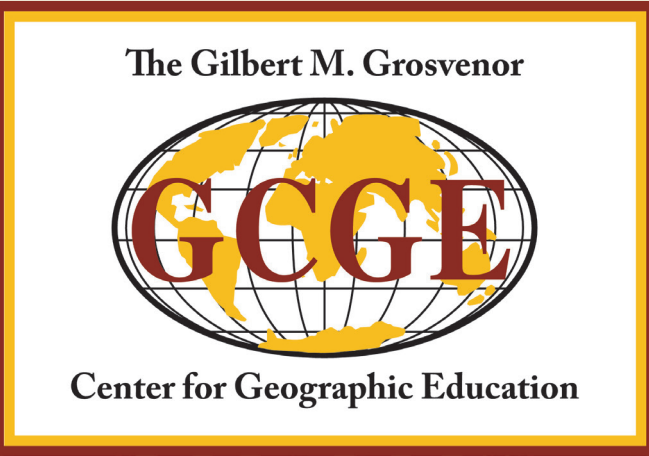


“As the world grows smaller and more interdependent daily, our country’s future absolutely depends on our ability to see the connections between ourselves and our global neighbors.”



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THE GILBERT M.
GROSVENOR CENTER
FOR GEOGRAPHIC
EDUCATION



OUR MISSION, OUR PEOPLE



Dr. Richard G. Boehm, Director
Jesse H. Jones Distinguished Chair in Geographic Education
Co-Director, National Center for Research in Geography Education

Dr. Michael N. Solem, Associate Director
Co-Director, National Center for Research in Geography Education
Association of American Geographers

Dr. Osvaldo A. Muniz-Solari, Associate Director
Texas State University

(Pictured below from left to right: Dr. Muniz, Dr. Boehm and Dr. Solem)



GROSVENOR LECTURE SERIES

The Grosvenor Center Distinguished Lecture Series is an annual event that features lecturers who are prominent geographers and public figures to whom geographic education has great meaning. Selected past Lecturers include:



1998 – Gilbert M. Grosvenor, Chairman Emeritus, National Geographic Society
Global Economic Interdependence and Multiculturalism



1999 – James Baker III, Former U.S. Secretary of State
Pax Americana



2001 – Kay Bailey Hutchison, Former U. S. Senator from Texas
Global Terrorism and the Importance of Geography Teaching and Learning



2002 – Karl Rove, Former Senior Advisor and Deputy Chief of Staff to President George W. Bush
Importance of Geographic Knowledge for the Work of Government and an Informed Citizenry



2006 – Dale Petroskey, Former President of the National Baseball Hall of Fame and Museum
Baseball as America: Seeing Ourselves Through Our National Game



2008 – Dr. Rodrigo Jordán Fuchs, International Adventurer and Mountain Climber
Environmental Responsibility



2010 – Alex Trebek, Host of Jeopardy and the National Geographic Society Geography Bee
Answers and Questions with Alex Trebek

GROSVENOR SCHOLARS

A one and a half million dollar endowment has been established to support the Grosvenor Scholars Program. Under this program, one or more Texas State Ph.D. students in geographic education carry out research tasks at the Washington, D.C. headquarters of the National Geographic Society for one year. Typically, this work introduces the student to geographic education data and information and public policy. The student works on his/her dissertation, as well. The Grosvenor Scholars Program is administered cooperatively by the Grosvenor Center for Geographic Education and the National Geographic Society Education Foundation.

GRANTS AND PROJECTS

Obtaining grant funding and executing special projects in geographic education forms a strong component of the Grosvenor Center’s research activities. The Center collaborates with other organizations and individuals in this process. We continue to pursue funding opportunities to continue the development of our online professional development series, “Geography: Teaching with the Stars.”

Current grants include building capacity for research on learning progressions, and designing prototype geospatial resources, materials, and tools for STEM teacher education programs.

Additionally, the Center is developing a geospatial enrichment module involving various resources and departments on campus (pictured below are contributing partners).



CENTER FELLOWS

The Grosvenor Center appoints prominent geographic educators as “Fellows of the Grosvenor Center.” A Grosvenor Fellow participates in specific Grosvenor Center projects including a publication, a research project, or a grant proposal. In addition, the Grosvenor Fellows program serves to increase communication among geographic educators.

CONFERENCES

The Grosvenor Center sponsors conferences of national and international scope in order to gather scholars from around the world to further research in geographic education.

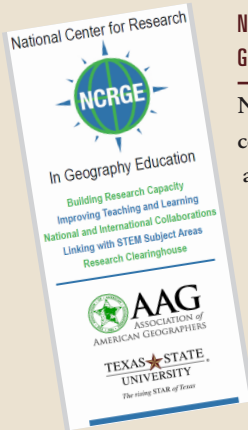
In 2013, The Grosvenor Center and the National Geographic Society Education Foundation hosted a research conference in Washington D.C. for early career professionals. Encouraging research by developing scholars has become a major emphasis of the Grosvenor Center. This meeting was organized on the basis of the recommendations in the NSF funded *Road Map for 21st Century Geography Education*.

Future Grosvenor Center conferences will continue to develop the various skills of early career scholars, while creating a national “Research Coordination Network” to increase capacity within the sub-discipline.

PUBLICATIONS

The Grosvenor Center publishes a scholarly journal, *Research in Geographic Education* (rge.grosvenor.txstate.edu) that provides an outlet for research in geographic education by authors from the U.S. and dozens of foreign countries. The Center also hosts periodic workshops and mini-conferences that are designed to generate an occasional publication, such as *Why Geography is Important*.

Under preparation is the latest version of the “State of State Standards,” a record of geography and social studies curriculum in the standards of individual states.



NATIONAL CENTER FOR RESEARCH IN GEOGRAPHY EDUCATION (NCRGE)

NCRGE is a research consortium committed to the advancement of basic and applied research in geography education at all levels. NCRGE’s mission is to coordinate, support and build capacity for research in geography through broad-based partnerships with researchers, universities and organizations in the U.S. and abroad.

The offices of the Association of American Geographers in Washington, D.C. and Texas State University’s Grosvenor Center serve as the two headquarters.

FUNDING SOURCES

The Grosvenor Center receives financial support from the Department of Geography, Texas State University. In addition, staff salaries and operating expenses come from a wide variety of sources including: foundations, donations from individuals, income from dedicated endowment funds, indirect fund returns on successful grant applications, and subscriptions to the journal, *Research in Geographic Education*.

ADVISORY BOARD

The Grosvenor Center Advisory Board is active and engaged in fund raising and project development. The Board represents a mixture of university and private sector individuals, all with an abiding interest in geographic education.

- Barbara Hatcher - Assistant Dean, Graduate College, retired
- Jesse Luxton - Entrepreneur, retired
- Jerrold McMillan - Broker, Investments
- Andy Sansom - Director, The Meadows Center for Water and the Environment
- Michael Scott - Environment Compliance, DELL Computer
- Michael Young - Restaurateur