Attention Science Teachers

Would you like to increase your student interest and engagement in science?

Thanks to the ongoing generosity of our sponsors, the Geoscience Pathways Project continues to offer a range of teaching ideas, resources and fully funded teacher mentoring to our member schools.

Kelly is our mentor-teacher-geologist. She can work directly with you and your students, in a range of engaging classroom or laboratory activities and local field investigations/excursions to suit the Australian Science Curriculum from years 5 - 9

We are also developing activities to suit the new senior secondary Earth and Environmental Science (EES) courses

Our Project can provide subsidies for the cost of student buses and a range of special equipment is available on loan to our member schools. These include class sets of compass/clinometers, GPS units, gold pans and our recently acquired “Quake Caster”. (see photos below)

The GPP is a ‘not-for-profit’ incorporated body of like-minded teachers and geoscientists. We work together to enhance the teaching and learning and to foster the uptake of Earth and Environmental Science in SA schools.

Joining is free.
Contact our webmaster for instructions
Amanda: geoscience-pathways@gmail.com

The Geoscience Pathways Project offers:
• Teacher mentoring, directly with your class
• Mentored laboratory and field investigations
• Equipment loan
• Bus subsidy for GPP excursions
• Arranged hands-on activities at universities

ALL GPP ACTIVITIES ARE FULLY FUNDED
Upcoming workshops:

SASTA Annual Conference  
Mon. 18th and Tues. 19th April at Brighton Secondary School.  
https://www.sasta.asn.au/professional_learning

TESEP PD1 ‘Round and Round with Rocks’  
Wed. 27th April at Grant High School, Hosking Ave. Mt. Gambier, from 9:30 am - 1:30 pm, followed by the launch of our newly developed Field Investigation for Year 7-8 teachers, on Thurs. 28th April from 9:30 am – 3:30 pm. (presenters Kelly Sharrad and Cynthia Pyle)

TESEP PD9: ‘Plate Tectonics’  
Frid. 29th April at Grant High School, Hosking Ave. Mt. Gambier, from 9:00 am - 12:30 pm, with presenter Greg McNamara, an experienced geologist and science teacher, TESEP Executive Officer, editor of the Australian Geoscience Council’s GeoEdLink e-newsletter, and Education and Outreach Consultant to the Geological Society of Australia.

TESEP PD2 ‘Riding the Climate Roller Coaster’  
Frid. 29th April at Grant High School, Hosking Ave. Mt. Gambier, from 1:30 pm - 4:30 pm, also with presenter Greg McNamara.

Note that all three of the above TESEP workshops are ASTA accredited and fully funded, including travel, meals and accommodation where applicable. A non-refundable $55 Registration fee applies. For more detailed information and a registration form: email: SA_coord@tesep.org.au

Dirt TV Video Competition for Schools

The 2015 winners
The South Australian Chamber of Mines and Energy (SACOME) runs the Dirt TV Schools Video Competition which encourages children in Year 7-12 to submit a short 2-3 minute video about what mining and/or oil and gas means to them. With over $10,000 in cash prizes up for grabs over five categories students are encouraged to research and create a video about how the resources industry affects our everyday lives. The best overall video will net the winning student(s) $5000 with all other categories attracting a $1000 prize each. 2016 marks the third year which will culminate in a special celebration awards evening on Thursday 20 October where students can showcase their videos to industry and government leaders. More details and past winning videos can be found at www.dirttv.com.au with the competition officially opening on Wed. 3rd Feb.

Our Management Committee:

- Chair: Len Altman (MSC / GSA)  
- Secretary & webmaster: Amanda Vernik  
- Treasurer: Kelly Sharrad (teacher/ geologist)  
- Margaret Baxter (Open Access College)  
- Alan Collins (University of Adelaide/ GSA)  
- Mike Roach (Hamilton Secondary College)  
- Katrina Holmes (Blackwood High School)  
- Di Whittington (Open Access College)  
- Cynthia Pyle (former SACE Board)  
- Peta Abbot (DSD teacher/ geologist)  
- Gerry Carne (SANTOS/ Beach Energy)  
- Stephen Batten (SACOME)  
- Bronwyn Mart (Magill Primary School)  
- Christine Thomson (DECD)  
- Peter Turnbull (former DECD advisor)

Remember our Aim We aim to increase student interest and engagement in Science through our special focus on developing engaging teaching and learning activities across the Earth and Space sub-strand of the Australian Science Curriculum (F-10). We thereby aim to increase student uptake of senior secondary science, particularly the new Earth and Environment Science courses when they are launched in SA in 2017 and 2018.
Equipment for loan

Our “QuakeCaster” has been adapted from a design by the USGS to enhance inquiry based learning about earthquakes. It is an ideal apparatus for facilitating a ‘design-prac’ for SACE Geology students, or for an engaging plate tectonics activity for Year 9’s.

It’s available for loan to our member schools.

Other equipment available for short term loan:

- Garmin 60 GPS units
- Suunto compasses (include clinometers)
- Gold pans

Geology Reference Books

TO GIVE AWAY:

A recently retired geologist has donated his entire collection of reference books, to be used for educational purposes. This is an extensive collection comprising more than 50 volumes packed into cartons and indexed.

Is there a teacher (or perhaps a school librarian) who might be willing to give these valuable books a good home?

Have a look at these excellent new documentaries:

RIAUSTV: ‘On the road with Paul: Ediacara’
http://riaus.tv/videos/road-paul-flinders-ranges This video provides a good introduction to the Ediacaran fauna

SBS on demand: ‘Neanderthal Apocalypse’
www.sbs.com.au/ondemand/video/.../neanderthal-apocalypse This video paints quite a different picture of Neanderthals, their relationship to modern humans and their extinction due to a combination of climate change and the cataclysmic last eruption of Campi Flegrei, Europe’s sleeping ‘super volcano’ 39,000 years ago.