Geoscience COVID-19 Study Enters Second Phase, Examines Pandemic's Lasting Impact

ALEXANDRIA, Va. — The American Geosciences Institute (AGI) is pleased to announce that its Geoscience COVID-19 study has been extended into a second phase that will continue the longitudinal study through March 2022, thanks to continued support by the National Science Foundation (Award #2029570).

The second phase of this study will focus on how the COVID-19 pandemic has permanently changed the way in which geoscientists work and study and how workplace and instructional environments transition into post-pandemic configurations. A key focus of the second phase of the study will be assessing pandemic-related impacts to the academic achievement and early-career trajectories of geoscience students, new graduates, and early-career geoscientists, including what strategies they are using to address these impacts. The study will also examine the strategies being implemented by geoscience faculty, academic departments, and employers to mitigate these pandemic-related impacts.

Since June 2020, AGI has been publishing several Geoscience Currents data briefs each month about the results of the ongoing study. The data briefs highlight the shift to remote work and learning environments, the quick response by faculty to convert teaching modes to virtual and hybrid formats, and by employers in adjusting to a distributed remote workforce. The data briefs also document the changes in restrictions over time, as well as the challenges and benefits of pandemic-related work and learning adaptations that have been implemented by academic departments, employers, students, and geoscientists.

The study will continue to accept new participants through January 2022 and is open to all geoscientists, including students, retirees, and those not currently employed, who reside in the United States and are at least 18 years old. We also encourage company, organization, and academic leaders to participate on behalf of their organizations to elucidate the organization-level changes underway.

A brief online survey is sent to study participants twice a month and only takes a few minutes to complete. Results from the study are reported only in aggregate and in a manner that ensures the confidentiality of the participants.

Funding for this project is provided by the National Science Foundation (Award #2029570). The results and interpretation of the survey are the views of the American Geosciences Institute and not those of the National Science Foundation.

About AGI
The American Geosciences Institute (AGI), a federation of scientific and professional associations representing over a quarter-million geoscientists, is a nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization dedicated to serving the geoscience community and addressing the needs of society. AGI headquarters are in Alexandria, Virginia.

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