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Edward Robeck, Ph.D., joins AGI as Director of Education and Outreach

Alexandria, Va. - The American Geosciences Institute (AGI) gladly welcomes Edward Robeck as its new Director of Education and Outreach. Dr. Robeck joins AGI from Salisbury University, on the Eastern Shore of Maryland. He has extensive background in science instruction, teacher professional development, and curriculum design that will contribute to AGI in important ways.

"AGI plays a vital role in geoscience education, and I look forward to being part of this dynamic organization," Robeck said, noting that AGI provides a unique and important voice that supports geoscience education at all levels, and helps the public understand some of the most significant issues of our time. Robeck has worked with AGI programming as an external consultant for over fifteen years and held a Faculty-in-Residence position at AGI in 2006 and 2007. Most recently he has helped to initiate the Center for Geoscience Education and Public Understanding, which is an initiative focused on promoting collaboration in geoscience education, policy, research, and related areas.

Robeck intends to use his role to strengthen relationships between the many stakeholder groups that AGI serves and AGI's member organizations to make sure that their important educational messages and programs are being used to their fullest benefit. As well, he hopes to further underscore the value of the geosciences to the general public.

"I find the narrative aspect of the geosciences to be fascinating," Robeck said. "Knowledge of the geosciences allows one to look at a place and understand the location's story on many levels. This has great value as an educational tool because it makes the geosciences accessible to everyone, and teaches us that things have not always been the way that they are now—the Earth will continue to change over time, and in many ways people can influence the directions of those changes. Geoscience education is a key to making sure that those human influences are positive."

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The American Geosciences Institute is a nonprofit federation of 49 geoscientific and professional associations that represents more than 250,000 geologists, geophysicists and other earth scientists. Founded in 1948, AGI provides information services to geoscientists, serves as a voice of shared interests in the profession, plays a major role in strengthening geoscience education, and strives to increase public awareness of the vital role the geosciences play in society's use of resources, resiliency to natural hazards, and interaction with the environment.