



Nebraska Board of Geologists Strategic Plan

Approved: October 9, 2019

Mission Statement and Operating Philosophy

The Board assures geological practices in Nebraska are carried out by qualified individuals to safeguard life, health, property, and to promote the public welfare. The Mission is carried out by:

- Assuring that those who serve the public through the practice of geology have the education and experience needed to be competent in the field;
- Enforcing the Geologists Regulation Act through education and compliance oversight;
- Providing quality and responsive regulatory services; and
- Providing information to the public about the Geologists Regulation Act and the practice of geology in the state.



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Student Outreach

The purpose of conducting Student Outreach is to promote licensure awareness and the advantages of licensure as well as promote the professional growth of the students.

Goals

1. Provide presentations and be available for questions at NGS meetings
2. Board presentations at student seminars
3. Promote the FG exam as an exit exam from Nebraska geological and/or geography programs
4. Create a "Next Steps" contact process for recent graduates and/or seniors of Nebraska programs

Action Plan

1. Any members present at NGS meetings may represent the Board
2. Create a presentation approved by the Board to be used when presenting at student seminars and available venues.
3. Arrange an initial meeting with the education institutions in Nebraska to promote the use of the FG exam as an exit exam and explore the use of the CPAT as provided to the institutions from ASBOG
4. Have a board presence at designated conferences and meetings through the use of an information table/exhibit
5. Explore the creation of social media accounts such as Facebook
6. Draft language for the Next Steps letter to be sent to upcoming and recent graduates

Progress Report



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Professional and Public Education

The purpose of conducting professional and public education is to provide better information on the practice of geology and to more effectively enforce the Geologists Regulations Act.

Goals

1. Identify groups and agencies for possible engagement
2. Provide information at selected events
3. Publish regular news updates from the Board

Action Plan

1. Participation at the Legislative Breakfast hosted by NDEE and the Ground Water Foundation
2. Create a committee to develop content and format of communications to be sent out to the licensees.

Progress Report

- 7/10/19 Communication Committee formed with Chairperson Maher, Hallum, and Martin as members. The committee is charged with developing content and format of board communications and to create a timeline for such.
- 9/19/19 AA Lais requested subscriptions to newsletters in Kansas, Missouri, Wisconsin, and Minnesota.



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Common Practice Areas and Cooperative Agreements

The purpose of defining common practice areas and pursuing cooperative agreements is to open the lines of communication between the Board and other organizations and Nebraska state agencies.

Goals

1. Define common practice areas which should involve a professional geologists
2. Identify other organizations and Nebraska state agencies which have interaction with professional geologists

Action Plan

1. Create talking points on what is the practice of geology based on the common practice areas
2. Visit with other state boards and agencies for periodic informational engagement and discuss possible crossover practice areas.
3. Research resources that may be used to identify companies may be practicing geology, but do not hold a valid certificate of authorization.

Progress Report



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Continued Cooperation with ASBOG

The purpose of continued cooperation with ASBOG is to have influence on the quality of the national licensing exams and to stay up to date with current national issues and trends.

Goals

1. Regular attendance at the ASBOG Annual Meeting and COE Workshops
2. Creation of exam questions by Board members not attending the COE Workshops
3. To ensure Nebraska has a voice on issues being addressed by ASBOG
4. Have board members become involved with ASBOG on the committee level

Action Plan

1. Encourage the preparation and submittal of draft examination questions to ASBOG from board members and licensees for review at the COE Workshops
2. Encourage board members and licensees to become involved with ASBOG at the committee level or as subject matter experts. Inform licensees of openings and application process to become an SME
3. Prioritize funding to allow members and staff to attend the Annual Meeting and COE Workshops

Progress Report

7/10/19 AA Lais was approved to attend the 2019 Administrator's Workshop and Annual meeting. Link was approved to attend the Annual meeting. Martin was approved to attend the Annual meeting and Fall COE Workshop. Hallum was approved to attend the Fall COE Workshop.



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Core Course Equivalency Chart Revisions

The purpose of reviewing and revising the equivalency chart is to ensure course titles included are current and relevant.

Goal

To update the list to ensure courses listed reflect current and relevant equivalent courses.

Action Plan

Create a committee to review and make recommendations for revisions to the chart.

Progress Report

- 7/10/19 The Core Course Equivalency Review Committee formed with Joyce, Svingen, and Chairperson Maher as members.
- 10/9/19 The Committee presented a draft update to the Core Course Equivalency Chart. After discussion, revisions were made by the members for immediate inclusion. Work continues on the rationale to ensure the Board's intent is clear and to tie each of the core course requirements to tasks on the latest ASBOG task analysis.



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Geologists Regulation Act Revision Review

The purpose of the review is to identify any revisions that may be need to update the Act.

Goal

To have revisions to the Act identified and prepared for possibly introduction during the 2021 legislative session.

Action Plan

1. Form a committee to review the proposed revisions and make recommendations to the Board.
2. Seek input from NGS on recommendations and assistance in the bill introduction and process.

Progress Report

- 7/10/19 Hallum agreed to do a preliminary presentation at the September NGS meeting on the revisions the Board is looking at making.
- 7/10/19 The members were charged with further reviewing the proposed revisions and sending any comments and/or suggestions to AA Lais no later than September 16, 2019, who compile them for further discussion at the October board meeting.
- 10/9/19 Hallum reported he discussed the proposed revisions at the September 2019 NGS meeting. There were about fifteen individuals in attendance. It was suggested an email be sent out to all licensees to get their feed back.



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Acronyms

ASBOG National Association of State Boards of Geology

COE Council of Examiners

CPAT Curriculum Performance Assessment Tool

FG Fundamentals of Geology Exam

NDEE Nebraska Department of Environment and Energy

NEBOG Nebraska Board of Geologists

NGS Nebraska Geological Society

PG Practice of Geology Exam

SME Subject Matter Experts