Introduction
Recent research highlights the fact that a robust Earth and space science (ESS) workforce is necessary to address such issues as natural hazards, energy and other resources, and mitigation of and adaptation to global climate change. Professional societies, along with federal agencies, academic institutions, and private industry, play a key role in educating the next generation of Earth and space scientists by offering programs and opportunities that attract students to the field, support them through formal education, and provide training for a career in the Earth and space sciences [National Research Council (NRC), 2013b; NRC, 2011]. To further this goal, the American Geophysical Union (AGU) is currently implementing a new initiative called Geoscience Learning, Engagement And Development (GeoLEAD).

Brief Description
GeoLEAD will provide a portal to multiple resources to help engage, retain, and prepare two- and four-year-college undergraduate ESS students for the workforce. It will centralize access to programs and services that are currently scattered across multiple organizations, fill gaps in the type of programs or services being offered, create bundles of programs and services to enhance the effectiveness of any single program or service, and assist employers in tapping effective talent pipelines. An important step in the development of GeoLEAD is the convening of a collaborative of key partners to increase our collective impact in this effort.

“A key takeaway from the (U.S. STEM) model is that investments in multidimensional programs, combining multiple interventions, could be a game-changer.”

- The U.S. STEM Undergraduate Model, Business-Higher Education Forum, April 2013
**GeoLEAD**

**Geoscience Learning, Engagement, And Development**

A multi-stakeholder initiative to increase the size and diversity of the Earth and space science (ESS) talent pool

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**THE PROBLEM**

**Low Student Retention** among 2YC/4YC students

Scattered Resources/Info requires finding / assembling information and limits engagement

Insufficient Graduates to meet projected workforce shortfall

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**THE SOLUTION**

Provide **one-stop access** to numerous resources to help engage, retain, and prepare two- and four-year, undergraduate, Earth and space science students for the workplace

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• Degree completion grants
• Field camp scholarships
• Undergraduate research grants
• Student travel grants – 4YC students
• Student travel grants – 2YC
• Student travel grants – high school

• Student organizations
• Meetings/Conferences
• Affinity groups
• Mentoring
• Faculty/administration council

• Employer matching
• Digital badging & profiles
• Career information
• Counseling
• Skills training
• Professional certifications

• Research and field internships
• In-person poster presentations
• Virtual poster showcase

• Adaptive learning courses

• Bright STaRS
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