



Call for teachers to develop standards for geography teaching

An important new research project is being undertaken to develop professional standards for the teaching of Geography. Funded through an Australian Research Council Linkages grant, researchers from the Melbourne Graduate School of Education at the University of Melbourne are partnering with the Australian Geography Teachers' Association, the Geography Teachers' Association of Victoria and the Victorian Institute of Teaching.

To date, we have videorecorded accomplished classroom teachers at work in one or two lessons. We are planning to use these video-recordings as prompts for panels of teachers who will develop the standards.

We are seeking teachers to take part in panel discussions to:

- 1 review video 'clips' and respond to a series of semi-structured questions designed to identify teaching standards
- 2 collaboratively draft a set of standards for teaching school geography
- 3 reflect on the experience of drafting teaching standards as a learning experience

Panels will be formed in New South Wales, Queensland, South Australia, Victoria and Western Australia. The panels of eight geography teachers will meet twice over a six month period for two whole days in late 2008 or early 2009. You may want to partner with another geography teacher from your school or a colleague from another school. Individual and group nominations are encouraged. A pack of briefing materials will be sent to interested teachers and some travel expenses will be reimbursed.

We are interested in teacher-participants who are at different stages of their career, that is, beginning career teachers, mid-career teachers, late-career teachers.

The research team will contact those who express interest in participating to provide further information and answer any questions.

Briefly describe your career stage eg. early career, mid-career, late-career.

Your name _____ Phone number _____

Your school _____ Email _____

Please return this form as an email attachment to Sarah North, norths@unimelb.edu.au or by post to Jeana Kriewaldt, Melbourne Graduate School of Education, Room 308, Alice Hoy Building, The University of Melbourne, Parkville, 3010 by **1 December (later applications may be considered)**.

We will also convene an online panel who will be able to view materials and converse with panel members using an internet based discussion board. We strongly encourage non metropolitan teachers to apply.