



Project Title: Geography Professionals Leadership Network Development

Project Summary (150 words maximum)

The PLN offers Geography's 135 graduate students access to a pool of government, industry, and NGO representatives who have offered to share their professional, research, and personal networks with students. The PLN has been utilized solely for the purposes of a pilot mentorship program, but the Department feels there are great opportunities available through this Network which are not being accessed due to a lack of resources. The proposed development project will create PLN communication vehicles, including a newsletter template, webpage, standardized letters, email list, and other document templates. It will also develop an annual teaching/learning program, incorporating Network members to into graduate educational experiences, including the department's guest lecture series, research partnerships and regular networking events. This project will also support an expanded, stable PLN membership base, program awareness campaign, and the creation of an organizing committee of volunteers to lead the PLN after this project's deadline is over.