

Geography Ambassador Project - Information for Universities

**Royal
Geographical
Society**
with IBG

Advancing geography
and geographical learning

The scheme recruits, trains and supports undergraduate and postgraduate geographers from universities and business to act as ambassadors for geography in the classroom. This is a great way to introduce younger students to the benefits of studying geography and encouraging them to pursue the subject beyond the compulsory stages.

The ambassadors act as positive role models for pupils and they illustrate, with enthusiasm, both the specific and transferable skills they have developed as a geographer. It will contribute to your widening participation agenda, your contacts with local schools, and will provide opportunities for your students to be trained as volunteers and to act as geography ambassadors for your university in the local area.

“It has had an amazing impact... numbers taking GCSE Geography have increased from 43 to nearly 70. They are going to have to be a must for next year.” *Teacher, Colchester*

“I particularly enjoyed the enthusiasm many pupils showed when they realised the opportunities a degree in geography could offer.” *Ambassador, Sheffield*

“It was very successful and contributed to having the first group of geography GCSE in 3 years - 25 keen students! We are aiming for 2 groups next year and an A level in 2011!”
Teacher, London

Launched as part of the Action Plan for Geography back in 2006 , the geography ambassador scheme is now a national scheme , supported by Esri.Uk and the RGS- IBG . We would like to take this opportunity to welcome your involvement in this initiative. We are really looking forward to working with you and your students by recruiting ambassadors from your undergraduate and postgraduate courses.

We would be grateful if you would:

- Advertise the scheme in your next newsletter or on the intranet.
- Arrange for us to run a training session in your department or encourage your students to attend a session nearby.
- Help us if possible with alumni contacts who are still in the local area and whom you feel would make good role-models for the range of careers that geographers enter into.

During the training session, the ambassadors will be briefed on techniques to use in the classroom, presentation skills and activities they could facilitate. The training will also give them excellent transferable skills that will improve their employability.

For further information please contact:

Simon Faulkner s.faulkner@rqs.org 0207 591 3050

Education Department, Royal Geographical Society with IBG, 1 Kensington Gore, London, SW7 2AR