

Bio for Ms. Nancy Colleton, IGES and IUCN

President, Institute for Global Environmental Strategies (IGES) Nancy Colleton is the president of the Institute for Global Environmental Strategies (IGES), a non-profit organization leading in Earth and space science education, communication and outreach. She is a dedicated leader in efforts to promote monitoring of the Earth—its oceans, air, and land—and use of this vital data and information or “intelligence” for improved decision making related to conservation, natural resource management, and weather and climate risk.

Ms. Colleton is also co-founder and executive director of the Alliance for Earth Observations, a leading private-sector voice and resource for improved Earth observations, which engages business, academic and non-governmental organization stakeholders in partnership with government leaders to promote involvement in the development, integration, and application of Earth observations. She was instrumental in the development of the first Earth Observation Summit, which led to the establishment of the Group on Earth Observations (GEO) and the Global Earth Observation System of Systems, or GEOSS concept.

Committed to education and engaging younger generations in Earth science and environmental issues, Ms. Colleton founded IGES’ annual Thacher Environmental Research Contest, which has awarded more than \$30,000 to remarkable high school students for their innovative use of space-based Earth observations for better understanding the changing planet. She also played a key role in the development of IGES's children's environmental art and photography contests, which have been successful in encouraging young children to become interested and active in conservation and adaptation in their communities.

Ms. Colleton’s education background is in communications and she is actively engaged with the international science education and outreach community. Her numerous professional affiliations include serving as the Co-Chair of the NOAA Science Advisory Boards’ Environmental Information Services Working Group (EISWG), as Lead of IUCN/CEC’s Environmental Information Specialty Group, as a Board Member of the GeoEye Foundation, and as a member of the international program committees of both the American Astronautical Society (AAS) and the American Institute for Aeronautics & Astronautics (AIAA).