

## **Recent Activities and Current Goals of the IRIS Early Career Working Group**

Harmony V. Colella, Derek Schutt, Danielle Sumy, and Andy Frassetto

Early Career Investigators (ECIs) are loosely defined as senior graduate students through pre-tenure faculty. The IRIS ECI working group strives to understand the needs of and develop resources for this community. Our mission is to organize a suite of practical resources and professional development opportunities for ECIs as they complete graduate school and/or a post-doc, develop their research, and acquire private sector employment or tenure at a teaching or research institution. The general goal is to lower the energy and knowledge barriers necessary to thrive in a range of environments as a young professional. The working group is a pan-IRIS effort administered within its Education and Public Outreach Program, but has also collaborates with other organizations and science programs including EarthScope and GeoPRISMS.

There are several ways that we engage and communicate with the community and provide resources to ECIs. This working group communicates with ECIs using an IRIS hosted webpage and listserv, as well as Facebook. The activities of the working group accelerated through the 2012-2013 academic year. We hold monthly webinars on a variety of technical or professional topics, and in February 2013, released a request for proposals from junior/senior scientist pairings through a formal mentorship program. We have also implemented a fund-matching program to support ECIs to present their research through seminars and colloquiums at distant institutions. In development are: a teaching repository, teaching materials for an *Introduction to Earthquakes* class, and periodic virtual discussion groups for geophysicists in small departments. We welcome the EarthScope National Meeting as an opportunity to interact with ECIs on ways this program can grow in scope and usefulness.