

Nancy Colleton

President and Founder
Institute for Global Environmental Strategies

Nancy Colleton is an internationally known and respected leader in environmental communication and information. As the president of the Institute for Global Environmental Strategies (IGES) she leads numerous initiatives that promote better understanding of the changing planet.

Ms. Colleton has worked vigorously with senior-level government and industry executives to increase the awareness, value and use of Earth observations and to emphasize the need for a comprehensive strategy to ensure that citizens, business, and government at all levels have the environmental intelligence needed for improved decision making. Through high-visibility meetings, networking, opinion pieces, government liaison, testimony and media appearances, Ms. Colleton has highlighted the need to leverage investment in Earth observations for a growing and diverse user community.

In addition to serving as the deputy chair of the Commission on Education and Communication (CEC) of the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN), Ms. Colleton leads the Alliance for Earth Observations and co-chairs the Environmental Information Services Working Group (EISWG) of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Science Advisory Board.

Although she may be best known for communicating the importance of space-based satellites to monitor the Earth, Ms. Colleton also supports more down-to-Earth programs that engage children in doing science. She founded IGES' Thacher Environmental Research Contest, which provides monetary awards annually to high school students illustrating the best use of space-based Earth observations for better understanding of the changing planet. She was also instrumental in the development of IGES' environmental art and photography student contests. After more than 15 years supporting these education efforts, she is proud to say that IGES possesses a truly remarkable and beautiful collection of children's environmental art.

Ms. Colleton holds a degree in communications. Her professional affiliations include: Deputy Chair, CEC, IUCN; Co-Chair, EISWG, NOAA Science Advisory Board; Fellow, Council of Fellows, Cooperative Institute for Climate and Satellites (CICS); Steering Committee Member, Commission on the Weather and Climate Enterprise, American Meteorological Society (AMS); Member, Strategic Directions for the Geographical Sciences in the Next Decade, National Research Council; Advisor, Skybox Imaging; Board Member, GeoEye Foundation; Member, Editorial Advisory Board, Imaging Notes; Member, International Program Committee, American Astronautical Society (AAS); Member, International Activities Committee, American Institute for Aeronautics & Astronautics (AIAA); and Member, Women in Aerospace.