

Michelle Cauley

ASSISTANT PROFESSOR of NATURAL RESOURCES

920.585.2865



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Bottineau, ND 58318



PROFESSIONAL PROFILE

Experienced and skilled educator and a two-time nominee for Teacher of the Year. Extensive experience in varied teaching modalities, age, and ability levels. Experienced professor in online and in-person teaching, curriculum and course development, grant writing, and recruiting. Seeking lecturer, instructor, Assistant Professor or Assistant Dean position in Environmental Science, Geoscience, Natural Resources, or related field.

EDUCATION

PhD Candidate

Environmental Science

Antioch University New England

- Expected Completion Date 2030
- Advisor: Dr. Peter Palmiotto

MASTER OF SCIENCE:

Environmental Geoscience

Mississippi State University, 2022

- 3.9 GPA
- Summa Cum Laude
- Capstone Research:** "In Praise of Drought" – Chronic Wasting Disease connections to precipitation in Wisconsin
- Field Research** – Gerace Research Institute, San Salvador, Bahamas

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE

K-8 Communicate Arts Education

Winona State University, 2007

- 3.83 GPA
- Summa Cum Laude

SKILLS

- Lectures and lab planning and implementation
- Instructional planning and curriculum development
- Digital learning platforms
- Workshop designing and presenting
- Recruiting
- Online instruction
- Advising

WORK EXPERIENCE

ASSISTANT PROFESSOR – NATURAL RESOURCES

Dakota College at Bottineau – July 2023 - Present

- Delivered online, in-person, and laboratory instruction across Natural Resources, Soil Science, Environmental Science, Geosciences, Ecology, small Unmanned Aircraft Systems (sUAS), and Environmental Education
- Designed and wrote curriculum to modernize course offerings and align with current industry practice
- Launched new courses to address emerging industry standards
- Chaired department and advisory program meetings
- Recruited prospective students at outreach events, STEM fairs, and career fairs
- Supervised undergraduate internships and practicums
- Mentored new and adjunct faculty within the department (2025–2026)
- Served on six campus committees, including Title IX, the Behavior Intervention Team (BIT), the HLC Student Success Team, Online Teaching Standards, Student Grade Appeals, and the DCB Artificial Intelligence Policy Committee; chaired the Tree Campus Higher Education/Earth Day Committee
- Managed an NSF-funded grant program (DUE #2247777, "Elevating Rural North Dakota Workforce with Skilled sUAS Technicians") as Program Manager and Curriculum Writer
- Authored grant proposals for NSF ATE and ITYC funding programs
- Presented at Faculty Professional Development in-services (2024–2026)
- Earned AWS AI Instructor certification

K-5 STEAM SPECIALIST

St. Francis Elementary School – July 2022 – July 2023

- Designed and customized innovative STEAM curriculum to serve all ability and accessibility levels
- Partnered with grade-level teams and specialist groups on cross-functional projects and committees to foster student growth and engagement
- Set team direction and guided new staff members
- Recruited students for extra-curricular science clubs and events

THIRD GRADE ELEMENTARY TEACHER – Founding Teacher

North Lakes Academy / June 2019 – June 2022

- Developed and facilitated STEM and geoscience curriculum.
- Led professional development sessions.
- Organized and led all-school STEAM assemblies
- Developed and taught online, in-person, and asynchronous lessons.

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PROFESSOR of NATURAL RESOURCES

CERTIFICATIONS and TRAININGS

sUAS Trusted Operator Instructor Level 1-2

August 2026

AWS AI Instructor Certification

May 2026

Project Learning Tree, Project WET, Project WILD Certified Trainer

North Dakota Dept. of Forestry

May 2024

FAA Drone Pilots License (Part 107)

March 2024- current

Defensive Driving Certificate

ND Dept. of Transportation

September 2023

Canvas Online Teaching Certification – Quality Matters

Mississippi State University

February 2022

Advanced Learner Certificate

Minneapolis Public Schools

January 2019

OUTREACH

Bottineau Rockhounds 2023 - current

- Director
- Member of the NWFMS
- Membership – 40 students in grades 2-12
- Campaigned to successfully create Knife River Flint as the state rock in 2024

Bottineau Community Rocks!

- Co-founder
- Monthly community meeting hosting speakers and presenters for geoscience enthusiasts!

PROFESSIONAL CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

- **National Science Foundation (NSF) ATE PI Conference – October 2025**
 - Learning Lab Workshop Presenter: “From Concept to Launch: Building Skills-Based Bootcamps”
 - Poster Presenter
- **North Dakota CTE Professional Development Conference – August 2025**
 - Session Leader: “Bridging Industry and Education: Strategies for Effective Advisory Committees”
- **High Impact Technology Exchange Conference (HI-TEC) - July 2025**
 - Learning Workshop Presenter: “BILT for Better Feedback: An Efficient Approach to Meaningful Insights”
- **North Dakota Early Childhood State Conference – April 2025**
 - Workshop Presenter: “Nature’s Classroom Comes Alive with Project Learning Tree”
- **National Science Foundation (NSF) ATE PI Conference – October 2024**
 - Poster Presenter
- **NAGT Earth Educators Rendezvous - July 2024**
 - Workshop Presenter: “Soil Science: Bridging Geology and Environmental Science in a Sustainable World”

AWARDS and HONORS

Environmental Educator of the Year (August 2026)

- Awarded by North Dakota Forestry Department

Polar STEAM Research Fellowship (August 2026)

- Awarded by the National Science Foundation and Polar STEAM programs.
- Two-week research residency at Toolik Research Station for the objective of improving science communication.

Faculty Excellent Award (May 2025)

- Awarded by Dakota College at Bottineau

Minnesota Teacher of the Year – Nominee (2020, 2017)

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

Society for Conservation Biology (SCB) (2025 – Present)

- Working Group for Drones in Conservation founding member

Association of Women Geoscientists (AWG) (2024 – Present)

Geological Society of America (GSA) (2023- Present)

Civil Air Patrol (CAP) (2023 – Present)

National Association for Geoscience Teachers (NAGT) (2022 – Present)