



STRATEGIC PLAN

PURPOSE STATEMENT

Geologic time is the intellectual theme that connects a wide variety of research endeavors in geoscience – missing is the corresponding cyberinfrastructure that allows the resources of all these endeavors to be pooled. CHRONOS's purpose is to transform Earth history research by seamlessly integrating geoscience databases and tools.

MISSION STATEMENT

CHRONOS is a team of geoscientists and information technology specialists creating a cyberinfrastructure that will deliver open access to a global federation of Earth history databases, tools, and services, thus providing:

- For academic, government, and industrial scientists – access to multiple, disparate databases on Earth history; data evaluation and conversion services; and powerful analytical tools.
- For autonomous databases, affiliated science initiatives, and data and tool contributors – a larger user community, greater visibility and acknowledgment, and access to tools and best practices, without the cost and burden of reproducing interoperability.
- For educators, students, and policy makers – a convenient source of Earth history data, visualization tools, expert opinion, and educational materials.

The emergence and continued enhancement of the CHRONOS federation of resources will foster unprecedented cohesiveness within the geoscience community along with a growing pool of geoinformatics specialists. This will result in improved public awareness and appreciation of the knowledge that underpins the hypotheses addressing contemporary issues such as climate change, evolution and extinction, and fossil fuel inventories.

CHRONOS enables everyone to explore the fascinating history of our planet, view it in high-resolution, and apply this knowledge to understand Earth system processes and rates of global change.