



Association of American Geographers Middle States Division NEWSLETTER

Editor: Paul G. Marr

Call for Papers and Posters

Fall 2012 Meeting
2nd Floor, Ceddia Union Building
Shippensburg University

November 2-3, 2012
Abstracts due by September 17, 2012
(See page 6 for registration information)

President's Message

Firstly, I wish to thank John Dobosiewicz for hosting a great 2011 meeting at Kean University and hope we can continue that tradition at Shippensburg this year.

This year's Middle States meeting will be held on Nov. 2-3 at Shippensburg University in Shippensburg, PA. Our meeting space will be in the newly renovated Ceddia Union Building. Shippensburg University was established in 1871 as the Cumberland Valley State Normal School and designated as Shippensburg University of Pennsylvania on July 1, 1983. We have approximately 7200 undergraduate and 1200 graduate students, 324 faculty, and 75 undergraduate and 17 masters programs.

The university is located in the Great Valley, the eastern-most of the ridge and valley system. While the overall character of the valley is rural farming, we have easy access to Harrisburg (the state capital) and the east coast urban centers. Within a 45 minute drive you can find dozens of historic sites (e.g. the Gettysburg battlefield), hiking trails, shopping, and great restaurants. I would urge folks to take a little time during their visit to explore the valley. For those interested we have a Google Earth Points-of-Interest KMZ file available at:

<http://departments.bloomu.edu/geo/msd/index.html>.

I look forward to seeing everyone again at this year's meeting and another great MSD regional conference.

Paul Marr, Shippensburg University

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Fall 2011 MSD Meeting Report – Kean University, NJ

The 2011 Annual Meeting was hosted by the School of General Studies on the Kean University campus in Union, New Jersey. There were 63 conference attendees, 39 papers, 14 posters, and 1 panel discussion. There were 10 concurrent sessions ranging in topics from *England and India* to *Environment and Health*. In particular, student participation in both the paper and poster sessions was strong. The keynote address, *Geography and Social Justice: Some Challenges and New Directions*, was given by Audrey Kobayashi, President of the Association of American Geographers. The SUNY Geneseo team won the World Geography bowl, with strong individual efforts from all participating universities.

World Geography Bowl

Each year, the MSDAAG conducts the division Geography Bowl at its annual regional meeting. The highest-scoring students are then invited to represent the Middle States Division at the World Geography Bowl Finals at the AAG annual meeting (to be held in Los Angeles, Spring 2013) and will receive **partial funding** to participate. We invite all division undergraduate and graduate students to compete this fall at Shippensburg University in Pennsylvania.

Form a team (5-6 people) or sign up this fall to be placed on a team. Information on playing or setting up a team can be found at <http://www.geography.vt.edu/sedaag/WGB/WGBMain.htm>. If you are interested in participating or would like more information, please contact our regional vice president Dr. Kelly Frothingham, Buffalo State College, at frothikm@buffalostate.edu. The Geography Bowl will take place after dinner on Friday night, November 2nd.

Stand Alone Geographers (SAGE)

The Stand Alone Geographers (SAGE) is an affinity group through AAG for geography practitioners who are either working alone (within or outside of academia) or outside of a geography department. Up to this point we have been attempting to identify the SAGEs within the region to determine how to best support those who are tasked with representing the discipline without the support of geography colleagues. The idea is to eventually provide a forum for discussion and sharing of resources for geographers who work alone or in small programs or departments at their respective institutions and to increase their visibility in the discipline and in the Association of American Geographers. If you are a Stand Alone Geographer please contact David Fyfe (dfyfe@ycp.edu) for more information.

2013 AAG Annual Meeting, Los Angeles

Join the Association of American Geographers at the AAG Annual Meeting in **Los Angeles, April 9 - 13, 2013**, for the latest in research and applications in geography, sustainability, and GIScience. The AAG Annual Meeting is an interdisciplinary forum open to anyone with an interest in geography and related disciplines. All scholars, researchers, and students are welcome. The five-day conference will host more than 7,000 geographers from around the world and feature over 5,000 presentations, posters, workshops, and field trips by leading scholars, experts, and researchers. Sessions will be organized around many subfields, special tracks, and featured themes. For more information, visit www.aag.org/annualmeeting.

Middle States Geographer

The Middle States Geographer is the official academic journal of the Middle States Division of the Association of American Geographers. The journal is published annually and includes papers from external submissions and the division Annual Meeting. The Middle States Geographer contains papers authored by both faculty and students (with peer-review by at least two reviewers) and covers a wide range of topics.

We invite all who present papers at the Fall 2012 MSDAAG meeting to submit a manuscript for publication in the next issue of the Middle States Geographer. Paper submission guidelines are available on the journal's website at <http://geographyplanning.buffalostate.edu/middlestates.html>. You may also contact the editors: Adam Kalkstein at the USMA West Point, Adam.Kalkstein@usma.edu or Paul Marr at Shippensburg University, pgmarr@ship.edu if you have questions about submitting a manuscript or if you are interested in serving as a reviewer. Students presenting papers should also consider submitting for their paper for publication in the journal.

The Middle States Geographer is entirely an online journal. Articles from 1987 (Volume 20) through 2010 (Volume 43) may be viewed at the journal website. The 2011 issue (Volume 44) will be available soon. The online format of the journal widely increases accessibility to readers and exposure for authors, while reducing printing costs. Furthermore, color graphics are now possible at no cost to authors.

Student Paper Competition

All **STUDENTS** are urged to come and present a paper at the fall meeting. The reduced rate for enrolled students is \$30.00 before September 17th. MSDAAG also encourages all graduate and undergraduate students to submit and present research papers to the Student Paper Competition. **CASH PRIZES** are awarded. Student status is as of May 1, 2012. Meeting fees **are returned** to students who both submit the completed paper in writing by the deadline and present the paper at the meeting. Completed papers must follow the *Middle States Geographer* guidelines which can be found at http://geographyplanning.buffalostate.edu/msg_guidelines.html. Entrants should submit abstracts not to exceed 250 words and send electronic copies of completed papers to David Fyfe: dfyfe@ycp.edu, MSDAAG Student Paper Competition Chair, by September 17, 2012.

NEW: Student Photo Competition

This year we are instituting a new Student Photo Competition! Along with a **\$25 cash award**, the winning photograph will be featured in 2013 issue of the Middle States Geographer journal. All submitted photographs will be judged by a faculty panel. Students are allowed to submit 2 digital photographs. Please email your entries to pgmarr@ship.edu as an attachment using the naming format: LastName_FirstName_PhotoX.jpg (X being either 1 or 2).

Middle States get a webpage facelift!

The Middle States Division webpage will be undergoing a facelift and upgrade over the next few months. Our webpage address will be changing and the content will be updated and expanded. Please be patient with us during this process. We hope to have the new and improved webpage up and running soon!

MEETING ANNOUNCEMENT: Fall 2012, Shippensburg University

The 2012 Middle States Division AAG Meeting will be held in the Ceddia Union Building (CUB), 2nd Floor, at Shippensburg University on Friday, November 2nd and Saturday, November 3rd.

Shippensburg University is located in the town of Shippensburg, Pennsylvania, just off of Interstate 81 southwest of Harrisburg. The fall 2012 meeting will consist of two days of paper and poster sessions. Friday will include paper and plenary sessions, buffet dinner, and the Geography Bowl competition. On Saturday, a morning of paper presentations will be followed by a buffet luncheon and student paper awards. Please join us for this event.



CALL FOR PAPERS, POSTERS, AND PANELS

Paper Sessions

Paper sessions are 80 minutes long and consist of four presentations of 20 minutes. Papers of all topics of a geographic nature are welcome. Concurrent paper sessions begin at 12pm on Friday, November 2 and last until 5pm. Concurrent paper sessions resume at 8am on Saturday, November 3 and end at 12pm. Each room is equipped with a digital projector and screen. We urge participants to use PowerPoint software for their presentations and to have your presentation on a flash drive. If you are interested in organizing a themed paper session (consisting of four paper presentations) please contact Paul Marr at pgmarr@ship.edu or 717-477-1656.

Poster Session

The poster session will be held from 9:40am until 10:20am on Saturday, November 3. Poster space will be provided outside the concurrent session rooms in Raider Lounge 5. Since poster space is limited, please keep all posters to less than 48 inches wide and less than 48 inches high.

Panel – Roundtable Sessions

Panel discussions and roundtables are also welcome. Panel discussion sessions typically consist of three to four panelists, and are organized around a theme. Roundtable discussion sessions are 'open format' where the chair of the roundtable facilitates a discussion among all attendees focusing on a theme or issue. Students are welcome to organize both panel and roundtable sessions. If you are interested in organizing either a panel or a roundtable session please contact Paul Marr at pgmarr@ship.edu or 717-477-1656.

Program

The program will be available on-line at the Middle States Division website in early October, 2012 and will be sent out to MSD members soon afterwards. Maps of the area and campus can be found in the front section of the program.

Hands-on GNSS/GPS Workshop

This 3.5-hr workshop will introduce intermediate concepts and applications of Global Navigation Satellite Systems. Participants will learn a high-quality workflow including: mission planning; GPS device preparation and use in the field; post-processing of raw position data; and exporting feature data for use with desktop or internet mapping applications. This course is intended for students and researchers who plan to use a GPS device to support high-quality field work. Ideally, all participants will already be familiar with GPS basics. Enrollment is limited to 10 participants and the registration fee is \$30. If you are interested in attending the workshop, please contact Scott Drzyzga (sadrzyz@ship.edu).

Gettysburg Battlefield Field Trip

The Gettysburg Battlefield National Historic Park is a 40 minute drive from Shippensburg. If there is enough interest, the Geography-Earth Science Department can provide a van to take people on a tour of the park. If you are interested in visiting the park, please contact Dr. Claire Jantz at cajant@ship.edu.

Registration

If you are presenting a paper, poster, or involved in a panel/roundtable session:

- Use the **On-line Registration link** found on page 8 to submit a title and an abstract (not exceeding 250 words) by *September 17, 2012*.
- Fill in the **Payment Form** also found on page 8. Please make checks payable to MSDAAG and mail both the Payment Form and check to address at the bottom of the form.

If you are attending the conference but **not** presenting a paper, poster, or involved in a panel/roundtable session:

- Fill in the **Payment Form** found on page 8. Please make checks payable to MSDAAG and mail both the Payment Form and check to address at the bottom of the form.

If you are submitting a paper for the student paper competition:

- Use the **On-line Registration link** found on page 8 to submit a title and an abstract (not exceeding 250 words) by *September 17, 2012*.
- Fill in the **Payment Form** also found on page 8. Please make checks payable to MSDAAG and mail both the Payment Form and check to address at the bottom of the form.
- Write "Student Paper Submitted" on the lower left side of the check, and it will be refunded.

Sorry, but there are no credit cards accepted for advanced registration or at the meeting. There are no refunds after October 19, 2012.

MAKE YOUR LODGING RESERVATIONS

Shippensburg University has arranged for block of rooms at **Shippen Place Hotel** available at the rate of \$72 plus tax per night. Please make sure you mention "MSDGC" or "Geography Conference" when making your reservations. Please also reserve your room early; rooms at the meeting rate are only available until October 19, 2012 and space is limited.

Accommodation Ratings ★★★★★ : Best ★★★★★ : Good ★ : Basic

Shippen Place Hotel ★★★★★

32 East King Street, Shippensburg, PA 17257 (717) 532-4141; 1-888-532-4141

<http://www.shippenplace.com/>

Accommodations: 51 rooms, restaurant and bar, free Wi-Fi, free off-street parking.

Rate: \$72 plus tax

Location: Walking distance to the conference, downtown Shippensburg.



Additional Accommodations:

Best Western, Shippensburg ★★

125 Walnut Bottom Road, Shippensburg, PA 17257 (717) 532-5200 <http://book.bestwestern.com/>

Accommodations: 59 rooms and 2 suites, indoor pool and sauna, exercise facility, free off-street parking.

Rate: \$120 (approx.)

Location: 2.5 miles from the conference

Rodeway Inn, Shippensburg ★

10 Hershey Road, Shippensburg, AP 17257 (717) 530-1234 <http://www.rodewayinn.com>

Accommodations: 36 rooms, free Wi-Fi, free off-street parking.

Rate: \$65 (approx.)

Location: 3.5 miles from the conference

Comfort Inn, Scotland ★★

3301 Black Gap Road, Chambersburg, PA 17202 (717) 263-6655 <http://www.comfortinn.com>

Accommodations: 63 rooms, free continental breakfast, free Wi-Fi, free off-street parking.

Rate: \$99-\$119 (approx.)

Location: 8.5 miles from the conference

Super 8 Motel, Scotland ★★

3648 Olde Scotland Road, Scotland, PA 17201 (717) 352-2144 <http://www.super8.com>

Accommodations: Free continental breakfast, free Wi-Fi, free off-street parking.

Rate: \$89-\$129 (approx.)

Location: 8.5 miles from the conference

Sleep Inn and Suites ★★

1435 Doron Drive, Chambersburg, PA 17202 (717) 263-0596 <http://www.sleepinn.com>

Accommodations: Free continental breakfast, free Wi-Fi, free off-street parking.

Rate: \$72-\$109 (approx.)

Location: 8.5 miles from the conference

DIRECTIONS TO SHIPPENSBURG

If your point of departure is:

East of Shippensburg: Take the Pennsylvania Turnpike to Exit 16/226 (Carlisle). Follow U.S. Route 11 north to I-81. Take I-81 south to exit 29 (King Street). Turn right at the end of the exit ramp onto PA 174. Travel 2 miles to a "T" intersection. Turn left onto King Street (U.S. Route 11). At the 3rd traffic light, turn right onto North Prince Street. Proceed 1/2 mile to main entrance of the Shippensburg University campus.

West of Shippensburg: Take the Pennsylvania Turnpike to Exit 15/201 (Blue Mountain). Turn left onto PA Route 997. At the "Y" intersection bear right onto Route 696. At the town of Newburg, watch the signs carefully and stay on Route 696 (requires a left turn followed by an immediate right turn). Continue on Route 696 south another 8 miles to Shippensburg. Entrance to the campus will be on the left.

Due North or North East of Shippensburg: Take I-81 south to exit 29 (King Street). Turn right at the end of the exit ramp onto PA 174. Travel 2 miles to a "T" intersection. Turn left onto King Street (U.S. Route 11). At the 3rd traffic light, turn right onto North Prince Street. Proceed 1/2 mile to main entrance of the Shippensburg University campus.

North West of Shippensburg: Take rural routes to I-81 and follow directions from North or use rural routes to PA Turnpike and follow directions from West.

Due South or South West of Shippensburg: Take I-81 north to Pennsylvania. Continue to exit 24 (Fayette Street). At exit ramp, turn left onto Route 696 and travel 2 miles to a "T" intersection. Turn left onto Fayette Street and proceed to another "T" intersection. Turn right onto King Street. At 3rd traffic light, turn left onto North Prince Street. Proceed 1/2 mile to the main entrance of the Shippensburg University campus.

South East of Shippensburg (Baltimore or DC area): Take I-70 west to Hagerstown, MD and exit onto I-81 north. Cross into PA and take exit 24 (Fayette Street). At the end of the exit ramp, turn left onto Route 696 and travel 2 miles to a "T" intersection. Turn left onto Fayette Street and proceed to another "T" intersection. Turn right onto King Street. At the third light, turn left onto North Prince Street. Proceed 1/2 mile to the main entrance of the Shippensburg University campus.

The Ceddia Union Building (CUB) on the campus of Shippensburg University.





ONLINE REGISTRATION FORM:

<http://www.ship.edu/geo-ess/AAG-Registration/>

PAYMENT FORM:

**Association of American Geographers - Middle States Division
2012 Meeting Registration Form**
November 2nd – 3rd 2012, Ceddia Union Building, Shippensburg University

<u>Registration Fees</u>	<u>Before Sept. 17</u>	<u>After Sept. 17</u>
FULL REGISTRATION (Friday dinner, Saturday lunch, all sessions)	\$85	\$95
STUDENT REGISTRATION (Friday dinner, Saturday lunch, all sessions)	\$30	\$40
FRIDAY ONLY (Friday dinner, all Friday sessions)	\$50	\$60
SATURDAY ONLY (Saturday lunch, all Saturday sessions)	\$50	\$60

Name _____ Total Enclosed \$ _____

Affiliation _____

Email Address _____

Check # _____

Make checks payable to: **MSDAAG**
Mail Registration Form to: Dr. Paul Marr
Dept. of Geography-Earth Science
Shippensburg University
1871 Old Main Drive
Shippensburg, PA 17257

NO REFUNDS WILL BE GIVEN AFTER October 19, 2012.
Credit cards are NOT accepted with advanced registration or at the meeting.

Call for Nominations

Please consider joining the leadership of MSDAAG. We are currently soliciting nominations for the secretary and SAGE representative (**Stand Alone Geographers**) for 2013. Voting will take place in September 2012. The newly elected positions will be announced at the Fall 2012 Meeting.

THE EXECUTIVE BOARD WILL PROVIDE ALL THE GUIDANCE AND RESOURCES YOU NEED TO BE SUCCESSFUL. PLEASE CONSIDER THESE REWARDING OPPORTUNITIES. YOU MAY CONTACT PAUL MARR(pgmarr@ship.edu) FOR ANY ADDITIONAL INFORMATION.

Secretary

The term for Secretary will run January 2013 – December 2013. The Secretary will then progress in subsequent years through the positions of Vice President and then President.

The Secretary is in charge of keeping the meeting minutes from board meetings and judging the student paper competition. The board has two meetings a year, one conference call in the Spring and one at the annual fall meeting.

SAGE Representative

The term for SAGE (**Stand-Alone Geographers**) representative is for a minimum of 1 year. SAGE representatives may hold this position for any length of time.

The SAGE representative is responsible for attending SAGE Affinity Group functions (e.g. meetings, conference calls), reporting SAGE activities to the MSD board, and fostering ties between MSD and stand-alone geographers throughout the Middle States region. While not a prerequisite, we prefer that this position be held by a stand-alone geographer.



The H. Ric Luhrs Performing Arts Center on the campus of Shippensburg University.