



Association of American Geographers

**Middle States Division
NEWSLETTER**

Editor: John F. Dobosiewicz

Call for Papers and Posters

**Fall 2011 Meeting
Kean University
Union, NJ 07083**

**November 11-12, 2011
Abstracts due by September 26, 2011
(See page 4)**

President's Message

I hope everyone is enjoying the respite of summer.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank Amy Richmond Krakowka for hosting an exceptional 2010 MSDAAG meeting in West Point, NY. Congratulations to all at the United States Military Academy for their graciousness and hospitality.

This year the Middle States Meeting will be on November 11-12 at Kean University in Union, New Jersey. Kean University was founded in 1855 in Newark, NJ as the Newark Normal School, relocated in 1958 in Union, NJ and eventually becoming Kean University in 1997. The university is located on the Kean family historic site, Liberty Hall, home of many historical figures including William Livingston, first Governor of NJ. The university is a convenient 30 minutes via mass transit from New York City.

I am delighted to invite you back to New Jersey, the great Garden State. We look forward to seeing you in November!

Please notice that the Secretary position is vacant. If you are interested, more information is provided on page 6!

John Dobosiewicz

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*Additional division information
may be found on our website:*

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

Fall 2010 Meeting Report – United States Military Academy West Point, NY

The 2010 Annual Meeting was hosted by the Department of Geography & Environmental Engineering of the United States Military Academy at West Point and held at the historic Thayer Hotel. There were 108 participants, with 45 papers, 11 posters and 1 roundtable discussion during 4 paper concurrent sessions and 1 poster session. Student contributions to the paper and poster sessions were noteworthy. The keynote speaker was Ken Foote, President of the Association of American Geographers. The MSDAAG Geography Bowl competition was won by Penn State, but there were strong individual efforts from all participants including West Point, University of Buffalo, Rutgers University-Newark, Montclair State and Geneseo. We hope to see you in New Jersey in November 2011!

World Geography Bowl

The 2010 Middle States Geography Bowl Team enthusiastically participated in the national competition of the World Geography Bowl this past spring in Seattle, WA. The World Geography Bowl is intended to be a friendly, fast-paced academic competition among college and university students. The game challenges teams of students on fundamental concepts and trivia with geographic themes.

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 (New York in Spring 2012). We invite all division undergraduate and graduate students to compete this fall at Kean University in New Jersey.

Form a team (six 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 Dr. Paul Marr, Shippensburg University, at pgmarr@ship.edu. The Geography Bowl will take place after dinner on Friday night, November 11th.

Standalone Geographers (SAGE)

The AAG has launched an effort to identify standalone geographers (individual geographers and geographers in non-geography departments) and involve more of them in national activities. There are many ways that this networking could benefit geographers working outside of a geography department including: external reviewers for tenure, access to geographic resources, funding for research, and recognition for awards. The AAG has established a standalone geographers' affinity group. The Middle States' SAGE representative is David Fyfe from York College of PA. He is compiling a network of standalone geographers in the region. There will be a panel session at the MSDAAG in October for those interested in learning more. Standalone geographers contact David at dfyfe@ycp.edu.

Association of American Geographers 2012 Annual Meeting

The AAG annual meeting will be held in the Middle States Division Region from February 24-28, 2012 in New York City. The call for papers is open until September 28, 2011. We would also like to encourage our members to consider organizing a field trip for the event.

Details can be found at www.aag.org for the conference and for organizing a field trip.
Read more about the Hudson River Valley and the Geographical Imagination (image from www.aag.org)



Middle States Geographer

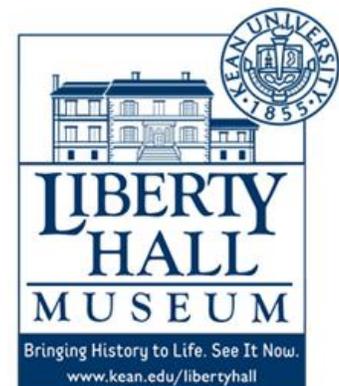
The Middle States Geographer is the official academic journal of the Middle States Division of the Association of American Geographers. The journal is published annually and includes papers from external submissions and the division Annual Meeting. The Middle States Geographer contains papers authored by both faculty and students (with peer-review by at least two reviewers) and covers a wide range of topics. The journal has been edited for the past few years by Kelly Frothingham and Stephen Vermette, Department of Geography and Planning, Buffalo State College. We thank them for their years of service including the transformation to the “digital” and “color” age!

We invite all who present papers at the Fall 2011 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 new editor Adam Kalkstein at the USMA West Point, e-mail: Adam.Kalkstein@usma.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.

Presently, Middle States Geographer is entirely an online journal. Articles from 1987 (Volume 20) through 2010 (Volume 43) may be viewed at the journal website. Manuscripts from the 2010 issue (Volume 43) have been recently posted. 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 26th. 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, 2011. 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 and can be no longer than 8 pages, single spaced, 10 point Times Roman or equivalent font. Further details on the guidelines are specified at the Middle States Division AAG web site at (http://geographyplanning.buffalostate.edu/msg_guidelines.html). Entrants should submit abstracts not to exceed 250 words electronically while registering at: http://ku.qualtrics.com/SE/?SID=SV_egGZYfIOH0TJHmc and send electronic copies of completed papers to John Dobosiewicz at jdobosie@kean.edu, MSDAAG Student Paper Competition Chair, by September 26, 2011.



Fall 2011 Meeting – Kean University, Union, NJ

The 2011 Annual Meeting of the Middle States Division of the AAG will be held at Kean University on Friday, November 11th and Saturday, November 12th.

Kean University is a 30 minute commute from New York City. The Raritan Valley line of the NJ Transit Train runs hourly from the university (Union Station) to Newark Penn Station. From Newark Penn Station, the PATH will take riders to lower Manhattan, directly to the site of Ground Zero. September 11, 2011 will mark the ten-year anniversary of the terrorist attacks that destroyed the World Trade Center Towers. The 911 memorial is scheduled to open to the public on September 12, 2011. Go to: <http://www.911memorial.org/> for more details.

Aerial View of 911 Memorial

(Rendering-Squared Design Lab)



You can also connect from Newark Penn Station to New York Penn Station, to visit the renowned Times Square and Madison Square Garden. For more information about NJ Transit: <http://www.njtransit.com>

The fall 2011 meeting will consist of two days of paper and poster sessions. Friday night will include a hot buffet supper and the Geography Bowl competition. On Saturday, a morning of papers will be followed by a hot buffet luncheon, speaker, and student paper awards. Please join us for this event.

MEETING PARTICIPATION

To participate, please use the on-line registration link to submit a title and an abstract (not exceeding 250 words) by *September 26, 2011*. Indicate whether your abstract is for a paper, poster, or discussion panel. To ensure your place on the program, please also fill out the bottom of the accompanying registration form, enclose a check, and send it to John Dobosiewicz, Kean University 1000 Morris Avenue, Union, NJ 07083. If you are submitting a paper for the student paper competition, write "Student Paper Submitted" on the lower left side of the check, and it will be refunded. *No credit cards are acceptable at this time.*

MAKE YOUR LODGING RESERVATIONS

Kean University has arranged for a limited number of rooms at the Kenilworth Inn available at the rate of \$79 plus tax per night. Please make sure you mention "KEAN UNIVERSITY" when making your reservations. Please also reserve your room early; rooms at the meeting rate are only available until October 26nd.

Kenilworth Inn

Garden State Parkway (exit 138) Boulevard & S. 31st St. Kenilworth, NJ 07033 [Click here for Maps & Directions](#)

Reservation Number: Toll Free (800)-775-3645 Fax Number: (908)-241-1413 Email: info@kenilworthinn.com



KEAN
UNIVERSITY
www.kean.edu

NEW THIS YEAR!

All participants **must register on-line** using the following link:

http://ku.qualtrics.com/SE/?SID=SV_eqGZYf10H0TJHmc

Postal mail the registration form on this page with a check (payable to MSDAAG) to:

Dr. John Dobosiewicz,
Kean University
Center for Academic Success 201
1000 Morris Avenue Union, NJ 07083

**Association of American Geographers - Middle States Division
2011 Meeting Registration Information
November 11th – 12th 2011, Kean University, Union, NJ 07083**

<u>REGISTRATION FEES</u>	<u>Before Sept. 26</u>	<u>After Sept. 26</u>
FULL REGISTRATION (Friday supper, Saturday Lunch, all sessions)	\$80.00	\$95.00
STUDENT REGISTRATION (Friday supper, Saturday Lunch, all sessions)	\$30.00	\$40.00
FRIDAY ONLY (Friday supper, all Friday sessions)	\$50.00	\$60.00
SATURDAY ONLY (Saturday Keynote Lunch, all Saturday sessions)	\$50.00	\$60.00

Name _____ **TOTAL ENCLOSED** \$ _____
 Check No. _____

Make Checks Payable to MIDDLE STATES AAG. Postal mail registration and check to:
 Dr. John Dobosiewicz,
 Kean University
 Center for Academic Success 201
 1000 Morris Avenue Union, NJ 07083

NO REFUNDS WILL BE GIVEN AFTER September 26th.
Credit cards are not accepted with advance registration or at the meeting.

Call for Nominations

Please consider joining the leadership of MSDAAG. We are currently soliciting nominations for the secretary, vice president, and regional councilor positions to begin in 2012. Voting will take place in September 2011. The newly elected positions will be announced at the Fall 2011 Meeting.

THE EXECUTIVE BOARD WILL PROVIDE ALL THE GUIDANCE AND RESOURCES YOU NEED TO BE SUCCESSFUL. PLEASE CONSIDER THESE REWARDING OPPORTUNITIES. YOU MAY CONTACT ME FOR ANY ADDITIONAL INFORMATION!

Secretary

The term for Secretary will run January 2012 – December 2012. 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 Vice President is in charge of writing questions for and leading the Geography Bowl at that year's regional meeting, and the President is in charge of organizing the MSDAAG bowl team for the national competition, meetings of the board, communication with the regional division including newsletters, and the annual meeting for that year. The board has two meetings a year, one conference call in the Spring and one at the fall meeting.

Vice President

The term for Vice President will run January 2012 – December 2012. The Vice President will then progress in the subsequent year to the President.

The Vice President is in charge of writing questions for and leading the Geography Bowl at that year's regional meeting, and the President is in charge of organizing the MSDAAG bowl team for the national competition, meetings of the board, communication with the regional division including newsletters, and the annual meeting for that year. The board has two meetings a year, one conference call in the Spring and one at the fall meeting.

Regional Council

We would like to thank Laurel Hummel for her service as regional councilor of the Middle States Division of the AAG. Her tenure ends in 2012, so we are in need of a new regional councilor. The responsibilities are:

"Regional Councilors are charged to coordinate activities between Regional Divisions and Council, attend Division Annual Meetings, and report AAG Council actions and initiatives; act as a liaison between AAG Office and Regional Divisions; attend and participate in AAG Council meetings; be involved in various AAG Council committee responsibilities; attempt to bolster AAG membership at the local level; be involved in the activities of the Executive Council of the local division (varies according to bylaws of the local division); and develop ideas for promoting and maintaining membership in the AAG." (as taken from the AAG Standing Rules: http://www.aag.org/cs/about_aag/governance/standing_rules)

The Regional Councilor is a three year position beginning on July 1, 2012.

Send all nominations, as well as a brief statement that you would like published by your name on the ballot, to John Dobosiewicz, President, Middle States Division of the AAG, at jdobosie@kean.edu. Deadline for nominations is August 15, 2011.