

Dear Members of the Middle States,

My term as Regional Councilor ends in June 2015 and we need to elect a new Councilor for a 3-Year term beginning in July 2015.

**Official Description of the Duties of the Regional Councilor:**

1. Acts as Division liaison between the national Association and the Division.
2. Advises the Division of pertinent matters and activities of the national Association.
3. Attends council meetings of the national Association when called and represents Divisional interests.
4. Is ineligible for immediate re-election to the same office.

The Regional Councilor as a member of the MSDAAG Executive is also expected to attend the Middle States Meeting (costs are not generally covered for this) and also takes part in a Spring conference call. You are also expected to take part in all Middle States governance decisions and play an active role in regional activities.

In terms of travel commitments, the AAG requires Councilors to attend two meetings a year. The first, in the Fall, is normally held in conjunction with a regional meeting. The meeting begins with a Friday dinner and ends at around lunch time on Sunday. The AAG holds an orientation session for all new Regional Councilors during this meeting. All costs are picked up by the AAG. The Spring meeting is held in conjunction with the AAG Annual Meeting but the Council convenes two days prior to the beginning of the Meeting (generally Sunday to Tuesday). The AAG covers your costs for the duration of the Council meeting - but not extra expenses if you decide to stay for the full Meeting. Regional Councilors are also usually allocated a position on one of the AAG Committees.

While there are no formal qualifications for being a Regional Councilor, the ideal candidate, is preferably a faculty member, with some prior (or current) administrative experience (such as a Department Chair), has a strong history of participation in our regional activities, and an interest in furthering geographic education in the region.

I strongly urge anyone who may be interested to put their name forward and stand for election. I have learned a great deal about our region, other regions and the governance of the AAG, made some wonderful friends, and attended meetings at great venues. Serving is also an opportunity to raise the profile of your Department and is particularly useful for those from schools without graduate programs to promote the interests and importance of undergraduate geography education. I have immensely enjoyed my role as Regional Councilor and it has been an honor to serve.

If you would like to stand for the position, please send your information, including a brief Bio to our President, David Fyfe ([dfyfe@ycp.edu](mailto:dfyfe@ycp.edu)) by no later than 1 December 2014. The election ballot will be emailed to members in early December.

Thank you.  
Grant Saff