

Middle States Division - Association of American Geographers

NEWSLETTER

Summer 2006, Volume 40, No. 1



Summer 2006

Call for Papers (Extended Deadline)

Fall 2006 Meeting
Rutgers University, New Brunswick, NJ

October 13-14, 2006

Abstracts due by
September 1, 2006
(see inside for details)

Exploring New Territory President's Message

As I tarry through the dog days of summer (amid record temperatures) and contemplate anew the prospect of global warming, I'm thinking of the many ways we are exploring new territories. Climate change, terror threats, state budget cuts, education reform, and a host of other new challenges are changing the way we live, fly, teach and understand our world. As a group, Geographers are certain to be at the forefront of mapping and analyzing this new world.

This summer also has set me on the path to exploring an exciting new territory of my own – high school teaching. After ten years at Rutgers, I decided to seek a different challenge and starting this fall I will be a Teacher of Social Studies at Watchung Hills Regional High School. One of my goals has always been to strengthen the teaching and knowledge of Geography at our secondary schools, and now I will get first hand experience in doing so.

Our Fall Conference at Rutgers University looks to be a great occasion for sharing our work and ideas. The conference will be held at the Rutgers University Inn & Conference Center. Those of you traveling from afar will be able to reserve a room there (and get free breakfast). If you are interested in presenting a paper or poster – or simply attending the sessions and watching the ever-exciting Geography Bowl – please see the enclosed details and registration information.

- Sean DiGiovanna, Rutgers University

2006 Divisional Officers

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John Pipkin (Albany)

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Additional division information may be found on our website:

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

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Summer 2006 Meeting – Rutgers University, New Jersey

The 2006 Annual Meeting will be held at Rutgers University in New Brunswick, New Jersey, October 13-14, 2006. The conference will be hosted jointly by Rutgers' Department of Geography and the Edward J. Bloustein School of Planning and Public Policy. The conference will be held at the Rutgers University Inn and Conference Center. (<http://univinn.rutgers.edu/>) This lovely facility is located on a wooded area of Rutgers' Cook/Douglass campus and is easily accessible with free parking for participants. We have reserved a number of hotel rooms for conference participants – please make your reservations if needed at the number below.

Our conference will consist of two days of papers, posters, and panel sessions. Friday night will include a reception, and the Geography Bowl. We will have a Keynote Speaker for the Saturday luncheon, as well as the distribution of the Student Paper Awards. I hope that we will attract a large attendance from faculty, professionals, and students from across the region. Please let me know (digiovan@rci.rutgers.edu) if you have any questions, or would like any help in organizing a session or panel. I hope to see you all at Rutgers in October!

MAKE YOUR LODGING RESERVATIONS

Rutgers University Inn and Conference Center
New Brunswick, NJ

Telephone: 732-932-9144, extension 1

Please mention Middle States Geography Conference
Standard room rate: \$84/\$95 per night (Single/Double)

Hotel space is limited so please book early!

ABSTRACT DEADLINE: SEPTEMBER 1, 2006

PAPERS Please submit an abstract (not exceeding 250 words) by September 1, 2006. Conference attendees are encouraged to submit their papers to the *Middle States Geographer*, our peer-reviewed journal. Please submit abstracts and papers in the preferred format detailed on our Web site: <http://departments.bloomu.edu/geo/msd/guidelines.html>

POSTERS We will have a poster session and display area at the conference. If you'd like to present your research graphically, consider the poster format. Submit an abstract (as above) by September 1, 2006.

SESSIONS Ideas for paper/panel sessions should be submitted with an abstract by September 1, 2006. Registration and payment for all participants is due by that date. The Program Committee will place individual papers in thematic sessions.

STUDENTS are urged to come and present a paper. The reduced conference rate for enrolled students is \$50.00 before September 15.

Middle States Geographer

The *Middle States Geographer* includes papers from external submissions and the Annual Meeting. This journal contains papers authored by both faculty and students (with peer review by at least two reviewers), and covers a wide range of topics. If you are interested in submitting a paper or serving as a reviewer, please contact the editors. Paper submission guidelines are provided on the division website (see address below). Available back issues can be purchased by sending a check for \$6 each (payable to Middle States AAG) to Kim Irvine, Buffalo State College, Buffalo, NY 14222. The article contents of Volumes 32-35 are available on the division website: <http://departments.bloomu.edu/geo/msd/journal.html>.



CONFERENCE REGISTRATION FORM

**Association of American Geographers - Middle States Division
 2006 Meeting Pre-Registration Form (Complete a Separate Form for Each Person)
 October 13-14, Rutgers University, New Brunswick, New Jersey
 Conference Web site: <http://departments.bloomu.edu/geo/msd/>**

_____	_____	(____)	_____	_____
Last Name	First Name		Phone #	Email
_____		_____	_____	_____
Address	City	State	Zip	

Affiliation

<u>REGISTRATION FEES</u>	<u>Before Sept. 15</u>	<u>After Sept. 15</u>	<u>Enclosed</u>
FULL (2 DAY) REGISTRATION (Friday reception, Saturday Lunch, MS Geographer)	\$120.00	\$140.00	\$ _____
STUDENT (2 DAY) REGISTRATION (Friday reception, Saturday Lunch, MS Geographer)	\$50.00	\$60.00	\$ _____
FRIDAY REGISTRATION (Friday reception, MS Geographer)	\$75.00	\$85.00	\$ _____
SATUDAY REGISTRATION (Saturday Lunch, MS Geographer)	\$75.00	\$85.00	\$ _____
		TOTAL ENCLOSED	\$ _____

Make Checks Payable to MIDDLE STATES AAG. Send registration form, check, and abstract (via email) to:

Sean DiGiovanna
 Edward J. Bloustein School of Planning and Public Policy
 Rutgers – The State University of New Jersey
 33 Livingston Ave, Suite 100
 New Brunswick, NJ 08901
 digiovan@rci.rutgers.edu

World Geography Bowl

Congratulations to the 2005 – 2006 Middle States Bowl Team for coming in 4th in Chicago! Also a special note of congratulations to **Jamison Conley** who earned Bowl MVP status! Want to organize a team to compete in the Middle States Geography Bowl this year, with a chance to compete in San Francisco? See below for details! The Bowl will take place Friday night, October 13th.

Middle States Division of the Association of American Geographers World Geography Bowl 2006

Purpose

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 to answer questions based on a fundamental knowledge of Geography. Each year, the MSDAAG conducts a Geography Bowl at its Annual Regional Meeting. The highest-scoring students will be invited to represent the Middle States Division at the World Geography Bowl Finals at the AAG Annual Meeting in San Francisco in April 2007. The main purpose, however, is to have fun!

Format

The Bowl is conducted in successive rounds in which two teams face-off in answering questions related to geographic knowledge. There are two types of questions. Toss-up questions are open to individuals from either team. The first student to “buzz in” (yes, we have buzzers) can attempt to answer the question. If the first answer is incorrect, a student from the other team can buzz in and attempt to answer. Students may not collaborate on toss-up questions. Team questions occur twice in each round. These are answered by the team captain after a period of collaboration by the team as a whole. At the end of the round, the team with the highest point total wins the round. After all rounds are played, the team with the highest total score wins.

Team Composition

The World Geography Bowl encourages diversity in team composition. Each team must consist of at least six students. More may participate as alternates, but only six are active players at any one time. Of the six active players, at least one should be male, one should be female, one should be an undergraduate student, and one should be a graduate student. The MSDAAG officers are on hand to help assign interested students to round out teams on site, so don't worry if you have trouble finding six students or the appropriate mix. We always manage to have some great teams for the competition!

If you are a student who is planning to attend the MSDAAG meeting and you are interested in participating in the Geography Bowl, contact us and we will ensure you get on a team.

It's always a fun evening! I look forward to seeing you all at the meeting and to a great Geography Bowl. Please contact Steven Schnell if you will be fielding a team or if you have any additional questions or need additional information.

Steven Schnell, Vice President, MSDAAG, schnell@kutztown.edu, (610) 683-1595

Biographical Sketches for Candidates for Office

Secretary

Lawrence McGlinn I am Associate Professor in the Department of Geography at SUNY-New Paltz. I received my PhD from Penn State in 1992. My research focuses on the geography of health and hazards, and on geographic education. My latest publication is, "Introductory Physical Geography's Place in General Education Science and Scientific Literacy" in *Research in Geographic Education*. I have also published frequently in the *Middle States Geographer*, most recently, "Utility-Scale Wind Power in the Northeastern United States: A Consideration of Present and Future Locations" in 2004. My current research is a critical analysis of cancer clusters: the potential and limits of their investigation. I have served the AAG's Historical Geography Specialty Group as student paper competition and travel award coordinator from 1998-2000. I believe the Middle States Division serves a critical role, particularly for geographers at schools with heavy teaching loads and/or small graduate programs. The regional meeting and the *Middle States Geographer* are outstanding opportunities for faculty and students to present research completely and in a relaxed atmosphere that is often missing at larger meetings. My goal with the Middle States is to sustain this useful role, and to support the participation of departments and geographers who are motivated to contribute to our division. My webpage: www.newpaltz.edu/~mcglinnl

Regional Councillor

Keith Henderson Dr. Keith Henderson is an Assistant Professor at Villanova University. He holds a B.S. and M.S. in Geography from Penn State and received his Ph.D. from the University of North Carolina in 1991. From 1991 to 1999 he was an Assistant and Associate Professor at Louisiana State University. He has been at Villanova since 1999. Dr. Henderson has served as Secretary, Vice-President, and President of the Middle States AAG, hosting the Middle States meeting in 2004. He is also a Past-President of the Delaware Valley Geographic Association and has served on the board of the Climatology Specialty Group of the AAG. Dr. Henderson's research interests are in climatology and environmental change.



Cut and mail in the ballot portion of this page to:

Sean DiGiovanna, Edward J. Bloustein School of Planning and Public Policy, Rutgers -- The State University of New Jersey, 33 Livingston Avenue, Suite 100, New Brunswick, NJ 08901

Middle States AAG Ballot

(Mark your choices with an X, or write-in your candidate)

Biographical information for each candidate can be found above.

Secretary (Vote for One)

Lawrence McGlinn _____

Write-In: _____

Regional Councillor (Vote for One)

Keith Henderson _____

Write-In: _____

Do not identify yourself on the ballot, but please make sure your name is legible on the mailing envelope so that voting status can be verified. Please mail your ballot to arrive by September 15, 2006.