



## American Association of Geographers Middle States Division

### 2022 VIRTUAL ANNUAL MEETING ANNOUNCEMENT AND CALL FOR PAPERS

#### Mark Your Calendar!

Fall 2022 VIRTUAL Meeting  
HOST Bloomsburg University of  
Pennsylvania, Bloomsburg, PA

October 28-29, 2022  
Abstracts due by October 16, 2022

WIN \$ IN STUDENT  
COMPETITIONS!

#### President's Message

We were hoping that by October 2022, we could have our traditional, in-person meeting, but sadly an upcoming merger between Bloomsburg University of Pennsylvania and neighboring Universities complicated plans for an on-campus meeting. So AAG has come to our rescue and will help us host another virtual meeting. Given the success of two years of virtual meetings and with the support and assistance of AAG, we hope for another amazing meeting.

We are excited to announce that current AAG President Dr. Marilyn N. Raphael will give our Keynote address on Friday, Oct. 28. Dr. Raphael is a Professor in the Department of Geography at UCLA. Her research focuses on large scale atmospheric circulation dynamics and their influence on Antarctic sea ice variability, and global climate change and variability (<https://www.aag.org/governance/>).

**But we need your support! We have extended the abstract deadline to October 16, so there is still time to submit an abstract. Early discounted registration ends on October 16.**

Submissions are welcome on all aspects of our diverse discipline, but we are especially interested in topics such as race, racism and the academy, and the ongoing impacts of COVID.

This Newsletter includes MSAAG news including an upcoming Bylaw change as well as other information about the virtual conference. Please check our website for any **last minute changes**.

If you have any questions or concerns about this year's meeting, please do not hesitate to reach out!

Trish Beyer, Bloomsburg University of Pennsylvania

#### 2022 Divisional Officers

##### PRESIDENT

**Patricia Beyer**  
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Geological Sciences  
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##### REGIONAL COUNCILOR

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##### EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

**Jo Margaret Mano**  
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##### PAST PRESIDENTS

**Nate Gabriel**  
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##### Jase Bernhardt

*Hofstra University*

##### Michael Davis

*Kutztown University*

##### STAND ALONE GEOGRAPHER

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Additional division information may be found on our  
website: [msaag.aag.org](https://msaag.aag.org)

## CALL FOR PAPERS & POSTERS

The 2022 Virtual Middle States Division AAG Meeting will be hosted by Bloomsburg University of Pennsylvania on Friday October 28 and Saturday October 29 with AAG support



Bloomsburg University of Pennsylvania will serve as the virtual host for this year's MSAAG fall meeting. The meeting will begin in the early afternoon on Friday, October 28th with opening remarks followed by both paper and poster sessions and a keynote address, and continue into the early evening, concluding with our annual **Geography Bowl**. On Saturday October 29 the meeting will resume with additional paper and poster sessions. There will be an awards session to conclude the meeting.

### CALL FOR PAPERS, POSTERS, PANELS

*Paper Sessions* are typically 60-80 minutes long and consist of three or four presentations of 15 minutes each, plus a question period. Papers on all topics of geographic nature are welcome. Concurrent paper sessions will be held over Zoom on Friday, October 28 and Saturday, October 29. Consult paper competition guidelines under the Student Competition tab on the website for guidance. Presenters can share their slides for the audience.

*Poster Sessions* will be held on both Friday and Saturday. Poster presenters are asked to create a pdf or PowerPoint slide of their poster which can be screen shared. This should be sent to the Student Competition chair Austin Kocher [ackocher@syr.edu](mailto:ackocher@syr.edu) by October 16th. Consult poster competition guidelines under the Student Competition tab on the webpage for guidance. Each poster will be given a unique Zoom video room where interested parties and the poster judges will be able to view the poster, ask questions and interact with the presenter.

*Panel Sessions* are welcome. Panel discussion sessions typically consist of three to four panelists and are organized around a theme. Roundtable discussion sessions are moderated by the chair of the round table who facilitates a discussion among all attendees focusing on a theme or issue. Students are welcome to organize both panel and roundtable sessions. A limited number of panels can be accommodated. If you are interested in organizing either a panel or a roundtable session, please contact Trish Beyer at [pbeyer@bloomu.edu](mailto:pbeyer@bloomu.edu) before October 10.

## Registration and Abstract Submission

Conference registration is online this year at the AAG portal ([aag.org](http://aag.org)). You will need to create a free AAG Explorer account if you are not a current AAG member. Then go to [Registration Link](#)

Abstracts should be submitted through the portal

[https://aag-meetings.secure-platform.com:443/regional\\_meetings/solicitations/47/home](https://aag-meetings.secure-platform.com:443/regional_meetings/solicitations/47/home) [[aag-meetings.secure-platform.com](https://aag-meetings.secure-platform.com)]

**Be sure to submit your paper or poster abstract by October 16.** Participants who register for the conference by October 16 will receive an early bird discount.

Abstracts for papers, posters, and panels must be submitted after online registration process through the AAG portal AND sent to 2022 Program Chair Trish Beyer at [pbeyer@bloomu.edu](mailto:pbeyer@bloomu.edu). The paper title and abstract should not exceed a total of 250 words. Compose your abstract in Microsoft Word, proofread and edit it, and copy-and-paste into the appropriate location during registration. Your submission will NOT be proofread or edited and will be published in the program as submitted. All abstract submissions for paper, posters, and panels are due by **October 16**.

Fees	Before Sun. October 16	After Sun. October 16
Faculty/Professional Student	\$50	\$60
Student	\$15	\$25

## Donations

During the registration process, you will be asked for an optional donation to the meeting. Those funds will be used to help defray costs associated with the discounted registration fees provided for all students.

## Virtual Meeting Format

The meeting will be held over a Zoom like interface All sessions of the conference will be held in unique Zoom rooms, with links included in the final program. Recordings of meeting sessions will be available to all attendees after the meeting ends.

## Student Competitions

Students presenting papers do not have to enter the Student competition. Students who DO want to enter the Student Competition should send completed papers or pdfs of posters plus their faculty letter certification by October 16 to the Student Competition chair [ackocher@svr.edu](mailto:ackocher@svr.edu) Please read the Competitions Rubrics on the [msaag.aag.org](http://msaag.aag.org) website for guidance in seeing how entries are judged.

## Geography Bowl Competition

Calling all students (undergraduate and graduate)! Consider participating in the Middle States Division Geography Bowl at the annual meeting on Friday, October 29. You may form a team beforehand (5-6 people) or sign up at the meeting to be placed on a team. The top six highest-scoring students will be invited to represent the Division at the World Geography Bowl at the AAG annual meeting in City in April 2023. Students who accept the invitation and represent MSAAG will receive partial funding support to attend the meeting. If you are interested in participating or would like more information, please contact our Vice President, Hamil Pearsall [hamil.pearsall@temple.edu](mailto:hamil.pearsall@temple.edu)

## Call for Nominations for MSD Officers

We are still accepting nominations for Secretary and Vice President of MSAAG. The Executive Board has two meetings a year, one a conference/zoom call in the spring and one at the annual fall meeting. The Secretary serves a one-year term beginning January 2022. The Secretary may run for Vice President the following year. The Vice President organizes the Geography Bowl competition at the fall meeting. Please consider this exciting opportunity! Voting will take place online in October 2022, Submit nominations by October 10 to Past President [nate.gabriel@rutgers.edu](mailto:nate.gabriel@rutgers.edu)

## Jo Margaret Mano to retire as Executive Director

Jo Margaret Mano has been the MS Executive Director since fall 2006. This position was an anomaly in AAG regions, which the proposed Bylaw change will eliminate. The executive director position was created by the Board in 2006 to officially separate the job of Treasurer from that of Secretary, with the executive director assuming treasurer duties. Mano was elected MSAAG Secretary/Treasurer in 1992, served as VP and then President in 1994. When she took over as Treasurer, regional treasurers had to maintain their regions' bank accounts, involving a lot of bureaucracy. Keeping the bank account stable in one institution made more sense and less paperwork. However, it meant the Treasurer assumed duties, for keeping financial records and being alert to bank policies and fee charges. In 2019, MSAAG transferred MSAAG's bank balance from M&T Bank to AAG. Now AAG handles the banking responsibilities for Middle States and several other regions. This is a significant benefit as it relieves the Middle States region of the liabilities the Treasurer previously shouldered. AAG has also recently increased its level of financial and other support to regions. Mano's last 3-year term as Executive Director began in fall 2018, when she reluctantly agreed to serve as a replacement could not be found, but that term expired in fall 2021. The proposed Bylaw change will mean Middle States will parallel other AAG regions with Secretary/Treasurers and will take effect with the Executive Board's new term, starting 1 January 2023.

## Online Voting in November on MSAAG Bylaw Change

### Proposed Amendment

Amend MSAAG Bylaws to add title of "Treasurer", to bring MSAAG's Executive Officers more in line with other Regional Divisions and adjust duties to assume those done by previous Executive Director.

MSAAG Constitution (as of November 4, 2016) [msaag.aag.org](http://msaag.aag.org) website for full version.

### Article VIII-Amendments

This Constitution may be amended by the affirmative vote of two-thirds of the members in attendance at a Business Meeting, provided that no vote will be taken on the proposal to amend the Constitution unless written notice thereof was given at least one month in advance of the Annual Meeting.

### Current wording

#### d. Secretary

1. Organizes and judges the student paper and poster competitions at the fall meeting.
2. Keeps minutes of all official meetings of the Division including those of the Executive Board.
3. Conducts other Division correspondence as required.

### Proposed wording

#### d. Secretary/Treasurer

1. Organizes and judges the student paper and poster competitions at the fall meeting.
2. Keeps minutes of all official meetings of the Division including those of the Executive Board.
3. **Communicates with AAG about MSAAG's finances and items for AAG's MS web page through the appropriate AAG staff, facilitates student prize distribution and reports on these to the Executive Board.**
4. Conducts other Division correspondence as required.

## Call for Graduate and Undergraduate Student Papers and Posters

### STUDENT PAPER & POSTER COMPETITION

2022 Virtual Annual Meeting  
Middle States Division of the American Association of Geographers  
Hosted by Bloomsburg University, with the support of AAG

October 28-29, 2022

Middle States AAG encourages all graduate and undergraduate students to submit and present their research papers to the Student Paper Competition of the MSAAG annual conference. The graduate and undergraduate paper competitions both have a first prize of \$1000 (provided by AAG to fund awardees' registration and travel costs to the AAG Annual Meeting). The graduate paper second prize is \$300 and the third prize \$150. The undergraduate paper competition has a second prize of \$200 and a third prize of \$100. There is also a Student Poster Competition with graduate and undergraduate divisions with first prizes of \$200, second prizes of \$100 and third prizes of \$50. There is a Rob Mason Poster award for High School students of \$100 (first prize) and \$50 (second prize) named after our past Regional Councilor Dr. Robert Mason from Temple University who passed away in 2017. He served MSAAG as President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer of the Division, as well as Regional Councilor.

Student status is as of May 1, 2022. Please note your status (Graduate/Undergraduate) on your abstract and paper submission. Registration fees are refunded after the conference for students both submitting the completed paper by the **October 16** deadline AND presenting the paper at the conference. Completed papers must follow the *Middle States Geographer* guidelines and can be no longer than 10 pages, single spaced, 10 point Times Roman font, including all figures, tables, endnotes, and references. Further details on the guidelines are specified on the [msaag.aag.org](https://msaag.aag.org) website at the *Student Competitions* and *Middle States Geographer* tabs.

**Students must have a faculty advisor certify their entry for Paper and Poster Competitions and use the guidelines and rubrics for judging on the website under the tab Student Competitions** and attach that with the submission to the Competition chair. Students entering the competition should send abstracts of no more than 250 words to President Trish Beyer at [pbeyer@bloomu.edu](mailto:pbeyer@bloomu.edu), and register and submit their abstract through the AAG portal by **October 16**, and send electronic copies of completed papers plus their faculty verification letter to MSAAG Student Paper and Poster Competition Chair Austin Kocher [ackocher@syr.edu](mailto:ackocher@syr.edu) by **October 16**.

Send an abstract of your poster to President Trish Beyer at [pbeyer@bloomu.edu](mailto:pbeyer@bloomu.edu), by **October 16** and a pdf of your poster to MSAAG Student Paper and Poster Competition Chair Austin Kocher [ackocher@syr.edu](mailto:ackocher@syr.edu), by **October 16**. Registration fees are refunded for paper/poster competition winners.

Registration for the meeting will be through the AAG website. Students who are not AAG members can open a free Explorer account and then go to [Registration Link](#).

Abstracts should be submitted through the portal

[https://aag-meetings.secure-platform.com:443/regional\\_meetings/solicitations/47/home](https://aag-meetings.secure-platform.com:443/regional_meetings/solicitations/47/home) [aag-meetings.secure-platform.com]