



About Us

The mission of the Arizona Geographic Alliance is to **promote geography education** and be the advocates for **geographic literacy**. Since 2003, we have conducted over 520 workshops that have impacted approximately 20,000 teachers who are teaching more than 800,000 students. These workshops have been in schools and school districts as well as in state and national level settings. Each year we conduct our annual geography conference (GeoConference). We also host various daylong workshops that focus on a region of the world or on a teaching strategy such as GeoLiteracy (integration of geography and reading and writing skills), GeoMath (integration of geography and math skills), and GeoLiteracy for Diverse Learners (ELLs). We impact hundreds of preservice teachers through education methods classes. Our membership totals over 4300 educators. Our major means of communicating with the membership is through emails (list serve), our website, and Facebook account.

Our website (<http://geoalliance.asu.edu>) features a wide selection of classroom ready maps. The website also has over 320 lessons tied to the Arizona College and Career Ready Standards. Some of our programs, GeoLiteracy (2003) and GeoMath (2005), have been nationally recognized by the National Council for the Social Studies, and the virtual workshops have received the 2010 Geography Excellence in Media Award from the National Council for Geographic Education.

The leadership cadre of the Arizona Geographic Alliance is comprised of 150 Teacher Consultants. To become a Teacher Consultant (TC), an educator attends a 10-day Alliance Summer Geography Institute (ASGI). Since 1994, the Alliance has held 10 ASGIs. In 2013, 2014 and 2016, AzGA conducted a STEMSS (Science, Technology, Engineering, Math, and Social Studies) institute with 53 teachers from around Arizona. Each participant is expected to train other educators to become better teachers of geography and to advocate for geography education.

Every other year we hold an Advanced Alliance Summer Geography Institute (AASGI). These institutes are themed based, and some of the themes have been GeoHistory; Physical Geography of the Mountains, Deserts, and Oceans; GeoSpatial Technology; Route 66; Borderlands and 4 Corners. This experience is reserved for Teacher Consultants of the Arizona Geographic Alliance.

The Co-coordinators are Professor of Geography, Dr. Ronald Dorn, and retired teacher, Gale Olp Ekiss. The Office Manager is Cathy Davis. They are assisted by professors emeritus of geography, Drs Malcolm Comeaux and Robert Mings.

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