1) Please list your Committee, Commission or Task Force Objectives and Responsibilities as stated in your group’s charge:

**Objectives**

**Official Objectives:**

To promote and protect human rights; to expand the definition of human rights within an anthropological perspective; to work internally with the membership of the AAA, to educate anthropologists, and to mobilize their support for human rights; to work externally with foreign colleagues, the people and groups with whom anthropologists work, and other human rights organizations to develop an anthropological perspective on human rights and consult with them on human rights violations and the appropriate actions to be taken; to influence and educate the media, policy makers, non-governmental organizations, and decision makers in the private sector; to encourage research on all aspects of human rights from conceptual to applied.

**Mission as outlined in this report:**

The AAA’s permanent Committee for Human Rights (CfHR), established in 1995, is composed of 10 members, 8 of whom are elected by the AAA membership and serve three-year terms, with 2 ex-officio members (AAA President and President-elect). The Committee’s internal mission is to stimulate informed involvement in human rights among professional anthropologists through publications, panels, and other outreach. The Committee’s external mission is to gather information on selected, anthropologically relevant cases of human rights abuse and to propose appropriate related action. CfHR efforts occur at the annual meetings and throughout the year through Committee Task Groups and case-specific actions. This report briefly describes actions and activities taken by the CfHR between November 2010 and December 2011.

**Responsibilities**

**Responsibilities:**

- To assist in organizing human rights forum, sessions, workshops or other events at AAA Annual Meeting;
- To consider and respond to cases of alleged human rights abuse;
- To educate anthropologists on human rights;
- To educate policy makers and others outside of anthropology on anthropology's perspective and contributions to human rights;
- To work in coalition with other professional and human rights organizations to promote human rights.

2) Please list your Group’s goals, activities and accomplishments/products for the designated Period in relation to the AAA’s long range plan:
Goal 1:
Hold yearly meetings to discuss internal workings of the committee

Activity:
At the 2011 business meeting, discussion focused on Education/Outreach and the CfHR website. The Education/Outreach committee presented results of a survey on the teaching of human rights in anthropology departments at U.S. colleges and universities. CfHR discussed widening the survey to see how many anthropology courses not focusing on human rights have a HR component, and how many human rights courses in other disciplines incorporate anthropological perspectives. CfHR also discussed how to disseminate results of this survey, as well as the sample syllabi that were collected, as a teaching resource. CfHR members also discussed updating the CfHR website, especially to make the education/outreach component more robust. Co-chair Jessica Winegar agreed to form an ad hoc committee to review this matter.

Accomplishment/Product:
New committee created for website review.

Explain any Gaps or Lack of Accomplishment Product:
n/a

Relevant Objective in Long-Range Plan:
2. The AAA will foster the discussion and dissemination of research on social and policy issues in the society at large, and respond in a timely fashion when events call for the application of relevant anthropological knowledge, expertise, and interpretation. 11. The AAA will respond to needs for anthropological knowledge, expertise, and interpretation in the wider society by identifying and using effective mechanisms for making such resources available through print, broadcast, online and other media.

Goal 2:
Work With Standing and Topical Task Groups

Activity:
A. 2011 AAA CfHR Standing Institutional Task Groups Education/Human Rights Curricula Gretchen Schafft Julie Reyes AAA Meeting Miriam Ticktin Stephen Loring Anthropology News CfHR Column Gretchen Schafft B. 2011 AAA CfHR Topical Task Groups Indigenous Rights Debbie Poole Shannon Speed Language and Social Justice Stephen Loring Laurie Graham In addition two ideas for possible task groups were raised, with CfHR members planning to follow up with interested parties Kashmir – Robbie Root to follow up Immigration and Detention – Miriam Ticktin to follow up

Accomplishment/Product:
In addition two ideas for possible task groups were raised, with CfHR members planning to follow up with interested parties

Explain any Gaps or Lack of Accomplishment Product:
N/A

Relevant Objective in Long-Range Plan:
N/A
Goal 3:  
Response to AAA Executive Board’s new (2010) Standard Operating Procedures

Activity:  
Following on previous discussions both internal to the CfHR and between the CfHR and the AAA Executive Board, at the 2010 meeting the CfHR adopted a new set of internal procedures in light of the new SOPs. The CfHR decided on a two-track procedure for processing and sending out urgent action and advocacy letters. One track will be to follow the new SOPs, gain Board approval, and have the letters go out under signature of the AAA president. The second track will be to make determination about the letters within the CfHR and have the letters go out specifically as letters from the committee, under signature of the committee chair.

Accomplishment/Product:  
Each time the CfHR agrees to write a letter committee members will determine which procedure will be followed.

Explain any Gaps or Lack of Accomplishment Product:
N/A

Relevant Objective in Long-Range Plan:
2. The AAA will foster the discussion and dissemination of research on social and policy issues in the society at large, and respond in a timely fashion when events call for the application of relevant anthropological knowledge, expertise, and interpretation.

Goal 4:  
The CfHR maintained public involvement in three areas: 1) sponsoring events at the AAA annual meetings, 2) publishing a regular series of short pieces in Anthropology News and 3) responding to calls for action and public advocacy by AAA members and international colleagues.

Activity:  
A. CfHR activities at the 2011 AAA Meetings in Montreal The CfHR sponsored one invited session, one workshop, one regular session panel and one public forum. Information about the annual business meeting held at the meetings is available at the end of this report. 1. Invited Panel Reversing the Legacy of Colonialism in Heritage Research, Stephen Loring (Organizer/Chair) 2. Workshop Teaching Anthropology through a Human Rights Lens, Julie Reyes and Gretchen Schafft 3. Panel The End/s of Multiculturalism, Lalaie Ameerier and Kevin O’Neill (Organizer/Chair) 4. Public Forum The CfHR hosted a public forum on November 19, 2011. Approximately 30 people attended, notably some undergraduate and graduate students. Discussion focused on 4 topics: a) How to expand student involvement in CfHR b) How to streamline the process for AAA members to submit issues for CfHR consideration (e.g., letters and other actions) c) How to reach out to human rights centers or other academic disciplines to enhance anthropology’s contribution to teaching human rights in the academy more generally d) How to improve the CfHR website in order to better disseminate committee activities to the broader membership, streamline the process for contacting CfHR, and to enhance anthropology’s web presence in relationship to human rights

C. CfHR Responses to AAA Member and International Colleagues’ Requests and Concerns In 2011 the CfHR responded to AAA members’ and international colleagues’ calls for action on human rights crises. We have initiated statements and letters to national and international leaders, lending our anthropological expertise to critical human rights issues, including both urgent action responses and advisory letters to policy makers. The following is a list of CfHR letters generated in 2011. The letters themselves are available for review via the CfHR webpage:

http://www.aaanet.org/cmtes/cfhr/index.cfm:

- AAA Spurs Elimination of "Linguistically Isolated" as Classification by the U.S. Census Bureau
- CfHR expresses concern for Chief Marcos Xukuru, tribal leader of Xukuru Nation
- AAA responds to Census regarding possible alternatives to "linguistic isolation." The Executive Board received a request from the Center for Constitutional Rights to draft or sign onto a letter opposing the State of Israel’s decision to allow the Simon Wiesenthal Museum of Tolerance to be built on the Mamilla Cemetery, a 7th century Muslim burial site. The EB passed the matter on to the CfHR which decided to form an ad hoc committee to investigate the issue. The ad hoc committee is currently working with an archaeologist expert on the matter to provide guidance on the issue. The Executive Board also received a request from the Association of Brazilian Anthropologists to co-sign a statement opposing violence against the Guarani Indians. The EB made some proposed changes to the document, which co-chair Jessica Winegar passed onto the President of the Association of Brazilian Anthropologists. The President did not respond to these proposed changes, nor to a subsequent email sent by Winegar.

Accomplishment/Product:

n/a

Explain any Gaps or Lack of Accomplishment Product:

n/a

Relevant Objective in Long-Range Plan:

2. The AAA will foster the discussion and dissemination of research on social and policy issues in the society at large, and respond in a timely fashion when events call for the application of relevant anthropological knowledge, expertise, and interpretation. 11. The AAA will respond to needs for anthropological knowledge, expertise, and interpretation in the wider society by identifying and using effective mechanisms for making such resources available through print, broadcast, online and other media.

3) Provide any additions or proposed changes to goals, activities, products or outcomes for the designated period:

Goals:

Cahnge Compostion of Workgroups
Proposed Changes:

**2012 Standing Institutional Task Groups**

Program Committee for the 2012 Meeting – Eric Johnson, Carole McGranahan, Margaret Perkinson

*Anthropology News* forum – Miriam Ticktin

Education/Outreach – Julie Reyes

**2012 Topical Task Groups**

Middle East – Jessica Winegar and Ilana Feldman

Immigration and Detention – Christine Ho, Eric Johnson, Miriam Ticktin

Language and Social Justice, Eric Johnson, Stephen Loring

Indigenous Rights – the Committee wishes to keep this task group and will find volunteers to staff it

Kashmir – the Committee decided to eliminate this committee due to lack of expertise among the members

Activities:

None

Proposed Changes:

None

Products/Outcomes:

None

Proposed Changes:

None
4) Provide plans for 2012 in relation to existing or new goals/activities and relationship to the Objective in the Committee's or Commission's Charge and Long-Range Plan Objective (if not self-evident). Identify if they represent significant changes or elaborations on existing goals, objective activities, charge etc:

Committee/Commission Objective 1:
Responsibilities: To assist in organizing human rights forum, sessions, workshops or other events at AAA Annual Meeting; To consider and respond to cases of alleged human rights abuse; To educate anthropologists on human rights; To educate policy makers and others outside of anthropology on anthropology's perspective and contributions to human rights; To work in coalition with other professional and human rights organizations to promote human rights.

LRP Objective 1:
11. The AAA will respond to needs for anthropological knowledge, expertise, and interpretation in the wider society by identifying and using effective mechanisms for making such resources available through print, broadcast, online and other media.

New Goal and or Activity 1:
Review of CfHR website

5) List financial and other resources in hand to complete the proposed work of the Committee, Commission or Task force for the coming year and explain any additional resources. Please list separately:

a. Resources in hand or being sought independent of the AAA:
n/a

b. Requests for additional resources from the AAA. Specify clearly which specific goals/activities etc. require additional resources from each source:
n/a

6) Have there been or do you propose any changes to the Objective or the Responsibilities of your Committee, Commission or Task Force If so, what are they and what is the rationale for them:

Current Objective 1:
n/a

Responsibility:
n/a

Proposed Change:
n/a

Rational for Change:
n/a
7) Are there issues you would like raised or recommendations would you like to make to the AAA Executive Board related to the work of your committee commission or task force?

n/a