Submitted By:
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Question 1
Please list your Committee, Commission, or Task Force Objective and Responsibilities as stated in your Group's charge:

Objective:
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.

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.

Question 2
Please identify one or more of the AAA Long Range Plan (LRP) 12 main objectives, that your Group is organized to support.
Describe your Group's activities and accomplishments/products for the designated period, and how they support the achievement of LRP objectives. Account for any ways in which your Group has fallen short of supporting the achievement of these objectives. Activities of your Group that do not relate to the LRP objectives should also be mentioned and indicated as such.
In 2012-2012, the CfHR activities supported the following Long Range Plan objectives.

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.

5.1. The AAA will increase the impact and presence of anthropologists by supporting and
fostering programs that bring underrepresented sectors of the wider population into the Association and discipline. It will also commit itself to creating and promoting awareness of the issues facing these groups both in the United States and elsewhere.

7.2. To serve as a forum for the exchange of ideas; the dissemination of research, expertise, and interpretation within and across sub-disciplines, emerging scholarly communities, and thematic networks; and discussion and debate on key topical and theoretical issues.

9. The AAA will support and work with anthropology departments and programs to develop resources to assist them to meet their objectives.

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.

Our activities serving these objectives were as follows:

A. Letters of Support. This year the CfHR wrote two letters of support.
   - To the Brazilian Anthropological Association (ABA) concerning their statement on endangered indigenous land rights by Act# 303.
   - To Governador Eduardo Campos and the judges of Tribunal Regional Federal da 5 Região expressing continued concern for Chief Marcos Xukuru, tribal leader of Xukuru Nation. [Click here to read in Portuguese.]

These letters serve objectives 2, 5.1, and 11 above.

B. Website Overhaul. The CfHR also embarked on a complete website overhaul, which included updating major portions of the site, streamlining it and making it user friendly for those seeking to learn about human rights in anthropology, to gain resources on human rights, and to register a human rights complaint. Currently under major development is the teaching resources section of the website, which will soon make syllabi and other resources available to anthropology departments around the country. This work serves objectives 7.2, 9, and 11 above.

C. Language and Social Justice Task Group. This Task Group of CfHR wrote two letters, endorsed by the full CfHR. The first was a letter to the US Census Bureau protesting the elimination of the American Community Survey, which is a means by which language minority communities are tracked so as to gain access to minority language voting materials, and educational and legal resources. The second was a letter to AP journalists to alert them
to the problems of the term "illegal" when referring to immigrant. This "drop the i-word" campaign subsequently got coverage on ABC. Both of these initiatives were undertaken with the Society for Linguistic Anthropology. These initiatives serve objectives 2 and 5.1 of the LPR.

D. Annual Meeting Program. At the 2012 meeting, the CfHR sponsored a workshop on Dissolving Boundaries of Power Through Community-Based Research: Photovoice Methodology As a Tool for Social Action. This workshop sold out and was very successful, serving objectives 2 and 7.2 of the LPR.

E. CfHR continued to run its regular column in Anthropolog News, disseminating human rights issues among members of the discipline and society at large. Objective 2 of the LPR.

**CfHR tried to organize a program on immigration at the AAA Meetings and ran into issues because the invited community members (important leaders in the immigrant rights movement) could not afford the fee to present at the meetings. This problem gave us serious concern that the Annual Meeting remains a closed affair and prohibits the full development of objectives 2, 5.1, and 7.2 above. We would be happy to provide the Association a full report of our failed attempt to put together a robust, community-focused event.

Question 3

Provide plans for the coming year in relation to existing or recommended new goals/activities and relationship to the Objective in the committee, commission, or task force Charge and Long-Range Plan (if not self-evident). Identify if they represent significant changes or elaborations on existing goals, objective activities, charge etc.

We will continue our website development by focusing on the teaching resources section. We have a student intern gathering syllabi and other resources from faculty around the country to create a syllabi bank on the website.

We will schedule an Open Forum at next year's AAAs for interested members to speak with the Committee about human rights concerns or ideas for the group.

Eric Johnston is the new Chair, and he will develop his own particular project for the committee as is common for chairs to do. This will likely focus on language justice issues.

We will continue all of our other usual activities.

Question 4

Identify and upcoming requirements for additional resources and explain how these funds would be used if approved. (Please note that formal requests for funding must be included in the annual budget proposal, to be considered with all other requests.)
Not applicable.

Question 5

Do you propose any changes to the Charge (Objective, Responsibilities, or Products/Outcomes) of your Committee, Commission or Task Force? If so, list the proposed changes, the rationale for the change, and additional funding that may be needed.

No.

Question 6

Are there issues you would like raised or recommendations you would like to make to the AAA Executive Board related to the work of your Committee, Commission, or Task Force?

We believe that if the CfHR chooses to hold an event at the Annual Meeting in which relevant community members are asked to speak, those members should not have to pay to give us their expertise. It is not a way to engage the communities with whom we conduct research. A full accounting of the events which led to the demise of our immigration roundtable in San Francisco is being prepared by the current chair.