Submitted By:
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Board Members:
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- Caroline VanSickle (Webmaster) - vansickle.c@gmail.com

Membership:

Provide the most recent membership numbers.
Number of Members: 380

List any factors you think may be increasing or decreasing your Section membership.
We were as high as 533 members in 2003 but dropped to ~400 around 2010 or so and have remained static (with some annual up and down). This is still some of the impact from the miscommunications and mis-understandings surrounding the anthro and "science" debacle but more importantly reflects the reality that many biological anthropologists only have sufficient funding for one conference annually and choose the more specifically focused AAPA over the larger and more expensive AAA.

Finances:

Provide the most recent financial balances for Section budgets (and publication sponsored budgets).
Financial Balance: 16,700

Publication Sponsored budgets.
NA

List any factors you think are affecting your Section's finances.
Our costs are close to our revenue, and we are able to maintain close to a balanced budget because many Exec members do not take their reimbursement. Membership is the main element, plus the cost of receptions at meetings. We will be initiating a $5 increase in non-student membership dues and consensus that student dues should remain the same.

Sessions:

List the titles of your Section's AAA meeting invited sessions, co-sponsored sessions, and any special events your Section sponsored or in which it participated.

Session Type: Invited
Session: #3-0100 Biocultural Perspectives on Play Behavior (7 papers) - co-sponsored with General Anthropology Division (GAD).

Session Type: Invited
Session: #3-0400 Foraging: Advances in the Study of Food Production (7 papers) co-sponsored with Evolutionary Anthropology Section (EAS).

Session Type: Invited
Session: #4-0210 Operationalizing Resilience Theory within Anthropology (6 papers, 1 discussant) co-sponsored with Anthropology and Environment Society (AES).

Session Type: Invited
Session: #4-0440 Reflection on Mind and Body in the Era of the ?Cerebral Subject? (5 papers, 2 discussants) co-sponsored with Society for Psychological Anthropology (SPA).

Session Type: Special Events
Session: BAS Executive Board Meeting, Friday Dec 5, 1:00 - 2:15pm

Session Type: Special Events
Session: BAS Business Meeting, Friday Dec 5, 6:30 - 8:15pm

Session Type: Special Events
Session: BAS Distinguished Lecture by Karren Strier: ?Anthropological Perspectives on Nutrition Transitions?, Friday Dec 5 at 8:30pm; reception to follow, (8:30 to 10:00pm).

Session Type: Special Events
Session: W.W. Howell's Book Award: Lynne Isbell presented with her award at the BAS Business meeting on Friday, Dec 5, 7:45 to 8:15pm

Session Type: Volunteered
Session: #3-0055 On the Battlefield of Women and Children?s Bodies: Bioarchaeological Approaches to Warfare (Pt. I). Thursday, Dec 4, 9:00 ? 10:45am. (6 papers, 1 disc.)

Session Type: Invited
Session: #3-0100 Biocultural Perspectives on Play Behavior co-sponsored with General Anthropology Division (GAD); Thursday, Dec 4, 9:00 ? 10:45am. (7 papers) INVITED STATUS

Session Type: Volunteered
Session: #3-1030 Insights From the Past: New Findings in Biological Anthropology and Bioarchaeology. Thursday Dec 4, 2:30-4:15pm (5 papers discussion)

Session Type: Volunteered
Session: #4-0220 Innovative Examples of Variable Approaches in Biological Anthropology. Friday Dec 5, 9:00-10:45am. (5 papers discussion)

Session Type: Volunteered
Session: #4-1135 Ontogeny, Evo-Devo, and Bio-Physical Anthropology. Friday Dec 5, 6:30 ? 8:15pm. (3 papers, discussion, 2 discussants)

Session Type: Volunteered
Session: #5-0430 The Bones and the Worms: Bioarchaeology as Microhistory. Saturday
Dec 6, 11:00am ? 12:45pm (6 papers, 1 disc.)

Session Type: Volunteered
Session: #5-0605 BIOLOGICAL ANTHROPOLOGY POSTER SESSION. Saturday Dec 6, 11:00am ? 12:45pm (3 posters)

Session Type: Special Events
Session: #5-1130 WORSHOP: Now What? How to Get Employment After Graduate School. Saturday Dec 6, 3:15 ? 5:15pm

Session Type: Volunteered
Session: #6-0505 Biocultural Perspectives on Life History Strategies and Stages. Sunday Dec 7, 12:00 ? 1:45pm (6 papers discussion)

Awards
List awards presented this year on behalf of your Section.
Award: Howells Book award
Date: 12/05/2014
Recipient: Lynne A. Isbell
Affiliation: UC Davis

Meetings
Did your section request a meeting registration waiver or community engagement grant?
No
If granted, who/what was it/they used for?
Incomplete
List spring meeting activities
Incomplete

Mentorship:
Mentorship efforts (at or beyond the AAA meetings) to any of the following (e.g., special activities, funding, awards, guidance/advising on professional matters, etc.)
Undergraduate and/or graduate students.
The BAS members are encouraged to bring UG and G students to the meetings to participate in poster events and for advanced G students to give papers. We also had a workshop for job seekers this year at the AAA in DC.
Early career scholars.
The BAS members use the AAA events (business meeting, distinguished lecturer and reception) as a venue to connect biological anthropologists at the AAA with one another. The BAS executive committee is also working on projects to connect junior faculty with the AAA and all of its potential benefits
Independent scholars.
NA
Outreach:

Additional outreach efforts (at or beyond the AAA meetings) to other sections, interest groups, and scholarly societies, government agencies, public education/community engagement, and underrepresented minorities.

BAS chair and members of the executive committee routinely speak at the AAPA business meeting and make concerted efforts during the entire AAPA meetings to discuss the connectivity and possibilities at the AAA and encourage joining of the BAS.

We are up over 1500 members on our Facebook page. Members are encouraged to join and post to the page.

The BAS executive will continue to link with GAD, who has long been a partner, and will work to improve our connections with EAS and the Archaeology Division. Possibility of having joint Distinguished Lecture with another section will be explored, as a way of avoiding having them scheduled at the same time.

Letters were sent to anthropology departments in neighboring states encouraging their student to join BAS and attend AAA meetings. There has not been a noted response to these letters.

Multiple members of the executive committee are involved in efforts in the AAA and the AAPA to increase the representation of minority scholars in the field.

Communications:

Status and use of Section internal communications such as a website, list serve, or newsletter (if applicable): Please list internal communication tools you use and what they are used for.

We use the AAA provided listserve for the BAS to do monthly informational emails. Julienne Rutherford is the editor/author of the BAS Anthro News column and actively recruits information and news from the members. We maintain both a website and an active Facebook page for the BAS. Multiple BAS members are also well established bloggers and use those platforms as a manner of connectivity and distribution of relevant information.

Governance:

Changes in bylaws or governance structure.

no changes in 2014

Initiatives:

What Initiatives does your Section have underway or planned for the coming year: membership, publication annual meeting, mentorship, other?

In 2014 our goal is to raise membership to the 500-individual level through personal recruitment on the part of the BAS members. We did not achieve that goal.

Ask AAA:

Please tell us what your chief concerns and issues are, especially if they are not previously noted.

What issues would you like raised or recommendations would you like to make to the Section Assembly Executive Committee (SAEC)? Please be specific.

none at this time
What issues would you like raised or recommendations would you like to make to the AAA Executive Board? Please be specific.

The role of Biological Anthropology in a broader integrated anthropology is critical...we hope that this theme (of an engaged and integrated suite of anthropologies) remains a major agenda item for the exec comm.

The scheduling issues remain a problem and are glad that the exec comm is shifting some of the scheduling processes to staff and away from the program chair.

What issues would you like raised or recommendations would you like to make to the AAA Staff? Please be specific.

none at this time