Submitted By:
- Lara Deeb - laradeeb@gmail.com

Board Members:
- Lara Deeb (President) - laradeeb@gmail.com
- Ilana Feldman (President-Elect) - ifeldman@gwu.edu
- Treasurer (Kristin Monroe) - kristin.monroe@uky.edu
- Secretary (Andrew Gardner) - gardner@pugetsound.edu
- Rehenuma Asmi (Student Representative) - rehenumasmi@gmail.com
- Kirsten Scheid (Board Member) - kirstenlscheid@gmail.com
- Lori Allen (Board Member) - laa72002@gmail.com
- Esra Ozyurek (Board Member) - e.g.ozyurek@lse.ac.uk
- Moain Sadeq (Board Member) - msadeq@qu.edu.qa

Membership:

Provide the most recent membership numbers.
Number of Members: 313

List any factors you think may be increasing or decreasing your Section membership.
Whatever the AAA did to recalculate things has clearly reduced our membership significantly.

Finances:

Provide the most recent financial balances for Section budgets (and publication sponsored budgets).
Financial Balance: 20,872.07

Publication Sponsored budgets.
n/a
List any factors you think are affecting your Section's finances.
n/a

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: Volunteered
Session: ADAPTATIONS: RECONFIGURING URBAN, PERSONAL, ECONOMIC, AND DOMESTIC ARRANGEMENTS IN THE MIDDLE EAST

Session Type: Invited
Session: EDUCATION AND THE ARAB UPRISINGS: THE END OF THE SOCIAL CONTRACT?

Session Type: Invited
Session: SPACES UNDER CONSTRUCTION: BUILDING TOWARDS AN ANTHROPOLOGY OF CONTEMPORARY SETTLER COLONIALISM IN PALESTINE-ISRAEL

Session Type: Invited
Session: ANTHROPOLOGISTS OF PALESTINE-ISRAEL AND THE ACADEMIC BOYCOTT OF ISRAEL

Session Type: Volunteered
Session: RESEARCHING ANTHROPOLOGY AND ORIENTALISM IN THE ERA OF BIG DATA: ROUNDTABLE ON THE ARAB STUDIES Institute?s KNOWLEDGE PRODUCTION PROJECT

Session Type: Volunteered
Session: GENDER, SEXUALITY AND (DIS)-PLACEMENT

Session Type: Volunteered
Session: CULTURE AND THE POLITICS OF KNOWLEDGE PRODUCTION IN THE MIDDLE EAST

Session Type: Special Events
Session: ANTHROPOLOGISTS OF TURKEY NETWORK MEETING

Session Type: Volunteered
Session: OF PROLETARIANS, POLITICOS, AND PATRILINEAGES: PRODUCING POLITICAL ECONOMIC ANTHROPOLOGY OF THE CONTEMPORARY MIDDLE EAST AND NORTH AFRICA

Session Type: Special Events
Session: MIDDLE EAST SECTION BOARD MEETING

Session Type: Invited
Session: DISSENT EVERYWHERE, EVERYWHERE DISSENT? CRITICAL ETHNOGRAPHIES OF THE 2013 GEZI UPRISINGS, TURKEY

Session Type: Special Events
Session: MIDDLE EAST SECTION BUSINESS MEETING

Awards
List awards presented this year on behalf of your Section.

Award: MES Distinguished Scholar Award
Date: 12/06/2014
Recipient: Susan Slyomovics
Affiliation: UCLA
Project/Paper/Accomplishment: n/a

Award: MES Student Paper Prize
Date: 12/06/2014
Recipient: Zachary Cuyler
Affiliation: Georgetown University

Meetings

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Did your section request a meeting registration waiver or community engagement grant?
Yes

If granted, who/what was it/they used for?
Unfortunately, the person for whom we requested the meeting registration waiver (a junior scholar at an institution in East Jerusalem) was unable to attend the AAAs so we lost the waiver.

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.
Student Paper Prize
Early career scholars.
n/a
Independent scholars.
n/a

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.
Cooperation with the newly established Association for Middle East Anthropology, an affiliate organization of the Middle East Studies Association (they are to MESA what we are to the AAA)

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.
* website via the AAA - to post announcements, calls for nominees, awards, etc

* we do not have our own listserv but we use a much larger open listerv for Middle East Anthropology (a yahoogroup)

* occasional use of AAA mass email service

Governance:
Changes in bylaws or governance structure.
n/a

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

* new bi-annual book award to be awarded for first time at 2015 annual meeting

* coordinate meeting overlap with MESA and perhaps plan joint programming

* discuss how we can support contingent faculty

* explore ways to support Middle East anthropologists in the region

* continue to develop website and especially teaching resources section

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.

n/a

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

Consider greater variety in meeting locations.

While our section leadership understands the difficulties that have been experienced with Task Force configurations that were mainly regional specialists in the past, and understands that no Task Force configuration is perfect, we do want to register our dismay at the way that the Task Force on Israel-Palestine was created without multiple members who have ethnographic expertise in the area.

While our membership applauds the work done to facilitate discussion of the academic boycott of Israeli institutions, the "members forum" format did not adequately protect graduate students and postdocs -- several of whom were harassed after expressing their views at that forum. The facilitiation at several of the tables was also problematic, and essentially allowed that harassment to continue.

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

Thank you for all your work!