Submitted By:

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Board Members:

- Carol Ember (Past President) - carol.ember@yale.edu
- Ben G. Blount (President) - ben.blount23@gmail.com
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- Giovanni Bennardo (Board Member) - bennardo@niu.edu
- Stephen M. Lyon (Board Member) - s.m.lyon@durham.ac.uk
- Margo-Lea Hurwicz (Board Member) - hurwicz@umsl.edu
- Andrew Tarter (Student Board Member) - andrew_tarter@hotmail.com
- Caitlyn Placek (Student Board Member) - caitlyn.placek@ewmail.wsu.edu
- Michael D. Fischer (Webmaster (Appointed)) - M.D.Fischer@ukc.ac.uk
- David Henig (An Contributing Editor (Appointed)) - D.Henig@kent.ac.uk
- Murray Leaf (Associate Treasurer (Appointed)) - mjleaf@utdallas.edu

Membership:

Provide the most recent membership numbers.

Number of Members: 197

List any factors you think may be increasing or decreasing your Section membership.

SAS membership had always been approximately 240-250 members, but the updating of the membership rolls in 2014 showed that SAS actually had only 214 members, and that number decreased to 197 on the most recent list. SAS is well aware that membership needs to be increased, especially among students. The current number of students is only 17. A membership drive is underway. Activities include asking members to encourage colleagues and students to join, increase SAS's presence in social media, partner with other AAA sections to promote cross-section membership, and increase SAS presence at the 2015 AAA meetings.

Finances:

Provide the most recent financial balances for Section budgets (and publication sponsored budgets).

Financial Balance: 14,627.72

Publication Sponsored budgets.

NA

List any factors you think are affecting your Section's finances.

SAS discovered that the costs for workshop expenses at the 2014 AAA meetings was under-budgeted. The budget category, Space and Meals, will remain the same for 2015, given that the 2015 budget has already been prepared. Efforts will be made, however, to decrease the workshop Space and Meals costs in 2015, and the budget for 2016 will be based on more realistic projections.

SAS finances have been relatively stable, but the workshop expenses at the AAA meetings have almost doubled the past two years, exceeding the amount in our budget category for Meeting Space and Meals. Although Revenue from the workshops have partially offset the
costs, beginning in 2015, SAS will attempt to balance the cost and revenue.

**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:** Advancing Science in Anthropology: 10 Years of SAS

**Session Type:** Volunteered  
**Session:** Practicing Kinship: Complexity, change, and Relationship

**Session Type:** Other  
**Session:** Introduction to Text Analysis (Workshop)

**Session Type:** Other  
**Session:** Introduction to Social Network Analysis (Workshop)

**Awards**

List awards presented this year on behalf of your Section.

**Award:** Student Travel Award  
**Date:** 12/15/2014  
**Recipient:** Michael Thomas  
**Affiliation:** Wayne State University  
**Project/Paper/Accomplishment:** Travel Award

**Award:** Student Paper Award (Spring Meeting)  
**Date:** 03/20/2014  
**Recipient:** Bethany Ojaletto  
**Affiliation:** Northwestern University  
**Project/Paper/Accomplishment:** Seeing Co-operation or Competition: How Folk Theories Diverge across Cultures and Converge across Disciplines.

**Award:** Student Travel Award (Spring Meeting)  
**Date:** 03/20/2014  
**Recipient:** Caitlyn Placek  
**Affiliation:** Washington State University  
**Project/Paper/Accomplishment:** Travel Award

**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
SAS met jointly with the Society for Applied Anthropology in Albuquerque for its Spring Meeting, March 18-22, 2014. The first meeting day was a special event on current issues in the archaeology of the American Southwest, and it had nine panels and 45 papers. During the regular three days of the meeting, SAS had eight sessions and 45 presentations. Six of the sessions were organized, and two were created from volunteered papers. Attendance and participation at the Spring meeting tend to surpass those of Fall meetings, due in large part to less expensive registration fees and hotels. One award was given for the best student paper to Bethany Ojaletto (graduate), Northwestern University: Seeing Co-operation or Competition: How Folk Theories Diverge across Cultures and Converge across Disciplines.

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.
NA
Early career scholars.
NA
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.
Spring Meeting in Albuquerque, March 18-20, 2014

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.
Activities of SAS are recorded on the website http://anthrosciences.org. The site includes a list of officers, meeting dates, award winners, workshops, and other professional activities.

Governance:
Changes in bylaws or governance structure.
SAS made no changes in Governance in 2014. Changes were made, however, in assignment of duties and responsibilities within the Executive Board. A description of duties and responsibilities for each member of the Board was prepared, and it will be revised each year at the annual meeting.

Initiatives:
What Initiatives does your Section have underway or planned for the coming year: membership, publication annual meeting, mentorship, other?
Membership drive, as discussed above under Membership

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.

Like other sections that have fallen below the minimum 225 members, SAS is concerned about measures to increase our membership. As noted in this Report, SAS has begun a membership drive. We need only 30-35 new members to place us above the threshold, but gaining that many new members will probably be challenging. Thirty new members would be a 15 percent increase, larger than any increase in recent years. SAS is also especially concerned about the comparatively small number of student members, 17 of 197 at the present. SAS will make concerted efforts to increase that number, but we are aware that the number of members of AAA seems to have leveled or even decreased in recent years, and changes of that magnitude are likely to be difficult. Perhaps AAA-wide attention is warranted now in relation to small sections. The Section Assembly is considering a tiered arrangement of small sections within a higher level taxa, although the status of that is not yet clear to the sections. Another possibility might be combining sections that have overlapping interests, although sections would want to give any proposals careful consideration and would likely be controversial. Yet another possibility, involving much less "dislocation" in regard to sections would be to lower the threshold size of section membership to 200 and maintain that as a firm level.

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

The comments in the section above apply to the AAA Executive Board as well as to the SAEC.

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

SAS has no specific concerns or issues to raise or recommendations to make as to AAA Staff.