Submitted By:
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Membership:
Provide the most recent membership numbers.
Number of Members: 339

List any factors you think may be increasing or decreasing your Section membership.
Reformulated calculations by the AAA

Finances:
Provide the most recent financial balances for Section budgets (and publication sponsored budgets).
Financial Balance: 157,657.73
Publication Sponsored budgets.

VAR publication revenue for 2013, less expenses, came to $2,980.87 (about $2600 less than 2012). While expenditures on VAR are holding stable, if not less than last year ($3331.05 in 2013 for storage and editorial office costs), royalties from W-B are steadily dropping ($6311.92 in 2013, down from $9113.66 in 2012).

List any factors you think are affecting your Section's finances.
The SVA has traditionally organized, juried, programmed, and run the anula film and media festival as a service to the AAA. Since Lucille Horn left as AAA Director, Meetings and Conferences, the SVA has been being charged for this massive event. It is already our single largest section expense, and we are now doubly underwriting this on behalf of the entire AAA. A conversation on this topic had been initiated with now past AAA Director, Meetings and Conferences Jason Watkins and now past SA Convenor Alec Barker, but I (in my capacity as SVA President) had been asked to hold off on these negotiations by last
year's AAA Meeting Executive Programming Cair Mary Gray as she attempted to generate a larger AAA Media Festival. In short, however, the SVA is already spending tremendous financial and labor resources on providing this festival to the AAA membership at large, and should not also be being charged to finance the screenings at the national meetings.

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: Special Events
Session: 30th Annual Visual Research Conference - Part 1

Session Type: Special Events
Session: 30th Annual Visual Research Conference - Part 2

Session Type: Volunteered
Session: ACTIVIST VIDEO: PRODUCING FOR IMPACT

Session Type: Invited
Session: REGIMES OF VISIBILITY ON THE NORTHWEST COAST

Session Type: Volunteered
Session: ACTIV(IST) DIGITAL SCREENS: THE POLITICS OF DIGITAL IMAGING ACROSS CULTURAL BORDERS

Session Type: Invited
Session: RECONSIDERING VISUAL METHODS IN THE ANTHROPOLOGY OF CHILD FEEDING

Session Type: Other
Session: WORKSHOP - Crafting Creative/Critical Visualizations

Session Type: Special Events
Session: SOCIETY FOR VISUAL ANTHROPOLOGY (SVA) BOARD MEETING

Session Type: Volunteered
Session: SEEING ARGUMENTS: VISUAL ARGUMENTATION AND PRODUCTION IN THE DIGITAL AGE

Session Type: Volunteered
Session: ENVISIONING RITUALS THROUGH FILM: STUDYING BODY TECHNIQUES AS SYMBOLIC ACTION AND VISUAL CULTURE

Session Type: Invited
Session: FIGURING EXPERT AND EVERYDAY ECONOMIES: REPRESENTATIONS/INTERVENTIONS

Session Type: Volunteered
Session: EXPERIENCES IN WATCHING, MAKING, AND EVALUATING MEDIA
Session Type: Other
Session: WORKSHOP - Evocative Photography

Session Type: Volunteered
Session: DIGITAL MEDIA AND THE PRODUCTION OF ANTHROPOLOGY: A DISCUSSION ON VISUAL ETHICS (PART 1: PRIVACY, ACCESS, CONTROL, EXPOSURE)

Session Type: Volunteered
Session: FIRST RITES: INNOVATIVE UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH IN ANTHROPOLOGY (Poster Session)

Session Type: Volunteered
Session: SOCIETY FOR VISUAL ANTHROPOLOGY POSTER SESSION (Poster Session)

Session Type: Volunteered
Session: VISUAL RESEARCH METHODS IN PRACTICE: PRODUCTION AND USES OF PHOTOGRAPHY, SOCIAL MEDIA, AND GRAFFITI

Session Type: Volunteered
Session: DRAWING AND PAINTING IN THE PRODUCTION OF ANTHROPOLOGICAL KNOWLEDGE

Session Type: Volunteered
Session: DIGITAL MEDIA AND THE PRODUCTION OF ANTHROPOLOGY: A DISCUSSION ON VISUAL ETHICS (PART 2: ANONYMITY, VISIBILITY, PROTEST, PARTICIPATION, IDENTITY)

Session Type: Volunteered
Session: PRESENTATION, POLICING, AND PUNISHMENT (Poster Session)

Session Type: Special Events
Session: SVA Members' Meeting

Session Type: Special Events
Session: SVA Awards Reception

Awards
List awards presented this year on behalf of your Section.
Award: SVA Lifetime Achievement Award
Date: 12/06/2014
Recipient: Elizabeth Edwards
Affiliation: De Montfort University, Leicester, (UK)
Project/Paper/Accomplishment:
http://societyforvisualanthropology.org/sva-awards/lifetime-achievement-award-2014/
Award: John Collier Jr. Award for Still Photography
Date: 12/06/2014
Recipient: See Below - this box is too short!
Affiliation: See Below
Project/Paper/Accomplishment: http://societyforvisualanthropology.org/sva-awards/2014-winner/

Award: BEST FEATURE LENGTH FILM
Date: 12/06/2014
Recipient: Mike Majoros, Director
Affiliation: ?
Project/Paper/Accomplishment: In the Steppes of Genghis

Award: BEST SHORT FILM
Date: 12/06/2014
Recipient: Jared and Carly Jakins, Directors
Affiliation: ?
Project/Paper/Accomplishment: Ghosts on the Mountain

Award: BEST ULTRASHORT FILM
Date: 12/06/2014
Recipient: Mitchell Rose, Director
Affiliation: ?
Project/Paper/Accomplishment: Globe Trot

Award: BEST GRADUATE STUDENT FILM (Tie)
Date: 12/06/2014
Recipient: Ambarien Alqadar, Director
Affiliation: ?
Project/Paper/Accomplishment: Ghetto Girl

Award: BEST GRADUATE STUDENT FILM (Tie)
Date: 12/06/2014
Recipient: Anna Wilking, Director
Affiliation: ?
Project/Paper/Accomplishment: Let There Be Light

Award: BEST UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT FILM
Date: 12/06/2014
Recipient: Trent Monahan, Sarah Prothero and Jennifer Torson
Affiliation: ?
Project/Paper/Accomplishment: Virtual Me: Gender and Identity in World of Warcraft

Meetings
Did your section request a meeting registration waiver or community engagement grant?
Yes
If granted, who/what was it/they used for?
Carla Fernandez has the records

List spring meeting activities

The 2014 spring meeting of the American Ethnological Society was organized in conjunction with the Society for Visual Anthropology (SVA), and took place at the Boston Park Plaza Hotel, 9-12 April. Organized by AES Councilor, Samuel Martínez, in collaboration with the SVA board committee of Jenny Chio, Kate Hennessy, and Jonathan Marion (chair), the conference theme was “In/Visibility: Projects, Media, Politics.” Over 300 participants registered for the conference. Featuring 244 presentations based on volunteered Page 3 American Anthropological Association Section Annual Report American Ethnological Societysubmissions, in 50 panels/roundtables, a special innovation of the 2014 AES/SVA conference were the “Media Makers Sessions,” in which filmmakers and visual ethnographers and artists were each allotted 30 minutes to display short samples of their work and then engage the attendees through spoken reflections and Q&A. The opening plenary speaker was John Jackson, Jr., who spoke on the theme, “From Thin Descriptions to Thin Identities: Toward an Anthropology of the Unseen.” The keynote address, “Crippling the Camera: ‘f##k inner beauty!’,” was given by Faye Ginsburg. And the closing plenary speaker was Michael Herzfeld, who titled his talk, “Invisible, Inchoate, and Intimate: A Brief History of Cultural Manipulation from Crypto-Colonialism to the Global Hierarchy of Value.” There were plenary film screenings and discussions of Leviathan, by Vérona Paravel and Lucien Castaing-Taylor, and Edward Curtis’s The Head Hunters (fully restored with original music, discovered by Aaron Glass). Additionally, a pre-conference tour of the visual anthropology and Africana collections at Harvard’s Peabody Museum was led by Ilisa Barbash, Diana Loren and Chris Steiner; Ariella Azoulay led a pre-conference discussion of her book, Civil Imagination: A Political Ontology of Photography; and workshops for graduate students were led by Jonathan Marion, Faye Ginsburg, Kate Hennessy, and Aaron Glass.

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.

- Participated in SANA's "emerging leaders" program to help mentor a student interested in visual anthropology
- Provided overview of SVA efforts to AAA taskforce on mentorship
- Include and encourage participation in the Visual Research Conference
- Maintain a listing of SVA Mentors on the SVA website
- Run workshops at AAA meeting
- Participate in the Mentoring Breakout sessions at the AAA meeting
- The SVA continues to sponsor "First Rites" a dedicated Undergraduate poster session at the AAA meeting, and to jury it for "exemplary posters" (to be featured in the SVA AN column and on the SVA website)

Early career scholars.

- Provided overview of SVA efforts to AAA taskforce on mentorship
- Include and encourage participation in the Visual Research Conference
- Maintain a listing of SVA Mentors on the SVA website
- Run workshops at AAA meeting
- Participate in the Mentoring Breakout sessions at the AAA meeting
Independent scholars.

- Provided overview of SVA efforts to AAA taskforce on mentorship
- Include and encourage participation in the Visual Research Conference
- Maintain a listing of SVA Mentors on the SVA website
- Run workshops at AAA meeting
- Participate in the Mentoring Breakout sessions at the AAA meeting

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.**

- The SVA Programming Chairs make a point of reaching out to as many sections as possible to co-invite AAA sessions.
- The SVA remains the single largest sponsor of Ethnographic Terminalia, including its efforts to bridge art and anthropology.
- The 2014 AES meeting on the theme of In/Visibility was conducted in conjunction with the SVA in Boston, MA, in April 2014. A programming committee of Jonathan S. Marion (chair), Jenny Chio, and Kate Hennessy worked directly with AES Meeting Director Sam Martinez on overall conference design, programming, and workshop offerings.
- SVA President Jonathan S. Marion attended the 2014 anual meeting of the International Visual Sociology Association (IVSA) and suggested considering cooperation on the next USA-based IVSA meetings (summer 2016).

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.**

- The redesigned SVA Website (http://societyforvisualanthropology.org/) is now our central source of SVA related information, content, and programming.
- The SVA maintains a gated listserve run by Past-president Liam Buckley.
- The SVA maintains a column in AN.
- The SVA runs a Facebook page (https://www.facebook.com/SocietyforVisualAnthropology), gated by several of the officers

Governance:

**Changes in bylaws or governance structure.**

- no change in bylaws.
- film & media festival organizers shifted to ex-officio editor positions to avoid conflicts of interest going forward.
- festival Director for the past 2 years, Harjant Gill, has been a disaster in the above regard -- running the film and media festival as a personal fiefdom, with minimal coordination with other SVA programming or the SVA President. It should be noted, however, that 2014 AAA EPC Mary Gray played a huge role in this year's problems -- please see "Ask AAA" for the merest hint at the level of disaster involved.
- new Festival co-directors Ulla Berg & Naomi Schiller will, hopefully, be better, but have already ignored some of the discussion SVA President Jonathan S. Marion had
with them in DC regarding the composition of the 2015 Festival jury.

Initiatives:

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

- Updating SVA's 2001 statement, endorsed by the AAA on the evaluation of visual media.
- Investigating pulling Film & Media Festival from AAA meeting (if continue to be charged for it at all).
- Pursue inclusion of dynamic content in Visual Anthropology Review, within AAA Service-level contract if possible, but 2014 Board meeting in DC selected this as top priority, and transition committee formed to pursue self-publishing if/as needed.

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.

- The SVA has been running the Visual Research Conference as a special event of the AAA meeting all day Tuesday and on Wednesday morning for over 20 years. As such, we categorically object to the switching of any workshops to these times.
- Mary Gray's tenure as AAA EPC was an unmitigated disaster for the SVA. Her "AAA Media Festival" featured the SVA-coordinated Film and Media Festival, the SVA-coordinated Digital Image Exhibit, and the SVA-sponsored (albeit independent) Ethnographic Terminalia. Promises made to the Media Festival and ET were not kept, promises made to the SVA Programming Chairs were not kept, internal divisions were created and grave distaste for anything related to the EPC will last for years. I cannot stress enough how problematic this has been, with "unmitigated disaster" being the most generous description the SVA can provide. At the 2014 meeting Jason Watkins acknowledged that no section was as decimated by Mary's meddling as the SVA, as in addition to all of the normal section complications there were major screw ups concerning the Film Festival and Ethnographic Terminalia (e.g. both were promised and set their initial programming around locations that weren't delivered, two specifically designed "Media Intensive" sessions weren't scheduled in rooms with this capacity, etc.).
- As per the above, and in light of Ed's recent neglect of the 2014 SA voice against Tuesday & Wednesday workshops, we suggest that the SA needs to try gaining veto rights for any major structural changes to AAA programming.

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

As noted under "Finances" the SVA has traditionally organized, juried, programmed, and run the annual film and media festival as a service to the AAA. Originally designated the AAA Film Festival, the name SVA Film Festival came into use simply out of recognition that it was SVA officers and members who were organizing and running this on a purely volunteer basis. As longtime AAA Director, Meetings and Conferences, Lucille Horn was fully aware of this, and included all Festival costs in her AAA meeting budget. Under recent
AAA Director, Meetings and Conferences, Jason Watkins, the SVA started to be charged for this event.

The Festival is already the SVA's single largest expense, and we are now being charged to underwrite this on behalf of the entire AAA. A conversation on this topic had been initiated with Jason Watkins and now past SA Convener Alec Barker, but the SVA had been asked to hold off on these negotiations by last year's EPC Programming Chair Mary Gray as she attempted to generate a larger AAA Media Festival. In short, however, the SVA is already spending tremendous financial and labor resources on providing this festival to the AAA membership at large, and should not also be being charged to finance the screenings at the national meetings. Being charged for this event is all the more appalling, when the rooms assigned are typically small, with low ceilings, and even pillars in the middle of the room (e.g. 2013, as shown to Alec).

If the SVA is to continue to be charged for this event, we will be exploring running it as a stand alone event at a different time and location of our choosing, and not in conjunction with the AAA annual meeting.

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

Staff coordination of the 2014 workshops was a disaster. I had three people show up in one workshop telling me that Andrew Russell informed them the workshop was either full or cancelled because he couldn't find it in the system. The workshop was neither full nor cancelled! How many other individuals didn't bother to come looking? This is cheating the section of workshop revenues and the AAA members of training opportunities. This is all that much more problematic since Ed used 2014 "statistics" as part of the justification to change the workshop scheduling.

As far as the overall AAA meeting programs, Carla Fernandez continues to be as thorough and thoughtful as could be imagined, and it is dumbfounding why she wasn't promoted to overall AAA Director, Meetings and Conferences, when Lucille Horn retired (or since).

Kudos too, to Oona Schmid and Kim Baker.