SURVEY OF POLICY INTERESTS AND ACTIVITIES OF AAA SECTIONS AND INTEREST GROUPS
Committee on Public Policy (CoPP)
Responses Received April-October 2010 (Eight)

Dear colleagues, the Committee on Public Policy has been revamped and re-energized, and is eager to begin working with you on our new charge of encouraging sections and interest groups to develop policy-related projects; enhancing communication and cooperation among AAA units on policy issues that cross-cut particular domains; and enhancing the visibility of anthropologists’ contributions to public policy debates. You have been identified as someone willing to serve as liaison. We would greatly appreciate your taking a few minutes to fill out the attached survey and returning it to Susan Greenhalgh and Monica Schoch-Spana, co-chairs of CoPP, by April 15, 2010 (smgreenh@uci.edu, mschoch@upmc-biosecurity.org). Many thanks for your time.

[1] ARCHAEOLOGY DIVISION

On behalf of the Archaeology Division:

1. What interests and/or activities does your section or interest group currently have in the realm of public policy? Please elaborate with specific examples.

For archaeologists, three major spheres of public policy are critical:
(1) preservation in the public domain of archaeological and historical sites and monuments, both in the US and abroad. This includes legislative initiatives; policy implementation; and definition of stakeholders. Recently, the conversion of such places into income-producing properties under tourism imperatives world-wide has loomed large. Lobbying by archaeologists for better funding of the NPS, engagement of archaeologist in debates about UNESCO World Heritage, service by many of us on boards of organizations like the Global Heritage Fund, and protests like those recently started against the commercialization of Chichen Itza, Mexico are examples.

(2) the international traffic in cultural properties, including but not limited to antiquities. In the US, this primarily means participation giving testimony in US State Department hearings on proposed MOUs.

(3) relations with indigenous peoples in the US and abroad. This includes but is not limited to the ongoing implementation of the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act in the US.

While I would identify these as the three central, widely shared, critical issues, recently, an emerging theme internationally has defined a fourth concern:

(4) the impact or involvement of archaeology in times of war or civil conflict. This includes everything from archaeologists working with the US State Department in war zones in Iraq and Afghanistan to try to train military in avoiding damage to cultural heritage or looting; to the campaign some of us led for the AAA to pass a resolution on the Honduran coup d'Etat.

2. What potential conversations, collaborations, and/or synergies can you envision around public policy issues?

While the issues above may seem to be very far removed from the other branches of anthropology, what they illustrate is that archaeologists have long established strong interests in governmental affairs. What
may be less obvious is that this extends to a broader range of issues concerning diversifying stakeholders in public policy formulation.

Some examples of archaeological engagement in what may seem unlikely issues are current research designed to address the challenges faced by undocumented workers entering the US over the Mexican border. This includes ethnoarchaeological work and bioarchaeological work, intended to humanize the challenges faced by these individuals on the one hand or identify the victims who die in the process.

It would be wonderful if the broader AAA could see the common ground in issues around cultural heritage/cultural properties. These are obviously central to archaeology, but they also engage anthropology and the broader public, and the interests that get represented in government are, not surprisingly, seldom those of the local stakeholders.

3. How can CoPP best help your section pursue its policy interests?
Archaeologists normally pursue their policy interests through other organizations. These other organizations regularly issue letters on public policy issues; promote testimony; arrange for working groups that meet outside the annual meeting (which result in policy papers); sponsor grant proposals to develop policies or materials (NSF for example has funded these); carried out surveys; and more. Right now, I do not see a formal process for any similar efforts to be supported by the AAA if the AD wished to pursue them.

4. The AAA public education project on RACE: Are We So Different? has been highly successful. With support from the Ford Foundation and the National Science Foundation, RACE has involved a traveling museum exhibition, an interactive website, and educational materials directed toward a wide audience, from middle-school kids to adults. For the details, please check the AAA website: [http://www.aaanet.org/resources/A-Public-Education-Program.cfm](http://www.aaanet.org/resources/A-Public-Education-Program.cfm)
Would your section be interested in working with other units to create another public education project along these lines? What topics do you think would be most productive as foci for public education projects of the AAA?

Yes, certainly. Indeed, the RACE project included one archaeologist on its board.

So, my advice would be that ANY topic that AAA decides to pursue, they should consult us, because archaeology today is intensely historical, intensely political, intensely engaged in the world. The normative archaeologist is actually a public practitioner, not an academic.

5. Could you please identify a permanent contact person -- preferably on the board with policy interests, so that we may communicate with him or in the future?

That would be me. I am in my first year as President Elect, and this has been identified as one of my roles.

Rosemary A. Joyce
Richard and Rhoda Goldman Distinguished Professor of Social Sciences
Professor of Anthropology
University of California, Berkeley
1. What interests and/or activities does your section or interest group currently have in the realm of public policy? Please elaborate with specific examples.

Our present interests lie in the following areas – global and national policies as they affect women and girls in particular. In particular:

a. Women's leadership and agency in formal and informal organizations (policies affecting political quotas, hiring and promotion, training and capacitation supports for girls & women)

b. Environmental change (policies affecting environmental regulation, especially with respect to cultural survival, and training for "green" and "disaster-ready" jobs, with a specific focus on women's needs).

c. Health, violence, disability (policies regulating gender data collection on health issues, the proposed International Violence Against Women Act, broader policies around gendered violence and health and disability, and how neoliberal economic policies affect health, security, and disability with respect to women & girls)

d. Migration, citizenship and family (policies regulating migrant labor, sexual harassment and domestic violence among immigrant women, family reunification, political asylum, same-sex immigration, literacy, and education)

e. Woman's rights and/as human rights (policies responding to FGM cases, trafficking vs sex work, war crimes and displacement)

f. Labor and education (policies affecting student loan and education support, child care quality and access, equal pay, work conditions for women, occupational training, and international trade [see d])

2. What potential conversations, collaborations, and/or synergies can you envision around public policy issues?

a. Collaborations with AAA Sections: Anthropology and Environment; Society for Medical Anthropology; Association for Political and Legal Anthropology; Disability Research Interest Group; Society for Anthropology of Work; Society of Lesbian and Gay Anthropologists and all those working on intersectional issues

b. Conversations on Envisioning just worlds from socialist and indigenous perspectives;

c. Links with progressive NGOs and political movements nationally and internationally;

d. Policy statements/press releases on timely topics;

e. Letters to the Editor on timely topics of political concern (US and internationally), e.g. health care for all as it affects women and children;

f. One specific idea for a timely panel/discussion would be on what many women's rights organizations (especially and including Latina organizations) are calling the bittersweet victory of the Obama healthcare.

Re #4, SOLGA has discussed proposing a second public education project on kinship, family, and
same-sex marriage, with attention to the social construction of sexuality and gender. AFA is interested in exploring this connection, using general interest in same-sex marriage and family forms in the US to provoke a deeper consideration of gender and sexuality cross-culturally. We would focus on the social construction of gender and diverse marriage, kinship and gendered practices (including gendered oppressions).

3. How can CoPP best help your section pursue its policy interests?

Maintain a clear focus within research, analysis, and presentation on intersectional differences such as gender, race, age, ethnicity, class, disability status, and sexuality within policy planning, implementation, and effect.

Keep us aware of policy proposals that impact women and children nationally and globally; Position papers; media press releases; calls to action with other groups.

4. The AAA public education project on RACE: Are We So Different? has been highly successful. With support from the Ford Foundation and the National Science Foundation, RACE has involved a traveling museum exhibition, an interactive website, and educational materials directed toward a wide audience, from middle-school kids to adults. For the details, please check the AAA website: http://www.aaanet.org/resources/A-Public-Education-Program.cfm

Would your section be interested in working with other units to create another public education project along these lines? What topics do you think would be most productive as foci for public education projects of the AAA?
See #2; we are interested in a project on kinship, gender, sexuality, and intersectionality.

5. Could you please identify a permanent contact person -- preferably on the board – with policy interests, so that we may communicate with him or in the future?

Permanent Contact: Jane Henrici, Study Director, Institute for Women’s Policy Research, Henrici@iwpr.org

14 April 2010

[3] SOCIETY FOR MEDICAL ANTHROPOLOGY

1. What interests and/or activities does your section or interest group currently have in the realm of public policy? Please elaborate with specific examples.

The SMA has numerous interests and activities in the realm of public policy. We currently have an SMA national health task force engaged in discussions about how to involve medical anthropologists, as well as anthropologists with other specializations, in ongoing health reform debates. We have had two meetings thus far, and have planned an interactive special event panel for the next AAA addressing the question “How can we more effectively translate ideas into policy?”

An important component of the SMA is its Special Interest Groups (SIG). These include the following:
AIDS and Anthropology Research
Complementary and Alternative Medicine and Integrative Medicine
Council on Anthropology and Reproduction
Disability Research
Critical Anthropology of Global Health Study Group  
Council on Nursing and Anthropology  
Alcohol, Drug, and Tobacco Study Group  
Science, Technology, and Medicine Interest Group  
Medical Anthropology Student Association

Each of these SIGs has policy interests. Among these are the alcohol, drugs & tobacco study group, which has a policy position paper on the tobacco control initiative. The link is:  
http://www2.aptron.com/~adtsg/news.htm

Social science studies of CAM and Integrative Medicine are also trying to develop a policy statement.  
Link:  
http://socscicamim.net/node/81

The SMA website (www.medanthronet.org) has a policy site, “SMA Takes a Stand,” which features position statements by diverse SIGs. These have focused on such issues as tobacco, children’s health, the global gag rule, immigrant health, among others. Current and previous statements can be found on the website. Through “SMA Takes a Stand,” the SMA encourages special interest groups to develop policy statements which are accessible on the website and disseminated to press and other media venues. The SMA website also has a blog, “Voices from Medical Anthropology,” the theme of which is currently “who are we in the public imagination?”

The SMA holds a joint meeting every other year with the SFAA, further indicating the Society’s interest in engaging both academic and practicing anthropologists in workshops, sessions, and other events.

2. What potential conversations, collaborations, and/or synergies can you envision around public policy issues?

I wonder if there were more publicity about the “SMA Takes a Stand” concept, might we collaborate with other sections with related interests and a desire for media coverage? Similarly, the health task force has discussed how valuable it would be for us to talk with/work with economic anthropologists, political anthropologists, others with policy experience, so we can tackle questions such as “how has the economic downturn affected family/household health?”

3. How can CoPP best help your section pursue its policy interests?

We have had difficulty determining how to connect with politicians, policy makers, foundations, potentially interested in what anthropologists have to say about health care (and also possible funding sources). We hope that CoPP has developed or will develop links and liaisons that will assist us in pursuing policy interests so that groups such as ours will be more effective, more quickly.

4. The AAA public education project on RACE: Are We So Different? has been highly successful. With support from the Ford Foundation and the National Science Foundation, RACE has involved a traveling museum exhibition, an interactive website, and educational materials directed toward a wide audience, from middle-school kids to adults. For the details, please check the AAA website:  
http://www.aaanet.org/resources/A-Public-Education-Program.cfm

Would your section be interested in working with other units to create another public education
project along these lines? What topics do you think would be most productive as foci for public education projects of the AAA?

The RACE project was just here in St. Louis; it’s truly outstanding. I have thought about whether valuable, or volatile…I haven’t thought out details, though.

5. Could you please identify a permanent contact person -- preferably on the board – with policy interests, so that we may communicate with him or in the future?

The board has asked me to serve as contact:

Carolyn Sargent (I’m past president for the next year, on the board, and ongoing chair of the health task force)
Department of Anthropology
Washington University in St. Louis
One Brookings Drive
St. Louis, MO 63130
Tel. 214-695-6949
314-935-3860

14 April 2010

[4] SOCIETY FOR CULTURAL ANTHROPOLOGY

1. What interests and/or activities does your section or interest group currently have in the realm of public policy? Please elaborate with specific examples.

Many of our public policy initiatives have taken place by way of our journal, Cultural Anthropology. On the one hand, the journal has responded to emerging public policy issues in ways that combine intellectual and activist sensibilities. A good example of this was the journal's special issue on the Coke Complex, which explored the corporation's overseas activities and entanglements. A future journal issue on Indigenousities emerged in response to discussions within the AAA on the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous People. In response to a more pressing set of events, the journal provided discussion forum offering background on the political crisis emerging in Pakistan several years ago. Finally, we have organized a Public Advisory Board, involving people from the policy and activist world, which meets annually at the AAA and has sponsored roundtable discussion involving CA authors on topics ranging from security to sexuality.

Another avenue of policy related activity for the SCA has been our Culture@ Large sessions. In these author-meets-the critics events, we invite a non-anthropologist guest to speak, and anthropologists to respond. We've invited scholars from other disciplines ranging from literature to government; often topics have touched upon policy related issues. This year's event is a good example of this; we're having David Theo Goldberg, Director of the Humanities Institute at Irvine, speak on the militarization of the social, with special reference to Katrina and its aftermath.

Our biannual Spring Conferences often speak to public policy issues. Our theme this year is "NatureCulture," and there will be papers addressing environmental and bioethical questions from a range of perspectives.
Finally, in connection with the Goldberg event, we are experimenting with a new program at this year's AAA: an SCA@Large Field Trip. We'll be taking a group to Jackson Barracks and the Ninth Ward on a tour organized by Shannon Dawdy, an archeologist who has written about New Orleans distant and recent past. Besides publishing on the colonial period, Shannon has been writing about her experience as a FEMA archeologist in the aftermath of Katrina. She is planning to hook us up with local activists from the Ninth Ward as part of this tour.

2. What potential conversations, collaborations, and/or synergies can you envision around public policy issues?

It would be great to know more about the programs in this arena that other sections have tried. Overall, it seems like a great time for anthropologists to learn to be interdisciplinary in ways that stretch beyond the usual fellow travelers.

3. How can CoPP best help your section pursue its policy interests?

I would have to think about this question; it is one thing for a section like the SCA to generate discussion on issues with relevance to policy; it is another to expand the audience for these conversations beyond anthropologists. That seems like an area that CoPP could work on.

4. The AAA public education project on RACE: Are We So Different? has been highly successful. With support from the Ford Foundation and the National Science Foundation, RACE has involved a traveling museum exhibition, an interactive website, and educational materials directed toward a wide audience, from middle-school kids to adults. For the details, please check the AAA website: http://www.aaanet.org/resources/A-Public-Education-Program.cfm

Would your section be interested in working with other units to create another public education project along these lines? What topics do you think would be most productive as foci for public education projects of the AAA?

I admire and support this initiative. I'm somewhat hesitant, though, for SCA to take the lead on any new initiatives given the programs we currently have underway. But we could definitely discuss playing a supporting role.

5. Could you please identify a permanent contact person -- preferably on the board -- with policy interests, so that we may communicate with him or in the future?

For the moment, I'm happy to be the contact person. But I will inquire during our next board meeting to see if someone else would like to take on this role going forward.

Danilyn Rutherford
Associate Professor
Department of Anthropology
1156 High Street
Santa Cruz, CA 95064

President
Society for Cultural Anthropology
8 April 2010

[5] SOCIETY FOR LATIN AMERICAN AND CARIBBEAN ANTHROPOLOGY

1. What interests and/or activities does your section or interest group currently have in the realm of public policy? Please elaborate with specific examples.

Sessions on:
Migration
Human Rights
Social movements
Environment
Etc.

At the joint meeting with the Society for Applied Anthropology (March 2010):

| Politicizing Research: Balancing Local Politics, Youth Gangs, and Tradition in Oaxaca (SLACA) |
| CHAIR: GWYNNE, Ryan (San Diego State U) |
| GWYNNE, Ryan (San Diego State U) Navigating Power: Custom and Confrontation in Municipal Politics |
| MERINO CHAVEZ, Nadia (San Diego State U), MERINO CHAVEZ, Nidia and COHEN, Jeffrey H. (Ohio State U), and PEREZ, Ramona L. (San Diego State) Alimentos Locales y la Economía Global: Los Resultados del Sur de México |
| BATES, Jessica and JOHNSTON, Kathryn (San Diego State U) Disarticulation of the Family Unit and Community Belonging: Consequences, Narratives, and Perceptions of Change |
| SfAA 2010 Preliminary Program • January 24, 2010 8 |
| MEJIA, Noe (San Diego State U) Ni Aquí Ni Allá: A Community Torn by Youth Migration and Reintegration |
| DISCUSSANT: PEREZ, Ramona L. (San Diego State U) |

| “I Don’t Know This Place”: Agency and Exclusion of Transmigrant Workers (SLACA) |
| CHAIR: GOMBERG-MUNOZ, Ruth (U Illinois-Chicago) |
| NUSSBAUM-BARBERENA, Laura (U Illinois-Chicago) From Both Sides: Bi-National Networks of Nicaraguan Migrants in Costa Rica |
| RODKEY, Evin (U Illinois-Chicago) “Thank God for These Call Centers”: Deportation and Reproduction of Labor Relations |
| PEOPLES, Damian (U Illinois-Chicago) Manliness within Marginality: Senegalese Migrant Masculinity in France |
| GOMBERG-MUNOZ, Ruth (U Illinois-Chicago) Consent and Contradiction: Narratives of Resistance Among Undocumented Mexican Workers |
| DAVIS, Stephen P. (U Illinois-Chicago) SI SE PUEDE: Immigrant Activism in Chicago |

<p>| The Possibilities and Limitations of Fair Trade and Third-Party Certification (SLACA) |
| CHAIRS: O’CONNELL, Caela (UNC-Chapel Hill) and O’DONNELL, Katherine (Hartwick Coll) |
| DOANE, Molly (U Illinois-Chicago) Colonial Coffee/Revolution Roast: Changing Representation |</p>
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<td>CHAIR: ITURRIAGA, Eugenia (UNAM)</td>
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<td>DISCUSSANTS:</td>
<td>ITURRIAGA, Eugenia (UNAM) and SALDIVAR, Emiko (UC-Santa Barbara)</td>
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<td>Turismo, Migración y Trabajo Precario en el Sureste Mexicano (SLACA)</td>
<td>CHAIR: OEHMICHEN, Cristina (U Nacional Autonoma De Mexico)</td>
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<td>Migración, Género, Antropología: El Caso de Yucatán</td>
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<td>SOLIS LIZAMA, Mirian and FORTUNY, Patricia (CIESAS)</td>
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<td>OEHMICHEN, Cristina (U Nacional Autonoma De Mexico)</td>
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<td>Migración y Racializacion de las Relaciones Laborales en Cancún</td>
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<td>Global Interventions in Motherhood: Cross-cultural Analysis of Mothers’ Narratives (SLACA)</td>
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<td>Afghan Mothers in the Diaspora</td>
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<td>Engaging Engagement in Latin American Identity Politics: From Anthropological Activism to the Anthropology of Activism (SLACA)</td>
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<td>Becoming Quilombola: Inventing Maroon Communities on the Brazilian Frontier</td>
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<td>GANDSMAN, Ari (U Ottawa)</td>
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<td>Anthropology and the Reproduction of Conventional Knowledge:</td>
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2. What potential conversations, collaborations, and/or synergies can you envision around public policy issues?

In addition, our sessions, Conversation across the Americas session, at the AAA annual meetings, brings together activists and researchers. Next year’s topic, at the AAA may be on disasters.

At our spring meetings, our Kearney spring speaker series we invite a speaker who has influenced anthropology as a discipline, worked collaboratively with their communities, and established mentoring relationships with future generations of anthropologists.

3. How can CoPP best help your section pursue its policy interests?

We have discussed making a policy statement, and I’ve drafted with a group of colleagues at the Society for Economic Anthropology, a ‘letter to Obama’. I think that anthropologists have a lot to say, and, unlike in other countries, we’re never listened to!!

4. The AAA public education project on RACE: Are We So Different? has been highly successful. With support from the Ford Foundation and the National Science Foundation, RACE has involved a traveling museum exhibition, an interactive website, and educational materials directed toward a wide audience, from middle-school kids to adults. For the details, please check the AAA website: http://www.aaanet.org/resources/A-Public-Education-Program.cfm

Would your section be interested in working with other units to create another public education project along these lines? What topics do you think would be most productive as foci for public education projects of the AAA?

Yes. I think in this case, the migration issue would be the most relevant.

5. Could you please identify a permanent contact person -- preferably on the board – with policy interests, so that we may communicate with him or in the future?

MARTHA REES, Secretary.
mrees@agnesscott.edu

3 May 2010
1. What interests and/or activities does your section or interest group currently have in the realm of public policy? Please elaborate with specific examples.

Not a lot to date. I would like to initiate outreach to Wash DC, and certainly K-12.

2. What potential conversations, collaborations, and/or synergies can you envision around public policy issues?

Real time, real world, real people/places information on E. Asia. Academics need to be more constructively incorporated into decision making processes, and as multi-perspective debaters, not as “official story” tellers.

3. How can CoPP best help your section pursue its policy interests?

Help forge connections with local/fed govt. agencies.

4. The AAA public education project on RACE: Are We So Different? has been highly successful. With support from the Ford Foundation and the National Science Foundation, RACE has involved a traveling museum exhibition, an interactive website, and educational materials directed toward a wide audience, from middle-school kids to adults. For the details, please check the AAA website: http://www.aaanet.org/resources/A-Public-Education-Program.cfm

Would your section be interested in working with other units to create another public education project along these lines? What topics do you think would be most productive as foci for public education projects of the AAA?

Public TV, K-12 modules on E. Asia

5. Could you please identify a permanent contact person -- preferably on the board – with policy interests, so that we may communicate with him or in the future?

Feel free to contact me, as I’m pres. of SEAA through 2011 (jennyrob@umich.edu, or jrocketson@aol.com)

14 May 2010
1. What interests and/or activities does your section or interest group currently have in the realm of public policy? Please elaborate with specific examples.

This group seeks is to increase awareness of the ways in which language is implicated in social discrimination, both within the AAA and among the general public, to effect policy and, where appropriate, to respond to specific instances of language-related discrimination and injustice. Its mission is advise the AAA Committee on Human Rights, the AAA Executive Board, and other AAA bodies on how the AAA as a whole should respond to issues concerning language and social justice.

This past year we have continued to attempt to influence the US Census Bureau with regard to Language Questions and ways it classifies speakers (it asks people to self rate their English speaking ability as “very well”, “well” “not well”, “not at all”). We also asked the USCB to reconsider the term "linguistic isolation." We have reported on our efforts in several issues of the AN, and written a bilingual op-ed for NYC's El Diario-La Prensa (Feb 23, 09). We are awaiting a response to the alternatives we proposed to the Census Bureau in May 2009, as per their request.

We compiled a list of experts who can speak to issues of language and discrimination with contact information. This was provided to Joseph Jones and is distributed to venues that host the AAA RACE project.

A chapter, written by one of our members (Bonnie Urciuoli), on linguistic discrimination will be included in the book that Yolanda Moses and Alan Goodman are editing as part of the AAA RACE project.

One of our members (Sammi Alim) published an article on public outcry over the DEA’s recruitment of “Ebonics speakers” in its effort to strengthen drug enforcement and is working on a follow-up piece directed to Anthropologists to be published in AN.

We are now working to get the NYTimes [and other media] to stop labeling indigenous and other languages as "dialects." A member, Kathryn Howard, is drafting the letter to the NYT copy editor in charge of editorial policy.

We are working on Arizona's English fluency initiative (April 2010), which replaces teachers "who speak English with an accent," although they have passed English tests in order to have an AZ drivers’ license.

We have initiate discussions with representatives of the national campaign against “the i-word”: "illegal" in "illegal aliens." This will be discussed at our meeting at the AAA meetings in November.

We post a website at the SLA portal to host information as well as syllabi, etc. on language & social justice issues.

2. What potential conversations, collaborations, and/or synergies can you envision around public policy issues?
For the campaign against "Linguistically Isolated," we have garnered the support of the Hispanic Advisory Board to the Census Bureau as well as of several national organizations that passed our resolution (National Council of Teachers of English, the Conference for College Composition and Communication, American Association for Applied Linguistics). Other groups that can be contacted about this issue and all the others on our agenda include the Linguistic Society of America, Teachers of English as a Second Language (TESOL), the National Association for Bilingual Education, and national associations that represent distinct linguistic minorities.

3. How can CoPP best help your section pursue its policy interests?

CoPP can disseminate our efforts via op eds in distinct newspapers, and write letters of support/follow up to the Census Bureau, urging them to respond to our May 2010 letter. Via Damon Dozier, we have had contact with Congressional Representatives and Committees regarding AAA’s position on the Language Questions and Linguistic Classifications (per the AAA resolution we initiated that passed in 2007). We anticipate needing similar support with regard to the pejorative term “illegal aliens” and the DEA’s position regarding Ebonics.

4. The AAA public education project on RACE: Are We So Different? has been highly successful. With support from the Ford Foundation and the National Science Foundation, RACE has involved a traveling museum exhibition, an interactive website, and educational materials directed toward a wide audience, from middle-school kids to adults. For the details, please check the AAA website: http://www.aaanet.org/resources/A-Public-Education-Program.cfm

Would your section be interested in working with other units to create another public education project along these lines? What topics do you think would be most productive as foci for public education projects of the AAA?

We would be particularly interested in a project (or part of a project) that focuses on LANGUAGE RIGHTS/LANGUAGE AS HUMAN RIGHTS. We are also in favor of a public education project that focuses on LANGUAGE and SOCIAL CHANGE.

5. Could you please identify a permanent contact person -- preferably on the board – with policy interests, so that we may communicate with him or in the future?

Laura Graham occupies the Linguistic Seat on the AAA Executive Board.

6 October 2010

[8] ASSOCIATION OF SENIOR ANTHROPOLOGISTS

1. What interests and/or activities does your section or interest group currently have in the realm of public policy? Please elaborate with specific examples.

Opportunities for retirees for continuing professional involvement, e.g., assisting retired faculty to organize. Greater use of senior anthropologists’ expertise and collective memory in AAA issues related
to policy. Economic issues for retirees within AAA (see attached). Mentoring and serving as resources for students and new professionals, e.g. possibility of starting a registry of senior anthropologists as potential discussants (indexed by subjects) for meeting sessions.

2. What potential conversations, collaborations, and/or synergies can you envision around public policy issues?

See “Alternate Generations” roundtable at last year’s (2009) AAA meeting cosponsored by NASA and ASA as an example of what we’ve done lately.

3. How can CoPP best help your section pursue its policy interests?

Not sure. I’ll suggest it for the agenda at our next business meeting in New Orleans.

4. The AAA public education project on RACE: Are We So Different? has been highly successful. With support from the Ford Foundation and the National Science Foundation, RACE has involved a traveling museum exhibition, an interactive website, and educational materials directed toward a wide audience, from middle-school kids to adults. For the details, please check the AAA website: http://www.aaanet.org/resources/A-Public-Education-Program.cfm

Would your section be interested in working with other units to create another public education project along these lines? What topics do you think would be most productive as foci for public education projects of the AAA?

I’ll suggest it for our agenda in New Orleans.

5. Could you please identify a permanent contact person -- preferably on the board -- with policy interests, so that we may communicate with him or in the future?

For now, I am it. Will call for selection of a permanent contact at our business meeting.

J. Anthony Paredes
President
Assoc. of Senior Anthropologists

25 April 2010