1) Please list your Committee, Commission or Task Force Objectives and Responsibilities as stated in your group’s charge:

Objectives

Association Operations Committee
Committee Charge

Objectives: This committee reviews association administrative issues, academic and external relations, governance issues, membership benefits, section relations, and financial resources.

Duration of Committee: Permanent
Committee Reports to: The Executive Board

Responsibilities

Responsibilities:

- Review new section and interest group applications and monitors continuing eligibility and membership numbers;
- Respond to concerns about the structure of the AAA, especially the liaison between sections, committees, and the AAA administration and memberships;
- Five-year review of all standing committees;
- Reviews AAA member dues and benefits;
- Reviews projects and initiatives of the AAA and the financial resources necessary to carry them out;
- Reviews external relations of the association;
- Reviews Association personnel policies that need action by the Executive Board.

2) Please list your Group’s goals, activities and accomplishments/products for the designated Period in relation to the AAA’s long range plan:

Goal 1:
1. Contribute to growth of anthropology as a discipline and profession that unites science, social science, and the humanities. 2. Help to promote diversity in AAA and the field

Activity:
1. While the AOC had prepared its statement on “What is Anthropology?” for the AAA
website by the end of 2010, this statement became very useful in the heated discussion that followed the posting of the AAA Long Range Plan in 2011. During the discussion of why the EB had left “science” out of the document, we were able to note that the EB had approved the AOC’s statement in which science was included at the same national meeting. 2. In response to an initiative to respond to the expressed view of the governor of Florida, the AOC supported a proposal to build an AAA interactive website showcasing the work of anthropologists. An AOC sub-group was formed and we are in the process of identifying advisory members to work with this group. 3. Reviewed committee reports as per our charge; AAA President and AOC Chair sent letters with review outcomes in an effort to contribute to long range goals. 4. Reviewed requests from committees wishing to offer prizes. 5. Reviewed AAA committee charges with a view to standardizing them. 6. At the 2011 AAA, the AOC established a subcommittee to respond to the CRRA report on discrimination in anthropology. The subcommittee is actively working on this now.

Accomplishment/Product:
1. Contributed to the response of AAA to the criticism of the Long Range Plan. 2. EB and AAA agreed to support the AOC’s proposal for an interactive website to better inform the public about the value of anthropology to society. 3. Offered feedback to reviewed committees so that they can become more effective in meeting long range goals. 4. Responded to requests from committees wishing to offer prizes (committee on Ethics) 5. Proposed and approved changes to committee charges. 6. Set up a mechanism to respond to the CRRA report. The first AOC action was to propose to the EB at its May 2011 meeting a revised charge to the CMIA and a stipulation that it would include appointed members to give the CMIA greater strength.

Explain any Gaps or Lack of Accomplishment Product:
None

Relevant Objective in Long-Range Plan:
1. Build knowledge across sub-fields of anthropology. 2. Increase attention to diversity in the field.

3) Provide any additions or proposed changes to goals, activities, products or outcomes for the designated period:

Goals:
None

Proposed Changes:
None

Activities:
Within the subcommittee responding to the CRRA report, one goal was to prepare a survey instrument that would enable us to have better demographic information about the diversity of
AAA membership.

**Proposed Changes:**
The AOC subcommittee began work on survey questions, but then reprioritized so that more attention would go to preparing a AAA roundtable and an AN column that would move the discussion forward. We also determined that we should add new members to the group from outside the AOC, with representatives from CMIA and the former CRRA. Based on our discussion in late 2011, we added three new members in early 2012.

**Products/Outcomes:**
None

**Proposed Changes:**
None

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4) **Provide plans for 2012 in relation to existing or new goals/activities and relationship to the Objective in the Committee's or Commission's Charge and Long-Range Plan Objective (if not self-evident). Identify if they represent significant changes or elaborations on existing goals, objective activities, charge etc:**

**Committee/Commission Objective 1:**
Respond to CRRA report and address discrimination in anthropology profession

**LRP Objective 1:**
Enhance diversity in anthropology profession.

**New Goal and or Activity 1:**
AOC subcommittee is at work with three new outside members to address discrimination in the anthropology profession, forming a AAA roundtable and an AN column.

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5) **List financial and other resources in hand to complete the proposed work of the Committee, Commission or Task force for the coming year and explain any additional resources . Please list separately:**

a. **Resources in hand or being sought independent of the AAA:**
The AOC depends on existing resources of the AAA staff to enable us to do our work. When the AOC proposed at the November 2011 meeting that the AAA support an initiative to create an interactive website for anthropologists around the country and perhaps the globe to share
information on the work of anthropologists, the EB and AAA staff agreed that this could be done with current AAA resources.

b. Requests for additional resources from the AAA. Specify clearly which specific goals/activities etc. require additional resources from each source:

None

6) Have there been or do you propose any changes to the Objective or the Responsibilities of your Committee, Commission or Task Force If so, what are they and what is the rationale for them:

   Current Objective 1:
   not applicable

   Responsibility:
   not applicable

   Proposed Change:
   not applicable

   Rational for Change:
   not applicable

7) Are there issues you would like raised or recommendations would you like to make to the AAA Executive Board related to the work of your committee commission or task force?

Two of the recent areas of activity of the AOC, the subcommittee responding to the report of the CRRA and the initiative to have an interactive website addressing the contributions of anthropologists to the public sphere, appear to go beyond the parameters of our charge. We might wish to consider whether to amend the charge so as to recognize that the AOC at times goes beyond the more narrow parameters of reviewing the work of other committees and commissions of AAA. We might also wish to set structures for determining when the work begun by the AOC should be taken further by other entities. For example, should the AOC subcommittee responding to the CRRA report have a short term mission, followed by AAA creating a task force that would continue to respond to concerns raised about discrimination in anthropology? These are questions that we have not yet addressed in AOC, but we might wish to do so at the May 2012 meeting.