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2008-2009 Status, Activities and Accomplishments
1. 609 Members as of 10/31/09
   a. As a section we have seen our numbers decrease significantly over the past few years, but this is in line with current trends among most of the AAA sections. In part this is because of the global economic crisis, but has also caused us to try to create value in NASA membership. We offered discounted workshops to members for the past two years, we have created the student guide to the AAAs for three years, created an academic poster how-to guide and offered several awards for members.

2. Financial Balance as of 10/31/09: $15,331.59
   a. Factors affecting our finances include our ability to recruit and retain members and to insure (as well as possible) that all participants in our fee-based workshops are paying participants. The latter is an issue that should be addressed in reference to "Student Saturday" that is planned the next annual meeting.

3. Section AAA meeting invited sessions, co-sponsored session, any special events
   a. The program committee this year received 6 posters submissions, 15 paper submissions and 5 session submissions. After working with panel organizers and paper authors, the committee was able to put forth 13 panels to the AAA, all of which were accepted.
   b. NASA was able to split panel time with several other sections including the Association for Political and Legal Anthropology, the Association of Senior Anthropologists, the Committee on Minority Issues in Anthropology, the Society for the Anthropology of North America.

4. Spring meeting activities: N/A

5. Mentorship efforts
   a. NASA offered the Student Mentoring Workshop at the AAA meeting for the ninth year. The workshop not only aids students who are seeking mentoring, but offers junior scholars an opportunity to interact with both students and senior scholars on issues related to mentoring.
   b. During my tenure as President of NASA I focused on maintaining the momentum created during the past few years along with fellow NASA officers. In particular I continued my previous work on mentoring through participation in two separate AAA task forces: the Section Assembly Mentorship Task Force and the NAPA (Nat’l Assn of Practicing Anthropologists) Task Force on Mentoring. Through
these two efforts I contacted students and professors/practicing anthropologists to determine best practices for mentoring. Results of each of these task forces were presented at this year’s AAA meeting in the Section Assembly and the NAPA Governing Board meeting.

c. The NASA Program Committee works with students to organize panels and sessions for the AAA Annual Meeting. This type of mentoring serves two purposes: first, it enables students to broaden their academic networks and seek out students and faculty who are interested in similar topics; and second, it reduces the number of individual papers that are submitted to NASA for review and that may result in unfocused panels at the AAAs.

6. Outreach:
   a. NASA partnered with the Association of Senior Anthropologists to co-sponsor a roundtable bringing together seniors and students to discuss the current state of anthropology, and the future directions of the field. Plans were made to continue the collaboration in coming years. In addition, NASA officers began communication with officers from the Society of Anthropology in Community Colleges to collaborate in the future.
   b. John Trainor, President-Elect, working with COPAPIA, completed a survey on the role of practicing and applied anthropology within NASA and the association in general. The results of this survey were discussed at the 2009 Annual Meeting in a roundtable format.

7. Awards
   a. Travel Award, 12/2/09, Angela Glaros from University of Illinois
   b. Travel Award, 12/2/09, Michelle Stewart from UC Davis
   c. Carrie Hunter Tate Award, 12/2/09, Serena Stein from University of Pennsylvania

8. Status and use of Section internal communications, such as website, list serve, newsletter (website, facebook group, list serve, e-Journal, AN column)
   a. AN Column: This year we have kept the focus of the NASA “Section News” (published in the AAA monthly newsletter) on student writing and highlights of NASA section activities. Contributing writers for the column included current undergraduate and graduate students, as well as recent graduates, and topics ranged from ethnography and poetry, anthropology and activism, and undergraduate experiences in participating at the annual meeting. In the second half of 2009, the column was dedicated mostly to promoting NASA events at the annual meeting while also introducing some of the newly elected officers and members of NASA to the wider anthropological community.
   b. E-Journal: The NASA e-Journal had been scheduled for publication fall 2008, however, due to staffing issues the committee agreed to combine the fall 2008 and spring 2009 issues, and the final formatted and edited version of the NASA e-Journal was sent to the NASA webmaster, Sheena Harris, to be published online prior to the AAA annual meeting in December. It contains three research papers and six commentary or opinions pieces.

9. Changes in bylaws: N/A

Future Plans or Activities in next 3-5 years (this portion prepared by current 2009-2010 NASA president, John Trainor)
1. Plans specifically aimed at increasing membership and/or broadening membership?
   a. Over the next few years NASA hopes to increase its membership specifically by targeting undergrads, a group our section (and the association) has had difficulty recruiting in the past. We are implementing a survey of both undergrads and anthro clubs in spring 2009 to try to find ways to incorporate undergrads better in our section. In general, we would like to increase our graduate student membership as well. To do this we are working to emphasize the value of NASA both at the conference and via our new web presence (set to launch in early February).

2. Plans or activities aimed at creating new forms of scholarly communication or changing existing publications/communications?
   a. We would like to showcase the work of authors published in our e-journal at the annual meeting. While we will not be able to do this for the 2010 meeting, we hope to have an invited panel with e-journal authors in 2011.

3. Any other projects?
   a. NASA in the next year or two hopes to examine our bylaws- in particular regulations around officer duties and missing officers.

4. What collaboration is your Section doing with other Sections, Interest Groups, or outside groups on the projects listed above?
   a. We hope to work closely with the Society for Anthropology in Community Colleges as we recruit undergrads to NASA and the AAA. Also, we hope to continue our collaboration with CoPAPIA to increase the presence of practicing and applied anthropology in the association.

Chief Concerns and Issues

1. What issues would you like raised or recommendations would you like to make to the Section Assembly leadership?
   a. NASA officers are satisfied with the level of attention that the SA, Executive Board and AAA Staff have been giving to the needs of students, as well as their focus on mentoring in recent years. At this time we do not have any additional issues that we would like to raise, but will be in regular communication with the student representative on the Executive board who is a former NASA president.

2. What issues… to AAA Executive Board

3. What issues… to AAA Staff
   a. NASA officers would like to work closer with the Meeting staff to ensure that Student Saturday efforts are coordinated, and to publicize the events to undergraduates and anthropology clubs.