Section Annual Report Form

Briefly provide the information requested on the form below. If the question does not apply to your Section, please note that it is “not applicable” instead of leaving it blank.

Association for Africanist Anthropology (AfAA)

Please try to keep the responses to questions below as succinct as possible

I Please provide, names and e-mail addresses of the Section officers and board members during the period covered:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Email</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Maria G. Cattell, Pres.</td>
<td><a href="mailto:mgcattell@aol.com">mgcattell@aol.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bennetta Jules-Rosette, Immed. Past Pres.</td>
<td><a href="mailto:bjulesrosette@ucsd.edu">bjulesrosette@ucsd.edu</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Mwenda Ntarangwi, Treas.</td>
<td><a href="mailto:mwendantarangwi@yahoo.com">mwendantarangwi@yahoo.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yolanda Covington-Ward, Sec.</td>
<td><a href="mailto:ydc1@pitt.edu">ydc1@pitt.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>David Turkon, Program Editor</td>
<td><a href="mailto:dturkon@ithaca.edu">dturkon@ithaca.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Benjamin Soares, Internatl. Liaison</td>
<td><a href="mailto:Bsoares@ascleiden.nl">Bsoares@ascleiden.nl</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>David Coplan, Internatl. Liaison</td>
<td><a href="mailto:David.Coplan@wits.ac.za">David.Coplan@wits.ac.za</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jennifer Coffman, AN Contrib. Editor</td>
<td><a href="mailto:coffmaje@jmu.edu">coffmaje@jmu.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Betty Harris, Chair, Book Award Ctte.</td>
<td><a href="mailto:bharris@ou.edu">bharris@ou.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gwendolyn Mikell, Book Award Ctte.</td>
<td><a href="mailto:mikkell@georgetown.edu">mikkell@georgetown.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wayne Osborn, Webmaster</td>
<td><a href="mailto:w.h.osborn@gmail.com">w.h.osborn@gmail.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Erica Fontana, Graduate Student Rep.</td>
<td><a href="mailto:efontana@weber.ucsd.edu">efontana@weber.ucsd.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>James Gibbs, Emeritus</td>
<td><a href="mailto:jgibbs@stanford.edu">jgibbs@stanford.edu</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

II Status, Activities and Accomplishments this year

1) Provide the most recent membership numbers and list any factors you think may be increasing or decreasing your Section membership:

   Number of Members_351 (as of 11/30/10)________________

   Factors affecting Membership:

We are active in keeping ourselves “out there” among various constituencies:

   ● Visibility at annual meeting in scientific program & other events, especially our well-attended reception with awards presentation & distinguished lecture

   ● Elliott P. Skinner Book Award

   ● Student Paper Awards (undergraduate & graduate)
• AN column—highlights AfAA news and events for members and members’ scholarship; also links board, which reviews/contributes to drafts

• International Liaisons—expand our contacts and visibility in Europe & Africa

• Website

2) Provide the most recent financial balances for Section budgets (and publication sponsored budgets, if applicable). Also list any factors you think are affecting your Section’s finances:

Financial Balance: __$32,537.51 (as of 11/30/10)_________________

Publications: (if applicable) _Not applicable____________

Factors affecting Finances:

• Good membership numbers

• Cost of reception (for outreach and community building among Africanists)

3) 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. Check with your program chairs if needed: When providing session information please note if these are invited or co-sponsored and if the later please list them.

**Sessions:**

1) Secularism/Religion/Nationalism Reconfigured: African and Middle Eastern Perspectives (invited & cosponsored with Middle East section)

2) African Identities at Home and in the Diaspora (invited)

3) Short Circuits: The Circulation of African and African Diasporic Art, Film, and Music in Global Contexts (invited)

4) Invited Roundtable Honoring Nancy (Penny) Schwartz: Dreaming in Color about Black Marys, Women’s Postmortem Agency, Transspecies Anthropology, Elephant Dung, and Other Aspects of Kenya Luo Culture and Their Broader Implications

**Other Events:**

1) AfAA Board Breakfast

2) AfAA Annual Business Meeting

3) AfAA Reception & Awards Presentation
4) AfAA Distinguished Lecture

4). List spring meeting activities (if applicable): Not applicable

1) 
2) 
3) 

5) List awards presented this year on behalf of your Section, if applicable (please provide the title of the award, date presented, and full name, affiliation, and title of the project/paper/accomplishment of the awardees):

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title of Award</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Recipient</th>
<th>Affiliation</th>
<th>Project/Paper/etc</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Elliott P. Skinner Book Award—Winner</td>
<td>11/19/10</td>
<td>Trevor Marchand</td>
<td>SOAS/U of London</td>
<td>Book: <em>The Masons of Djenné</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Skinner Book Award—Hon. Mention</td>
<td>11/19/10</td>
<td>Jon Holtzman</td>
<td>Western Michigan U</td>
<td>Book: <em>Uncertain Tastes</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Skinner Book Award—Hon. Mention</td>
<td>11/19/10</td>
<td>Ivor Miller</td>
<td>Boston U</td>
<td>Book: <em>The Voice of the Leopard</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Graduate Student Paper Award—Winner</td>
<td>11/19/10</td>
<td>David Platzer</td>
<td>Johns Hopkins U</td>
<td>Paper: “African literature and its institutions”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Graduate Student Paper Award—Hon. Mention</td>
<td>11/19/10</td>
<td>Naomi Haynes</td>
<td>UC-San Diego</td>
<td>Paper: “Pentecostalism and the morality of money: religious &amp; economic value on the Zambian Copperbelt”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Undergraduate Student Paper Award—Winner</td>
<td>11/19/10</td>
<td>Narisa Silver</td>
<td>UC-San Diego</td>
<td>Paper: “Continuity and change in the Ethiopian Jewish community of Israel”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Distinguished Lecture</td>
<td>11/19/10</td>
<td>J. Lorand Matory</td>
<td>Duke U</td>
<td>Lecture: “Sacred double consciousness: the signs of citizenship and of spirit possession in the Afro-Atlantic world”</td>
</tr>
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</table>
6) Mentorship efforts (at or beyond the AAA meetings) to any of the following:

1) Undergraduate and/or graduate students:

   ● Graduate Student Representative to the board—networks with other graduate students & encourages submissions to AAA program

   Students preparing papers for consideration for the following awards are mentored by faculty who provide general guidance and mentorship (but not editing of the papers):

   ● Graduate Student Paper Award
   ● Undergraduate Student Paper Award

2) Early career scholars:

   ● Encouragement in program participation
   ● Have several on our board

3) Independent scholars:

   ● Encouragement in program participation
   ● Have one on our board

7). 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:

We are working on better communication and program coordination with the Association of Black Anthropologists.

8) 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

   ● AfAA website—contains up-to-date information on officers, board members, bylaws plus AfAA news and reports

   ● AfAA Facebook page to promote informal and participatory dialog among members

   ● Listserve—enables contact from board to members (original gmail mailing list will be replaced by an AAA-supported listserve in early 2011)

9) Changes in bylaws or governance structure (if applicable):

   Bylaws revised, primarily to conform to AAA voting procedures.
III  What Initiatives does your Section have underway or planned for the coming year: Membership, publication annual meeting, mentorship, other?

We are continuing various initiatives mentioned above (awards, reception, program at AAA meeting, etc.). In addition we hope to sponsor an invited poster session by graduate students, strengthen our ties with the ABA, and look into the possibility of endowing a fund to support the Skinner Book Prize and possibly publishing our distinguished lectures.

IV  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 leadership?

What issues would you like raised or recommendations would you like to make to the AAA Executive Board?

What issues would you like raised or recommendations would you like to make to the AAA Staff?

We thank the AAA staff for their support over the past year!