National Association of Student Anthropologists 2011 Annual Report

Submitted by:
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I. Section Officers

  Position: President
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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: 1031

  Factors affecting Membership:
  In this last year, Membership Services approached NASA with the idea of a low-cost option for undergraduate membership. This and the considerable numbers of Canadian students joining as a result of the Montreal conference yielded an approximately 200 member increase in 2011.

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: 4761.90

  Publications: (if applicable)
  Student Anthropologist (self-published, no substantive income)

  Factors affecting Finances:
  As in past years, the 2011 Board provided modest support for current student officers to attend the annual conference. For the Montreal meeting, the previous Board opted to provide more than usual given the international venue: about $240 per officer. The current Board plans to scale this back for the 2012 conference.

  Going forward into 2012, the Board intends to dip into reserves for several projects, including the creation of a modern up-to-date website and the foundation of a new program (see ELAP below at III.). Like other sections, NASA regularly operates at a surplus. As such, we are currently considering several major investments (most significantly the website) while remaining committed to husbanding resources for future Boards.

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, volunteered or co-sponsored.

**Session Type:** Invited  
**Session:** HUMAN LEGACY THROUGH THE ARTS: AN UNDERGRADUATE APPROACH TOWARD ANTHROPOLOGICAL RESEARCH AND PRESERVATION OF THE ARTS TODAY

**Session Type:** Please Select  
**Session:** LEGACIES OF TRADITION AND HOMELAND

**Session Type:** Please Select, Co-Sponsored with Association for Queer Anthropology  
**Session:** DIGITAL SITES/QUEER CIRCULATIONS: TRACING ONLINE SOCIAL NETWORKS AND GLBTQ COMMUNITIES

**Session Type:** Please Select  
**Session:** WHAT'S IN A NAME? DISCOURSES OF LABELS AND THE LEGACIES THEY I

**Session Type:** Please Select, Co-Sponsored with Association for Feminist Anthropology  
**Session:** GENDER VIOLENCE IN MELANESIA AND HUMAN RIGHTS DISCOURSE: TOWARD A RESEARCH AGENDA

**Session Type:** Volunteered  
**Session:** TRACING THE PRAGMATURES OF DIFFERENCE-MAKING: PERSONS, PLACES AND POLITIES

**Session Type:** Please Select  
**Session:** SOCIAL MOVEMENTS AND POLITICAL SPACES

**Session Type:** Please Select  
**Session:** HEALTH AND DISEASE IN ANTHROPOLOGICAL PERSPECTIVE

**Session Type:** Please Select  
**Session:** HIMALAYAN TRANSITIONS: COMMUNITY RESPONSES TO SHIFTING LANDSCAPES OF EXCHANGE

**Other Events:**
- NASA MENTORSHIP WORKSHOP
- NASA POSTER SESSION
- PUBLISHING WORKSHOP

4) * Did your section request a meeting registration waiver or community engagement grant?  
**Requested Grant:** Yes
If granted, who/what was it/they used for? (if applicable)
Registration waiver was granted for student officers.

5) List spring meeting activities (if applicable):

6) 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):

   Award Title: Carrie Hunter-Tate  
   Date: 2011-11-19 00:00:00.0  
   Recipient: Theresa Arriola  
   Affiliation: Unable to locate  
   Project/Paper/etc: Awarded for achievement (general)  

   Award Title: Carrie Hunter-Tate  
   Date: 2011-11-19 00:00:00.0  
   Recipient: John Whitton  
   Affiliation: Unable to locate  
   Project/Paper/etc: Awarded for achievement (general)  

   Award Title: Travel Award  
   Date: 2011-11-19 00:00:00.0  
   Recipient: Khrystyne Tschinkel  
   Affiliation: Unable to locate  
   Project/Paper/etc: Awarded for achievement and need  

   Award Title: Travel Award  
   Date: 2011-11-19 00:00:00.0  
   Recipient: Morgan Iddings  
   Affiliation: Unable to locate  
   Project/Paper/etc: Awarded for achievement and need  

   Award Title: Travel Award  
   Date: 2011-11-19 00:00:00.0  
   Recipient: Xueting Liu  
   Affiliation: Unable to locate  
   Project/Paper/etc: Awarded for achievement and need  

   Award Title: Travel Award  
   Date: 2011-11-19 00:00:00.0  
   Recipient: Elizabeth Marks  
   Affiliation: Unable to locate  
   Project/Paper/etc: Awarded for achievement and need  

   Award Title: Travel Award
7) * 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

The National Association organizes the annual mentorship workshop at the AAA. Additionally, we provide several travel and accomplishment awards. These are aimed at current students of all levels.

Early career scholars:

The NASA Listserv disseminates information on opportunities relevant for early career scholars, for example postdoc positions and tenure-track openings. We provide this service for free.

Independent scholars:

We do not have any programs or initiatives aimed at independent scholars.

8) 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:

Student Anthropologist Reaching Out

At the tail end of 2011, the incoming editor for our journal initiated contact with other student journals (national and international) for the purposes of discerning areas of possible cooperation. This development is nascent.

9) 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:

NASA Listserv

Emails from the listserv went out regularly, at least once every two weeks in 2011. For 2012, we are currently producing a digest every couple of days.

Website

NASA's website is functional and generally up-to-date. However, we would like to use the website as a platform for better membership engagement. With that in mind, we are planning to invest a good portion of our reserves towards this project in 2012.

Column in Anthropology News
Occasionally, we make announcements in our column in Anthropology News.

**Results of the 2011 Membership Survey**

In 2011, we conducted a membership survey about the best way to communicate with undergraduates. The results of this survey show that email by and large remains the preferred mode of communication.

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

We have inserted mechanisms into the bylaws to remove officers who are 'missing in action' through the NASA Executive Board.

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

**Emerging Leaders in Anthropology Program (ELAP)**

On our December conference call, the 2012 Board approved a new initiative to train the next generation of anthropologists for professional leadership and engaged anthropology. We have started discussions with SMA and several other sections regarding the basis of cooperation. In its contemporary form, ELAP 2011 will comprise a mentorship pairing, funding to attend the AAA, and special training in section governance and engaged anthropology. We have allocated funding for four students.

**Open Forum**

Following the outcome of our 2011 survey, we are creating a new student-led forum for discussing contemporary issues in anthropology. We anticipate rolling this into a revamped website.

**Clubs Committee**

Our recently formed Clubs Committee is gathering information on student anthropology clubs throughout the US, both for the purposes of soliciting students to participate in the Open Forum and also to create an up-to-date database of students in order to facilitate communication.

**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 Executive Committee (SAEC)? Please be specific.**

There are no pressing issues in SAEC from the viewpoint of NASA.

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

There are no pressing issues for the AAA Executive Board from the viewpoint of NASA.
What issues would you like raised or recommendations would you like to make to the AAA Staff? Please be specific.

There are no pressing issues with respect to the AAA staff from the viewpoint of NASA.