Submitted By:

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Board Members:

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- Hillary Webb (Anthropology Newsletter Contributing Editor) - hillaryswebb@comcast.net

Membership:

**Provide the most recent membership numbers.**

Number of Members: 271

**List any factors you think may be increasing or decreasing your Section membership.**

The November 30, 2012 report from the AAA stated that SAC had a total membership of 271 consisting of 97 professional members, 119 student members, 4 associate members, 23 retired members and 26 international members and 1 lifetime member. Student membership continues to increase with a minor reduction in professional members. This trend has persisted over the past several years in addition to a marked increase in overall membership in the spring and a drop in membership in November.

Finances:

**Provide the most recent financial balances for Section budgets (and publication sponsored budgets).**

Financial Balance: 39,950.00

**Publication Sponsored budgets.**

According to the Statement of Net Assets through November 30, 2012, the fund balance for SAC is currently $39,950. The SAC Executive Board passed a budget for 2013, which included total revenues of $9,860, and expenditures of $11,665. The difference ($1,805) is to be taken from the SAC fund balance.

**List any factors you think are affecting your Section's finances.**
The financial profile for SAC has remained fairly stable for the past several years. The SAC Board has discussed exploring ways of expanding the exposure of the section and increasing membership which may have future budgetary implications.

Sessions:

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.

Session Type: Special Events
Session: Society for the Anthropology of Consciousness Business Meeting and Distinguished Lecture by Tanya M. Luhrmann, Stanford University

Session Type: Volunteered
Session: The Boundaries of Consciousness: Visions, Delusions, Mind, and Brain

Session Type: Invited
Session: The Ecological Mind

Session Type: Invited
Session: Re-Assessing Ethnographic Classics: "Of 2 Minds: The Growing Discord in American Psychiatry" by Tanya M. Luhrmann

Awards

List awards presented this year on behalf of your Section.
None

Meetings

Did your section request a meeting registration waiver or community engagement grant?
No

If granted, who/what was it/they used for?
not applicable

List spring meeting activities

The 32nd SAC Annual Conference entitled Plants and Consciousness was held in Boulder, Colorado on February 9-12, 2012. Conference panels included Experiences and Limitations of the Imaginable; Teaching Conscious; Experiences of Traditional Ecological Knowledge; Botanical Influences on Cultural Consciousness; Medicinal Plant Use and Ecology. The invited keynote lecture Anthropomorphism and Consciousness was given by Stewart Guthrie.

Mentorship:

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.
SAC continues to encourage and draw the interest of graduate students across disciplines. This past year we have seen an increase in the involvement of students in our AAA presented papers and also in the preparation activities for our Spring Conference. Nearly a third of the current professional members serving on the Board originally joined SAC as student members.

**Early career scholars.**

SAC has a history of informally encouraging and networking early career scholars. Our Spring Conference offers the greatest opportunity for such networking. We are however, looking to increase its engagement with early career scholars across sections and with other organizations.

**Independent scholars.**

SAC has continued to support the work of independent scholars. This is most evident in the presented papers and workshop events held during our Spring Conference.

**Outreach:**

**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.**

Outreach activities this past year have focused on ways in which SAC can step forward as a key player in developing bridges between organizations and interest groups that examine the subject of consciousness. While decades of professional and academic consciousness related research exists, dialogue between these arenas remains sparse. In 2012 the board members of SAC began reviewing proposals submitted by its members to increase its internet presence and partner with other consciousness related organizations.

**Communications:**

**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.**

Website: SAC continues to maintain and upgrade its website. The web site is also used to post registration and proposal forms for the annual spring meeting. Preliminary programs as well as reminders for AAA and Annual Spring meeting deadlines are also posted. During the past year members have submitted proposals to the board suggesting ways to expand the utility of the website.

Facebook: SAC's Facebook page continues to generate a great deal of interest and activity across disciplines and among academic and non-scholars. SAC has not been able to track the impact of its Facebook page activities on membership or journal interest, article downloads or manuscript submissions.

Twitter: SAC's activity on Twitter has been moderate over the past year; however plans are underway to establish a Social Media Chair whose responsibilities would include increasing SAC's presence in all social media settings.

**Governance:**

**Changes in bylaws or governance structure.**
M. Diane Hardgrave: Re-elected as President
Bryan Rill, Evgenia Fotiou, John Baker and Beth Savage were elected as Members-at-Large.
With the sudden death of Amy Smith Secretary/Treasurer, Beth Savage has stepped forward with the support of the Board to serve as Secretary/Treasurer.
Rebecca Lester and Peter Benson began their tenure as Anthropology of Consciousness Journal Co-Editors.

Initiatives:

What Initiatives does your Section have underway or planned for the coming year: membership, publication annual meeting, mentorship, other?
The 33nd SAC Annual Conference will be held in New Orleans, LA from April 4-6, 2013 at the Wyndham Riverfront Hotel. The conference theme for this year is entitled Times of Transition: Shifting Individual and Collective Consciousness. SAC has invited submissions of artistic works from local and national artists to be included in this year’s conference in an effort to build meaningful bridges between scientific and creative frameworks, concepts and expression. Richard Katz of First Nations University in Canada will be the keynote speaker.

Ask AAA:

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.
The overarching concern SAC has centers on our journal Anthropology of Consciousness (AoC) and the future of publishing in general. While a small section the journal has been one of few to generate income. We see this as one indication of the value of AoC that should be weighted and considered when looking at future publishing options.

What issues would you like raised or recommendations would you like to make to the AAA Executive Board? Please be specific.
As indicated above, the publishing future of AAA is the most pressing issue.

What issues would you like raised or recommendations would you like to make to the AAA Staff? Please be specific.
SAC remains grateful to the AAA staff, especially this past year with the loss of our long time secretary/treasurer.