Submitted By:
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Membership:

Provide the most recent membership numbers.
Number of Members: 715

List any factors you think may be increasing or decreasing your Section membership.
In October 2011, we had 716 members, broken down into membership categories as follows: 407 regular, 246 student, 3 life, 0 international A, and 75 international B. The membership numbers for September of 2012 were 715, broken down into membership categories as follows: 406 regular, 222 student, 3 life, 0 international A, and 84 international B. Although this year’s membership is one person fewer than the numbers for October 2012 (715 versus 716), when compared to September of 2011, when the numbers were only 636, we should remain on track or grow for the year.

Factors affecting membership:

In terms of overall numbers, it appears that SLACA is remaining steady in membership over this last year. Although this year’s membership is one person fewer than the numbers for October 2012 (715 versus 716), when compared to September of 2011, when the numbers were only 636, we should remain on track or grow for the year. Thus, regular membership had a .002% decrease, student membership had a 9.7% decrease, life and international A membership remained the same. Our largest increase continues to be in the international B category, which increased by 12% (9 new members).

As a whole, membership has decreased only by .001% over the last year. This is great news given the 3.7% increase we experienced last year. Although we lost 24 student members in the past year, it could be explained by their change in status (they may have obtained their degree), and in general terms our membership appears to be stable. We hope that our new format for the spring conference will contribute to promote membership into our section.
Finally, as noted in previous reports, our International membership numbers remain in zero despite the fact that we have European members in our board and attending our section business meetings.

**Finances:**

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

Financial Balance: 131,480.44

**Publication Sponsored budgets.**

Incomplete

**List any factors you think are affecting your Section's finances.**

SLACA’s net assets on Nov. 2012 were of 131,480.44, increasing from 113,455.02 in Oct. 2011.

The Whiteford Fund’s assets have recovered back to 9,072.89 in 2012 from 7,961.13 in 2011.

**Factors affecting finances:**

The largest portion of SLACA expenditures is on the journal, JLACA. Other major expenses include awards and honors, travel by board members and JLACA editor, meeting food and space, and storage of old JLACA issues.

The annual operating costs for JLACA in 2012 was $14,490, as compared to $3,565 in 2011. This increase in costs was due to the addition of the publication of a third journal per year. The Wiley-Blackwell contract subsidizes the cost of two issues per year, thus SLACA is funding the third issue. This brings the JLACA $14,490 annual budget is broken down into $2,000 for copy-editing, $390 for online portal fees, $7,600 for the third issue, and $4,500 for editor travel.

AAA balances section publication budgets such that anticipated expenditures (for 2012, $14,490) equals publishing royalties (anticipated at $7,150 for 2013) and section dues subsidy ($7,340). (SLACA runs a loss on the dues subsidy, but the rates are set according to the overall AAA contract with Wiley-Blackwell.)

We have two new line item expenses beginning in budget year 2013. We have added a $5,000 category to cover the costs of the new SLACA spring meeting, to be held every other year. We have also added a $600 book award.
We continue to be charged for storage of several back issues of JLACA (primarily special issues); SLACA should determine what to do with these issues to avoid continue paying storage, though this issue has been deferred many times over the years for lack of a solution.

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: Invited Co-Sponsored with SUNTA
Session: ?Current Issues in Border Theory: Influential Voices Across Geographies?

Session Type: Invited Co-Sponsored with POLAR
Session: ?Moving the Boundaries of Justice: Studies in the Ethnography of Impunity in Latin America?

Session Type: Invited
Session: ?Ethnographies of Place and Space: Culture, Politics and Identity in Urban Mexico.?

Session Type: Invited Co-Sponsored with ABA
Session: ?Death on the US-Mexico Border: Biological and Cultural Approaches?

Session Type: Invited Co-Sponsored with AES
Session: ?Andean Frontiers, Temporal Borders, Anthropological Peripheries: Thinking in the Margins with Frank Salomon.?

Awards

List awards presented this year on behalf of your Section.

Award: Roseberry-Nash Graduate Student Paper Prize
Date: 11/16/2012
Recipient: Joseph Wilberger
Affiliation: U of NC Chapel Hill
Project/Paper/Accomplishment: ?Beyond Remittances: Contesting El Salvador’s Developmentalist Migration Politics.?

Meetings

Did your section request a meeting registration waiver or community engagement grant?

No

If granted, who/what was it/they used for?
Incomplete

List spring meeting activities

This year we gave continuity to one of the Section’s major special events: “Conversations Across the Americas” with the theme “Crossing the Boundaries of the Nation: Local, Regional and Transnational Food Cultures.” This conversation was chaired by SLACA’s Past-president Ramona Perez and had two guest speakers: Margarita Calleja Pinedo (U. de Guadalajara) and Jane Fajans (Cornell U.).

Also, we continued our annual joint reception with AFA, AQA, ABA, ALLA, SLACA,
SANA, and SAW, event that included a reception and dance. We also had two board meetings, one at the beginning and another at the end of the meetings, one Section Business meeting, and one journal board meeting.

**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.**

We have two graduate student representatives in our board who are integrated into our meetings and who hold responsibilities alongside Councilors for various publications and electronic media. We have two paper prizes for graduate students: the Roseberry-Nash and the Whiteford Student Paper Prizes.

**Early career scholars.**

Our listserv has been a key vehicle to disseminate postdoctoral and dissertation grants, fellowships and job opportunities both within and outside the academia. We have actively invited and welcome contributions to the AN column and website, and are in the process of creating a prize for a first book published on Latin America or the Caribbean.

**Independent scholars.**

We continue using our listserv to encourage independent anthropologists to organize sessions for the AAA annual meetings and to contribute papers for our biannual spring meetings. Also, JLACA accepts contributions to the journal from independent scholars.

**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.*

Our joint reception involves now seven different societies. This annual event gives our members the opportunity to meet in an informal environment and to promote the creation and expansion of personal and academic networks. After the positive experience we gathered from taking our reception into a community-managed space, this coming AAA in Chicago, we are exploring venues to organize our reception in a community hall, including the presentation of public-relevant presentations of our membership.

For reasons discussed and analyzed by the board and at the section meeting we decided to discontinue our participation with the SfAA at their annual meetings. That is the reason why we did not have a spring meeting in 2012. Instead, as of 2013 we will be holding the meetings preferably in a Latin American or Caribbean setting seeking to involve local academic and public groups.

Our journal editor has a separate travel budget that allows him to travel to other meetings, including LASA, CAA, and other organizations in order to expand our presence and solicit manuscripts.

**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.

We have a website that has been fully revised and restructured by one of our councilors (J.C. Gómez Aguiar). He has used the listserv and the board and section meetings to encourage members to provide him with links relevant to the membership to enrich the site. The website already includes links to other societies and interest groups, and the conference site, developed by Gabriela Vargas Cetina, as one of the local organizers, has a clear presence in the site.

Another councilor, Ronda Brulotte, has been in charge of collecting items from the membership at large and the section’s board members to publish periodically both in the printed AA news and the electronic version.

One of the student representatives (Sarah Taylor) has been active giving continuity to the Section’s listserve, and has also created a Facebook page where she posts relevant news, calls for papers, calls for applications for fellowships and jobs. There is also a link to the Facebook account of the AAA’s interest group on tourism. Another councilor (Jane Henrici) created a twitter account, and after she left the board in November 2012, it has been our student representative who has been following and monitoring activities in it.

Governance:

Changes in bylaws or governance structure.

None

Initiatives:

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

As part of my proposed activities as new President of SLACA I proposed to move our Spring Meetings to Latin American and Caribbean countries. It is now shared conviction that this move should promote enrolment and thus increase our membership numbers in Latin American and the Caribbean, as well as in the US and other countries with anthropologists interested in these areas. The IV Spring meetings will be held in Merida, Mexico, from March 20 to 22, and two board meetings are involved in organizing the V Spring Meetings in Oaxaca, Mexico, in 2015, along with two former board members (Francisco Fernández Repetto [who began in 2012], J. C. Gomez Aguiar, and Ramona Perez and Martha Rees). We are encouraging students and local scholars to both participate in these meetings and also we are seeking to involve local organizations in parallel events. We are seeking grad students’ involvement in the final stages of the meeting in an attempt to familiarize them with the different demands of the organization of academic events.

It is at the Spring Meetings that we will be holding the Kearney Lecture in Responsible Anthropology, seeking to honor our established scholars. In 2013, it will be Carmen Bueno Castellanos, professor at the Universidad Iberoamericana, in Mexico City, who will be
delivering this distinguished lecture.

Given our interest to encourage emerging scholars to actively participate in our society, we are revising the requirements for the Whiteford Prize as we have receive very few papers in the last couple of years, while the Roseberry-Nash continues to receive a substantial number of applications. Also, we have created a committee (Jason Pribilsky and Andrew Canessa) to formulate the characteristics of a book prize that would be offered to first books by authors working on Latin American or Caribbean issues.

At the 2013 AAA Meetings we will hold our Presidential Lecture. Past President Ramona Perez will deliver her lecture in a special event sponsored by our section, seeking to further our members’ interest on different academic activities during the annual program.

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.

None at the time

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

None at the time

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

None at the time