Submitted By:
- Susan Coutin - scoutin@uci.edu
- Maddie Adelman - mad@asu.edu

Board Members:
- Susan Coutin (President) - scoutin@uci.edu
- Madelaine Adelman (President-Elect) - mad@asu.edu
- Erica Bornstein (Secretary) - elbornst@uwm.edu
- Kathleen Sullivan (Treasurer) - ksulliv4@calstatela.edu
- Susan Terrio (Senior Board Member) - terrios@georgetown.edu
- Rosemary Coombe (Senior Board Member) - rcoombe@yorku.ca
- Erik Harms (Junior Board Member) - erik.harms@yale.edu
- Smita Lahiri (Junior Board Member) - lahiri@wjh.harvard.edu
- John Conley (PoLAR Co-Editor) - jmconley@email.unc.edu
- Justin Richland (PoLAR Co-Editor) - jrichland@uchicago.edu
- Jeffrey Martin (Program Coordinator) - jtmartin@hku.hk
- Heath Cabot (Program Coordinator) - hcabot@coa.edu
- Leo Coleman (AN Contributing Editor) - coleman.514@osu.edu
- Allison Fish (AN Contributing Editor) - fish.88@osu.edu
- Josh Clark (Student Representative 2013) - clarkj1@uci.edu
- Veronique Fortin (Communications Liaison) - vfortin@uci.edu
- Katheryn Henne (PoLAR Online editor) - kathryn.henne@anu.edu.au
- Andrea Ballestero (Webmaster) - aballes@rice.edu

Membership:
Provide the most recent membership numbers.
Number of Members: 630

List any factors you think may be increasing or decreasing your Section membership.
APLA membership has remained relatively constant over the past year. I attribute our solid member numbers to several factors: (1) outreach to junior scholars and to students, (2) our lively and informative business meeting, (3) the increased success and visibility of our journal, PoLAR: Political and Legal Anthropology Review, (4) the services that we provide to members via our list-serve, website, and PoLAR on-line virtual issues, and (5) the vitality of our research area. Additionally, this year we held a joint meeting in spring 2013 with the American Ethnological Society, so meeting publicity may also have contributed to membership growth.

Finances:
Provide the most recent financial balances for Section budgets (and publication sponsored budgets).
Financial Balance: 110,000

Publication Sponsored budgets.

PoLAR: Political and Legal Anthropology Review: publishing royalty $7321.71. Journal expenses $20,854

List any factors you think are affecting your Section's finances.
We end 2013 with a number of accomplishments already in hand, and a number of future-oriented projects well underway. APLA began 2013 with a general fund balance (treasury) of $103,306.89, less a few 2012 expenses forwarded into 2013 as is normal. Again, APLA showed a growth in Section savings in 2012. Our savings are due in no small part to the Board’s continuing efforts to hold costs in check, the AnthroSource royalty, university subventions for PoLAR, and the contract with Wiley-Blackwell that covers PoLAR’s publication costs. However, major changes are afoot in the AnthroSource publishing world, and it is very unlikely that we will continue to see our treasury annually increase at the rate it has for the last 6 years, even if we continue to be as prudent with our funds as possible. We have a solid fund balance, and as a Section, we are taking an aggressive, creative, and productive stance toward the impending changes in the academic publishing world, all of which will serve us well in the coming years. After the remaining 2013 expenses are paid, including the annual meeting expenses and a few outstanding PoLAR expenses, we can expect to end 2013 with a fund balance of perhaps $110,000. However, $12,000 of this general fund balance will be sequestered for the Graduate Student Paper Prize Quasi-Endowment. While that money will earn 4% annual interest that will go directly to paying for part of the annual graduate student paper prize expense, the sequestered $12,000 will no longer be available for use as APLA general funds. The upshot is that our general fund balance will end 2013 with approximately $98,000 of accessible general funds (none of which will earn interest for APLA).

Our dues stream in 2013 is projected by AAA to be $15,840, and we have collected $11,598.83 of this sum in the first three quarters of the year. AAA uses a revolving membership renewal program. Thus, Sections collect only dues for members who actually renew in a given calendar month. APLA also collected a $7321.71 AnthroSource royalty in 2013, $91.71 more than anticipated.

**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
**Session:** REMOVED FROM THE NATION: ILLEGALITY, DETENTION, AND DEPORTATION IN THE LIVES OF YOUNG PEOPLE

**Session Type:** Invited
**Session:** GRAY ZONES AND THEIR AFTERMATHS: MEMORY, MOURNING, JUSTICE

**Session Type:** Invited Co-Sponsored with AES
**Session:** Roboprocesses

**Session Type:** Invited Co-Sponsored with Council on Anthropology and Education
**Session:** THE CULTURE OF POVERTY: PITY AND SELF-CRITIQUE IN CONFRONTATIONS WITH POVERTY AND SCHOOL FAILURE, 1959-2013

**Session Type:** Special Events
**Session:** GENRES of PUBLIC WRITING in POLITICAL AND LEGAL
ANTHROPOLOGY: ADDRESSING MULTIPLE AUDIENCES

Session Type: Special Events
Session: GRADUATE STUDENT PANEL: NAVIGATING the JOB MARKET: ACADEMIC CAREERS in POLITICAL AND LEGAL ANTHROPOLOGY

Session Type: Special Events
Session: ASSOCIATION FOR POLITICAL AND LEGAL ANTHROPOLOGY BOARD MEETING

Session Type: Special Events
Session: ASSOCIATION for POLITICAL AND LEGAL ANTHROPOLOGY BUSINESS MEETING

Awards
List awards presented this year on behalf of your Section.
Award: APLA Student Paper Prize
Date: 11/23/2013
Recipient: Stacey Vanderhurst
Affiliation: Brown University
Project/Paper/Accomplishment: "God Rescued You: Governmental Logics in Nigeria's Counter-Trafficking Programs?"

Award: APLA Student Paper Honorable Mention
Date: 11/23/2013
Recipient: Alyse Bertenthal
Affiliation: University of California, Irvine
Project/Paper/Accomplishment: "Speaking of Justice: Meaning-Making in a Legal Self-Help Clinic?"

Meetings
Did your section request a meeting registration waiver or community engagement grant?
Yes
If granted, who/what was it/they used for?
It was used to enable legal practitioners to participate in our invited session, REMOVED FROM THE NATION: ILLEGALITY, DETENTION, AND DEPORTATION IN THE LIVES OF YOUNG PEOPLE.

List spring meeting activities
We held a joint meeting with AES in April 2013. APLA's contribution to the joint AES/APLA meeting included presenting a co-authored Presidential Lecture by AES President Sally Merry and APLA president Susan Bibler Coutin (now forthcoming as a lead article in American Ethnologist), organizing and hosting a plenary by Katherine Verdery, sponsoring a special session in honor of former APLA president Barbara Yngvesson, hosting a reception at the American Bar Foundation, and using this unique opportunity to enhance the reach of our journal and section in a way that expanded on our efforts to use our annual special event effectively.
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 awarded our annual Graduate Student paper prize in 2013, and both the recipient and an honorable mention received some funding to attend the AAA meeting. The winning paper is also considered for publication in PoLAR.

Students were encouraged to attend the APLA Business meeting, which featured a discussion of how to expand the reach of our journal, PoLAR: Political and Legal Anthropology Review. Graduate students have a representative to the APLA board.

Our listserv posts job, conference, and grant opportunities that are of interest to students. PoLAR encourages submissions from students and first-time authors, and our editors work closely with them on their publications.

APLA send a representative, Connie McGuire, to the CoPAPIA meeting.

APLA also held 5 graduate student workshops designed to enable 4-5 graduate students to meet with faculty in order to discuss research around a key theme. The 201e workshop topics were:

1. Secularism in Law and Politics

*Faculty facilitators:* Hussein Ali Agrama (U of Chicago), Mayanthi Fernando (UC Santa Cruz)

How is the secular, both as an analytical concept and an object of analysis, being reimagined today, and what is its relationship to emergent legal and political developments? This workshop invites applicants interested in exploring the politics of secularism in relation to law from a variety of conceptual angles and research sites. The workshop welcomes students addressing longstanding questions about the effects of “pro-secular” legislation, institutional structures, and litigation, as well as those grappling with current processes like the “Arab Spring” that challenge common conceptions of the relationships between religious freedom, democracy, tolerance, and violence. Participants may also consider the question of “asecularity” (Agrama 2011), or what it might mean to be “indifferent” to the distinction between the secular and religious. What does anthropology bring to the study of these different perspectives on secularism, and what contributions can ethnographic work make?

2. Law and Rurality

*Faculty facilitators:* Kathryn Dudley (Yale U), Daniel J. Murphy (U of Cincinnati)

Rurality, writes Lisa Pruitt, is a continuum: “At one end of the spectrum, it is a fishing camp
in a remote area of Alaska… at the other end, it is exurbia” (2006:237). Taking this continuum as its point of departure, this workshop unsettles the presumed rural-urban dichotomy while simultaneously recognizing its meaningful operation in the legal realm. It asks: What is the role of law in rural lifestyles and landscapes, broadly understood? How do legal processes delineate, maintain, and transform rural communities? In what ways do popular and juridical narratives of the rural reflect or contort complex rural realities? Encouraging conversations that identify rurality as a critical and expansive site for ethnographic inquiry, the workshop invites graduate students whose research engages the shifting parameters of the significance, definition, and regulation of rural spaces.

3. Mobility, Law, and Citizenship

*Faculty facilitators: Noel Salazar (U of Leuven, Belgium), Gillian Tan (Deakin U, Australia)*

This workshop seeks to widen anthropology’s lens on the range of relationships between legal regimes, citizenship, and human mobility. Research on this topic has tended to focus on the regulation of transnational migration, including regimes of confinement and the condition of deportability. This workshop encourages expanding the study of mobility to include: 1) sub-national-level regulation of movement, and 2) legal mechanisms that not only restrict but also instigate mobilities. While influential scholars have argued that the unfettered movement of persons is a foundational problem for the modern state, mobility need not be antithetical to state power; it may in some instances serve to reinforce it. The workshop offers a space to reevaluate the problematic of mobility across groups as varied as: displaced persons and refugees, Roma and travellers, transnational migrants, nomadic herders, the homeless, persons with mobility impairments, public transport users, and persons choosing to live “off the grid.”

4. Anthropology’s Audiences [I]: Addressing and Fostering New Publics

*Faculty facilitators: William Beeman (U of Minnesota), June Nash (CUNY)*

As part of APLA’s initiative to increase the public presence and impact of anthropological knowledge beyond the academy, this workshop will convene graduate students working to communicate their research and analysis to non-academic publics through various media forms. Venues including blogs, op-ed columns, and other journalistic outlets will be discussed as forms of technical writing that require skills and methods distinct from those of academic writing. Beyond these questions of form, participants may also consider issues of voice, power, accountability, and ethics in communicating anthropological knowledge to broader audiences. Each participant will prepare a short writing sample addressed to a popular audience to be discussed and analyzed in the workshop.

5. Anthropology’s Audiences [II]: Writing for, and with, Legal and Policy Professionals
As part of APLA’s initiative to increase the public presence and impact of anthropological knowledge beyond the academy, this workshop invites graduate students engaged in conveying their research and analysis to legal and policy audiences. This may include students working to prepare research products intended to influence the work of said audiences, or students who have become co-authors or collaborators with legal and/or policy professionals. Participants will share insights concerning technical and practical questions arising from scholarly engagement in legal/policy writing genres while also considering the epistemic and ethical implications of doing so. Each participant will prepare a short writing sample addressed to a legal/policy audience to be discussed and analyzed in the workshop.

Early career scholars.
The Association for Political and Legal Anthropology (APLA) organized a special panel for graduate students and recent Ph.D.s interested in learning more about careers and the current state of job markets. Details are:

GRADUATE STUDENT PANEL: NAVIGATING the JOB MARKET: ACADEMIC CAREERS in POLITICAL AND LEGAL ANTHROPOLOGY
Elif Babul, Department of Anthropology, Mount Holyoke College
Claire Cesareo-Silva, Department of Social and Behavioral Sciences, Saddleback College
Bianca Dahl, Department of Anthropology, University of Toronto
Julia Elyachar, Department of Anthropology, University of California, Irvine
Scheduled Event Date: Friday, November 22, 2013
Scheduled Start Time of the Event: 6:15 PM
Location of Event and Room Name: Chicago Hilton, Conference Room 4G

Early career scholars are also encouraged to attend the APLA business meeting, which provides opportunities for networking, discussion, and section business.

The APLA listserve also features announcements of interest to early career scholars, such as conference and grant opportunities.

Independent scholars.
Our “Genres of Public Writing” panel was appropriate for Independent scholars, and we encourage independent scholars to attend our business meeting.

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.
APLA also is collaborating with NASA in the Emerging Leaders in Anthropology Program.

APLA has launched a digital fellows program, in which our on-line PoLAR associate editor has trained fellows to create “spillover” content (such as on-line discussions) and virtual issues that bring together previously published articles around a contemporary theme.

APLA collaborated with AES to host its Spring 2013 meeting in Chicago.

The 2013 APLA business meeting featured a discussion of how to expand the reach of our journal, PoLAR: Political and Legal Anthropology Review. In addition, we hosted a dinner to consult with law and international studies faculty on how we might market PoLAR to scholars in these fields.

APLA President Susan Bibler Coutin participated in an AAA Public Policy Forum on Immigration Detention and Deportation policies.

One of our invited sessions brought in legal practitioners. The details of this session are as follows: REMOVED FROM THE NATION: ILLEGALITY, DETENTION, AND DEPORTATION IN THE LIVES OF YOUNG PEOPLE, organized by Susan J. Terrio and Deborah Boehm, with Susan Coutin as discussant. This remarkable panel brings together ethnographers and legal practitioners to “consider a range of experiences of illegality within the United States and beyond the borders of the nation.” (Sponsored by APLA)

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.

Email: used for APLA and PoLAR board communications

List-serve: used to distribute job announcements, grant opportunities, conference announcements, section business, and related topics. During 2013, Veronique Fortin was our communications liaison.

APLA website: Used to communicate APLA activities. During 2013, Andrea Ballestero was the website manager. There were 10,671 views of our website.

PoLAR website: Maintained by Kate Henne, our PoLAR on-line editor. With the new
PoLAR website, we are able to track the number of visitors to the site and popular pages. There were 10,225 views in 2013.

Facebook: APLA has a Facebook page, which is managed by Kate Henne.

Twitter: APLA also has a Twitter account, managed by Kate Henne.

AN column: Leo Coleman and Allison Fish have been APLA AN column co-editors.

**Governance:**

*Changes in bylaws or governance structure.*
We have created a new board position for an individual, to be appointed by the APLA president, who will focus on marketing PoLAR.

**Initiatives:**

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

The APLA Board plans to:

- Continue to build the endowment to support our Student Paper prize.

- Expand the reach of our journal, *PoLAR* and recruit new *PoLAR* editors.

- Launch our new book prize competition.

- Participate in the AAA “Open Anthropology” publishing initiative by allowing *PoLAR* articles to be used for virtual issues, as appropriate.

- Further coordinate communications in order to leverage effectiveness of multiple media.

- Make the APLA website more dynamic.

- Continue to mentor junior scholars through ELAP, graduate student workshops, and our digital fellows program.
-- Appoint an individual to the new PoLAR Marketing board position, and clearly define the responsibilities of this new post.

- We intend to organize a professional development event for pre-tenure scholars at the AAA 2014.

At the 2014 AAA meeting, we are organizing a “futures of publishing” event to showcase ideas about how we might market our journal beyond its current readership.

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.

Our chief concern is the future of publishing in our discipline. We would like to be involved in further evaluation of the alternative publishing models that were discussed at the 2013 Section Assembly meeting, and we have appointed an internal APLA “Future of Publishing” committee to stay abreast of these discussions. Our book review editor, Ilana Gershon, serves on CFPEP. We are also concerned about the impact of redirecting revenues from sections to the AAA.

We would like to be able to generate a listserv that accurately reflects our membership. Currently, as new members join, we do not receive an automatic notification of their contact information, which prevents us from immediately adding them to our list serve. Likewise, when memberships are dropped, we do not learn about this, and we do not take people off of our list serve. It will be particularly important to identify members in the future, so that membership benefits can be directed to them.

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

We are excited about the efforts to rethink our publishing model, and we would like to identify a mechanism through which our section can participate in decision-making on this issue throughout the year, not only at the Section Assembly meeting.

Another concern is how our discipline can better communicate its value to a sometimes skeptical public.

Lastly, we are concerned with future careers and with the disconnect between academic training and job opportunities. We would like to reach out to practicing anthropologists to
strengthen the resources that we make available to students and early career scholars who do not take an academic path.

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

Is there a way to have our membership automatically generate a listserve so that the listserve would be up to date? It is unfair for new members not to receive information, simply because we do not have an easy way of identifying them.