Submitted By:

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Board Members:

- Christopher Roebuck (Senior Co-Chair) - croebuck@haverford.edu
- Ara Wilson (Incoming Co-Chair) - ara.wilson@duke.edu
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- Elijah Edelman (Secretary) - elijah.edelman@american.edu?
- Gregory Mitchell (Treasurer) - gcmitchell@gmail.com?
- Ricky Martin (Communications Director) - rjmartin@princeton.edu
- Lucinda Ramberg (Annual Meeting Program Chair) - ler@cornell.edu
- Robert Phillips (Payne Prize Chair) - phillips.rf@gmail.com
- Margot Weiss (Benedict Prize Chair) - mlg@indiana.edu

Membership:

Provide the most recent membership numbers.

Number of Members: 295

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

Although our membership decreased slightly at the end of 2013, we think this is due in part to members renewing their membership each year in time for annual meeting registration. For example, in April 2013, our membership grew from last year (318) to 348.

Other factors contributing to membership due to reduced research and travel funds from home departments, and the inability of members to travel to the meetings. Often membership may not be a priority for those who cannot attend the AAAs

Our business meetings remain full, festive affairs and this helps to raise the profile of the Section and pique the interest of new members. At this year's meeting there were several volunteers for open positions, and many of those volunteers are junior scholars. We have many new members cycling through our committees and entering leadership positions, which helps increase the sense of “ownership” in the Section and interest in how it operates. We believe our prizes, particularly the student paper prize (see below) helps us to attract new members as do our recent mentorship initiatives (see below).

As well, our reconvened Nominations Committee will be taking an active lead in new membership and open position recruitment.

Finances:

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

Financial Balance: 25,215.64

Publication Sponsored budgets.

We continue to receive modest annual income from Wiley-Blackwell for our former publication SOLGAN ($298.00). As explained below, we are investigating the creation of a peer-reviewed AQA Journal.

List any factors you think are affecting your Section's finances.
AQA finances remain stable. We have a net year-to-year increase in finances ($3,012.14) over 2012-13. Our healthy financial situation will benefit us as we investigate new initiatives, such as the AQA Journal and potential engaged/activist/public scholar award. The Payne Prize endowment remains stable. We need to resolve the question of whether and how AQA can hold silent auctions and other fundraising at its Business Meeting to generate income from within its membership.

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: Volunteered
Session: THE GLOBAL GAY AND ITS DISCONTENTS

Session Type: Volunteered
Session: SEXING DESIRE, PERFORMING SEX

Session Type: Volunteered
Session: TRANSING OCCLUSION: ?TRANS? LIVES in ASIAN AND AFRICAN GEOGRAPHIES

Session Type: Other
Session: AQA Writing Workshop

Session Type: Volunteered
Session: QUEER TERMINALIAS

Session Type: Invited
Session: QUEER ROUTES IN ANTHROPOLOGY

Session Type: Volunteered
Session: MAKING KIN, QUEERING TIME

Session Type: Volunteered
Session: MAKING ?LESBIANS? VISIBLE: FEMALE SAME-SEX SEXUALITIES AND TRANS IDENTITIES CROSSCULTURALLY

Session Type: Invited
Session: QUEER LEFT ACTIVISM IN CHICAGO: RADICAL KNOWLEDGE AND SOCIAL JUSTICE

Session Type: Other
Session: ASSOCIATION FOR QUEEAR ANTHROPOLOGY (AQA) BOARD MEETING

Session Type: Other
Session: ASSOCIATION FOR QUEER ANTHROPOLOGY (AQA) BUSINESS
MEETING

Session Type: Special Events
Session: ASSOCIATION FOR QUEER ANTHROPOLOGY (AQA) CASH BAR

Awards
List awards presented this year on behalf of your Section.

Award: Ruth Benedict Book Prize -- Monograph
Date: 11/22/2013
Recipient: Naisargi Dave
Affiliation: University of Toronto
Project/Paper/Accomplishment: Queer Activism in India: A Story in the Anthropology of Ethics

Award: Ruth Benedict Book Prize -- Anthology
Date: 11/22/2013
Recipient: Susan Styker and Aren Aizura
Affiliation: U Arizona and Arizona State
Project/Paper/Accomplishment: The Transgender Studies Reader 2

Award: Ruth Benedict Book Prize -- Honorable Mention
Date: 11/22/2013
Recipient: Amanda Lock Swarr
Affiliation: U Washington
Project/Paper/Accomplishment: Sex in Transition: Rethinking Gender and Race in South Africa

Award: Payne Student Prize
Date: 11/22/2013
Recipient: Brandon Davis
Affiliation: Brown University
Project/Paper/Accomplishment: Desiring Israel: Gays, Jews and Homonationalism

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
"not applicable"

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 held a well-attended workshop (20+ participants) at the 2013 AAAs to mentor graduate students and junior faculty in how to successfully publish and circulate scholarship in the field of queer anthropology. Professor Tom Boellstorff (former editor-in-chief of AA) lead the discussion and workshopping of 4 papers submitted in advance by participants.

**Early career scholars.**
Through our communications Director and Social Media/Web Manager we have instituted a mentorship program through the AQA website in which established scholars in queer anthropology make themselves available to mentor junior scholars in the filed.

**Independent scholars.**
We often aside aside our AAA waiver for independent scholars, community members, and activists.

**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.

AQA Communications Committee, including the new position of Social Media/Web Manager and revamped website and Facebook page, offers a continual public presence that conducts outreach to underrepresented minorities. In our case, and as stated in our mission statement and as a tag-line on all publications and official emails sent by the AQA Co-Chairs:

"AQA serves the interests of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and other queer and allied anthropologists in the American Anthropological Association. AQA promotes anthropological research and education on homosexuality, bisexuality, transgender/transsexuality, and other sexual and gender identities and expressions, and their intersections with race, class, disability, nationality, colonialism and globalization. AQA supports and encourages a diverse membership within the AAA and actively seeks to increase that diversity along lines of race, class, disability, nationality, gender, sexuality, and other forms of social difference."

As always, AQA remains interested in coordinating with other sections and interest groups serving minority constituencies in common work, which were demonstrated in 2012 by our collaboration in networking events such as the reception we co-hosted with ABA, AFA, ALA, and others in 2013. We are actively planning a similar event for the 2014 AAAs in DC, but holding it off-site with the intention of attracting interested people and activists from outside the AAA.

At this year's AAAs we sponsored an invited session panel, “Queer Left Activism in Chicago: Radical Knowledge and Social Justice,” which engaged both public education and community partnerships by bringing together anthropologists, community advocates, and activists. We are actively planning to offer such a panel as part of our annual program.

In Spring of 2013, we reconvened a Nominations Committee to work actively on recruiting new members as well as junior scholars and graduate students for committees and leadership.

**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.

AQA retains a very active listserv for sharing information on contemporary events, politics, policy, meetings/conferences, faculty and research positions as well as AQA & AAA news and reminders. AQA also has a website - queeranthro.org - and an interlinked Facebook page. In 2011 we reinstated the position of “Communications Director” (Ricky Martin) who heads a Communications Committee that coordinates postings of announcements on these sites. The committee also collectively solicits and develops columns for the AAA Newsletter, including by invitation of guest writers.

We are excited that this year we have established and "staffed" the position of Social Media/Web Manager (Susan Harper) who will work on updating AQA website and Facebook page, and who has created, in early January 2014, a Twitter account for AQA.

Governance:

Changes in bylaws or governance structure.

No recent changes in bylaws or governance structure.

Initiatives:

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

Nominations Committee Reconvening:  In early 2013, we reconvened the Nominations Committee (Maura Finkelstein and Ann Kakaliouras). They will be leading membership drivers and the recruitment of members for board, committee, and leadership positions. They will focus strongly on recruiting junior scholars and graduate students in efforts to increase and sustain long-term participation in AQA.

AQA Journal: The AQA Board, based on Prof. Wilson's report and recommendations as well informal presentation by Prof. Tom Boellstorff (Past AA editor), approved the formation of an exploratory committee which would be in close conversation with the board through 2014. Among the issues we are currently determining are the mission of the journal; potential audience; financially structure; and online possibilities. In addition to her presentation to the board members Prof. Wilson also gave a presentation to the full membership at the 2013 business meeting, which was followed by membership discussion about our next steps. We decided to examine the potential for an exploratory committee, consisting of senior and junior scholars and graduate students, to investigate possibilities of web-based journal or annual/occasional ebook. This committee will also be informed by the AAA's decisions regarding future publication efforts and contracts.

Potential Public/Engaged/Activist Award: During the Board and Membership meetings, AQA discussed creating a new prize for junior scholars/dissertation whose work engages intersecting issues of queer and public anthropology. An exploratory committee will be established in 2014 to develop a description, criteria, and governance structure. During a "membership sponsored drive," "seed" funds in the amount of $300 dollars were raised and deposited in our section account with the AAA.
AQA Twitter Account: In early 2014, we launched our Twitter account. Over the next year we will further develop and utilize it as well as diverse modes of social media to increase public presence and outreach.

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.

"not applicable"

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

"not applicable"

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

"not applicable"