Submitted By:
- Samuel R. Cook - sacook2@vt.edu

Board Members:
- Samuel R. Cook (President) - sacook2@vt.edu
- Luke Eric Lassiter (President-elect) - lassiter@marshall.edu
- Robert Myers (Secretary/Treasurer) - myers@alfred.edu
- Holly K. Norton (Communications Director) - hknorton@syr.edu
- Kathryn Arthur (Member-at-Large) - kjarthur@mail.usf.edu
- Anthony Kwame Harrison (Member-At-Large) - kwame@vt.edu
- Christopher Furlow (Member-At-Large) - cafjam@aol.com
- Bethany Lowe (Student Representative) - lowe4160@vandals.uidaho.edu

Membership:

Provide the most recent membership numbers.
Number of Members: 1248

List any factors you think may be increasing or decreasing your Section membership.
GAD experienced a significant increase in membership in 2013 (over 200). This is probably due to our partnership with the journal *Anthropology Now*, which affords GAD members free online access while making anthropology accessible to a wider audience. Our cross-field ward has also drawn greater interest.

Finances:

Provide the most recent financial balances for Section budgets (and publication sponsored budgets).
Financial Balance: 90,261.22

Publication Sponsored budgets.
$3050 for General Anthropology Bulletin. Budget is roughly balanced on the year.

List any factors you think are affecting your Section's finances.
Increased membership had a slightly positive impact on our budget this year. While we were over budget for the Distinguished Lecture and Awards banquet due to high prices in Chicago, we eliminated food and beverage services for the Distinguished Lecture and Awards ceremony. Overall, revenue and expenditures are about balanced.

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: GAD sponsored 2 invited sessions

Session Type: Volunteered
Session: GAD reviewed 45 volunteered proposals and sponsored a total of 56 organized sessions

Session Type: Special Events
Session: Business Meeting and Distinguished Lecture

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

**Award:** Diana forsythe Prize  
**Date:** 11/22/2013  
**Recipient:** Heather Paxon  
**Affiliation:** Stanford  
**Project/Paper/Accomplishment:** The Life of Cheese: Crafting Food and Value in America. Univ. of California Press, 2012.

**Award:** GAD Prize for Exemplary Cross-field Scholarship  
**Date:** 11/22/2013  
**Recipient:** Rheana "Juno" Salazar Parenas  
**Affiliation:** Harvard  

**Meetings**

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

Yes  

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

international participant in an invited session

**List spring meeting activities**

n/a

**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.**

Bethany Lowe, undergraduate student, in collaboration with NASA  

**Early career scholars.**

GAD seeks out early career scholars for participation on our board and in our committees.  

**Independent scholars.**

n/a

**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.

GAD regularly seeks to collaborate with other sections. We have jointly awarded the diana forsythe Prize with SAW for over a decade. Our program chair actively works with other sections to jointly sponsor invited sessions on the AAA program. Likewise, our committees frequently work sections and organizations to organize special sessions at AAA and occasionally other meetings.

**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 continue to publish General Anthropology Bulletin on a biannual basis. It is included with other AAA publications in AnthroSource. GA publishes articles of general interest that exemplify four/cross-field currents and are of use for teaching.

Anthropology Now is an independent peer-reviewed journal published by Paradigm Press. GAD has a formalized collaborative partnership with the journal that provides GAD members with subscriptions to the journal (included in dues) while helping the journal advance a greater four/cross-field perspective. GAD provides GAD has three seats on the Anthropology Now editorial board, and in addition to receiving a full-page add in each volume of the journal, is prominently featured on the journal's website and in promotional material for Anthropology Now in other media outlets.

The GAD website, member listserv, and Face Book page are used to distribute information to members. the website is primarily used as a source of information, including lists of current officers and board members, calls for awards nominations, and governance information including bylaws. Included on the website is an initiative known as OpenAnthro, which is intended to provide resources for professional anthropologists, students, and the general public concerning exciting currents in the discipline. Our most salient postings have been video links to our annual distinguished lecture (2012 is the most current, and the 2013 lecture is forthcoming). However, we recently launched a podcast series that publicizes exciting new anthropological research that spans the four fields of the discipline.

Our Facebook Page has been online for slightly more than a year and has undoubtedly contributed to the rise in our membership to some extent. Meanwhile, we have recently announced our presence on Twitter.

Governance:

Changes in bylaws or governance structure.

No changes in governing structure.

Initiatives:

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

GAD continues to expand its outreach through expanded use of social media and through our partnership with Anthropology Now. We believe that interfacing with a wider public is essential to the life of anthropology as we explicate expanding points of synergy between the four fields of the discipline, as well as with other disciplines and knowledge systems. This is the driving philosophy behind Open Anthro, which is now moving beyond the streaming of distinguished lectures to include podcasts of innovative research in the field. We are also planning public outreach events in the future, possibly at an off site location during the 2014
meetings.

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.

GAD's primary concern is with the future of publications, especially with the continued publication of the General Anthropology bulletin. While the publication committee's research suggests that GA Bulletin is one of the least accessed AAA publications online, we are confident that this is because the format of the paper version is simply more convenient, given it's size and layout. Indeed, we receive repeated comments from our membership that GA bulletin is the only publication that they read cover-to-cover-- not only because it is small and concise, but because the Bulletin regularly reports on what is going on across the four-plus fields of anthropology. It is an invaluable teaching resource, and we urge AAA to help us keep it in circulation.

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

GAD is concerned with the tendency of important sessions to overlap. While we realize that it is impossible to suit everyone in scheduling events, it is problematic when the president of GAD is scheduled to present in a session at the same time as the GAD Board meeting.

Likewise, GAd would like to see better mechanisms for advertising our distinguished lecture. This is likely true of other sections as well, but a more prominent posting in Anthropology News, the AAA website, and the meeting program, would be most useful.

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

See above. Perhaps a streamlined process for online review of proposals, as well as a mechanism for vetting scheduling conflicts.