Dr. Edward Liebow, who was selected as the new Executive Director of the AAA during the organization’s 111th Annual Meeting in November of last year, started his new position with the group this past week. Dr. Liebow, formerly a practicing anthropologist with Battelle, was selected for his knowledge of the challenges as well as opportunities facing the discipline as well as those facing scholarly associations at large.

“Dr. Liebow has been a long time active member of the Association,” notes AAA President, Leith Mullings; “he knows what members need from their professional association and I am confident that he will be a great asset to his colleagues, the Association and the field of anthropology.”

Liebow earned his PhD in cultural anthropology from Arizona State University and his BA in sociology and anthropology from Carleton College. He joined Battelle Memorial Institute in 1986, and rose from the rank of research scientist to project leader to director of research operations. Dr. Liebow has also taught anthropology at the University of Washington and the Università Carlo Cattaneo (Castellanza, VA, Italy). The professional and academic experiences Liebow brings to the table encompass the various professional needs of the Association’s membership. He has also served as the AAA Treasurer for the past six years.

“I am excited about the new opportunities and challenges that lie ahead for the Association,” said Dr. Liebow, “I particularly look forward to strengthening our relationships with national and international organizations, expanding our engagement with the public, and increasing the visibility of the enormously valuable work that we do for the good of society.”

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Founded in 1902, the American Anthropological Association is the world's largest professional organization of anthropologists and others interested in anthropology, with an average annual membership of more than 10,000. The Arlington, VA – based association represents all specialties within anthropology – cultural anthropology, biological (or physical) anthropology, archaeology, linguistics and applied anthropology.