

**American Association of Biological Anthropologists
Professional Development Committee
2022-2023 Annual Report**

Submitted by Lauren Schroeder

Early Career Liaison Program

Dr. Justin Lund (Postdoctoral Inclusive Academic Excellence Scholar, Northern Arizona University) was chosen as our new Early Career Liaison. In his application, Dr. Lund proposes the creation of a Committee on Diversity (COD) interest group dedicated to Indigenous biological anthropologists as a networking, activist, and intellectual space; a unified Indigenous presence supported by the AABA. This proposal stems from the recognition by Dr. Lund and other Indigenous colleagues that although the practice of anthropology is now a more collaborative endeavor between community and scholar, the legacy of colonial practice still permeates our association in various ways. Dr. Lund will be working closely with the Chair of the COD, Susan Antón, to reach these goals, and to identify a set of guidelines to make anthropological spaces more welcoming to Indigenous peoples and students. We wish him the best during his appointment as the AABA Early Career Liaison, and we thank Dr. Katherine Kinkopf for her service as outgoing Early Career Liaison.

Cobb Professional Development Grants (CPDG)

The AABA CPGD committee reviewed 28 eligible applications for the 2022-23 grant cycle. The applicants spanned multiple continents, with all subfields of biological anthropology represented. Overall, the pool of applications was very strong, reflecting the excellence of our early career investigators. Each application was reviewed by three committee members. In reviewing proposals, the committee considered the significance of the work, the quality of the proposal, the potential impact of the award on the applicant's career (including career stage and access to other funding sources), and the strength of the recommendation letter and CV. The committee recommended funding five proposals, up to \$7,500 each, and one honorable mention. Award and declination letters were emailed to applicants on March 17, 2023. The award recipients are as follows:

Mayowa Titilope Adegboyega

Postdoctoral Research Associate, Duke University

Improving Hemipelvectomy Patient Outcomes using Evolutionary Concepts of Hominin Locomotion

Irisa Arney

Assistant Professor, Western University of Health Sciences

Middle Miocene environments from herbivore stable isotopes and assessing C4 biomass seasonal variability

Anna Hardin

Assistant Professor, Western University of Health Sciences

Evaluating evolutionary change in tooth and body size relationships: A case study in callitrichid primates

Keegan Selig

Assistant Research Professor, Duke University

The evolution of mammalian bilophodonty

Amelia Villaseñor

Assistant Professor, University of Arkansas

Examining the effect of colonially-imposed conservation on ecological baselines in biological anthropology

Honorable mention:

Mikel Arlegi

Postdoctoral Researcher, Institut Català de Paleoecologia Humana i Evolució Social (IPHES)

Postural influence on the evolution/co-evolution of the cranio-cervical complex in the Neandertal lineage

A committee of 27 AABA members, including the Chair, reviewed the pool of eligible proposals. I appreciate the time and effort that each reviewer provided in assessing these applications, and the helpful and constructive feedback given to each applicant.

In addition to the Chair, our committee this year was:

Benjamin Auerbach
Rebecca Ackermann
Karen Baab
Andrew Barr
Christina Bergey
Aaron Blackwell
Michelle Bezanson
Celeste Gagnon
Christopher Gilbert

Lesley Gregoricka
Mark Hubbe
John Krigbaum
Elizabeth Miller
Connie Mulligan
Charles Musiba
Robin Nelson
Marin Pilloud
EA Quinn

Michelle Rodrigues
Josh Snodgrass
Christopher Schmitt
Nandini Singh
Julie Teichroeb
Erin Vogel
Noreen von Cramon-Taubadel
Scott Williams

Professional Development Panel

The Professional Development Panel for the 2023 AABA annual meeting in Reno will take place on Thursday, April 20, 2023, from 12:15-2:15 pm. The title of the panel is ***Let's get Funded! Strategies for writing successful grant proposals***. The panel includes panelists from The National Science Foundation, The Leakey Foundation, and the Wenner-Gren Foundation. This will be a hybrid event, which will be available for viewing through the online AABA meeting platform.