

2016 Report for *Ad hoc* Student Committee

Committee Structure

In accordance with the structure created by the Executive Committee, the *ad hoc* student committee co-chairs are the Student Liaisons for the AAPA ExComm. The current Student Liaisons are Melanie Beasley (as outgoing Student Liaison) and Katie Allen Grow (as incoming Student Liaison).

2015 AAPA Meeting (St. Louis) Summary

- At the 2015 AAPA Executive Committee Meeting the outgoing Student Liaison (Christina Stantis) and the incoming Student Liaison (Melanie Beasley) reiterated their commitment to developing an *ad hoc* student committee. During the Ex Comm Meeting both Co-Chairs offered their opinions on issues discussed and represent student interests.
- The committee organized a panel on Wednesday (4-5pm) of the annual meeting (“How to get the most out of your meetings: networking tips and tricks”). ~35 students attended.
- The second *ad hoc* student committee meeting was held after the organized panel. Seven interested students (undergraduate and graduate) attended. At the meeting, the Co-Chairs introduced themselves and asked attendees if they had any concerns or ideas for the *ad hoc* student committee. No concerns were voiced and everyone agreed that the panel was a success. The ideas discussed at the meeting served as the basis for activities the Student Liaison worked on throughout the coming year.

2015-2016 Student Liaison Activities

- Instead of a panel for the 2016 AAPA Annual Meeting, the Student Liaison and Early Career ExComm Mentee (Ashley Hammond) decided to work together to create a new event to welcome students to the AAPA and introduce them to early career mentors. The 1st Annual Student Meet and Greet will be held Wednesday, April 13, 5-6pm. The aim of the Student Meet and Greet is to have early career biological anthropologists available for student questions about careers in biological anthropology and AAPA organization itself
- The Facebook group continues to grow (1,291 members as of March 15, 2016). Senior AAPA members are encouraged to join the group and post information that would be useful to students (i.e., jobs, internships, field schools).
- The Student Liaison worked with the President (Susan Antón) and Chair of the Student Programs Committee (Leslea Hlusko) on two projects to improve the AAPA student experience. The AAPA Student Committee webpage (<http://www.physanth.org/about/committees/student-committee/>) was updated with information about how to get involved with the AAPA and where to find student-related resources. A ‘Student Guide to the 2016 AAPA Annual Meeting’ (<http://www.physanth.org/news/738/>) was created and posted on the website and Facebook page. The guide is intended to highlight student related activities at the meeting and offers a brief description of the benefits of attending the scheduled AAPA events.
- Contacted the President (Suzanne Barber) of the National Association of Student Anthropologists (NASA) about creating an informal relationship between NASA and the AAPA Student Liaison (this was done with the approval of Susan Antón). Hopefully, the AAPA Student Liaison can act as a representative within NASA to spread information about AAA events and AAPA events that would be of interest to biological anthropology students. This discussion is on-going with NASA.
- The Student Liaison ‘duties’ were written and submitted to the President (Susan Antón) for inclusion in the ExComm Handbook.

2016 AAPA Student Committee Events

- AAPA Student Committee Meeting (Wednesday 4 – 5 p.m. A702)
- AAPA Student Committee Meet and Greet (Wednesday 5 – 6 p.m. A702)

Submitted by Melanie Beasley, Student Liaison 2015-2016