

**AAPA Annual Meeting, 2020
Annual Report**

Nathaniel J. Dominy

Early Career Liaison program

We received six applications for the Early Career Liaison program. Melanie Beasley (Assistant Professor, Purdue University) was chosen as our new Early Career Liaison. In her application, Professor Beasley described the absence of programming tailored specifically to the needs of early career members of AAPA. To develop such programming, she proposed to form an ad hoc committee of early career members. The charge of the committee is to establish an informal annual event—mixer or meet-and-greet—focused on the specific challenges and complexity of navigating professional opportunities beyond the PhD. Professor Beasley will shadow the Chair of the Committee on Career Development, Shara Bailey, and liaise closely with the Committee on Diversity and the Committee on Media & Communication. We wish her the best during her appointment as the AAPA Early Career Liaison, and we thank Kevin Hatala for his service as outgoing Early Career Liaison.

Cobb Professional Development Grants (CPDG)

The AAPA CPDG committee reviewed 31 eligible applications in 2019-2020. As in the past, we received several applications from outside of the USA and many projects involved international work and collaborations. Overall, the pool of applications was strong, representing the scholarly breadth of AAPA. Each application was reviewed by three committee members and the Chair. 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, and the strength of the recommendation letter and CV. The committee endeavored to fund broadly across the discipline and career stages. The committee recommended funding five proposals, each in the amount of \$7500. Award and declination letters were emailed to applicants on March 8, 2020. The award recipients are as follows:

Ameline Bardo

Post-doc, University of Kent

"A helping hand: investigating 3D motion of human hand bones during Palaeolithic tool behaviours"

Elaine Guevara

Assistant Research Professor, Duke University

"Molecular underpinnings of folivory: patterns of convergence and differentiation across a clade"

Tom Kraft

Post-doc, University of California, Santa Barbara

"Evaluating the drivers of lifestyle change and health among transitioning indigenous communities in Peninsular Malaysia"

Cassandra Turcotte

Post-doc, New York University

"Identifying sources of trabecular architecture variation in the rhesus macaques of Cayo Santiago"

Nandini Singh

Assistant Professor, California State University Sacramento

"Experimental animal models for domestication"

A committee of 18 scholars reviewed of the pool of eligible proposals. Each reviewer brought insights to the projects and the qualifications of the applicants. In addition to the Chair, the committee included:

Karen Baab
Michelle Bezanson
Abigail Bigham
Aaron Blackwell
Jerry DeSilva
Christopher Gilbert

Kara Hoover
Rich Lawler
Elizabeth Miller
Connie Mulligan
Biren Patel
Jonathan Perry

Herman Pontzer
EA Quinn
Gary Schwartz
Denise Su
Stacey Tecot

Career Development Panel

The Career Development Panel for the 2020 AAPA occurred Friday, April 17, 12:00-2:00 pm. The Executive Committee acknowledges the attraction, rewards, and challenges of post-PhD appointments internationally. This year, the Committee on Career Development co-sponsored and hosted a panel titled, "Navigating the International Job Market in Biological Anthropology" and organized by Early Career Liaison, Kevin Hatala. It entailed short presentations from panelists at different career stages and with wide ranging international experiences—Becky Ackermann (University of Cape Town), Michelle Cameron (University of Toronto), Amanda Tan (Durham University)—and a moderated panel discussion in response to questions submitted by audience members in advance.