

National Science Foundation
2022 Updates to the American Association of Biological Anthropologists
Submitted by Rebecca Ferrell (rferrell@nsf.gov), Robin Bernstein (rbernste@nsf.gov)

Pandemic-related activities

NSF operations continued remotely during the COVID pandemic. Since March 2020, the agency has supported numerous pandemic-related RAPID, EAGER, standard, and supplemental grants (https://www.nsf.gov/about/congress/funding%20updates/NSF_ARP_Update_2022.01_508c.pdf). NSF issued a number of notices about flexibilities that have been put in place to help existing PIs and institutions navigate grant administration during COVID (https://www.nsf.gov/news/special_reports/coronavirus/). In addition, NSF co-sponsored a National Academies report on the potential impact of COVID-19 on the careers of women in academic science, engineering, and medicine (<https://www.nationalacademies.org/our-work/investigating-the-potential-impact-of-covid-19-on-the-careers-of-women-in-academic-science-engineering-and-medicine>).

New NSF Director

NSF welcomed its 15th Director in 2020, Dr. Sethuraman Panchanathan, a computer scientist from Arizona State University (https://www.nsf.gov/news/news_summ.jsp?cntn_id=300793).

New Funding Opportunities

Two new funding opportunities may be of interest to the anthropological community. *Build and Broaden 3.0* broadens participation in the social, behavioral and economic sciences through support for research, training and research infrastructure at minority-serving institutions, including partnerships with and among those institutions (<https://beta.nsf.gov/funding/opportunities/build-and-broaden-30-enhancing-social-behavioral-and-economic-science>). *Mid-Career Advancement* supports opportunities for scientists and engineers at the associate professor rank, or equivalent, to substantively enhance and advance their research program through synergistic partnerships (<https://beta.nsf.gov/funding/opportunities/mid-career-advancement-mca>).

Biological Anthropology Program

NSF offers a chance for scientists, engineers, and educators to serve as temporary program directors called rotators (<https://beta.nsf.gov/careers/rotator-programs>). In August 2021, the Biological Anthropology program was pleased to welcome Dr. Robin Bernstein, a rotator from the University of Colorado at Boulder.

During fiscal years 2020-2022, the program continued to support both standard and dissertation grants. Data on program awards can be accessed from the "Browse projects funded by this program" link toward the bottom of the program webpage.

- <https://beta.nsf.gov/funding/opportunities/biological-anthropology>
- <https://beta.nsf.gov/funding/opportunities/biological-anthropology-program-doctoral-dissertation-research-improvement>

We thank the biological anthropology research community for their support of the peer review process through service as panelists and ad hoc reviewers. If you are interested in serving in this capacity and are post-PhD, please send an email with CV or expertise keywords to: AnthroReviewerInterest@nsf.gov and/or contact the [Graduate Research Fellowship Program](#).