

Early Career Liaison to the Executive Committee

2024-2025 Annual Report

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The primary objective of this 12-month role for the Early Career Liaison has been to increase awareness within our community about the significance of open science and data sharing, particularly following the F.A.I.R. principles. Concerns of our community regarding data sharing include limited knowledge about the process of how and where they can share their research data, the ethical implications of data sharing, the potential positive and negative impacts of data sharing on researchers from the Global South.

To address these concerns, the following initiatives have been carried out in the last 12 months:

- **Liaising with Open Science Framework to secure silver sponsorship (\$1,750)** for the AABA 2025 meetings. Representatives of OSF were present at AABA to allow attendees to know more about how they can share their data in an online repository.
- **Co-organization of a workshop “Challenges in open science and data sharing in biological anthropology worldwide”** (Thursday, March 13th, 2.30pm-6pm). This workshop received \$2,000 in financial support from the AABA that partially covered the travel of two contributors to the workshop. Six confirmed contributors from the Global South participated in-person and were given a platform to voice their perspectives on how data-sharing initiatives—while widely promoted—can have both beneficial and detrimental effects. They shared valuable insights on the unique challenges faced in their regions and offered firsthand accounts of how these initiatives impact their work in biological anthropology and related fields.
- **Technical guidance for repositories.** As part of the workshop, Dryad (participating online) and OSF (attending in person) provided technical guidance on the usage of data repositories. In addition to offering practical insights, both organizations had the opportunity to engage with the community and better understand the concerns surrounding data sharing in biological anthropology. This exchange allowed them to gain awareness of the unique challenges faced by researchers, particularly from the Global South, when engaging with open science initiatives.
- **New survey on Data Sharing.** An updated version of the survey made by Mulligan et al. (2022) was circulated among individual researchers and associations of biological anthropologists and related fields to know their perspectives on how data sharing impacts on their research. Results of this survey were presented at the workshop “Challenges in open science and data sharing in biological anthropology worldwide” and also at the poster symposium “Balancing

public data sharing and data sovereignty: Ethical considerations in biological anthropology” (Saturday, March 15th, 8.00am-12.00am).

- **Promotional materials.** A series of promotional items (stickers, flyers, pens, etc.) were requested to OSF and Dryad and shipped to the Local Arrangements Committee, ribbons with the message “Go F.A.I.R” were ordered, and a flyer promoting the different Open Science and Data Sharing initiatives at the AABA was designed by the Early Career Liaison. All these items were available to be collected at the registration desk and increased visibility of Open Science events happening at the AABA 2025 meetings.