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Dear Members of AABA,

Hello! This newsletter includes updates from the Association including information for our 95th annual meeting in Denver, Colorado from March 18-21, 2025. This month we have many items in the Newsletter, so you may want to bookmark this for further reference.

On behalf of all of the AABA Officers, I am pleased to announce **the continuation of the AABA Eats initiative** (to combat food insecurity) that will make it easier for trainees to attend the Denver conference. We will also support the **IDEAS program** at the AABA meetings in 2026. It is also time to be thinking of **submitting an abstract** for our next annual meeting. The deadline for submission is October 15th.

We also need nominations! This year we are seeking nominations for three positions on the executive committee as well as for our annual awards. The latter include **two new mid-career awards!**

You can find all of the information you need about the conference and so much more about AABA on [our website](#). Many thanks to AABA Secretary Kristi Lewton for leading the effort to revitalize our website and membership interface over the past year!

AABA Officer Elections: Seeking Nominations

Three Officer positions will turn over with the 2026 annual business meeting. These are critical leadership roles for the Association, as the people who fill them will be responsible for deciding the outward and inward-facing activities of the AABA for the next 2-4 years.

- **President-Elect:** Serves a 4-year term, one as President-Elect, two as President, and one as Past-President. The President chairs the Executive Committee and takes responsibility for the activities of the Association.

- **Vice President and Program Committee Chair:** Serves a 2-year term. The Vice President is responsible for organizing the 2027 (Philadelphia) and 2028 (Chicago) annual conferences, along with other scientific programming.
- **Secretary:** Serves a 2-year term. This Officer maintains Association records and chairs the Web & Communications Committee.

Please make nominations (including self-nominations) by logging into your [Member account](#) (link is also in the top right corner of the bioanth.org home page). You will be asked to submit a 2-3 sentence statement of nomination and also complete a Disclosure form. The election is run by the Past President (Leslea Hlusko) as Chair of the Nominations Committee (members are the Executive Committee). Please reach out to pastpresident@bioanth.org with questions.

95th Annual AABA Meetings in Denver, Colorado, March 18-21, 2026

It's time to start thinking about our [95th Annual Meeting in Denver](#)! We already have an amazing lineup of invited symposia, an exciting plenary speaker, and the most excellent swag!! Buy your t-shirt, hat, bag, or sweatshirt from [our store](#) today and look cool while helping us support student travel! You can also support students by donating to the [silent auction](#)! Once again, we are excited to be holding our 2026 graduation ceremony - please [sign up](#) to be recognized for your achievement (no matter when it occurred!) by walking during our AABA ceremony at the closing reception!

In anticipation of increased communications related to the meetings, please go to your [AABA member profile](#) and confirm that you are receiving emails via the XCD system. Click on "Manage My Account" and uncheck the box that says "Do Not Contact" under the Contact Info tab. Vice President and Program Chair Amy Rector will be sending updates and information emails exclusively through this platform. Please contact her with any questions at vicepresident@bioanth.org.

Abstract submission deadline is October 15th

Abstract submission will occur via our new platform again this year! Information on how to craft your abstract and the submission process is available on our [website](#) and [here](#).

After September 15, you navigate directly to your [AABA member profile](#) to find the "Register for AABA 2026" button and, once registered, you can click on the "Abstract Submissions" button. Also consider updating your affiliations (you may now select three!) in your Contact Info tab in your [member profile](#). If you'd like to propose a workshop, you can do that with [this form](#) until November 15!

A few new items this year: students will be asked to indicate whether they will be submitting their projects for student awards when they submit their abstracts.

Support for IDEAS

The [IDEAS \(Increasing Diversity in Evolutionary Anthropological Sciences\) Program](#) was funded by an NSF grant that was among the grants terminated this year. The IDEAS Program was an initiative aimed at recruiting, retaining, and supporting scholars from systematically marginalized groups (SMGs) within biological anthropology. Central to its activities at the AABA annual meetings was the IDEAS Workshop, which allows undergraduate and graduate students from SMGs to connect with faculty and postdoctoral mentors to build community, receive career guidance, and foster professional development. Evaluations consistently show that participants value the Program for enhancing their sense of belonging and reinforcing their interest in the discipline. Since 2016, the program has supported 114 undergraduate and graduate students.

The AABA executive committee feels strongly that continuing support of this program by AABA is important, and we will continue the IDEAS program at the AABA meetings in 2026 in Denver. We ask you to support this effort by giving to the AABA community fund. To do so, please go to <https://bioanth.org/donate/>.

AABA Membership and Renewals

Don't forget to check that your membership in AABA is up-to-date. Only up-to-date members can access content behind the AABA website paywall, vote in elections (regular members), receive the conference registration fee discount, be eligible for AABA offices, committee chairships, and committee memberships (providing you an opportunity to influence the shape of our discipline), and have full access to all issues of the [American Journal of Biological Anthropology](#) and the [Yearbook of Biological Anthropology](#), and to monthly newsletters. Soon, there will be even more available exclusively to AABA members. Stay tuned!

If you know someone who may be interested in joining the AABA, please encourage them to visit our membership page (<https://bioanth.org/membership/>), and go to the links at the bottom of this page for application. Or perhaps you have let your membership lapse; we want you back!

AABA Highest Recognition Awards

A final reminder to consider nominating your colleagues for the AABA's highest honor awards, which recognize career achievement, service and outreach in Biological Anthropology. Two new awards were announced this year to recognize midcareer accomplishments in service and research. Nominations for all high recognition awards are due October 15. Please go to <https://bioanth.org/about/#awards>.

Publications Notifications

If you want to receive notifications about new articles and the table of contents for AJBA and the Yearbook of Biological Anthropology, please [opt in](#)!

Sincerely,

Anne Stone
President,
American Association of Biological Anthropologists