

Submitted By:

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Board Members:

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- John Lukavic (Board Member) - jlukavic@denverartmuseum.org
- Helen A. Robbins (Board Member) - hrobbins@fieldmuseum.org

Membership:

Provide the most recent membership numbers.

Number of Members: 343

List any factors you think may be increasing or decreasing your Section membership.

Membership in the Council for Museum Anthropology has remained fairly consistent. While membership is down nearly 10% from our recent high of 375 in November 2011, it is down only 1% from a year previous. A decrease in dues for student members (only \$5 per year) was enacted in 2013, but was not fully advertised (the AAA website was only recently corrected for the change), so we expect to attract more student members in coming years.

Finances:

Provide the most recent financial balances for Section budgets (and publication sponsored budgets).

Financial Balance: 76653.46

Publication Sponsored budgets.

CMA's 2013 publication budget for Museum Anthropology is \$11,800. The 2014 budget will be \$10,700.

List any factors you think are affecting your Section's finances.

CMA's Net Assets as of the end of November 2013 stood at more than \$76,000. The CMA membership has approved the transfer of \$35,000 of this into two quasi-endowments that will support Student Travel Awards, the Ames Prize, and the CMA Lifetime Achievement Award.

The Council has benefited from favorable returns from the Wiley-Blackwell publishing contract. Through the creation of the quasi-endowments and other actions, the Council is working to ensure continued sustainable budgets going into the future.

Sessions:

List the titles of your Section's AAA meeting invited sessions, co-sponsored sessions, and any special events your Section sponsored or in which it participated.

Session Type: Invited Co-Sponsored with Society for Visual Anthropology

Session: Back to the Future: A Roundtable on Emergent Visions for Object-Based Teaching in and Beyond the Classroom.

Session Type: Invited Co-Sponsored with Society for Visual Anthropology

Session: Collecting and Governing Cultures.

Session Type: Invited Co-Sponsored with Association for Africanist Anthropology

Session: Museums and Art Markets: Spaces to Engage the Public.

Session Type: Special Events

Session: Board Meeting, November 22, 2013

Session Type: Special Events

Session: Business Meeting, November 22, 2013

Session Type: Special Events

Session: Members reception, November 22, 2013

Session Type: Volunteered

Session: Anthropology's Past, Present, and Future in Museums and Collecting

Session Type: Volunteered

Session: Critical Heritage Studies and Anthropology: an international conversation

Session Type: Volunteered

Session: Cultural Heritage Process: Museums and Identity.

Session Type: Volunteered

Session: Museum Evolution: How University Museums Continue to Advance Anthropology

Session Type: Volunteered

Session: Museum Methodologies and Collaborations: Papers in Honor of Nancy J. Parezo

Session Type: Volunteered

Session: Source Community and Museum Engagements

Session Type: Volunteered

Session: The Museum Provocateur: Community Co-curated Exhibitions as Experimental Scholarly Praxis

Session Type: Volunteered

Session: Entrepreneurship in the Patrimonialization Process: A Comparative Perspective

Awards

List awards presented this year on behalf of your Section.

Award: Lifetime Achievement/Distinguished Service Award

Date: 11/22/2013

Recipient: Nancy Parezo

Affiliation: University of Arizona/Arizona State Museum

Project/Paper/Accomplishment: This award recognizes her large body of work, including: books (Anthropology Goes to the Fair 2007, Hidden Scholars 1993, Daughters of the Desert 1988); dozens of peer-reviewed articles; exhibitions ("Paths of Life" at the Arizona State Museum"); and other curatorial and educational accomplishments.

Award: Student Travel Award

Date: 11/22/2013

Recipient: Emma-Louise Knight

Affiliation: University of Toronto

Project/Paper/Accomplishment: "Repatriation Revisited: Contemporary Meanings of the Kwakwaka'wakw Potlatch Collection"

Award: Student Travel Award

Date: 11/22/2013

Recipient: Catherine Nichols

Affiliation: Arizona State University

Project/Paper/Accomplishment: "Designating Duplicates: How Curators Chose Museum Objects to Give or Keep"

Meetings

Did your section request a meeting registration waiver or community engagement grant?

No

If granted, who/what was it/they used for?

Incomplete

List spring meeting activities

The CMA membership meets only once per year, at the AAA Meetings in the fall. The CMA Board does, however, conduct business throughout the year, on an as-needed basis, by communicating via email.

Mentorship:

Mentorship efforts (at or beyond the AAA meetings) to any of the following (e.g., special activities, funding, awards, guidance/advising on professional matters, etc.)

Undergraduate and/or graduate students.

CMA plays a significant role in linking the museum anthropology community together, nationally and internationally. We actively encourage student members and have agreed to have an elected student board member. We have maintained close links with Smithsonian Institution for Museum Anthropology, a National Science Foundation sponsored summer program for graduate students interested in researching museum collections. In planning our annual reception we make sure that we link in with the local museum community and wherever possible co-sponsor the event. We encourage our members to develop sessions that cover important topics for the museum profession in general. The internship programs that museums offer are a particularly good way of engaging young scholars in the discipline and

open up career possibilities.

Early career scholars.

We have a relatively young board and actively encourage the participation of early career scholars in our programs.

Independent scholars.

Museum anthropology attracts independent scholars who follow up personal interests thorough becoming involved in museums as volunteers which often allows them to pursue their scholarly interests. This may be an area in which CMA could become more engaged.

Outreach:

Additional outreach efforts (at or beyond the AAA meetings) to other sections, interest groups, and scholarly societies, government agencies, public education/community engagement, and underrepresented minorities.

The issue of outreach has been covered in other sections. We have close links with SVA and have a history of cooperating with other sections. Museums are an important portal for community engagement and perhaps should be used more in communicating anthropological knowledge broadly defined to different audiences and interest groups. We work closely with the Smithsonian and other museums in developing programs and in many ways CMA provides a fulcrum for museum anthropology on a global basis, which means that it links in with the wider museum community. CMA has significant minority representation on its board and through its membership, but equally importantly engages with minorities through its programs. Our Journal fulfils a major role internationally. There are no equivalents.

Communications:

Status and use of Section internal communications such as a website, list serve, or newsletter (if applicable): Please list internal communication tools you use and what they are used for.

CMA has recently dramatically improved our communication strategies and web presence for more effective outreach to members and the general public. We have re-designed and updated the CMA website. We have also adopted the use of social media connections.

- **CMA website** can be found at: <http://museumanthropology.org/2009/07/02/welcome/>
- **CMA is on Facebook.** See: [CMA Facebook page](#).
- **CMA is now on Twitter.** See: <https://twitter.com/MuseumAnth> Follow: [@MuseumAnth](#)

Governance:

Changes in bylaws or governance structure.

2013 CMA membership vote on By-laws:

A bylaw change was adopted that revised the duties and responsibilities of the Past President, by allowing the Past President to serve as an advisor and Ex Officio member of the CMA Board for two years after retirement, thus providing a smoother transition.

Additional Board Positions open in 2014:

CMA is now soliciting nominations for four positions to be elected in 2014: three CMA Board Members-at-Large, and one designated CMA Student Board Member.

Initiatives:

What Initiatives does your Section have underway or planned for the coming year: membership, publication annual meeting, mentorship, other?

We have an excellent and active board and our strategy over the next year is to increase our engagement with our constituency. In order to achieve this we have improved our communications and our Facebook page is beginning to attract an enthusiastic response. We need to attract more students and volunteers as members. We also need to engage more with anthropology in Europe, where a much more positive relationship has developed between anthropology and museums than is the case in the USA. The President of CMA is convening a session of the decennial conference of the ASA in Edinburgh this June as a step in that direction.

Museums are one of the most important portals for anthropological engagement with the public. We need to use our position to better advantage, and to get our colleagues to understand the importance of such engagements. We have, for example, formed strong collaborations with SVA, which is another section that presents great opportunities for outreach.

We are considering creating a joint session on materiality at the next AAA conference, led by CMA and SVA, to emphasize the role that material culture continues to play in anthropological research. We need to engage more with the discourse on materiality from the perspective of museums, scholars, and communities who engage with the issues in tangible ways through various collections and initiatives.

We also need to have a stronger engagement with source communities. Museum anthropologists are playing a crucial role in the reengagement of peoples with their material heritage, and are beginning to develop a more nuanced understanding of the motivations of those who helped to create the major ethnographic collections. Experiences in Australia, Europe, Canada and increasingly the USA are beginning to show a very different kind of engagement between museum anthropology and indigenous communities, in which collections and archives are seen to be a major resource in the present. CMA needs to be part of that movement as a portal for the positive engagement of indigenous communities with the resources from anthropology's past. That should be one of our greatest strengths.

Ask AAA:

Please tell us what your chief concerns and issues are, especially if they are not previously noted.

What issues would you like raised or recommendations would you like to make to the Section Assembly Executive Committee (SAEC)? Please be specific.

none immediately

What issues would you like raised or recommendations would you like to make to the AAA Executive Board? Please be specific.

changes in the structure of the sessions at the meetings seemed to come out of nowhere. However I may have missed relevant correspondence.

What issues would you like raised or recommendations would you like to make to the AAA Staff? Please be specific.

keep up the good job