Submitted By:

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Question 1

Please list your Committee, Commission, or Task Force Objective and Responsibilities as stated in your Group's charge:

**Committee Charge**

**Objectives:**
The primary charge of the Committee on Public Policy is to enhance the participation of AAA entities and members in the area of public policy and the visibility of contributions by anthropologists.

**Duration of Committee:**
Permanent

**Committee Reports to:**
The Executive Board

**Responsibilities:**

- To encourage sections and interest groups to develop policy-related activities that focus on particular areas of interest to their members, such as by interacting with section leadership and visiting business meetings, without infringing on the autonomy of these units;
- To enhance communication and cooperation between sections, interest groups, other elected committees, task forces, the AAA Public Affairs Office, and other parts of the AAA on policy issues that cross-cut particular domains, thereby encouraging links among their individual efforts. A key mechanism for realizing this goal is working with sections, interest groups, task forces, other AAA committees, and the AAA staff in organizing events for the AAA Annual Meeting, such as policy forums, particularly those that highlight issues that cross-cut specific policy domains;
- To enhance the visibility of anthropological contributions to public policy to audiences outside the AAA, including by creating opportunities for AAA members to enter into policy debates as well as to bring policy makers to AAA annual meetings and other sites in which they can interact with anthropologists;
- To provide models for AAA members and units of effective participation in public policy, such as by placing examples of effective policy interventions on the COPP Web site and in contributions to *Anthropology News* and helping organize AAA sessions in which members reflect on their policy interventions and sponsor workshops and other events in which AAA members can gain relevant skills.
- Also administers and awards bi-annual Anthropology in Public Policy Award.

**Question 2**

Please identify one or more of the AAA Long Range Plan (LRP) 12 main objectives, that your Group is organized to support.
Describe your Group's activities and accomplishments/products for the designated period, and how they support the achievement of LRP objectives. Account for any ways in which your Group has fallen short of supporting the achievement of these objectives. Activities of your Group that do not relate to the LRP objectives should also be mentioned and indicated as such.

CoPP 2012 report

Relevant Objectives from AAA LRP: 1, 2, 7, 8

1. The AAA will have a publications program that disseminates the most current anthropological research, expertise, and interpretation to its members, the discipline, and the broader society. The American Anthropologist will continue to publish broadly across the fields, subfields, and emerging scholarly communities that constitute anthropology today.

2. The AAA will foster the discussion and dissemination of research on social and policy issues in the society at large, and respond in a timely fashion when events call for the application of relevant anthropological knowledge, expertise, and interpretation.

7. The AAA will organize the Annual Meeting to meet the following objectives:

7.2. To serve as a forum for the exchange of ideas; the dissemination of research, expertise, and interpretation within and across sub-disciplines, emerging scholarly communities, and thematic networks; and discussion and debate on key topical and theoretical issues.

7.6. To engage the media and other publics in order to demonstrate both the general relevance of anthropology to the understanding of the human condition and to promote the relevance of anthropological research and perspectives on specific, contemporary ethical, social, cultural and policy issues.

8. The AAA will improve and maintain support for the professional development of practicing anthropologists in all sub-fields and better integrate them into the Association.

I. Supporting Activity for Objectives 2, 7, 8:

Establishment and launch of the Anthropology in Public Policy Award (AIPP)

In 2012 CoPP continued work begun in late 2009 to establish the AAA Anthropology in Public Policy award. The award is designed to honor anthropologists whose work has had a significant, positive influence upon the course of government decision-making and public policy activities.

The committee edited and finalized the announcement describing the award. We discussed the award’s name and thought that it would be appropriate to name the award after an esteemed anthropologist who had engaged in successful and significant policy work. We solicited nominations for names for the award through the Anthropology Newsletter (Summer 2012) and also through social and professional networks in anthropology. We received 10 nominations plus the option of not naming the award after a person. In total there were eleven options. The full roster of the committee voted by email to narrow the
number to six. The committee met by conference call to discuss this list and narrowed it to three. After lengthy discussion the committee decided not to name the award after someone, but to use a descriptive name.

The committee then publicized the award through various venues and announced during the 2012 AAA annual meeting.

**Accomplishment/Product:**

The committee finalized the award, developed a plan to publicize it and launched the award during a special session of the meeting. The committee’s activity supported the AAA’s long range plans 2, 7, and 8. It developed, launched and publicized an award designed to honor and foster new research on social and policy issues. The AIPP Award launch and publicity at the 2012 annual meeting promoted discussion, knowledge exchange, and engagement around the relevance of anthropology to policy issues.

**Explain how the committee has fallen short of supporting the long range objects.**

N/A

**II. Supporting Activity for Objectives 7, 8: Review Public Policy Sessions for Annual Meeting**

CoPP solicited and reviewed submissions for the public policy forums held during the course of the annual meeting. We also coached some proposers regarding the kinds of forums desired and expected.

**Accomplishment/Product:**

This year, there were three COPP-related events at the meetings:

1. **And the Policy Award goes to..** Launch of the AIPP award, Sponsored By: CoPP
2. **Policy on Bullying and Sexual Education**, CoPP- sponsored Public Policy Forum Brad A Rega, Mary L Gray

**Explain how the committee has fallen short of supporting the long range objects.**

N/A
III. Supporting Activity for Objective 1: Contribute AN "Views on Policy" columns

CoPP actively solicits and edits contributions regarding policy for the "Views on Policy" column.

Accomplishment/Product:

This year, CoPP had five columns published. The addition of a graduate student's perspective as an anthropologist-in-the-making was a first-time for CoPP, and will likely be included again in future years.

- **January**: Noel Chrisman (University of Washington) "A Street Corner View of Policy"
- **March**: Susan Abbott Jamison (University of Kentucky) "Identifying Opportunities in Marine Fisheries Policy"
- **May**: Lourdes Arizpe (National University of Mexico) "Policy Anthropology and Participant Decision-Making"
- **December**: Tony Oliver-Smith (University of Florida) "Climate Change, Displacement and Resettlement: The Need for Human Rights Based Public Policy"

Via these columns, CoPP brought to the attention of AAA members and other AN readers the work of professionals from a variety of fields who have worked on-the-ground in the policy arena, influencing both policy and other practitioners.

Explain any Gaps or Lack of Accomplishment Product:

NA
In support of Committee Objective 1:

- The committee will review nominations for and determine a winner of the AIPP award. A review committee will be assembled under the leadership of CoPP member and Award Chair, Merrill Singer. The challenge facing the committee is that the pool of potential nominees will probably overlap greatly with the pool of potential reviewers, so that finding willing reviewers may be a bit difficult. The committee will arrange to bestow the award and for the public lecture that the winner will present at the 2013 AAA meeting. As noted in Question 2, this goal supports the AAA LRP objectives 2, 7, 8.

- As CoPP does each year, the committee will solicit and review submissions for the public policy forums to be held at the 2013 AAA meeting. The committee would like to increase the number of submissions and of forums included in the 2013 program. Our goal is to have forums on topics as broad and diverse as possible along with balance of scope from local, national to global issues. As noted in Question 2, this goal supports the AAA LRP objectives 7, 8.

- CoPP would like to continue and strengthen its contributions to the AN Views on “Policy” Column by increasing submissions especially in AN online and by inviting columns on topics diverse in scope and content. As in 2012 we would like to include more writings by graduate students or newly graduated anthropologists. As noted in Question 2, this goal supports the AAA LRP objective 1.

- Since the committee will not be making an AIPP award in 2014, the committee will discuss and develop a new, medium to long range project or activity for its focus well into 2014.

Question 4

Identify and upcoming requirements for additional resources and explain how these funds would be used if approved. (Please note that formal requests for funding must be included in the annual budget proposal, to be considered with all other requests.)

For selected policy forums or events, we request waivers of meeting registration fees for event participants who are not AAA members. There may be persons such as community representatives or advocates who have been asked to participate. Their knowledge and experience may be critical to the event. However non-AAA members may be reluctant to participate if they must pay a registration fee, especially if they have to travel from somewhere other than the meeting city (Chicago).

Question 5

Do you propose any changes to the Charge (Objective, Responsibilities, or Products/Outcomes) of your Committee, Commission or Task Force? If so, list the proposed changes, the rationale for the change, and additional funding that may be needed.

N/A

Question 6

Are there issues you would like raised or recommendations you would like to make to the AAA Executive Board related to the work of your Committee, Commission, or Task Force?

N/A