

To: Anne Grauer, President, AAPA

From: Karen Strier, AAPA Affiliate to AAAS and AAAS Section H Secretary

Date: 19 February 2020

Re: AAAS Meeting of Affiliates and Section H, Anthropology updates

Affiliates Report

- 1) The AAAS Meeting of Affiliates was held on Friday, February 14, 2020 from 10:00-11:30 a.m. during the 2020 annual AAAS meeting in Seattle, WA.
- 2) Opening remarks were followed by brief comments regarding the new Presidential budget, which cuts most science programs. AAAS reps noted that congress has allocated more in the past and is likely to do so again. AAAS has a lot of information about science funding that is accessible at the AAAS website.
- 3) We had a report about the Local Science Engagement Network (LSEN) that was initiated last year and is now piloting in three states including Colorado and Missouri. The program is aimed to help promote scientific advocacy by providing scientists with help (training) in how to inform local and state policy makers about issues such as climate change, water safety, energy, etc. Goal is to help establish scientists as local community leaders on policy. More details can be found at AAAS website.
- 4) The AAAS has a new CEO, Dr. Sudip Parikh. He has a lot of energy and spoke about one of his main goals, which is to bring science to the table everywhere.
- 5) The Campaign for Science was initiated in 2019, with the goal of building broad, bipartisan support for science as part of a group of 13 organizations (group of 13) of which AAAS is one.
- 6) Another recent initiative is Epicenter, or the Center for Scientific Evidence in Public Issues, which is aimed to provide scientific evidence about public issues to policy makers. More information at AAAS website. Private funds have been committed to have similar science-related messaging coming out in various venues.
- 7) Societies Consortium on Sexual Harassment in Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics and Medicine was launched last year with the goal of 100 founding societies; now up to 124 society memberships (AAPA was an inaugural member). The Consortium will be producing materials to help eliminate sexual harassment from STEMM; it was stimulated by NAS report. Learn more at the website.
- 8) Meeting ended at 11:30am to permit Affiliates to attend noon session on the Consortium.

Section H Secretary Report

- 1) The third Robert W. Sussman Award for Scientific Contributions to Anthropology, 2020 was awarded to Dr. Deborah Bolnick, Associate Professor of Anthropology at University of Connecticut.
- 2) We also honored seven new Fellows: Michael Barton (Arizona State U), Rachel Caspari (Central Michigan U), Susan Pfeiffer (U Toronto), Matt Sponheimer (U Colorado-Boulder), Wenda Trevathan (New Mexico State U), and Sander Erns van der Leeuw (Arizona State U). We urge all AAPA members to make sure that their membership to AAAS is renewed (or join, if you haven't already). You need to be a member for at least 4 years to be elected a Fellow of AAAS.
- 3) PLEASE consider nominating top people for the 2021 Sussman Award, DEADLINE May 8; Details are posted at the [Section H Facebook page](#) and at the AAPA website.
- 4) The next AAAS meeting will be held in Phoenix, on February 11-14, 2021, with the theme: **Understanding Dynamic Ecosystems**. Deadline for symposia submissions is Thursday, April 16; see the AAAS website for information.
- 5) Student memberships in AAAS are only \$25. There is no reason not to join!