

**AAA Committee for Human Rights (CfHR)
Annual Report Year 2005
Prepared by Laura R. Graham, CfHR Chair**

CfHR Members:

Laura Graham, 2005 Chair (2004-2006)
Kamran Ali (2005-2007)
Charles Briggs (2004-2006)
Marco Jacquemet (2003-2005)
David Nugent (retiring 2005)
Vilma Santiago-Irizarry (2005-2007; co-chair 2006)
Kimberly Theidon (2005-2007)
David Valentine (2003-2005)

Incoming CfHR Members

Rob Albro (2006-2008; co-chair 2006)
Meg Davis (2006-2008)
Susan Slyomovics (2006-2008)

CfHR ex-officio members:

Elizabeth Brumfiel, AAA President
Alan Goodman, AAA President-elect

AAA Staff:

Richard Thomas, Membership Officer

CfHR Fellows-2005:

Jennie Pasquarella
J. C. Salyer

Introduction: Committee Background, Mission and Objectives

The AAA's permanent Committee for Human Rights (CfHR), established in 1995, is composed of 10 members, 8 of which are elected by the AAA membership and serve three-year terms, with 2 ex-officio members (AAA President and President-elect). The Committee's internal mission is to stimulate informed involvement in human rights among professional anthropologists through publications, panels, and other outreach. The Committee's external mission is to gather information on selected, anthropologically relevant cases of human rights abuse and to propose appropriate related action. CfHR efforts occur at the annual meetings and throughout the year through Committee Task Groups and case-specific actions. This report briefly describes actions and activities taken by the CfHR between January 1, 2005 and December 31, 2005.

PART ONE: INTERNAL ACTIVITIES

Endowment and HR Award

The committee developed a new proposal for a Human Rights Award and elaborated an existing proposal for a CfHR Endowment. Charles Briggs drafted initial wording for the Award proposal and Graham added to an Endowment proposal that was initially drafted by Barbara Johnstone and Samuel Martínez. At the annual business meeting, Kim Baker (AAA Executive Secretary & Section Liaison) clarified the process of moving proposals through AAA executive channels; she explained the stages, progression and deadlines for consideration of new initiatives. CfHR had not previously understood these procedures.

CfHR must submit proposals to be considered by the Long Range Planning Committee (LRPC) *one month before the committee's March meeting*. SETHA LOW is the incoming LRPC chair and AAA president-elect. Baker's presentation underscored the importance of working with AAA's Development Director (position currently vacant) to identify potential external funding sources and incorporate broader AAA goals into proposals. She also confirmed that CfHR should submit these proposals as two distinct initiatives. The committee discussed the importance of cultivating support for

CfHR initiatives within AAA leadership. Laura Graham asked the Emeriti Advisory Council for support at the meeting of CfHR's current, incoming and emeriti members.

Committee Priorities and Agenda

CfHR devoted a portion of the annual business meeting to defining committee priorities and setting CfHR's agenda for 2006. Because the committee now meets face-to-face only once a year and since CfHR did not meet face-to-face in 2005 as a result of the San Francisco hotel workers' strike, this meeting was particularly important. Graham urged incoming members to attend and noted that incoming-member attendance at the annual business meeting provides crucial orientation and helps to sustain continuity that, as noted in the CfHR Analytic History Report (Greaves 2004) is one of CfHR's ongoing challenges. Incoming members' participation is essential to setting the CfHR agenda and determining priorities for the upcoming year.

In addition to defining the Endowment and HR Award as CfHR priorities for 2006, the committee identified three foci for the upcoming year: Health and Human Rights; Language and Social Justice; Reparations. These foci correspond with CfHR's current Task Groups and reflect the research and advocacy interests of current CfHR members (see Task Groups below).

Committee members discussed the balance between reactive and pro-active research and advocacy, another issue that continuously challenges CfHR. The position of "first responder" was created to release the chair(s), who (at least) recently have assumed total responsibility for reacting to the large volume of unsolicited requests for action. Releasing the chair from the task of first response will enable chairs to devote time and energy to organizing and overseeing other activities such as Task Groups and the Fellows. The objectives of the "first responder" position are to enable the chair(s) to pursue CfHR's pro-active agenda and reduce the volume of email by judiciously consulting with relevant CfHR members, emeriti and/or advisors concerning which cases and actions CfHR should and may effectively react to.

Communication, Outreach, and Education

The committee's internal mandate is to provide reliable materials with which professional anthropologists may stimulate involvement in human rights through writing and teaching. In this capacity, the Committee creates, prepares, and compiles publications, syllabi, bibliographies, web reports, electronic bulletins, panels, and other forms of outreach. Materials are supplied by members of the Association, internally distributed through Committee, edited, and, if approved, dated and posted. Materials are reviewed regularly for timeliness.

David Valentine, who served as CfHR's 2005 communications coordinator, assumed responsibility for columns, web-based outreach, e-news and the HR listserv. David offers to continue for another year (2006). Susan Slyomovics will shadow AN discussion in preparation for assuming the position of coordinating CfHR's 2007 AN contributions.

Web-based outreach. A major 2005 accomplishment is the redesign of CfHR's webpage. David Valentine together with University of Minnesota undergraduate, Greg Grossmeier, reconceptualized CfHR's site. Valentine and Grossmeier presented a "dummy site" which the committee discussed in the annual spring teleconference and approved with some changes. The design now conforms to that of other section webpages, is easy to navigate and facilitates access to important documents and other materials. Direct communication between David and Samuel Himes (Information Systems Director, AAA) improved CfHR's ability to post notices and documents.

In his CfHR Document Inventory (see Annual Report 2004), former CfHR-chair Samuel Martinez identified a number of documents that were missing from the CfHR site. At the time of this writing, most previous years' documents have been supplied for web posting. Of 2005 actions, however, only two (Jean Jackson's update report on Plan Colombia and the letter regarding Colombian Sociologist Correa de Andreis) are posted at the time of this writing. Missing letters concern: Peruvian Forensic Anthropologists; Yektan Turkyilmaz (Duke grad student arrested in Armenia); Brazilian Archaeologist Guidon; Brazilian Anthropologists Carvalho and Nascimento da Cunha; Guatemalan Chen.

CfHR added a new section to post "unsolicited reports." The committee receives a considerable number of such notices but, owing to lack of resources, is able to react and devote attention to a fraction of these. The new posting section will enable CfHR to display information that comes to its attention – especially from AAA members -- but which the committee has not researched or vetted for confirmation.

Several new database initiatives have been proposed to make anthropological knowledge and anthropologists' contributions (and potential contributions) to human rights more accessible to broader publics, including HR NGOs (for discussion of this as a CfHR priority, see CfHR Annual Report 2003) and media. The Language & Social Justice Task Group plans to develop a web-based database of relevant anthropological publications and scholarship, as well as information concerning the relevance of anthropological expertise. Laura Graham and Rob Albro are pursuing possible collaborations (Graham with Cultural Survival Executive Director Ellen Lutz; Albro with George Washington University's Program on Culture in Global Affairs) to develop appropriate web database initiatives.

Listserve humanrights-request@lists.aaanet.org. Established in 2000, the listserve provides members with news of CfHR activities, disseminates information regarding human rights cases, coordinated actions, teaching materials, and conference plans.

HR Directory. Laura Graham worked with University of Iowa undergraduate, Beth Anderson, to update the HR Directory.

Anthropology News. AN editor Stacy Lathrop attended part of the business meeting to provide information and discuss ideas with CfHR about possibilities for future CfHR contributions to AN. The committee assigned responsibility for generating material for 2006 AN commentaries (approximately 1,000 words) to each committee member or Task Group. With Stacy Lathrop's assistance, the following items appeared during 2005 as a result of CfHR initiatives.

Feb 2005 AN p 31: Sudanese Women Peace-Builders Discuss How to Salvage Darfur, Rogaia Mustafa Abusharaf

Feb 2005 AN p 32: Anthropologists' Expertise Can Aid Asylum Seekers, JC Salyer, CfHR Fellow

March 2005 AN p 27: Interethnic Alliances Among Indigenous and Brazilian "Peoples of the Xingu" Terry Turner and Vanessa Fajans-Turner

March 2005 AN p 28: Violence in South Thailand: Polarized Cultural Stereotypes Contribute to New Violence, Raymond Scupin

March 2005 AN p 29: Current Violence in Thailand is Highly Contextual and Local, Saroja Dorairajoo

May 2005 AN p 30-31: Anthropology in a Time of Crisis: A Note From Nepal, Sara Shneiderman

Sept 2005 AN series Mapping the UN and AAA in Engaging Indigenous Issues, Janet Chernela, Laura Graham, Tony Oliver-Smith, Paul Nuti

Oct 2005 AN p 19: Anthropology and the Chixoy Dam Legacy Study: An Interview with Barbara Rose Johnston

Oct 2005 AN p 21: Symbol of Brazilian Indigenism Assassinated, Maurio Leonel and Betty Mindlin, translated by Laura Graham

Dec 2005 AN p 23: Cultural Relativism and Universal Rights in Islamic Law, Carolyn Fluehr-Lobban

Dec 05 AN Incoming CfHR member Rob Albro helped coordinate a Views on Policy series on Cultural Policy in tandem with new UNESCO cultural diversity convention

2005 ANNUAL MEETING EVENTS

Human Rights events at the 104th AAA Annual Meeting, November 30-December 4, 2005, Washington D.C. In addition to the Annual Business Meeting (Nov. 29, 2005), the CfHR sponsored five events (below) at the Washington

D.C. meeting. CfHR noted at least six other AAA sessions had explicit HR foci, underscoring the significance of HR within the discipline and elevated anthropological interest in the subject.

1. Presidential Session (Friday PM, December 2) *Anthropology and Human Rights: Challenges and Prospects*, Samuel Martinez, organizer; discussants: Samuel Martinez, Janet Chernela, Thomas Greaves, Brian Conboy, Robert Hitchcock, Barbara Johnstone, Lucia McSpadden, Ellen Messer, Carole Nagengast, Peggy Overbey, James Peacock, Leslie Sponsel, Terence Turner.

This commemorated CfHR's 10th anniversary and brought together some key participants in this committee and its predecessor, the Commission for Human Rights, to appraise CfHR's accomplishments and shortcomings, review history of anthropology's engagement with HR and look ahead. The panel forms part of a larger effort to preserve CfHR's institutional memory.

2. Invited Session, co-sponsored with Association for Political and Legal Anthropology (Friday PM, December 2) *Transnationalism and the Anthropology of Rights*, Mark R Goodale and Sally Engle Merry, organizers.

Participant(s): Daniel M Goldstein, Lauren Leve, Mark R Goodale, Shannon Speed, Jean Jackson, Kay B Warren, David Nugent Discussant(s): Sally Engle Merry, Laura Nader, Ulf Hannerz, Balakrishnan Rajagopal.

This session considered current research and theorizing in the anthropology of rights.

3. Invited Session (Saturday PM, December 3), *Anthropology, Human Rights and International Agencies: Perspectives from Inside and outside the beltway*, Janet Chernela and Laura Graham, organizers. Participant(s):

Shelton Davis (GW, formerly World Bank), Ramiro Munoz Macanilla (Organizacion de los Pueblos Indigenas de la Amazonia Colombiana, OPIAC, Colombia), Peter Kostishack (Amazon Alliance), Julie Kunen (USAID) Constance E Campbell (USAID), Ellen Lutz (Cultural Survival), Sheila Dauer (Amnesty International), Mac Chapin. Anthropologists and representatives from government, international agencies and NGOs discussed the possibilities and challenges for productive collaboration with anthropologists in Human Rights advocacy.

4. AAA Policy Forum (Friday AM, December 2) *Language and Social Justice*, Organizer(s)/Chair(s): Laura Graham. Discussant(s): Leanne Hinton, Marco Jacquemet, Ofelia Zepeda, Ana C Zentella, David Valentine.

This well attended and productive forum focused issues for the Language and Social Justice Task Group. It defined the group's first action as the drafting of a proposed AAA Language Rights Resolution to address bias against linguistic minorities, including those with linguistic disabilities and speakers of sign language/ASL.

5. Meeting of CfHR Current, Incoming and Emeriti Advisory Council (Thursday evening, December 1) brought together incoming, current and emeriti members of CfHR, apprised emeriti of priorities for 2006 and solicited emeriti support for its Endowment and HR Award proposals. Participants discussed ways that emeriti can act as committee resources and help to broaden CfHR's reach. It increased communication between emeriti and CfHR and stimulated post-meeting exchanges between committee members and emeriti. Such a meeting should become an annual event at AAA meetings.

Other HR sessions. In addition to the CfHR invited and presidential sessions, CfHR noted at least six other sessions organized around the theme of HR. The number of HR sessions points to significant anthropological interest in this topic and to the significance of HR in the discipline.

Future Sessions. CfHR continues to be interested in sponsoring a session on Corporate Violence, although attempts to organize this for the 2005 meetings did not go forward. At the 2004 annual business meeting David Nugent volunteered to organize this session for the 2005 meeting in collaboration with Lesley Gill. In December 2005, Lesley Gill indicated that she would not attend the 2005 AAA meetings, leaving the task to Nugent. In March, Graham asked Kimberly Theidon to attempt to pull together the session. Theidon worked hard to secure commitments but, given the late invitations, a number of individuals who CfHR wished to include had already committed to other sessions. Graham and Theidon decided to postpone the session until a future time.

CfHR Fellows Program. In 2002, the CfHR initiated a Fellows Program in the Anthropology of Human Rights. Positions carry no stipends. The program was conceptualized to provide Fellows with strong experience in human rights work, possibilities for publication, as well as the opportunity to work closely with the Committee, government agencies, and human rights non-governmental organizations (NGOs). There are two types of Fellow. The CfHR Research Fellow entails researching, documenting, and writing a report on a matter of concern to both the Committee

and the recipient. The Committee Liaison Fellow is to provide a link between the CfHR and Washington-based entities in the human rights community.

The 2005 Research Fellow was J. C. Slayer, an anthropology student at the CUNY Graduate Center and former staff attorney of the American Civil Liberties Union, who held this position in 2005 and continued for a second term. His 2005 work focused on liaising with NGOs, and researching civil rights issues raised by the US Global War on Terror and human rights NGOs that have consultative status with the UN. Slayer attended the UN Permanent Forum for Indigenous Peoples and wrote piece for the February 2005 AN, "*Anthropologists' Expertise Can Aid Asylum Seekers*."

The 2005 D.C. Liaison Fellow was Jennie Pasquarella, an anthropology BA and Georgetown University international human rights law student with interests in labor and human rights, and research and advocacy experience in Mexico, Guatemala and Brazil, with the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace and the human rights NGOs, Global Exchange. Pasquarella's work on behalf of the committee suffered from lack of focus and orientation from a committee supervisor. She plans to write a piece for an upcoming AN column.

2005 Review of Fellows Program: Because the majority of committee members have had little contact with the Fellows and are largely unfamiliar with the program, Laura Graham invited Janet Chernela to the annual business meeting to provide background about the Program. Members used this information to evaluate the program. While all current members agree that the program has potential to benefit both CfHR and the Fellows, CfHR acknowledges that recent Fellows have experienced a lack of supervision and direction. Another part of the problem is that Fellows expect to be assigned tasks by CfHR. Committee members, many of whom already supervise students or interns at institutions where they are based, expressed reluctance to take on the task of orienting CfHR fellows. CfHR agreed that Fellow applicants should be asked to submit specific proposals for projects to be completed during the Fellowship year. Graham contacted applicants for the 2006 Fellow program to request this information and to clarify that Fellows do not receive explicit advising or mentoring from CfHR. The "call for proposals" text must be revised to reflect the need for descriptions of specific research projects. The entire program should be evaluated in either 2007 or 2008.

PART II EXTERNAL RELATIONS

CfHR action on specific human rights issues begins with background research and fact checking via multiple independent information resources, adhering to practices and standards of evidence established by leading human rights investigators. When sustained investigation seems appropriate, "task groups" are formed, which recruit anthropologists and others with relevant expertise to carry out research and write reports. Each task group has at least one Committee member to report to the CfHR on the group's research methods and findings. Task groups typically generate detailed background reports and other publications, to be disseminated on the AAA Web site or through print media. Whether through task groups or more prompt investigations, the CfHR also drafts letters of concern and forwards these to the AAA President, to be sent on behalf of the membership to international leaders, policy makers and advocates, and drafts policy statements, for official adoption by the AAA Executive Board (EB).

First Responder. CfHR created the first responder position to help the committee achieve a more viable balance between reactive and pro-active work. For 2006, CfHR designated one committee member, Kamran Ali, with the task of formulating CfHR's initial response to unsolicited proposals for action. The first responder is also responsible for determining, in consultation with individual members of CfHR and/or the Emeriti Advisory Council, which requests are appropriate for CfHR to act upon and what action(s) is likely to be most effective in each individual case. When appropriate, the first responder will work with individuals or groups who propose CfHR actions, such as letter writing, to facilitate the presentation of appropriate actions to the entire committee for consideration.

Task Groups

Andes: The CfHR approved posting to the AAA Web site an update report on Plan Colombia prepared by Jean Jackson, Professor of Anthropology at MIT.

Language and Social Justice (Laura Graham-chair, Charles Briggs, Marco Jacquemet, David Valentine): This group planned the Public Forum on Language and Social Justice that took place at the AAA meetings in Washington D.C. Following the forum, members met to identify additional scholars to be invited to join the Task Group and make plans to draft text for a proposed resolution on Language Rights to be submitted to the Executive Committee. The group will target the US Census bureau regarding language prejudice in the census text (the next census is currently being

drafted). The group defined as a future goal the establishment of a database that will list scholarly publications and scholars who work on matters related to language rights.

Health and Human Rights (Charles Briggs-chair, Vilma Santiago-Irizarry): The group held its first meeting at the 2005 AAA meetings to plan for 2006 and to identify potential focal issues, including: immigrant health; hunger, malnutrition, right to food; AIDS (funding politics in Africa; scale up of treatment and how funding is structured as a human rights issue; impact of privatization and neoliberal policies on the ability to protect health rights; Iraq and other US military interventions and health rights. Non-CfHR Task Group members are Arachu Castro (Harvard University and Partners in Health), and James Pfeiffer (University of Washington).

New Task Group:

Reparations (Susan Slyomovics, chair, incoming member)

Reparation is a general term for a variety of remedies including restitution, compensation, rehabilitation, satisfaction, and guarantees of non-repetition. The task group will consider the anthropological relationship and contribution to the concept and implementation of reparation; the range of strategies, approaches, and efforts to facilitate the identification and implementation of meaningful remedy; and our profession's critical involvement to secure redress (for example, anthropologists as expert witnesses). Plans are to organize at least one 2006 AAA panel on the topic. Barbara Rose Johnson (CfHR emerita) agreed to join the task group and suggestions for additional scholars will be solicited in the April AN newsletter column.

Potential Task Groups

Africa Following completion of the CfHR Darfur Statement drafted by Samuel Martínez (posted on the CfHR website) CfHR recognized the desperate need for the committee to broaden the scope to social injustice in Africa beyond Darfur. Samuel Martínez and Laura Graham proposed that CfHR establish a new task group on Africa and solicited suggestions for potential members. This potential task group has yet to materialize, probably due in large part to the absence of an Africanist on the Committee. This underscores again that CfHR members must actively seek nominees to fill identifiable gaps in the Committee's thematic and geographical areas of expertise.

Actions Taken Independently of Task Groups

Alfredo Correa de Andreis, Baranquilla, Colombia: Paul Nuti drafted a letter to Colombian President Alvaro Uribe expressing concern over the assassination of Sociology Professor Dr. Alfredo Correa de Andreis of the Facultad de Humanities at the Universidad del Norte and the Universidad Simon Bolívar.

Chixoy Dam, Guatemala: Barbara Johnstone drafted a letter of concern over the detention of Don Carlos Chen Osorio, a member of the Negotiation Comité of the Coordinating Committee of Communities Affected by the Chixoy Dam (COCAICH).

Dra. Niede Guidon, Piauí, Brazil. Michael Heckenberger researched and drafted, in collaboration with Laura Graham, a letter of concern to Brazilian President Luiz Ignácio Lula da Silva over and death threats leveled against Dra. Niede Guidon, Director of the World Heritage site of Parque Nacional Serra de Capivara, Piauí, a major Latin America archaeological region

Professors Carvalho and Nascimento da Cunha/ Raposaserra do Sol, Roraima, Brazil. Linda Rabben drafted a letter to Brazilian President expressing concern over threats to Brazilian colleagues and members of their families for their defense of demarcation of the indigenous territory Raposa Serra do Sol.

Armenian case against Duke University PhD student, Yektan Turkyilmaz. AAA President and CfHR ex-officio member, Elizabeth Brumfiel, sent a letter to President Robert Kocharian of the Republic of Armenia requesting leniency in the case against Yektan Turkyilmaz, a PhD student in cultural anthropology at Duke University.

Brazilian Yanomami and Yek'uana. Gale Gomes provided an initial draft of a letter urging Brazilian President to remove illegal gold and mineral prospectors from federally established and protected Yanomami and Ye'kuana Indigenous Reserves in Roraima and Amazonas states. Laura Graham worked with Paul Nuti to refine the text but, owing to a lack of information on some allegations, the letter is pending.

Peruvian Forensic Anthropologists. CfHR emeritus Carole Nagengast researched and provided an initial draft of a letter addressed to Dr. Alfonso Ricardo Cornejo Alpaca of the Judicial District of Ayacucho, Peru, regarding threats to three forensic anthropologists who have received threats for their work exhuming graves in Ayacucho, an area where Shining Path committed many atrocities. Paul Nuti and Laura Graham worked to bring the letter into its final form.

Guarani, Brazil. Linda Rabben drafted a letter directed to urging Brazilian President Luiz Ignácio Lula da Silva objecting to the expulsion of Guarani peoples from their ancestral lands. The expulsion was carried out by Federal Police, whose responsibility it is to protect indigenous people. CfHR is refining the text; the letter will be sent in early 2006.

UN Permanent Forum on Indigenous Peoples. CfHR emeritus Janet Chernela, Tony Oliver Smith, CfHR chair Laura Graham, and Paul Nuti, represented AAA, CfHR and AAA's South American Indigenous Commission at the United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Peoples. Each established contacts with indigenous peoples and NGOs attending the forum and explored ways that AAA may work to achieve a productive presence at this annual forum. Together with AN editor, Stacy Lathrop, Chernela, Graham, Nuti and Oliver-Smith collaborated to produce the AN piece: Mapping the UN and AAA in Engaging Indigenous Issues (September 2005).

Filiberto Ojeda Rios. Vilma Santiago Irizarry was interviewed by journalists from the LA Times and El Nuevo Dia, Puerto Rico's main Spanish-language daily, about the FBI slaying of a Puerto Rican separatist, Filiberto Ojeda Rios. El Nuevo Dia quoted my remarks in a Sunday piece on the case, which is being investigated by the U.S. Justice Department at the request of the Puerto Rican government.

Nepal Resolution. Laura Graham worked with Cornell University graduate students to prepare text for a potential AAA action against HR violations and violations of academic freedom in Nepal. Meg Davis (incoming CfHR member) has vetted the text to HRW. CfHR awaits recommendations from HRW as to the best way to proceed.

Organizational Matters & Challenges:

Face-to-face meetings are essential to the work of CfHR. CfHR's annual business meeting provides an important opportunity for members to set the annual agenda, determine committee priorities and brainstorm activities and events for the coming year. A face-to-face meeting mid-year is also essential for the committee to work effectively. Such a meeting is especially important for new members who, as incoming members' experience in the last two years spring meeting shows, tend to spend their entire first year discovering how the committee works.

CfHR confronted unique challenges in 2005. Since the committee did not hold a face-to-face meeting as usual at the 2004 meetings (because of the San Francisco hotel workers' strike) CfHR did not have the benefit of the kind of energetic, creative, and unconstrained multivocal dialogue that effectively sets a clear agenda for the year. Further, for various reasons, not all members connected to the spring teleconference. This year new members faced exceptional challenges in getting up to speed. Although Laura Graham, as chair, communicated individually with the three incoming members, Kamran Ali, Kimberly Theidon, Vilma Santiago-Irizarry, the new members did not receive face-to-face orientation or have the opportunity to attend a business meeting as incoming members. In the spring teleconference, considerable attention was given to orienting new members and discussing how the committee works rather than working on issues that had been previously defined at the annual business meeting. Lack of clear consensus on CfHR priorities and agenda was exacerbated by the fact that two other CfHR members, Graham and Briggs, completed two of their three year terms without meeting face-to-face with other committee members. Since the committee currently meets once a year at the annual meetings, it is important that incoming members attend the annual business meeting before their CfHR term initially begins. Because the business meeting is held the Tuesday before the meetings, financial constraints make it difficult for incoming members to attend.

CfHR members face a considerable volume of email associated with the work of this committee; this includes notices from numerous NGOs and listserves. The position of "first responder" was created to remove some of the email burden from the chair. This position and problems associated with the excessive volume of email (which often causes members to OD and effectively tune out much CfHR-related communication) should be monitored and periodically reviewed.

CfHR looks forward to working with Paul Nuti, AAA Director of External and International Relations, who, in 2006, replaces Richard Thomas as CfHR's staff liaison. Paul's interests and AAA staff position align well with the work of

CfHR. Even though Paul was not officially assigned to the committee in 2005, he worked closely with CfHR on a number of initiatives and has established a positive working relationship with committee members. CfHR also looks forward to greater collaboration with the Policy Committee, a collaboration that Paul Nuti, who is staff liaison for both groups, may facilitate.

Action Items for 2006

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- Work to hold spring meeting in 2007 and in subsequent years, if possible.
 - Monitor progress of Endowment and HR Award proposals.
 - Review web postings on the CfHR site, especially syllabi and bibliographies for teaching courses in Anthropology and Human Rights.
 - Revise "call for proposals" text for Fellows Program to reflect the need for descriptions of specific research projects and the entire program should be evaluated in either 2007 or 2008.
 - Convene Emeriti Advisory Council
 - Evaluate "first responder" position.
 - Liaise w. DC-based NGOs to survey how they think Anthropologists, CfHR could help advance their case and determine ways that AAA/CfHR has helped in the past.
 - Actively seek nominees to fill identifiable gaps in the Committee's thematic and geographical areas of expertise.
 - Determine ways to work more effectively with Public Policy Committee.
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