



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

December 21, 2011

## **Ethics Committee Announces Winners of Inaugural Small Grants Program**

**CONTACT:**

Damon Dozier,  
Director of Public Affairs,  
703-528-1902 x 1163  
ddozier@aaanet.org

The American Anthropological Association (AAA) Committee on Ethics recently presented cash awards to two separate teams of anthropologists who offered proposals centered on encouraging awareness of and innovation in ethics curricular materials used in introductory, undergraduate, and graduate classes.

The goal of the AAA Small Grants Program is to foster the development and use of curricular materials for the teaching and communication of ethics and ethical practice across the discipline of anthropology. Award applicants exhibited the ability to develop curricular materials in a variety of different ways, including texts, films, blogs, websites, exhibits, and other innovative media forms.

Samuel Gerald Collins and Matthew Slover Durlington of Towson University were awarded \$350 for their proposal "Multimedia Ethics for a Networked Anthropology," which seeks to formulate and freely disseminate ethical guidelines for a public anthropology premised on the production and dissemination of multimedia. These would be used for an ethical component in the methodological classes they teach, in training seminars for anthropologists and other multimedia researchers, and would contribute to a general debate on how anthropology might enjoy a public sphere characterized more and more by shared, social media.

Lakshmi Fjord and Devva Kasnitz of AAA's Society for Medical Anthropology, Disability Research Special Interest Group were awarded \$650 for their proposal, "Disability and Bioethical Curriculum: Please Mind the Gaps." Their project is designed to address the absence of the disability experience, expertise, and theory in anthropology and bioethics curricula. The primary product will be a 3-hour (one week) class module that contains clear learning objectives addressed in multimedia and cross-learning styles and includes new PowerPoints, lectures, and discussion notes for instructors' use, suggested assigned and supplementary readings, suggested short assignments and suggested use of existing documentary or film clip resources.

"The Committee on Ethics is pleased to make these awards to two teams of scholars who are dedicated to teaching ethics in new, innovative ways," AAA Committee on Ethics Chair Roberto Gonzalez said in a statement issued today. "I look forward to the final results of both of these projects, and am optimistic that they will provide helpful to our students, our members and our discipline."

-- AAA --

**Founded in 1902, the American Anthropological Association is the world's largest professional organization of anthropologists and others interested in anthropology, with an average annual membership of more than 10,000. The Arlington, VA – based association represents all specialties within anthropology – cultural anthropology, biological (or physical) anthropology, archaeology, linguistics and applied anthropology.**

2200 Wilson Blvd., Suite 600  
Arlington, VA 22201-3357  
Tel 703-528-1902  
Fax 703-528-3546  
www.aaanet.org