

**2005 Annual Report**  
**National Association for the Practice of Anthropology**

**Submitted by**  
**Madelyn Iris, Section President (2004-2006)**

**1) Accomplishments during the period covered.**

**Membership:** Our regular membership has remained relatively stable: total membership was 581 in October, 2005, with a yearly average of 588. Our regular membership declined from 444 in October, 2004 to 426 in October, 2005, but our student membership increased from 148 in October, 2004 to 154 in October, 2005. The NAPA Governing Council approved the creation of a membership committee at its Fall, 2005 meeting. This committee will convene early in 2006 and develop strategies for a membership drive. We also intend to survey our members, current and lapsed, to find out more about what has contributed to our decline over the past few years.

**Finances:** NAPA continues to maintain a healthy operating reserve. Our net assets are now approximately \$100,000, as of October, 2005. However, with the anticipated costs for publication of the *NAPA Bulletin* during 2005 and 2006 via AnthroSource, we are projecting a decline in our net assets (by \$13,294 in 2005, \$9,100 in 2006, and \$3,100 in 2007). This investment will reduce our operating reserve by more than \$25,000 before projected revenues from publications meet or exceed projected publication-related expenses in 2008. Even with this investment, however, NAPA will retain a healthy operating reserve, equivalent to at least a 2-3 year surplus as a buffer.

**Annual Meeting Activities:** NAPA was active at the 2005 AAA annual meeting, sponsoring 11 workshops and 3 invited sessions.

*Workshops include:*

- The Anthropology Rebranding Project: Marketing Campaigns for Today and Tomorrow's Anthropology. Organizer(s)/Chair: Elizabeth Tunstall.
- Qualitative Software: Recent Innovations and Decision Making. Presenters: Raymond Marietta (ResearchTalk Inc.) and Alison Hamilton Brown (UCLA Integrated Substance Abuse Program)
- Tourism Research: Workshop in New Theories, Methods, and Practices. Presenters: Tim Wallace (North Carolina State U) and Quetzil Castaneda (Open School of Ethnography and Anthropology)
- Introduction to GIS for Anthropologists. Presenter: Stephen C Maack (REAP Change Consultants)
- Fieldworks 2: An Electronic Field Note taking and Management Software Tool in the Field. Presenters: Tom Woodward (SIL) and Tim Wallace (NC State U)
- Building Economic Solidarity. Presenters: Kate O'Donnell (Hartwick C) & Lea Pellett (Christopher Newport U)
- Ethnographic Field Schools: How to Run Them. Presenter: Tim Wallace (North Carolina State U).
- Negotiation Skills. Presenter: Jennifer Beer (Wharton School, U of Pennsylvania)

- Design Anthropology: What We Do and How We Do It. Presenters: Crysta Metcalf (Motorola), Natalie Hanson (Temple U), Tracey Lovejoy (Microsoft) and Nelle Steele (Microsoft)
- Becoming a Practicing Anthropologist: Preparing for Non-Academic Careers. Presenter: Riall Nolan (Purdue U)
- Anthropological Perspective on the Global Service Economy. Presenters: Jeanette Blomberg (IBM Research), Marietta Baba (Michigan State)

*Invited Sessions were:*

**PUBLIC INTEREST ETHNOGRAPHY: THEORY, PRACTICE AND ACTION**

Organizer(s)/Chair(s): Peggy R Sanday. Participant(s): Todd Wolfson, Amelia G Rosenberg Weinreb, Noel B Salazar, Megan Tracy, Christopher P Thornton, Dorothy C Holland

Discussant(s): Yolanda T Moses

**DEMYSTIFYING POLICY AND PRAXIS: NEGOTIATING THE CULTURAL DIMENSION**

Organizer(s): Ben G Blount, Pamela J Puntenney, Chair(s): Pamela J Puntenney

Participant(s):

Ben G Blount, J Terrence McCabe, Pamela J Puntenney, Timothy J Finan, Katherine Warner, Riall Nolan, Pamela J Puntenney Discussant(s): Anthony R Oliver Smith, Peter W Van Arsdale

(co-sponsored with the Evolutionary Anthropology Society) **HUMAN BEHAVIORAL ECOLOGY: APPLICATIONS TO INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND PUBLIC POLICY.** Organizer(s): Bram T Tucker, Lisa M Rende Taylor Chair(s): Lisa M Rende Taylor

Participant(s): Lisa M Rende Taylor, Bram T Tucker, Mary K Shenk, Alyson G Young, Dawn B Neill, Craig A Hadley, Donna L Leonetti

NAPA also sponsored a number of other scientific paper sessions and special events across the program.

- NAPA held its annual business meeting on Saturday, Dec. 3, 2005. The NAPA Business meeting was followed by a well-attended cash bar, co-sponsored by the Washington Association for Professional Anthropology.
- NAPA also sponsored two interest group meetings: The Evaluation Anthropology Interest Group and the Public Anthropology Interest Group (which held its first meeting).
- NAPA also hosted a luncheon for representatives from Local Practitioner Organizations, as part of its efforts to support these organizations and their local efforts. Eleven people attended the lunch, with representatives from seven LPOs: WAPA (Washington Association of Professional Anthropologists, Washington, D.C.) CVAAN (Central Valley Applied Anthropology Network, California), CAPA (Chicago Association for Practicing Anthropologists, Chicago), TAPAS (Texas Area Practicing Anthropology Society, Texas), SCOPA (Sun Coast Organization of Practicing Anthropologists, California), HPSFAA (High Plains), SCAAN (Sun Coast Organization of Practicing Anthropologists,

California). The LPO coordinator from the Society for Applied Anthropology also attended.

- NAPA organized and staffed a booth in the exhibit area at the annual meeting, dedicated primarily to “instant mentoring.” The booth was very busy and over 24 people signed up for advice from an “instant mentor.” NAPA member Terry Redding took the lead in organizing the AAA Practicing Anthropology Work Group exhibit as well.
- **Student Achievement Award:** The 2005 awards for student achievement in the practice of anthropology went to:
  - 1<sup>st</sup> Prize – Jason Paiment, Dept. of Anthropology, McGill University, Montreal, Canada. Title: “Anthropology and Development.”
  - 1<sup>st</sup> Prize – Jacob Hickman, Dept. of Comparative Human Development, University of Chicago. Title: “Is it the Spirit or the Body? Syncretism of Health Beliefs among Hmong Immigrants to Alaska
  - 2<sup>nd</sup> Prize – Emily Eisenhauer, Alejandro Angee, Bri Barclay, Jasney Cogua-Lopez. Department of Sociology and Anthropology, Florida International University. Title: “Community Knowledge and Attitudes Towards Refugees and Asylees in Miami-Dade and Broward Counties: An Analysis for the International Rescue Committee.”

No 3<sup>rd</sup> place prize was awarded.

**Spring meeting activities:** NAPA co-sponsored the Society for Applied Anthropology Annual Meeting in Santa Fe, NM (30 March – 3 April 2004), and held a Board Meeting. NAPA sponsored six professional development workshops, four NAPA-sponsored sessions, and a well-attended networking/mentoring event. We also co-sponsored an exhibits booth with the AAA/SfAA Commission on Applied and Practicing Anthropology. Several LPOs displayed materials at this booth.

**EPIC Conference:** NAPA co-sponsored the first NAPA co-sponsored the first **EPIC** (Ethnographic Praxis in Industry Conference), held Nov. 14-15<sup>th</sup> in Redmond, CA. A full report on the conference appeared in the NAPA AN column, January, 2006. NAPA will continue to serve as a co-sponsor of what we anticipate becoming an annual conference in 2007.

**Publications:** Two NAPA Bulletins were published in 2005: Tourism and Applied Anthropologists: Linking Theory and Practice, edited by Tim Wallace (Bulletin 23) and Creating Evaluation Anthropology: Introducing an Emerging Subfield, edited by Mary Odell Butler and Jacqueline Copeland-Carson (Bulletin 24). With Bulletin 23, the format changed to accommodate a larger paper size. This allows us to accommodate longer or more chapters, without increasing the number of pages. In addition, the Proceedings of the first EPIC conference were also published and distributed in hard copy to all NAPA members, in late 2005. NAPA continues to publish a column in the Anthropology News, and now distributes a bi-monthly or more e-newsletter from the President, via email. We anticipate that a volume of student award papers will be published in 2006, either in hard copy or as an e-volume.

**Website:** NAPA maintains a website at [practicinganthropology.org](http://practicinganthropology.org). In addition to a publicly searchable members directory, we offer employment advertisements, online access to searchable databases for internships and practical training experiences, a place to sign up to be matched with a mentor, links to Local Practitioner Organizations around the US, a way to order back issues of the *NAPA Bulletin* series, and practicing anthropology in the news. We hired a part time web

content editor in August, to ensure that the web site is refreshed on a monthly basis. As of November 30, 2005, we had posted over 30 relevant news items and relevant 50 job openings. The site also provides access to NAPA's membership list and directory, with appropriate log-ins. Our webmaster reported there were 23, 907 unique visitors to the site in 2005, and a total of 924,974 hits. This is almost double the number of unique visitors in 2004, and 3 times as many hits.

**Outreach and Liaison Efforts:** NAPA leadership has been involved actively in the joint AAA/SfAA Commission on Applied and Practicing Anthropology; the AnthroSource Steering Committee, the AAA Nominations and Elections Committee, the Practicing Anthropology Work Group, and the AAA Governance Commission.

**Topical Interest Groups:** NAPA now sponsors two topical interest groups: one on Evaluation Anthropology, which was approved by the board in 2004, and one on Public Anthropology, which is in formation. Several other interest groups are also under discussion.

**Mentor Program Activity:** The NAPA Mentor Program was very busy in 2005, with over 30 mentor matches requests. Approximately 70% of these requests were fulfilled. Of those not fulfilled, either the individual did not respond to follow-up emails or information was provided which met the needs. NAPA continues to receive requests for information on careers in practicing anthropology and advice about courses and career paths from a large number of undergraduate students who feel they are not receiving adequate direction from their anthropology faculty.

## **2) Future plans or activities (3-5) year time frame**

The NAPA Board approved its new Strategic Plan in Fall, 2005. A strategic planning meeting was held in conjunction with the AAA meetings, to prioritize activities and assign responsibilities. The Governing Council approved implementation of the various components of the major initiatives at its November 30<sup>th</sup> Board meeting. The full strategic plan will be posted on the NAPA web site in early 2006. The heart of the Plan identifies initiatives in three main areas, outlined below:

### **A. Supporting individual career development and NAPA's organizational capacities**

- Continue to operate the NAPA Mentor program
- Advertise Employment and Consulting Opportunities
- Establish a Publications Committee
- Establish an Ethics Training Committee
- Support student professional development through Student Achievement Award
- Support NAPA Interest Groups like the Evaluator's Network
- Support AAA's Organizational Development through contributions to the Nominations and Elections Committee, AAA Long Range Strategic Planning Committee, the AnthroSource Steering Committee, the Public Policy Institute, work with the AAA Member/Departmental/Organizational Services and the AAA/SfAA Commission on Applied and Practicing Anthropology
- Meet training demands through Annual Meeting Workshops

**B. Creating opportunities for information and resource exchange among professional anthropological researchers and practitioners**

**Annual Meeting Activities**

- Research symposia, roundtable discussions, training workshops, and special events each year for the Annual Meeting of the AAA.
- Special events will include a social event that promotes networking and celebrates the volunteer service of our committee members and extended leadership network.
- A series of research symposia every other year for the annual meeting of the SfAA.

**Local Practitioner Organization Support**

- Maintain an up-to-date list of active LPOs and identified points-of-contact for each active LPO
- Host an annual luncheon with representatives of active LPOs for the purposes of exchanging ideas about the ongoing activities of LPOs.
- Server space will be made available at practicinganthropology.org for LPOs that request help in web site hosting.
- NAPA will make its membership database available to LPOs for the purposes of publicizing LPO activities in a particular metropolitan area.
- NAPA will provide information to individuals who are interested in starting an LPO based on lessons learned from the experience of other LPO start-ups.
- NAPA will make space available at Annual Meeting exhibit booths for LPOs that would like to publicize their presence.

**Publications**

- Publish two issues of the *Bulletin* series annually, and distribute these issues as part of the AnthroSource digital publishing initiative that AAA has undertaken in partnership with the University of California Press.
- Additional copies of all *Bulletins* will be offered to NAPA members at a 30% discount.

**Web Site**

- The NAPA Web Site will be maintained as an accessible, up-to-date center for information exchange among professional anthropologists.
- **Liaison with Other Professional Societies**, including the Society for Applied Anthropology, the American Evaluation Association, and the International Union for Anthropological and Ethnological Sciences

**C. Building community among students and professional practicing anthropologists by communicating effectively with our members about the activities we support and services we provide.**

- A “New Members Welcome Packet” about NAPA and membership benefits will be developed for distribution to each new and renewing member within two weeks of receiving a membership renewal and/or initial registration.
- Regular updates will be prepared for the membership

- *Anthropology News* Column will continue to be published in 9 times per year, and these columns will be archived on the NAPA web site.
- Annual Report - an Annual Report will highlight accomplishments of the previous year for the AAA Executive Board and NAPA membership

### 3) **NAPA Contributions to AAA**

- AAA Governance: Madelyn Iris, NAPA President, sits on the AAA Governance Commission.
- PAWG: Dennis Wiedman, NAPA President-Elect, Judy Tso (former NAPA Board member), and Susan Squires and Linda Bennett (both NAPA Past Presidents) are members of the AAA Practicing Anthropology Work Group. NAPA's LPO Coordinator, Terry Redding, volunteered to organize and manage the PAWG booth at the 2005 AAA exhibits.
- In 2005, NAPA supported more than a dozen candidates who volunteered to stand for nomination for AAA board and committee seats. This was one of the most successful candidate recruitments NAPA has conducted.
- Instant Mentoring: During the 2005 annual meetings NAPA used its exhibit hall booth for "instant mentoring" activities. Over 24 people requested assistance. Those seeking advice had a wide range of interests, extending beyond careers as professional or practicing anthropologists. The Instant Mentoring model should be adopted as a regular feature at the AAA annual meetings.

### 4) **Elected Section Officers, 2005**

- Ed Liebow (*Past President 2004 – 2006*)
- Jacqueline Copeland Carson (*Treasurer 2004 - 2006*)
- Madelyn (Micki) Iris (*President 2004-2006*)
- Inga Treitler (*Secretary 2005-2007*)
- Tom Greaves (*Member at Large, 2005-2007*)
- Genevieve Bell (*Member at Large, 2005- 2007*)
- Christine Miller (*Student Member 2004 - 2006*)

### 5) **NAPA Bulletin Series Editors**

James (Tim) Wallace and Alayne Unterberger served as co-editors of the NAPA Bulletin. Tim Wallace will continue in this role for another year. A search will be undertaken for a new co-editor to replace Alayne Unterberger who has completed her term. By staggering editor's terms, we ensure continuity of editorship for the bulletins.