

December 19, 2006

Dear Members of the Executive Board:

Receive my greetings and wishes for good health. The Committee on Minority Issues in Anthropology has the honor to present its annual report. In this report, we outline our accomplishments for the year 2006 and set our goals for the year 2007.

As stated in previous years, we would like to express our wholehearted appreciation and gratitude for the work of Kathleen Terry-Sharp, Melissa Coates, and now Jona Pounds. They are truly splendid administrators and friends.

This is the last report I will submit as Chair of the Committee on Minority Issues in Anthropology, as my term ended in November 2006. I would like to express my deepest gratitude to the Executive Board and staff of AAA, as well as to my fellow Committee members for three years of very enjoyable and productive work.

Truly yours,

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Stated Tasks, 2006

In our 2005 annual report we established the following goals for 2006:

1. Organize two invited sessions for the 2006 annual meetings.
2. Administer the Minority Dissertation Fellowship, including selecting a recipient.
3. Create a concrete proposal for the participation on CMIA on the Public Education Initiative on Race.
4. Develop a concrete list of suggestions to improve the diversity climate in the Association.
5. Continue and increase our relationship with sections and committees of AAA.

Completed Tasks, 2005

We have accomplished the following goals:

1. We organized two invited sessions for the meetings in San Jose, California. Both invited sessions took place on Friday November 17, 2006. These sessions were: "Teaching about Race from the Sub-fields of Anthropology," co-organized by Carla Guerrón-Montero and Patricia Mathews-Salazar; and "Institutionalizing Cultural Diversity Developments in Universities," organized by Michael Winkelman. Both sessions were well attended and well received.
1. We selected a winner of the Minority Dissertation Fellowship. This year's recipient is Amy Shedra Snipes. Kathleen L. Kawelu and Jun Ueno Sunsery were the honorable mentions. There were 20 qualified applicants. Ms Snipes and Mr. Sunsery were honored with a luncheon at the AAA meeting. Partial funding for this luncheon came from the Department of Anthropology at the University of Delaware. The remaining funds came from personal funds of the members of the Committee.
2. We continued to maintain channels of communication with AAA's sections and committees, by highlighting the work of the Committee to these sections, and inviting them to work closely with CMIA on diversity initiatives.
3. We continued and strengthened the work of the Committee in its efforts to improve the diversity climate of the Association. With this purpose in mind, we accepted the invitation of Dr. Alan Goodman to discuss and suggest specific ways to achieve this goal. A subcommittee of CMIA, formed by current members Karen Nakamura, Michael Winkelman, and Patricia Mathews-Salazar and by recently rotating members Najwa Adra and Carla Guerrón-Montero, will work closely with Alan Goodman in the Committee on Inclusiveness and Social Justice.
4. We have continued our efforts to support the Public Education Initiative on Race. The audience at the session "Teaching about Race" encouraged the organizers to publish the

information presented at the session. With this idea in mind, the organizers will contact publishing houses with a proposal for an edited volume. The organizers are currently drafting this proposal and plan to submit it to publishers in early January. In addition, the organizers will contact the Executive Board of the Public Education Initiative on Race to discuss potential ways to disseminate this information.

In addition to these activities we also accomplished the following:

1. We finalized a document that details the institutional memory of the Committee. The goal of this document is to inform newly elected Committee members of the history of the Committee in order to prepare them for a smooth transition into their duties.
2. New members joined the Committee in 2006. Ananthakrishnan Aiyer and Sonya Atalay are the new members of the Committee for 2006-2009. Three members rotated off the Committee at the end of the annual meetings in San Jose. These members were Lisa Lucero, Najwa Adra, and Carla Guerrón-Montero. The Committee unanimously elected Desiree Martinez as the new chair of the Committee for the year 2007.

Abandoned Tasks

We did not abandon any of our tasks.

Remaining Issues

1. CMIA will discuss an initiative put forth by Committee member Karen Nakamura, regarding support to the initiative developed by the Disability Research Interest Group.

Budget Issues

The Committee would like to request further funding for the following projects:

1. The expansion of the Minority Dissertation Award
2. The funding of a reception at the AAA meetings. The luncheon organized by CMIA Committee members to honor the recipient and honorable mention recipients of the Minority Dissertation Award has been extremely well received. A reception at the AAA meetings will provide the Committee with more opportunities to bring members of minoritized groups together
3. The Committee would like to stress their strong appreciation for the work of Kathleen Terry-Sharp, Melissa Coates, and Jona Pounds. In addition, the Committee suggests that they receive further support from AAA in order to support further Committee initiatives

Plans for 2006

1. Organize two invited sessions for the 2006 annual meetings. Michael Winkelman has agreed to approach NAPA and PAWG, and to work with them to combine the Committee's two invited sessions to two NAPA invited sessions in order to produce two double sessions on the following topics:
 - a. A session that frames U.S. cultural diversity issues for decision makers and opinion makers, facilitating public discourse about cultural diversity; and
 - b. A session that focuses on generating materials on cultural diversity for use in institutional development in colleges and universities.
2. In addition, the Committee would like to request a Presidential Session to discuss issues of disability within the discipline of anthropology in general and AAA in particular. Karen Nakamura has agreed to be in charge of this session.
 4. To administer the Minority Dissertation Fellowship, including selecting a recipient
 5. To continue CMIA's involvement with the Public Education Initiative on Race
 6. To work closely with Dr. Alan Goodman and the Commission on Inclusiveness and Social Justice
 7. To continue and increase our relationship with sections and committees of AAA