

To: Anne Grauer, President, AAPA

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

Date: 25 March 2021

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

Affiliates Report

- 1) The 2021 AAAS Meeting was held entirely online this year. There was not a formal meeting of Affiliates.
- 2) However, the AAAS has been actively engaged in the process of a Governance Modernization process over the past year. Major initiatives are likely to include increased focus on Diversity, equity, and inclusion and establishing greater opportunities for collaboration and exchange across the Sections.
- 3) The 2022 AAAS Meeting is scheduled for 17-20 February 2022, presumably still scheduled to be held in Philadelphia. The theme is: Empower with Evidence. The deadline for proposals is June 17, 2021. More information can be found at: <https://meetings.aaas.org/submit-a-scientific-session-or-workshop-proposal-for-the-2022-aaas-annual-meeting/>

Section H Secretary Report

- 1) The fourth Robert W. Sussman Award for Scientific Contributions to Anthropology, 2021 was awarded to Dr. Jada Benn Torres, Associate Professor of Anthropology at Vanderbilt University.
- 2) We also honored six new AAAS Fellows: Margaret W. Conkey (UC-Berkeley); Anne Grauer (Loyola University Chicago); Debbie Guatelli-Steinberg (Ohio State University); Eduard B. Liebow (American Anthropological Association), J. Terrence McCabe (University of Colorado Boulder), and Denise Fay-Shen Su (Cleveland Museum of Natural History).
- 3) 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 fellow for at least 4 years to be elected a Fellow of AAAS.
- 4) PLEASE consider nominating top people for the 2022 Sussman Award, DEADLINE May 8; Details are posted at the Section H facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/Section-H-AAAS-Anthropology-644296642377229/> and at the AAPA website (attached here, too).



Robert W. Sussman Award for Scientific Contributions to Anthropology

Section H (Anthropology)
American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS)

Purpose: To recognize meritorious scientific contributions to the field of anthropology by mid-career anthropologists*.

Criteria:

Mid-career is generally defined as about 10-20 years post PhD. In academic rank, the individual would typically be an associate to early full professor.

Process:

- Nominations of mid-career candidates will be solicited from among the membership of Section H via electronic messages using AAAS communication platform and the Section H social media (e.g., facebook) page. Members of the Section H Nominating Committee may also submit nominations of candidates.
- Nominations will be solicited in early March, with a deadline of **May 8**, sent to Karen Strier, kbstrier@wisc.edu
- Nominees do not need to be members of AAAS. *Self nominations are not accepted.*
- A nomination will consist of a nominating letter (maximum 2,000 words), describing the relationship of the nominator to the candidate, the candidate's most significant contributions and why they are lasting, and the candidate's trajectory for making continuing contributions to science in the spirit of the mission and goals of AAAS. The nominating letter should be accompanied by the candidate's CV and complete contact information.
- Nominations will be compiled by the Secretary of Section H, who will also chair the Selection Committee but who will not vote except to break a tie. The voting members of the Selection Committee will be the other members of the Steering group of Section H, which includes the section chair, chair-elect, past chair, and 4 members-at-large.
- Nominations will be carried-over and considered for a second year[‡].
- Any Conflict of Interests (e.g., recent co-authorships, co-PI on grants, student-mentor relationships) will be declared by Selection Committee members. Committee members will not rank candidates with whom they have a COI.
- Efforts will be made to select Awardees from across the full range of scientific subdisciplines in
 - Anthropology.
 - Ordinarily, awards will be given to individuals.
- Award winners will be notified by September 1, and the award will be announced via Section H social media as soon as communication with the winner has been made.
- Award winners will be encouraged to attend the next AAAS meeting, with the award presentation held at either the Section H Reception or Business meeting.
- Award winners will receive a Certificate for the year in which the award is presented.
- The award will be named in honor of Robert W. Sussman and the fourth award will be thus entitled: "2022 Robert W. Sussman Award for Scientific Contributions in Anthropology from Section H (Anthropology) of the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS)."

**As recorded in the minutes from the 2017 Section H Business meeting: "Bob Sussman embodies the science and spirit of Anthropology. From fieldwork on lemurs to human biology to deconstructing the evils of race, his legacy of mentorship, caring, and dissemination of knowledge will be with us forever."*

[‡]Revised by Steering group on 25 April 2019.