

Education Committee 2021-2022 Activities Report

Submitted by Brian Pobiner, Chair

2021 conference-related activities

The AAPA Education Committee held an **online teacher workshop** aimed at middle and high school teachers associated with (but not officially part of) the 2021 online AAPA conference. This workshop, entitled “Teaching Biological Anthropology in Inclusive and Culturally/Religiously Sensitive Ways”, was held on Saturday April 24, 2021 from 1-3 pm ET included presentations by two committee members, Dr. Rob O’Malley (“Science Engagement with (and within) Religious Communities”) and Dr. Briana Pobiner (“Teaching Evolution through Human Examples”), as well as Dr. M. Elizabeth Barnes (“Using Religious Cultural Competence in Evolution Education”) and Dr. Grace Wolf-Chase (“Bridging Cultural Divides through Science Engagement with Zooniverse”). The workshop was promoted entirely on social media. 66 people registered, and approximately fewer than half that number attended. The workshop registrants received a link to a google drive folder containing: a video recording of the workshop; the workshop presentations in PDF format; a google doc with a list of links to useful resources, some of which were mentioned in the Zoom chat; a pdf of the CRS (Cultural and Religious Sensitivity) Resource reviewed in Pobiner’s presentation; and a nested folder containing object-based human evolution lesson plans created by AAPA Education Committee members. They were also invited to complete a post-workshop survey; of the 14 who completed the survey, on a scale of 1-5, 50% rated the workshop a 4 and 50% rated the workshop a 5.

2022 planned conference-related activities

We reached out to the Denver Museum of Nature and Science (DMNS) in October 2021 to begin to discuss four possible conference-related activities our committee members could offer: a teacher workshop, a museum educator workshop, museum outreach, and classroom outreach. As the week that the AABA conference is being held in Denver is also a main spring break week for the local schools, it was not good timing to do classroom outreach. The DMNS was not enthusiastic about a museum educator workshop or museum outreach, but they were happy for us to provide a professional development opportunity (workshop) for K-12 teachers. That **in-person teacher workshop** is scheduled for [Saturday March 26, 2022 from 9 am - 12 pm at DMNS](#).

Other committee efforts

In order to streamline committee communication, the chair reached out to everyone on the email list in October 2021 asking them to reply to opt-in to remain on the committee. 46 people did not do that; 18 people did. The current committee members are at the bottom of this report, and we had our first **non-conference related committee meeting** on December 14, 2021 in order to keep moving forward with committee plans and efforts. A main effort of the committee this year was to create a large amount of **new material for the AABA website**, focused in two main areas: 1) collating and creating a standard template for K-12 lesson plans

related to biological anthropology (audience - teachers), led by GWU masters student Nina Lopergolo with committee members Caitlin Schrein and Briana Pobiner 2) creating content related to public engagement best practices (audience - AABA members), led by committee members Katrina Yezzi-Woodley, Rob O'Malley, Amanda Owings, and Briana Pobiner. We anticipate this content going live on the AABA website by/around the time of the 2022 AABA conference, and we are grateful to AABA webmaster Ed Hagen for his cooperation and facilitation.

Committee members

Karol Chandler-Ezell, E. Susanne Daly, Amanda Glaze-Crampes, Frances Forrest, K. Lindsay Hunter, Rose Leach, Caitlin Mayer, Kate McGrath, Brittany Moody, Rob O'Malley, Amanda Owings, Briana Pobiner, Sam Porter, Kinley Russell, Caitlin Schrein, Molly Selba, Darcy Shapiro, Kerryn Warren, Katrina Yezzi-Woodley