

AABA Student Liaison Report, 2023-24
Submitted by Elise Adams

Committee Structure

As per the structure created by the Executive Committee of the American Association of Biological Anthropologists (AABA), the *ad hoc* Student Committee co-chairs are the current and incoming Student Liaisons for the AABA Executive Committee. The current (and outgoing) liaison is Elise Adams. The incoming liaison is Luke Fannin.

2023-2024 Student Liaison Activities

- The ninth annual AABA Student Meet and Greet is scheduled for Wednesday, March 20, 2024. It will be held in Georgia I of the JW Marriott LA Live. In consideration of the limited virtual setting of the 2024 conference, there is not an additional virtual Student Meet and Greet currently scheduled.
 - The eighth annual AABA Student Mixer was held in-person during the 2023 AABA annual meeting in Reno, NV, and organized by the 2022-2023 student liaison, Dori Kenessey. The mixer included a networking activity of “find someone who”, with students who completed the activity receiving a small award in the form of a sticker with the 2023 AABA conference logo.
- The Student Liaison worked with the 2022-2023 Student Liaison (Dori Kenessey), and Executive Committee’s Vice President (Kristi Lewton) and Secretary (Amy Rector), to update and improve the Student Resources page on the AABA website. The existing information was updated with working and additional links. The Student Resources page now contains a comprehensive list of links, organized into categories including Academic Writing and Publishing Resources, Professional Development Resources (how to write a CV or cover letter, etc.), Internship Opportunities, Teaching Resources (how to write a syllabus, tips for teaching assistants, etc.), Graduate School Resources (how to choose a school/advisor, balancing mental health and work, etc.), Fieldwork Resources, Funding Resources (internal and external), and Communities of Interest (i.e., other organizations that AABA Student Members might be interested in - Paleopathology Association, American Society of Primatologists, the American Academy of Forensic Sciences, etc.).
- Following the suspension of the AABA Student Members Facebook group, and other student programs and efforts established pre-COVID which have not been restarted, there have been discussions of the best methods/forums to reestablish communication between the student liaison and student members, as well as facilitate discussion among student members. Social media sites (including Instagram, Threads, etc.), as well as former initiatives (a Room Sharing group, the Buddy Program, the Student Newsletters, and the ad hoc Student Committee meeting) should be evaluated for creation or reinstatement in future years.
 - A public Google form for finding a roommate for the 2024 AABA conference was made available on the AABA website (exact numbers and success rate not reported here).

Planned 2024 AABA Meeting (Los Angeles) Student Committee Events

- AABA Student Meet and Greet: Wednesday 5-6pm, March 20, 2024