

**SfAA Student Committee Semi-Annual Report
March 2007**

Prepared by Ashley Carse (Chair) and Committee officers

2006-2007 Student Committee Officers

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Overview

The Student Committee does not request that any actions or votes be taken by the Executive Board at this time. A summary of our activities since the 2006 Annual Meetings in Vancouver is presented below. The Student Committee is grateful to the SfAA for its continued support.

Student Endowed Award

In the months since the Fall 2006 report, our most important achievement has been administering the Student Endowed Award, now in its second year. We are very excited to have received 37 applications this year, an increase of nearly 50% from the 2006 competition total of 25. Moreover, the applicant pool once again included a diverse set of student interests, disciplines, degree programs (see Appendix). All officers worked together to design and implement a promotional campaign headed by Heide Castañeda. Nick Rattray coordinated the application scoring process, refining the criteria created last year. We felt that the accuracy of our scoring system was validated when our #1 and #2 choices for the Award received the Del Jones and Spicer Awards, respectively.

The number and variety of students applying for the Award is particularly exciting for us in two regards. First, it means that we have successfully promoted the Award to a broad group of students whose interests resonate with mission of the SfAA.. Second, using the Award as a tool, we believe we are encouraging active and diverse student participation in the SfAA, instilling a commitment to interdisciplinary and problem-oriented social scientific investigation in a new generation of scholars and professionals. Finally, we are particularly excited to continue to receive a significant number of applications from undergraduates, whose participation the Committee has sought to increase in recent years.

Summary of Activities Since 2006 Annual Meetings

Time Period	Officer(s) Responsible	Activity	Description
Continuous	Chair	Ad hoc student advising	Response to student email requests for advice about choosing graduate programs, submitting abstracts to SfAA, and other topics.
Continuous	Comm. Coordinator	Management of SfAA student web forum	Weekly monitoring and forwarding of information requests to appropriate officers. Creation of threads providing information about grants and scholarships and proposed sessions for Annual Meetings.
Continuous	Secretary	Officer activity files	Record Committee officer activities for use in reports and for benefit of future officers.

Quarterly	Editor	SfAA Newsletter column	Topics included summary of SC activities in Vancouver, summer student activities, and promotion of student web pages and awards.
April	All officers	Set Committee agenda for 2006 – 2007	Based on student suggestions at the Business Meeting in Vancouver, the committee drew up a plan of action for the coming year. Incorporated feedback from a 36-member Student Committee email group.
April - May	Treasurer	Reimbursement of funds.	Worked with SfAA Business Office to reimburse previous year's officers for expenses related to Annual Meetings.
June	Chair Vice-chair	Coordination with National Association of Student Anthropologists (NASA)	Began discussions with the student committee of the AAA about co-sponsoring student sessions at the SfAA and AAA annual meetings.
August - November	Comm. Coordinator	Annual meeting travel tips document for students	Solicit information and compile document providing information on student-friendly hotels and hostels, restaurants, sights, and transportation.
October	Chair, Treasurer	Proposal of budget	Submitted to Dr. Diane Austin of SfAA Executive Board.
October	Chair	Submission of abstracts for Student Committee sessions in Tampa	Mead Award winner student panel, Student welcome and orientation, Student Committee business meeting, and Past Presidents and Students Luncheon.
November - January	All officers	Promote Award	Promoted Award on applied social science listservs, SfAA student membership contact list (through SfAA business office), the "Students" section of the SfAA website, and a newly-established list of anthropology department contacts.
January – February	Communication Coordinator	Organize Award applications	Answered emails from applicants regarding application process. Received, organized, and standardized format of 37 applications.
February	All officers	Judge Award applications	Ranked each of 37 applications based on five criteria. Vice-chair coordinated this process.
February - March	All officers	Recruit new officers for 2007-08 Committee	Seeking candidates for vice-chair, editor, communications coordinator, and treasurer.
February – March	Chair	Preparation for Past Presidents and Students Luncheon	Arranged for room and food with SfAA business office. Created and mailed invitations to past SfAA presidents.
March	Chair & Vice-chair	Announce Award winner	Coordinate announcement and press release with SfAA business office.

Appendices

FY 2006 Student Committee Budget

An itemized justification of the proposed Committee budget was submitted to Executive Board member Dr. Diane Austin on October 19, 2006.

Student Endowed Award Applicant Pool

- 37 applicants
- 24 universities
- 23 Ph.D. students
- 4 B.A./B.S. students
- 9 M.A. students
- 1 M.P.H. student