Hello NAPA Members:

If you are like me, the summer has been a blend of relaxation mixed with busy bursts of taking care of business. Plans for NAPA’s 30th anniversary celebrations this December in Washington, DC, are still shaping up, but I hope you will mark your calendar for special events on Friday and Saturday evenings. Details will be emailed to you directly well before the meeting, and some activities will be noted in the AAA meeting program: see a handy online program at http://aaa.confex.com/aaa/2014/webprogram/NAPA.html.

In the meantime, EPIC (the Ethnographic Praxis in Industry Conference) will soon be underway in New York City. For more details go to http://epiconference.com/2014/. EPIC participants are dynamic and energetic, and on the cutting edge of applying anthropology.

If you were away this summer, welcome back. I look forward to hearing from everyone and seeing all of you in Washington in December!

New from EPIC

This past summer EPIC launched a new website—www.epicpeople.org—that represents our first digital step towards a broader organizational charter. For the last nine years, you have known EPIC for its scintillating annual conference. Going forward, we will work to make it possible for you to interact with EPIC people year around. There’s tremendous knowledge and expertise in each of you and we all benefit from making that knowledge and expertise more accessible. The website launch is the first small step towards a goal of routine interaction and content sharing amongst EPIC people.

We have a few simple requests of you:
1. First, we need you to sign up! When you register with EPIC at www.epicpeople.org you will gain access to content shared on the site by EPIC and by all of you.
2. Second, we need you to contribute wherever possible. These possibilities will expand over time. For now, take a look at ASK EPIC as a starting point.
3. Third, don’t forget to register for our fantastic annual conference taking place this year in NYC from September 7-10.
4. Fourth, please encourage your organizations to donate funds to the organization!

Please visit www.epicpeople.org for more information and for links to our annual conference site. See you soon!

Maria Bezaitis, President, EPIC
Alexandra Mack, Treasurer, EPIC
Ken Anderson, Secretary, EPIC
NAPA Events at the AAA Meetings

NAPA-sponsored Workshops
Our workshops are designed to further the professional development of anthropologists in various stages of their careers. Please consider registering and letting your colleagues, students, and fellow classmates know about the following NAPA workshops:

Consulting in Organizational Culture and Change – Elizabeth Briody
How to Create, Manage, and Sustain a Business in Business Anthropology – Bob Morais
The Personality of Conflict Resolution: A Professional Development Workshop Presenting a Different Way to Resolving Conflict – Katrina Patterson
Taking An Anthropological Approach to Market Research – Maryann McCabe
Mixed Method Evaluations: Qualitative or Quantitative or What? – Mary Odell Butler
Getting Anthropological Work Published – Mitch Allen
Working In International Health: Skills For Anthropologists - Laurie Krieger
Tips and Tools for Success in Job Hunting As a New Professional Anthropologist - Cathleen Crain and Niel Tashima
The Ethnographic Field School: How to Organize and Manage One – James (Tim) M Wallace and George Gmelch
(FREE) Software for Writing and Managing Fieldnotes: FLEXDATA Notebook for PCs - James (Tim) M Wallace and Julie Green
The Design Process: Thinking, Tools, Methods and Models – Christine Miller
What’s Your Elevator Pitch? – Sabrina Nichelle Scott and Elizabeth Briody

You can learn more about these workshops by visiting the professional development section on the AAA website. There you will find abstracts for the NAPA workshops along with the days and times scheduled for each workshop during the AAA Annual Meeting. Please register now to guarantee your seat by clicking on the workshops icon on the AAA’s main web page under the “Meeting Links.” Be sure to share the news about NAPA workshops with your colleagues!

Sabrina Nichelle Scott
NAPA Workshops Committee Chair

The Sixth Annual NAPA Networking Event: Producing Connections Through Conversations. Please save the date, Saturday, December 6, 2014 from 1:00 p.m. to 2:15 p.m., and bring a friend, colleague, or fellow student with you to the NAPA Networking Event. Thank you for making this annual event during the AAA Annual Meeting a huge success. Your continued support is needed, so stop by and build your network. Light refreshments will be served.

Agenda
Which career/practice areas would you like to have conversations about with fellow NAPA members? Email Sabrina Nichelle Scott at sabnscott@gmail.com and let her know by September 30th. It’s your opportunity to meet members and newcomers who share the same career areas, and to connect with NAPA leaders, enthusiastic practitioners, applied faculty and graduate students outside of your practice areas.

Facilitate
If you are a mid-career or senior professional and are interested in helping produce connections through conversations, please email Sabrina about being a facilitator during the break-out discussions at this event. There will be small group discussions for like-minded anthropologists engaging in conversations that include but are not limited to work in academia, government, non-profit, and business.

This special event is open to all current, past, and potential NAPA members. Everyone can build their network while helping others. We look forward to meeting you!

Sabrina Nichelle Scott
NAPA Workshops Committee Chair
The NAPA-OT Field School completed its 6th year of summer programming this June in Antigua, Guatemala. The 4-week core curriculum focuses on health, human rights, and social justice. Each year, the field school’s interdisciplinary faculty engages with local NGOs partners to design and lead hands-on projects in research and clinical practice.

The 2014 faculty included medical anthropologist Rachel Hall-Clifford, PhD, MPH (Agnes Scott College), returning as in-country director. New faculty included pediatric occupational therapist, Juliana Gutierrez, MA, OTR/L (Therapy West, Los Angeles) and biomedical engineer Gari Clifford, Ph.D. (Emory University).

The target of 12 students were selected, hailing from University of Amsterdam (Netherlands), McGill University (Canada), Santa Clara University, Colorado State University, University of Southern California, Charite Universitatsmedizin (Berlin), University of New Hampshire, University of South Florida, Agnes Scott College, and Northern Virginia Community College.

A team of students assisted Gari Clifford, an expert in designing health technology for low and middle-income countries, by conducting a rapid ethnography surveying the use of cell phones by patients in Guatemala. The data are being used to assess a pilot project to initiate an electronic medical record system that harnesses low-income Guatemalans’ widespread usage of cell phones.

The project builds on work done by field school students in 2011 and 2012 under the direction of Rachel Hall-Clifford, collaborating with NGO Networks for Health and Wuku’ Kawoq, to improve coordination among providers of surgeries from outside the country.

About 70% of routine surgeries in Guatemala are provided by visiting surgical teams (jornadas). The field school has been working with Wuqu’ Kawoq, also known as the Maya Health Alliance www.wuqukawoq.org, aims to improve the match between the kinds of surgeries offered by jornadas and the needs of patients, including the need use local languages such as Kaqchikel and K’iche.

Logistical and medical challenges affect the mainly North American providers and indigenous Maya patients they serve. Issues include inefficient scheduling, lack of continuity of care, miscommunication, and a need for accountability when treatment outcomes do not match expectations for high quality care. White papers reporting the results of the 2011 and 2012 field school research on surgical referrals can be accessed at www.napaotguatemala.org.

The 2014 field school welcomed to its core faculty Juliana Gutierrez, OTR/L, MA, an occupational therapist trained in Colombia, based in Los Angeles, and a native Spanish speaker. A senior clinician at the internationally renowned pediatric clinic, Therapy West, Ms. Gutierrez is a sensory integration specialist. The demand for sensory integrative therapies has grown in the United States and Guatemala techniques due to its results with children with autism and learning disabilities.

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At Hermano Pedro hospital’s pediatric nutrition unit, Ms. Gutierrez led an interdisciplinary team of four field school students. The students learned feeding and sensory techniques while working with severely undernourished infants and young children. They also measured and reported on change in the children’s growth and motor development. Important, the presence of native Spanish speaker on the faculty is opening new dimensions of the field school’s relationship with Guatemalan colleagues and students in occupational therapy.

Director Rachel Hall-Clifford led a third student group in conducting a program evaluation of primary health care services provided by the clinic at Common Hope/Familias de Esperanza www.commonhope.org, an NGO with over 25 years of service in and around Antigua, providing scholarships and programs to improve educational outcomes for low income Guatemalan youth. Common Hope’s clinic is one of many that are commonly relied upon in Guatemala to fill the gaps left by sparse government services.

As applied anthropologists, we know it is important for volunteers from the global North to communicate competently in Spanish and to cultivate mutually rewarding relationships with colleagues in the host country. The field school collaborates with NGOs, academic departments, journalists, and social entrepreneurs. NAPA-OT plans to continue working with its longest-term partners, Common Hope/Familias de Esperanza and Obras Sociales del Santo Hermano Pedro. Partners also include the anthropology department at the Universidad del Valle, the occupational therapy department at the Universidad Rafael Landivar, Long Way Home, EcoFilter, and, of course, Wuqu’ Kawoq.

The NAPA-OT Field School is proud of our unique model of using locally identified needs to create training opportunities for our students that meaningfully contribute to our partner communities and organizations. Look online at www.napaotguatemala.org beginning in November 2014 for applications for the 2015 program.

Acceptance to the NAPA-OT Field School is competitive. Anthropology students are especially invited to apply regardless of level, graduate or undergraduate. Applicants are preferred who speak Spanish (intermediate or fluent preferred), have a passion for human rights and social justice, and are ready for an intensive training and immersion.

Rachel Hall-Clifford & Gelya Frank
Directors, NAPA OT Field School
The past few months have been busy for the Pacific Northwest Local Practitioner Organization (LPO). In March, during the annual conference of the Society for Applied Anthropology, the group committed to strengthen its outreach to anthropology professionals from the Pacific Northwest region through social media efforts and to further polish its objectives and procedures. In this meeting the group agreed on a new name, one that better represented the ethos of the Pacific Northwest region, and thus the “Network of Cascadia Applied Anthropology Professionals” (NOCAAP) came to life. Since, a website was created (www.cascadiaanthropology.org) with the purpose of serving as a platform that would help to further unify the community of practicing anthropologists from the region. The website includes an overview of the objectives of the group, a summary of its history, the names of the people involved in coordination activities, a list of events, links to resources useful to practicing anthropologists from the region and beyond, and a blog. Through the latter, NOCAAP intends to promote dialogue around issues of relevance to the regional community of practicing anthropologists. Additionally, a LinkedIn group was created and we are in process of establishing other social media channels as well.

In the process of creating the website, the vision, mission and objectives of the organization was made clear and their importance evident.

One of the key accomplishments of our LPO in its short history is the establishment of a partnership with the Portland State University Anthropology Student Association, through which we are implementing the lecture series “Notes from the Field.” The purpose of this series is to bring to campus anthropologists who are doing interesting work in non-academic settings. Through this, we intend to contribute to further develop the necessary connection between academia and anthropologists engaged in non-academic employment. This dialogue benefits both players and is essential for the future sustainability of the LPO. Based on the success of this series, we are planning the implementation of a similar program in other areas of the region through partnerships with local universities.

We invite academic applied and practicing anthropologists from the region and beyond to join our organization and contribute to the development of our practitioner community. To learn more about NOCAAP or to join our organization, complete the contact form at http://www.cascadiaanthropology.org/contact.html

Ricardo B. Contreras
President of Ethnographica Sociocultural Research
www.ethnographicareserach.com

As the figure shows, NOCAAP is an organization interested in promoting the social and public engagement of the anthropological discipline in the Pacific Northwest region through a combination of goals.
Have you joined PraxAnth?

PraxAnth is NAPA’s listserv, open to all, designed to encourage information sharing and conversation within the discipline. To join, go to: http://practicinganthropology.org/about/listserv/. Please help NAPA and your colleagues by taking a moment to pass this link along to your own networks, student lists, etc. Our list grows more effective as participation grows! Along similar lines, this month NAPA welcomes a new student assistant to the PraxAnth team. Her work will ensure a more active and informative list for everyone. Welcome, Deanna!

A Note from Deanna…

Hello everyone. My name is Deanna Wilson, and I am the new assistant for the PraxAnth listerv. I will be searching for interesting and engaging information to send out to the applied/practicing anthropology community on a regular basis. Since I am currently working on my B.A. in History under the guidance of Dr. Chad Morris at Roanoke College in Salem, Virginia, my focus will be on careers and opportunities for students and new/emerging professional anthropologists. I hope to gather ideas and suggestions to deannakwilson@gmail.com, or simply post to praxanth@binhost.com (after you register, of course!).

Thank you, and I look forward to serving NAPA in this way.