



NAPA *Notes*

A Letter from the President



Welcome!

To the fall edition of NAPA Notes! This column will be my last as NAPA president as I leave office at the end of November. In this column I want to share news, upcoming events, and some reflections on NAPA and on the state of Professional, Practicing, and Applied (PPA) anthropology.

NAPA Connects

As I mentioned in the last edition of Notes, NAPA has been steadily expanding and deepening its connections with other anthropology organizations. I will start this edition with writing about recent and upcoming NAPA endeavors.



AAA in Seattle!

NAPA will be well represented at the upcoming AAA meeting to be held in Seattle, November 9th – 13th. Some highlights are provided below – watch NAPA’s website, FB, LinkedIn, Twitter, and Communities for further details.

NAPA Sessions

NAPA has sponsored or co-sponsored with other section more than 25 sessions – look for the “NAPA reviewed designation” in the program. The sessions will be interesting, in some cases provocative, and generally of interest to PPA anthropologists and those thinking about professional careers. Watch for information on NAPA social media!

NAPA Business Meeting

On Thursday, November 10th at 7:15 pm (room TBA) NAPA will hold its annual business meeting. Everyone, NAPA member or not, is welcome at the meeting. We will discuss the past year’s work and plans for the coming year. NAPA will honor its volunteer of the year and the student paper winners.

This meeting will also be the public changeover in leadership of NAPA – which officially follows the meeting. Lauren Penney will become the new NAPA president, Rachel Hall-Clifford will become the new president-elect,



and Suanna Selby Crowley will join the Governing Council (GC) as a member at large¹. Joshua Liggett will retire from the GC and I will become past-president.

Finally, this meeting will kick off a year of celebrating NAPA's 40th birthday – NAPA was launched on April 1, 1982. NAPA has a celebration committee hard at work to plan fun events for this meeting and others over the next year. Come and celebrate!

Party on! COPAA, NASA & NAPA Student Mixer

NAPA is joining COPAA and the National Association of Student Anthropologists (NASA) in hosting a student mixer at the AAA meeting in Seattle. The mixer will start at 8:30 pm on Thursday, immediately follow NAPA's business meeting. Watch for more details in NAPA Notes, on NAPA's website, and on our social media!



Careers Expo

Each year at the AAA annual meeting, NAPA organizes and hosts the Careers Exposition (Expo), a marquee event at the meeting. The Expo is planned and carried out by an amazing team of NAPA volunteers from the

¹ **PRESIDENT-ELECT: RACHEL HALL-CLIFFORD, PH.D., M.P.H., M.SC.** is a medical anthropologist who applies social science approaches to global health research and implementation. She has conducted fieldwork in the central highlands of Guatemala on the delivery of health services for 15 years and is Director of the NAPA-OT Field School in Guatemala and Co-Founder of safe+natal. Rachel is currently co-chair of NAPAs Research committee and past NAPA secretary. **Member-at-Large: SUANNA SELBY CROWLEY, PHD, RPA** is an applied social scientist, communications strategist, and fundraiser. Also known as Dr. Dirt, Suanna is founder and Principal Consultant at HeadFort Consulting working at the confluence of research, fundraising, and strategic communications. Suanna is currently a driving force in the new sNAPshots series for NAPA's Organizational Relations Committee and working on the Careers Expo.



Organizational Relations Committee and receives support from the AAA and COPAA.

The purpose of the Expo is to bring together professional anthropologists from diverse career paths with students, new professionals, academics, and others to talk about the creative and interesting uses of anthropological skills. It is an opportunity to expand the horizon for young and new professionals, and to support academics who are mentoring young professionals. The in-person Expo regularly attracts more than 500 participants to meet the diverse Career Guides.

NAPA will be hosting a table at the Expo – come by to meet members of the GC, committee chairs, and other NAPA members. Ask us about being active in NAPA and helping to develop and disseminate tools and resources for PPA anthropologists and to inspire future PPAs!

This year's Expo will be held on Friday the 11th of November from 11 am to 4 pm next to the exhibit space – don't miss out on the single largest event at the AAA meeting! The array of Career Guides promises to be exciting – watch for more information in NAPA Notes, on NAPA's website, and on our social media!

SfAA Expo in Cincinnati

NAPA is a co-sponsor of the 2023 Society for Applied Anthropology (SfAA) meeting to be held in Cincinnati Ohio, March 28-April 1, 2023. As a co-sponsor, we have



the opportunity to support presentations that are of special interest to professional, practicing, and applied anthropologists (PPAs). For this meeting we are encouraging the development of two types of presentations. The first will feature action stimulating, groundbreaking, terror inducing, and otherwise good, interesting work that you and your colleagues have undertaken. The second is to discuss and demonstrate skills, approaches, and resources that are important to PPA anthropologists.

If you like the best kinds of challenges, roll up your sleeves, organize your group, and submit your abstracts by OCTOBER 15. No group? No problem. Submit your presentation and we will see if we can create sessions of amazing presentations. Make sure to select NAPA as your reviewing committee! Registration is required to submit an abstract. To begin the registration process and learn about the theme and participation options, please go to: <https://www.appliedanthro.org/annual-meeting>.

NAPA is planning some interesting and fun sessions for the Cincinnati meeting. And another opportunity to party for NAPA's birthday!

Representing and Collaborating

NAPA is continuing the development of its relationship with The Consortium of Practicing and Applied Anthropology Programs (COPAA) and planning exciting collaborative activities. NAPA leadership continues to support and



promote the work of the Careers Readiness Commission. The Commission is working on ways to enhance the preparation of PPA anthropologists. More in future Notes!

NAPA is inviting a variety of PPA-serving organizations to participate in the Careers Expo in Seattle. NAPA believes that all PPA anthropologists need to identify and participate in organizations that serve their development and support needs. Watch for the list of Expo participants and come to meet representatives of these organizations.



NAPA Goes Hollywood!

NAPA's short-form video series- "sNAPAshots" - continues to grow! The videos highlight PPA anthropologists following diverse career paths. The videos explore the careers, skills, and learned wisdom of PPA anthropologists from across a wide swath of the profession. Eleven videos have been released as of this writing with many more to come – new episodes premiere each month. Go to: <https://practicinganthropology.org/?s=sNAPAshots>

sNAPAshots are the products of an amazing team of NAPA volunteers. Currently available sNAPAshots are listed below.



Tamrika Khvtisiashvili — Linguist and anthropologist working as a cross cultural development training professional

Emily Altimare — Business Anthropologist

Adela Rahmati — Cultural anthropologist working to reduce poverty and homelessness

Anna Marie Trester — Linguistic anthropologist

Suzette Fontelle Chang — cultural anthropologist and non-profit leader

Robert Wulff — NAPA founder and anthropologist/urban planner

Reshama Damle — Permaculture focused urban farmer and practicing anthropologist

Joshua Liggett — Applied anthropologist and medical anthropologist

Suanna Selby Crowley — Practicing anthropologist in the field of archaeology and science communications consultant

Nathaniel Tashima — Professional anthropologist, psychological anthropologist

Cathleen Crain — Professional anthropologist, medical anthropologist

New videos drop each month at:

<https://practicinganthropology.org/?s=sNAPAshots!>



NAPA Library

For PPA anthropologists, it is not always easy to know about current and foundational materials in anthropology. To address that need, NAPA has developed a reference library where you can search for current materials,



especially books. The initial references are the result of outreach to a variety of PPA anthropologists and to anthropologists who are teaching and mentoring. We will continue to grow the library as recommendations are made and vetted. Watch for the launch of the library on NAPA's website in the next month. The idea for and initial development of the library was initiated by NAPA's Mentor Committee, developed by NAPA's communication committee, and finalized by an anthropologist/librarian who leads a different NAPA committee. Great teamwork!

NAPA PPA Interviews

NAPA's website features a series of interviews with PPA anthropologists in different places in their career journeys. Check out the interviews at:

<https://practicinganthropology.org/category/blog/interviews/>



Become a NAPA Volunteer!

Join us as a volunteer and help to move the agenda forward – we welcome both NAPA members and others to our committees. On our website:



www.practicinganthropology.org you can explore what we are doing. If you go to our committee pages, you can identify where there will be opportunities to get involved:

<https://www.practicinganthropology.org/discover/about/napa-committee-descriptions/> Find a committee that looks interesting? Go to:

<https://practicinganthropology.org/discover/volunteer/>
We will help you find a good fit for your vision and energy!

With Thanks!

As I leave the NAPA presidency, I want to share some thoughts about the discipline and its future. For my whole career, I have believed that the limits of what good anthropologists can do is more about our imaginations and less about who needs anthropologists. The skills that well trained anthropologists bring are universally useful and are not duplicated by any other discipline. Those skills are also potent and must be used with care and humility. We must be relentless learners, constantly focused, continuous synthesizers,



careful analysts, and thoughtful about summarizing learnings and recommending actions. At the same time, we must clearly understand and manage our own cultural views, values, and expectations.

Anthropologists are often trained to value the inquiry and to avoid the conclusion, generally believing that more research is needed in order to truly understand the culture, context, group, and individual. Incorporating this training can produce both a critical humility about what we know as well as creating what can be an unreasonable challenge to action.

For PPA anthropologists, our work is about learning for action. We must develop and live a balance of belief in the quality of the tools and the rigor with which we employ them and the imperative to develop and communicate quality information on which action can be grounded. To do this, it is critical that we have excellent training, access to resources that allow us to remain current in the field and to conduct professional work, reference and support networks that promote professional growth, and a reference group for reflection on the methods, ethics, and complexity of our work. It is only with all of these elements in place that I believe that we can be our best disciplinary selves.

NAPA is working to create and sustain a home for PPA anthropologists that will promote access to the kinds of resources and supports that I believe that we all need. We are, as I wrote earlier, working on collaborations that



will enhance access to professional development and supports needed and desired by PPA anthropologists. NAPA is focused on knitting the networks together so that we are all more visible to one another, and to the PPA anthropologists that we serve, and to harmonizing the supports and services we are offering. The work is challenging and will take time and focus, but it is good work – and doing good work is what inspires most of us to be anthropologists.

The last two years have been action packed and I am grateful to have worked with amazing people in NAPA to move an ambitious agenda forward – my gratitude to the members of the GC, the committee chairs, and all the NAPA volunteers. I am deeply appreciative of the fellowship with other PPA-serving organizations to develop and pursue common vision and strategies.

I am delighted and inspired by the new/young PPAs I meet and appreciative to be in the company of the seasoned PPAs who continue to be dedicated to shaping the future of professional, practicing, and applied anthropology. The generosity of PPAs in mentoring new/young and transitioning anthropologists is inspiring. I am thankful to my colleagues at LTG Associates for their support and understanding of extended priorities. Finally, I draw daily from the spring of intelligence, creativity, vision, and dedication of my partner in work and life, Niel Tashima who has been a constant support.



I look forward to new challenges as a past president working with the new president, new president-elect, governing council, and committee community to continue to move NAPA's agenda forward!

Join us, help us grow, we will serve the discipline together!

CONNECT WITH US!

Website: [HYPERLINK "http://www.practicinganthropology.org"](http://www.practicinganthropology.org)www.practicinganthropology.org

Facebook: @NAPA.Anthro

Twitter: @NapaAnthro

LinkedIn Company Page: [HYPERLINK](https://www.linkedin.com/company/practicing-anthropology/)

["https://www.linkedin.com/company/practicing-anthropology/"](https://www.linkedin.com/company/practicing-anthropology/)<https://www.linkedin.com/company/practicing-anthropology/>

LinkedIn Group: [HYPERLINK](https://www.linkedin.com/groups/1123547/)

["https://www.linkedin.com/groups/1123547/"](https://www.linkedin.com/groups/1123547/)<https://www.linkedin.com/groups/1123547/>



Reference Information

Featured PPA-Serving Organization: EthnoBreakfast

“Ethnobreakfast is a Bay Area professional group that hosts monthly breakfasts to discuss issues pertinent to ethnographers in industry. The group has been meeting since the early 2000s but has grown as the community of practice has flourished. Many of the people in the group are anthropologists or other trained ethnographers who work in industry. Others in the community started in forecasting, design or user experience, and are now using ethnography in their tool kit.

If you are interested in joining our practitioner community, contact Jan English-Lueck or Jeff Greger to be added to the Google Group. If you are interested in hosting one of our monthly breakfast gatherings, check out our Q and A.” (from Ethnobreakfast site). Ethnobreakfast: A Bay Area Practitioners Group for Ethnographers in Industry: <https://sites.google.com/view/ethnobreakfast/home>

Past Featured PPA-Serving Organization

The Washington Association of Professional Anthropologists: <https://wapadc.org/>.

The Washington Association of Professional Anthropologists (WAPA) is one of the oldest and



largest of the local practitioner organizations or LPOs. WAPA has played a key role in the promotion of PPA anthropology for nearly four decades. WAPA hosts a monthly, now virtual meeting that highlights the work of professional anthropologists and provides opportunities for skill development.

(<https://wapadc.org/>) WAPA is also home to the prestigious Praxis Award which honors excellence in professional anthropology.

On NAPA's website are featured PPA-serving and information sharing organizations.

<https://practicinganthropology.org/practice/related-organizations/> If you know of an organization that is not listed on our website, please let us know via the web site or contact us form!



NAPA Group Descriptions

- *Professional Development/Promotions & Direct Member Services is responsible for driving the core professional development and promotion goals.*
- *Member Engagement is responsible for reaching out to bring new members to NAPA, ensuring that they are engaged in NAPA activities, and for developing and managing a pipeline for disciplinary leadership.*
- *Discipline/Organizational Development is charged with ensuring that NAPA is monitoring the field and is looking forward and addressing ethical disciplinary issues, conducting key research, and engaging and supporting new discipline areas of growth.*
- *Communications is responsible for designing and disseminating information about disciplinary development and NAPA activities and services.*
- *Strategic Planning and Management stand alongside the structure and provides NAPA with continuous management support and review of efforts against the strategic plan.*



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Committee Updates

Communications Update

The NAPA Communications Committee is excited to support programming efforts from our Organizational Relations Committee colleagues. Keep an eye out for coming changes to our website as we work to future-proof our section's platform and bolster our current offerings with new content! As always, if you would like to join our efforts, we are looking for support with the AnthroJobs, general website content curation, and a lead for our AAA Communities page. Please join our LinkedIn group and like/follow us on LinkedIn, Facebook, and Twitter! [Please include links, as appropriate]

<https://twitter.com/NapaAnthro> '@NapaAnthro'

<https://www.linkedin.com/company/practicing-anthropology/>

[@NAPA.Anthro](https://www.facebook.com/NAPA.Anthro)

Ethics Committee

The NAPA Ethics Committee is seeking volunteers to participate in shaping its activities over the next year.



Help NAPA think through the most pressing ethical issues facing applied and practicing anthropologists and develop resources to assist in ethical decision-making! Whether you are a previous volunteer interested in renewing your participation or are a new volunteer, please reach out to the Ethics Committee Chair, Kerry Fosher, at kbfosher@gmail.com.

**Represent PPA
Anthropologist Interests in
AAA Leadership –
Nominations Open for AAA
Board and Committee Seats**

By Lauren Penney



While we encourage PPA anthropologists to participate in our NAPA committees and Governing Council, another wonderful way to serve is through AAA elected positions. Now is a GREAT time to explore the many opportunities on the AAA Nominations Committee, Members' Programmatic, Advisory, and Advocacy Committee (MPAAC), and the Executive Board.

You can self-nominate or nominate someone else using a new online form. Each nominee will need a personal statement and a letter of reference (does not need to be a AAA member). All nominations will be



reviewed by AAA Nominations Committee, which will select the final 2 candidates for each seat for the fall ballot.

If you have questions or need help, please reach out to me, your NAPA Nominations Subcommittee Co-Chair (Penney@uthscsa.edu).

Nominations are due by October 5, 2022. More information can be found here:

<https://www.americananthro.org/ParticipateAndAdvocate/Content.aspx?ItemNumber=1777>



Organizational Relations Committee

The NAPA's Organizational Relations Committee is hard at work with our ongoing sNAPAshots series. The live sNAPAshots can be found [here](#) and we are excited to share we are in post-production on our 13th and 14th webisodes! The committee is also actively planning for our 2022 NAPA/AAA Careers Expo at the November AAA Annual Meeting in Seattle. We're excited to share the direction of these projects as we navigate NAPA's 40th birthday! If you'd like to join us in our work, we are looking for more volunteers to interview sNAPAshots presenters and edit the recordings.





The Program & Workshop Committee (PWC)

The Program & Workshop Committee (PWC) is currently working to develop an online training series intended to create continuous educational opportunities for PPA anthropologists.

Inspired and informed by research with practicing and professional anthropologists, PWC is currently designing training pathways to support PPA anthropologists in continuing to develop and refine their knowledge and skills.

Two pathways are being planned with more potential in the future. Current pathways include: 1) methodological training ranging in topics from basic to advanced/niche, and 2) career development skills such as marketing anthropology, resume writing, and the art of cover letters. This initiative is a part of NAPA's work to achieve one of its primary goals:

NAPA should identify the skill needs of practicing, professional, and applied (PPA) anthropologists and develop current, accessible materials (written, video, face-to-face, other) to address those needs.	<p>§ Define and address PPA continuing education needs at all career levels and stages</p> <p>§ Define and address PPA information and service needs at all career levels and stages</p>
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It is our hope that this continuous education training series will grow and develop to become a resource for anthropologists for years to come.

NAPA Student Representative Update

NAPA is presenting two annual Student Achievement Awards recognizing undergraduate and graduate student contributions to practicing and applied anthropology. The competition is underway, and we have an amazingly diverse group of undergraduate and graduate applicants and papers. Winners will be selected in mid-October and recognized at the AAA in Seattle during NAPA's Business Meeting – Thursday, November 10th at 7:15. We are looking forward to celebrating our pioneering student anthropologists in Seattle!



Contributions

One Student's Reasoning for Studying Anthropology

By Lori Bagala-De Marco

I was born into the age of Louis Leakey and his "Tri-Mates." You could regularly find me devouring each new edition of National Geographic as it described the continuing field research carried out by three young women scientists. Their experience strengthened gave me the freedom to imagine myself in the jungles of Africa or Borneo, dedicated to uncovering the behaviors that made us a genetic family. At the same time, incredible fossil discoveries were being made by the paleoanthropologists such as Richard Leakey and Donald Johanson. Their work gave us a glimpse into the physical attributes of our (potential) ancient ancestors. I wondered, what was the animal that linked us all?

I'm drawn to Anthropology because it informs a story about every one of us. No matter how we choose to label ourselves, we are all a single product of millions of years of adaptation. We are unique, and as such, we can appreciate our shared past. The study of Anthropology allows me to be part of unlocking that history for all of us.



Applying Anthropology: Food Insecurity and Health

By David Himmelgreen, NAPA Past President

After six years serving on the NAPA Governing Council in various roles, I have had the opportunity to learn much about what professional anthropologists across employment sectors have done to advance the discipline. More importantly, I have seen that the kinds of work that we do make a tangible difference. Yet, we still have a public relations problem when it comes to what lay people know about anthropology and how it contributes to society. In the era of anti-intellectualism and fierce critiques of higher education, it is more important than ever for professional anthropologists to work together to deliver a unified message, regardless of whether they work in industry, government, NGOs, or academia. NAPA, the Society for Applied Anthropology, and other professional societies that promote the application of anthropology have important roles to play in conveying this message.

In the rest of this column, I would like to share some of the more recent work that my students, colleagues, and I have been doing to address food insecurity to illustrate how the application of anthropology and other social sciences is critical for finding solutions to this pressing problem.

While food insecurity has been a long standing global problem, COVID-19 revealed its considerable impact



on health, well-being, and happiness. Since the onset of the pandemic, there have been countless media reports about the rise of food insecurity (lack of access to nutritious, safe, and socially acceptable foods) and its effects on many communities in the US and abroad. There has also been an increased interest in food insecurity research, which is reflected in the number of articles being published and the increase in grant funding opportunities.

I have been doing research on food insecurity and health for nearly 30 years in places like Lesotho, Costa Rica, Puerto Rico, and the U.S. Since 2013, I have conducted most of my research in Tampa Bay, FL. I had the good fortune of working with Feeding Tampa Bay (FTB), a major food bank that serves 10 counties in west-central FL. In 2016, my home institution -the University of South Florida (USF)- and FTB signed an MOU to work together on addressing food insecurity. This partnership is one of a handful of university-food bank partnerships in the country. Additionally, in 2020, we established the USF Center for the Advancement of Food Security and Healthy Communities (CAFHSCH). Its Mission is “to transform the conversation about food insecurity using research, education, and transformational programs to facilitate social equity the results in health communities in Tampa Bay and beyond”

To date, we have conducted 18 projects examining different aspects of food insecurity and health. These include studies among older adults (e.g., loneliness;



management of chronic diseases such as Type 2 diabetes -T2D-) and adolescents (e.g., onset of menarche; use of free and reduced school lunches); as well as process and outcome evaluations of food assistance programs (e.g., weekend backpack program; mobile and brick-and-mortar food pantries; after school cooking program for low-income children; self-management and a Food as Medicine (FAM) intervention for older adults with T2D); and the evaluation of a pilot home food delivery program with Feeding America National. Ongoing projects include an evaluation of a FAM initiative with FTB and Evara Health as well as a planning project to establish a FAM program and urban garden at Tampa Family Health Centers, a health care provider serving low-income neighbors. In partnership with a local urban farm, CAFSHC was recently awarded a grant from the USDA for the “15th Street Farm Nutrition Education Program” to provide education and training services for low-income children and their families as well as for preschool, primary, and middle school teachers.

CAFSHC serves as a training ground for the next generation of food security researchers and advocates. Thirty graduate and undergraduate students have been trained so far, and theses and dissertation projects have emerged from their work. Importantly, several students have taken positions at FTB and other social service agencies because of their involvement with CAFSHC.



In addition to research and program evaluation, CAFSHC has organized several community-wide events such as a symposium on “Black Food Matters: Contextualizations of Race, Place, and Resistance in Food Movements,” “Growing a Strong Economy through Local Food Entrepreneurship;” and a student panel on food insecurity in college. More community events are being planned.

As I leave the NAPA GC, I have come to appreciate the work that our colleagues and students do regardless of where they are employed or what their areas of expertise are. It is imperative that professional anthropologists, in and outside of academia, work together to prepare students for jobs. As we know, most of these positions will be found in non-university settings. Furthermore, there is an urgent need to inform the public and our leaders about what anthropology is and how it is used to find solutions to the many pressing problems that affect us all.



Meet our Editors: Senior Editor Ashley Meredith!

By Vanessa Terry

Ashley has volunteered with NAPA Notes since August of 2020 and has helped the newsletter develop into its new larger format. As an editor, she brings focus and laughter to newsletter meetings.



As a professional, she serves as the Federated States of Micronesia's National Cultural Anthropologist and Deputy National Historic Preservation Officer in the [FSM Office of National Archives, Culture and Historic Preservation](#). Ashley contributes to historic preservation programs and heritage conservation in FSM through ethnographic and field practices.

Ashley clearly enjoys working and learning alongside her colleagues. Together, they value the input of those they serve and work to incorporate decolonization research methodologies. Their efforts help to strengthen FSM's bonds with Historic Preservation



Officers and community organizations. They have worked on research around wayfinding, human origins and settlements, food sovereignty, and socio-political organizations. Their work has informed and achieved the UNESCO Nomination of the ICH element, Carolinian Wayfinding and Canoe Making, as well as the establishment of the Mahkontowe Conservation Area.

Ashley and her colleagues have even been featured in an episode of National Geographic's Lost Cities with Albert Lin. The episode is currently available on Disney+ and was on Nan Madol, FSM's first UNESCO World Heritage Site.