



SOCIETY FOR AMERICAN ARCHAEOLOGY

**COMMITTEE/TASK FORCE CHAIR
SPRING 2023 REPORT TO THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Due to CAS Chair and Board Liaison on February 7, 2023, for inclusion in the materials for the Spring Board of Directors Meeting. Your report serves to inform the SAA Board of the committee/task force's accomplishments and as background for the action items.

The Board asks all committee and task force chairs to use this Word document to report to your Board Liaison (anna.prentiss@mso.umt.edu).

- Reports are required in the spring of each year and optional in the fall.
- **Starting in 2022, Executive Director will post reports on Committee pages to improve transparency and assist incoming future chairs.**
- **Starting in 2023, Award and Scholarship Committee Chairs should send the winning applicant package to the SAA Manager, Communications and Fundraising for archiving at the National Anthropological Archive with all SAA official records.**
- If you are able to join us in Portland, Committee and Task Force chairs are invited to join the Board for **breakfast on Saturday April 1.**

Report of the	Crabtree Award Committee
From Chair	Bruce B. Huckell
Date	Feb. 10, 2023

1. Membership and terms for your committee:

So that the SAA Office's records are as complete as possible, please list your committee members and their terms here. Please also note if there are anticipated changes in a member's status before their term end date.

Daron Duke (Member) 04/16/21-04/05/24
 Bruce Huckell (Chair) 04/16/21-04/16/24
 Horvey M. Palacios (Member) 04/24/20-03/31/23
 Ryan M Parish (Member) 04/16/21-04/05/24
 Jaye S. Smith (Member) 04/24/20-03/31/23

2. Executive summary of Committee's/Task Force's activities over the past year:

Please note that the activities summary should not exceed 250 words. Should the committee or task force be responding to a Board request for a draft document or report, refer to it in the summary and forwarded with this form as an attachment. If no such document was requested by the Board, the executive summary should be confined to the word limit.

Over the course of past year, in addition to the routine selection of an awardee, the committee engaged in productive discussions. Three members who were able to attend the Chicago SAAs were able to meet face-to-face to discuss ways that the committee might more effectively connect with the avocational archaeological community as a means of encouraging more nominations for the award in the future. In addition, trying to find ways to connect with Native American communities and organizations to make them aware of the award and encourage the nomination of eligible Native American candidates was discussed. Both of these discussions resulted in steps to more broadly advertise the nomination period and seek candidates.

In July the committee was asked by the Committee on Awards and Scholarships to address a series of five questions concerning the low number of candidates, the continued relevance of the Crabtree award for the SAA, possible structural changes to the scope of the award to increased its relevance, procedural changes that might encourage more interest in the award, and the strategies used by the committee in the recent past to promote the award and solicit nominations. The report generated by the committee is submitted as an attachment. We were able to implement some of these strategies—including better advertising of the award among the various archaeological societies and one group composed of Native American tribal heritage/cultural preservation officials—but other steps including better advertising of the award across the SAA community remain to be done. I would conclude by observing that we still only received two nominations for the award this year.

3. Items for Board Consideration, if applicable. These are recommendations and requests that specifically require Board approval.

These items range from statements that you may wish to be disseminated, requests to undertake projects, requests to disseminate results, or any other action for which a committee or task force needs specific Board guidance/approval. Please do not embed such items in your activities summary. These items must be separately listed in this section. These are actions you are asking the Board of Directors to take. Please also include a discussion of fiscal impacts, if any, but note that budget requests occur in advance of the Fall Board meeting (and not as part of this report).

Should you have questions about whether any of your Committee's items require Board approval, please consult with your Board Liaison prior to submitting your report. We also recommend that you run a draft of your report by your liaison before you "officially" submit it.

We suspect that simplifying the nomination process would result in increased numbers of nominations. Specifically, this would include nomination as a 2-step process, beginning with a nomination consisting of only a short letter from a nominee's supporters stating why they believe that the person is worthy. After evaluation by the committee, additional documentation would be solicited in the form of letters of support from professionals who know and have worked with the individual. CVs would also be required at this second stage of the process; often avocational folks do not have the kind of CV that professionals maintain, so some degree of simplification of such a document might be helpful. Either the committee could create a simplified format to be used or a professional archaeologist could be asked to assist in the creation of an acceptable CV. The committee noted that it seems that asking for a completed nomination all at one may have the effect of discouraging applications/nominations. Further, a two step process would perhaps promote greater professional investment in a candidate's nomination, with a simple first part of the nomination followed by expanding on the details in letters rather than having to get all the parts together at once.

4. Draft motions, if appropriate. (Optional)

Drafting a suggested motion or motions for any requests noted above will help the Board more clearly understand your request and increase the "fit" between the request you make and corresponding Board action. Please keep in mind that suggested motions may be revised or not accepted by the Board, whose responsibility it is to consider the full range of member needs. If you choose to include suggested motion(s) with your report, it is essential that you work with your liaison before you submit your report. They will be able to provide examples of motions that you can use as models for the ones you create.

5. For Award and Scholarship Committee Chairs: Number of Applicants/Nominees and Name(s) of the Recipients(s).

The Board has requested that Award and Scholarship Chairs report annually on the total number of applicants/nominees received for each award/scholarship. Also, please send the recipient(s)' application/nomination package(s) to the SAA Manager, Communications and Fundraising (Emma_Sunseri@saa.org) for archiving at the National Anthropological Archive with all SAA

official records.

We received two nominations this year:

Darlene L. Brinkerhoff

Daniel Stueber