

Our News

Issue 6

July 27, 2022

Next Commission-wide Meeting

Thurs., August 25 at 4:00 EDT

Cody Skahan's Summer Internship Project for the Commission

Goals:

- 1) How students find career-related info
- 2) How the Commission could improve the quality and access of this info to students
- 3) How students evaluate the current Commission website

Methods and Questions:

- Students' **free lists** of all the places they go to find out about potential careers and professional development
- **Interview statements** explaining free lists



CAREER READINESS COMMISSION

Summertime has been busier than expected

We have had lots of activity since our last Commission-wide meeting on June 23, 2022 – this, despite the fact that some of us have been heavily involved in our “day jobs,” others have gone on road trips or vacations, and still others, sadly, have contracted COVID. (We wish you a speedy recovery!)

Groups at Work

“A Delphi Survey of Practitioners: Round Two” (Group 1 Report)

This report has been finalized and is posted on the website under “Commission Materials,” “Commission Reports.”

Resources (Group 2)

*This group is on **fire!*** It is led by Zahira Aragon has stepped up to complete the tagging of 300+ resources. Thank you, Keith Kellersohn and Zahira Aragon! Additionally, Cody Skahan has been involved in validating the tags, and combining and renaming topics. It is always useful to have a fresh pair of eyes take a look at what has been done. Matt Artz has updated the Resources page; all 342 resources are now searchable by tag, format, and category. **WOW!**

Erica Dziedzic and Mike Hoffman will be leading the collection of new resources. We are particularly short in three subfields: **archaeology, bio anthropology, and linguistic anthropology**. Also, if you have any **job search materials** pertaining to writing resumes, preparing a portfolio, learning networking strategies, etc., we would love to get them or get a link to them.

Matt has put a new button at the top of the resource page that links to the **form page**. It is for anyone interested in sending in any resources we don't yet have. Those resources will be reviewed and uploaded.

“Departmental Experience with Application and Practice” (Group 4 Report)

This report has been finalized and is posted on the website under “Commission Materials,” “Commission Reports.”

- Statements on other info students need before making a career decision
- Statements on where students would like to receive career and professional development info
- Guided User Experience (UX) exercise of the Commission's website
- Student comments about their expectations and impressions of the Commission's website

PPT report will be finalized this summer

Ina Rosenthal-Urey Mentorship Awardees for 2022

There were 30 applicants for this AAA Award for rising seniors; awardees included:

- Alicia Telle (Carleton College)
- Curtis Johnson (SMU)
- Lily Berver (Western Washington)
- Madison Yearout (UNC)

Anthropology Narrative (Group 7)

The group led by Nazia Hussain has completed two focus groups on June 27 and May 9 to articulate anthropology's value (e.g., to employers, colleagues). Next steps involve identifying salient patterns and developing usable products for students and instructors.

Please contact Nazia (nhussain@smu.edu) if you are interested in helping develop this material further. Calls for *how* to express anthropology's value have been persistent, clear, and loud from both students and instructors. So, this group's work will make an extraordinary difference.

World of Work Blog Group

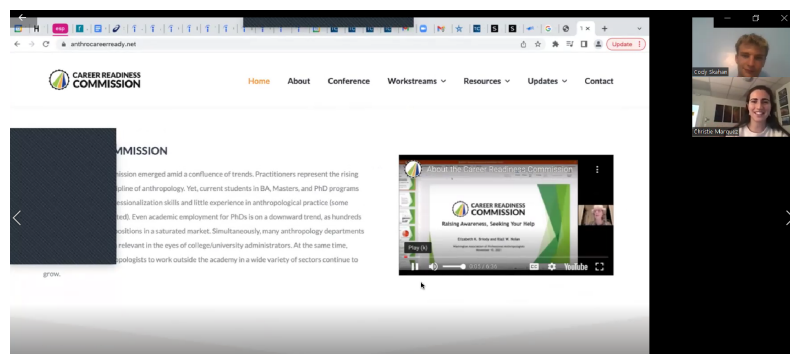
The group led by Priscilla Linn has been working continuously to promote the blog, secure blog posts, edit them, and put them in the queue for posting on the website. Three blog posts have been posted since our last Commission-wide meeting:

- "‘Huh, get a job?’ say the B-52s or A View from a Liberal Arts University"
- "How Can I Apply My Anthropological Experience to Get the Job I Want?"
- "The Field for Everyone: Deepening Students' Professional Development"

Ideally, we would like to publish a blog post (500-750 words) every other week. So, all you students, instructors, and practitioners out there, get your pencils out! Send Priscilla (prlinn3@gmail.com) a brief blog post on a career-related topic; include a photo/graphic with it.

Student Participants

The UX experts tell us that we do not need many participants for the UX portion of Cody Skahan's project—that five should do it! Cody tested his protocol with two students and ended up with six others, thanks to instructors on our growing contact list. Here are two of them as they were navigating through our website: <https://anthrocareerready.net>.



Commission Class Projects for Fall 2022

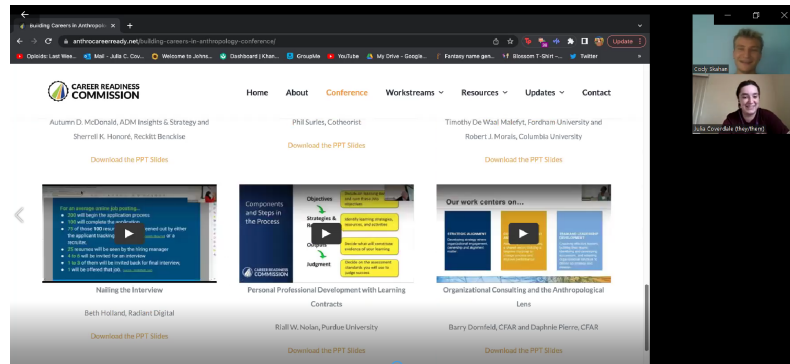
Anthropological Thinking and Practice, Andrew Walsh, Western University, London, ON

- Identify cases in which anthropological perspectives/approaches have been applied successfully in industry, government, and nonprofits
- Produce posts/presentations providing examples of effectiveness of anthropological approach and training
- Deliver final presentation to Commission members

Peoples and Cultures of Modern Latin America

Carla Guerrón Montero, University of Delaware, Newark, DE

- Collaborate with practitioner-advisor with experience in climate change
- Prepare podcasts about an environmental group or movement working toward climate change



Workshops and Presentations



Annually during the summer, the AAA sponsors a three-day conference for Anthropology Dept. leaders. The Commission was asked to run a one-hour workshop called, “Professionalization for Undergraduate Anthropology Majors.” Working in

breakout groups, the participants had to answer three questions clearly, concisely, and without jargon:

1. What is anthropology?
2. How does anthropology work (in terms of methods, approaches)?
3. How can anthropology help us (employers)?

Their responses dovetail well with the Anthropology Narrative (Group 7) and constitute additional insights for this group.



We did a recorded presentation at the AIBR Conference with the theme Creating Legacies. It was called “Changing Anthropology by Preparing Students for Different Careers” and provided an overview of Year 1 of the Commission’s work. It invited AIBR to work with the Commission in some way.



We are in the throes of preparation for our AAA Executive Session in Seattle: “Unsettling Anthropology to Prepare Students: Career Readiness Commission Results, Recommendations, Implementation.”

This year 16 sessions have been designated as Executive Sessions – quite an honor! Please

mark your calendars now if you plan to be in Seattle. The in-person-only session is scheduled for **Thursday, November 10** at 10:45 am (Pacific). It is organized like a Town Hall so there is plenty of time to offer insights and to learn from those present. We would love to have you at the session!

For more information on any of these and other Commission matters, please contact:

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