

Our News

Issue 8

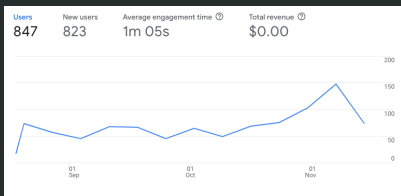
November 18, 2022

Next Commission-wide Meeting

Thurs., December 15 at 4:00 EDT

We need a few UX-savvy Commission volunteers!

- To improve our website
- To figure out usage patterns of website [resources](#)



We would have expected far greater usage. What's going on?

To assist, contact

Elizabeth.Briody@gmail.com

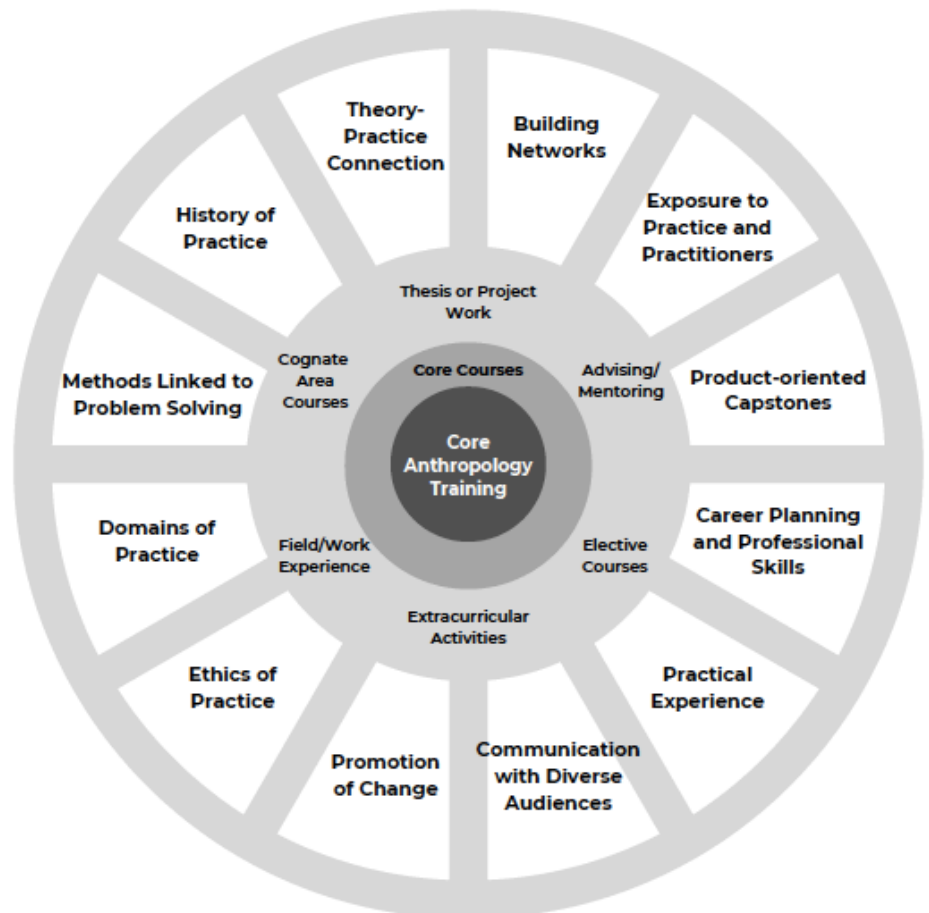


CAREER READINESS COMMISSION

A Career Ready Curriculum (The Latest and the Greatest)

Have you ever wondered **how** anthropology programs might improve the preparation of students for any workplace?

Anthropology's Career Readiness Commission has got you covered! This revised circular framework includes 12 distinct features that can be implemented to 1) expand the knowledge, skills, and experiences of AA, BA/BS, MA/MS, and PhD students, 2) introduce practice into the curriculum, and 3) round out any anthropology program.



These elements do not replace core anthropological training (shown at center), but instead on their foundation. **Theory-Practice Continuum:** Anthropology students should be learning not only how theory contributes to practice, but how practice extends, develops, and tests theory. **Domains of Practice:** If every anthropology class incorporated career profiles from industry, non-profits,

Thank you to all volunteers who helped design one-page tools and exercises in time for AAA!

Leni Bohren
Melissa Fisher
Scarlett Herrera
Mike Hoffmann
Ryan Klatske
Kayli Lord
Bob Morais
John Parker
Dawn Rivers
Tracy Samperio
Morgan Sampson

What's the difference between the Commission's LinkedIn Group and its LinkedIn Page?

- Join our [LinkedIn Group](#) to stay up to date and engage with our community.
- Use the [LinkedIn Page](#) to add your experience with us to your LinkedIn profile.

and government, not only would students be exposed to the vast number of anthropological careers, but they also would be positioned to learn from them and design their own trailblazing careers. **Promotion of Change:** Teaching theories of change rarely occurs despite the importance of plans, programs, and policies in communities and organizations. Being able to translate findings, and plan, implement, and manage change processes enables anthropologists to be responsive leaders. **Building Networks:** Teaching students how to network, conduct informational interviews, and become part of professional communities significantly increases the likelihood of securing a job. The Commission's initial report from October 2022 can be found [here](#).



AAA Annual Meetings Executive Session

Only 16 sessions were awarded Executive Session status; the Commission's session was among them: "Unsettling Anthropology to Prepare Students." The in-person session was live-streamed from the Seattle Convention Center.

Elizabeth Briody opened the session by highlighting three urgent crises facing anthropology:

1. A 20% decline in BA anthropology degrees between 2011-2021
2. Tenure-track jobs at PhD-granting institutions accommodate only 10% of new PhDs and exclude other graduates (i.e., MA/MS, BA/BS, AA)
3. Students at all levels receive inadequate career preparation.



The key panelists were next. **Jennifer Studebaker** emphasized the eight reports that Commission members produced. She also focused on the one-page tools: eight for job seekers (three of which have exercises) and seven for instructors. **Gina Nuñez-Mchiri** spoke about all the career-related resources we compiled and the resources we developed—all of which are housed on the website. **Nazia Hussain** introduced the four universities with whom we have worked on class projects: University of North Texas, Oregon State University, University of Delaware, and Western University (ON). She also highlighted possible responses to employer questions about the value of anthropology to an organization. Formal remarks concluded with a discussion of the Career Ready Curriculum (see p. 1), requests from **Priscilla Linn** for more blog posts, and an overview of the social media strategy.

The audience raised some fascinating points. Here are a few of them:

- What ideas do we have for **bringing more students into anthropology**?
1) Emphasize anthropology's human connection, building on students' enthusiasm for people, culture, love of learning, and travel, 2) Compile more profiles of anthropologists working in diverse domains (e.g., in medical, in tech).

4th Global Business Anthropology Summit

June 1-3, 2023 in Mexico City

The call for participation in “Making Conscious Futures” is open!



<https://gbasmexico23.ibero.mx/>

The organizers invite attendees to discover diverse ways of engaging in the future of business realities. The conference is structured around three themes:

- Awareness
- Connections
- Uncertainty.

It offers an alternative platform with different interactive formats, activities, and venues.

The venue is Universidad Iberoamericano in the heart of the Mexico City's business district.

- How might we **reach out to the parents** of new college students? Develop resources to educate parents about anthropology and the careers anthropologists have. Make them available to anthropology programs as they design a career section on their home page.
- How might we keep **building an understanding of Commission work**? 1) Advise and consult with instructors and anthropology programs eager to improve student career readiness, 2) Continue to publicize the Commission's resources while evolving the website, 3) Create awareness among potential employers of anthropology's value and relevance, 4) Alignment with professional associations
- What **changes in higher ed** might lead to improved student preparation for the workplace? 1) Creating more “Professor of Practice” positions, 2) Greater emphasis on cross-disciplinary and transdisciplinary training, 3) New expectations that students must be trained to have a solutions orientation to meet tomorrow's challenges, 4) Accreditation reviews that incorporate elements of practice

Careers Expo

For 17 years, the NAPA/AAA Careers Expo has been a “marquee event” with the purpose of expanding student and instructor visions of career options for anthropologists. Held in the Exhibit Hall alongside the book publishers, the Careers Expo was filled with anthropologists eager to speak about their work. In looking around the large space, it was amazing how many conversations were happening simultaneously.



Ethan Copple and Nazia Hussain

The Commission table was crammed with swag along with packets of the one-page tools for job seekers and for instructors. Commission members took turns speaking with steady influx of conference attendees, answering their various questions about what we have been up to.



The famous webmaster Matt Artz is on the far right in the second photo.

Get ready for training #2 from Anthropologists on the Public Stage!

Connect with the Media will be available on December 8.

It has a three-fold focus:

- 1) Learn about your local media (e.g., newspaper, news stations)
- 2) Build relationships with media professionals
- 3) Discover the best ways of writing a “pitch” to media professionals.

Tips from journalists and public relations professionals are provided along with useful websites.

The exercise involves gathering information on local news outlets, becoming familiar with the work of local media professionals, and using a template as a guide for writing a pitch to an editor or journalist.

Commission members Cathleen Crain and Niel Tashima have organized the Careers Expo for years. This year, NAPA's Organizational Relations Co-Chairs Joshua Liggett and Niel Tashima coordinated the event along with two other Commission members—Daniel Ginsberg (AAA Staff) and Suanna Selby Crowley.

Anthropologists on the Public Stage

Six brief video trainings were developed to help anthropologists have greater impact in the media, in policy, and in the public. Funded by Wenner-Gren, the project team included Adam Gamwell, Phil Surles, Elizabeth Briody, Dawn Lehman, and Jo Aiken. Double click on the video to see a 59-second trailer.



Each training delivers specialized knowledge by anthropologist experts and other professionals along with general advice and tips to trainees. Interviewees were selected because they possessed significant experience in high-visibility occupational roles or in specialized public-facing activities.

To watch training #1, **Develop an Idea Worth Sharing**, go to <https://www.anthrocurious.com/pub> Then download the pdf exercise accompanying it to work on your own idea.

This training asks and answers the question: *How might anthropologists have impact in the world?* It introduces an effective strategy for sharing anthropological insights with the general public. The mnemonic CARL focuses on four elements—Content, Audience, Rationale, and Logistics—when sharing those insights. **What** is the information that you want to emphasize? **With whom** do you want to convey this message? **Why** is this message important to share, especially now? **How** were you thinking about getting your work out into the public sphere? Module 1's exercise assists viewers using a step-by-step approach with questions and templates to bring out the best from their work.

For more information on the Commission, contact:

Elizabeth.briody@gmail or rwnolan@purdue.edu