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Annual Report for the Society for Archaeological Sciences

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SAS Student Ambassador Program

The program, launched in 2019, is part of our new professional development and outreach programs. We currently have five ambassadors: Jayde Hirniak (Arizona State University), Rachel Johnson (Tulane University), AJ White (UC Berkeley), Ahana Ghosh (Indian Institute of Technology), and Iride Tomažič (University of Michigan). Ahana and Iride joined the program this year. During the 2021-2022 academic year they initiated a new program of interviews with archaeological scientists and completed five interviews in total. These interviews were published via Youtube and are available through the SAS website ([The Society for Archaeological Sciences - YouTube](#)).

They organized a virtual event to celebrate the SAS award recipients of the academic year 2022-2023 via Zoom on January 12, 2023. After the celebration, the participants were divided into different rooms for chat and exchanging information. The event was successful and there was a consensus that we should keep it in the future with some improvements.

R.E. Taylor Student Poster Award Competition at the SAA 2023

We held R.E. Taylor Poster Award at the 88th Annual Meeting of the SAA in Portland, March 29-April 2, 2023. We received nine applications. For this year, we implemented a judging procedure consisting of two rounds: We selected four finalists before the SAAs and announced them broadly through social media; our ambassadors put a banner at each poster that indicates it was selected as a finalist; then our judges interviewed the finalists and selected the winner and an honorable mention. This year's winner is Valentina Martinoia (Simon Fraser University), and her poster is entitled "Social inequality in the Middle-Late Neolithic? Stable isotope analysis of the individuals from Beli Manastir-Popova zemlja (Slavonia, Croatia)." An honorable mention went to Amanda Dobrov (University of New Mexico), whose poster is entitled "A Clean Break: A Departure from Standard Typologies through an Investigation of Pottery Temper at Joshua Tree National Park."

This new procedure worked pretty well, and we plan to continue with some improvements (e.g., a more visible banner). Our ambassadors also put some SAS swags at each poster, which helped to advertise our activities and members' benefits.

Membership Enhancement

In order to advertise our activities more proactively, I compiled a list of universities with archaeology programs in the USA last year and have been sending out flyers on our activities, award programs, and ambassador program. I plan to expand the list to include universities in other countries.