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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. During the 2020-2021 academic year we accepted three new ambassadors and we currently have five ambassadors: Jayde Hirniak (Arizona State University), Rachel Johnson (Tulane University), Li-Ying Wang (University of Washington), Tekla Cunningham (University of Winnipeg), and AJ White (UC Berkeley) (Emily Kate of Penn State University stepped down in April). They initiated a new program called “SAS Early Career Brown Bag” and completed three Zoom presentations as of now (March 4, 18, and April 1), each featuring two speakers (mostly Ph.D. students). Two sessions remain to be done for the rest of this academic year (April 22 and 28). SAS Ambassadors also volunteered to run virtual happy hours hosted by the Graduate Archaeological Science Group at Cornell.

R.E. Taylor Student Poster Award Competition at the SAA 2021

The Board decided the Award program was not held for the virtual Annual Meeting of the SAA 2021 due to logistic difficulties. It was held instead for the International Obsidian conference, which was administered by Kyle Freund.

SAS Early Career Research Support Program

In order to mitigate the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on students’ research, I proposed creating an SAS COVID-19 Relief Fund for students. After discussion, the Board decided to merge this fund with the one for early career scholars (proposed by Carmen and Evangelia). The program will be launched soon.