Executive Session - Oral Presentation

**Sponsored by:** AAA Executive Program Committee

(5-0455) *Biological Anthropology and the Public*

- **Date and Time:** Saturday, December 2 10:15 AM - 12:00 PM
- **Location:** Marriott, Marriott Ballroom Salon 2

**Of interest to:** Practicing and Applied Anthropologists, Teachers of Anthropology in Community Colleges, Students, Those Involved in Mentoring Activities

**Organizer(s)**

- **Caroline VanSickle**
  Visiting Assistant Professor
  Bryn Mawr College

- **Natalia Reagan**
  BOAS Network

**Chair(s)**

- **Caroline VanSickle**
  Visiting Assistant Professor
  Bryn Mawr College

**Presenter(s)**

- **Susan Sheridan**
  Associate Professor
  University of Notre Dame

- **Kathryn Clancy**
  University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign

- **Julie Lesnik**
  Assistant Professor
  Wayne State University

- **Becca Peixotto**
  Archaeologist In Residence
  American University

- **Natalia Reagan**
  BOAS Network

- **Briana Pobiner**
  Research Scientist and Museum Educator
  Smithsonian Institution, National Museum of Natural History

**Discussant(s)**
Interacting with a biological anthropologist can influence a person's ideas about evolution, biology, and human nature. Anthropologists are uniquely well positioned to engage the public in dialogues about the science of being human, as we are trained to understand cultural perspectives that differ from our own. Blurring the boundaries between the academy and the larger world, many biological anthropologists have found ways to actively converse with non-academic audiences. Popular media—such as online videos, podcasts, or blogs—introduce and explain scientific research to non-academic audiences. Social media spread biological anthropology news beyond the classroom and the conference, allowing non-experts to engage experts in discussions about that news. Workshops and public speaking events popularize anthropological messages through education. The speakers in this session will share their experiences with public outreach and why they find this work pivotal to their practice of anthropology, illustrating how biological anthropology research matters in to the public.

Presentations:

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<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Presentation Title</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>10:15 AM - 10:30 AM</td>
<td>BioAnthropology News: Using Facebook to Show How Anthropology Matters</td>
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<td>10:30 AM - 10:45 AM</td>
<td>Talking out biological anthropology: Why I started a podcast about periods</td>
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<td>10:45 AM - 11:00 AM</td>
<td>Using edible insects to inspire conversations about human evolution and food sustainability</td>
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<td>11:00 AM - 11:15 AM</td>
<td>Digging up connections: How social media brought the Homo naledi excavation into the mainstream</td>
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<td>11:15 AM - 11:30 AM</td>
<td>Lights, Camera, Anthropology!</td>
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<td>11:30 AM - 11:45 AM</td>
<td>Informal interactions with visitors in the Smithsonian's National Museum of Natural History</td>
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<td>11:45 AM - 12:00 PM</td>
<td>Discussion</td>
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