

# Building AFAB: Our “Alumni and Friends Advisory Board”, at the Department of Anthropology, College of Arts and Sciences, the University of Nebraska-Lincoln: The First 3 Years 2014, 2015, 2016

--Bruce Rippeteau, PhD; AFAB Co-Founder and First Chair; 1968 Anthropology Alumnus; Retired Scientist; current Adjunct Professor, Anthropology; College of Arts and Sciences; University of Nebraska-Lincoln.

--With Addenda by LuAnn Wandsnider, Joye Fehringer, Priscilla Hayden-Roy, and Sophia Perdikaris.

The first 2 statements of AFAB’s official University of Nebraska Bylaws, adopted 22 April 2015, (Article 1; 1.1) say: **“The name of this organization shall be: The Alumni and Friends Advisory Board to the University of Nebraska-Lincoln Department of Anthropology, hereafter referred to as the “Friends Board” or “the Board.”**

And that (Article 2; 2.1): **“The mission of the Friends Board is to enhance the visibility and stature of the Department of Anthropology amongst relevant external entities while assisting departmental leadership in their efforts to improve student, faculty, and alumni experiences at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln.”**

So, that is what we do: 1. In the beginning especially, but all along, we *Raise Treasure to benefit Faculty, Students, and the materials of the Anthropology Department*, and 2. As asked, we *Advise with Time and Talent the Chairperson*, and as appropriate the Faculty, Students, and Alumni and Friends with *Time and Talent*.

Since I was one of the three original conspirators, a Co-Founder along with the rest of our stalwarts on the 2015-206 Organizational Chart, and the first Chairman, now, after several years and soon to go off our “Alumni and Friends Advisory Board”, and before we all forget these early days, I thought a few words from several of us present at the beginning would be in order. This all concerns the early formation, the first people, and the intended benefits of this, our new, “AFAB. Many academic departments, worldwide, have had such supportive organizations, but in the years leading up to 2014, the University of Nebraska at Lincoln Anthropology Department did not have any such broad advocacy until we Alumni

acted in 2015.

For the record, although LuAnn Wandsnider and I originally started this all by talking with each other in early 2014, immediately joining us in 2014 was Joye Fehringer of the NU Foundation and is therefore the third of the original three. Later, Priscilla Hayden-Roy, the interim Anthropology Chair, and soon the Associate Dean for Faculty in the College of Arts and Sciences, although too late for the 2015 founding, must be included for so strongly standing up for this aborning enterprise. And lastly, the present Departmental Chair Sophia Perdikaris is not only a strong supporter, but also the first to expend what Time, Talent, and Treasure AFAB has and is raising.

Thus, these following memories and documents are about AFAB's beginning and earliest activities, being 3 years from 2014 to the end of 2016, as I knew AFAB in those days of wine and roses. After these first 3 years, the succeeding 2017, and later years' AFAB Chairs and leaders, Jim Kohler and Susan Traub, will, I hope, write their own important thoughts and experiences.

I have also, therefore, herein at the end, asked these originally involved two Departmental Chairs, LuAnn and Priscilla, and the representative from the Nebraska University Foundation, Joye, and the current Anthropology Chair Sophia to provide their additional commentary for context!

## **THE NIGHT BEFORE AFAB:**

Moving back to Lincoln, in April 2008, from retirement from SC State agency governance and a research institute at the University of South Carolina, I soon noticed the University of Nebraska's Anthropology Department's lack of a usual "Friends" organization. I was not alone so noting. Since both my wife Sandra and I were 1968 graduates of Nebraska, it thus seemed that someone, perhaps me, should step forward (a really bad idea in the military as many of us alumni know) and attempt such an organization for Anthropology. Yet, from that arrival date and for several more years, conditions did not seem beneficent, and I was variously advised, without much explanation, to that effect by friends on the Faculty.

After some 5 subsequent years passed, however, in 2014, I met and greatly benefited from both the-then Anthropology Chair LuAnn Wandsnider and the University of Nebraska Foundation's Development representative for the UNL College of Arts and Sciences Joye Fehringer. I went as far, by 26 March 2014, to have written a check for \$1,000 as the needed seed money to open a Nebraska University Foundation account. Joye deposited that seed in 2015 when we all had jelled on to the "UNL Anthropology Endowed Excellence Fund".

(Rereading a 13 February 2015 email to great advocate and lead alumni memory Tom Theisen, I am reminded that when we had first moved back to Lincoln in 2008, I had intended to create another scholarship, for Anthropology, in my own name. We have an active scholarship (often with multiple awardees per year) for my father's (RIP) graduation from the UNL College of Architecture, and separately one for my mother (RIP) for her graduation from UNL's now College of Education and Human Sciences. Modest that such a new scholarship would start out, rather, I got to thinking how much more it might immediately help the Anthropology Department if we all acted together, and to start a broader friends and advisory fund to which many, even most, Anthropology

alumni could and would donate. So, my efforts departed from the individual, towards the many, although less personal.)

As time passed in 2014, LuAnn and I conversed over a couple of local lunches, and I found her totally positive and ready to partner for an Advisory Friends and Alumni group, not to mention a certain joint excitement for raising serious funds for needed or extra Department efforts.

Thus, in earliest 2015, we invited several like-minded colleagues to a series of exploratory meetings, at my home in Lincoln, with we three, LuAnn, Joye and me as discussion leaders. Or, rather one might say, discussion “cheer” leaders. These very first, good hearts, bringing various talents, included Tom Theissen, Karen Steinauer (also an attorney), Peter Zandbergen, Rob Bozell, Martha McCollough, Kelli Bacon (with the available advice of her lawyer husband), Peter Bleed, and Sandra Rippeteau.

Not to belabor these early meetings, but, in remembrance, there were, in addition to these face meetings, an amazing amount of correspondences, emails, and phone calls, all for what I had thought was a simple matter!

Clearly emerging from these earliest home meetings was that the Department and the University would definitely love and support such an organization, especially--of course--if it raised a pile of dough. Thus, with variations and enthusiasms, we together created several drafts of various organizational elements that were submitted to the University Foundation, and the Department, for review and approval.

We eventually made all the full required decisions pertaining to fundraising and to advising the Department Chairperson. We also specified the authority to advise the Faculty as they might ask, and especially the undergraduate and graduate students, again, who might ask. There were quite a few more minor but rigorous decisions as to both our needs and to fitting perfectly into the University's systems, particularly of course the NU Foundation. Perhaps this is not surprising remembering we were not pioneering our organization, but rather fitting it into a very large and already complex, administrative system, itself full of historical compositions and modern politics on and off campus. These realities were solidified as the AFAB Bylaws.

Overall, our NU Foundation, our Departmental Chair and Faculty, and of course our working group all came together with the approvals of our AFAB name and plans in early 2015, especially for our final Bylaws draft and for our soon-planned first Board meeting. We are forever grateful to these above-named persons, as well as the additional personnel shown later on the 2015-2016 Organizational Chart, for their will to succeed in these early complexities.

## **AFAB DAYLIGHT ARRIVES**

Our very first, official AFA Board meeting was held at 3:00 PM on 22 April 2015, the “2015 Earth Day!”, at the University, in the Student Union's Colonial Room, on R Street, slantwise facing south to the 15<sup>th</sup> Street Mall, with the State Capitol at its other end from the University. The invitation was “Anthropologically” sent from LuAnn, Tom Thiessen (who generously had become our Secretary nominee), and me.

In the below photo from 22 April, this first meeting's Board Members, most being Alumni, from left to right, are: Don Arp (At-Large Member; representing NE), Peter Zandbergen (Treasurer; Executive VP Union Bank and Trust; NE), Tom Thiessen (Secretary; And who first Chaired the original AFAB Discovery Committee for finding the Alumni with the Foundation's listings; Retired NPS-MWAC; NE), Bruce Rippeteau (Chair; Retired USC-SCIAA; NE and NY), Courtney Ziska (Vice Chair; Office of State Archaeologist, History Nebraska; NE), LuAnn Wandsnider (*Ex officio* as UNL Anthro Chair; NE), Kelli Bacon (History Nebraska SHPO office; At-Large Member; NE), Karen Steinauer (History Nebraska State Archaeologist office; At-Large Member; NE), Rob Bozell (At-Large Member, but soon to Chair the Board Recruitment Committee; State Archaeologist, History Nebraska; NE), and Sophia Werning (Representing the Dean of Arts and Sciences; NE).

Unable to attend this first 22 April 2015 meeting, but having formally voted YES to create it, present in spirit, and by agreement to serve, were: Joye Fehringer (one of the three Original 2014 conspirators; *Ex officio* for the NU Foundation; NE), Martha McCollough (*Ex Officio* for the Anthro faculty; NE), John Ehrenhard (At-Large Member; Retired NPS-Southeast Archaeological Center; FL), Bob Hitchcock (At-Large Member; NM), Michelle Night Pipe (then graduate student; At-Large Member; NE and NJ), Tom Riley (At-Large Member; ND), Susan Traub (Traub Design; At-Large Member; KS), and Anne Vawser (NPS\_MWAC; At-Large Member; NE). And, by this point we had also created the post of Past-Chairs Advisory Committee, as *Ex Officio*, and agreed to be chaired by Peter Bleed (UNL Faculty and past Departmental Chair; NE).



Our first-ever Agenda was, first, to seek a Motion (under Robert's Rules of Order's voting process) to approve the circulated draft overall organizational plan for AFAB, and thus to create our desired advocacy organization. Second, we desired to adopt Bylaws acceptable to the NU Foundation; Third, to elect the provisional officers listed in the invitation letter; And, fourth, to conduct Business (in this case of course, only "New" business) such as various posed questions



including how to discover and communicate with Alumni and to schedule our next meeting. All this, unanimously, was followed by a “General Rejoicing” and the taking of the above photo!

Our second-ever AFA Board meeting was on 28 October 2015 and followed up on all sorts of decisions, complexities and documentation. Showing growth in attendance, the personages at this meeting, in the photo below, from left to right are: (Back) Peter Bleed, Sophia Werning, Rob Bozell, Karen Steinauer, Peter Zandbergen (Treasurer), Kelly Bacon, Joye Fehringer, LuAnn Wandsnider, and Michelle Night Pipe. (Seated) Tom Riley, Courtney Ziska (Vice Chair), Bruce Rippeteau (Chair), Susan Traub (future Chair number 3), and Tom Thiessen (Secretary).

At this meeting, we also heard research presentations from two Anthropology students: undergraduate Jazmin Turner (a senior preparing then to enter the Medical Anthropology MA program at Creighton University) and graduate student Aaron Pattee (now a PhD candidate at Heidelberg University), a practice that we continued at various future meetings.



At this above, second 2015 Board meeting, from much work behind the scenes came the Organizational Chart for 2015-2016, which is Appended as #2 at this text end, showing the stabilized List of Officers, various Members, and formal roles. We are beau coup grateful to these persons for accepting the responsibilities attendant upon these titles and upon the work yet to be done.

Concerning the next photo below: we should note that we had many an Executive Board meeting in between all this, as shown below at Ticos’ long-serving Mexican Restaurant in downtown Lincoln. As a humorous aside, author Sean Callahan, in his book 100 Things Nebraska Fans Should Know.... (2013; pp. 128-130), identifies the “Four Food Groups” of us “Huskers” at the University of Nebraska! Namely: Runza sandwiches, Valentinos’ pizza, Fairbury red hot dogs (from Wimmer’s in

West Point), and Colby Ridge popcorn! As the reader can see in this 08 December 2015 image (below) of one of these many, regular AFAB Board Executive Committee meetings, Tico's Mexican has to be the fifth food staple, at least for us in AFAB!



The last year I will report is 2016. It was a doozy, with 2 more full Board meetings, the October one including a "South Carolina Low Country Boil" cookout by John Ehrenhard over at Rob's History Nebraska's State Archaeology offices and laboratories, and several new efforts and several new Board personnel. Plus, gloriously, we planned and accomplished a major blowout: the first-ever "Anthropology Alumni Reunion Party" held at the History Nebraska Museum in conjunction with the Plains Anthropological Society's Annual Meeting.

The Spring 2016 Board meeting, on 27 April, and being the third, was again held on the UNL campus. Seen below, the attending members were (standing:) Sophia Werning, Jim Kohler, Tom Riley, LuAnn Wandsnider, Don Arp, Michelle Night Pipe, and Tom Thiessen. Also (seated:) Joye Fehringer, David Gradwohl (in from IA), Bruce Rippeteau, Courtney Ziska, Peter Bleed, and Rob Bozell.





Later in 2016, the famed “Plains Anthropological Conference” was held in mid-October, serendipitously for us, being held in Lincoln, itself an original, longtime venue. Through the good offices of local PAC Co-Organizers Rob Bozell (State Archaeologist, History Nebraska), LuAnn Wandsnider (past Chair, Anthropology, University of Nebraska), and Jay Sturdevant (Midwest Archeological Center, NPS), was created a MASSIVE Party of AFAB and the PAC.

This blowout was held 13 October, on both floors of History Nebraska’s Museum, which itself is adjacent to the UNL Campus in downtown Lincoln! In addition to several of Rob and me speaking, History Nebraska’s Director Trevor Jones welcomed the great turnout. We were also attended and congratulated by the then-new UNL College of Arts and Sciences Dean, a chemist, Joe Francisco!

For Dean Francisco himself, and other attending University leaders and Friends, we are pretty sure that not all of them realized that the tremendous number of archaeologists in clear, joyful attendance (only maybe a 1/6<sup>th</sup> of the total attending can be seen in each picture) were not all our Alumni, but also counted certain thirsty Plains Conference colleagues!

Many of these exact Conference attendees, of course, did have strong ties to the archaeology and research done by our AFAB’s Anthropology Department, our Nebraska and Lincoln past River Basin Surveys offices, the labs of the Smithsonian Institution in DC, and the current, major Midwest Archeological Center of the National Park Service. This is not to even mention all the actual alumni and faculty, past and present, from the Anthropology Department, epitomized for example by the attending, past, prominent UN professors, among many, such as Dick Krause and Alice Kehoe. And some of these many attendees were even moved to donate to our AFAB Endowed Excellence Fund! (Thank you!)







And then, just a couple of days later, on October 15<sup>th</sup>, at Board Member Rob's Office of the State Archaeologist's glorious labs and Collection facility, we had our 4<sup>th</sup> Board meeting. In a fabulous gift to us, Board Member John Ehrenhard, in from Florida, put on that memorable "SC Low Country Boil Dinner". Several helped John, including especially AFAB-er Michelle Night Pipe and her husband Wayne. And during the dinner at Rob's Lab, amazingly, we were very happy to discover old friend Ruthann Knudson (RIP) here for some research, In addition to all this, this Board meeting saw the first ever, two-year, transition of Chair from Bruce Rippeteau to Jim Kohler, he being seated left in the below photo, and taking the sacred gavel for his term.

Alumni and Friends attendees, standing from left to right, are Board Members: Susan Traub (the next, third AFAB Chair, incoming after Jim Kohler), John Ehrenhard (in chef's apron!), Tom Thiessen, Bob Hitchcock, Joye Fehringer, Peter Bleed, Michelle Night Pipe, Pete Zandbergen, Tom Riley, LuAnn Wandsnider, Anne Vawser, Courtney Ziska, David Gradwohl, Rob Bozell, and Nolan Johnson.



## MORNING FOR AFAB AND ANTHROPOLOGY: ISSUES

Instead of “mining” the several annual AFA Board meetings’ minutes and discussions, as the months passed, this essay being an overview by memories, I would rather recount just a couple of the foundational issues that AFAB faced and solved. This all was not like founding the United Nations, but at our scale we did have our challenges and our victories.

**ISSUE 1:** Broadly, however were we to write down a coherent, controlling, organizational statement, even if we knew to call them “Bylaws”? What were we to call ourselves? What guidance were we to give the obviously-needed slate of “Officers” in calling and conducting meetings, and what specifications were needed for the raising of monies and the award of grants?

Being potentially involved with piles of money, how were we to safeguard and account for it? What legal protections did we need as officers and Board members? How should we present ourselves to our colleagues and applicants?

The list for our first considerations grew exponentially over the broader period of our early considerations (including several of us lying awake at night thinking about this new brave social animal).

However, and lucky for all of us, after a couple of meetings, Joye Fehringer pretty much said all these things are solved; That this super solution is pretty much the best way to proceed; And that

it is called cooperating with the existing and very practical Foundation of the University, because there is no need to re-invent either 501(c)(3)s or wheels!

In fact, the NU Foundation for Fiscal Year 2019 reported a total philanthropic (including planned commitments) income of \$290.5 million. Its total assets are \$2.5 Billion, with \$1.7 Billion under Foundation endowment, and 99% of assets restricted by donors to a specific University use. Of the reported 385,811 living Alumni around the world, there are nearly 1,000 Anthropology Alumni, and Tom, LuAnn, Joye, and Rob spent a lot of time and effort in 2015 reviewing and perfecting their records.

**ISSUE 2:** What form did this cooperation take and what were to be the first structures. After we took Joye's advice and the examples of the Foundation, and a whole lot of behind the scenes planning and asking and such, we did find a structure. And we found a name!

Quoting my April 8, 2015 email to invite the participant whom we, LuAnn and I, had identified and asked to serve: **"After (1) over 2 years of study meetings, explorations, and feedback, and (2) the establishment and initial funding at the University of Nebraska Foundation, of a formal "UNL Anthropology Endowed Excellence Fund by Bruce Rippeteau and Pete Zandbergen, (3) with the help of Tom Thiessen and to support Chair LuAnn Wandsnider and those who follow her as Chairs, we are ready to form our first "Founding Board of our proposed "Alumni and Friends Advisory Board of the UNL Anthropology Department."**

**ISSUE 3:** How ever could we raise the required NU Foundation balance of \$25,000.00—in order to be "Endowed"? One has to remember that academics and researchers as public or private employees, not to mention the younger ones and those in between or just starting new jobs, are usually impecunious. And in my experience, Anthropologists are prime examples of holding their earnings tight. Personally, I wondered if we could possibly achieve that amount in the first several years. Joye never wavered in her belief that we could meet that endowment.

LuAnn and I, and especially as her forte, Joye for the Foundation, immediately started writing letters and making phone calls of monetary beseechment to our perceived but still being discovered (by Joye, Tom, and Rob especially) Anthropology Alumni. Although this all was a tremendous additional burden on already busy people, between this begging, and some of the new Board being right generous, we were off and running.

I would note that not everyone on the Board was—or is now-- comfortable asking their close friends or more distant classmates for money. I will immediately state, as we did in writing, that contributing TREASURE was not a requirement of Board service. The other values of TIME and TALENT counted greatly too. And, surely, not all our targeted Alumni and Admiring Friends were themselves comfortable giving money!

As for myself, I had spent my last 25 years in Columbia SC, before coming back to Lincoln in 2008. I had given my own treasure (as it seemed well described, as seen by me and my small family, and still early in a career), and, further, had also asked all sorts of SC people for their money for our University of South Carolina South Carolina Institute of Anthropology and Archaeology research and endowments, for the Rotary International Foundation, for our new Celebrate Freedom Foundation, and for all our attendant expenses. And I hope I was personally wise enough not to press these hesitant people, but rather to leave a good feeling that might—and apparently did in most cases-- eventually lead to donations of treasure, beyond those otherwise factually generous talents and time.



It did take a little over two years, but on 09 September 2016, we did achieve the high standard of a total of \$25,000 so as to be Endowed by the University Foundation. By far, in achieving this, being most effective and generous with her University and own time and talent, and her own treasure, was our Arts and Sciences' NU Foundation maven Joye Fehringer. Joye had set the pace with numerous calls and personal visits to our approximately 980 known Alumni, and allowed us to achieve another milestone, a \$50,000 Endowment, back by the end of June 2019.

**ISSUE 4:** How were we to gently, appropriately, appreciatively, and usefully implement our other AFAB goal of advising (meaning helping in ways non-monetarily) the Departmental Chairperson, and their Faculty and studentia, as the Chair might ask? From the beginning we all tried to do that, but mostly informally and gently. As I might say that I and the founding Board also did, we should note that both the following 2017-2020 AFAB Chairs especially worked on this aspect.

The answer to a calm, fruitful, long term interaction was: keeping what we could reasonably do, to not be loaded with fraught, but rather to come naturally as friendships and respect between the Department and AFAB grew. We had been careful to keep each organization "close", by acting jointly, by recognizing the primacy of our contribution to the UNL being support to the Department, not any taking over, and by organizationally specifying a formal representation of the Chair themselves, and further a Chair-appointed Faculty, to the AFAB, and keeping the direct, primary interaction of AFAB to be only through its officers with the Department. Our mantra was to help the Chair and the Department, and avoid any intrigue whatsoever.

Inspecting my files, I could add more issues. But, a simple summary of 12" of my own AFAB papers compressed into files would be: that our joint success in supporting UNL Anthropology has been in not letting our AFAB monies, or assistance, or personalities become serpentine or malign, but rather staying sunny and being relaxed, on-call, generous Alumni helpers for the Department.

## THANKING PARTICIPANTS

In offering and ending this AFAB essay, I am mindful of these many good Nebraskan hearts coming together with energy and excellence, but without egos, to create our Anthropology's Alumni and Friends Advisory Board. And for us to have created this fundraising system, at the University of Nebraska, our State's Leadership University, and its immense Foundation. Our financial success, starting with the great first hurdle to achieve initial endowment by surpassing \$25,000, and thence now growing towards \$100,000, reflect powerfully on the AFAB Donors. We are grateful all around to these generous Donors!

AFAB has to date funded student and faculty travel, materials and supplies for research and for teaching, and expenses for attending meetings. At the end of this essay, current Chair Perdikaris in her Addendum discusses her uses, as the first Chair having AFAB monies to spend.

I would also hazard the observation that AFAB came along and was successful at a special time. That AFAB thus was part of a rebirth of Anthropology, that it assisted the University's perception of our academic importance, our Alumni base (remember the First Reunion's massive appearance in 2016), and our high quality of its leadership from Chairs LuAnn (co-creating the AFAB), to Priscilla's next, Acting Chairship but very strong support (and her subsequent ascension to Associate Dean for the Arts and Sciences Faculty), to our current Chair Sophia's strong recruitment

and continued building, she too being now responsible not only for Anthropology, but also for Geography and Global Studies, as a new School at UNL!

Of course, the Department of Anthropology itself had a long, strong educational and research history of the several Anthropological fields of Socio-Cultural, Physical, Linguistics, and Archaeology, although this latter topic predominated in both Prehistoric and Historic. It was also very helpful that the Department's scholarly student products received good graduate placements and good employments. Because these employments especially included Lincoln's earlier and historic River Basin Surveys of the Smithsonian Institution, and the subsequent and big deal National Park Service's Midwest Archaeological Center, we also recruited top Alumni talent locally for the Board of AFAB.

Everyone who has to date participated in AFAB deserves great appreciation and substantial thanks for their service, their time, treasure, and talents. I also do want to specifically comment on following early Board members and their contributions:

First among the first are *LuAnn Wandsnider* and *Joye Fehringer*. Both appear all along in this account as part of the original three conspirators, LuAnn being the Anthropology Chair and having a vision of AFAB. Joye became well-known to us through her good NU Foundation offices, her close participations, and her personal fiscal contributions. Both LuAnn and Joye, also, kept us hopeful, as they repeatedly predicted our several monetary successes among the alumni. Joye especially must have burned out numerous telephones as she relentlessly and lovingly called our out-of-town Alumni, even visiting them on numerous trips.

Most importantly, as Joye reminds us, was and is the connections developed by, and the building of relationships with, our alumni! A lesson for us all.

I should now, also, immediately include the next AFAB Chairs, the second-ever Jim Kohler and then the third-ever Susan Traub, for their acceptances of those duties in 2017 to the present. They have their own experiences with leading AFAB, especially for their attention to the Time and Talent part of AFAB's roles.

*Tom Thiessen* was indispensable because he remembered everybody, was friends with literally everybody, and generously served as our first AFAB Secretary. Tom was our "Griot", holding in a ready mind the many memories of Nebraska archaeology, the many agencies, and the many people, over the many years, and with Rob and LuAnn and Joye, identified so many Alumni.

*Rob Bozell*, another stalwart, has to be one of the very best State Archaeologists in the country what with his knowledge, accomplishments, and his calm interaction with citizens. Rob worked with Tom and LuAnn to review Joye's Alumni lists and to suggest Board member recruitment. Rob also did great service as a soon-created Committee Chair for Nominating Board members.

*Courtney Ziska*, Rob's History Nebraska archaeological colleague, also deserves thanks for her intelligent and cheerful service as our first AFAB Vice-Chair, and for leading several projects not only narrowly for AFAB organizational needs, but also for the AFAB Reunion exhibition of all our past Nebraska Archaeology people.

*Peter Zandbergen*, the Executive Vice President of Nebraska' largest bank, Union Bank and Trust, brought so much "street cred" to the Board. Pete had studied Anthropology early on but slid into business, and he also demonstrated important AFAB leadership by his roles, his perfection in asking leading questions, and his suggesting directions for Board actions.

*John Ehrenhard*, retired from directing the National Park Service's Southeast Archaeological Center in Tallahassee, was both a leader and a true professional. Beyond those leadership qualities expressed both at a distance and in person, he personally organized and cooked his dinner in 2016 for the Board, simply as a gift to his AFAB colleagues.

And to end this appreciation, the people praised above, and elsewhere, are exactly those good alumni and supporters who built AFAB into a valuable, strong reality. Thank you!

## **AFAB AND ANTHROPOLOGY: THE DAYS TO COME**

Thus, concludes these first 3 years, even as several of us have, pursuant to the Bylaws, continued in various primary roles and been joined by new enthusiastic, recruited stalwarts.

The reader has seen that past Anthropology Chair LuAnn, and the NU Foundation's Joye, and I, and the many above-listed Alumni Board members, with Chairs Priscilla, and now Sophia, are who first created the AFAB, and who first saw to its initial activities, and who first concentrated, largely and successfully, on raising Endowment Excellence's monies and on AFAB's organization.

And yet, I think it important to also recognize that, as the succeeding Chairs, Susan and Jim and their Boards, in their terms of the following years 2017 onward, advanced that other major aspect of AFAB, the one of advising and assisting the Department leadership and faculty, and the student undergraduates and graduates, as we intended AFAB to so help all along.

To show the Rainbow that AFAB's creation is and has been, below, I have also asked these other, early leaders to here below add their memories and thoughts as an Addenda Commentary: 1. LuAnn Wandsnider, PhD, the Departmental Chair from AFAB's beginning and an "Original Founder"; 2. Joye Fehringer BSc, and the third Original Founder", and the NU Foundation; and 3. Priscilla Hayden-Roy, PhD, and then Acting Departmental Chair (and now the just retired Associate Dean for Faculty, UNL College of Arts and Sciences) from AFAB's growth in 2017 to 2019 and very strong supporter; and lastly 4. Sophia Perdikaris, our Department's current Chair from 2018 to the present (and now Director of the new UNL School of Global Studies, being Anthropology, Geography, and Global Studies), and being the first "spender" of our intended Treasure and Talent, and Time from our still-new AFAB, OUR Alumni and Friends Advisory Board.

In concluding, and having thanked the persons who came together to Build AFAB for the UNL and Anthropology, let us end upon thanking the DONORS, who generously answered our letters, calls, and actual visits by contributing a lot of Treasure to AFAB and its purposes!

It often seems that the best outcomes in new endeavors arise from good people converging on a good idea. AFAB has seen the best people lift up AFAB itself as a really, really good idea.

Remember our Motto: "AFAB" ALSO means "Anthropology is FABulous"!

## **ADDENDA COMMENTARIES:**



**LuAnn Wandsnider** PhD, the Departmental Chair from AFAB's beginning, and an "Original Founder"

First of all, thank you to Bruce for his very careful and very colorful accounting of early AFAB history. The foundation of AFAB represents an important milestone in the Department of Anthropology's history and this account of the birthing process is so important as we move forward into a new and exciting future.

Foundations, as we archaeologists know, are critical and, in the case of AFAB, its foundation was both fortuitous and paradoxically almost inevitable. As Bruce recounts, AFAB's foundation is the product of the convergence of so many essential factors. These factors included, for one, interest on the part of alumni and friends, some of which was identified as the Department of Anthropology reached out to alumni via our Anthropology Week celebrations in Fall 2014 and Spring 2016. Knowing how to build an institution like AFAB was critical, and Bruce and Joye were the go-to experts here.

Context was also critical and the College of Arts and Sciences was, at Dean Francisco's urging, at the time of AFAB foundation launching its own alumni organization. The energy and talent of the founding group must be further celebrated: Tom Thiessen and Rob Bozell's vast knowledge of departmental personages and lore was essential, Peter Zandbergen's zest was critical, and Kelli Bacon and Karen Steinauer's attention to detail in developing the language of our first Bylaws was crucial. Finally, timing was fundamental as well. All of these elements had to come together in the right place at the right time. And they did! Thank you again Bruce and Joye! And thank you to the other founders for their kindness and good will.

**Joye Fehringer:** BSc, and the third Original Founder"; Joye is the College of Arts and Sciences leader for the NU Foundation

It has been such an honor getting to know so many of our UNL Anthropology alumni and friends through this meaningful journey in establishing an official advisory board for the Department of Anthropology and creating an endowment for priority needs therein. Bruce Rippeteau was the visionary and inspiration behind our vibrant AFAB, collaborating closely with then Chair LuAnn Wandsnider. Both Bruce and LuAnn worked tirelessly and selflessly to bring Bruce's vision to fruition. Bruce brought with him an incredible network of friends and fellow alumni who also happened to be experts in their respective careers as well as true-blue human beings. LuAnn brought knowledge and expertise from the campus side of things. She advised on priorities and needs, included faculty members in our meetings and discussions, and provided us with meeting space.

From my perspective, adding an advisory board was not only helpful to the department, but was essential to the ongoing continuation and success of Anthropology at UNL. As LuAnn notes, we were so fortunate to have such a stellar founding group in Tom Thiessen, Rob Bozell, Peter Zandbergen, Kelli Bacon, Karen Steinauer, Courtney Ziska, Bob Hitchcock, John Ehrenhard, Tom Riley, Susan Traub, Michelle Nightpipe, Anne Vawser, and Don Arp. These dedicated and loyal professionals in combination with our own Bruce Rippeteau were an unstoppable force for good. This quote sums up their collective work in making AFAB a reality: **"Create with the heart; build with the mind."** -- Criss Jami

**Priscilla Hayden-Roy:** PhD, then the Acting Departmental Chair 2016-2017, now the retired Associate Dean for Faculty, UNL College of Arts and Sciences, and strong AFAB supporter

From August, 2016, through December, 2017, I had the great privilege of serving as Interim Chair of the Department of Anthropology. Although I brought no anthropological background to the job – I am a Germanist by training and had just completed a stint as Interim Chair of the Department of Modern Languages & Literatures – I was welcomed warmly by the remarkable colleagues, students, and alumni in, or associated with Anthropology. I can honestly say that the year and a half I spent with the Anthropologists was a personal highlight for me in my long career (over 30 years!) at UNL. It was great fun to get to know a new group of incredibly smart, interesting, committed people, and to talk with them about a field I have come to admire for its tremendous breadth and its engagement with serious human questions. So let me share a few memories.

On October 13, 2016, the first Reunion of Anthropology Alumni was held in Lincoln in conjunction with the Plains Anthropological Society annual meeting. It was there that I finally met Bruce Rippeteau in person, who, along with LuAnn Wandsnider, former Chair of Anthropology, and Joye Fehringer from the Nebraska Foundation, spearheaded the founding of Anthropology's Alumni and Friends Advisory Board (AFAB; aka "Anthropology is FABulous"). The reunion was a great event. I was so impressed by the many enthusiastic, supportive alumni who attended and also contributed generously to AFAB's newly established Excellence Fund.

Beginning in Fall, 2016, due to financial exigencies, UNL went into a hiring "pause." Anthropology had two proposed, very needed hires slated to be carried out that year, one for a Professor of Practice in Archaeological Methods, and one for a new Chair. Many hires had to be cancelled or postponed that year at UNL, but thanks to the dedicated support of the Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences, Dr. Joe Francisco, Anthropology was able to make two wonderful hires: Dr. Phil Geib in Archaeological Methods, and – after a long period of nervous waiting – Dr. Sophia Perdikaris, who moved to Lincoln with her family from New York City in December, 2017, to assume the Chairship beginning in January 2018.

Thanks to support from the AFAB Excellence Fund and the College of Arts and Science, and to the leadership of Drs. Carrie Heitman and Heather Richards-Rissetto, we were able to establish up a new Digital Scanning Lab on the 8<sup>th</sup> floor of Oldfather Hall in 2018. We held a guided tour of the new lab for AFAB in October, 2018.

I could mention many other things here, in particular the many guest lectures given by invited colleagues and members of AFAB, the successes of our faculty in securing grants, in conducting their research in the US and abroad, the progress made by our very talented undergraduate and graduate students. I am also grateful for having had the opportunity to work with three different Chairs of AFAB over the course of 2016-2017: Bruce Rippeteau, Jim Kohler, and Susan Traub, all of whom served in this role with great dedication.

Finally, I wish to thank LuAnn Wandsnider for her dedicated leadership in the Department, and her kind assistance to me during my time as Chair. And I also want to out a great cheer to Sophia Perdikaris, under whose visionary, energetic leadership Anthropology, now part of the newly established School of Global Integrative Studies, is growing, expanding in its outreach at UNL, in Nebraska, and worldwide. I do feel I will always be an "honorary Anthropologist of the heart," and I look forward to witnessing the successes of SGIS in the coming years.

**Sophia Perdikaris:** PhD, Chair, Department of Anthropology January 2018-February 5, 2020, and now Director of the School of Global Integrative Studies (Includes Anthropology)

While loving New York and being chair at the Anthropology Department at Brooklyn College, CUNY, I always dreamed to also be somewhere else with a larger sense of community, the great outdoors and ideally in a place with farms. When Kirk Dombroski emailed me about the chair position in Anthropology at UNL, I was not looking for another job, but I found the job description really compelling and exciting so I decided to give it a try.

The process was neither quick nor easy. It started in the fall of 2016 and I was given an offer in July of 2017 when I was cod fishing in Newfoundland with my daughters! Part of the challenge was that the state was under a hiring freeze, the Anthropology Masters was on the chopping block and the administration was strained. Priscilla did an amazing job as interim chair and it was her hard work that managed to push through the roadblocks that were keeping the position of chair from materializing.

My first official day as chair was January 2, 2018. The excitement of meeting the faculty and my fellow chairs was dampened but yet more talks of budget cuts. Coming from a very impoverished system at CUNY the talk did not deter me from moving forwards with all the plans that I had presented my faculty during my job talk. Working on the certificate for Forensic Anthropology and Museum Studies and trying to understand the challenges while planning for a forward and upbeat future. That first spring I also had my first introduction to the AFAB group. I was sold. The dedication, commitment and support were unparalleled. I had found my community.

Budget cuts came and left and Anthropology fared well. So well, that in September of 2018 just 9 months into this new position I was asked if we would be willing to do a merger with Geography and take that program under our wing. That did not work in the past and I sure did not see how it would work in a future of diminishing resources. The faculty agreed. No merger. By then I had been around campus enough to familiarize myself with programs and people. In a brain storming session with Priscilla, now in her new role of Associate Dean for Faculty, Diana Pilson, Associate Dean of Programs and Beth Theiss Morse, Acting Dean of CAS we explored the possibility of a School bringing together Anthropology, Geography and Global Studies. Priscilla and Diana were really happy and excited, Beth did due diligence and had meetings with all the Deans on the 12<sup>th</sup> floor. The School idea received the administrative thumbs up and then we were in discussions with the faculty of all units until the document that was sent in for the Faculty Senate to review was put together. In January of 2019 I got to wear a couple of more new "hats". Director of Geography and Director of Global Studies. For a bit over a year we juggled a soft merge and started the hard work of making us into a single unit of complimentary synergies concentrating in building this new identity while maintaining our disciplinary distinction. AFAB once more was fantastic. Neither Geography nor Global Studies have a group of Alumni supporters like Anthropology. AFAB has been welcoming and supportive to the entire SGIS. While we do not know what lies ahead, we have had an incredible "ride". In the spring of 2019, we hired Bill Belcher who came to us from DPAA in Hawaii. An amazing hire that is adding expertise, gravitas, students and labs for SGIS forensic anthropology. Late in June of the same year we got an additional half POP line in cultural anthropology with the addition of Taylor Livingston. A fantastic medical anthropologist and a timely hire since Wayne Babchuk moved full time to Educational Psychology. We also hired two geographers Robert Shepard and Patrick Bitterman. An unprecedented event since the last time Geography had any tenure track hires was almost forty years ago and they were for a while, honorary anthropologists, since programs such as Geography cannot grant tenure.



In the fall of 2019, we were successful in having an opportunity hire. Hiring a tenure track cultural anthropologist, Roberto Abadie who had been working as research professor in UNL Sociology and the Rural Drug Addiction Research Center that was led by Kirk Dombrowski and Rick Bevins. Roberto's hire filled a void that was created by the retirement of Martha McCullough in the spring of 2020. The School became official on the 2<sup>nd</sup> of February. The certificates were finally in place and approved. We had the opportunity to bring in great new "lecturer blood", Gwyneth Talley an alum, Blair Zaid from Michigan, Edith Gonzalez from CUNY and Brittany Walter from DPAA all in anthropology. In Geography we added full time lecturer Andrew Husa, an alum. We added two courses to be taught by lecturers in Global Studies and the first half POP line shared with Human Rights and Humanitarian Affairs, Julia Reilly.

While the SGIS faculty family in some respects is growing in others we are losing many due to retirements. Martha McCullough, in anthropology, Ken Dewey in geography. Clark Archer is on phased retirement and David Wishart has announced he will retire in the spring of 2022. Ray Hames also is contemplating retirement in 2022 but we hope he stays for a while since he got the incredible honor that only a handful of anthropologists have ever experienced, his induction to the National Academy of Sciences!

I have been very fortunate to have Ray and LuAnn as my very close collaborators. It is their expertise and hard work that has fueled our successes. LuAnn is now the Associate Director of SGIS and is doing a magnificent job.

Covid arrived only a month after we became a school. A lot to juggle but we are moving forward in strength. We addressed all the budget cuts that have come our way and we had just as many students taking our classes now as in the pre Covid years. We are looking ahead with excitement and hope. We have been given access to Reller Prairie. An 80 acre property that was left untouched for at least a decade. It requires a complete overhaul but how exciting to be able to provide all of our students with experiential learning opportunities here at home 20 minutes from Lincoln!

Our students have big shoes to fill but I am hoping that they will be the pioneers of their generation such as all the members of the AFAB committee have been. Maybe we will have another Bruce to bring an elephant (standing in for a Pleistocene mammoth) to Reller Prairie for processing? A David to construct a primitive kiln? A Susan to educate through exhibits? A Jim to work with local and global communities or a Pete to be a guru of the financial world? The accomplishment of all of the AFAB members have been great, far reaching and impactful. Thank you for helping us mentor the next generation of scholars to be the pioneers of their time.

The adventure is always on at SGIS and we love our AFAB support unit. Here's to our continued partnership for years to come! Thank you for all you do. Your mentorship, advice and support is unparalleled. Really proud to be part of the team.

## ADDENDA:

**1.** For **additional AFAB information**, GO TO < <https://sgis.unl.edu/alumni-and-friends-advisory-board> > and honk around for the Department, the University, and the Foundation.

**2.** Here is the **2015-2016 final Founding Organizational Chart, as of 12 June 2015, for The FOUNDERS OF the “ALUMNI AND FRIENDS ADVISORY BOARD, UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA-LINCOLN DEPARTMENT OF ANTHROPOLOGY” (who Oversee the “UNL Anthropology Endowed Excellence Fund” #01134320.)**

### **Officers:**

Dr. Bruce Rippeteau, Chair ([bruce.rippeteau@yahoo.com](mailto:bruce.rippeteau@yahoo.com); cell 402-580-0065)

Courtney Ziska, Vice Chair ([courtney.ziska@nebraska.gov](mailto:courtney.ziska@nebraska.gov); 402-471-3352)

Tom Thiessen, Secretary ([thiessent3@aol.com](mailto:thiessent3@aol.com); cell 402-480-5005)

Peter Zandbergen, Treasurer ([peter.zandbergen@ubt.com](mailto:peter.zandbergen@ubt.com); cell 402-677-4269)

### **At-large Members:**

Don Arp ([donarpjr@gmail.com](mailto:donarpjr@gmail.com); 402-499-2444)

Kelli Bacon, Nebraska State Historical Society ([kelli.bacon@nebraska.gov](mailto:kelli.bacon@nebraska.gov); 402-471-4766)

Rob Bozell, Nebraska State Historical Society ([rob.bozell@nebraska.gov](mailto:rob.bozell@nebraska.gov); 402-471-4789)

John Ehrenhard, former Director of the Southeast Archeological Center, National Park Service ([pak669@yahoo.com](mailto:pak669@yahoo.com); cell 678-850-7073)

Dr. Robert Hitchcock, former Chair of the Department of Anthropology, UNL ([rkhitchcock@gmail.com](mailto:rkhitchcock@gmail.com); cell 505-227-3049)

Michell Nightpipe, doctoral student at Rutgers University ([mnightpipe@huskers.unl.edu](mailto:mnightpipe@huskers.unl.edu); 402-217-3756)

Dr. Thomas J. Riley, former Dean of Arts and Humanities, North Dakota State University ([Thomas.Riley@ndsu.edu](mailto:Thomas.Riley@ndsu.edu); cell 701-231-8338)

Karen Steinauer, Nebraska State Historical Society ([karen.steinauer@nebraska.gov](mailto:karen.steinauer@nebraska.gov); 402-471-3352)

Susan Traub, Traub Design Associates, Inc. ([susan@traubdesignassociates.com](mailto:susan@traubdesignassociates.com); office 913-686-4425)

Anne Vawser, Midwest Archeological Center, National Park Service ([anne\\_vawser@nps.gov](mailto:anne_vawser@nps.gov); 402-437-5392 ext 109)

### **Ex-officio Members:**

Dr. LuAnn Wandsnider, Chair of the Department of Anthropology ([lwandsnider1@unl.edu](mailto:lwandsnider1@unl.edu); 402-472-8873)

Dr. Martha McCollough, faculty representative ([mmccollough1@unl.edu](mailto:mmccollough1@unl.edu); 402-472-2441)

Joye Fehringer, NU Foundation ([joye.fehringer@nufoundation.org](mailto:joye.fehringer@nufoundation.org); office 402-458-1187; cell 402-875-0611)

Dr. Peter Bleed, former Chair of the Department of Anthropology, UNL, and current Chair of the Past Chairs Advisory Committee ([pbleed1@unl.edu](mailto:pbleed1@unl.edu); cell 402-440-2737)

Nota Bene: Though not a formal member of the Board, Sophia Werning, public relations representative of the office of the Dean of Arts and Sciences, serves as an observer and valued advisor to facilitate coordination with the UNL administration.

### **Standing and *ad hoc* Committees:**

Fundraising Committee: Zandbergen (Chair), Rippeteau, Arp, Riley, Wandsnider, Fehringer.

Alumni and Friends Discovery Committee: Thiessen, Bozell, Hitchcock.

Ad hoc committee to look into board liability issues and possible 501(c)(3) status: Bacon, Steinauer.

Elections Committee: Bozell.

"Homecoming" Committee: Ziska (Chair), Ehrenhard, Traub.

Parliamentarian: To be determined.

Past Departmental Chairs Advisory Committee: Bleed (Chair).

## **3. BYLAWS, ALUMNI AND FRIENDS ADVISORY BOARD TO THE UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA-LINCOLN DEPARTMENT OF ANTHROPOLOGY**

Adopted 22 April 2015 and Amended 26 June 2017

### **ARTICLE 1. NAME**

- 1.1 The name of this organization shall be: The Alumni and Friends Advisory Board to the University of Nebraska-Lincoln Department of Anthropology, hereafter referred to as the "Friends Board" or "the Board."

### **ARTICLE 2. MISSION AND GOALS**

- 2.1 The mission of the Friends Board is to enhance the visibility and stature of the Department of

Anthropology amongst relevant external entities while assisting departmental leadership in their efforts to improve student, faculty, and alumni experiences at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln.

- 2.2 The following are the goals and objectives of the Board in supporting the Department:
  - 2.2.1 Help to educate, inform, and inspire students at the University of Nebraska about the value of the Department of Anthropology and the Anthropology major.
  - 2.2.2 Facilitate relevant aspects of alumni engagement and outreach for the Department.
  - 2.2.3 Advise the Department and the University of Nebraska Foundation on fund-raising strategies and opportunities for the Department, including but not limited to student and faculty travel, research awards, stipends, endowed chairs and professorships, undergraduate scholarships, graduate fellowships, and other special funds.
  - 2.2.4 Serve as well-informed advocates for the Department with the relevant constituencies in the University of Nebraska and the state, as well as with national associations, foundations, and other agencies.
  - 2.2.5 Recognize the accomplishments of alumni and friends through the institution and awarding of one or more annual awards.

**ARTICLE 3. RELATION TO THE UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA-LINCOLN**

- 3.1 No material project or activity should be undertaken by the Friends Board or held on property owned or affiliated with the University of Nebraska that does not have the express approval of the Chair of the Department of Anthropology.

3.2 Provide counsel to the Chair of the Department of Anthropology for the direction of funds held by the University of Nebraska Foundation in the UNL Anthropology Endowed Excellence Fund.

**ARTICLE 4. BOARD MEMBERSHIP**

4.1 The Friends Board membership shall consist of 10 to 20 alumni and friends of the Department of Anthropology, exclusive of ex-officio members. Members shall be selected from those individuals whose business, academic, and/or professional careers have brought them recognition for sound judgment, decisive action, and integrity. Additionally, members shall have knowledge of and interest in anthropology education in general and a particular interest and concern for the development, advancement, and recognition of the University of Nebraska-Lincoln as an outstanding institution of anthropological education.

4.2 Board membership shall have a balance of working members and retirees, of Nebraska residents and out-of-state residents, and shall be represented by a diversity of sub-disciplines and disciplines in their educational backgrounds.

4.3 Board members shall be available to convene at least once a year, generally in the Fall, for a set of meetings and events.

4.4 The standing Board Election Committee shall recommend new members to the Board Chair who will, after advice and consent from the Departmental Chair, regularly, with due regard for timing of terms, place these people for a Board vote.

4.5 Board vacancies and new Board members are elected by a majority vote of the current Board members, reported by



the Secretary at the previous meeting. A single ballot listing the names of candidates for Board positions shall be delivered by electronic media to each voting member. A short biographical sketch of each nominee shall be included with the ballot. Ballots must be returned by a date specified by the Secretary.

4.6 After the initial start-up, members will serve staggered terms with approximately one-third (1/3) of the terms expiring each year.

4.7 Terms of service on the Board shall be up to three years, with the possibility of additional terms. The term of membership shall begin with the roll call at the annual meeting and conclude typically one, two, or three years hence.

4.8 All Board members shall have one vote.

4.9 Ex-officio members include the Chair of the Department of Anthropology, the Foundation liaison, the Faculty Representative, and the Chair of the Past Chairs Advisory Committee. All ex-officio members serve in a non-voting capacity.

#### **ARTICLE 5. OFFICERS**

5.1 The Board Chair shall be elected by the Board for one year, with a second, immediate term possible by election. The Board Chair may then again stand for election after at least one year has elapsed. The Friends Board Chair shall preside over the meetings of the Board and provide leadership and guidance in the achievement of its goals.

5.2 The Board Vice Chair shall be elected by the Board for one year, with a second, immediate term possible by election. The Board Vice Chair may then again stand for

election after at least one year has elapsed. The Friends Board Vice Chair shall serve as Board Chair in the event the Chair is unable to serve and maintains the roster of current Board members.

- 5.3 The Board Secretary shall be elected by the Board for a year, with a second, immediate term possible by election. The Board Secretary may then again stand for election after at least one year has elapsed. The Friends Board Secretary is responsible for preparing and circulating meeting minutes and for maintaining an archive of minutes and images for the Friends.
- 5.4 The Board Treasurer shall be elected by the Board for one year, with a second, immediate term possible by election. The Board Treasurer may then again stand for election after at least one year has elapsed. The Friends Board Treasurer is responsible for reporting to the Board the status of University of Nebraska Foundation accounts and for working with the Board Chair to devise fund-raising strategies.
- 5.5 The Board officers shall be elected by a majority vote of the current Board members, reported by the Secretary at the previous meeting. A single ballot listing the names of the candidates for Board Officer positions shall be delivered by electronic media to each voting member. Ballots must be returned by a date specified by the Secretary. The results of the election shall be announced no later than thirty days following the last date of ballot submission. Newly elected Board Officers will assume their duties at the roll call at the Annual Meeting.
- 5.6 The Chair of the Department of Anthropology shall

appoint a Board faculty representative, whose term shall be two years. Each appointed faculty representative may serve a maximum of three terms and shall be considered an ex-officio member of the Board.

#### **ARTICLE 6. MEETINGS**

- 6.1 A regular meeting of the Friends Board shall be held annually, generally in the Fall. The Board Chair shall, with the advice and consent of the Board and the advice and consent of the Departmental Chair, designate meeting times and locations and inform Board members in writing at least two weeks prior to meeting.
- 6.2 Providing adequate notice, special Board meetings may be called by the Board Chair, with the advice and consent of the Departmental Chair.
- 6.3 The Board quorum shall be a majority of the total number of Friends Board members attending at the time of the meeting.
- 6.4 Board Members may participate in meetings of the Friends Board either in person or via electronic media that permit clear communication.
- 6.5 The act of a majority of Board members in attendance at a meeting at which a quorum is present shall be the act of the Board, unless the act of a greater number is required elsewhere by these bylaws.
- 6.6 The Board may conduct any of its business by electronic media.

#### **ARTICLE 7. COMMITTEES**

- 7.1 The Chair of the Board, with the advice and consent of the Departmental Chair, shall establish Board meetings as necessary.
- 7.2 Committees may include non-Board members.
- 7.3 Standing committees shall include the following: Past-

Departmental Chairs Advisory Committee to the Board, the Board Election Committee, the Alumni and Friends Discovery Committee, and the Fund-raising Committee.

- 7.3.1 Past Chair Advisory Committee will be composed of all past Chairs in the Department of Anthropology. The duty of the Past Chair Advisory Committee is to provide counsel to the Board.
- 7.3.2 The duty of the Board Election Committee is to identify and recommend individuals to stand for election to the Board.
- 7.3.3 The duty of the Alumni and Friends Discovery Committee is to augment the efforts of the University of Nebraska Alumni Association to identify and locate University of Nebraska-Lincoln Department of Anthropology alumni and also individuals who have been friends to the Department.
- 7.3.4 The duty of the Fund-raising Committee is to coordinate efforts to raise funds to support goals as identified in Article 2.

#### **ARTICLE 8. FINANCES**

- 8.1 Board members are individually responsible for personal, lodging, and travel expenses incurred in connection with Board activities.

#### **ARTICLE 9. PARLIAMENTARY PROCEDURES**

- 9.1 In the absence of any provision to the contrary in the Bylaws, all business meetings of the Friends Board, and of appointed and standing committees, shall be governed by the parliamentary rules and usages contained in the current edition of *Robert's Rules of Order*.

#### **ARTICLE 10. DISSOLUTION**

- 10.1 The Board may dissolve itself, for good, explained

cause(s), by majority vote of the Board members.

**ARTICLE 11. CONFLICT OF INTEREST**

11.1 No member of the Friends Board, or any of its committees, shall derive any personal profit or gain by reason of his or her participation.

**ARTICLE 12. AMENDMENTS**

12.1 Amendments to these Bylaws may be proposed by any Board member and shall be submitted in writing to the Board Chair. Proposed amendments, will be discussed with the Departmental Chair for advice and consent, and if so being proper, adoption will be put to a majority vote of the entire Board membership at the annual or special Board meeting or by electronic media.

12.2 Proposed amendments must fall within the purview of the Alumni and Friends Board mission and goals articulated in Article 2 and also be consistent with University of Nebraska policies.