

Dear Colleagues,

I am writing in my capacity as the Interim Chairman for the East African Association for Paleoanthropology (EAAP) to announce this new society to your organization. The society was officially launched in Kenya on July 18, 2005. Membership is drawn from researchers working within eastern Africa hereby defined to include countries such as Tanzania, Kenya, Uganda, Ethiopia and Eritrea.

The Interim EAAP Executive Committee includes two representatives from each of the East African countries who are ideally professional paleoanthropologists, and representatives from North America and Europe. The EAAP Interim Committee members are as follows:

Dr Emma Mbua - Interim Chairperson, Kenya

Dr Purity Kiura - Member, Kenya

Dr Zerasenay Alemseged- Vice Chairman, Ethiopia

Dr Zelalem Assefa - Member, Ethiopia

Dr Charles Saanane - Member, Tanzania

Prof. Manuel Dominguez-Rodrigo – Member-at-Large, Europe

Briana Pobiner – Interim Organizing Secretary, Member-at-Large, North America

The theme of the EAAP is “Uniting Paleoanthropologists within Eastern Africa”. Currently, one of the main goals of the EAAP is to bring scholars working within this region closer by holding conferences to exchange ideas and report on paleoanthropological research findings, with an emphasis on making East African and foreign scholars working in East Africa aware of each other’s research. We plan to hold the first EAAP meeting in the summer of 2007, and will send further announcements as the time grows closer.

Another important goal of the EAAP could be to raise funds for small grants (on the order of several hundred to a few thousands dollars) for which East African scholars could apply to conduct field or laboratory research in paleoanthropology in East Africa. We are also exploring the possibility of creating a journal under the auspices of this organization. Finally, we are in the process of creating a web page.

To these ends, we are encouraging all paleoanthropologist or friends thereof to join this new organization! Your yearly dues will currently go towards an administrative coordinator and their cost (a computer, stationary, etc) which is based in the Paleoanthropology Department of the National Museums of Kenya, Nairobi, Kenya, under the direction of Dr. Emma Mbua, as well as towards conference expenses and the aforementioned small grants for East African scholars. Membership dues are \$50 for international members (\$20 for international student members), and \$20 for East African members (\$10 for East African student members).

To obtain membership please email the following information to Dr. Emma Mbua (enmbua@palaeokenya.org) and Briana Pobiner (PobinerB@si.edu):

Name
Affiliating Institution
Address
Email address
Student Status, if applicable

Dues from international members can be sent to Briana Pobiner, either by US Dollars check made out to Briana Pobiner, or via Pay Pal. US dollars checks can be mailed to Briana Pobiner, Smithsonian Institution, National Museum of Natural History, Department of Anthropology, MRC 112, 10th & Constitution Avenue, Washington DC 20560-0112, USA.

Dues from East African members can be given to Dr Emma Mbua, either in cash (in person) at the Paleoanthropology Division, National Museums of Kenya, Nairobi, or via wire transfer. Contact Dr. Mbua directly (enmbua@palaeokenya.org) if you would like to use this option.

Thank you. If you have any questions about the association, or would like to offer suggestions, please contact either Dr Emma Mbua (enmbua@palaeokenya.org or enmbua@yahoo.com) and Briana Pobiner (PobinerB@si.edu).

Sincerely,

Dr Emma Mbua
Interim Chairperson, and
Head Palaeontology Department,
National Museums of Kenya