

## “Science” versus “public understanding”? Some thoughts on the distinction...

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As the recent posting by Daniel Lende at [Neuroanthropology](#) highlights (also linked in Eugene's post, and where you can access old and new statements), a declared Long-Range Plan to advance public understanding might be more inclusive than one to advance science. The removal of “American” as a qualifier for specifically which anthropologists' interests it is the mission of the organization to advance is also, clearly, more inclusive and a welcome change, in my opinion. But, *paradoxically*, what kind of bifurcations among anthropologists might deepen or result at a time when sub-disciplines are divorcing into separate departments and when many researchers in branches of archaeological, biocultural, and biological branches of anthropology are already experiencing marginalization within the AAA?