

Dr. Barbara Piperata

Candidate Bio: Dr. Barbara Piperata is Professor of Anthropology at The Ohio State University where she directs the Medical Anthropology Major. She has been a member (student and fellow) of the HBA for 20 years and has served on both the Publications and Nominations & Elections Committees, including chairing each. Other professional organizations include AAPA and AAA (Society for the Anthropology of Food and Nutrition; Biological Anthropology Section). She has studied the nutrition transition in rural Amazonia and currently conducts research on food insecurity and its effects on maternal and child health in Nicaragua. She is the PI of a new project that explores the ways cultural beliefs and practices interact with household ecology to shape succession of the infant gut microbiome in Brazil. She is the book editor for the American Journal of Human Biology and a member of the editorial board of the journal *Annals of Human Biology*.

Platform Statement: I am honored to have been nominated to the Publications Committee. I have been a member of the HBA since 1998, first as a student member and then as a fellow. Over this period, I have served on and chaired both the Nominations and Elections and the Publications Committees. The HBA has been and continues to be the most important professional society to which I belong, and I am committed to strengthening and growing the organization. As a member of the Publications Committee, I would lend my experience on journal editorial boards and as the book editor for the American Journal of Human biology to assist with any association related publications. I would also welcome the opportunity to evaluate the student poster and oral presentations at the annual meeting. For me, this has long been a highlight of the meetings as student members are the future of our organization. As a committee member, I would look forward to meeting and encouraging students in their professional endeavors at this early stage of their careers. Of course, if needed, I would be happy to again act as chair. For these reasons, I am excited to be nominated and would look forward to supporting the HBA in this capacity.