Society for Applied Anthropology

Newsletter

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SfAA PRESIDENT’S LETTER

By John Young
Oregon State University

I would like to thank the members of the SfAA for giving me the opportunity to serve as your President. I have a long and rewarding association with the Society and a degree of experience in other leadership roles that I hope will prove useful during the next two years. Most importantly, I want you to know that I will work hard to carry out the responsibilities of my office.

I owe a special debt of gratitude to my predecessors whose initiative and sound leadership have brought the Society to its present state of advancement and good health. I view my own plans for the Society as a continuation of previous agendas, perhaps with a slightly different twist, but nonetheless much the same. In particular, I wish to thank the immediate past president, Jean J. Schensul, who has moved the Society forward on a number of fronts, and has provided me with the guidance necessary for making a smooth transition into assuming the duties of the President. During my term as Secretary from 1991-1994, I also found inspiration from my close association with Presidents Carole Hill and Tony Paredes. In a letter received a few days ago, Carole Hill reminds me that I am the second mixed lateralized dyslectic person to lead the Society in the last decade. For the uninitiated, this refers to being left-handed. As for Tony, E-mail and web pages have now moved our organization irrevocably past the days of the manual typewriter, but we should never forget his warnings about the dangers of falling prey to the seductive gadgets of monolithic corporate empire.

So much for inspiration. Now let’s focus on business. I am pleased to be coming into office when the Society’s fiscal health is at a new peak. Credit for our rising fortunes can be shared among past treasurers Carla Littlefield, Joe Harding and other foresighted leaders of the Society, with special recognition given to Tom May and the Business Office staff. At the very least, our financial strength means stable dues and services for members. At best, it means that the Society can undertake new initiatives with a great deal more confidence and reduced risk. The cost of membership in SfAA has remained the same for more than a decade and by any measure can be considered a real bargain. Without making any specific promises, I can say that our success in containing costs will continue into the foreseeable future. At the same time, the SfAA is poised to

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grow and increase its impact on society and the discipline of anthropology, which in both cases too often are mired down in counterproductive ideological battles. Although we will not achieve overnight success, the direction we have been moving gives us reason to be optimistic in the long run. In this regard, I am particularly encouraged by the substantive content and size of the Annual Meeting held in Seattle under the fine leadership of Program Chair, Ed Liebow.

A strong SfAA includes increasing public awareness of the usefulness of anthropology, educating employers about the skills of anthropologists, altering the way departments think about applied work and the way they train students, forging interdisciplinary and international links with other professionals and their organizations, and bringing our knowledge into critical policy arenas in a timely manner.

One of the defining characteristics of the SfAA, which is more a source of strength rather than a limitation, is that it relies primarily on volunteer effort. I am less concerned with advancing a specific agenda than with helping to provide an environment where our volunteer efforts can flourish, so that members can make important contributions to SfAA and through SfAA to society in general. To this end, I will strive to maintain two key ingredients of our organizational success: the openness and responsiveness of leadership, and the general informality of our interactions. Another important task is to oversee our basic services — publications, annual meetings and awards — to make sure we maintain efficient operations and a high level of service to members. Finally, and of no less importance, we hope to increase the involvement of all members at all stages of career development — including students, MAs, practitioners, academics, and emeritus members. The strength of the SfAA derives from its members, and members in turn benefit, not only from particular services, but also from their association with a strong and influential organization.

A strong SfAA can and should contribute significantly to a primary goal that I have inherited from my predecessors — professionalization of the discipline. Professionalization has many aspects, including increasing public awareness of the usefulness of anthropology, educating employers about the skills of anthropologists, altering the way departments think about applied work and the way they train students, forging interdisciplinary and international links with other professionals and their organizations, and bringing our knowledge into critical policy arenas in a timely manner. In one way or another, most of our regular activities and special projects are aimed toward these ends.

While the Society’s leaders, with the input of members, continue to work on a long-range plan, I hope that the next two years will bring implementation of a number of ongoing and new initiatives that are both consistent with the plan and serve the goal of professionalization. Several specific projects are either just beginning or now underway, such as revising the bylaws (Benita Howell), launching the Sf Tax Service Award (Will Sibley), carrying out the EPA cooperative agreement (Barbara Johnston and Theresa Trainor), sponsoring a popular book series (Alaka Wall), establishing a new mechanism for policy formation and coordination (Rob Winthrop), and forming an International Coordinating Committee (Alain Aniaux). This list is by no means exhaustive. You can expect more detailed discussion of these and other initiatives in future newsletters.

Whether in support of our regular activities or new projects such as those above, it is still essential for us to draw sustenance from networking and sharing information among ourselves. I am especially looking forward to the challenge ahead, both because the anthropologists and other social scientists in SfAA are those I respect the most, and because I have made many friends through networking in this organization. Pending the approval of the new by-laws, I also hope to have the opportunity to welcome student members into more meaningful participation in the Society. (I will provide commentary on this point and other aspects of the by-laws changes in the next Newsletter). The obvious enthusiasm of the many students attending the Annual Meeting in Seattle gives me reason to believe that the future of SfAA indeed looks bright.

SfAA TO PUERTO RICO IN 1998

By Beckjy Joseph
National Park Service
Boston, MA

Even though our clothes are barely dry from the fabulous 1997 Annual Meeting in Seattle, plans for the 1998 Annual Meeting are rapidly moving ahead. Now is the time to start thinking about how you are going to participate.

An international year in the Society’s meeting cycle, the Executive Committee has selected San Juan, Puerto Rico — a very enticing location — as the 1998 setting for our most important annual event. This will actually be our second meeting in Puerto Rico. Malinowski Award winner Ward Goodenough presided over the 1964 Annual Meeting in San Juan. How both the organization and the city have grown in the intervening years!

To our delight, the 1998 Annual Meeting will be cosponsored by the Association Latino and Latina Anthropologists (ALLA). SfAA and ALLA members share many
common interests and concerns. We look forward to the
to opportunity to plan collaboratively and meet jointly in San
Juan.

In keeping with SfAA tradition, the 1998 program will
focus on scholarship, advocacy, and activism organized
around not one, but seven themes:
- Advocacy and activism at home, abroad, on a glo-
  bal scale
- Collaborative efforts
- Heroes and heroism, past and present
- Interdisciplinary theories of scholarship
  and action
- Personal commitments, professional lives
- Policy and practice
- Training for positive change

Look for a number of special events: International Train-
ing Institute, Human Rights Plenary, and Institute on Puerto
Rican Cultures including an evening of readings and discus-
sion with noted Puerto Rican writers. To get you thinking
ahead, sessions previewing the 1999 Annual Meeting theme
will also be featured. Don’t forget our great workshops,
social events, auction, and awards will be better than ever.

A formal call for proposals will be issued shortly. In
addition to its bilingual format, you will notice a few changes
from previous years. Most important are new guidelines
for submissions. In recent years, the program has increased
rapidly in size and complexity. The innovations that you will
see are needed to improve processing of the large num-
bers of proposals received and to insure an exciting, cohe-
sive program. The due date will remain October 15th.

A special note to students: volunteering at the Annual
Meeting is one of the best professional development op-
pportunities around and it’s free. By assisting with registra-
tion, social events, and other “backstage” activities, you will
meet and get the attention of SfAA insiders and old pros.
To sweeten the deal, the Business Office will give you free
meeting registration, workshops, and/or membership de-
pending on your level of participation. Volunteer and move
that career along.

Puerto Rico is the easternmost of the four major is-
lands that form the Greater Antilles. With a population
of about one million, the San Juan metropolitan area is a cos-
opolitan regional center of commerce, culture, and tour-
ism. Direct flights are available from many locations on a
number of U.S.-based and international carriers. The An-
nual Meeting will take place at the Condado Plaza Hotel, a
premier oceanfront resort, just ten minutes from Old San
Juan with its 16th-17th century architecture, shops, res-
aurants, and galleries. More about the location in the next
issue. Students, keep an eye out for information on hous-
ing shares.

This is one SfAA Annual Meeting you won’t want to
miss. Save the dates, April 21 - 26, 1998, and book your
travel early.

**Observations on the Annual Meeting**

By Andrea Brewer Thompson
Berkeley, CA

It is with great appreciation that I share my observations
on SfAA and the recent Annual Meeting in Seattle as a
newcomer to the field. I discovered an organization which
put an extraordinary amount of effort into reaching out to
students, and others interested in career development, as
a valuable and vibrant part of a creative and growing collab-
orative community. It was a delightful experience after five
years of writing grant proposals for “hard” scientists, a world
where the themes seem to be competition rather than col-
aboration, hierarchy rather than inclusivity, and often, fo-
cused “pure” research rather than interdisciplinary and in-
terdependent scientific endeavors focused on solving hu-
man problems.

The experience of welcome and support to a stranger,
especially one without rank in the discipline, is one I find
rare, and not something I take lightly. I consistently felt
welcomed to this community, conference, and discipline.
Ed Liebow, Conference Coordinator, not only returned a
phone call within five minutes from a stranger seeking in-
formation, but he took another 10 minutes to answer ques-
tions about how best to orient and educate myself to the
field of applied anthropology in general. Tom May, at SfAA
headquarters, went out of his way to send information and
answer numerous questions. The Executive Committee
invited all to their meeting during the conference to ex-
ploring leadership opportunities with all the growth, fun and
hard work that this entails. Students and interested stran-
gers were genuinely welcomed into the inner circle as po-
tential teammates. I’ve worked in a different environment
for so long that I forgot what such a sense of community is
like.

To paraphrase Mary Catherine Bateson in *Composing
a Life*, if we are to learn to live responsibly on this planet,
we must make basic changes in the way we organize hu-
man relationships, especially in territory which provides
the metaphors with which we think about broader ethical
relations (the family, for example, and arenas of leadership
and power imbalance in general). To sustain creativity we
need a new and richer sense of interdependence and com-
plementarity, and we need images of collaborative ear-
ing to replace those of servitude (of either teacher to stu-
dent, or of student to teacher).

The experience of attending the SfAA Annual Meeting
provided a fascinating and gracious framework for looking
at the domains of relationship and commitment to the dis-
cipline of Applied Anthropology. I, for one, enjoyed myself
immensely.
MINDING YOUR BUSINESS

By J. Tom May
SfAA Business Office
Oklahoma City, OK

Can the Business Office help you recruit new members? Yes, we can provide you with samples of SfAA publications. You may use these materials in conjunction with a presentation or meeting with students or colleagues who might be interested in SfAA.

Nadine Bendycki recently made a presentation on “applied anthropology” to one of Jill Korbin’s classes at Case-Western Reserve University. She contacted us well ahead of time, and we were able to ship to her a box which included sample copies of HO, PA and the Newsletter (one for each person in the audience). In addition, we sent copies of our annual meeting announcement as well as programs of previous annual meetings.

Later, Nadine commented that the services of SfAA are so wonderful that she just could not believe that anyone who knows about the organization wouldn’t immediately see the benefit of membership. She volunteered to do whatever she could to spread the word about the benefits of membership.

Allan Burns did a similar thing with his class in Applied Anthropology at the University of Florida last year. As a result, over half of the class elected (voluntarily, we assume) to become student members of the Society.

Do you have a class or a group presentation which might benefit from sample publications and printed materials from our office? Please let us know and we will package and ship the materials to you.

ANTHROPOLOGY AND INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY RIGHTS (AIPR)

By Ann P. McElroy
SUNY-Buffalo
and
Donna Diggins
Washington State University

Thirty-one people interested in intellectual property rights (IPR) attended the first meeting of the Anthropology and Intellectual Property Rights Group (AIPRG) on March 6 at the SfAA meetings in Seattle. This group was approved as an SfAA TIG (Topical Interest Group) in November 1996. The March 6 meeting was an open forum for participants to discuss activities, experiences, and views related to IPR issues. Discussion was lively, interesting, and showed a wealth of knowledge, and it gave people the opportunity to interact personally with the human beings behind the E-mail voices.

The mission statement of the AIPRG, drafted by Tressa Berman, Ann McElroy, and Rob Winthrop, was discussed and formally adopted by the group. It reads:

The purposes of the Anthropology and Intellectual Property Rights Group (AIPRG) are (a) to increase awareness and understanding of cultural, ethical, and legal issues associated with the acquisition of indigenous or traditional local knowledge and resources, whether in a scholarly, applied, or commercial context; and (b) to work in collaboration with fellow social scientists, indigenous or traditionally-based groups, governments, and corporations to promote appropriate protections for such knowledge and resources.

The agenda included election of a new Chair, but the group unanimously favored Rob Winthrop’s continued chairmanship. He agreed to continue for the following year.

Tressa Berman (Arizona State-West), Terry Haynes (Alaska Fish & Game), Dave Stephenson, and Katy Moran (Healing Forest Conservancy) and others will be working on drafting IPR guidelines with the goal of providing guidance to applied projects in the wider community. One of the goals for the year, under Tom Greaves (Bucknell) lead, will be to organize a session on IPR issues for the 1998 SfAA meetings. Ann McElroy (SUNY Buffalo) and Donna Diggins (Washington State) will serve as information coordinators for the group.

If you are interested in participating in discussions or wish to receive information, consider joining the Anthap3 discussion list. To join, send your name, E-mail address, and affiliation to: anthap3-request@oakland.edu.

TREASURER’S REPORT

By Dennis Wiedman, SfAA Treasurer
Florida International University

At the Seattle meetings, Treasurer Carla Littlefield reported to the Council of Fellows that 1996 was a banner year for the Society with revenues exceeding expenditures by $88,395. This was the third consecutive year that the society was able to function in the black.

Society revenues for 1996 were projected at $230,055; however, we actually realized revenues of $299,812. Revenues were enhanced by the successful Annual Meeting in Baltimore, a very heavy pre-registration for the 1997 Seattle meeting, and a strong showing in payment of dues, and robust dividends from our investments.

Publications continue to be an important source of revenue, especially Human Organization which grossed $88,809 in 1996. This amount offset the disappointing $57,000 earned by the journal in 1995 and, to some degree, may reflect a late payment of 1995 fees by many institutional subscribers.
At the beginning of 1996, the total fund balance was $305,110. At the end of 1996, the balance was $373,505 an increase of $68,395 or 22.4 percent. The Society’s assets include an operating bank account and investments in stocks and bonds.

The 1997 budget adopted at the Seattle Executive Committee meeting on March 9th, maintains the same general expenditure levels as last year; plus additional expenditures and revenues related to the new Cooperative Agreement with the Environmental Protection Agency. The 1997 projected expenditures of $259,193 are $2,642 less than the expected revenues of $261,835. The expected revenues are about $38,000 less than the actual revenues for 1996. Just as the revenue projections were underestimated for 1996, it is hoped that the same is true for 1997.

During the meeting of the Council of Fellows at the Seattle Annual Meetings, the ceremonial computer disk containing the SAA's budget was passed from outgoing treasurer Carla Littlefield, (Littlefield Associates) to the new SAA treasurer Dennis Wiedman (Florida International University).

### APPLIED ANTHROPOLOGY AT THE UNIVERSITY OF KENTUCKY

By John van Willigen, Mary K. Anglin, Deborah L. Crooks, and Peter D. Little
University of Kentucky

The University of Kentucky’s Ph.D. program in applied social anthropology was initiated in 1968 making it the oldest applied anthropology graduate program in the country. The program has two areas of specialization: development anthropology and medical anthropology. The training makes use of course work and practical experience to provide knowledge and skills necessary for careers in both academic and non-academic settings. The Department also has a well-established graduate program in archaeology established in 1924.

An important theme in the Applied Anthropology Program is training in research methodology. Students in medical and development anthropology share a four-course research methods course sequence including courses entitled Ethnographic Research Methods, Data Analysis, Research Design and a extra-department course in statistics. In all of this there is an emphasis on practical training, breadth of experience, and integration. The methodological style expressed is empirical, integrating both textual and numerical data. The faculty all have substantial research programs which serve students as models. Over the last few years methods training has been enhanced through a National Science Foundation Training Grant. This has supported numerous pre-dissertation pilot studies which serve as preparation for the proposal writing process and the research itself. Dissertation research grants from National Science Foundation, Wenner-Gren Foundation for Anthropological Research, American Institution for Indian Studies, Fulbright Program, National Institute of Health, and Center for Field Research have been obtained by recent University of Kentucky students.

In addition to methods training, students take a series of core seminars on ethnographic literature and culture change, coursework in their area of concentration, regional studies and a minor. Most students in development and medical anthropology elect to develop a focus on a specific domain of application to provide them with understanding of the occupational culture of anthropological practice. Examples of such domains are “International Agricultural Research and Development Organizations” or “Community-based Mental Health Institutions.” The regional expertise of the program can be seen in recent dissertation projects in Appalachian U.S., India, Philippines, Indonesia, Bulgaria, Tanzania, Venezuela, Ecuador and Sierra Leone. All students complete a practicum. These often are done in conjunction with their dissertations.

An important theme in the Applied Anthropology Program is training in research methodology — there is an emphasis on practical training, breadth of experience, and integration.

Both medical and development anthropology stress multi-disciplinary training and experience using the substantial resources of the University of Kentucky. Students frequently work with faculty in the Colleges of Medicine, Agriculture, or Education. Student programs require study in a cognate area as a minor. While some of these minors are specifically designed by students (e.g. agroforestry, agronomy and agricultural economics) others make use of existing certificate programs (e.g. medical behavioral science, gerontology, women’s studies, and environmental systems). For the most part there are long term relationships between these cognate programs and the Department expressed through research collaboration, team teaching, participation in cross-department graduate committee appointments and joint faculty appointments. Current faculty have joint appointments or are members of multi-disciplinary Ph.D. programs in rural sociology, gerontology, medical behavioral science, psychiatry and nutrition.

Both development and medical anthropology benefits from periodic discussion groups, the Medical Anthropology Research Group (MARG) and the Working Group on Development Anthropology (WGDA). These groups' schedule often focus on research reports by students, fac-

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ulty and members of the UK community. Both have served as a campus focal point for all those that share these interests.

**Development Anthropology.** The Development Anthropology focus includes: 1) the application of anthropological methods and concepts in international and domestic development programs and 2) the study of social processes and theories of development and underdevelopment. It emphasizes basic training in theory and method, relevant specialization within the discipline such as ecological and economic anthropology, and in a cognate field. The emphasis in this area has been primarily in rural development often with an agricultural or nutrition focus. Some students are using participatory action research approaches in their dissertation projects. The faculty have worked with several different development agencies including the United Nations Food and Agriculture Program, World Bank, U.S. Agency for International Development and CARE. Key faculty are Peter D. Little and John van Willigen. An additional hire in political economy is in process.

**Medical Anthropology.** The Medical Anthropology program prepares students for careers in teaching and research in academic and health care/health policy settings. Faculty interests include political economic analysis of health and illness, critical epidemiology, international health, constructions of health and illness, maternal and child health, child growth and development, food and nutrition, aging, mental health, health care delivery, communications processes in health settings, HIV/AIDS, women’s reproductive cancers, and neural substrates of human behavior. Since the program was organized in the late 1960s, it has been closely linked to the Department of Behavioral Science of the Medical School. The special medical anthropology curriculum consists of coursework in both Departments. As a consequence, medical anthropology students at UK are directly involved in a basic science department of a major tertiary care teaching hospital.

Key faculty are Mary K. Anglin, Deborah L. Crooks, and Susan Abbott. Anthropologists in the Behavioral Science Department participate in the Medical Anthropology Program Lee X. Blonder, Jeanne Wiese, and Nancy Schoenberg.

**Teaching.** Graduate students at UK usually have considerable teaching experience by graduation. This includes serving as a discussion section leader and in some cases serving as the primary instructor. This work is supported by special preparation provided by the University in the form of an extensive orientation prior to service, in-service guidance and support as well as an elective practicum in teaching. These experiences support career's in both academic and non-academic settings.

**Campus Resources.** The University is a land-grant institution with a full complement of professional and graduate schools located in Lexington in the center of the Bluegrass region. Linkages extend to numerous campus programs including Environmental Systems, Appalachian Center, Women’s Studies, Gender, Work and Inequality Program, Sanders-Brown Center on Aging, Latin American Studies, and the Patterson School of Diplomacy. The two million item main library collection is supplemented with The Applied Anthropology Documentation Collection, an archive of technical literature on the applications of anthropology.

**Contact Person.** The Director of Graduate Studies is Peter D. Little, Department of Anthropology, University of Kentucky, Lexington, KY 40506. His telephone number is (606) 257-6923 and E-mail at pdlitt1@ukcc.uky.edu. The Department has a homepage at http://www.uky.edu/ArtsSciences/Anthropology/. This contains a description of the program as well as a faculty and graduate student list and recent newsletters.

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**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING**

**Wednesday, March 5, 1997**

By Benita Howell, Immediate Past Secretary of the SfAA University of Tennessee

In its Wednesday meeting, the Executive Committee heard reports on its financial health and business affairs; on the state of its publications and editors’ plans for the coming year; on the work of the Mallowski, Mead, and New Award committees; on TICS, interorganizational relations, policy committee coordination, membership, student committee activities, and on recent developments in the joint agreement between EPA and the Society. The EC also prepared for the leadership orientation session held on Thursday, discussed bylaws revision in preparation for the Council of Fellows meeting on Friday, and previewed parts of the Saturday open discussion on the vision statement that prefaces the Society’s long range plan document. Various Newsletter columns summarize highlights of these reports.

The following are some key actions taken by the Executive Committee:

- The EC approved a request from the Association of Latino and Latina Anthropologists to cosponsor the 1998 Annual Meeting in San Juan, Puerto Rico.
- Willie Baber, a member of the 1998 program committee, was appointed Program Chair of the 1999 meeting, to be held at a site not yet chosen.

The EC requested that Ed Liebow work with next year’s program committee to draft some general guidelines for co-sponsorship of meetings to build on the successful collaboration with SMA, CONAA, and PECO in Seattle.
The EC voted to add an EC representative to the Finance Committee. Other Finance Committee members are the Treasurer, Past Treasurer, President, President-Elect or Past President, Treasurer-Designate, and an appointed member of the EC.

In response to long range planning objectives, Alain Ancaiaux developed proposals to assist SfAA in achieving better international networking and a more welcoming atmosphere for international members attending SfAA meetings in the US. Following his presentation on Wednesday, the EC voted to form an International Committee and ask Ancaiaux to coordinate it.

During the past year, Alaka Wali has been exploring feasibility of a monograph series that would communicate anthropological perspectives on contemporary issues to the public. With support from the Finance Committee as well as the EC, Wali has been asked to take the next step, i.e., forming a committee that will recommend specific policies and procedures for the proposed monograph series.

Sunday, March 9, 1997

By Amy Wolfe, SfAA Secretary
Oakridge National Laboratory

The Executive Committee met on Sunday, March 9, 1997. Committee members in attendance were John Young, James Carey, Jeanette Dickerson-Putman, Sandy Ervin, Vince Gil, Van Kemper, Juliene Lipson, Carla Littlefield, Tom May, Jay Schensul, John Sherry, Miguel Vasquez, Dennis Wiedman, and Amy Wolfe.

New endowment. Tom May and Luisa Urdaneta discussed an exciting new endowment for the Society. This endowment, which will honor the memory of Luisa’s mother, Sra. Agrípina de Urdaneta, will allow students from Colombia to receive graduate training in the United States and return to their country to work in applied anthropology to help address issues of concern in Colombia. The first two recipients of this endowment have been accepted in the University of Arizona’s graduate school and will focus on resource management and sustainable development. Funds for the trust will be contributed by Luisa Urdaneta annually, and eventually will constitute a $500,000 endowment. The Executive Committee unanimously approved a motion to establish the Agrípina de Urdaneta Scholarship Trust and, as partial support for that trust, to contribute on a one-time basis the sum of $10,000 to the Trust. Those funds will come out of the Society’s financial reserves. The Committee also expressed much appreciation to Luisa for her great generosity.

Vision Statement; Long-range Planning. The Executive Committee discussed the results of the long-range planning meeting held on March 8, in which the Society’s vision statement was discussed at length. The meeting elicited a lot of good input. Dennis Wiedman, who is leading the long-range planning effort, said that he would accept additional comments through March.

By-laws Update. John Young led the discussion of continuing efforts to update the Society’s by-laws, centering on the discussion issues raised at the March 7 Council of Fellows Meeting of the Whole. Many of the issues raised at the Meeting of the Whole focused on who should be eligible to vote in the Society. The Executive Committee voted to propose a by-laws revision in which members would be eligible to vote after they have made their second annual dues payment. Changes to the by-laws result from Society-wide votes; members of the Society who currently are eligible to vote will have the opportunity to accept or reject by-laws revisions on an upcoming ballot.

Committees. The Executive Committee discussed the formation, status, and membership of several committees. Executive Committee members Jim Carey will serve on the Finance Committee, Jeanette Dickerson-Putman will chair the Membership Committee, and John Sherry will serve on the Publications Committee. Ruthbeth Finerman has agreed to chair the Publications Committee and will chair the search for the new Human Organization editor. President Young will work to establish the remaining membership of the Publications Committee and other committees within approximately the next month. Among these other committees is a Performance Review Committee to review PMA, which runs the Society’s business office.

Juliene Lipson reported on progress within the Interorganizational Coordinating Council. Eleven people who represented about 16 organizations met on March 8. The committee discussed different levels of cooperation between organizations, ranging from formal annual meeting co-sponsorship to a much less formalized "heavy presence." Committee members decided to enhance the possibilities for coordination through World Wide Web links to the SfAA home page. And, the committee wants the Society to endeavor to obtain travel grants for those individuals who wish to travel to annual meetings from outside of the U.S.

The Executive Committee formed a Minutes Coding Project Committee, whose members are Dennis Wiedman, Ted Downing, and Amy Wolfe (chair). The Minutes Coding Project, an effort to assure that the minutes from past Executive Committee meetings are recorded electronically.

The Agrípina de Urdaneta Scholarship Trust has been established to allow students from Colombia to receive graduate training in the United States and then return to their country to work in applied anthropology to help address issues of concern in Colombia.

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and that those records can be indexed. The Project has been initiated, but is incomplete. Minutes Coding Project committee members will endeavor to see the project through to completion.

The Executive Committee also established the International Organization of Standards Committee, to be chaired by Ted Downing. This committee, established on an interim basis for a duration of two years, will explore applied anthropologists' roles in developing voluntary environmental standards for international trade. For example, ISO 14000 focuses on production standards rather than on pollution threshold standards. Shifting to process-oriented standards provides an opportunity for social scientists to participate in the standards development. The International Organization of Standards Committee will provide a progress report to the Executive Committee at the upcoming American Anthropological Association Annual Meeting.

Annual Meetings. Ed Liebow, Program Chair for the 1997 Annual Meeting in Seattle, reported that approximately 1500 people registered for the meetings and that over 200 events were scheduled. Ed expressed the Program Committee's great appreciation for the cooperation of the organizations that co-sponsored this year's meeting. The co-sponsoring organizations were the Society for Medieval Anthropology, the Political Ecology Society, and the Council on Nursing and Anthropology. Ed also expressed thanks to others who helped assure the success of this year's meeting, including his predecessors, students, Executive Committee members, and Tom May and Neil Hann in SfAA's business office. Executive Committee members congratulated Ed and the Program Committee on a highly successful meeting that incorporated several innovative features, and expressed their heartfelt thanks and deep appreciation for a job well done.

Willie Babar, Program Chair for the 1999 Annual Meeting, discussed his initial thoughts about that meeting. Willie will work with 1998 Program Chair, Becky Joseph, and Ed Liebow has agreed to assist Willie. Therefore, he will gain experience and there will be considerable continuity from meeting to meeting. Within a year, Willie intends to have a fully formed Program Committee. Initial thoughts about a conference theme center on environmental issues.

Budget Approval. The Executive Committee discussed this year's budget. With monies for trusts coming out of reserves rather than operating funds, and slight revisions to the proposed budget, the budget was approved. As projected, there should be a few thousand dollar surplus at the end of the year.

Training. The Executive Committee also discussed updating the applied anthropology training program guide, deciding to address that issue more formally at the fall meeting.

Executive Committee Name Change. The Executive Committee voted to change its name formally to the Society's Board of Directors. The Executive Committee includes elected Executive Committee members, elected officers, and publication editors. It functions more as a Board than as an Executive Committee; the name change will reflect that function.

SfAA Past-Presidents Advisory Council Meets in Seattle

By Anthony Paredes
Florida State University


Following an overview of previous meetings, the PAC took up the matter of selecting new members of the Liaison committee to succeed those named at the establishment of the PPAC during the 1994 Annual Meeting of the Society. In a dazzling display of brilliant bureaucratic downsizing, the group voted to eliminate the Liaison Committee altogether. The PPAC is content to rely upon the retiring Immediate Past-President to maintain a liaison with the current Executive Committee. The PPAC was authorized by action of the Executive Committee in 1993 with the retiring Immediate Past-President designated as chair. Anthony Paredes currently serves in that capacity; he will be succeeded by Jean Schensul at the close of next year's meeting in Puerto Rico.

At the request of 1997 Student Poster Session Coordinator Elizabeth Guillelute, the PPAC has agreed to provide the judges for each year's student poster contest. Serving as judges at the Seattle meeting were Erve Chambers, Thomas Weaver, and Alvin Wolfe. Three past presidents have already volunteered to serve as judges for 1998, but their names will not be announced until after the contest in Puerto Rico.
The PPAC plans to continue sponsoring the SfAA Oral History Session at each year’s Annual Meeting. The panelist for the session in Seattle were John Bennett, Ward Goodenough, and Margaret Lantis. They provided those at the well-attended session later that afternoon (March 7) with some extremely enlightening insights on the development of the society, applied anthropology, and applied social science generally in the years during World War II and immediately before and after. A tape recording of the session may be ordered for $8.00 from HMR Duplications, 4252 Coolidge Avenue, Oakland, CA 94602; ask for tape F049—Oral History of SfAA.

Among the other items discussed at the PPAC meeting in Seattle were:

- Membership Campaign for senior (aged 50+) applied social scientists;
- Book donations to poorly funded institutions in the United States and elsewhere and disseminating information about how to do it so as to realize an income tax advantage (information will be forthcoming);
- Developing a “club house” or discounted accommodations agreement with a hotel in Washington, DC, for SfAA members visiting the capital;
- Concern by one past president (who could not attend the meeting) that recent developments in SfAA were moving too far from the original mission of the organization (the general consensus of those assembled seemed to be that there was no cause for alarm at this time);
- Regional “camp meetings” of SfAA members at National parks, another potential IRS saving as well as encouraging more informal, regionally-focused discussions among fellow applied anthropologists. (In response to the last item, a couple of wags among the FP’s were heard to mumble, “do we get merit badges?” and “what happens when you rob two anthropologists together?”)

A fully detailed report on the meeting will be distributed soon to all past presidents of the Society including those who could not attend the meeting in Seattle. PPAC Chair Anthony Paredes presented a short report on the March 7th luncheon meeting at the Business Meeting Council of Fellows that evening in Seattle. Also at that meeting, retiring SfAA Secretary Benita Howell announced that provisions for incorporating the Past-Presidents Advisory Committee into the formal structure of the society will be added to the proposed bylaw changes, even though they were not included in those published in the January 1997 issue of SfAA Newsletter. The PPAC was energized by the Seattle meeting and is poised for action on many fronts to continue serving and furthering the cause of the Society for Applied Anthropology.

TOPICAL INTEREST GROUP (TIG) ON AGING

By Madelyn Iris
Buehler Center on Aging
Northwestern University

The first meeting of the topical interest group (TIG) on aging research was held at the 1997 meetings of the Society for Applied Anthropology, in Seattle. The TIG will be coordinated by Madelyn Iris. This TIG is focused on providing a forum for the discussion of research issues in aging, through the organization of symposia for the SfAA meetings and through networking. Over 25 people attended. The TIG is an informal organization, with membership by inclination and attendance. A list of attendees at our first meeting is available from Madelyn Iris. Regular reports on TIG activities will be available through both the SfAA Newsletter and the newsletter of the Association for Anthropology and Gerontology.

At this first meeting, we discussed possible topics for the 1998 SfAA meetings that included: 1) international issues in aging research and applied anthropology; 2) lifespan perspectives and gerontological-anthropological applied research; 3) training programs in applied anthropology which focus on gerontology; 4) managed care and older people from cross-national perspectives; 5) economic security issues either nationally or internationally; and 6) the role of anthropologists, gender and aging looking at socialization and cultural expectations. One additional topic has been added: older people (particularly the frail elderly) as refugees in areas of civil unrest, civil war, and relocation (i.e., Albania, Rwanda, Palestinians in general, the former Soviet Union, etc.) If you know someone who is doing work in these areas but not specifically looking at the effects on older people this may be a way to do something collaboratively.

In addition, TIG members discussed linking up with the aging service network in Puerto Rico and the Caribbean, and co-sponsoring panels and/or tours. This would be a perfect place to bring together planners, providers and researchers and look at how anthropologists interested in aging can contribute to the policy process. We are interested in ideas for panels, roundtables, posters, etc. The program committee is open to any and all suggestions. Please direct your ideas and responses to me by E-mail at miris@nwu.edu or at Buehler Center on Aging, 750 N. Lake Shore Drive, Suite 601, Chicago, IL 60611.
SPANISH APPLIED ANTHROPOLOGISTS MEET, PUBLISH JOURNAL

The recently-formed Sociedad Española de Antropología Aplicada (Spanish Society of Applied Anthropology) held its first scientific meeting in during November 14-16, 1996. Meeting jointly with the Society was the Third Congress of the History of Anthropology. The applied anthropologists conducted six sessions comprised of twenty papers presented by anthropologists from throughout the country on a great variety of topics, including organizational culture, healthcare, development, multiculturalism, regional identity, tourism, the subculture of prostitution, ethnobotany, medical beliefs, culture change, emigration, and sex education. These reports were based on research from locations around the world, including Borneo, China, the Peruvian Amazon, and North America, as well as various regions of Spain. Professor Mº Jesús Buxó i Rey, President of the Society, presented a plenary address to the entire joint congress entitled “De la Crítica Cultural a la Práctica Antropológica” (From Cultural Criticism to Anthropological Practice). Also speaking at the conference as guests of the Spanish anthropologists were Society for Applied Anthropology (SfAA) past-presidents Clifford Barnett (Stanford) and Anthony Paredes (Florida State).

The Sociedad Española de Antropología Aplicada also has published (1996) the first issue of its journal Revista de Antropología Aplicada. It is a handsome volume of more than two hundred pages containing eighteen articles plus eight shorter notes and notices and four long book reviews.

Further information about the Spanish society for applied anthropology and its journal may be obtained from President Mº Jesús Buxó i Rey (Department d’Antropologia Social i Història d’Amèrica i Àfrica; Facultat de Geografia i Història; Diversió de Ciències Humans i Socials; Universitat de Barcelona; Baldiri Reixas, s/n. 08028, Barcelona, Spain).

TO STUDENTS AND OTHERS INTERESTED IN CAREER DEVELOPMENT

By Andrea Brewer Thompson
Berkeley, CA

Did you know of the wealth of extraordinary resources available to you through SfAA and related organizations? These range from the very active and open student community with SfAA to the NAPA/SfAA discussion group on the web, from the ANTHAP web site to the NAPA mentoring program. And the recent SfAA Annual Meeting included networking events oriented towards students, a variety of skill building sessions and a number of workshops where others, farther along in their professional journey, shared the benefit of their experience.

Here's but a small sampling of what I learned which may be valuable to others interested in professional training or career development in the field of Applied Anthropology. These resources were oriented towards all levels of professional training—undergraduates, those practicing anthropology with Masters degrees and those pursuing careers in academia.

The workshop "Preparing for Professional Careers in Anthropology" and the "Open Careers Forum: Applied Anthropology Outside of Academia" provided an excellent overview of the critical skills needed to succeed in this field, especially if your goal is to practice anthropology with a Masters degree. Several presenters, with careers in government, the non-profit sector, and in academia identified the most important skills they use from both within Anthropology, and from outside the discipline. The rest of this article is a summary of the common themes/thread presented from the collected professional experiences.

Perhaps the most critical skill from within the field is that of the “anthropological perspective.” Applied anthropologists have the ability to take a holistic approach to explaining and analyzing phenomena in the service of addressing real world issues and problems. There is considerable demand for those who can identify cultural context, systematically examine contradictions, and interpret complexity. This is related to the ability to translate scientific knowledge so it is understandable and useful to community service providers/agencies.

Other useful skills from within the field of anthropology include:
- Anthropological methodology and familiarity with other social science methods—both qualitative and quantitative
- Evaluation methodology
- Qualitative evaluation skills/methodology
- Integrated assessment
- Participant observation
- Facility with data analysis software
- Interview, survey, observation techniques
- The ability to write, provide context and translate information clearly
- The emic perspective (ability to help people question the assumptions they make in their work

Useful skills from outside the discipline include:
- Communication skills (interpersonal, speaking, networking)
- Writing—especially the ability to write, summarize, interpret long technical reports
- Financial management skills
- Administrative skills
- Critical thinking and analytical skills
- Program management, coordination, evaluation
- Grant and proposal writing
- Foreign language skills
- Computer skills
- Workshop design/training
- Ability to publicize your expertise and yourself
- Ability to recognize transferable skills

Society for Applied Anthropology
- Flexibility and the ability to take advantage of opportunities
- Systems analysis
- Meeting facilitation
- Presentation/briefing skills

There was also consensus that knowledge of related disciplines, dual training in anthropology and another area of expertise is very valuable and provides professional flexibility. Cooperation and collaboration are needed between people in different disciplines.

For those still exploring training options, the session on "Training Applied Anthropologists - Cutting Edge Issues in Applied Anthropology Graduate Training Programs" offered valuable assessment tools. In evaluating graduate programs, you will want to be cognizant of both the exterior curriculum, and the hidden interior curriculum, based on assumptions about the field of Applied Anthropology which will shape the emphasis of the coursework and educational experience. The assumptions which underlie various Applied Anthropology training programs include: a) "knowing general anthropology is most important," b) an area of specialization is most important, and c) Applied Anthropology is itself a valuable field of knowledge.

Eve Chambers of the University of Maryland, College Park, also provided a useful list of criteria to use/questions to ask in evaluating graduate programs:

- Do you already have a solid foundation in anthropology?
- Research and practice - what is the breadth of focus in the training program?
- Is the emphasis more on coursework or experiential opportunities?
- Is the focus on international or domestic practice?
- What is the relationship between faculty and students?

At one pole, students are very self-directed with lots of leeway to fashion their own specialization. Other programs are more directed and controlled by the faculty.

I want to end with some thoughts about the art of improvisation and its relationship to career development in Applied Anthropology. A recurring theme heard at the meeting was that the world at large does not know what anthropologists have to offer, so one rarely sees a position posted for an anthropologist. And yet there is need for people who can see the big picture and take a comprehensive, holistic approach to explaining and analyzing phenomena in the service of addressing real world issues and problems. There is considerable demand for those who have the ability to see the interconnections within all parts of life, to identify cultural context, systematically examine contradictions, and to understand and interpret complexity. The future health of our individual careers, will be affected by the extent to which we can recombine and articulate our skills and areas of expertise in new ways which are responsive to new contexts.

**STUDENT COLUMN**

By Tony Herbert, Student Editor
University of Florida

The student section of this Newsletter is a vehicle through which students can discuss issues relevant to their training as applied anthropologists, interests in the field, special experiences and concerns for applied anthropology in general. In order to give more students an opportunity to express their viewpoints in this newsletter, the student committee is currently accepting essay submissions for forthcoming issues. If you are interested in submitting an essay, contact Tony Herbert at Heberta@nervm.nerdc.ufl.edu for deadlines and other information.

Our first guest essayist is Heather McIlvaine-Newsad. Heather has an M.A. in Latin American Development from Ohio University, and is currently a Ph.D. student in Anthropology at the University of Florida. Heather's interest is in Applied Socio-Cultural Anthropology in the developing world, especially Central and South America where she has conducted extensive research (e.g. the Dominican Republic and Ecuador). If you have any questions or comments regarding this essay you can contact Heather at (hedgesi @AOL.COM).

**COLLABORATION IN CONSERVATION AND NATURAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT PROJECTS: A WORK IN PROGRESS**

By Heather McIlvaine-Newsad
University of Florida

How can we, as people interested in safeguarding our planet's natural resources, better work with local communities on efforts to improve the conservation or management of these resources?

This is the question that guides the actors of MERGE, an international group of researchers, conservation and development organizations, and field level practitioners. MERGE (Managing Ecosystems and Resources with Gender Emphasis) is an applied research program based at the University of Florida that seeks to identify the specific chal-

(continued on page 12)
challenges facing those who want to better understand the links between conservation and development in the tropics. For a group of seven graduate students at the University of Florida, the MERGE program presents an interesting opportunity to participate first hand in collaborative research and training with local communities, grassroots organizations, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), and international research and conservation agencies, while simultaneously pursuing a graduate degree. One of the key variables that connects the numerous MERGE projects is gender. While gender analysis is not a new concept to development work, its relevance and contribution to conservation and natural resource management efforts are only now being examined. One question we seek to answer is “How is gender relevant to conservation?” Each of the seven comparative research projects deals in one way or another with this question.

My own personal research, located in the Ecuadorian highlands not far from the capital city of Quito, has allowed me to be a graduate student researcher and an applied anthropologist simultaneously. I work closely with several local and international NGOs and conservation agencies. While I initially started out interested in a potable water project currently under construction in the Antisana Ecological Reserve, my research focus has changed to better suit needs of the local organizations and communities surrounding the Reserve. While this collaborative effort has been time consuming and sometimes frustrating for all of those involved, in the end we will benefit greatly from our efforts. The NGOs and conservation agencies will have access to information previously unavailable; local communities will have a better understanding of their own role in conservation and natural resource management; and I, the graduate student and applied anthropologist, will have completed my required research and made a contribution to those who have allowed me to work with them.

All of the MERGE researchers and their collaborators face interesting challenges in re-conceptualizing effective approaches to conservation and development, that emphasize the necessity of local level initiatives. Using gender as a key concept, MERGE researchers examine themes like participation, power, multiple user and/or interest groups, community, and ethnicity in conjunction with conservation and natural resource use and management. Our goal is to provide insights, the complex relationships among these various factors and what these relationships mean to the local populations, NGOs, and macro-level policy planners. By conducting seven comparative research projects in Brazil, Ecuador, and Peru, we hope to not only answer the larger theoretical question of how gender is relevant to conservation, but also to contribute a significant practical application to those involved in the day to day processes. As the title of this essay suggests, this work is still in progress, but the emphasis thus far on collaborative learning through comparative research and collective reflection has allowed the members of MERGE to gain new and useful insight on our roles in conservation and development.

STUDENT OPEN FORUM A SUCCESS

By Carla Guerron-Montero, Student Committee Chair
University of Oregon

During the 1997 Annual Meetings in Seattle, Washington, the Student Committee of SfAA organized a workshop for students and professionals who were interested in exploring applied anthropology outside the academy. The fundamental goals of the workshop were to provide personal information regarding anthropological work outside the academy; to offer guidance on how to build a career in anthropology as a practitioner, and to present advice on what a potential practitioner should or should not do in the world of Applied Anthropology. In a very informal and lively environment, eight professionals from different backgrounds discussed the world of applied anthropology and answered questions from an audience of more than 50 people.

Philip Young (University of Oregon), Darby Stapp (CH2MHiIII), Barbara Johnston (Center for Political Ecology), Theresa Trai nor (US Environmental Protection Agency), Kathleen Quirk (Center for AIDS Prevention Studies), Amy Wolfe (Oak Ridge National Laboratory), and Shirley Fiske (National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration) participated in the conference. The Student Committee thanks Dr. Edward Liebow, Program Chair of the 1997 Annual Meetings, the participants and audience of the workshop for making this informative event a success. For further questions or suggestions, please contact Carla Guerron-Montero at cgguerron@oregon.uoregon.edu.

LPO COLUMN

By Pennie L. Magee
Tropical Resources
Denver, CO

Representatives from nine LPOs met at the LPO luncheon sponsored by SfAA during the Annual Meeting in Seattle. Participants discussed common issues and concerns, including leadership burnout, recruitment of new members, and networking strategies. Carla Littlefield, newly appointed SfAA-LPO Liaison, shared information about new SfAA initiatives and ways in which SfAA plans to be supportive of LPOs. Participants requested that the luncheon continue to be an annual event with an interim meeting scheduled during the AAA meetings. Carla will organize these meetings and other avenues of assistance from SfAA. Contact her by Email at 103755.3110@compuserve.com.

Meanwhile, SCOPA, Sun Coast Organization of Practicing anthropologists, is in a transition and reorganization phase. The LPO has over 50 members, from various areas of west central, mid- and south Florida. The meetings alternate between Tampa/Hillsborough county and St. Peters-
burg/Pinellas County, which has met with success. Monthly meetings are informal, and usually include dinner, a speaker and then networking. SCOPA also has a newsletter, which announces future meetings and shares information about applied anthropology. The Annual Meeting will take place in May. For information about SCOPA and its activities, contact Alayne Unterberger at alayne@daisy.moffitt.usf.edu. The High Plains Society for Applied Anthropology is hosting its Annual Meeting at the Estes Park YWCA, 25-27 April 1997.

The theme for the meeting is “Communitarianism: What does it mean to communities?” The format includes several workshops, panel sessions, and video presentations. The keynote speaker is Howard Stein, who will speak on “A practicing anthropologist’s reflections on the 1995 Oklahoma City bombing.” For further information about the conference, contact Susan Stein at SStein@omni.org.

REPORT FROM THE HO EDITOR

By Robert V. Kemper
Southern Methodist University

During 1996, Human Organization’s four issues included 504 pages of editorial content. Fifty-one articles and 13 commentaries were published, involving a total of 100 different authors (59 males and 41 females). Forty of these authors were sole authors, whereas 60 participated in multiple-author articles or commentaries—18 contributions had two authors, three had three authors, two had four authors, and one had seven authors. The total number of pages and contributions increased in 1996 from the levels of 1995 (480 pages, 48 articles, and 5 commentaries) and 1994 (421 pages, 41 articles, and 12 commentaries).

On the other hand, perhaps in response to my editorials in these pages concerned with the large backlog of manuscripts on hand, we witnessed a decline in the number of submissions in 1996. We processed only 77 submissions versus 90 in 1995 and 93 in 1994. The 77 manuscripts submitted in 1996 involved 111 authors (41% female, 45% male, and 14% of indeterminable gender). To deal with these manuscripts (plus those from 1995 still in the review process), we called upon a total of 247 peer reviewers (41% female, 58% male, and 1% of indeterminable gender). Among these 77 manuscripts, 3% have been published already, 6% are accepted and awaiting publication, 36% are still in the review process, and the remaining 55% have been rejected. Consider the comparable data for 1994: by the end of that year, 28% already had been accepted for eventual publication, 35% were undergoing revision for eventual publication, 9% were still under editorial review, and only 28% had been rejected.

Thus, in the past two years, we have virtually doubled the effective rejection rate and have slowed down the review process. The result: the very long queue for publishing accepted manuscripts has been brought under control. So, the good news is that authors who are planning to submit manuscripts in the near future should expect more rapid editorial decisions to accept or reject their contributions. Even more important, authors of accepted manuscripts will see their works published within a much shorter period than has been the case in the past few years.

As I write these lines (on 31 March), we are assembling and editing the summer 1997 issue. We have a pool of 16 accepted articles from which we are constructing this issue. Most likely, we can fit 13 to 14 articles into the summer issue. That will leave two or three to carry forward to the fall issue. That issue will be comprised mainly from the 16 contributions which have been accepted and are being revised by their authors. Beyond that issue, we shall be dependent on contributions accepted from the 60+ manuscripts currently under peer review. Given our present rates of acceptance/rejection and even a return to pre-1996 submission levels, we should be able to take new submissions to publication in an average of 12 months (with a low of nine and a high of 15 months).

So, I encourage you to submit top quality papers so that we can work with you to see your contributions appear in Human Organization in a more timely manner than has been possible in recent years. Your patience with the slowing down of the editorial process in the past two years is greatly appreciated — and now will pay rewards in better opportunities for many new contributors in the rest of 1997, 1998, and beyond.

REPORT FROM THE PA EDITOR

By Alexander (Sandy) M. Ervin
University of Saskatchewan

Volume 19 (2), Spring 1997 is being distributed about now. This special issue is titled “Mastering Anthropology: Anthropologists Practicing With Masters’ Degrees” and guest-edited by Kathleen M. O’uirk and Marsha Jenakovich. The issue contains useful examples of becoming established as practicing anthropologists after getting Masters’ degrees. It also explores matters of professional identity surrounding the Master’s degree and training for practice. There are nine articles plus an interesting and controversial commentary by David Lempert on ethics. Regular departments—Washington Watch, FYI, The Real World, and Sources—are included. Because of the length of the issue, the inauguration of the book review section was postponed until Vol. 19, no. 3.

That Summer issue, currently under preparation, will be guest-edited by Carlos Perez of CARE in Atlanta Georgia. Its title is “Colors of Participation,” focusing on the use of participatory research mainly for international joint development projects that are largely agricultural and coordi-(continued on page 14)
nated by American-based NGOs such as World Neighbors and CARE. An article by Perez outlines some essential dynamics for making such participatory efforts work. Peter Park discusses the wider importance of this research style for citizen-engaged democracy. James Rugh describes work using participation for program evaluations at several West African field sites with projects coordinated by World Neighbors. An innovative methodology for participatory research is described by Carla Roncoli and Margery Sendz. They provided disposable cameras to a group of villagers in Burkina Faso, and asked them to photograph themes that were important to them for considerations of their village’s future. In an Ecuadorian context, Cornelia Flora and seven co-authors describe their work in negotiating a complex participatory project surrounding sustainable development. The methodology involved developing a local census collected by village participants, related to other needs of the participants—namely to establish legal status for their community. Although contained as a separate article from the issue theme, Jeffrey Cohen recounts his experiences of participation in the development of a community museum in a Mexican village. That museum enhanced local identity, pride, and cultural transmission. Also, the Summer issue will inaugurate a substantial book review section plus a continuation of the regular departments.

**Institutional subscriptions.** We need some help from members in promoting circulation. *PA* has an excellent circulation—over 2200 SfAA members and about 260 individual subscriptions. However, the latter figure includes library or institutional subscriptions, as well as individuals who have decided to only subscribe to *PA* rather than take out full membership. To reach the thousands of students, colleagues, and other applied scientists, who could benefit from *PA*’s insights, we should increase our library subscriptions. Toward one thousand subscriptions should be our eventual target for effective institutional dissemination of *PA*.

For that we need the readers’ help. Check out your library to see if *PA* is present; the odds are it is not. Lobby your libraries’ acquisitions’ managers to subscribe to *PA*. They may point out that this is not the time to subscribe to new journals since current mandates to economize require the cancellation of many journals rather than new acquisitions. Suggest that, while dumping an expensive journal (sometimes annually costing $1,000 or more), they might want to pick up *Practicing Anthropology*—an incredible bargain at $30.00 a year. Show them back copies dealing with “real” societal issues like homelessness, disability, and community development. Point out that *PA*, along with *Human Organization*, is on the cutting edge of anthropology, like *HO* serves a large multidisciplinary audience, and people gain useful skills and perspectives for real world experiences. Tell them that people actually read and use *PA*. Suggest (if you feel inclined) that, unlike many unread journals gathering dust on their shelves, *PA* is not a repository for academic career development but is engaged and benefits students. Tear off order forms from back issues and have them mail their orders to our Oklahoma City office. Thanks for your help.

The addresses and phone numbers for the editorial office of *Practicing Anthropology* are: Department of Anthropology and Archaeology, University of Saskatchewan, Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, S7N 5A5, Canada; the office telephone number is (306) 966-4176; my home number is (306) 343-9140; the departmental tax number is (306) 966-5640; ervin@sask.usask.ca is my E-mail address.

**STRENGTHENING SfAA’S POLICY VOICE**

By Rob Winthrop
Cultural Solutions
Ashland, OR

About twenty people took part in a forum on strengthening the SfAA’s effectiveness in public policy at the Seattle Annual Meetings. The participants included members of SfAA’s AIDS Advisory Committee, Indian Affairs Committee, Human Rights and Environment group, the Aging and Disability topical interest group (TIG), and the Intellectual Property Rights TIG. Other participants are involved in medical anthropology, development and public health, migration studies, culture and technology, and cultural resource management, among other fields.

Several sets of questions were considered in the discussion:

1. Which groups within SfAA are concerned with policy issues?
2. How can we learn from each other’s successes and failures in policy advocacy? What activities have been particularly effective in communicating an anthropological perspective to policy makers or potential allies?
3. How can the SfAA as an organization increase the reach of such policy-oriented groups? What steps could the SfAA take to become a better (and better-known) resource to agencies and groups seeking an anthropological perspective on a particular issue?

Incoming President John Young suggested that to become effective in influencing public policy, SfAA needs to be perceived as a source of anthropological expertise, and not merely as an advocacy group.

Several participants stressed that increasing policy effectiveness required not only an effort to speak out on particular policy issues, but more fundamentally, a disciplinary change in the direction of making anthropology
more useful, and incorporating more explicitly the subject of public policy within the field of applied anthropology.

Various strategies for increasing our influence were suggested. SfAA could do more to get its members appointed to interdisciplinary advisory committees, particularly those sponsored by government agencies or foundations. More generally, several people suggested the need to cultivate linkages with organizations beyond anthropology, for example well-organized lobbying groups, where SfAA could contribute its expertise. The example of the recently-developed agreement between SfAA and the Environmental Protection Agency offers another model for enhancing SfAA’s visibility with public agencies.

There were various comments on the appropriate role of SfAA as an organization in relation to its policy-related committees or topical interest groups. To the extent that policy groups use an SfAA affiliation in their advocacy, the Executive Committee (EC) has made clear that it must approve such advocacy positions. Nonetheless, there is currently no simple process in place for getting timely review and approval of policy statements by the EC. Official SfAA sponsorship has been helpful in getting greater influence for advocacy efforts, for example in the work of the Anthropology and Human Rights group. At the same time, a cumbersome organization can strangle policy effectiveness, which usually depends on quick intervention.

President John Young and the Executive Committee will be appointing a policy committee to work with the SfAA policy coordinators (currently Rob Winthrop) to strengthen the role of SfAA and its various constituencies in policy matters. Anyone interested in this work or in the place of policy within SfAA activities generally, please contact John Young (youngj@cla.orst.edu; 541/737-4515) or Rob Winthrop (rhwinth@mind.net; 541/482-8004).

**OBITUARY: CONRAD ARENSBERG**

By ROBERT McG. THOMAS Jr.,
(Permission by the New York Times Co., Reprinted by Permission)

Conrad M. Arensberg, a pioneering scholar who helped shift the focus of anthropology from the study of exotic primitive peoples to the examination of complex modern societies, died on Monday at a nursing home in Hazlet, N.J. He was 86 and been professor of anthropology at Columbia University from 1953 until his retirement in 1980.

His wife, Vivian Garrison Arensberg, said that her husband, who maintained homes in Manhattan and Rumson, N.J., died of respiratory failure after a long illness.

By the time he arrived at Columbia in 1953, Dr. Arensberg had already had a profound effect on anthropology, a field now so abstruse that even Ph.D. candidates have trouble saying exactly what it is.

That is partly because Dr. Arensberg was an influential scholar of such enormous range that even as he strove to transform anthropology into an exact science, his work tended to blur the traditional distinctions between anthropology and sociology, psychology, ethnography, demography and any other discipline he found useful in illuminating human behavior.

It is an indication of the scope of his scholarship that toward the end of his career the man who had conducted a watershed study of Irish society in the 1930’s was working primarily with chemists on general Systems theory.

Dr. Arensberg was an influential scholar of such enormous range that even as he strove to transform anthropology into an exact science, his work tended to blur the traditional distinctions between anthropology and sociology, psychology, ethnography, demography and any other discipline he found useful in illuminating human behavior.

A native of Pittsburgh, where his father was a prominent lawyer, Dr. Arensberg graduated summa cum laude from Harvard in 1931, received his doctorate three years later and had an immediate and lasting impact on anthropology. His doctoral dissertation, published as “The Irish Countryman” in 1937, was hailed as a landmark and only partly because it was the first study of a European culture in a field that had previously concentrated on people in loincloths.

What made it an instant classic, one still in use as a textbook 60 years later, was not Dr. Arensberg’s specific observations on Irish society but the prescriptions he laid down for making and interpreting those observations with scientific precision.

The study became a model for other community studies, and a demanding model it was, requiring that researchers study a target culture from the inside, making meticulous notes on everything they saw, heard or experienced.

In the Irish study, for example, Dr. Arensberg and his fellow researchers, who had the cooperation of Government officials and the local populace, immersed themselves in the life of County Clare, working side by side with their subjects as they plowed, planted, cut turf, harvested and, when the harvest was in, hoisted a few in celebration—all, mind, in the interest of science. (Never much of a drinker, Dr. Arensberg later complained about the amount of beer he had to consume.)

His approach helped transform anthropology and opened it up to a flood of later developments, including the study and analysis of industrial organizations and the use of

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anthropology both to understand and solve an array of social problems.

Dr. Arensberg, who helped found the Society of Applied Anthropology, wrote widely and diversely in his expanding field, often in collaboration. In a 1942 book, "Measuring Human Relations," for example, he and Elliot Chappele turned their attention to nonverbal behavior, or as Dr. Arensberg liked to put it, "who does what to whom in what order."

And in 1957, after making modern societies the focus of anthropology, he and Karl Polanyi brought the work full circle by analyzing economies of ancient empires and comparing them to modern market economies.

For all the impact of his writings and theories, Dr. Arensberg's most significant contribution to anthropology may have been as a teacher. Many of the Ph.D.'s he turned out at Columbia became significant figures in the field.

A man of enormous erudition whose 1980 presidential address to the American Anthropological Association was titled, "Cultural Holism through Interactional Systems," Dr. Arensberg, who worked on the Joint Anthropology Program at Teachers College at Columbia University after his retirement, could speak authoritatively on a broad spectrum of subjects.

Curiously, Dr. Arensberg, who had a distinct stammer when speaking English, had none when he was speaking another language, which may help explain why he learned to speak a dozen languages fluently and acquired a working knowledge of so many others that the only time he had to resort to English when ordering a foreign cuisine, his wife recalled the other day, was when he ate at a Thai restaurant.

In addition to his wife, Dr. Arensberg is survived by three children from a previous marriage, Emily Barton of San Jose, Calif., Margaret Olson of McMinnville, OR, and Cornelius, of Tampa, FL, and a brother, Charles, of Pittsburgh.

AWARDS GIVEN

Margaret Mead Award To Phillippe Bourgois

By Diego Vigil
UCLA

The Margaret Mead Award was given to Phillippe Bourgois at the SfAA Annual Meeting in Seattle during the Friday evening awards ceremony on March 7. Diego Vigil provided a few comments noting the significance of the award and presented a commemorative plaque to the honoree, and William Davis, Executive Director of the AAA, honored him with a check for $1000. Members of the Committee (Wenda Trevathan, Mary Elmendorf, Nancy Schepher-Hughes, Diego Vigil, and Mary Bateson) reviewed a number of different scholars' works and concluded that Phillippe Bourgois' research and writings in recent years best met the criteria for the Margaret Mead Award.

While depicting the pressures and stresses of life in a low income Puerto Rican barrio in New York, Phillippe Bourgois compiled a record of publications and public statements that ran the gamut from scholarly journals to the New Yorker, including pieces in the Nation and the Village Voice. The New York Times Book Review gave front page coverage to his recent book In Search of Respect, Selling Crack in El Barrio (Cambridge 1995), and noted the wide impact this work would have on academicians as well as practitioners.

This book, the culmination of years of research and writing dissected a number of glaring social problems that emerged from his field work: family dynamics, personal and group linkages and interactions with various institutions, work life and job opportunities, and most depressingly, the illicit economy of drug trafficking. It addresses a major issue, discussing ways to reevaluate and rethink how the public thinks about it. From this juncture several implications are drawn to guide future policy reformulations.

The strength of his body of work on urban issues is in how the author humanizes individuals and families who daily deal with the exigencies of a low income life where drugs, crime, and violence are pervasive. Writing in a breezy but solidly intellectual style for different types of audiences, Phillippe Bourgois epitomizes the "new" urban anthropology that strives to unravel some of the major social problems of our time.

His words of acceptance and appreciation of the Award were warm and entertaining and reflective of an outstanding teacher at San Francisco State, where he is Chair and Professor of Anthropology.

Peter K. New Award

The Peter K. New Student Research Award winner for 1997 is Timothy Hoff (SUNY-Albany), for his paper titled "Foreman and Shop Stewards? Professional and Organizational Deviance Among Physician-Managers in an HMO."

The award-winning paper was presented at the Seattle Annual Meetings. At the Friday evening awards ceremony, Hoff was presented with a cash prize of $1,000 and received a special Steuben crystal trophy.

Second prize has been awarded to Kofi B. Effah (Texas A&M), whose paper is entitled, "A Reformulation of the Polygyny-Fertility Hypothesis." Third prize goes to Aminur
Rahman, (Manitoba), whose paper is entitled “Micro-Lending for Equitable and Sustainable Development: Who Pays?”

The Peter K. New Award is an annual competition for student research sponsored by the Society for Applied Anthropology. The Award was initiated in 1990 with a generous contribution from Mary Louie New, Dr. Peter New’s widow. Dr. New was a former President of the Society for Applied Anthropology. We were honored this year by the presence of Mary Lou New, who made the presentation of the $1,000 prize during the awards ceremony.

The New Award competition accepts paper based on original research in the general fields of health and human services. The competition is restricted to individuals formally enrolled as students during the year. A group of senior scholars serve as jurors. The deadline for submission of papers is December 31 each year. In addition to the cash prize and crystal trophy, the winning papers are submitted for review and possible publication in the Society’s journal Human Organization.

Steven Polgar Award
Robert G. Carlson (Associate Professor, Wright State University School of Medicine) was presented with the Steven Polgar Award for “state of the art excellence” in Medical Anthropology by the Society for Medical Anthropology at the American Anthropological Association Meetings in San Francisco, November 1996. The award was made in recognition of his article, “The Political Economy of AIDS Among Drug Users in the United States: Beyond Blaming the Victim or Powerful Others,” which appeared in the American Anthropologist 98(2):266-278; 1996.

Summary: In AIDS research, political economy commonly refers to the holistic description of the context in which the human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) is transmitted as well as to a political strategy for redirecting blame from victims” to powerful others or institutions. Using his research on the meaning of needle “sharing” among injection drug abusers, the author demonstrates the value of holistic ethnographic research. Most political-economic approaches also identify powerful others as the ultimate cause of the contextual circumstances within which HIV seems more likely to be transmitted among drug users. This article suggests that a more fully developed political-economic theory should reexamine the principles of social reproduction through which human relationships are created in capitalist cosmology. Specifically, it is suggested that HIV may, in part, be adapted to systemic errors in capitalist cosmology and to underlying processes of symbolic mediation.

Using the crack-cocaine epidemic as an example, the article suggests that stages in altered consciousness (the “rush” or high resulting from crack use) as well as stages in

achieving orgasm constitute “image schemata” (bodily based repetitive patterns of experience) that may be exploited for the creation of profit, rather than for the articulation of subjective and objective levels of consciousness. It is through such processes that the likelihood of HIV transmission may be increased. The article suggests that holistic ethnographic descriptions of the macro- and micro-level context of HIV risk behaviors are vital for the evaluation of AIDS policy and the design of risk-reduction interventions. At the same time, we must move beyond blaming either the victim or powerful institutions and examine the underlying mechanisms through which human beings create relationships. Ultimately, it is through the process of creating relationships that HIV is transmitted.

GOODENOUGH WINS MALINOWSKI AWARD FOR 1997

By Margaret S. Boone, Chair, Malinowski Committee Policy Research Methods, Inc.
Falls Church, VA

The following remarks were made by Dr. Boone at the award ceremony in Seattle.

Tonight, I have the good fortune of introducing to you the 1997 Recipient of the Malinowski Award, Dr. Ward H. Goodenough, now University Professor Emeritus at the University of Pennsylvania.

Dr. Goodenough has been recognized as a theoretical scholar who has had a profound international impact on both anthropology and social science in general—especially for his work in componential analysis. Indeed, letters of nomination and support describe him as “one of the giants of immediate post-World War II anthropology.” [Paredes] This impact has overshadowed his commitment to and influence on the application of anthropology. In those letters, Dr. Goodenough’s value to our field is confirmed—especially in the fields of anthropology and development, and anthropology and education. His landmark book, Coopera tion in Change: Anthropological Approaches to Community Change, published first in 1963, and his service as the first director of training for the Peace Corps only began the direct and indirect influences he has had on applied anthropology. He has continually drawn connections between his scholarly work and the application of anthropology, as in his 1963 paper on “The Growing Demand for Behavioral Science in Government,” which appeared in Human Organization.

Along with his wife, Ruth, Dr. Goodenough has often addressed the issues of education in our country, especially in multicultural education—including a recent AAA Session in Atlanta. His paper on “Multiculturalism as the Normal Human Experience,” printed in Eddy and (continued on page 18)
Margaret Clark Award

Established to extend the pioneering work of Margaret Clark, submissions are invited from graduate and undergraduate students in all fields for the Award given annually to the best unpublished medical anthropology paper and/or gerontology paper. Sponsored by the Association for Anthropology and Gerontology, the winners receive $500, publication of an extended summary in the quarterly AAGE Newsletter. Top papers are reviewed for publication by the Journal of Cross-Cultural Gerontology, Medical Anthropology Quarterly, and the Journal of Aging Studies. Honorable mentions are awarded. Papers will be peer reviewed. Relation to lifespan and aging issues must be discussed.

Submissions must include: address, affiliation, and phone; a faculty signed statement of student status; three copies of the double-spaced manuscript and brief abstract. The deadline is May 30. Contact: Mark R. Luborsky, PhD, Margaret Clark Award Chair, Polisher Research Institute, Philadelphia Geriatric Ctr, 5301 Old York Rd, Philadelphia, PA 19141, E-mail at mluborsk@thunder.ocis.temple.edu.

Anthony Leeds Prize

Nominations are invited for the Anthony Leeds Prize in Urban Anthropology, established by the Society for Urban Anthropology (SUA). The 1997 Award will honor a monograph published since 1995 and which, in the opinion of the selection committee, advances the anthropological understanding of urban life. The work need not be written by a person professionally identified as an anthropologist. The goal of awarding the prize is to affirm the continuing relevance of urban anthropology to anthropologists and other social scientists, and to acknowledge the accomplishments and contributions of investigators in the field of urban studies generally.

The monograph must have been peer reviewed or have passed a dissertation defense in an accredited doctoral program. It must be written in English or submitted in an English translation. It must be published; manuscripts will not be accepted. Works can be nominated only once and may be submitted by author, publisher, or other party. The Award includes a commemorative plaque and $500.

The Society for Urban Anthropology is an association of scholars who believe that urban places differ from other kinds of communities, and that these communities generate or sustain special processes. SUA seeks to build upon that solid body of theory and research stretching back through the Chicago School (Robert E. Park, W. L. Thomas, Allison Davis) to W. E. B. DuBois, Georg Simmel, Max Weber, Charles Booth, Beatrice Potter Webb.

Three copies of the printed work should be sent to Dr. Leonard Plotnicov, Chair, 1997 Leeds Award Committee. 

AWARDS COMPETITION

Sol Tax Award

By Will Sibley, SfAA Awards Coordinator
Cleveland State University

During the Annual Meeting of the SfAA in Baltimore in 1996, a new Society award was announced. To be called the Sol Tax Award, the new award is to be bestowed upon persons who have given significant service to the Society and its well-being. The award will be distinguished from both the Malinowski Award—granted to a person for a lifetime of work and contribution to the betterment of human life through the use of social science—and the Margaret Mead Award which is bestowed upon a younger person for significant work which brings the findings of anthropology to audiences well beyond the discipline itself.

At this time, ways and means are being explored for implementing the award—including sources of funding, an appropriate symbol of the award in the form of a medal, plaque or other representation, and appropriate procedures and guidelines for the selection of candidates for the award. A selection committee will be needed as well.

Expressions of interest in serving on all of the Society's award selection committees are welcome. Though such committee appointments are made by the Society President with the concurrence of the Executive Committee, expressions of interest may be transmitted to me. (Mail: 1190 Cedar Avenue, Shady Side, MD 20764-9153; or E-mail: shadyside@aol.com).

Society for Applied Anthropology
Editor Search, Human Organization

The Society for Applied Anthropology announces a search for a new Editor-in-Chief of Human Organization. Human Organization has been recognized as a leading scientific journal in applied anthropology since its founding in 1941. It is published four times annually and is directed toward interdisciplinary as well as anthropological audiences.

The term of the current Editor, Robert V. Kemper, ends in December 1998. The successor’s term will begin on January 1, 1999. The search is being initiated now to provide for a smooth transition.

The initial term of service for the new Editor-in-Chief will be three years. The term is renewable for one additional three-year period. The Editor-in-Chief of Human Organization also serves as a member of the Executive Committee of the Society for Applied Anthropology.

In addition to making at least a three-year commitment to the journal and to serving on the SAA Executive Committee, the candidates for the position should be able to secure release time (where possible) and other institutional support to supplement SAA resources, constitute an Editorial Board, promote and cultivate the journal, and offer editorial expertise and direction.

Persons interested in applying for the position should provide the Publications Committee with the following: a letter of interest that indicates the candidate's experience, ideas and vision for the journal, and any support (such as release time, space, equipment and/or editorial assistance) that may be available from the host institution, and a copy of the candidate's vita or resume.

Additional material may be requested by the Publications Committee at a later date. The application deadline is November 1, 1997. Applications should be sent to Ruthbeth Finerman, SAA Publications Committee Chair, Department of Anthropology, The University of Memphis, Campus Box 526671, Memphis, TN 38152; E-mail at finerman@memphis.edu; 901/678-3334; Fax 901/678-2069. Other members of the Publications Committee are: Thomas Arcury (North Carolina - Chapel Hill); Laurie Krieger (USAID); Patricia Marshall (Loyola); John Sherry (Northwestern); and Alaka Wali (Field Museum - Chicago). Ex Officio members are: Robert V. Kemper (Southern Methodist); Alexander Ervin (Saskatchewan); and Michael Whiteford (Iowa State).

CALL FOR PAPERS

Practicing Anthropology

The Student Committee of SAA is soliciting papers by graduate students for a special edition of Practicing Anthropology. Interested students are requested to submit a 200 word abstract briefly describing an experience putting anthropology into practice, the setting, why anthropology was useful, and how the position furthered their academic or applied career. The deadline for submission is September 30, 1997. A copy of the abstract should be sent to Carla Guerrot-Montero, Department of Anthropology, 368 Condon Hall, University of Oregon, Eugene, OR 97402-1218, Telephone (541) 346-5109 or (541) 684-0509, Fax (541) 346-0668.

Anthropology and Forcibly Displaced Persons

Anthropology and Forcibly Displaced Persons is a symposium currently being organized for the 14th International Congress of Anthropological and Ethnological Sciences, to be held in Williamsburg, VA, July 26 to August 1, 1998. The symposium invites presentations on issues relating to forcibly displaced populations, including those displaced by environmental collapse, development projects, wars and conflicts, poverty, repression, and related forces. Broader policy and theory presentations; case studies, especially those highlighting creative and locally empowering solutions; and presentations dealing with ethical and applied issues in research, intervention, and advocacy are especially welcome. The International Congress meets once every 5 years and attracts participants from as many as 100 countries and a variety of disciplines. Presentation titles and abstracts due July 1, 1997. Address abstracts and/or inquiries to the symposium organizer: Dr. James Phillips, c/o Dept. Sociology and Anthropology, Southern Oregon State College, Ashland, OR 97520 or E-mail at edwards@jeffnet.org.

Directions in Applied Anthropology

Lynne Rienner Publishers announces a call for proposals and book-length manuscripts for a new series, Directions in Applied Anthropology: Adaptations and Innovations, edited by Timothy Finan, director of the Bureau of Applied Research in Anthropology, University of Arizona. The series seeks to capture the excitement and range of activity that constitutes applied anthropology, and will include theoretical, methodological, and empirical contributions. Address proposals and inquiries to: Bridget Julian, Lynne Rienner Publishers/1 800 30th Street, Suite 314/Boulder, CO 80301/tel. (303) 444-6684; fax (303) 444-0824; E-mail at bjulian@riener.com.
FROM THE EDITOR

Aside from the winter issue, when we combine the Newsletter with the preliminary program for our Annual Meeting, this is the heftiest number (in terms of pages) we have ever produced. I hope that its bulk does not deter subscribers from sitting down and immediately reading at least a couple of pieces. When something thick arrives in the mail, I think people are inclined to put it aside until they feel they have more time to sit down and read through the document. I trust this is not the case here. We have a lot of very interesting pieces tucked between these pages — and like the stamp on the top of the milk carton reads, some of these items have an expiration date.

In producing the Newsletter, we have several goals. First, and foremost, we wish to communicate items of interest in a timely fashion. If you have something that you wish to share with a couple of thousand applied anthropologists, you have a forum. Second, we want to disseminate information with the membership about the business of the Society. That is why each issue has a lead story by the Society’s President, something on the business of the EC, and articles by the editors of HO and PA.

If you have something you will like to include in the next issue of the Newsletter, please send it in now — before the urge passes. The deadline for receipt of materials for the August issue is July 1.

Mike Whiteford

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