

Newsletter

Society for Applied Anthropology

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SfAA PRESIDENT'S LETTER

By Noel Chrisman <noelj@u.washington.edu>
University of Washington

Well, I had a wonderful time at our annual meeting in Merida. We (my wife Judy and I) spent some time before and after the meeting enjoying the city and the archeological sites. As Linda Bennett remarked about the well-executed and well-attended SfAA-tours, "It was great to see the places we had read about." The city is comfortable and beautiful. We shopped and ate and toured.

In my new position as President, I was unable to attend any sessions other than the one I was in and the presentation of an excellent paper by Andrew Gardiner, winner of the Peter Kong-ming New Award for this year. However, judging by the crowds and by the lively discussions in the hall, the lobby, and around the dinner table, people found the meeting stimulating.

My goals for this presidency are (1) to increase training and education for current and entering professionals in the applied social sciences and (2) to draw together the knowledge and skills that anthropologists use in applied settings so we can do better at the first goal.

At the Friday Business Meeting when I accepted the gavel and a beautiful Cherokee rattle from Linda Bennett, I reminded the members of my goals for this presidency. They are (1) to increase training and education for current and entering professionals in the applied social sciences and (2) to draw together the knowledge and skills that anthropologists use in applied settings so we can do better at the first goal. A series of organizations and initiatives contribute to these goals. The Consortium of Practicing and Ap-

plied Anthropology ("the Consortium") will significantly and positively affect training and education; the SAR/SfAA partnership will promote pulling together our practice; the Mead 2001 web site will make best practices more visible, and the AAA/SfAA Commission on Applied/Practicing Anthropology will contribute to training among other topics.

These goals and activities will be achieved within the context of the strategic plan adopted a few years ago and through the hard work of many individuals who really make the Society work. The Business Meeting was a time to rec-

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ognize alterations in the office holders who lead the Society: Linda Whiteford and Tony Oliver-Smith were replaced on the Board of Directors by Paul Durrenberger and Nancy Parezo. Carla Guerrón-Montero left the Board as the student representative and is replaced by Kristin Lundberg. Alaka Wali and John O'Neil rotated off the Nominations and Elections Committee and Susan Charnley and Michael Kearney will carry out these duties in the next years. Linda Bennett transitioned to the Past President post. She has been a wonderful person to work with during the past year. She was very free with her time and her practical advice; "supportive" barely covers the high quality of her mentoring.



Charlie Cheney and SfAA President Noel Chrisman at Uxmal—Photo by Mike Whiteford

There were some exciting new projects to hear about and act upon in Merida. You read in one of Linda's recent columns about the emerging partnership between the School of American Research in Santa Fe and the SfAA. Stan Hyland spent more than a year working with Nancy Owens Lewis at SAR to create an interesting and well-attended Plenary Session on Thursday evening. The Plenary was titled "The Ties that Bind: Building Communities in the 21st Century" and featured ten presenters examining the history and context of community work in the applied social sciences, a range of approaches to considering community in applied projects, and a set of "tools" used by applied anthropologists. The presenters met in Santa Fe last summer to exchange ideas and to jointly build a conceptual framework for the papers.

This professional communication seems to have worked; many commented on the uniformly high quality of the presentations. Plans are under way for the session to result in an edited book. Following the session, SAR and SfAA sponsored a reception that many attended. SAR sees this work as a part of their internal initiative to explore critical issues facing the U.S. on which applied social scientists and others will be able to contribute. Another Plenary is

planned for the 2003 meeting in Portland, Oregon.

One initiative is related to Mary Catherine Bateson's participation in the Plenary. As part of her work on the 2001 centennial of the birth of Margaret Mead, Bateson has asked for applied anthropologists to work with her to build a web site that contains "best practices" for our work. She conceives of this web site as the location for commissioned statements about applied practice and as an interactive site on which there can be additional contributions. The Centennial site is at <www.mead2001.org>.

A project designed to promote stronger relationships between the SfAA and the AAA had its first meeting in Merida. This is the AAA/SfAA Commission on Applied/Practicing Anthropology. A planning committee composed of SfAA and NAPA members met at the AAA meeting in San Francisco last year to write a charge to the Commission and recommended members from the AAA and the SfAA who would work to create joint projects. These members were appointed in January by Louise Lamphere and Linda Bennett, and include Ed Liebow, Meta Baba, Jean Schensul, Mari Clarke, Don Brenneis, T.J. Ferguson, Mark Nichter, James Peacock, and the NAPA President (Peter Van Arsdale will turn this assignment over to Susan Squires). Louise Lamphere and Linda Bennett will continue to be involved. I will chair the Commission.

Our first tasks will be to identify the training opportunities available through both organizations and to decide how to support and enhance these offerings. Ultimately, a significant outcome will be increased availability of educational opportunities. We expect to produce concrete projects and will report to the two societies at their annual meetings.

THE OPIUM OF THE MASSES

By Paul Durrenberger <epd2@psu.edu>
Penn State

Karl Marx was wrong. The opium of the masses is not religion. It is opium.

I didn't have to be in the hills of central Pennsylvania long before I noticed a certain similarity with those in Northern Thailand where I'd lived with Lisu tribal people learning about how they dealt with misfortune and how they made their livings by growing rice, corn, and opium poppies. When the director of the Pennsylvania Association for Sustainable Agriculture invited me to participate on a panel on the topic of industrial swine production at their meeting last year I was happy to relate the lessons Kendall Thu and I had learned in North Carolina and Iowa. There I heard about the difficulties of small farmers in Pennsylvania and some of the ways they are responding. That put me to thinking, always a dangerous thing.

I sent PASA's director an e-mail one day and asked whether opium poppies wouldn't be as good a crop in the highlands of Pennsylvania as they are in the hills of Thailand. "Are you serious?" he asked. "Sure, I said. Look, one problem is how to make a living on small farms. National Public Radio just did a piece on the scarcity of opiates for making all of the family of opium-derived drugs from morphine to codeine. Here's a solution to both problems. If it's agronomically feasible, why not produce our own supply of opium in the U.S. It could be an ideal crop for small farmers—the demand is proven and small farmers could make some money from it. Drug firms would have a secure supply and not have to deal with the uncertainties of world markets and distant suppliers. It should work equally well for some of the most powerful firms and least powerful farms. Opium poppies are very adaptable, so with some selective breeding, we could develop varieties suited to different conditions and even increase their opiate content. Maybe some aggies could figure out a way to mechanize the harvesting process to make it less labor intensive." He said he'd check it out.

He did. He put the question to some agronomists. They said poppies would grow here. But then he went on to say that that still didn't make it a good crop because he'd learned that the Drug Enforcement Agency had removed all the poppies from as innocuous a place as the gardens of Jefferson's own Monticello. Jefferson wasn't that much of a conformist but if DEA wouldn't let his ghost raise poppies, what were the chances for small farmers in central Pennsylvania? None at all. It's the law. The end.

There you have it. A good crop, suited to the place, suited to the interests of small farmers, a crop that fills a need of our own domestic drug industry, and it's against the law. For that reason it can't be done. This shows the poverty of American agricultural/drug/foreign policy as well as any example anyone could think of.

Expand the idea a little bit. Go beyond the modest proposition of producing legal opium for drug companies and suppose that the whole thing gets away from the DEA or whoever is enforcing it. What if there's a dark side to opium production as there is in the rest of the world—where we get our legitimate and illegitimate opiates—the opium that's in the formal economy and the stuff that's in the informal economy?

If we produced our own opium we would no longer lose valuable foreign exchange to drug lords in distant lands. We don't have to worry about corruption of the banking

system as the drug money is laundered and re-introduced into our domestic economy. We don't have to police the borders because we know opium is coming from domestic sources. We don't have to worry about the corruption of public officials tempted with the speedy acquisition of great wealth. We don't have to worry that opium will play a role in corrupting our foreign policy as it did during the days of the Vietnam war when we used it as a means of rewarding our minions in Southeast Asian governments. We don't have to worry about our informal economy financing powerful and irascible drug lords in other lands.

If we wanted to be far-reaching, we could suggest legalizing heroine use and taxing it to raise revenue. That would put the Mafia out of business and save the FBI a bundle. All together, there are probably big enough savings in government expenditures that we could afford a handsome tax cut for everyone. As an added bonus it would remove a major source of police corruption in all big cities across our own land.

If the thought of addicts strung out on the streets of America boggles your mind, walk down any big city street as the sun sets and have your mind boggled by the reality that's already playing out.

I sent PASA's director an e-mail one day and asked whether opium poppies wouldn't be as good a crop in the highlands of Pennsylvania as they are in the hills of Thailand...He said he'd check it out.

If we wanted to be extreme, we could imagine expanding such a beneficial and practical policy to other drug crops such as coca and marijuana, already a significant cash crop in many areas of the U.S. That could remove drugs from the foreign policy machinations of Latin America and

the kind of sleazy dishonesty that took place under the "Iran-Contra" program of a previous administration.

I wouldn't want to suggest anything radical—just a good crop for small farmers in central Pennsylvania and maybe other parts of the country. I expect that's why most people would find it an impractical policy—because it favors farmers over the DEA, FBI, mafia, international drug-lords and foreign policy establishment all of whom depend on one-another as much as on America's addicts, drug policy, foreign policy, agricultural policy, and small farmers in distant lands for their livings. To my mind that's a shortsighted view of the practical.

We have a new president dedicated to obliterating corruption in all its forms, devoted to saving public expenditures and committed to practical policies. He will no doubt adopt the major dimensions of this policy so we can expect to see our plant breeders in their labs and extension agents in the field . . . I'd better quit before I say something sarcastic.

MINDING YOUR BUSINESS

By Jude Thomas May <tom@sfaa.net>
Executive Director, SfAA Office

"Its not just the times that are changing"

Beginning in August the *Newsletter* will be sent to you electronically. Those members who would like to continue to receive a hard copy can do so by notifying the SfAA Office.

The SfAA *Newsletter* has been available in two formats (electronic and hard copy) for over a year and a half. Once received from Editor Whiteford, the Web Master posts it on the SfAA web page and sends a notice to all members who have an e-mail address. Simultaneously, the text is delivered to a production firm and after five working days, the hard copy is available for mailing to all members. Members receive their hard copy, depending on location, between two and six weeks later. As you know, the SfAA *Newsletter* is produced quarterly and delivered in February, May, August, and November.

There are advantages, as you might imagine, to each format. The electronic version assures speed and the hard copy provides access where equipment is limited. Some members, however, have noted that this redundancy may be unnecessary.

We will begin to emphasize the electronic version of the SfAA *Newsletter* in August with Issue #3. As in the past, the Web Master will immediately notify members via e-mail when the issue is posted on the web page. Those members who wish to receive a hard copy can do so by notifying the SfAA Office. Simply instruct us (via e-mail, FAX, telephone, or letter) to continue mailing your hard copy version of the SfAA *Newsletter* to your postal address. The SfAA Office will send via e-mail in May a reminder of this change. We will send another notice to members in July, before the distribution of issue #3.

The postal address for the Society has changed (effective mid-April). Please correct your file and send future mail to the following address: SfAA, P. O. Box 2436, Oklahoma City, OK 73101

We have not moved and the physical address remains the same for UPS and Fed-Ex (2828 N. W. 57th, Suite 205, Oklahoma City, OK 73124). Moreover, our e-mail address (info@sfaa.net), telephone (405/843-5113) and FAX (405/843-8553) are unchanged. It is simply that an old, post office building was remodeled and we had to relocate the SfAA postal box to another station.

FROM THE SECRETARY

By Willie L. Baber <Wlbaber@uncg.edu>
University of North Carolina, Greensboro

The Merida Meeting will be remembered for the very fine hospitality shown to us by the Universidad Autónoma de Yucatán, Professor Francisco Fernández Repeto, and Rector Raul Godoy. The following are summaries of the three business meetings held in Merida.

The Spring Meeting of the SfAA Board was called to order by President Linda Bennett on Wednesday, March 28, at the Fiesta Americana Hotel in Merida (8:30am –5:30 pm), and resumed by President Noel Chrisman on Saturday March 31, at approximately 10:00 am. Linda Bennett graciously shared reflections about her role as President of SfAA, and the pending transition to Noel Chrisman. Linda Bennett's comments included her acknowledgment of the important work done by SfAA committees, and how increasingly active we are as an association. Linda also commented on the excellent transition she experienced with former President John Young, and that she has worked closely with President-elect Noel Chrisman. The transition to Noel Chrisman took place at the SfAA Business Meeting on Friday, March 29.

Wednesday, March 28. The first order of business was approval of the agenda and minutes of the prior Board Meeting. Minutes from the November, 2000 Board Meeting held in San Francisco, and "time-line" information based upon those minutes, were approved unanimously by the Board. Please note, however, that the additional information presented below is grouped to conserve space, and does not reflect the order of items on the agenda.

Linda Whiteford, Tony Oliver-Smith, and Carla Guerrón-Montero rotated off the Board: *Moved by Mike Whiteford, seconded by Susan Andreatta, to commend them for their service to SfAA.* Motion was approved unanimously with applause

The Board approved the following reports unanimously. Committees: Nominations and Elections (Linda Bennett for Diane Austin), Malinowski Award, Del Jones Travel Award, American Indian Issues (written report forwarded by Tony Peredes), Student Committee, Public Policy, International Standards (written report forwarded by Ted Downing), and Internet; the Oral History Project, Student Committee Representative Report, and Treasurer's Report. The Treasurer's Report involved continuation of a prior discussion by the Board to increase membership dues; this proposal was passed unanimously by the Board: *Moved by Don Stull, seconded by Ed Liebow, to accept the Treasurer's recommended dues increase as specified in "section S" of the agenda, and to report the decision at the SfAA Busi-*

ness Meeting. The proposed increases are: Student, \$5.00; Regular, \$8.00; Fellows, \$10.00, and Sustaining, \$15.00.

The Board approved the following Publications Committee Reports, and one motion, unanimously: Monograph Series (Linda Bennett for Ruthbeth Finerman), *Newsletter* (Mike Whiteford), *Human Organization* (Don Stull), and *Practicing Anthropology* (Sandy Ervin). Don Stull reported that his three-year term as editor ends in December, but that with Board approval he is willing to accept another term with continuation of very favorable support by the University of Kansas: *Moved by Tom Arcury, seconded by Mike Whiteford, to extend for another term Don Stull's appointment as Editor of Human Organization.* Sandy Ervin reminded the Board that replacement of him as editor of *Practicing Anthropology* is required in the fall of 2001.

Tom May reviewed the Awards Trusts, and reported on the Spicer Award (Awardees Alyane Unterberger and Rebecca Toupal) and Peter K. New Award (Awardees Andrew Gardner, J. Paige MacDougall, and Roberto Porro). Will Sibley, Awards Coordinator, agreed to assist the Spicer Award Committee. Tom May noted that the American Indian/Alaska Native Award requires the immediate attention of the Board, to move it forward. This concern led to the following unanimously approved motion: *Moved by Don Stull, seconded Tom Arcury, that the American Indian/Alaska Native Award receive matching funds; that this Award shall be separate from the charge of the American Indian Issues Committee.* Members of the Board also expressed concern about the inactivity of the American Indian Issues Committee.

Linda Bennett reported on the Margaret Mead and Malinowski Awardees—all attended the meeting; Paul Farmer and Kate Dudley (Margaret Mead Award recipi-

ents) and Walter Goldsmith (Malinowski Award recipient). Willie Baber reported on the Dell Jones Award, and the selection process that produced the first Del Jones Travel Awardee: Georgette King, University of South Florida.

The Board unanimously approved two important items discussed at the prior Board meeting, last November in San Francisco: *Moved by Linda Whiteford, second by Tony Oliver-Smith, that the name "SfAA Business Office" shall be the SfAA Office or Society for Applied Anthropology Office, and the business manager position shall be named Executive Director.* These name changes will improve the Society's ability to negotiate contracts, and lay the foundation for an executive function independent of PMA functions.

David B. Rymph's Report on the 2001 American Association for the Advancement of Science Annual Meeting in San Francisco was discussed. Board members agreed that SfAA obtained tangible results from relationships with other organizations, and that the Annual Meeting is a fruitful way to involve other organizations.

The Consortium of Applied and Practicing Anthropology (COPA) Programs met for a second time in February, hosted by USF, with eight departments attending. The next meeting will be held in Flagstaff, NAU, January 24-27, 2002. The purpose of COPA is to strengthen applied programs within anthropology departments.

Noel Chrisman chaired a meeting of the SfAA and AAA Commission. The purpose of the Commission is to increase applied anthropology activity within the American Anthropological Association and departments of anthropology, through collaboration with SfAA.

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Street scene in Merida—Photo by Laura Stull



Friday, March 30. Linda Bennett called the SfAA Business Meeting to order at approximately 1:30 pm. Minutes from the Business Meeting of March 24, 2000, in San Francisco were not available as expected, and will require approval at the next Business Meeting in Atlanta.

Linda Bennett commented on an excellent meeting in Merida, and the very fine work of Mark Grey, and the 2002 Program Committee. Agenda items included reports on action taken

by the Board, on Wednesday, and the following reports: Nominations and Elections Committee (Linda Bennett), SfAA Treasurer (Tom Arcury), Executive Director (Tom May) Program Chairs (Mark Grey, 2001, and Ben Blount, 2002), Awards Coordinator (Will Sibley), EPA/SfAA (Rob Winthrop) and the Student Committee (Anne Ballenger).

Linda Bennett announced the results of the 2001 Ballot Count, as prepared in a written report by Diane Austin, Chairperson of the Nominations and Elections Committee. The two newly elected members of the Board of Directors are Paul Durrenberger, and Nancy Parezo. Andrew Gardner and Kristin Lundberg are the two newly elected student representatives. The two newly elected Nominations and Elections Committee members are Michael Kearney and Susan Charnley. In addition, Joe Heyman was appointed Chairperson of the Public Policy Committee, Ruthbeth Finerman reappointed Chair of the Publications Committee

Tom Arcury reported that the Board increased subscription fees, and that this increase was based upon careful consideration of SfAA's financial security, obligations to support the SfAA Office and various services. For example, expansion of Webpage services will also increase revenues either through direct saving related to electronic publishing, or other on-line services. An increase in reserve funds is needed. The subscription and dues increases passed by the Board is the first such increase in 16 years.

Mark Grey noted one week before the meeting that there were 800 Pre-registrants, and there were at least 200 on-site registrations. Mark commented that the tours, and flights into Merida have worked out very well. Ben Blount provided an up-date of his plans for the 2002 annual in Atlanta, Georgia. The theme for 2002 entitled "Environment

and Health in the New Millennium" was approved by the SfAA Board.

SfAA Office Report: Tom May reported that the Merida meeting is unique, with registrants from Kenya, Australia, South Africa, Russia, to name a few places. He commented that local participation and support is excellent, and noted also that eighty-eight percent of all session abstracts were processed electronically, thanks to the very fine work of the Internet Committee, chaired by Ed Liebow and Satish Kedia. Tom noted the various winners of Awards, and asked everyone to thank Professor Francisco Fernández Repetto for the very fine receptions. Tom May asked the membership to report positive or negative observations of Office staff workers, which he will use to improve office performance.

Will Sibley presented a brief overview of Awards, and Lucy Cohen noted the Sol Tax Award Committee's progress towards their first awardee, expected in Atlanta. An important criterion for this award is leadership to SfAA, and applied anthropology.

Linda Bennett gave the Monograph series report. She indicated that the Malinowski Award manuscript may be published on-line by early fall, and the Weaver manuscript on human rights is being revised at this time. Don Stull noted that the next issue *Human Organization* is late, due to a paper problem. Don reported a 15% decline in new submission, a concern. The acceptance rate for manuscripts is over 42% and manuscripts are decided upon faster than the revisions of accepted manuscripts. Send in your manuscripts. Sandy Ervin reported on copy for *Practicing Anthropology* that takes him through the end of his tenure as editor. The next issue of *PA* will focus on the work of former EPA Director Barbara Johnston, and students. Sandy commented on organizing materials for the next editor of *PA*, to assist with transition, but that he cannot accept much addi-



Malinowski awardee Walter Goldschmidt with Mead winner Kathryn Dudley—Photo by Linda Bennett

tion copy. Speaking for Mike Whiteford, Jackie Comito, Assistant Editor of the *Newsletter*, reported that the “Flagship” publication is in very fine shape with plenty of copy.

Anne Ballenger reported that the Student Committee has been somewhat inactive. However, she outlined activities proposed by students and their efforts to create better interaction among themselves, and greater participation within SfAA.

Linda Bennett handed the “sense of SfAA community, and all rituals related to fraternity in SfAA” to Noel Chrisman, symbolized in the passing of the gavel, and gifts.

Noel Chrisman commented on a very fine transition, and outlined the focal points of his role as President of SfAA; increased training and educational opportunities in applied anthropology based upon the knowledge that we have acquired over the years as applied anthropologists. Recent models of our success in achieving such goals include the EPA/SfAA Co-operative Agreement, the Consortium of Applied and Practicing Anthropology Programs, SAR and SfAA planning, and the SfAA/AAA Commission.

New Business. Salomon Nahmad, Martha Rees, Ron Nigh, Lucy Cohen, James Greenberg, and Paul Doughty proposed the following resolution: *Moved and seconded that the Society for Applied Anthropology manifest its support of Mexican anthropologists who support the peace process in Chiapas, and of the demand of indigenous Zapatistas that the Congress of Mexico pass President Vicente Fox’s proposal to amend the Mexican Constitution to include indigenous rights.*

Will Sibley and others pointed out that action of this kind must be placed before the SfAA Board. As result of some decision, the above motion was modified by President Noel Chrisman to: place before the Board a request to pass an indigenous rights resolution with the essential sentiments expressed above: (1) support of the peace process in Chiapas, and (2) support of indigenous rights. The motion passed with several persons dissenting. The meeting was adjourned at 3:00 pm.

Saturday, March 31. Noel Chrisman called the meeting to order at 10:05 am. He introduced new Board members (Paul Durrenberger and Nancy Parezo), and announced in particular the need for (1) a Policy Committee response to modifications of resettlement policy by the World Bank, and (2) a need to act on an indigenous rights resolution, referred to the Board at the Business Meeting.

The following reports were accepted by the Board: International Committee, Sol Tax Award Committee, EPA/SfAA and Contracts Working Groups, Mark Grey—2001 Program Chair, Ben Blount—2002 Program Chair, LPO, Membership Committee, SfAA-SAR collaboration.

The International Committee has fifty new members, and plans to host sessions and social events in Atlanta similar to those hosted in Merida. Also, this Committee is looking into the possibility of obtaining research grants that will defray the travel expenses of professors and/or students traveling to the SfAA Meetings from outside the United States.

Rob Winthrop reviewed the status of EPA/AAA since his appointment as Director of this Project. This review included presentation of categories of the proposed topics for the SfAA environmental anthropology profiles; (1) Environmental anthropology project policy and praxis lessons; (2) substantive contributions to environmental social science; (3) Issues of case-specific profiles targeted to organizations, groups, and publics involved in environmental planning and problem solving. The Board acknowledged that Rob Winthrop’s new role does not extend to the case study files. However, Sandy Ervin expressed some concern about the rapidly approaching deadline for receiving the papers for publication in *PA*. Ed Liebow gave a report on behalf of the Contracts Working Group. He pointed out that the central problem now is how to sustain the Project, and the original charge of the Contracts Working Group.

Louise Lamphere appeared before the Board to report on the SfAA/AAA Commission, chaired by Noel Chrisman. The long-term goal of the Commission is to have some influence on the presence of applied anthropology within AAA, and in departments of anthropology lacking in applied expertise. The goals of COPA and the Commission are similar.



Mead awardee Paul Farmer—Photo by Willis Sibley

The SfAA Board voted to express its solidarity with the indigenous peoples of Mexico as they engage in a renewal of the dialogues for peace and negotiation with the national government through initiatives of Present Vicente Fox Quesada.

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After a brief discussion of sensitive matters related to U.S. hegemony in the Americas, Linda Bennett suggested forwarding any statement on indigenous rights in Mexico to Professor Francisco Fernández Repetto. The Board agreed that applied anthropologists who are also citizens of Mexico should determine whether and how to use any expression of support from SfAA. After thoughtful discussion, the following resolution was passed unanimously with instructions that Noel Chrisman deliver it to Professor Francisco Fernández Repetto, to be used by him and in conjunction with appropriate consultation with Noel Chrisman. *Moved by Linda Bennett, seconded by Mike Whiteford, that the Society of Applied Anthropology express its solidarity with the indigenous peoples of Mexico as they engage in a renewal of the dialogues for peace and negotiation with the national government through initiatives of Present Vicente Fox Quesada.*

The Board discussed the need to respond to modifications of resettlement policy by the World Bank. Linda Bennett noted that John Young agreed to look into this matter. Noel also suggested adding Ted Downing, and Tony Oliver-Smith. The following motion was approved unanimously by the Board: *Moved by Mike Whiteford, seconded by Stan Hyland, that the new Policy Committee Chairperson, Joe Heyman, consult as quickly as possible—with John Young, Ted Downing, and Tony Over-Smith—construct, and then submit a policy statement, pertaining to World Bank resettlement policy, to Noel Chrisman.* In addition, there was some discussion by Board members concerning the need to have in place the appropriate mechanisms for rapid formulation of policy statements.

A motion by Paul Durrenberger that would shape policy procedures between the Policy Committees of SfAA and the Anthropological Association was tabled by a vote of 6 to 3, moved by Tom Arcury, seconded by Linda Bennett.



Program Director Mark Grey with Francisco Fernández and Raul Godoy—Photo by Laura Stull

The Board discussed annual meeting sites for the years 2003, and 2004. Sunil Khanna of Oregon State University is interested in serving as Program Chair in 2003. *Moved by Linda Bennett, seconded by Don Stull, that SfAA hold its 2003 meeting in Portland, and Vancouver is the alternate site.* Motion passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 3pm.

REPORT FROM THE HO EDITOR

By Donald D. Stull <stull@ku.edu>
University of Kansas

By now you should have received the Spring 2001 issue. It arrived about a month later than normal because the printer encountered difficulty in obtaining cover stock. (Wouldn't you know this would happen after I bragged in the last *Newsletter* about how the *HO* train always runs on time. Pride does indeed goeth before a fall.) For those of you who were unable to attend the SfAA Business Meeting in Merida, or were otherwise engaged, I would like to summarize my annual report. If anyone would like a copy of the full report (prepared by Kristin Lundberg, Laura Kriegstrom, Li Jian, and George Gotto), I'll be happy to send you one.

Volume 59 of *Human Organization* contained 33 articles, 1 special collection consisting of 7 articles, 1 Malinowski Award Lecture, 2 columns, and 3 commentaries, for a total of 478 pages. During the year 2000 we received 107 new manuscripts. This number was actually down 15 percent (16 manuscripts) from 1999. We don't really know why, and we certainly hope it is not a sign of things to come. We don't think so, since new submissions have kept us quite busy recently. We know it is not a sign of failing interest in the society or the journal—SfAA membership and subscriptions have both risen over the past two years.

The demography of submissions was largely unchanged from 1999. Slightly more than half of authors who submitted manuscripts last year were men (52%) and three-fourths came from the United States. The 80 manuscripts received from the United States came from 30 states (9 from New York, 7 from California, and 6 from Florida). The 27 international submissions came from 15 countries (7 from Canada, 3 from Australia, and 2 each from Israel, Kenya, Mexico, and the Netherlands).

Of the manuscripts received in 2000, 42 percent were accepted and 57 percent were rejected; only one manuscript was still under review in late March, when we compiled our annual report. While the acceptance rate was somewhat higher in 2000 than in 1999, *HO* remains a very discerning journal. Furthermore, we continue to maintain an excep-

tional record of prompt processing and publication. We cut the number of days it took to make a decision on the average manuscript from 89 days in 1999 to 77 in 2000. During this time manuscripts are logged in and assigned a number, reviewers are selected, copies of the manuscript are mailed to reviewers, evaluations are received, and a final editorial decision on whether to accept or reject the submission is completed. In fact, it took us significantly less time to complete our evaluation than it did for authors to revise accepted manuscripts, which averaged 94 days. Once we received an acceptable revised manuscript, we were able to publish it within one or two issues (an average of 160 days). The time from initial receipt to publication averaged 252 days.

I believe the staff at *Human Organization* did an outstanding job in 2000, and we will continue to do our best to maintain *HO*'s tradition of excellence and timely publication. We hope you found much to interest and enlighten you in *HO* this past year, and we promise you there is more where that came from.

REPORT FROM THE EDITOR OF PA



By Alexander (Sandy) M. Ervin
 <erwin@skyway.usask.ca>
 University of Saskatchewan

Many have been eagerly waiting the next issue of *PA*. It is guest-edited by Barbara Rose Johnston and John Young and is titled "Environmental Anthropology Serving U.S. Communities." It reports on the joint SfAA and U.S. Environmental Protection Agency program allowing communities, anthropologists, and the EPA to explore the practical contributions of anthropology. The lessons and approaches of this training program have implications beyond the environment—for instance, cultural resource management, inner city development, and other policy domains.

Barbara Johnston provides an overview and review of lessons, and John Young gives a retrospective endnote based on his administrative and mentoring role for the project during his SfAA presidency and beyond. Teresa Trainor of the EPA updates her progress and challenges as a practicing anthropologist with the federal government. Two papers—by Kreg Ettenger and Aaron Scrol—deal with source water protection among the Iroquois of New York and the Lower Elwha Tribe of Washington.

The health hazards of lead paint in Philadelphia are the subject of Johnelle Lamarque's article. David Driscoll's action research led him to negotiate issues with local citi-



HO Editor Don Stull, Newsletter Editor Mike Whiteford, and PA Editor Sandy Ervin—Photo by Laura Stull

zens about polluted brownfields in the Miami-Dade County region of Florida. Using a cultural anthropological perspective for the Ft. Collins, Colorado school system, Loren Bohren designed a course meant to change attitudes about the use of the automobile. The human implications relevant to farmers and fishermen of the *Pfiesteria piscicida* contamination of Chesapeake Bay are the subjects of Michael Paolisso and Shawn Maloney's practice. John Stone, working through the Great Lakes Commission, used a technique involving ethnography pertaining to differential knowledge about risk from a nuclear plant in Michigan. Departments in the summer issue will include book reviews, Rob Winthrop's the Real World, and one or two Commentary pieces.

Right now *Practicing Anthropology* is suffering (or benefiting, depending on your perspective) from a surfeit of copy. That has serious financial implications for the Society. As one measure, we have decided to impose a moratorium on book reviews and that may become permanent. At the moment we have twelve books under review and those commitments will be honored, but no further books will be reviewed until further notice. So please don't send us any more. Sorry for any inconveniences or disappointments this may create.

The addresses and phone numbers for the editorial office of *Practicing Anthropology* are: Department of Anthropology and Archaeology, 55 Campus Drive, University of Saskatchewan, Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, S7N 5B1, Canada; the office telephone number is (306) 966-4176; my home number is (306) 343-5944; the departmental fax number is (306) 966-5640; my e-mail address is found above.

SfAA PUBLICATIONS COMMITTEE

By Ruthbeth Finerman <finerman@memphis.edu>
University of Memphis

As its name implies, the SfAA Publications Committee is charged with oversight of all of Society publications, including *Human Organization*, *Practicing Anthropology*, the SfAA Monographs Series, and the *Newsletter*.

This year, one of the Committee's priorities is to supervise the search for a new Editor-in-Chief for the journal *Practicing Anthropology*. The current Editor, Alexander Ervin, completes his term of service in December 2002. The search is being initiated now to provide time to assure a smooth editorship transition. We encourage individuals with academic and/or professional experience in any of the applied social sciences to apply.

Practicing Anthropology is published four times annually. The journal has a fourfold mission: (1) to provide a vehicle of communication and source of career information for anthropologists working outside academia; (2) to encourage a bridge between practice inside and outside the university; (3) to explore the use of anthropology in policy research and implementation; and (4) to serve as a forum for inquiry into the present state and future of anthropology.

The Editor-in-Chief is appointed to a three-year term, which may be renewed for one further three-year period. The Editor-in-Chief of *Practicing Anthropology* also serves on the SfAA Executive Committee. Other responsibilities of the position and requirements for application are described in an announcement of the search, published elsewhere in this edition of the newsletter. Interested individuals can also visit the SfAA website or contact SfAA Publications Committee Chair Ruthbeth Finerman for further information, at 901-678-3334; fax 901-678-2069; <finerman@memphis.edu>.



SfAA members enjoying reception—Photo by Laurie Price

In addition to the Chair, current members of the Publications Committee are: Barbara Rylko-Bauer (Michigan State); Susan Estroff (U North Carolina – Chapel Hill); and Patricia Higgins (SUNY - Plattsburgh). Ex officio members are: Alexander Ervin (Saskatchewan); Donald Stull (Kansas); and Michael Whiteford (Iowa State). Individuals interested in serving on the Publications Committee are also welcome to contact SfAA President Noel Chrisman at <noelj@u.washington.edu>.

STUDENT COMMITTEE REPORT

By Chad Morris, Student Editor <chadmorris1@aol.com>
University of Memphis

A wise professor once told his students that the greatest potential for learning comes not from within the classroom, but from experiences and thoughtful discussions shared with colleagues away from the chalkboard. In the eyes of the student committee, the Merida meetings provided students with valuable opportunities to interact with fellow students and experienced anthropologists alike. Opportunities for active learning abounded, whether in paper and poster sessions, tours of Merida and local ruins, or simply in conversations with fellow anthropologists.

The Student Committee is proud to have played an active role in fostering these unique opportunities for learning. This year, the Committee organized a special event session, "The Real World of Applied Anthropology: Problems, Dilemmas and Innovations in Practice," in which an exceptional panel of applied anthropologists spoke to a packed room of fellow students and practitioners. Also, the Committee premiered a well-received and informative "Student Conference Orientation" with Past President John Young and Merida Conference Chair, Mark Grey. Additionally, the Committee co-hosted the Past Presidents and Students Luncheon. This event was well attended by students and Past Presidents alike, and attendees benefited greatly from speaking with anthropological veterans who were more than eager to share their knowledge of the field. Finally, the Student Committee worked with the Membership Committee to organize two career workshops. Carla Guerrón-Montero, who now serves the Student Committee as chair of the Conference Subcommittee, reports below on the success of these workshops. The Committee would like to offer heartfelt thanks to all who gave of their time and efforts to ensure that students in Merida were exposed to the best that anthropology has to offer.

The Committee sought to do some learning of its own at the Merida meetings. A survey was administered to students, allowing the Committee to better align itself with student priorities. You may take the survey on-line at our web site <<http://members.tripod.com/anneballenger/student/nexus.html>>. Additionally, we've actively recruited new

Committee members to ensure the continuity of our efforts to serve as advocates for a growing student body. Currently, the Committee is focusing its efforts on opening channels of communication between students. We believe that such efforts serve both to unite the student voice and to facilitate dispersal of information regarding opportunities for students.

As always, if you are a student interested in service on the Committee, please email our chair, Anne Ballenger <anneball@erols.com> or myself. Also, let us know if you are aware of opportunities of interest to the student body. We'll be happy to disseminate such information for the good of the field. The Student Committee hopes to continue Merida's productive learning opportunities throughout the coming year, and looks forward to reaching as many students as possible.

CAREER COUNSELING WORKSHOPS IN MERIDA

By Carla Guerrón-Montero
<cguerron@OREGON.UOREGON.EDU>
University of Oregon

Greetings from Eugene, Oregon. I am very pleased to inform students and practitioners of the success of the two workshops I organized at the 2001 Annual Meetings in Merida. The workshops (a one-on-one Career Counseling session and a Mock Interview session) were sponsored by the Membership Committee and the Student Committee. In the Career Counseling session, fourteen students and ten professionals in different fields of anthropology met to discuss alternatives on how to better formulate a career in applied anthropology. Two students from the Autonomous University of Yucatan (our host academic institution during the meetings) also took advantage of the opportunity and received counseling from our volunteer practitioners.

In the mock job interview process, three students had the uncommon opportunity to have a job interview with a group of outstanding professionals, and to receive feedback on their performance immediately after. One student was interviewed by two academic anthropologists for an academic job at a fictitious university. In addition, a committee of three applied anthropologists interviewed two students for an opening position as an applied anthropologist at an imaginary organization.

Professionals and students found these experiences very valuable. Students felt that they had the rare opportunity to interact with academics and practitioners on an individual basis, and to learn from their experience and their wisdom. One student mentioned: "You learn a lot from attending panels, but there is nothing like being able to talk to a professional about how to develop your own career. I wish all

my classmates could have come to this workshop." For another student, participating in the career workshop was "one of the most productive things I have done." A student who participated in the mock job interview process mentioned: "I leave this session with a much clearer idea of how to improve my options of finding the job I want." The volunteer professionals enjoyed speaking with students from different universities in the United States and Mexico, and helping them shape their careers in applied anthropology early on in their lives.

In Atlanta, Georgia, students will also have the opportunity to participate in these and other events specially planned for them by the Student Committee and the Membership Committee. Do not miss the opportunity to be a part of these events.



LPO NEWS

By Carla Littlefield <clittlef@compuserve.com>
Littlefield Associates
Denver, Colorado

Representatives from four LPOs met at the LPO session in Merida to discuss "Strategies for Survival." Christina Blanchard-Horan, president of the "Mid-South Association of Professional Anthropologists" presented an excellent analysis of MSAPA's experience with strategic planning. She provided the following summary for the LPO News column to share the information more broadly.

MSAPA began their strategic planning process in 2000 to improve membership and build their vision. They held two consecutive strategic planning sessions over a period of three months. These sessions resulted in the development of a five-year vision plan. During this process they identified their vision, the barriers to reaching that vision, ways to overcome the barriers, and then developed a plan for the year 2000-2001. This was accomplished by using a facilitated focus group approach that combined brainstorming and word analysis, resulting in four groups of ideas that were essentially member constructs. These were placed on grids, developed during the process.

MSAPA engaged a cross section of its members by extending official invitations to selected representatives of

(continued on page 12)

various groups of members (students, academics, practicing professionals). The strategic planning process was held at a neutral site where most of those who were invited actually participated. The first day, members responded to the question about what they wanted to see in place in the next five years. This exercise generated categories, e.g., “professional development,” “community praxis,” “expanded committed membership.” The second half of the day was dedicated to identifying barriers to reaching that vision. The results were such categories as, “unstructured organizational planning” and “ineffective use of networks and resources.” Again, the participants identified specifics under each category.

The second session involved the identification of committees that were directly related to overcoming barriers. Categories included “maximizing event impact” and “refining responsive infrastructure.” After committees were formed, members selected the committees in which they were interested. The last step was the creation of a plan that directly addressed resolution of barriers using the identified committees over the next four quarters.

Since the strategic planning, MSAPA membership has almost doubled, and new applications come in weekly. They recently held their first Careers in Applied Social Sciences Symposium, which was a standing room only event. You can link up with MSAPA by e-mail at <msapa_1@hotmail.com> or check out their website at <www.clik.to/msapa> that is updated regularly. My thanks to Christina and MSAPA for sharing their strategic planning process.

To communicate about LPO news and issues, please contact the SfAA-LPO Liaison, Carla Littlefield, at the e-mail address above.



**Stanley Hyland, Linda Bennett and Tony Oliver-Smith—
Photo by Mike Whiteford**

SfAA ENVIRONMENTAL ANTHROPOLOGY PROJECT

By Rob Winthrop <rwinthrop@msn.com>
Director, SfAA Environmental Anthropology Project

The SfAA’s Environmental Anthropology Project has operated as a cooperative undertaking between the Environmental Protection Agency and the SfAA for some four and one-half years. The current agreement will end September 30, 2001. The imminent reversion of our EPA-funded carriage into a pumpkin prompts three important questions. First, what has the project accomplished? Second, what are the organizational lessons? (In other words, have we learned about the benefits and costs for an organization such as SfAA in operating a relatively ambitious program of internships and technical assistance?) Third, where do we go from here?

One way to answer the first question is to examine some of the work our project has produced over the past four+ years. Many reports and papers from our fellows and interns are available on the SfAA’s web site, www.sfaa.net (click on “Environmental, Project Reports” or point your browser to: <<http://www.sfaa.net/eap/eappapers.html>>).

As an example, consider a recent addition to our roster of papers, John Stone’s “Public Participation in Great Lakes Environmental Management: Seeking ‘Participatory Equity’ through Ethnographic Inquiry.” Stone served as an environmental anthropology fellow with the Great Lakes Commission, a bi-national agency that promotes the “orderly, integrated and comprehensive development, use, and conservation” of the Great Lakes and the St. Lawrence River. His focus was to demonstrate the utility, and refine the effectiveness, of risk perception mapping (RPM) as applied to public participation and social impact assessment.

RPM is an ethnographic technique for describing the varying perceptions of risk held by communities across a region, in this case perceptions of the Fermi II nuclear power plant in southern Michigan. This builds on extensive prior work by anthropologists on cultural models of risk: in particular the research of Rich Stoffle (University of Arizona), who served as Stone’s project mentor. RPM provides a means for better characterizing who is affected by proposed environmental change. This makes possible a more effective program of public involvement and impact assessment, in theory leading to more effective decision-making by organizations such as the Great Lakes Commission. Beyond its immediate objective this study—like many others sponsored by the Environmental Anthropology Project—served to demonstrate the tangible value of anthropological perspectives and techniques for agencies involved in environmental management. That outcome benefits all members of the Society for Applied Anthropology.

A fuller answer to “what have we accomplished?” will be available later this year, as my predecessor Barbara Johnston completes a series of profiles reflecting the work of the Environmental Anthropology Project. Our plan is for these profiles to offer brief, readable accounts of interesting cases and themes in environmental anthropology that will be useful both as briefings for agencies and environmental professionals and as supplementary classroom readings. Meanwhile, over the next few months I will be working with the SfAA leadership and the project’s advisory committee to find answers to questions two (organizational lessons?) and three (what now?). Your thoughts and suggestions would be much appreciated. I can be reached at the above e-mail.

TIG FOR INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY RIGHTS

By Mary Riley <mriley88@hotmail.com>
Columbia College-Chicago

If all goes well, the IPR TIG will soon have its own web page through the SfAAs web site.

The TIG for IPR was well represented at the recent SfAA Annual Meetings in Merida. The Round Table Discussion on globalization and IPR sponsored by the TIG generated meaningful discussion, and the TIG business meeting also attracted many new people interested in these issues. We hope that with more and more people interested in indigenous intellectual property rights issues that the TIG will continue to grow in the time to come. At the business meeting, it was also discussed that we could increase the visibility of the TIG by coming up with projects for publication, which could be organized and/or supported by members of the TIG. As ideas for publishing on IPR-related matters surface, expect to see Calls For Papers circulating soon — hopefully sent out by resourceful TIG members. Since we are all interested in IPR (of which there are *many* facets), we are in quite a position to lend mutual support and assistance to one another in these endeavors.

If all goes well, the TIG will soon have its own web page through the SfAAs web site. The webmaster gurus for the SfAA web site were very receptive to the idea of assisting our TIG in having a web page accessible through their web site, but what that means for us is that we need to produce: (a) a statement of what the TIG for IPR is and what we do; (b) a Frequently-Asked Questions (FAQs) page about IPR issues; (c) a history of the TIG for IPR (which would be great - anyone able to help out on this one?); (d) a links page (to other sites on IPR or perhaps TIG members’ research pages). The TIG could even have a bulletin

board linked to the web page for on-going discussion for IP issues. And of course, we can add more to this list - whatever ideas (or text!) you may have towards getting this web page off the ground, please send to either me (see e-mail address at the end of this column) or to Anthony McCann at <Anthony.McCann@ul.ie>. Or, of course, send it over ANTHAP3.

Now, while this news of a web page sounds promising, I should inform everyone now that we are experiencing a few problems with ANTHAP3. For some reason, the listserv is not allowing us to sign up new members on to the list. We hope to have this problem resolved. For those of you at the meetings in Merida (or via e-mail) who expressed a wish to be subscribed to ANTHAP3, please be patient for the moment!

In March 2001, the WWF and CIEL released a joint discussion paper titled “Biodiversity & Intellectual Property Rights: Reviewing Intellectual Property Rights in Light of the Objectives of the Convention on Biological Diversity.” The paper reviews the effects of the TRIPS Agreement (a binding agreement within the World Trade Organization) upon the achievement of the CBD’s objectives, as well as on sustainable development worldwide. The paper can be obtained through either the WWF’s web site, <www.panda.org>, or <www.ciel.org>. If you need a physical address, please contact me and I can forward that to you.

The journal *National Identities* has recently issued a “call for papers” focusing on issues of national identity and their relationship(s) between territory, political structures and cultural traditions. Papers on other related topics, such as art, music and identity, language and identity, and the construction of individual and community identity, are also welcomed. For more information, see: <http://www.tandf.co.uk/journals> and click on *National Identities*.

In recent news, the SUNGI Development Foundation hosted an international workshop over March 29-30th in Islamabad for the South Asia Network on Food, Ecology and Culture (SANFEC) and the Sustainable Agriculture Action Group (SAAG) of Pakistan to examine the impact of plant variety protection laws on plant breeders’ rights in South Asia. The Statement which came out of this workshop in essence strongly urges legislation to prohibit the patenting of life forms, and to demand that the *sui generis* options as provided under the TRIPS Agreement are not allowed to merely be reduced to further the agendas of multinational corporations in agribusiness. More information on SANFEC can be found at <www.wtwatch.org/library/admin/uploadedfiles/SANFEC>.

The upcoming international summit meeting and conference, “Building Bridges With Traditional Knowledge”

is to convene from May 28 through June 2, 2001 in Honolulu, Hawai'i, and hosted by the University of Hawai'i at Manoa. The purpose of this summit meeting is to bring a diverse group of scholars, industry members, conservation organizers and indigenous leaders together to discuss conservation and development issues. Many of the subjects covered in the conference fall well within the realm of intellectual property issues! For more information, go to <www.botany.hawaii.edu/traditionalknowledge>. Or send inquiries to: Building Bridges Summit, 3190 Maile Way, Room 101, University of Hawai'i, Honolulu, Hawai'i 96822-2279.

As usual, if anyone would like to contribute to this column appearing in the next SfAA Newsletter, please let me know by e-mailing me at mriley88@hotmail.com, or by sending your contributions to: Mary Riley, Department of Liberal Education, 10 Floor, Columbia College, Chicago, Illinois 60605. And don't forget to send along any ideas for the new TIG web page.

TIG ON TEACHING APPLIED ANTHROPOLOGY TO UNDERGRADUATES

By Alexander (Sandy) Ervin <ervin@skyway.usask.ca>
University of Saskatchewan

After the establishment of practitioner training at the Universities of South Florida, Florida, Northern Arizona, Kentucky, Memphis, and Maryland in the 1970s and 1980s, there has been a proliferation of similar programs. Now we have about three dozen of them at the Masters and doctoral levels. During that era and beyond, there has been frequent discussion about standards, curriculum, and internships. Interprogram cooperation accelerated with the recently formed Consortium of Applied Anthropology Training Programs (CAPA). For the moment, the Consortium concentrates on the enhancement of graduate training for practice. As documented by Laurie Price in *Practicing Anthropology* (Vol. 23, No. 2: 55-58) and *Anthropology News* (Vol. 42 No. 5: 5-7), this is quite urgent given the still surprising neglect of applied anthropology by the doctoral factories in mainstream anthropology.

Yet what about undergraduates? Annually there are 8-10,000 bachelors'-level graduates of anthropology; probably over 95% will not go on for graduate training in anthropology. How much applied training do they get? While the Masters' degree may be the optimum practitioner's degree, surely some attention to undergraduate applied training is a good vocational investment and supports the civil society. I know from our experience so directed at Saskatchewan students that a surprising number of undergraduates actually end up practicing anthropology in some form or another. What proportion of the 400 plus depart-

ments of anthropology in North America pay attention to undergraduate training for practice? What do they do and how do they do it? What successes do they have to report?

This Spring I had the privilege of visiting two small undergraduate universities—Santa Clara University in California and Central Washington University. Their dedicated faculty has developed effective undergraduate training for research and practice. In both cases community service learning is highly emphasized. I am aware of similar innovations at St. Mary's College, SUNY-Oneonta, Montclair State University, Wake Forest, and Indiana University-Purdue at Indianapolis. The quality of such programs needs to be celebrated and their training models emulated. There may well be many other universities, colleges, and community colleges with similar strengths regarding undergraduate applied training.

At our recent SfAA Board meeting we decided to work toward a Topical Interest Group devoted to this subject. It would run parallel to CAPA and might ultimately link with it and other efforts being done in cooperation with the AAA and NAPA to enhance training in applied anthropology. First we need inventories of what programs are currently so engaged and descriptions of how they deliver their training. We might collect syllabi of undergraduate courses and programs. We might run workshops on undergraduate training at SfAA meetings. Other ideas will come to the surface as more people become involved.

Several have indicated to me that they will participate in this TIG. They include Bill Roberts of St. Mary's, Jeanne Simonelli at Wake Forest, Peg Graham at Santa Clara, and Loran Cutsinger at Central Washington University. I urge others to join in and tell of their efforts at applied undergraduate training. Contact me at: Department of Anthropology and Archaeology, 55 Campus Drive, University of Saskatchewan, Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, S7N 5B1, Canada; Fax: (306) 966-5640. My e-mail address is found above.

THE CONSORTIUM OF PRACTICING AND APPLIED ANTHROPOLOGY (COPAA) PROGRAMS

By Linda A. Bennett, Chair, COPAA Steering Committee
<bennett@memphis.edu>
University of Memphis

COPAA held its second annual meeting in Tampa, Florida, February 2-3, 2001. We were hosted by the Department of Anthropology, University of South Florida. This was a very successful meeting that moved from the more philosophical discussion about the merits of establishing a Consortium—as discussed in Memphis the previous year—to substantial programmatic suggestions and

commitments for the upcoming year. Representatives attending the meeting in Tampa were Linda Whiteford, USF, Bob Trotter, Northern Arizona University, Nancy Rosenberger, Oregon State, Paul Shackel, University of Maryland, Ann Jordan, North Texas, Bob Harman, Calif. State Long Beach, Ellen Shlasko, University of Memphis, and myself. In addition to a day and half of work, representatives spent an evening of partying at the home of Linda Whiteford and Doug Uzzell with students and faculty from USF. Also Consortium program representatives made presentations to faculty and students at USF about their programs. The Interim Dean of Arts and Sciences Renu Khator met with us, and Susan Greenbaum moderated the departmental presentations.

During the Tampa meeting, representatives created a mission statement for the Consortium: "To collectively advance the education and training of students, faculty, and practitioners in applied anthropology." Although the Consortium was begun as an initiative of my presidency of the Society for Applied Anthropology, it is a financially independent organization.

Since the Tampa meeting, members of the Steering Committee met at an open forum in Merida at the SfAA meetings in March (John Young, Meta Baba, Linda Whiteford, Tony Oliver-Smith, Satish Kedia, Ann Jordan, Bob Harman, Paul Shackel, Willie Baber, Laurie Price, and myself attending). We voted unanimously upon our name.

Current Steering Committee Members (programs) include: University of Kentucky, University of South Florida, American University, University of Florida, Wayne State University, University of Georgia, University of Maryland, Oregon State University, Northern Arizona University, University of Memphis, University of North Texas, University of California, Long Beach, University of Alaska, Anchorage, Mississippi State University, University of California, Hayward, Indiana University-Purdue University at Indianapolis, and University of North Carolina, Greensboro. Con-

sideration of additional Steering Committee members (programs) will take place during our annual meetings in January-February.

In the upcoming year, the Consortium will be working on the following projects, among others:

- Web site and list serve
- Internship bulletin board
- Short-term faculty exchanges
- Development opportunities
- Review of the Guidelines for Applied Anthropology Programs published in 1994 in the *SfAA Newsletter*
- Materials that would be useful for reviews of applied anthropology programs
- Workshop for SfAA meetings in Atlanta in 2002 on cross-departmental comparisons
- Workshop on the "circuit rider" idea to meet education and training needs for the Atlanta meetings
- Open forum at the AAA meetings in Washington, D.C. in 2001

The Steering Committee members agreed to accept Bob Trotter's invitation to hold our third annual meeting in Flagstaff next January. We warmly invite faculty, students, and practitioners to attend the upcoming open forum at the AAA meetings this coming fall.

A Status Report on the Consortium as of last fall can be found in the *Teaching Anthropology SACC* (Society for Anthropology in Community Colleges) Vol. 7, no. 2 (web site www.ccanthro.org). Reports will be submitted to the *SfAA Newsletter* regularly. Reader comments are strongly encouraged.



Hacienda Teya—Photo by Wynne S. Furth

ENVIRONMENTAL ANTHROPOLOGY TIG UPDATE

By Rick Stepp, TIG coordinator <rstepp@uga.edu>
University of Georgia

Once again, the TIG was very well represented at the annual meetings with dozens of sessions and panels on environmental anthropology. We were particularly pleased to sponsor a session on Conflicts and Collaborations in Adapting to Global Change in Yucatan that was organized by Betty Faust (CINVESTAV Merida). In keeping with our goal of increasing local participation when SfAA meets outside of the U.S., this session went a long way towards facilitating communication between Mexican and U.S. researchers and introduced many to the exciting work in environmental anthropology taking place in the Yucatan.

I would also like to mention our student session that was organized by Will VanDeBerg (Georgia) and co-sponsored by the Political Ecology Society. This session was the largest one yet with over 15 papers given the interest and attendance at this session I expect next year's will be even larger. Speaking of next year's meeting, we are very pleased at the SfAA board's selection of Ben Blount (Georgia) for program chair. Ben has repeatedly done a great job in serving as annual meetings contact person for the TIG. Thanks to his efforts we have been able to substantially increase the number of environmental sessions at the meetings. The theme of the Atlanta meetings is Environment and Health so start making plans for attending now.

Despite several schedule conflicts with the TIG's business meeting in Merida (PESO and Culture and Agriculture met at the same time), the meeting was well attended and productive. The members agreed that we should continue to explore linkages with other TIG's and societies, especially the Political Ecology Society. We also decided that a continued commitment to involving Mexican colleagues at meetings was needed and a position was created for a Mexican TIG contact Eric O. Juárez <ericjv@correoweb.com> graciously agreed to serve in this position. Elections were also held during the meeting and the following is the executive board for 2001-2002.

Rick Stepp (Georgia), Coordinator <rstepp@uga.edu>
Jennifer Gaskill (The IT Group), Secretary
jgaskill@theitgroup.com. Josh McDaniel (Florida), Newsletter Editor <joshmcdan@hotmail.com>. John Donahue (Trinity U) Annual Mtgs Contact. <jdonahue@trinity.edu>.

As a reminder, the TIG has its own listserv (AMBIENTNET) where we will continue discussions started at the business meeting. Contact Tim Wallace <tmwallace@mindspring.com> to subscribe.



Chichén Itzá—Photo by Mike Whiteford

SfAA ORAL HISTORY PROJECT STARTED

By John van Willigen <ant101@pop.uky.edu>
University of Kentucky

Members are invited to contribute to the Society for Applied Anthropology Oral History Project recently initiated by the Society. The focus of the project is broad, including reflections on experiences of applied anthropologists in the past, the history of specific projects, applied anthropology training programs as well as the of history of the Society and other organizations relevant to applied and practicing anthropology.

The Board of Directors has authorized \$2000 for this effort. These funds will be used almost entirely to cover the costs of transcription. Some funds may be used for materials and mailing costs. Funds will not be used to pay interviewers or travel expenses or to purchase equipment. It is envisioned that members of the Society as volunteers will do most interviews for the project. We are especially interested in the interviews being done by persons that have some familiarity with the persons and projects that are the focus of the interview.

You can support this activity in three ways. (1) Suggest persons that should be interviewed about the history of applied anthropology. (2) Interview persons for the SfAA oral history project. (3) Contribute audiotapes of interviews that you have already done.

If you have ideas about persons that should be interviewed contact John van Willigen (Kentucky) <ant101@pop.uky.edu>, Linda Bennett (Memphis) <lbennett@memphis.edu>, and Mike Angrosino (South Florida) who will be coordinating the project. They will send you copies of the release forms that need to be signed by the interviewee and interviewer.

The resulting tapes will be transcribed and archived at the University of Kentucky Library Oral History Program. John van Willigen and Jeff Suchanek, Assistant Director of the Oral History Program will provide liaison between the Oral History Program and SFAA. The University of Kentucky Oral History Program, who will serve as SFAA's partner in this project, is well established. Previous projects of the program include an extensive oral history of political science for the Political Science Association. They have almost 30 years experience in oral history archive management and the ethical treatment of interview materials. Information about the University of Kentucky Oral History can be found at <http://www.uky.edu/Libraries/Special/oral_history/>.

The transcribed interviews will be made available for study. The use of transcriptions may be restricted for a period of time in response to conditions established by the interviewee. Currently some Oral History Program interviews are available on the web.

PRAXIS ANNOUNCEMENT

The Washington Association of Professional Anthropologists (WAPA) announces the Praxis Award. Since 1981, WAPA's biennial Praxis Award has recognized outstanding achievement in translating anthropological knowledge into action as reflected in one project. Anthropological knowledge is interpreted in its broadest meaning, encompassing theory, data, and methods. Nominations, therefore, successfully demonstrate the effectiveness and relevance of anthropology to contemporary social problems.

WAPA encourages anyone holding at least an M.A. degree in any subfield of anthropology to apply for this prestigious award. The award will be conferred at a special reception in Washington, D.C., during the American Anthropological Association's annual meeting. Individuals, groups or organizations where at least one anthropologist worked on the project may apply themselves or nominate others. All applications will be judged by the same set of criteria. The anthropologist's contribution to the success of the project should be clearly indicated. Recognition of this contribution by other major participants or contributors should be acknowledged in the nomination. All nominations will be reviewed and judged by an independent panel of accomplished professional anthropologists. Nominations must demonstrate how anthropological knowledge has been translated into effective action. Nominations should specify the knowledge employed, methods and process of implementation, and the tangible results of the effort, including changes in policies, programs and people's lives. The application deadline is September 7, 2001.

The award carries a cash stipend. Award recipients may also be asked to contribute a chapter to future editions of the volume, *Anthropological Praxis: Translating Knowl-*

edge into Action (Shirley Fiske and Robert Wulff, eds.).

An application form can be obtained from WAPA's website <<http://www.smcm.edu/wapa/praxis.htm>>. Please contact Mari Clark <mariclark@aol.com> or Antoinette Brown <abrown@eurasia.org>.

EDITOR SEARCH ~ PRACTICING ANTHROPOLOGY

The Society for Applied Anthropology announces a search for a new Editor-in-Chief of the journal *Practicing Anthropology*. *Practicing Anthropology* is published four times annually. Its goals are: to provide a vehicle of communication and source of career information for anthropologists working outside academia; to encourage a bridge between practice inside and outside the university; to explore the use of anthropology in policy research and implementation; and to serve as a forum for inquiry into the present state and future of anthropology.

The term of the current Editor, Alexander Ervin, ends in December 2002. 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 *Practicing Anthropology* also serves as a member of the Executive Committee of the SFAA. Persons with academic and/or professional experience in any of the applied social sciences are welcome to apply.

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

The Publications Committee may request additional material. The application deadline is October 30, 2001. Applications should be sent to Ruthbeth Finerman, SFAA Publications Committee Chair, care of the SFAA Business Office, P.O. Box 2436, Oklahoma City, OK 73101. For further information, contact Finerman at 901-678-3334; fax 901-678-2069; finerman@memphis.edu.

CALL FOR NOMINATIONS SOL TAX DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD

Sol Tax provided distinguished innovative service to the field and to anthropological societies. The SOL TAX DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD, recently initiated by the Society for Applied Anthropology, is to be presented annually to a member of SfAA, in recognition of long-term and truly distinguished service to the society.

Nominees should be those who have made long-term and exceptional contributions in one or more of the following areas: 1) leadership in organizational structure, activities and policy development; 2) central roles in communication with other disciplines or subdisciplines; 3) editing and publishing; 4) development of curricula in applied anthropology; 5) formulation of ethical standards of practice; and 6) other innovative activities which promote the goals of the Society and the field of applied anthropology, or to the public at large.

The Awardee will be invited to offer brief reflections about his/her career in terms of distinguished service and applied anthropology. If it is impossible for the Awardee to be present due to illness, the option exists, though not required, for the recipient to send his/her remarks.

Each nomination should include: a detailed letter of nomination outlining the distinguished service accomplishment of the candidate, a curriculum vita, and other pertinent supporting materials.

Nominations are valid for three years from the date of submission. The selection committee consists of five members appointed by the President and Executive Board of SfAA. Please send nominations and five copies of supporting material to: Society for Applied Anthropology, Attn: Sol Tax Award, P.O. Box 2436, Oklahoma City, OK 73124-0083. Phone (405) 843-5113; Fax (405) 843-8553; e-mail <info@sfaa.net>, or visit the Society's Webpage <www.sfaa.net>.

Deadline for receipt of all materials is September 4, 2001. Supporting documents will not be returned unless specifically requested.

The first Award winner will be announced at the Annual Meeting of the SfAA in the Spring, 2002.

BBC DOCUMENTARY

On May 22, 2001, the BBC documentary on the relationship between Male Circumcision Status and HIV/AIDS transmission will be shown on 10:00 PM Eastern Daylight time. The transcript of the Valley is available on the web <http://www.bbc.co.uk/horizon/valley_hiv_transcript.shtml>. The title is The Valley of Life or Death or Death. The "Valley" was shot last year. The footage comes from Africa: Zambia, Nairobi and Kisumu in Kenya, from the UK and France, and from the US. Several persons discuss the epidemic in Africa and others discuss the results of their research. These include two anthropologists (Priscilla Reining and Robert Bailey), and several physicians: Bertran Auvert (National Institute of Health, France), Michel Carael (United Nations, AIDS), Francis Plummer (University of Nairobi), Richard Hayes Prof of Medicine (UK) and Tom Lehner (Guy's, King's and St. Thomas School of Medicine, UK), an Australian (Prof. Roger Short) and an American viral pathologist, (Bruce Patterson).

FROM THE EDITOR

The Merida meetings were spectacular. The weather was great, the scenery gorgeous, the food and drink were delicious, and the papers were all above average. Had Garrison Kellor been there, I'm sure this is how he would have described the 61st annual meeting of the Society for Applied Anthropology. Special thanks go out to many individuals for providing us with a truly unforgettable experience. The folks in the SfAA Office in Oklahoma City — Lindsey Jones, Neil Hann and (our redoubtable Executive Director) Tom May — made sure things ran smoothly,



SfAA Board Meeting (Tom Arcury, Linda Whiteford, Sandy Ervin, Tony Oliver-Smith, & Susan Andreatta—Photo by Willis Sibley

and their behind-the-scenes efforts made life easier for the rest of us. Program Chair Mark Grey and his local counterpart, Francisco Fernández, did absolutely superb yeomen work in organizing everything from schedules to seeing that the buses for the tours showed up on time. Kudos to everyone connected with those meetings. ¡A todos, mil gracias por un trabajo muy bien hecho!

This number is full of interesting pieces. This issue begins with Noel Chrisman's inaugural "SfAA President's Letter" in which he outlines his goals for the next two years. As readers have come to expect, the editors of the Society's other two regular publications have columns. Don Stull provides some facts and figures regarding the demographics of individuals who submit manuscripts to *Human Organization*. The group at Kansas continues to do a remarkable job in getting submissions reviewed and processed in a timely fashion. Sandy Ervin provides us with a preview of the next issue of *Practicing Anthropology*, which focuses on environmental anthropology. Editor Ervin's second term as editor ends in December of 2002 and the search for his replacement begins immediately. Please see the job description in this issue of the *Newsletter*.

Paul Durrenberger tweaks our curiosity and interest with a thought-provoking and almost whimsical piece on how small farms in Pennsylvania might become even more agriculturally and economically sustainable. Paul constructs a very interesting argument on producing legal opium for drug companies.

One of the important roles of this publication is to share with the members summaries of the actions of the Board of Directors. SfAA Secretary Willie Barber's column is a crisp précis of what decisions were enacted over the course of three meetings in Yucatan.

Tom May, in his column "Minding Your Business," reminds members that the *Newsletter* is continuing to shift to an all-electronic format. Hard copy will be available, but you will need to inform the SfAA Office if you wish to receive a paper version.

We welcome the appearance of a column by Chad Morris, the new student editor. As their activities in Merida clearly demonstrate, the student group is enthusiastic and energized. We look forward to receiving regular reports.

As she has done in the past, Carla Littlefield provides us with a summary of activities of Local Practitioner Organizations (LPOs) across the country. Like Barbara Johnston before him, Rob Winthrop, the new Director of the SfAA's Environmental Anthropology Project, informs us about the exciting projects taking place between the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the SfAA. Mary Riley continues to do a very thorough job bringing members up-to-date on the activities of Topical Interest Groups (TIGs) that

are affiliated with the SfAA. Her piece is followed by reports from two new TIGs.

One of Linda Bennett's goals as SfAA President was to establish a consortium of schools with applied programs. Over the past two years, that group has met several times and its membership continues to grow. The Consortium has some very specific goals, and Linda will continue to report on that group's activities.

John van Willigen, the Society's *de facto* historian and archivist has an article in this issue on the growth and development of an exciting initiative – the Applied Anthropology Oral History Project. John explains what it is doing and how one can get involved.

As always, we have a series of announcements that we wish to call to your attention, among these are calls for nominations for two important awards in applied anthropology and the description of particulars for the Editor of *Practicing Anthropology*.

Summer is often a difficult time to solicit contributions for the issue that will appear in mid-August, but I ask you to think about sending us something over the next couple of months. We will be putting that publication together toward the end of July and would appreciate hearing by **July 25**.

Have a pleasant, safe and productive summer.

Mike Whiteford <jefe@iastate.edu>



SfAA Webmaster Neil Hann photographing Whitefords in ruins (Mike, Patty & Aaron)—Photo by Noel Chrisman



SfAA tour group returning from Uxmal, Kabal, & Sayil

The SfAA *Newsletter* is published by the Society for Applied Anthropology and is a benefit of membership in the Society. Non-members may purchase subscriptions at a cost of \$10.00 for U.S. residents and \$15.00 for non-U.S. residents. Checks or money orders should be made payable to the Society for Applied Anthropology.

All contributions reflect the views of the authors and not necessarily viewpoints adopted by the Society for Applied Anthropology, the institutions with which the authors are affiliated, or the organizations involved in the *Newsletter's* production.

Items to be included in the *Newsletter* should be sent to: Michael B. Whiteford, Department of Anthropology, 324 Curtiss Hall, Iowa State University, Ames, IA 50011-1050, E-mail: jefe@iastate.edu. Telephone: 515/294-8212; fax 515/294-1708. The contributor's telephone number and e-mail address should be included, and the professional affiliations of all persons mentioned in the copy should be given.

Changes of address and subscription requests should be directed to: SfAA Business Office, P.O. Box 2436, Oklahoma City, OK 73101-2436 (405/843-5113); E-mail <info@sfaa.net>. Visit our website at <<http://www.sfaa.net/>>.

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