PRESIDENT’S LETTER

By Linda Whiteford [lindaw@chuma1.cas.usf.edu] 
University of South Florida

Portland was beautiful for the annual meeting of the Society in March this year; the streets were full of flowering Crab trees, there were yards of blooming daffodils and jonquils, and there were hundreds of discussing anthropologists! In spite of, or perhaps because of, the critical social justice issues facing us all, the meeting was well attended with fervent and heated discussions about the war in Iraq, the economy, higher education and the role of applied anthropology. Much of the discussion came home during the Business Meeting of the Society when outgoing President, Noel Chrisman, was recognized for his careful stewardship of the Society as well as his welcomed humor. As incoming President, I am grateful to the Presidents of the Society who come before me and provide role models as Noel, Linda Bennett, John Young and others before them.

World events during the meeting this year reinforced my appreciation for the Society’s long-standing and public commitment to social justice, equality, collaboration, and critical discussion. The Society was founded in 1941 to bring together scholars and practitioners from not only anthropology, but from social sciences in general in collaborative identification and analysis of social issues. As it was an early leader as an interdisciplinary social science organization, SfAA was also a leader in generating one of the discipline’s earliest statements on ethics in 1949 and revised in subsequent years. These three early and long-standing tenets of the Society - attention to social
issues, a commitment to interdisciplinary collaboration, and the articulation of a code of ethics were clearly visible in Portland.

As President of the Society, I ask your help in keeping those three tenets part of our identity. I hope to encourage greater co-operation with other social science organizations by continuing the tradition of partnering with groups such as PESO, SOPHE, SCRA, AAA, and CONA. Next year when we meet in Dallas, Texas, we will be meeting with another one of our partners, the Society for Medical Anthropology among others. Attention to social justice issues must continue to be an important focus, as was shown by the decision of those attending the Business Meeting in Portland to unanimously pass the following resolution: “Be it resolved that the Society for Applied Anthropology stands against the use of the lives and resources in a needless war in Iraq.” Ethics, the third leg of the stool, represents our continuing critical appraisal of our actions as individuals, members of the Society, and the Society itself. The theme for the 2004 meeting: “Social Science and Advocacy” provides ample impetus for the analysis of ethics in research and advocacy.

I look forward to the fun as well as the work associated with my new role, and in keeping with that, I have organized a “Dance Committee” to help find creative ways to fund a band for next year’s meeting. Please join me in doing the best we can and let me know how you think we can do it.

MARGARET MEAD ACCEPTANCE SPEECHES

2002 Recipient
Mimi Nichter [mimin@u.arizona.edu]
University of Arizona

I am very honored to be receiving the Margaret Mead Award for my work on adolescence and find it interesting that I have been grappling with some of the same issues that Dr Mead addressed a half a century ago on the interaction between nature and nurture.

In accepting this award, it has behooved me to reflect on why my work, particularly that on girls’ body image and dieting has received such wide national and international exposure in the popular media. Some of the international work I have done on women and health in South Asia focusing on child survival, women’s reproductive health, and infectious disease have seemed equally important to me. Why then has the media been so attracted to this particular body of work, that is, on adolescent girls in the U.S.? Perhaps it is because this topic strikes many nerves. The beauty and body projects that girls engage in during adolescence are of considerable importance not only during this developmental frame but also as women move across the lifespan. The fat talk that I describe where one girl exclaims “I’m so fat” and her friend replies with the culturally appropriate “Oh no you’re not!” is a discourse pattern which is reenacted frequently across households in the U.S. The basic paradox that I try to unravel—how “everyone” can claim to be dieting while American youth are becoming increasingly fat—not thin—is an issue that is only becoming more important to public health practitioners who are trying to understand the epidemic of obesity among youth.
It has been challenging to learn how to work with the media and reporters who want a decade of research translated into a two-minute sound bite. I have been concerned with sensationalism and the potential for stereotyping the dieting and non-dieting practices of girls of different ethnic groups into neat essentialist categories. Over the years, I have learned what to ask for in working with the media—and even if I don’t always get it, I now know how to ask. My experiences with the media have been largely positive, and I have welcomed the opportunity to have my research findings reach a broader audience beyond anthropology.

To my mind, however, the topic of adolescence is still largely understudied in the field of anthropology. What we hear about teens is largely in relation to pathological behaviors: we read about eating disorders, teen pregnancy, and rates of STDs and HIV. Relatively little is known about what constitutes normative behavior for teens of different communities. We have a paucity of information about the meaning of risk from a teen perspective and how young people are coping with their everyday lives. In fact, much of what we know about adolescence is drawn from cross sectional survey research which provides us with only a sketchy picture of teen attitudes and behaviors. It is rare to hear the voices of teens. Unfortunately, the popular media does not look to the research of anthropologists to learn about the culture of adolescents today—they mostly look to psychologists who dominate the field. It is time for anthropologists to recognize the need to study youth in the U.S. as well as the need for ethnographies of teens in the increasingly global world we inhabit.

Finally, I want to acknowledge that my writing reflects the work of a team of researchers whom I have worked with at various points over the years, including Nancy Vuckovic, Marybeth MacPhee, Cheryl Ritenbaugh, and Liz Cartwright. My husband, Mark Nichter, continues to be a source of inspiration and assistance to me. Thank you all for your help and support.

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2003 Recipient
By Tobias Hecht [Hecht@hmc.edu]
Harvey Mudd College

Margaret Mead’s study of gender in the Pacific, Sex and Temperament, was the first book I read by an anthropologist. It was only a short while later when I decided to quit my job and go back to school to study social anthropology.

Margaret Mead, as I soon found out, was decades ahead of most other anthropologists who discovered only in the late 1970s that children could be looked at as something other than passive recipients of adult culture. Since the field of my book is the anthropology of childhood, Margaret Mead has a special meaning to me, and I am as astonished as I am happy to be receiving this award.

The fieldwork for my book, At Home in the Street, was carried out at a time when street children in Brazil and other Latin American countries were the focus of unprecedented media attention and activism. Much of this attention was focused on the numbingly routine murders of youths, and the social movements that rallied against this violence managed to affect a sea change in legislation about the rights of children and adolescents in Brazil.

Street children have long since disappeared from the spotlight and, perhaps, in a way, that makes sense; it makes sense when considering that for every child living in the street in a country like Brazil, hundreds endure what amounts to more private but often equally harrowing conditions at home. What is unfortunate is that attention has not shifted in any meaningful way to, say, the more than four hundred thousand children across Latin America who die each year of hunger in combination with what should be easily treatable diseases.
Children have a way of making it into and out of the news. The sentimental value of Elian Gonzáles’ triumph over death at sea between Cuba and South Florida and his subsequent international custody battle may well explain the extra votes that George Bush did or did not win in the state governed by his brother, but we are now back in a time and a world where it is convenient to think very little about children. But it would be interesting to speculate on what Margaret Mead would say if, rather than studying adolescents in Samoa in the 1920s, she were here to write about Iranian teenagers at the beginning of the twenty-first century, perhaps shedding some light on why it is that young people in the heart of what is supposed to be the Axis of Evil seem more attracted to American popular culture than to militant Islam. She might also ask how the recent war in Afghanistan could look very different from the perspective of children.

I don’t believe in giving voice to other people, but I thought I would end with a short quotation from a young homeless Brazilian whose life I am currently writing a book about:

If you ask me, we know only the afternoon, where we are today, but no one knows what will happen when night falls. At any moment we can be set alight; there are people who would do that: throw gasoline on us; toss a match. That is the risk we run. But life is the trees, the birds, all the things of nature taken together. Without those things, where would we be? The dogs, the cats, the night, the rats that sometimes crawl onto the cardboard where we lay our heads. All of that is a form of life.

“I AIN’T GONNA STUDY WAR NO MORE”

By Paul Durrenberger [epd2@psu.edu]
Penn State

I went to Chicago to put in a week with Teamster’s Local 705 during Penn State’s spring break on my way to the SfAA meeting in Portland.

I’d been sitting in contract negotiations, grievance hearings, riding with reps to their barns, and hanging around the hall to learn what was going on. Sunday was a membership meeting billed as the most contentious of the year because people would vote on changes to the bylaws. Members, reps, steward and officers spoke and voted for and against each of the seven proposals. It was contentious. But nobody could say it was not democratic.

After the meeting the principal officer of the local, Jerry Zero, invited Suzan and me to ride with Teamsters to the peace rally downtown at Daley Plaza at the Picasso sculpture in front of the Federal Building.

Someone told me it would be the biggest rally Chicago had seen. I said that there had been that Haymarket thing about a hundred years ago and then there was that thing in 1968. But there were a lot of people at the plaza—vegans and Baptists; guys in friar robes and clerical collars; Marine moms, Vietnam vets against the war and atheists against the war. There were labor union presidents and staff folk milling around with the peaceniks and International Socialists. Even the Industrial Workers of the World, the Wobblies, had a big sign. Waving in the breeze were earth flags, peace flags, Palestinian flags, and American flags. I even saw a brief flutter of the Red and Black of the Spanish Civil War Anarcho-Syndicalists. Theologians said this war was heresy. Labor leaders said it was a waste of resources that should better be used at home. Baptists sang “I ain’t gonna study war no more.”

That flashed me back to 1964 when I’d learned that song from my professors as they led students in marches against the war in Vietnam. One of the MCs said, “Those of us who were active against the Vietnam War have been waiting a long time for this, but now labor has joined us.” There were students as well. In Portland I learned that one of my former students was on the other side of the Picasso.

Let us all raise our voices until those who represent us in Washington know that we want our national wealth spent on healthcare, on schools, on alleviating poverty, and not to build death machines and destroy the working people of other lands.

Each student announced her high school or university. They were from Northwestern and the University of Chicago, from DePaul, and lots of high schools. One of the guys from the University of Chicago mentioned that the students had walked out of their classes at noon the Wednesday of the previous week.

Penn State students joined that action. I teach a class entitled, “Global Processes and Local Systems” from 11:15 to 12:05. The students had asked whether we would meet. I said, yes, we’ll meet—til 11:45. True to the example of those who taught me the most, I...
led the students from my class to the steps of Old Main to join the crowd while I went up the steps to make the brief talk I had promised the organizers.

The war started while we were in Portland. A colleague with kin connections there had let us know of the anti-war gathering across from the Federal Building. Suzan and I joined the crowd and met colleagues there. Some of them had been around for the anti-Vietnam War activities; some had not.

The Portland people were superbly organized. The Black Cross medics were there with a truck; the legal defense team had people write their phone number on their arms; Critical Mass was there with their bikes. Again, theologians—and Pagans for Peace—and labor were there, including Longshore Workers Local 5. We anthropologists returned to our meetings while some of the several thousand who had gathered dispersed for various actions through the night.

The next evening at our SfAA business meeting, I offered a resolution against the war and we passed it unanimously. Then, with tears in our eyes and voices, we sang the old anthem, “How many roads must a man walk down….How many times must the cannon balls fly….How many deaths will it take till ... too many people have died?...How many times can a man turn his head pretending he just doesn’t see....The answer, my friend, is blowing in the wind.”

The war in Iraq may be finished by the time this Newsletter comes out. If it is, we will be a long time picking up the pieces. And we will know that too many people have died. It seems to me that we who have voices should add them to those of our students, labor, clergy, atheists and pagans.

Let us all raise our voices until those who represent us in Washington know that we want our national wealth spent on healthcare, on schools, on alleviating poverty, and not to build death machines and destroy the working people of other lands. It seems to me that it is the obligation of we who can speak to do so.

I hope that SfAA leaders will see their way clear to return this publication to the dignity of print on paper as the primary mode of dissemination...Simply being on-line seems to have a deteriorating effect on the caliber of writing people do.

After a few years on-line (“the government made me do it”—sorry, Dear Reader, inside joke), now, more than ever, I can see how right I was on nearly every count. But, I remember with reassuring self-satisfaction that even way back in the 1960s, I was already catching on to the “shooting-mice-with-an-elephant-gun” computer scam as I warp-sped my way toward the 21st century at the control board of a key-punch machine. Real productivity and creativity are slowed as everyone—but especially the less gifted—falls prey to the delusions of competency that computers can induce. I almost ran off the road the other day listening to some information-technology guru on National Public Radio talking somewhat disparagingly about “content providers.” Good grief! “Content providers?” He’s talking about the people who produce the information, write the texts, sing the songs, paint the pictures, make the discoveries, and create knowledge! Wake up, guy, the rest is just packaging and shipping. Where have all our values gone? Why do I bother to ask? Just follow the money.

From my tawdry affair with computers, I will yield one point of pleasure. You can find stuff fast on the Internet. But, doing that takes a certain amount of logic and taxonomic acumen, which often are in rather short supply among the most devout “cybernetics” within the ranks of the techno-peasants in the office working caste - perhaps more for want of genuine education, instead of mere “training,” than from some
intrinsic intellectual failing of their own. Which brings me to one of the brightest rays of light I have seen in the dawning public awareness of how badly we have allowed ourselves to be seduced and abused by computer evangelists. Namely, a book by Stanford University emeritus professor Larry Cuban entitled *Oversold and Underused: Computers in the Classroom* (Harvard University Press, 2001)

Although I haven’t had a chance to read his book yet (computers tend to eat up a lot of time and energy that used to be better spent on other things), I did read an op-ed piece by Professor Cuban in my local newspaper (*Atlanta Journal-Constitution*, December 11, 2002, p. A23). There, he succinctly states the case for the marginal-at-best contribution that school computers make to academic achievement and eventual employability and for the drain on public resources that can come from falling prey to computer pushers on the school grounds—propositions that I put forward in the pages of this publication in years past. Can’t wait to read his book.

Now, back to the Internet. I will admit it sure is convenient to make an initial search on the Internet for where to find stuff. But, you have to shovel through a lot of junk (if you know how). Perhaps worse is the fact that, on the whole, the older something is the harder it is to find on the Internet. No wonder we see so much reinventing of wheels and scientific amnesia among some of our younger colleagues (even as I write this, I shiver with the mortal realization that most are now “younger”). Case in point, recently an article I coauthored in the early 1990s was reprinted in one of those “the-best-of” volumes. I dare say that until it reappeared in this recent volume, you could hardly find it in an Internet search (I immodestly tried often over the years), despite the fact that shortly after original publication the article had been first reprinted in one of the then most widely used introductory anthropology textbooks in the USA. (And, no, I had nothing to do with that recent reprint volume. For modesty’s sake, I’m not even going to tell you its name. See if you can find it on the Internet! That’s a dare.)

Back to Neil. He has done a marvelous job of piloting our SfAA digital ship. Slowly, deliberately, and rarely overshooting the mark—even if sometimes (blessedly) armed with only a BB-gun rather than an elephant gun. I have visited the SfAA website many times and found it informative, easy to navigate, and clean in design. Tells the story up front. No unnecessary bells and whistles. Hope we can always stay tastefully (and safely) behind the rest of the pack of web-lemmings, patiently waiting to move in for the digital kill after they have suicidally cleared the way of electronic vermin. SfAA needs to maintain that pace and not suffer too many more of even the modest losses such as Neil describes from our maiden voyage into online submission of abstracts. Indeed, I hope that SfAA leaders will see their way clear to return this publication to the dignity of print on paper as the primary mode of dissemination.

Simply being on-line seems to have a deteriorating effect on the caliber of writing people do. Surely, this is the cause of Neil’s lapse into one of the latest barbarisms in American bureaucratic corporate-speak: “transitioning.” I thought “impacted” and “impacting” were bad enough (if you don’t know what I mean, look it up in a usage guide or dictionary—if you have one). Now comes “transitioning,” as in Neil’s second paragraph, “…the SfAA Office began transitioning much of its communication activities toward electronic formats…” Sorry, Neil, someday it might be accepted usage, but it ain’t yet. (Interestingly, the spelling and grammar “tool” on my sister’s laptop computer on which I am writing this didn’t catch the “transitioning” error; that itself tells you something!) “Transition” cannot be used as a verb. Phrase should read, “…the SfAA Office began to make a transition in much of its communication activities toward electronic formats…” While we must, true enough, learn to swim in the digital sea around us, let us not splash around with the floundering, dog-paddling masses but always cut through each oncoming wave with the firm, sure strokes of style and grace befitting our venerable organization, born in the midst of the very beginning of the age of televisions, jet planes, A-bombs, computers, and—yes—transistors.

Thanks, Neil, for flushing me out and for all you have done and do for SfAA.
STIGMA STILL: HIV STIGMATIZATION AS SOCIAL TERRORISM

By Merrill Singer [Anthro8566@aol.com]
Hispanic Health Council

“As long as we have known about AIDS, blame and accusation have been prominent among the social responses to the new syndrome” — Paul Farmer

The slogan of the two-year United Nation’s World AIDS Campaign, 2002-2003, is “Live and Let Live.” The focus of this global educational campaign is the elimination of HIV/AIDS stigma and discrimination. This is no small task, but certainly one that is of keen interest to anthropologists who have long known that the “social epidemic of HIV/AIDS” (i.e., how individuals who are living with infection are treated, portrayed, and hence, feel) often far outweighs the damage done by the (never completely separable) “clinical epidemic of HIV/AIDS” (i.e., the biological infection and its bodily symptoms).

Stigma has been a topic of interest to the social sciences since before Erving Goffman’s (1963) seminal book, Stigma: Notes on the Management of Spoiled Identity. Since Goffman, however, there has been a profusion of social scientific studies focused on the nature of stigma, its causes and its consequences. A clear message of this body of research is that stigma is a significant cause of social suffering! Stigmatization, in other words, has the potential of being a powerful weapon. As it is commonly enacted against people living with HIV/AIDS and their families and caretakers, processes well described in a forthcoming paper by Richard Parker and Peter Aggleton in Social Science and Medicine. It seems fair to say that HIV/AIDS stigma creates and is reinforced by social inequality.” In other words, HIV/AIDS stigma exists at the level it does because it is supported for political ends. HIV stigmatization, in other words, falls within the common definition of terrorism. Because it does not involve the use of guns, bombs, missiles or other overt physical weapons, but rather finds expression in the way people with “undesirable differences” are treated in society, it seems appropriate to call HIV/AIDS stigma “social terrorism.”

Whether intended or not, one consequence of HIV/AIDS social terrorism is the exacerbation of the epidemic. Stigmatization blocks access to public health or medical intervention, hinders the development of needed social responses to AIDS, and thereby increases the negative impact of the epidemic. For this reason, HIV/AIDS stigmatization harms society generally, not just those who are most directly impacted by HIV. This is typical of terrorism. Ultimately the suffering it produces is widespread across and beyond the social networks of immediate victims.

[It is the violent targeting of the innocent for political gain that is the essential element of terrorist tactics. HIV/AIDS stigma at “best” involves the unorganized, popular labeling of infected individuals for avoidance and, at worst, their organized political targeting for painful discrimination and punishment...It seems fair to say that [the] HIV/AIDS stigmatization...might best be labeled “social terrorism.”]
Recently, the UN Commission on Human Rights unequivocally asserted that the term “or other status” that appears in most non-discrimination provisions in international human rights texts “should be interpreted to cover health status, including HIV/AIDS.” The Commission affirms, “Discrimination on the basis of HIV/AIDS status, actual or presumed, is prohibited by existing human rights standards.” When permutated by state bodies and other groups for political ends, I would argue, it should be condemned, as well, as a form of egregious social terrorism.

There is buzz in Bush administration circles in Washington, D.C., these days that the time has come to slaughter the “cash cow” of AIDS-related federal funding. Money is needed for other things, like the war against Iraq and the bolstering of home security. Moving money out of AIDS services and research, very likely, will encounter stiff resistance, as current federal spending on AIDS is the direct product of a hard-fought grass-roots struggle by AIDS activists. How to undercut the supporters of AIDS funding is the question. One route is the launching of a campaign of stigmatization and blame, including the reviving of efforts to portray most AIDS patients as the far-from innocent architects of their own misery. To the degree that it is possible within the social sciences to predict future events, the current direction of various forces points to an escalation of AIDS social terrorism. Should these events come to pass, having a term available to label the social processes involved may help to mobilize opposition on behalf of the appropriate social scientific goal of limiting human suffering.

**MINDING YOUR BUSINESS**

By Jude Thomas May  
[tom@sfaa.net]  
Executive Director  
University of Oklahoma

The Annual Meeting in Portland (our 63rd) in March was notable in several ways, some of which are important and others are simply curious. It was the first time that the Society has convened an annual meeting in Oregon, and only the second time that we have met in the Pacific Northwest (Seattle in 1997). It was also the first time that we have included the National Association of Practicing Anthropologists as a co-sponsoring organization. For the second time (initiated in Mérida in 2001), the School for American Research (Santa Fe) joined in co-sponsoring a plenary session and reception.

It was the first meeting, according to our best recall, that was held at the time when war was initiated and the observations of one registrant were heard throughout the week - “If one had to be in a geographic location when an unpopular war was initiated, Portland was the setting most supportive to my views”. Members participated actively in the various protests and those who attended the annual Business Meeting on March 21, approved unanimously a resolution which stated:

“Be it resolved that the Society for Applied Anthropology (established in 1941) stands against the use of lives and resources in a needless war in Iraq.”

The participation of some members was hindered by weather problems, particularly those who experienced difficulties in traveling through the Airport in Denver.

We registered approximately 1,200 for the meeting. Of this number, 310 were individuals who became new members of the Society (in association with their registration/attendance). There were 800 individuals on the Program, of whom approximately 30% were students. Many of these participated in more than one session.

The Poster Session on Friday was particularly active this year. There were 41 posters displayed — 28 were student members (and therefore, eligible for the student poster prize competition). The Book Exhibit and Book Auction (Saturday afternoon) were particularly active.

Our 64th Annual Meeting will convene in Dallas, Texas, March 31-April 4, 2004, at the Fairmont Hotel. Program Chair Ann Jordan and her Committee are planning a very active program around the theme “Social Science and Advocacy”.
2002 PRELIMINARY TREASURER’S REPORT

By Diane E. Austin [daustin@u.arizona.edu]
Treasurer
University of Arizona

This is my first Treasurer’s Report to the Society, and I want to take this opportunity to thank Tom Arcury and Tom May for helping me as I assume the role of Treasurer. Thanks to their efforts, the Society remains in a strong financial condition, despite the weakness of the U.S. economy during 2002.

Current Financial Status. At the end of 2002, the SfAA’s assets totaled $353,531.30. This includes $46,797.66 in cash and $70,207.81 in a money market account, for a total of $117,005.47 in liquid assets. The Society also has $236,525.83 in investment assets. This is significantly different from the Society’s position at the end of 2001 when it had $379,696.00, split between $81,179 in liquid assets and $298,517 in investments. This net loss of $26,164.70, or 6.9%, reflects continued national economic problems. The shift from investment to liquid assets reflects a decision to decrease investment in a large growth fund, due to its dismal performance, in anticipation of keeping the assets liquid or reinvesting them in another fund.

The Board has set for itself the goal of having a financial reserve of twice the normal annual expenditure. In 2002, annual expenditures were $347,901. The reserve has shrunk each year since 1999, and at this time the Society must double its reserve assets to ensure its ability to continue operating in the event of a financial catastrophe.

2002 Report. The year 2002 was not as bleak as 2001, but it still was not a good financial year. Excluding interest and dividends, the Society’s receipts (please contact the Society’s Office if you would like to see accompanying tables) for the year were $5,364 above projections. However, when the interests and dividends are taken into account, overall receipts were $29,873 below projections. The areas in which actual receipts were less than budgeted were annual dues ($11,865) and contributions ($12,219); these are likely to reflect continued caution in spending due to the state of the overall economy. These shortfalls were made up by revenue from publications (Human Organization, $32,184) and the 2003 Annual Meeting ($11,981).

Our shortfall in receipts was somewhat offset by expenditures $12,392.23 less than budgeted. Only the costs of the 2002 Annual Meeting were significantly higher ($11,769.95) than budgeted. Much of the increase in administrative costs ($25,281.78) is accounted for by the major decrease in expenditures of the standing committees ($18,751.83) and reflects a decision by the Board to move the costs of web page development ($18,000) from the Internet Committee to the Society Office. Expenses fell below budgeted amounts in Annual Meetings 2003 and 2004 ($4,517.41 and $2,432.00), Contingency funds ($4,692.00), the Oral History Project ($1,190.00), the Monograph Series ($7,900.00), Practicing Anthropology ($2,579.04), and the Newsletter ($3,245.17).

In all, the shortfall in revenues and overage in expenditures resulted in a loss of $26,275 during 2002. As occurred last year, it was impossible this year to cover shortages in receipts and overages in disbursements with dividends and interest from the reserve fund. This year interest and dividend totaled $2,376.51, and loss from the sale of investments totaled $22,163.18.

The Society maintains trust funds to receive and manage tax-exempt donations. During 2002, these funds suffered the same fate as the Society’s investments; a loss of $26,274.86 reduced the fund balance to $353,310.98.

2003 Budget. The 2003 budget adopted by the Board of Directors in November maintains the same general expenditure levels as in 2002. This includes total expected revenues of $362,713, including interest and dividends, and total expected expenditures of $360,248.

2003 Del Jones Winner Tanchica L. Terry with Advisor Ruthbeth Finerman
SECRETARY’S REPORT

By Susan Andreatta, SfAA Secretary
[s_andrea@uncg.edu]
University of North Carolina at Greensboro

President Linda Whiteford called to order the SfAA Board of Directors on Sunday, March 23, 2003, at 8:00 am at the Marriott Portland Riverfront in Portland, Oregon. Thanks to the work of Sunil Khanna, the Program Committee and the hardworking staff at the SfAA Office, the Portland meetings came off smoothly.

Board members in attendance were: Linda Whiteford, Noel Crismon, Paul Durrenberger, Kristin Lundberg, Diane Austin, Don Stull, Tom May, Ruthbeth Finman, Mike Whiteford, Nancy Parezo, Andrew Gardner, Tim Wallace, Sunil Khanna, Bill Robers, Jeanne Simonelli, Andrew Gardener and Susan Andreatta. The two new board members who will join us in November are Lenora Bohren and Alan Burns.

The Board approved unanimously four motions/suggestions:
(1) It was agreed that the head office will not use the fellow and sustaining ribbons at next year’s meeting; Board members will wear red ribbons so that they can be easily identified;
(2) Future name cards used at the annual conference will include the individual’s name, affiliation, and the place of the meeting without changing the font size;
(3) The format of the Board meetings will change to accommodate the use of a consent agenda, thus requiring committee chairs to get their reports into the secretary in a timely fashion;
(4) Reaffirmed the board policy guidelines to have no sessions at the annual conference concurrent with the general business meeting, generally held on Friday from five to seven.

Several Board Members and Sunil, the program chair, were concerned that the “single presenter” rule was not strictly enforced at the meetings. The rule is that a person can present only one paper at the meeting. In addition, an individual can also chair a session and be a discussant to a panel as well as run a workshop. However, scheduling people with multiple responsibilities is an enormous challenge for any program chair.

The Society will not provide LCD projectors for computer presentations. Presenters are encouraged to reproduce their presentations on overheads or into slides or bring their own LCD projectors. On average it costs the $6,000.00 to provide each room with an overhead, slide projector and screen.

Durenburger reported on a meeting of the SfAA Public Policy Committee regarding the AAA’s vision for a Public Policy Institute. Several years of effort have gone into envisioning this Institute, which would be a freestanding entity. At this time the sole request is that the Board offer its blessing to the SfAA Public Policy Committee and its chair, Josiah Heyman, to liaison with the AAA’s Public Policy Institute Planning Committee. A request was made that a SfAA member be on the planning committee. Durenburger responded that this was not assured but that SfAA’s committee would liaison with this group.

Linda Whiteford advised that new initiatives be brought to the board in writing, to ensure that the board approves new activities. Special reference was made to having board approval before adding materials posted on the SfAA’s official website.

Lindberg reported that the Student Committee had discussed and approved the concept of establishing an endowment to fund student memberships/meeting fees but that the committee now requires direction to move the initiative forward. She asked if the committee should draft a proposal listing key issues and details for the board to provide feedback. Linda Whiteford advised the Student
Representatives and members of the Student Committee to work closely with Tom May and the Business Office to develop a proposal and plan, and to present the draft to the board at the meeting next fall.

Linda Whiteford reminded Board Members to discuss with society members about the Human Organization editorship - it needs a new home.

Mark your Calendars:
- √ SfAA Board Members attendance is requested at the AAA annual meeting in Chicago, Illinois, on Saturday, November 22nd at the Field Museum.
- √ The Executive and Finance Committee meetings will be held on the 21st of November.
- √ Board Meetings for the SfAA Spring Annual Meeting SfAA 2004 in Texas will be held on Wednesday March 31 and Sunday April 4th.

REPORT FROM THE HO EDITOR

By Donald D. Stull [stull@ku.edu]
University of Kansas

Last month in Portland, I presented my 2002 annual report on Human Organization. I was surprised that only a fraction of attendees showed up for the SfAA business meeting—I suppose most folks just couldn’t resist the sunny skies and 72-degree weather outside, or maybe they were searching for the elusive Church of Elvis. But as the saying goes, “You can run but you cannot hide,” so here are the highlights of my report on Volume 61 of Human Organization (HO).

In 2002, HO published 32 articles, 1 Malinowski Award Lecture, and 2 Peter K. New Prize papers, for a total of 35 publications and 404 pages. Submissions were up last year—we received 118 new submissions—29 more than we received in 2001 (but still 8 fewer than in 2000). By the beginning of March, we had evaluated 112 of these manuscripts (MSS); of these 42% had been accepted and 58% had been rejected. This acceptance rate was roughly double acceptance rates for the two previous years (28% in 2001 and 23% in 2000).

Two factors contributed to higher acceptance rate. First, 26 of the 112 manuscripts came to us as part of special collections, and the guest editors who compiled these collections worked closely with my associate editor, Robert Hackenberg, and me to ensure their submissions were of high quality. When we remove those 26 submissions from our computations, the acceptance rate dips to 35%, 7% higher than the 2001 rate. Interestingly, in its most recent annual report American Anthropologist reported a similar increase in acceptance rates over the previous year—from 27% to 36%. These figures point to a second explanation for greater acceptance rates—authors are taking more care with their manuscripts before they submit them. And for that, we are grateful.

The staff of HO continues to make every effort to process submissions in a timely manner. Our goal has always been to reach a decision on each new submission within 90 days. For the third year in a row, the average time it took us to reach a decision bested our goal. In 2002, manuscript (MS) processing time averaged 84 days; by comparison, American Anthropologist averaged 150 days. Authors averaged 81 days to revise their manuscripts after being notified of its acceptance. Once we received a suitably revised manuscript, the average time to publication was 169 days. From the time a manuscript arrived in our mailbox until it reached our readership in published form took an average of only 272 days in 2002. Our motto remains, “Get it out the door.”

Of the 186 authors who submitted MSS to HO in 2002, 58% were men and 40% were women (2% are undetermined). Of the 118 manuscripts submitted, 98 (83%) were from the United States and 20 (17%) were from other countries. U.S. submissions came from 35 states and 1 territory, with California (11) and Texas (8) accounting for the most submissions. The 20 international submissions came from 12 countries—Australia and Mexico tied for the lead with 4 MSS each.

This year we went beyond sex and nationality to examine “professional status” of our authors. We classified authors into four types: student, professor/instructor, other professional within the academy, and nonacademic. We then went back and looked at each of the 315 authors we have published in the past four years. Here’s what we found:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Professional Status</th>
<th>Number of Authors</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Student</td>
<td>34 (11%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Professor/Instructor</td>
<td>184 (58%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Others w/in academy</td>
<td>44 (14%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nonacademic</td>
<td>53 (17%)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

In my view, the figures contained in this report are cause for celebration, but they also point to areas that need improvement. The Society for Applied Anthropology is an international organization, and this should be reflected in its publications. Over the last three years, HO has received submissions from 44 states and territories in the United States and 27 countries. We strongly encourage our international colleagues to submit their best works to HO.
Human Organization has long been criticized for its failure to serve the needs of, and speak to, practicing anthropologists. Critics often say it is primarily an outlet for the publication of research by university professors with a bent toward application. Some might look at the numbers on professional status of our authors and come to this same conclusion. But I read these numbers differently. Yes, most of the authors we have published in my four years as editor have been “traditional academics”—professors for whom scholarly publication is a normal part of their professional activity, if not a necessity. But the second largest category of published authors consists of nonacademic practitioners (17%), followed close behind by academic practitioners (14%) and students (11%). In fact, HO’s authors are spread widely across the spectrum of applied social science—from professionals in training to practitioners, both within and beyond the academy, to professors and instructors. Some might argue that more needs to be done to achieve “publication parity” in the pages of HO. I believe the distribution reflects the realities of our profession—realities of research and writing skills, of professional expectations and rewards, of time, of inclination.

The editorial staff of HO is dedicated to the publication of the very finest scholarship on “the principles controlling the relations of human beings to one another . . . and the wide application of those principles to practical problems.” We depend on you to provide us with that scholarship. So get cracking!

REPORT FROM THE PA EDITOR

By Jeanne Simonelli [simonejm@wfu.edu]
Wake Forest University

The Spring 2003 issue of Practicing Anthropology should begin to arrive at your homes and offices. You may have noticed that your copies don’t always come at the same time as those of your colleagues. Issues are mailed based on mailing lists in the Business Office in Oklahoma City, and follow regional mail idiosyncrasies in how long they take to be delivered. So be patient. The wait will be worth it.

This is the time when academic anthropologists and students prepare to return to field sites or are free to devote more attention to applied research projects. For these, and for practitioners outside the University, the spring issue will offer a smorgasbord of insight concerning development programs, projects and research. The individual pieces address what is fast becoming a mantra in development circles, the need to include the “community” in the design of programs. These articles are all by anthropologists who have long been aware of the importance of “grassroots” participation in planning, execution, and evaluation of projects, and who also recognize the difficulties and drawbacks of putting the perspective into practice. In the Commentary section, look for a reflection of ongoing fieldwork by co-editor Bill Roberts, who writes from the Gambia. In “Teaching Practicing” discussion questions arising from each of the articles form the basis of potential classroom debate and colleague dialog.

The Summer 2003 issue is currently under construction. Guest edited by Merrill Singer, we are given an in-depth look at the Hispanic Health Council in Hartford, Connecticut. Individual articles address methodological, practical, theoretical and philosophical questions concerning the design and delivery of health-related services for the growing Hispanic community. In addition to regular features, a commentary looks at some of the unexpected side effects of doing research with people whose lives are less than ideal.

As Bill and I move towards our fourth issue of the journal, we’d like to hear from you. Please feel free to comment by e-mail. Look for a new, dedicated e-mail just for journal correspondence to be established in the near future.

STUDENT COMMITTEE REPORT

By Jon Poehlman [poehlman@helios.acomp.usf.edu]
University of South Florida

Portland proved to be another successful SfAA conference, offering compelling sessions and workshops and providing opportunities for students to meet and network with other anthropologists. Furthermore, at this year’s conference, there were almost three hundred student presenters.
Highlights of the conference included a student orientation and welcome, an excellent CV and resume writing workshop, and a lunch with past society presidents. Several students also attended a grant-writing workshop, which they found very informative. If you missed it, don’t worry, the presenters provided a link to a website that provides helpful information, www.gened.arizona.edu/NPAREZO/grant_connection.htm. Many thanks go to the SfAA Board and the Conference Committee for supporting so many activities that directly benefit the student membership.

Beyond presenting, many students were working hard behind the scenes to help make the conference run smoothly. The Student Committee would like to recognize some of those that helped make it happen.

Thanks go to Anne Ballenger and Chad Morris, outgoing Student Committee officers, for all of their pre-conference work and for their service as student committee members.

Also thanks go to all those who gave some of their time at the conference to help run the registration desk, set up and take down AV equipment, volunteer at the book exhibit, and do other various tasks. Thanks goes to Andrew Gardner for coordinating the volunteers, which included, Sara Anderson, Nikki Brown, Fletcher Chmara, Erin Dean, Daniela Diamante, Jim Dick, Karen Greenough, Scott Lacy, R. Shawn Maloney, Andu Meharie, Yaowarej Mekratri, Danielle O’Connor, Jennifer Poat, Jill Priest, Sheryl Stohs, Pamela Wiesbach, and Ismael Vaccaro.

Additionally, the Student Committee would like to thank Kristin Lundberg (University of Kansas) for her excellent service as student board member on the Executive Committee of the SfAA for the last two years. Andrew Gardner (graduate student at the University of Arizona) will fill in for the last year of Kristin’s elected 3-year term, as she will be out of the country during that time conducting her fieldwork.

The annual meeting is the time when the Student Committee can meet in person for our annual Business Meeting. This year in particular, the student committee experienced a significant change in its leadership, installing a new set of officers. In addition, a change was made in the organizational structure of the Student Committee. In order to best serve the Society and the student membership, the Student Committee has instituted a chair-elect model to ensure continuity of leadership in the future. The new Student Committee looks forward to a productive year, so please feel free to contact any of them with your ideas or concerns. The following are the new officers for the student committee:

Chair
Jennifer R. Wies (Kentucky)
jwies2@uky.edu

Vice Chair
Scott Lacy (California- Santa Barbara)
Lacy@fulbrightweb.org

Secretary/Treasurer
Kimberly Rivers (Memphis)
krivers@memphis.edu

Editor
Jon A. Poehlman (South Florida)
poehlman@helios.acomp.suf.edu

Communications Officer/Web Master
Melina S. Magsumbol (Memphis)
Msmgsmb@memphis.edu

In other news, the Student Committee is happy to report that it will soon have a permanent place on the SfAA website. Plans for the transfer of the current website to the SfAA site are underway, so look for student news and updates on the SfAA website soon.

Jennifer R. Wies and Chad Morris
Representatives from six LPOs attended the annual LPO luncheon, held at the SfAA Annual Meeting in Portland and hosted this year by Pam Puntenney. In addition to sharing local and regional updates, attendees enthusiastically discussed the decision of the SfAA Board to create an LPO Committee, which would be comprised of LPO members, the SfAA-LPO Liaison, and a member of the SfAA Board. Potential roles for the new committee include facilitating SfAA-LPO outreach activities, promoting collaboration with the National Association for the Practice of Anthropology (NAPA), and developing materials to assist LPOs with organizational development and recruitment of new members. For further information, contact the SfAA-LPO Liaison, Carla Littlefield.

The “High Plains Society for Applied Anthropology” (HPSfAA) held its annual meeting in Estes Park, Colorado, April 4-6. Over 60 practicing anthropologists, faculty, and students from several universities in the region attended the event in the mountains northwest of Boulder. HPSfAA presented the annual Omer C. Stewart Award to John van Willigen (University of Kentucky) for his significant contributions to Applied Anthropology. Abbas Barzegar (University of Colorado at Boulder) received the Friedl and Martha Lang Student Award for his paper, “Islam in America’s Urban Ethnic Communities.” Several founding members of HPSfAA participated in the LPO oral history project directed by John van Willigen and funded through SfAA. The purpose is to record the early history of LPOs and archive the transcripts for posterity. The next meeting of HPSfAA will be the annual fall retreat at Ghost Ranch in Abiquiu, New Mexico. For information about HPSfAA, contact President, Clare Boulanger, at <boulange@mesastate.edu>.

The “Southern California Applied Anthropology Network” (SCAAN) has several interesting activities coming up. New members are always welcome at their informal and friendly meetings. Contact Gillian Grebler at <ggrebler@verizon.net> for details.

The “Chicago Association of Practicing Anthropologists” (CAPA) is a growing organization, which invites local and visiting anthropologists to attend their meetings. For upcoming events, contact CAPA’s current convener, Kathleen Gillogly, at <kagillogly@mindspring.com>.

The Oral History Project participated in the poster session at the annual meeting in Portland. Committee members Judith Freidenburg and I used the opportunity to answer questions about the project for those that were there. The committee would like members to suggest names of people to interview. We are especially interested if you can volunteer to actually do the interviews. You can contact me at e-mail address above if you have any ideas for interviews. We had a good response at the poster session. One idea that was discussed during the session was the need to document the early history of local practitioner organizations. There were some suggestions for a series of interviews dealing with the emergence of fisheries anthropology.

Recently the Oral History Project has collaborated with the High Plains Society for Applied Anthropology to document their history. This may serve as a model for other LPOs. Pamela Puntenney organized two group interviews at the meetings of HPSfAA at Estes Park, Colorado in early April. These interviews included Peter Van Arsdale, Deward Walker, and Carla Littlefield in addition to Pam and me. Peter, Deward and Carla often had been active in leadership roles since the early days of High Plains.

While HPSfAA appears on lists of local practitioner organizations it has a distinct regional focus and unique origins. The interviews made it clear that it was originally organized as a regional section of the SfAA in 1981. In 1984 it was established as an independent LPO. Their “professional association” roots can be seen in their organizational structure and to an extent in their programs. In contrast to other LPOs they offer their members a biennial journal, The High Plains Applied Anthropologist, an interesting website (www.hpsfaa.org) and annual meetings.

Other Local Practitioner Organizations may want to work with the SfAA Oral History Project to document their early history. The understanding is that the SfAA Project will have possession of the interview tapes.
and make copies available to the LPO. These tapes will be transcribed and archived at the University of Kentucky Library’s Oral History Program. Transcripts, when complete, would be shared in the same way.

NAPA HIGHLIGHTS

By Ed Liebow [liebow@policycenter.com]
NAPA President

NAPA welcomed new Board members (President-Elect Madelyn Iris, At-Large Representative James Beebe, and Student Representative Alex Costley) to the spring meeting in Portland.

We considered the case of University of Pennsylvania-based medical ethics researcher Sheldon Zink, whose dual role as researcher and patient advocate for an artificial heart recipient placed her in a difficult position when the patient’s death prompted legal actions and a subpoena for Zink’s field notes. In this complex case, NAPA adopted a resolution affirming its support of Dr. Zink’s decision to resist forcibly disclosing her field notes, and reaffirming the responsibility of anthropologists to protect the privacy and confidentiality of their research participants, including protecting from disclosure all original materials that research participants share with anthropologists under the reasonable expectation that these materials will remain private and confidential.

NAPA is once again pleased to announce a competition for the Student Achievement Award, which carries a cash prize of $200 for the first-place paper, $100 for first runner-up, and $50 for the second runner-up paper. Papers should be submitted as electronic file attachments and sent to Alex Costley <awc10@columbia.edu> by October 1, 2003. Papers should report on work that puts anthropology to use addressing real-world recommendations or outcomes in the tradition of praxis and applied anthropology. Papers may be the products of field school internships, volunteer service, preliminary fieldwork, part of a degree requirement, or a contractual product for an NGO or service agency.

NAPA is working with the SfAA and the AAA to promote employment in the NGO, public, and private sectors. One current initiative, in collaboration with the AAA Executive Board, is proposing ways to revamp the AAA Placement Services so that it is more responsive to employment and project opportunities in these sectors.

We are also updating NAPA’s 1997 Strategic Plan, which has served us well for the past several years in its commitments to increasing career opportunities, outreach to educational institutions, and strengthening organizational linkages with other practice organizations like the SfAA.

MARGARET CLARK AWARD 10TH ANNIVERSARY CASH STUDENT PRIZE

Honoring the pioneering work of Margaret Clark, submissions are invited from students in all fields for the annual Award for the best-unpublished gerontology or medical anthropology paper. The Association for Anthropology and Gerontology review panel awards a $500 graduate and $250 undergraduate prize and publishes a summary in its newsletter. Relation to lifespan or aging issues must be discussed.
Submit: address, affiliation, phone; faculty statement of student status; 3 copies of the double-spaced manuscript, and an abstract. Deadline: May 30. Dr. Mark Luborsky, Clark Award Chair, Institute of Gerontology, Wayne State University, 87 East Ferry, 252 Knapp Bldg, Detroit, MI 48202. (313) 577-6790, <www.iog.wayne.edu/clarkaward.html>, E-mail <aa1382@wayne.edu>.

The deadline for receipt of applications is September 15, 2003. Please contact the SfAA Office <info@sfaa.net or (405) 843-5113> for additional information.

CALL FOR NOMINATIONS FOR THE SOL TAX DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD

The Sol Tax Distinguished Service Award is presented annually by the Society in recognition of long-term and truly distinguished service to SfAA. The Award honors the name and memory of Prof. Sol Tax. The 2003 Award was presented to Prof. John van Willigen of the University of Kentucky.

We invite nominations of individuals 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 sub disciplines
3. Editing and publishing
4. Development of curricula in applied anthropology
5. Formulation of ethical standards of practice
6. Other innovative activities that promote the goals of the Society and the field of applied anthropology

An application should include a detailed letter of nomination outlining the distinguished service accomplishments of the candidate, a curriculum vita and other pertinent supporting materials. Please send an original and five copies to: The Society for Applied Anthropology, Attn: Prof. Sara Quandt, Chair, P. O. Box 2436, Oklahoma City, OK 73101

The sessions, panel discussions, open forums, workshops and posters of the 2004 meeting will focus on these questions and others pertinent to the theme of Social Science and Advocacy. The SfAA invites contributions in all areas of anthropological inquiry and social science, especially in environmental conservation and sustainability, agriculture and development, migration and resettlement, health research and policy, education, urban planning and...
community development, technology and its social impact, ethnicity, gender, and class, business and work, society and the law, ethnic conflict and human rights, to include tribal sovereignty and indigenous peoples’ subsistence priorities, and cultural heritage and historic preservation. The meeting will provide an opportunity to discuss the past, present and future role of social scientists as advocates and the implications of this role in research, teaching and application.

FROM THE EDITOR

I hope you were able to attend the recent meetings in Portland. If you didn’t, you have my condolences. I would rate them an unabashed success, but then again I get very excited about the activities of our Society and so probably am not completely unbiased. The sessions I attended were very full of eager contributors. The plenary gathering had a good audience and the Malinowski Lecture was delivered to a packed house. I’m already looking forward to next year’s gathering.

Robert B. Textor, a long-time member of the Society, has made available to the SfAA Office a number of copies of a book that he co-authored. The book, *Uncompromising Integrity*, is available free of charge to SfAA Members. The book is of particular interest to individuals with an interest in Business/Corporate Ethics. The book was published in 1998 and includes case studies developed within the Motorola Corporation. You may obtain a copy free of charge by contacting the SfAA Office.

I wish you a safe and pleasant time and urge you to think about writing something for the next (August) issue. We are pointing at a deadline for receipt of materials as July 25.

Mike Whiteford [jefe@iastate.edu]
The Society for Applied Anthropology announces a search for a new Editor-in-Chief of *Human Organization*, a journal that has been recognized as a leading scientific publication 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, Donald D. Stull, ends in December 2004. The successor’s term will begin on January 1, 2005. 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 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 editorial expertise and direction.

Persons who are considering applying for the position should provide the Publications Committee early on with a letter of intent, which can help initiate discussion and provide potential applicants with necessary information.

The actual application should contain 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
  - A letter of support from the institution
  - A copy of the candidate’s vita or resume
  - A proposed budget
  - Additional material may be requested by the Publications Committee at a later date.

The application deadline is November 1, 2003. Applications should be sent to:

Society for Applied Anthropology, HO Editor Search, P.O. Box 2436, Oklahoma City, OK 73101-2436. Questions concerning the position can be directed to Barbara Rylko-Bauer, Publications Committee Chair (basiarylko@juno.com, telephone: 616/957-2466). Other members of the Publications Committee are: Hans Baer (Arkansas-Little Rock), Nancy Schoenberg (Kentucky), Laura DeLind (Michigan State), Tom Arcury (Wake Forest), Michael Paolisso (Maryland), Paul Durrenberger (Pennsylvania State). Ex officio members are: Donald Stull (Kansas), Michael Whiteford (Iowa State), Jeanne Simonelli (Wake Forest), William Roberts (St. Mary’s College), Pat Higgins (Plattsburgh State), and Michael Angrosino (University of South Florida).