

# Newsletter

## Society for Applied Anthropology

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### PRESIDENT'S LETTER

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*Shadrach, Meshach, and A-bed-ne-go, answered and said to the king, O Neb-u-chad-nezzar, we are not careful to answer thee in this matter. Daniel 3:16*

Like many of you, I suspect, a good deal of what landed in my Lin-box in March languished there until after our annual meeting in Vancouver, when most of what had piled up was quickly dispensed with and forgotten. But two items grabbed my attention and won't let go. The first was an article in the March 2006 issue of *American Anthropologist* (108:178-190): "Reclaiming Applied Anthropology: Its Past, Present, and Future," by Barbara Rylko-Bauer, Merrill Singer, and John van Willigen. They revisit anthropological history to remind us all of the vital role that application has played in shaping and nurturing our discipline. And they make a compelling case that applied anthropology "should be seen as a major and vital component of the broader discipline, reflecting what many-if not most-anthropologists are now doing, and will continue to do, if the discipline is to survive and thrive" (p.179).

The second was an email, dated March 30, from Robert Borofsky about an impending assessment of public outreach in U.S. doctoral programs in anthropology. Borofsky, professor of anthropology at Hawaii Pacific University, is a leading spokesman for so-called public anthropology, a term he claims to have coined (along with Renato Rosaldo). Not only does he edit the University of California's book series by that same name, but he also directs the Center for a Public Anthropology. In a May 2000 commentary in *Anthropology News (AN)*, the newsletter of the American Anthropological Association (AAA), he says that "Public anthropology engages issues and audiences beyond today's self-imposed disciplinary boundaries...in ways that others...are able to understand...Public anthropology is theoretically-oriented in its sensitivity to hegemonies; practically-oriented in addressing real social problems."



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Invoking SfAA's mission statement, Borofsky admits that "one is hard pressed to differentiate" public and applied anthropology. "Theory and application merge in both," he says. "But applied anthropology today tends to be depicted-often unfairly-as focusing primarily on concrete, practical problems that others have conceptually defined for them" (p.9).

The desire on the part of anthropologists to be heard beyond the halls of the academy and the musty pages of arcane academic journals is an old one, but lately it has become all the rage among members at the core of the profession. In his 1995 AAA Presidential Address, titled "The Future of Anthropology," James Peacock proposes "a flourishing redirection of our field into a prominent position in society. Anthropology...would become integral and even leading in addressing the complex challenges of a transnational, yet grounded humanity. Society needs anthropology. ...But in order to address that societal need ourselves, we must redirect our focus. ...We must make a difference beyond the discipline and the academy." Peacock offers his endorsement of applied anthropology in an echo of Paul Bohannan's AAA Presidential Address of 1980. Such calls for greater anthropological relevance from our discipline's leadership have been consistent for decades.

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The authors of "Reclaiming Applied Anthropology" seek to serve the cause, as Peacock defined it, by noting the advancing convergence between the substance of academic and applied anthropology. This convergence is perceived in the present, embodied in: 1) community-directed collaboration; 2) the rise of nonacademic employment; and 3) increasing use of more efficient high-yield field methods. They point out that "applied anthropologists have been engaged in what is now fashionably called 'engagement'--for decades" (p. 186). Support for this position appears in the special issue of *Human Organization* (Vol. 63, No. 4, 2004) dedicated to "Applied Anthropology in Century XXI" (edited by Robert and Beverly Hackenberg). In that issue, Louise Lamphere writes of the convergence of applied, practicing, and public anthropology, while Roger Sanjek exemplifies the various ways we may "go public" with our research results.

The Center for a Public Anthropology, which Professor Borofsky runs from his home and funds with what he admits are "profits from the Hawaii housing boom," is now conducting "an assessment of public outreach in the discipline's leading doctoral programs." The "degree to which individual full-time faculty...are involved in public outreach activities" is defined by how often their names appear in national print media, according to the LexisNexis database.

This methodology grossly undercounts such citations (if my record is any indication), lists others more than once, and incorrectly attributes wildly divergent citations to some individuals. Nor does it distinguish between stories about anthropologists; stories that quote anthropologists; stories about anthropological research; or op-ed pieces in which anthropologists "speak truth to power," the phrase so popular of late. Do a recent *USA Today* story on a faculty member's research on the 14,000-year relationship between humans and dogs; a decades-old quote in the *New York Times* about a made-for-TV movie on the aftermath of a nuclear attack in a Midwestern college town; an equally antiquated *Washington Post* story clearing a faculty member of research misconduct; or a quote in a *Wichita Eagle* story on the Oklahoma City bombing misattributed to an archaeologist constitute valid measures of public outreach? I think not!

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Yet these citations, and numerous others equally suspect, will be used to rank my department

against 83 others, provided to my dean, and “publicized to a range of national media as well as legislators, trustees, and regents around the country.” In an e-mail to anthropology department chairs dated April 21, 2006, AAA President Alan Goodman disavowed any connection between the AAA and this project and further stated that “the AAA is not an accrediting body and does not evaluate, judge, or rank the quality of anthropology programs.”

Professor Borofsky’s latest effort has crossed the line into absurdity. His bandwagon effect among younger professionals has driven sincere efforts to generate an “Anthropology of Policy” from the field, whether located within AAA or SfAA. He and his ilk have for some time now been trying to reinvent “applied anthropology lite” under an array of competing new banners, while ignoring or dismissing the real thing. It was long past time for someone to set the record straight.

Like Shadrach, Meshach, and A-bed-ne-go, Rylko-Bauer, Singer, and van Willigen entered the fiery furnace, and like those stalwarts of long ago, they too have spoken truth to power—in this case, the orthodoxy of academic anthropology. One need only scan the abstracts of SfAA’s annual meetings, or read the articles in *Human Organization* and *Practicing Anthropology*, or turn to myriad publications outside of anthropology, to know how vital and engaged are applied anthropologists in the world beyond “today’s self-imposed disciplinary boundaries.” Our profession is indebted to Barbara Rylko-Bauer, Merrill Singer, and John van Willigen for speaking out. Let us hope that those who now call for a more public and engaged anthropology will recognize their debt to those who have already blazed those trails. Who knows, maybe some of them might even join our merry band. (Indeed, it would appear that many already have. The membership of the Society for Applied Anthropology now numbers some 3,500, roughly one-third larger than a decade ago.)

*Then Shadrach, Meshach, and A-bed-ne-go, came forth of the midst of the fire. And the princes, governors, and captains, and the king’s counselors, being gathered together, saw these men, upon whose bodies the fire had no power...Daniel 3:26-27.*

*(I am deeply indebted to Robert and Beverly Hackenberg for reading and commenting on earlier drafts of this letter. Their suggestions greatly improved the final version.)*

## 2007 SfAA ANNUAL MEETINGS IN TAMPA

By Nancy Romero-Daza [daza@chuma1.cas.usf.edu]

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Michael Angrosino [angrosin@cas.usf.edu]  
Co-Chairs 2007 SfAA Annual Meeting, University of South Florida



We are very excited to announce that the 67<sup>th</sup> Annual Meetings of the Society for Applied Anthropology will be held in Tampa, Florida from March 27<sup>th</sup> to April 1<sup>st</sup>, 2007. The theme we have selected for the meeting is “Global (In)Securities, Global Solutions, and Applied Anthropology in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century. We purposely chose this broad theme because it encompasses a variety of issues that cut across domestic, national, and cross-national levels. Whether we are addressing access to basic resources such as clean water, clean air, adequate food supplies and shelter, or dealing with issues of health, education, public governance, or with ethnic, class, and social relations, we are always confronted with questions about who has access to resources, who is secure, and who is vulnerable. While we, as applied anthropologists, have made significant contributions in documenting and bringing to the forefront issues of differential access, perhaps our major contribution has been, and will continue to be, finding solutions and developing strategies to address these very complex issues. Thus, it is our belief that the theme of (In)Securities provides an overall umbrella for the discussion of our research, *Society for Applied Anthropology*

advocacy, and education efforts as we confront these and other pressing issues in a highly globalized world.

It is also our hope that the theme of “Global (In)Securities and Global Solutions” will facilitate engagement of colleagues from other disciplines not only in North America, but from across the world. Specifically, we would like to invite participation from the fields of public health, sociology, economics, international affairs, environmental sciences,

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political sciences, and geography, among others. To this end, we are considering some specific venues to foster inter-disciplinary dialog during the meetings. For example, we are exploring the possibility of organizing a “Public Health Day” that will not only serve as a forum for interdisciplinary exchange of ideas, but that will, at the same time, offer continued education credit for participants.

We are coordinating with the Consortium for Practicing and Applied Anthropology Programs (CO-PAA), the Council on Nursing and Anthropology (CONAA), and The Society for Urban, National, and Transnational/Global Anthropology (SUNTA) for possible co-sponsorship, and are planning special sessions to highlight the work of professional societies and organizations within and outside of anthropology. As always, we want to facilitate a strong presence of non-academic practitioners including anthropologists and other scientists, advocates, community organizers, and other constituencies. Last, but not least, this year we are highlighting the work of both graduate and undergraduate students, many of who are also practitioners in many community-based settings.

For our program committee, we are delighted to have colleagues from diverse backgrounds and with a wide range of expertise. They include: Mark Amen, Linda Bennett, Elizabeth Bird, Kathryn Borman, Karen Breda, Allan Burns, Carol Bryant, Miriam Chaiken, Susan Greenbaum, Barbara Rose Johnston, Sunil Khanna, Kathleen Martin, Jacqueline Messing, John O’Neil, Bryan Page, Michael Paolisso, Laurie Price, Jean (Jay) Schensul, Jay Sokolovsky, Lois Stanford, Linda Whiteford, and Alvin Wolfe. Our local arrangements committee consists of Glenn Brown, Karen Dyer, Michael English, Antoinette Jackson, Will Michaels, Deborah Roberson, Christian Wells, and Beverly Ward.

Being the first applied anthropology program to offer a doctorate in the U.S., the Department of Anthropology at the University of South Florida is especially excited about hosting the 2007 meetings. We are glad to have the total support of our colleagues, students, alumni, and staff. Their enthusiasm and dedication will definitely be a major contributor to the success of the meetings. In addition, we have received strong institutional support from the university at large, the College of Arts and Sciences, and the newly endowed USF Patel Center for Global Solutions.

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The Tampa Bay region represents a microcosm of the effects that globalization is having on people and places. With a growing and increasingly diverse population, there is a rich and dynamic cultural tradition that is constantly being redefined as people from throughout the U.S. and across the globe set foot in this ever-expanding metropolis on Florida’s Gulfcoast. This cultural diversity is reflected in our food, the arts, local media, and in our schools. At the same time, there are many challenges that lie ahead. Concerns about over-development, limited water supplies, pollution, lack of schools and teachers, and access to healthcare are but a few of the issues that our citizens grapple with on a daily basis.

In addition to being an ideal setting for the examination of the issues covered by the theme of the *Society for Applied Anthropology*

upcoming meetings, Tampa Bay offers a multitude of cultural and recreational activities and attractions that our members and their families can enjoy while taking advantage of the very pleasant weather that typifies the months of March and April. We look forward to seeing you at the meetings and sharing the best of what Tampa Bay has to offer. In the mean time, we would like to invite you to share any ideas or suggestions you might have regarding special activities or events. Please feel free to contact us. Looking forward to an exciting and productive meeting.

## TRUE BELIEVERS AND ANTHROPOLOGISTS IN FISHERIES MANAGEMENT

By Paul Durrenberger [edp2@psu.edu]  
Pennsylvania State University

The organizers of a session on the ethnography of fisheries at the recent SfAA meeting in Vancouver invited me to be a discussant. One of the papers was by a guy who had heard a fisheries economist's talk and thought that to be as important as an economist and be in the policy loop, anthropologists should develop some over-arching theory that will help to understand everything that happens in fisheries in the same way that economists understand everything that's going on with economics.



Put that economic understanding together with biologists' understanding of how life works and you get a blueprint for fisheries, an abstract model that takes into account the payoffs and costs of fishing, the effect of fishing on the population of fish, and lets you know when you should back off the catching or when you can increase the harvest. Governments have whole bureaucracies devoted to achieving maximum sustainable yield. By U.S. law that has to be based on the best available scientific knowledge and there are committees of folks who get together to verify that the managers are using the best available scientific knowledge. This protects the managers from lawsuits because a judge in a court of law will uphold that imprimatur.

Anthropologists know a lot about many different fisheries, but it's hard to figure out where ethnography fits into this management picture. That is because we don't have any theoretical apparatus at the same level of generality as those of economists and biologists. So, this guy argued, we should develop one and then there would be a place for anthropology in fisheries management. Then we could be heard. Maybe important or powerful.

Any theory is a statement that follows from first principles or axioms, assumptions. It doesn't need to be true except in the sense that it follows the rules of logic, and then it's valid, but validity is no guarantee of truth in any empirical way. Science is the task of connecting the theories with what we can know of reality by experiment or observation. The feedback between experience and theory makes science different from religion. If our theoretical formulations don't capture the realities we observe, then we change them and try again.

It seems obvious to people who grew up in state-organized capitalist societies that any patterns in social phenomena are aggregates of decisions of self-interested individuals. From these assumptions flow the economists' tidy formulations. Can they prove it? Of course. Are they true? Joseph Stiglitz, not just a garden-variety economist but also a Nobel laureate economist, says that if they were true, the policies based on them would work a whole lot better than they do. What is missing, he observes, is that critical feedback loop from observation to theory. That's why he calls economics a religion rather than a science (*Globalization and its Discontents*. 2003. W.W. Norton).

The strength of ethnography is its roots in everyday practice. When ethnography and theory clash, a scientific approach must privilege ethnography over theory. This is especially so when the theory was developed as an ideological framework to justify a particular economic system as neoclassical economics was.

In spite of the request for some high level theory, the other papers in the session informed us about the details of management schemes and particular practices and systems in different parts of the world and how they worked—or didn't. That was encouraging because the theoretical formulations are likely to be wrong and misleading rather than enlightening.

These and other ethnographers have shown that the intersection of relevant economic, ecological, and political and social variables defines the relationship between policy and practice and that it is not given to any general formulation except that effective fisheries management is close to the people it affects and involves them. Co-management entails building institutions and creating structural conditions that promote and encourage local communities to manage their own resources and their own development. The goals are the same as those of political and economic democracy and result in resilient and sustainable systems. Our ethnography shows that management for adaptability and long-term system viability is local and not generalizable, that it's practical and that it can be implemented.

Why don't we see it everywhere? What's the barrier? One of them is the bureaucratic structure of economists and fisheries biologists who privilege their abstractions over realities.

So when it was my turn to make comments I said some of these things and added that it's not the job of anthropologists to learn how to speak the language of economists. Our task is to make that a dead language.

As a member of the Scientific and Statistical Committee of the South Atlantic Fisheries Management Council, I had observed abstractions in action as well intended people gather to work out what the best scientific knowledge is and how to use it in fisheries management. I had also reviewed proposals and seen the requests for proposals that generate the research that produces the knowledge. The problem is that few of them are doing anything that could possibly result in sustainable co-management. That isn't even a goal.

Imagine a bunch of well-intended priests discussing how many epicycles and retrograde motions a planet traces as it completes its orbit, along with the sun, around the earth. They compare observations, discuss methodologies and models, and agree on what the best available science is. Give them a proposal to study planetary motion around the sun and you're a whack-job who just doesn't get it.

So when the anthropologist who was on the staff of the Council left for another job, and the Council decided to replace her with an economist, I could no longer lend my support even remotely to such a system and I resigned my seat on the committee.

Does that make economics a dead language? No, but I don't have to participate in the legitimization of systems that produce such products. I don't have to join the chorus singing in perfect harmony that this stuff makes sense or is scientific knowledge. As I wrote my letter of resignation it occurred to me that whatever stock assessments are put before the Council as the best *available* knowledge, it is never the best *possible* knowledge because the Council isn't asking the questions or funding the re-



search that could produce it. To be the best possible knowledge the Council would ask for, support and fund research on co-management, sustainable systems, and ethnography. In the review process they wouldn't ask biologists or economists to evaluate proposals from anthropologists.

I wondered why this guy at the SfAA meeting was even talking about the necessity for an overarching theory akin to economists' models since Tom King and I edited a book that showed the fallacy of such an approach (*State and Community in Fisheries Management: Power, Policy, and Practice*, 2000, Bergin and Garvey). Maybe this fellow hadn't read it. Or maybe he was a true believer from economics and didn't need to see any ethnography or real-world people in action.

Anthropologists know better than to try to convert true believers. We also know it doesn't do any good to tell people in power that they're the problem. But we don't have to join them.

## SfAA 2005 Treasurer's Report

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

This is my fourth report to the Society. I am pleased to report that during 2005, following the positive performance of 2004, revenues exceeded expenditures. Nevertheless, the Society will continue to monitor carefully its receipts and disbursements.



At the end of 2005, the Society's assets totaled \$271,927.05. This includes \$88,096.43 in cash and \$299.70 in other accounts, for a total of \$88,396.13 in liquid assets. The Society also has \$908.20 in furniture and equipment and \$182,454.94 in investment assets. The situation has improved from the Society's position at the end of 2004 when it had \$248,773, split between liquid assets (\$69,292), furniture and equipment (\$1,078) and investments (\$177,323). This net gain of \$22,986.54, or 9%, reflects a significant increase in revenues from membership dues and the annual meeting.

The Board has set for itself the goal of having a financial reserve of twice the normal annual expenditures. In 2005, annual expenditures were \$416,395. Though the reserve grew some during 2005, the Society must generate significant surplus revenues to create a reserve that even equals annual expenditures. At the 2006 Spring Board meeting, the Board voted to create a line item for "Contributions to the Reserve Fund" in the Society's Annual Budget.

**2005 Report.** The year 2005 continued the positive turn begun in 2004, which marked the first upturn in the Society's financial status since 2000. Excluding interest and dividends, the Society's receipts for the year were \$54,282 above projections (see Table 1).

Table 1. Receipts 2005

REVENUES	Budget	Actual	Variance
<b>Membership Dues Total</b>	<b>138,200</b>	<b>135,402</b>	<b>-2,798</b>
HO: Subscriptions	82,400	74,481	-7,919
HO: Back Issues	1,860	460	-1,400
PA: Subscriptions	6,880	6,112	-768
PA: Back Issues	1,944	948	-996
Monograph Series	10,740	2,795	-7,945
Training Manual/Guide/IPR	0	1,574	1,574
Permissions/ Royalties	8,090	8,579	489
<b>Publications Total</b>	<b>111,914</b>	<b>94,950</b>	<b>-16,964</b>
Annual Meeting - 2004	500	75	-425
Annual Meeting - 2005	46,400	69,476	23,076
Annual Meeting - 2006	58,500	121,493	62,993
<b>Annual Meeting Total</b>	<b>105,400</b>	<b>191,044</b>	<b>85,644</b>
<b>Contributions</b>	<b>11,400</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>-11,400</b>
Mailing List Rental	3,400	3,120	-280
Web Page Receipts	2,600	3,650	1,050
Miscellaneous Income	2,000	1,030	-970
<b>Miscellaneous Total</b>	<b>8,000</b>	<b>7,800</b>	<b>-200</b>
<b>Subtotal Revenues</b>	<b>374,914</b>	<b>429,196</b>	<b>54,282</b>
<b>Interest/ Dividends</b>	<b>6,500</b>	<b>4,620</b>	<b>-1,880</b>
<b>TOTAL REVENUES</b>	<b>381,414</b>	<b>433,815</b>	<b>52,401</b>

Even when the interests and dividends are taken into account, overall receipts were \$52,401 above projections (see Tables 1 and 2).

Table 2. Interest and Dividend Income 2005

	Budget	Actual	Variance
Interest Income	2,900	1,184	-1,716
Dividend Income	3,600	3,829	229
Gain or Loss-Sale of Investments		-394	-394
<b>Interest/ Dividends</b>	<b>6,500</b>	<b>4,620</b>	<b>-1,880</b>

Actual receipts were significantly greater than budgeted amounts in two of the Society's three major revenue streams - annual meetings (\$85,644) and sale of the *Intellectual Property Rights* manuscript (\$1,574). Membership dues (\$135,402) did not reach the 2004 levels (\$145,902; see also Table 4) or the budgeted amount (\$138,200). Major shortfalls occurred in revenues from *Human Organization* subscriptions and sales of back issues (\$9,319 combined); sales of monographs (\$7,945) and contributions to the Society (\$11,400).

Expenditures were \$35,310 greater than budgeted (see Table 3). Actual expenses were significantly greater than budgeted for the 2005 Annual Meetings (\$43,923) and administration (\$11,757).

Table 3. Expenditures 2005

EXPENDITURES	Budget	Actual	Variance
Officers Expenses	9,725	3,670	-6,055
Standing Committees	2,635	307	-2,328
Annual Mtg 2005	54,000	97,923	43,923
Annual Mtg 2006	12,500	3,949	-8,551
Annual Mtg 2007	2,500	3,155	655
Contingency	1200	846	-354
Monograph Series	2,500	0	-2,500
<b>Meetings and Projects</b>	<b>72,700</b>	<b>105,873</b>	<b>33,173</b>
Human Organization	64,025	65,846	1,821
Practicing Anthropology	30,900	29,008	-1,892
Newsletter	4,300	\$3,135	-1,165
Administration	196,800	\$208,557	11,757
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURES</b>	<b>381,085</b>	<b>416,395</b>	<b>35,310</b>

The increased costs for the annual meetings reflect an increase in attendance (also reflected in the increased receipts as mentioned above). Higher-than-anticipated administrative costs were realized in salaries and fees, printing and distribution, postage, and bank charges. Expenditures for the Executive Committee and Board were below projected figures (\$6,500) due to efforts by the Executive Committee and Board members to minimize travel spending. Expenditures for the monograph series were lower than projected (\$2,500), reflecting the low level of sales.

The performance of dividends and interest from the reserve fund improved slightly in 2005; the small positive earnings from these sources were slightly offset by a loss in the sale of investments. The result was a gain of \$4,620, which was \$1,880 less than budgeted.

Estimated and actual income and expenditure figures for the years 1996-2006 are presented in Table 4 for comparison. With interest and dividends included, receipts collected during 2005 were \$11,834 above those collected during 2004. In 2005, once again revenues exceeded expenditures, reflecting both the decisions of the Society's Board and Executive Committee to direct energies toward revenue streams, such as the Annual Meetings, with the greatest potential for increase and the general improvement in the national economy.



*Table 4. Eleven-Year Summary of Expenditures and Revenues, Budget vs. Actual*

Year		Total Expenditures	Total Revenues
1996	Budget	\$225,590	\$230,069
	Actual	\$226,500	\$303,348
1997	Budget	\$258,618	\$261,835
	Actual	\$387,795	\$486,039
1998	Budget	\$444,084	\$449,565
	Actual	\$417,528	\$414,615
1999	Budget	\$422,047	\$428,480
	Actual	\$430,524	\$410,286
2000	Budget	\$428,695	\$435,885
	Actual	\$452,268	\$480,123
2001	Budget	\$334,466	\$342,835
	Actual	\$372,508	\$305,383
2002	Budget	\$355,644	\$351,500
	Actual	\$347,824	\$321,627
2003	Budget	\$360,248	\$362,713
	Actual	\$367,328	\$245,986
2004	Budget	\$379,703	\$382,760
	Actual	\$397,541	\$421,981
2005	Budget	\$381,085	\$381,414
	Actual	\$416,395	\$433,815
2006	Budget	\$425,470	\$418,455

**2006 Budget.** The 2006 budget adopted by the Board of Directors in November maintains the same general revenue and expenditure levels as the 2005 budget. This includes total expected revenues of \$418,455, including interest and dividends, and total expected expenditures of \$425,470.

## MINDING YOUR BUSINESS

By J. Thomas May [tom@sfaa.net]  
Executive Director, Society for Applied Anthropology

The Nominations and Elections (N&E) Committee is responsible for developing a slate of candidates for the annual elections of the Society. The Committee met in Vancouver and outlined a publicity strategy and a timetable for preparing the list of candidates for the 2006 elections.

There are four offices that will be decided in this year's elections:

- Board of Directors, two positions
- Nominations and Elections Committee, two positions

The Society established several years ago a policy of designating an equal number of positions on the Board for male and female candidates. Thus, female candidates will be recruited this year to con-



tend for the female position on the Board. Male candidates will be selected to compete for the male position on the Board. A similar policy applies for the Nominations and Elections Committee.

Please give careful thought to colleagues and fellow members that you believe to be potential candidates for these offices. You may then forward your suggestions to the members of the N&E Committee:

Carolyn Smith-Morris, Chair  
Ralph Bishop  
Allan Batteau  
Mary Odell Butler

You may also forward your suggestions to the SfAA Office at <info@sfaa.net>.

## PUBLICATIONS COMMITTEE NEWS

By James H. McDonald [james.mcdonald@utsa.edu]  
University of Texas at San Antonio

The Publications Committee had a productive meeting at the recent SfAAs in Vancouver. Part of our discussion revolved around our continued efforts to find a new editor to replace Mike Whiteford, who has been at the helm of the SfAA Newsletter since the early 1990s. We strongly encourage anyone interested in stepping up and filling the Newsletter editor's position, to contact me as soon as possible so that we can discuss details of the job and application guidelines.

The PC also presented the Executive Board with its report concerning archiving of manuscripts and related materials, which has become a serious storage problem at the main office in Oklahoma City and past editors, whose file cabinets and floorboards groan under the weight of accumulated files. After much discussion, the PC will present a revised set of recommendations that clarify a few key points. In general, the Executive Board was supportive of the idea of electronic archiving as a solution to paper overload.

Additionally, the Executive Board supported a PC recommendation to place the annual index and list of reviewers for the previous year of *HO* onto the web and no longer include those as a print item in *HO*. It was noted by Tom May that the cost of publishing the index in hard copy is not insignificant (about \$1,000 in an issue that costs approximately \$8,000 overall to print). Putting the index and reviewer list would, thus, be a cost savings to the institution or, conversely, open up additional journal pages to scholarly work.



Tom May also provided an update on the transition from Capitol City Press to the company that has bought them out. Tom noted that the production value of our journals has remained unchanged and production costs have remained the same.

## SPRING BOARD MEETING REPORT

By Michael Paolisso [mpaolisso@anth.umd.edu]  
SfAA Secretary

This is my second crack at writing a “board meeting report” for the *Newsletter*. I don’t dare call it a column yet. In writing my first report, which appeared in the last issue of the *Newsletter*, I had little clear idea of what to include and cover from all that is discussed at board meetings. Our board meetings last from one to two days, and we cover a wide range of topics and issues. The minutes I record for these meetings are averaging about 20 pages per day of meeting. It is a challenge to decide what brief summaries to include for Newsletter readers. So, as I procrastinated in writing my second board meeting report, I found myself searching even more for some underlying logic or reason to help me decide what to include or not in the *Newsletter*.



What have I come up with? I would like to provide members with a little “heads up” on what the board is working on, and to provide some sense of the breadth of issues the board works on, both during our spring and fall meetings and in between those meetings, mainly through emails and phone calls. Much of this work is ongoing and consists of reviewing and discussing reports submitted by chairs of SfAA committees and others, such as program chairs for annual meetings, at either our spring meeting (when we meet during the Society’s annual meeting) or fall meeting (when we meet at the American Anthropological Association’s annual meeting). So, here goes.

We held our board meeting at the Society’s annual meeting in Vancouver on Wednesday, March 29<sup>th</sup> and Saturday April 1<sup>st</sup>. Over these two days, we discussed a wide range of issues and topics of relevance to the Society’s governance and organization. One topic I thought the membership would be interested in learning about is the proposal to develop a SfAA online membership directory. At the board’s request, Merrill Singer prepared a report for us to review on the different options for developing and maintaining an online membership directory. (The last SfAA membership directory was produced in 1992 and is available only in hard copy.)

Overall, board members were very supportive and enthusiastic about developing an online directory. The board is envisioning an online directory that would contain member contact information that could be used in a variety of ways, such as for finding consultants, identifying reviewers, organizing sessions, seeking contributors to publications, finding “lost” colleagues, soliciting assistance for research and teaching, directing students, and networking in general. Neil Hann of the SfAA office provided us with initial information on the technical and management costs of developing and operating an online membership directory. We also discussed at length two issues related to the online directory: first, whether the directory should be for SfAA members only or whether it should be available (and how) to other individuals and organizations and, second, what required and optional information should be included on our members. The board will continue discussing these issues and others relevant to developing an online membership directory. We have set the goal of voting on a plan for the directory at this year’s fall board meeting.

Our board meeting agenda always includes a number of updates and progress reports from committee chairs and others. In Vancouver, we received a very informative update from Nancy Romero-Daza and David Himmelgreen on the work of the program chairs for the 2007 annual meetings in Tampa. It was very encouraging to hear about their efforts to collaborate with other centers and programs at the University of South Florida, and beyond, to enrich and strengthen the meeting’s theme of “Global Inse-

curities, Global Solutions.” Board members provided a number of other possible collaborators for the program chairs to explore.

We also received very informative reports from the editors of our SfAA journals. David Griffith (co-editor of *Human Organization*) updated the board on the publication and review process of *HO*. It was clear that he and co-editor Jeffrey Johnson have made good progress in developing their review and management systems, including the use of an online review system, and that they are beginning to hit their stride. We had a good discussion of a recurring problem today for journals: how to find reviewers for articles and then ensure that reviews are completed in a timely manner. Board members discussed with David a number of suggestions for increasing the number of reviewers and decreasing the time for reviews to be completed.

Jeanne Simonelli and Bill Roberts (co-editors of *Practicing Anthropology*) reported to the board that recent issues of *PA* have generated more responses from members than usual, which they both see as a positive development. They also shared with board members their goal for future issues of *PA* to have a balance of “special issue” papers with independently submitted papers. Finally, SfAA Executive Director Tom May presented board members with the first installment of booklets or guidelines for our standing committees. These booklets contain the history, charges, and procedures for our committees. They also will be invaluable in providing new committee members an understanding of committee goals and responsibilities. The board is currently reviewing the booklets for the award committees (Del Jones, Malinowski, Mead, New, Spicer and Tax), and sending Tom and President Don Stull their comments.

The board is already considering possible sites for the 2008 annual meeting. We are scheduled to hold the meeting in a “central region” of the United States. After discussing a wide range of sites, the board decided on pursuing three possible sites for the meeting, and has asked Tom May to collect logistical information for each. The three sites are Memphis, Santa Fe and San Antonio. Our goal is to make a decision by this year’s fall board meeting at the latest.

Finally, in Vancouver the board also welcomed two new members: Riall Nolan and Merrill Eisenberg, as well as our new President-Elect (and ex-Secretary and my mentor for the position), Susan Andreatta. We also said goodbye and thanks to departing board members Allan Burns and Lenora Bohren, as well as Past-President Linda Whiteford. And that’s a quick wrap from the Secretary’s desk.

## STUDENT COMMITTEE REPORT

By David M. Hoffman [david.m.hoffman@Colorado.edu]  
University of Colorado—Boulder

**H**ello to everyone and happy end of the spring semester! It is hard to believe that the academic year has gone by so fast, but alas the beautiful flowers springing up all around Boulder don’t lie! In reflection of the passing of seasons, it is also time for me to move on. I am writing my last column as the editor for the student committee, and will be handing my duties over to Angela Leggett for the summer column, while I head off to Costa Rica to be a professor at the University for Peace. It has been a great pleasure to serve on the student committee, especially because of all the great things that have been happening!



By all accounts the student events at the SfAA Annual Meetings in Vancouver last month were a smashing success. First and foremost we must extend a hearty thank you to the SfAA Business Office and Board for their financial and logistical assistance with the student events at the meetings! The big-  
*Society for Applied Anthropology*

gest news is that we awarded our first Annual Student Endowed Award to Andrea Frantz, an undergraduate anthropology student at Bloomsburg University in Pennsylvania.

All of the applicants for the student-endowed award were exceptional, and we were hard pressed to choose one of them. Alas, we only had one award to give, and Andrea's accomplishments and future applied research warranted our support. Andrea was presented with a \$175 check and a certificate at the Awards Ceremony. Congratulations Andrea! In addition, the Student Committee sponsored the annual "Past Presidents Luncheon," which was also well attended. Committee members were particularly pleased with the special student session with the Margaret Mead Award winner, Dr. Luke Erik Lassiter. The session was well attended with an excellent and informative question and answer session. Of course, we look forward to maintaining this unique opportunity for students to interact with such eminent anthropologists. Also, the Student Committee staffed an information table at registration, which proved to be a very effective manner to communicate about student events! Thank you to all those who volunteered their time to staff the table!

In addition to those fun events, the Student Committee was also able to discuss future issues, ideas, and needs for the coming year at the Business Meeting. The committee is considering reviving student-led advice sessions at the Annual Meetings, which would help students understand processes like "applying to graduate school", "giving a professional talk," "making posters," and "how to apply for academic (and non-academic) jobs." In addition, we are now considering ways that we can improve communication with students via the SfAA's webpage and the student forum.

It is clear that student participation in the SfAA and the Annual Meetings is on the rise, which is a trend that the Committee hopes to foment. Again, it has been a great pleasure to serve during this time of growth and change for the Student Committee. I look forward to seeing you all again at the 2007 Annual Meetings!

## A DIFFERENT KIND OF NAPA NEWS

By Madelyn Iris [miris@northwestern.edu]  
Northwestern University

This is going to be a different kind of column from the NAPA president. Normally, I would write about NAPA's achievements, what business was conducted at our Spring Governing Council meeting in Vancouver, and other assorted doings. But, I am not going to do that. I want to use my allotted space in this newsletter to present some personal reflections, about several issues that have touched me and troubled me, and caused me, my friends, and my colleagues, to think about what we do on a daily basis, the meaning of our work in the larger scheme of life, how we balance our passions with the practicalities of making a living, and ultimately, the choices we make. I'm not exactly sure what it has to do with being an applied or practicing anthropologist, but I think it does.



This has not been an unusual week. Each day my husband and I receive one, two or even three requests for donations to support some worthy cause, and occasionally, a cause that seems somewhat unworthy, at least to us. This week we were asked to donate to a nonprofit organization that is developing housing and work opportunities for young adults with developmental disabilities. Since my younger son was developmentally disabled, I will write the check.

Last night I attended a dinner sponsored by a small, private foundation that has developed an after school program for junior high and high school students. The program matches them with older adults

with advanced Alzheimer's disease, in the belief that empathic communication with persons with severe dementia is possible, and that personhood and identity persist despite significant deterioration in cognitive function. I was deeply moved by a video produced by this organization that showed the process by which a young artist created a series of biographical paintings of five nursing home residents with advanced Alzheimer's disease. Because I know this is a worthy program, I will send a check.

This afternoon I lunched with about 1600 other people, mostly women, at a "power luncheon" for Jan Schakowsky, my district's congressional representative to the U.S. House, and a powerhouse in the Democratic Party. Jan spoke with passion about the need for change in our political leadership, the role of women in political life, her desire to create a better world - all the things you might expect a candidate to say (but she said it all so well!), and in the end, she asked for my money. She too will receive a check. Finally, this week I received a "save the date" postcard, reminding me to set aside an evening next October to celebrate the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the founding of the social service organization for which I now work. I know they are going to ask for my money eventually!

But as a friend at the luncheon commented, "It's easy to write a check." And she's right. There is a sense of abdicating responsibility, or denying one's passion that comes with simply sending money. But doing more requires more - and often entails stepping outside one's comfort zone, one's safe space, and taking a chance.

There are two things happening in the world today that make me wonder what I, individually, and we, as anthropologists, are doing, personally and as a profession, and how much chance we are willing to take. The first "thing" seems ethically clear to me, and presents no moral dilemmas. This is the genocide in Darfur. For me, as a Jew, genocide is personal. So I am struggling with how to reconcile my faith in the power of "Never Again" with my sense of disbelief, impotence and helplessness. I don't want to look back and say, "But I didn't know." I can send money, and I have, but that is hardly enough.

**There is a sense of abdicating responsibility, or denying one's passion that comes with simply sending money. But doing more requires more - and often entails stepping outside one's comfort zone, one's safe space, and taking a chance.**

The second thing is immigrant rights, for me a more complex issue. I was a "witness" to the first immigration rights rally here in Chicago - as I was caught up in the massive traffic jams caused by the hundreds of thousands of marchers on their way to the Federal Building in Chicago. I was on my way to conduct a focus group! In a few days there will be another march and rally, and this time there will be hundreds of thousands more marching - as immigrants and the descendants of immigrants join together to make their voices heard. As the grandchild of immigrants, I feel I have a stake in this issue as well, and wonder how to speak and what I wish to say.

These are my personal thoughts. But I have some from my professional brain as well. This evening, as I was writing this piece, I scanned the websites for both AAA and SfAA and found no current postings that addressed these two front-page topics. Nor have I received any email blasts telling me to write my congress people or the president, or send a letter to the UN. No one has sent me a fact sheet or an impassioned plea to send money so that the organization can send a delegation to D.C.

So I wonder - as a discipline, what is anthropology doing to contribute its knowledge and special perspective? What are individual anthropologists doing, and why are we not hearing about them? Why are their acts not on the front page of our two premier associations' websites? How do we move past verbiage, reports, and forums, to confront the most basic human problems? Anthropology is not a synonym for activism, but we have long bemoaned the lack of the anthropological voice in the public policy sphere. But where is that voice and what does it have to say?

## REPORT FROM *HO* EDITORS

By David Griffith [GRIFFITHD@MAIL.ECU.EDU]  
Co-editor *HO*  
East Carolina University

It has been a busy and productive first year and a half of editing *Human Organization* from the offices at East Carolina University, with six issues behind us and another six issues remaining in our first term. Volume 65, Number 2 should provide interesting reading to members of the society. It includes on medical support groups and legal issues in the Caribbean, along with six articles that detail commitments to communities in the context of forestry, fishery, housing, garage sales, and health care contexts.

As the above passage suggests, most of our submissions and publications come from medical anthropology, and we would like to encourage potential authors working in other fields to assure that we represent the full range of subjects that applied anthropologists take on. Along these lines, we are currently working with guest editors of two special issues: one on fisheries and one on property and ecology, which we hope we will be able to bring to press either later this year or early next. In the future, we would like to combine guest *sections* of issues rather than entire issues devoted to a single subject, as this opens up the pages of the journal to individually submitted pieces.

During the editor's session at the meetings in Vancouver, I was pleased with the number of potential authors who spoke with me about potential submissions. Jeff and I are open to discussing individual papers or groups of papers with authors (preferably through e-mail), and find that this can reduce the time it takes to review and decide upon manuscripts. We are extremely thankful to those who have completed reviews for us, and again make two appeals: one to those whom we contact for reviews, to seriously consider taking on this valuable professional service to fellow society members; and the second to authors, to include in their submissions suggestions for competent reviewers.



## REPORT FROM *PA* EDITORS

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

Bill Roberts [wcroberts@smcm.edu]  
St. Mary's College of Maryland

MSU anthropologist John Stone served as guest co-editor for the spring issue of *Practicing Anthropology*, which takes a cover-to-cover look at social issues associated with nanotech's emergence. The special issue--focused exclusively on nanotechnology in society--is a first-of-its kind effort among North American social science journals.

"National interest in nanotech crosses private, government, academic and nonprofit sectors," said Stone, a researcher at the Institute for Food and Agricultural Standards at MSU. "This special issue presents multi-disciplinary social science applications and contributions in each of these domains."

Amy Wolfe, who leads a team of economists and social scientists at Oak Ridge National Laboratory in Tennessee, co-edited the issue with Stone. Contributing authors cut across a range of institutions, including Intel Corp., the Houston Advanced Research Center, the Chemical Heritage Foundation and *Society for Applied Anthropology*

several major research universities. The articles address topics such as public definitions of nanotechnology, risk perception and communication, policy and regulation, and outreach and public engagement.

Nanotech is the understanding and control of matter at dimensions of roughly 1 to 100 nanometers; a nanometer is one billionth of a meter. By way of comparison, a typical human hair is roughly 100,000 nanometers in diameter.



Some scientists and technologists suggest that nanotech, with its potential to produce inventions ranging from self-organizing machines to smart food and drugs, may eventually prove a socially transformative technology. Others say it's merely a new hype-laden word to describe something that in fact has been going on in research labs for more than a half century.

Traditionally, social scientists and the public at-large have entered into such discussions only after the technology development is well underway -- a situation that needs fixing, the editors say, especially given nanotech's potential.

"One hears in the rhetoric surrounding nanotechnology ubiquitous references to 'playing God' and the accordant promise of things both great and grave that accompanies such endeavor," Stone and Wolfe write in the journal introduction. "[Y]et the creative and technical capacity to evoke such transformation bears a similarly heavy burden of responsibility."

This responsibility should be shared widely, at least according to the National Nanotechnology Initiative, a federal research program established to coordinate the multi-agency efforts in nano-scale science, engineering, and technology. Through the National Nanotechnology Initiative, the National Science Foundation is funding research collaborations that go far beyond the usual science and engineering suspects to reflect to the potential wide-ranging constituencies who might be affected by nanotech.



According to the National Nanotechnology Initiative Web site, nanotech's "societal dimensions include a diverse range of subjects, such as access to benefits arising from nanotechnology, effects on the labor pool, changes in the way medicine is practiced, the impact of manufacturing locally at the point of need, concerns regarding possible health or environmental effects and privacy concerns arising from distributed nanotechnology-based sensors."

The special issue of *Practicing Anthropology* was supported largely through an NSF grant to Michigan State University to study the social and ethical dimensions of nanotechnology in the agrifood sector. (The text of this article is taken from a press release written by Geoff Koch, which appears on the MSU website).

For more information, visit the Institute for Food and Agricultural Standards at MSU Web site at <[ifas.msu.edu](http://ifas.msu.edu)> or the National Nanotechnology Initiative Web site at <[www.nano.gov/](http://www.nano.gov/)>.

In the next issue of *PA*, we return to the Middle East, with an issue edited by Malka Shabtay and Zev Kalifon. Entitled *The Complexity of Diversity: Applying Anthropology in Israel*, this issue continues the presentation of applied anthropology in Israel begun thirteen years ago in *Practicing Anthropology*. That issue pictured pioneering Israeli practitioner Phyllis Palgi on the cover, with none other than a

1950s era Margaret Mead. This issue features Palgi's keynote address to the first meeting of Israeli Applied Anthropologists last spring. We think that you will find these articles thought-provoking on many levels.

The *PA* editors invite practitioners to send short submissions (approximately 500 words) to us for publication in a new section of *PA* that seeks to highlight the activities of practitioners and/or Local Practitioner Organizations (LPOs). These briefs, envisioned to be similar to "Reports from the Field," will provide *PA* readers with timely summaries about the topics, methods, successes or shortcomings of practitioners. Practitioners who use this forum will be able to reach a broader audience, and we hope the submissions will add value to our goal of making *PA* an important teaching resource. Please send your submissions to either one of us.

Now that the Vancouver meetings are over, many of you have filed your conference paper or presentation away, with thoughts to work on it again later before sending it off to a journal for review. We want to remind you that your 15 minute conference paper or presentation often is just the right length and tone for the articles we publish in *Practicing Anthropology*. After the special issue on Israel is published this summer, we plan to publish an Editors Choice volume of individually submitted articles. Please send us your contribution for consideration.

At times you may feel that your *PA* submissions have fallen into the cosmic abyss. We are proud that in the last three years *PA* has come out on time each quarter. But sometimes we take a little more time with reviews than we would like. Our editorial assistant, Alice Wright, does a wonderful job of making sure all of the submissions are properly edited, but like the *PA* editors, she will also head into the field this summer. So if you have submitted, please feel free to inquire. Somewhere between fieldwork, new grandchildren, house construction and international program development, *PA* does get published, and we remain as proud of it as all of the other just listed endeavors!

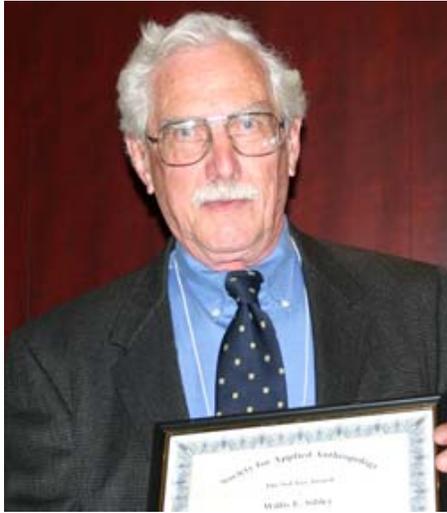
## NOTEWORTHY

### Remembering Dr. Agnes Marie Aamodt

With the recent passing of Agnes Marie Aamodt, PhD, RN, on January 31, 2006, the nursing community lost a dear friend, author and pioneer in nursing education. When the University of Arizona School of Nursing opened its doors in 1957, Dr. Aamodt was the first instructor hired to teach the inaugural class. Her intellect, curiosity and concern for nursing students distinguished her as a great teacher, scholar and colleague.

She is remembered for her love of children and her concern for their health and well being, her study of elderly Norwegians and their ways of caring for one another, her meticulous research and clear writing style, and her contributions to the field of transcultural nursing. Dr. Aamodt was the keynote speaker at the First Annual Transcultural Nursing Conference in 1978, where she presented her research based upon her work with the Papago Nation (now known as the Tohono O'odham Nation).

Dr. Aamodt retired as a Professor Emeriti in 1988, but continued to stay involved with nursing education throughout her life. Her book, *A History of the University of Arizona College of Nursing, From Green Persimmon to Top Ten*, was published in 1997 to celebrate the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the College. Copies of the book are available through the Office of Development and Community Affairs. Contributions to honor Dr. Aamodt's memory can be made to the College by contacting Judith Brown at <jbrown@nursing.arizona.edu> or by phone at (520) 626-2512.



**Will Sibley  
2006 Sol Tax Distinguished Service Recipient**

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.

**Arcury, Quandt Receive National Institute For Occupational Safety And Health Award**

Two senior Wake Forest University School of Medicine faculty members have received a top award from the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) and NIOSH's partner organizations under the National Occupational Research Agenda (NORA).

Thomas A. Arcury, Ph.D., professor of family and community medicine, and Sara A. Quandt, Ph.D., professor of public health sciences, won the NORA Innovative Research Award for Worker Health and Safety for their work in reducing the impact of green tobacco sickness among Latino farm workers.

The award was presented on Tuesday, April 18, on the first day of a three-day National Occupational Research Agenda symposium at the L'Enfant Plaza Hotel in Washington, D.C.

Green tobacco sickness is acute nicotine poisoning caused by nicotine passing through the skin from contact with tobacco leaves. It is characterized by headache, dizziness, nausea and vomiting. The workers also complain of insomnia and anorexia.

"Green tobacco sickness impairs the work productivity and threatens the health of minority farm workers who supply most tobacco labor in the United States and small farmers who cultivate much of the tobacco abroad," Arcury said.

In the research, the two discovered that wet clothing accelerated green tobacco sickness and that changing out of wet clothing quickly or wearing protective clothing could prevent it. Research findings were used to develop health education materials to help workers avoid green tobacco sickness and continuing medical education programs for health care providers.

The research was supported by a NIOSH grant as well as by funds from the N.C. Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, the Albert Schweitzer Fellows Program and the Bureau of Primary Healthcare of the U.S. Health Resources and Services Administration.

The purposes of the NORA award are to "recognize the development of or encourage continued work with a new approach to prevent or reduce occupational illnesses and injury."

### **Luke Eric Lassiter: 2005 Margaret Mead Award Recipient**

The Margaret Mead Award, initiated by the Society for Applied Anthropology in 1979, and awarded jointly with the American Anthropological Society since 1983, celebrates the tradition of bringing anthropology to bear on wider social and cultural issues. The Margaret Mead Award is presented to a younger scholar for a particular accomplishment such as a book, film, monograph, or service, which interprets anthropological data and principles in ways that make them meaningful and accessible to a broadly concerned public. The award is designed to recognize a person clearly associated with research and/or practice in anthropology. Prof. Lassiter was selected for his book, *The Other Side of Middletown: Exploring Muncie's African American Community*, which was published in 2004 by the AltaMira Press.



### **Michael Horowitz: 2006 Malinowski Award Recipient**

The Bronislaw Malinowski Award is presented to an outstanding senior scholar in recognition of a lifetime commitment to understanding and serving the needs of the world's societies and who has actively pursued the goal of solving human problems using the concepts and tools of social science.

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **American Indian Issues Committee**

The American Indian Issues Committee held its 10th annual open forum in Vancouver, with 20 people attending. After hearing about the wide variety of activities people are involved in concerning American Indians and applied social science research, we discussed the need to formalize the group's status within SfAA as either a committee or a technical interest group. Among the issues discussed was the pressure that the global boom in natural resources is putting on American Indians and indigenous peoples in general, among other things. This may be the topic of next year's roundtable in Tampa. The Committee also sponsored a special session entitled, *The Epistemological Problem in American Indian and Non-Indian Relations*, with SfAA members Tom Greaves, Carson Henderson, Neil Henderson, Peter Jones, and Richard Stoffle speaking. About 50 people attended the 90-minute session and there was much lively discussion following the presentations. As a result of these events, about 20 new names have been added to the Committee's informal Internet discussion list. If you would like to be added, contact Peter Jones at <pnj@bauuinstitute.com>. A proposal is being considered to establish a fund in honor of Dr. Beatrice Medicine, which would be used to aid the professional development of Indian people. Details will be forthcoming. Anyone with an interest in helping establish this fund should contact me at above email address. For more information, see <www.sfaa.net/committees/indian.html>. Individuals with an interest in American Indian issues are encouraged to join. There is no annual fee.

## Current Applications in *Current Anthropology*

*Current Anthropology* has inaugurated a new section, "Current Applications". You can see it at <<http://www.journals.uchicago.edu/CA/applications.html>>. Each issue contains a short piece that features work being done by anthropologists outside the confines of academic research. Items in this section present work conducted by anthropologists that addresses the problems and needs of specific communities, collectivities, organizations, and agencies. Rather than being academic in nature, such work is oriented toward application to the purposes of specific social or public groups and often involves their collaboration and participation. This section demonstrates the great range of such applications at present, showing that they span the subdisciplines and that they are conducted in widely different settings around the world. This new section carries forward the commitment of *Current Anthropology* to discuss the role of anthropology in public life. The section recognizes that the community of anthropologists includes individuals who work outside the specific confines of universities, museums and research institutes, whose significant work is of interest to academic anthropologists. This link <<http://www.journals.uchicago.edu/CA/applications.html>> will always lead to the most recent issue, with the newest Current Application. This link is a part of the CA website that is available to the public, including non-subscribers. Non-subscribers can also see the Table of Contents, abstracts, and another section called Anthropological Currents, a kind of News and Views section.

## CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

### 2006 Lourdes Arizpe Award in Policy, Anthropology and Environmental Issues

The AAA Environment & Anthropology Section, through its Lourdes Arizpe Award, has created an opportunity to recognize recent outstanding achievement in the application of anthropology to environmental issues and discourse in international or domestic arenas across all ecological and policy applications. The creation and naming of this award highlights the critical need for anthropological knowledge and perspective in addressing current environmental issues with larger implications for matters of global concern. The scope of the award is broad, and includes the government arena, the private and the non-profit sectors. The Lourdes Arizpe Award combines a practical component (results) with a knowledge-base component (advancement of knowledge) for outstanding contributions from specialists in any recognized field of anthropology. The Lourdes Arizpe Award is a biennial award that honors individual anthropologists or anthropology students, teams, or organizations involving anthropologists, which have made outstanding contributions in the application of anthropology to environmental issues and discourse. Nominations should focus on the contributions and accomplishments of the individual, team or organization in the arena of practice, policy, and application beyond academia. The award can be for work in international or domestic arenas across all-ecological and policy applications, from community-based work to national policy to global applications. There must be evidence of impact or results of the work within the past three years prior to the nomination.

The Lourdes Arizpe Award consists of two award categories: 1) for post-degree professionals; and 2) for students, defined as individuals who were enrolled at an academic institution at the time of the work for which the award is proposed. It is envisioned that both awards will be made biennially in each category - post-degree professional and student. Those receiving the award are not required to be United States citizens or members of the American Anthropological Association; they may be specialists in any recognized field of anthropology. The deadline for nominations is June 12, 2006. The recipients for the Professional and the Student categories of the Lourdes Arizpe Award will be presented in a ceremony and reception at the 2006 meeting of the American Anthropological Association, in San Jose, California. For further information, contact: P.J. Puntenney <[pjpunt@umich.edu](mailto:pjpunt@umich.edu)>.



## Editor Search for *SfAA Newsletter*

The Society for Applied Anthropology announces a search for a new Editor of the *SfAA Newsletter*, the society's publication of announcements, news, events, and scholarly insights. The publication comes out quarterly in February, May, August, and November.

After more than a dozen years, Michael Whiteford (Iowa State) is stepping down as editor of the *SfAA Newsletter*, and his current term will end as soon as the SfAA is able to appoint his replacement. The initial term of service for the incoming editor will be three years and the term is renewable. The editor of the *SfAA Newsletter* currently also serves as a member of Publications Committee and the Board of Directors of the Society for Applied Anthropology.

In addition, candidates for the position should be able to secure release time (where possible) and other institutional support to supplement SfAA resources, as well promote and cultivate the networks of contributors who provide materials for the newsletter.

Individuals interested in applying for the position should provide the Publications Committee with the following:

1. A letter of interest that indicates the candidate's experience and ideas for the newsletter, and any support (e.g., release time, equipment, and/or space) that may be available from their host institution.
2. A copy of the candidate's vita or resume.

Additional material may be requested by the Publications Committee at a later date. Initial screening of applications will begin immediately and continue until an appointment is made. Applications should be sent to James McDonald, SfAA Publications Committee Chair, C/O the SfAA Business Office, PO Box 2436, Oklahoma City, OK 73101-2436. For further information, contact McDonald at (210) 458-4673; Fax (210) 458.7811; Email <james.mcdonald@utsa.edu>.

Members of the Publications Committee: Karla Davis-Salazar (UC-Davis); David Griffith (East Carolina); Jeff Johnson (East Carolina); Bill Roberts (St. Mary's College of Maryland); Barbara Rylko-Bauer (Michigan State); Nancy Schoenberg (Kentucky); Jeanne Simonelli (Wake Forest); Michael Whiteford (Iowa State).

**For best consideration materials should be received by July 1, 2006.**

## FROM THE EDITOR

It hardly seems like it was less than two months ago when many of us were together in Vancouver. I hope you had as fulfilling an experience there as I did. Hats off to our program organizers for organizing such an incredible conference. I know how much work Orit Tamir and Bruce G. Miller did in pulling this off. Thanks, very much, Orit and Bruce, for a job very well done.



Kudos also go to Tom May and his cracker-jack team from Oklahoma City, who did so many things to make these meetings successful. When we register for the meetings, we assume that from that point on things will operate in a smooth and seamless fashion. I suppose that's how it should be, but our business office does an absolutely incredible job to make sure that we actually get what we've come to expect. Believe me, we get a really good deal with our relatively modest dues and comparatively inexpensive registration fees.

Tucked between these pages are some reflections and reports on the recent meetings and more information on the success of these meetings will work their ways into future issues of the *Newsletter*. As always, before we completely recover from one set of meetings, we already are busily planning for the following year's gathering. Program Chairs Nancy Romero-Daza, David Himmelgreen and Michael Angrosino along with their colleagues at the University of South Florida, have some great things in store for us next spring.



If you carefully read the February issue of the *Newsletter* (and who would admit they don't), you'll know that we are looking for a new Editor for this quarterly publication. There is a full-page announcement in this issue that explains application procedures. Should you be interested, and feel you need some additional information about what types of work is involved, please don't hesitate to email me (or call 515-294-3146). In the best of all possible worlds, I would like to make a hand-off to the new Editor sometime over the summer.

We're approaching the time when classes are ending and many of our colleagues in the academic arena are scattering for the next few months. May all of you have safe and productive summer. We will be in touch in August.

*Mike Whiteford [jefe@iastate.edu]*

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