Greetings from amidst the crates and boxes in my office as I prepare to relocate to the new Social Sciences Building at the University of Sydney, and best wishes for the new academic year to my Northern Hemisphere colleagues. As I am sliding through my second semester, I am also looking forward to an exciting ASAO conference in Auckland in February. In this issue, organizers have announced many of the sessions for the Auckland meeting. I expect that many more unique topics will be proposed between now and the deadline for new sessions (see Key Dates on page 3).

If you have a colleague whose research deals with the cultures, histories, or peoples of Oceania, but this person has never been to ASAO, you should tell them about us. This issue includes something new for ASAO: A call for panels. The ASAO CFP is also currently circulating by email, and if you know of someone who might benefit from interactions in Auckland, you can clip out (well, copy...) and send the CFP included after the back page to your colleagues. As always, although ASAO is known for its three-year cycle of sessions, the program coordinator welcomes proposals for alternatives.

Members of ASAO will soon receive a ballot by email to vote on two nominees for honorary fellowships in ASAO. Statements on the nominees are included on pages 13-14.

In other news, ASAO's fund to support the participation by Pacific Islands scholars has a new identity. Introducing PISA: The Pacific Islands Scholars Award. The instructions on how to apply for this award are given on pages 4-5.

Ryan Schram, Newsletter editor
LETTER FROM THE CHAIR

Tulou i le pa‘ia o le vā | Greeting to the sacred relationships

Hello again from a typical sunny but chilly spring afternoon in downtown Auckland. Since my last report, the Board has had a couple of virtual meetings to deal with matters arising which I will cover in this report.

On behalf of the organisation I want to welcome two new members to the Board of Directors, Victoria Stead and Sa‘ilemanu Lilomaia-Doktor, both are committed to serving the organisation for the next three years. Sa’ili and Victoria will join me, Mary Good (past chair), Alex Mawyer, Melani Anae and Alex Golub (incoming chair) to the current Board. Regarding our officers, Barbara Andersen will be stepping down from the treasurer’s role but will continue to be the membership coordinator. JC Salyer, a familiar face to ASAO meetings, has kindly accepted the treasurer’s position and will be transitioning into the role before the Auckland meeting in February 2019.

After much deliberations by the Board and Officers voted unanimously to change the name of the Pacific Islanders Scholars Fund to the Pacific Island Scholars Award or PISA. I commend Chelsea Wentworth (PISA officer), Alex Mawyer (the Board representative on the PISA committee) and Lisa Uperesa (committee member) for their invaluable strategic planning on the long-term sustainability of PISA which included a survey of past recipients’ experiences of the awards. The survey suggested that the awards should be more focused on the honor or acknowledgement of the expertise of each scholar and that a minor change to the naming of the award to PISA would capture the significance of Pacific Island recipients and of the award itself. What does this mean for members? My answer is that there is no real structural change to the workings of the organisation, but hopefully, a shift in mindset in that members are supporting and awarding the work of our Pacific colleagues who would otherwise not be recognised. Like all my past predecessors in the role of chairperson, I again applaud all the members who have kindly contributed to the PISF/PISA, and also to ask for your continued support of this important ASAO award.

I encourage session organisers to make applications to the Pacific Island Scholars Award (PISA) if you have not already done so. Please note that some extra changes have been made to the session organisers recommendations for the PISA. I expect that there will be a large number of requests for the awards so, in addition to reminding you to get your requests in early, I also urge you to donate to the PISA so that you can help foster excellence in Pacific scholarship at our meetings.

Continued on page 4

NEW AND DIFFERENT HOUSING OPTIONS FOR AUCKLAND IN 2019

The 2019 meeting of ASAO will be held on the campus of the University of Auckland in Auckland, Aotearoa New Zealand from February 13 through February 16. The conference will be hosted by Te Wānanga o Waipapa, School of Māori Studies and Pacific Studies with support from the James Henare Research Centre.

Registration will be open on http://asao.org later this year.

We have arranged with the University of Auckland to use the residential dorms at a rate of US$55.00 per night with a free breakfast included. Located in O’Rorke Hall (https://www.auckland.ac.nz/en/on-campus/accommodation/university-accommodation/catered-accommodation/ororke-hall.html), these provide affordable and convenient accommodations on campus. The rooms will be single occupancy, with a bathroom shared amongst 5-7 rooms. We will try to accommodate gender preferences in arranging room assignments. Booking for these will be part of registration and available only through the ASAO website.

Because of the nature of the conference location, we are unable to commit to a contract with a hotel for reduced rates (as they require us to use their catering and meeting spaces). But we can suggest the following hotels near the conference venue.


CityLife Auckland: https://www.heritagehotels.co.nz/hotels/citylife-auckland

Hotel DeBrett: https://www.hoteldebrett.com/

Hotel Pullman: http://www.pullmanauckland.co.nz

Quest on Eden: https://www.guestapartments.co.nz/properties/north-island/auckland/quest-on-eden/overview

Quadrant Hotel and Suites: https://vrhotels.co.nz/quadrant-hotels-suites/

With a fairly accessible public transportation system, hotels further away might provide additional options. If you have any questions about the arrangements in O’Rorke please feel free to ask.

Jamon Halvaksz, annual meeting site coordinator
THE PACIFIC ISLANDS SCHOLARS AWARD (PISA)

We are delighted to announce the 2019 Pacific Islands Scholars Award (PISA) to support attendance and participation by Pacific Islands scholars at ASAO meetings through travel awards and waivers of meeting registration and membership fees. Earlier this year, the ASAO Board approved the name change to this award (previously the Pacific Islands Scholars Fund, PISF) to better reflect the focus of this competitive, prestigious award. Together with the association’s board we are excited to announce other new advances to the PISA at the 2019 ASAO meeting in Auckland!

September begins the application season for the PISA. This award is especially interested in supporting early career scholars and those who have not previously attended ASAO meetings. However, senior scholars are welcome to apply and may receive partial awards toward their travel.

CORE PISA OBJECTIVES

- To incorporate greater Pacific Islander perspective and voice in ASAO meetings, primarily in working sessions and symposia.
- To support and advance the professional development of junior Pacific Islander scholars.
- To increase Pacific Islander membership in the Association.
- To increase Pacific Islander contributions and leadership in the Association.

PISA TRAVEL AWARD DEADLINES FOR 2019

October 15, 2018  Applications due
November 15, 2018  Notification of awardees
December 15, 2018  Deadline for accepting
January 5, 2019  Date to submit reimbursement forms

Please note, funding for this award is limited and competitive. We will not be in a position to support all applicants. In most cases PISA travel awards cover the cost of round-trip airfare. Awards also provide meeting regis-
tation, a year’s ASAO membership, and a $200 stipend for use on meals and incidentals at the conference.

In order to be eligible, applicants must take an active part in one or more sessions, by serving as organizer, presenting a paper, or making a presentation in another format.

The process for participating in sessions is as follows:

- Contact organizers of sessions for which you feel you can make a contribution and proceed from there (see descriptions of proposed sessions and organizer contact information). Session organizers will guide you through the process of joining their session.

- Once you have been accepted into a session, download and review the PISA application form and instructions, and apply by the 10/15 deadline.

For a complete application, you need:

- Completed application form (from the ASAO website: http://www.asao.org).

- Application letter, explaining who you are and what you are planning to contribute to a particular session, and if you have received PISA funding before

- Abstract of your paper

- PDF copy of a quote for the lowest round trip economy airfare

- Student, postdoctoral, or community/non-academic Applicants are required to have a letter of support from their session organizer, and a letter of recommendation from an academic advisor, supervisor, or senior colleague, a CV is optional.

- Faculty applications are required to have a letter of support from their session organizer and a CV.

Please consider applying for PISA awards! If you have any questions regarding the PISA application process or materials, please contact PISA coordinator Chelsea Wentworth (cwentwor@highpoint.edu)

A note to session organizers: Session organizers are encouraged to involve the voices and perspectives of Pacific Islanders in their sessions. Some of your attendees may be applying for a Pacific Islands Scholars Award (PISA), which helps cover the cost of travel to the conference. The applications to this competitive award require a formal letter of recommendation from the session organizer, which is must be submitted directly to the PISA coordinator by October 15. The PISA coordinator, Chelsea Wentworth, can be contacted at cwentwor@highpoint.edu. Letters need to include the following components: topic of session, type of session (informal, working, symposium), a description of the role of the applicant’s scholarship in your session, any information about the past involvement of the applicant in previous iterations of your session, potential of applicant to continue in subsequent sessions, and your expectations for the future of the session. These detailed letters play a significant role in the evaluation of the application, particularly since the PISA is a competitive process. Thanks for your time and care in crafting these letters.

REGISTRATION FEE WAIVERS

In addition to travel awards, Pacific Islands scholars are also invited to apply for registration fee waivers. Waiver applications for session participants and session organizers (two different forms) are due no later than January 20th, and should be sent to the ASAO treasurer, Barbara Andersen (asaotreasurer@gmail.com).

Thank you so much, and we hope to see you in Auckland!

PISA Committee, Chelsea Wentworth, Lisa Uperesa, Alex Mawyer, and Ping-Ann Addo

Continued from page 2

I would like to thank Chelsea Wentworth for her work as the PISA Officer for the last two years, Chelsea is stepping down from the role, so we are looking for a passionate and level-headed person, just like her, to continue the work she has set up.

Please contact Jessica Hardin (ASAO Secretary) and me for more information regarding the PISA Officer role.

We have two excellent nominees for the ASAO Honorary Fellows in Dr Martha Macintyre and Maualaivao Albert Wendt. Voting will be conducted via electronic survey, so please make sure to send in your vote for both or either nominees. Active members will receive an invitation to vote in an email.

Planning for the #ASAO2019AUCKLAND is well in advance, so please read carefully the updates for new and continuing sessions in this newsletter as well as important and useful information regarding the best places to stay in Auckland City including the discounted University of Auckland accommodation available to ASAO members. To make the #ASAO2019AUCKLAND meeting a successful one, we have developed a standard call for papers document, with the help of Alex Golub, which will be sent out to all our networks. A Facebook page will be set up soon containing the call for papers, alert for members about what-to-do while in Auckland and useful hints when travelling to #ASAO2019AUCKLAND. So please stay tuned.

Soifua i le manuia | Live well and prosper

Albert L Refiti, ASAO chair
FROM THE PROGRAM COORDINATOR

Kia Ora! This issue of the Newsletter showcases updated session announcements alongside new session proposals for our 2019 meeting in Auckland. With twenty-one sessions—including six formal symposia—already proposed, Auckland is shaping up to be one of our biggest meetings ever! All session organizers and participants should make sure to review the important guidelines and timetable below (also available on the ASAO website).

Please note the following November 1 deadlines, including announcements for the December newsletter in which the program for the 2019 meeting will be presented: (1) All organizers must submit required information about their sessions to me as ASAO Program Coordinator, and (2) advise me of foreseeable scheduling needs or conflicts, expected audience size, A/V needs, and any special needs. It is also important that (3) session organizers inform as soon as possible of any participants who will not be able to attend the sessions in person, and that (4) participants attempt to limit themselves to presentations in no more than two sessions in order to minimize scheduling conflicts which may disrupt sessions and distract contributors. In organizing the program, first priority in case of scheduling conflicts goes to organizers and discussants.

Please note that there are no guarantees any session will be given a full day. In the past, working sessions have been given priority for all-day meetings in case of limited space. Some sessions will be scheduled for half a day (or less, in the case of informal sessions), as necessitated by program structure. With this in mind, it is especially important for session organizers to have participants do much of the session work ahead of the actual meeting. We are also anticipating news of additional special events or any conference or pre-conference film screenings to be available in the December newsletter.

And lastly—it’s not too late to propose a session for next year’s meeting! I encourage anyone who may still be considering organizing a session (whether informal or working) to be in touch with me as soon as possible.

SEASONAL RESPONSIBILITIES OF SESSION ORGANIZERS

• Submit the required information about your session to the program coordinator by the November 1 deadlines.

• Assist any Pacific Islands scholars who are interested in applying for support from the Pacific Islands Scholars Award. (See PISA Guidelines online.) Advise the program coordinator by no later than November 1 of any particular scheduling needs (e.g., late arrivals, early departures, or potential conflicts with other sessions).

• Advise the program coordinator by November 1 of audio-visual or other special needs. The hotels are responsible for providing equipment for those with disabilities. In all other cases, however, the rental of equipment from hotels is a considerable expense for ASAO. For this reason, organizers should carefully think through exactly how audio-visual equipment will be used in their sessions (and why). In other words, please do not request an AV rig “just in case.” We also suggest organizers encourage their participants to make their own arrangements for costly equipment.

• Send the program coordinator your contact information, and advise of any changes during the year.

• Plan to attend both the opening plenary and closing plenary sessions at the annual meeting. All session organizers are expected to deliver a closing plenary report on the results of their sessions and future plans. If the organizers cannot be present at the closing plenary, they should appoint one of the participants to deliver the report.

SEASONAL RESPONSIBILITIES OF SESSION PARTICIPANTS

Please respect the deadlines for your particular session and your session organizer’s responsibility for meeting the overall deadlines (see newsletter section on ‘Key Dates’). Submit and circulate your abstracts and draft papers on time. Advise the organizer well in advance (before the organizer’s November 1 deadline) as to whether you will not be able to attend the session in person.

Members should limit themselves to participation in no more than two sessions, preferably at different levels. In the past, problems have sometimes resulted from members participating in multiple sessions. For the ASAO format to work, contributors must give their sessions their undivided attention. Multiple participation creates scheduling conflicts, which often disrupt sessions and distract contributors. If you must be in more than one session, please send the program coordinator a note indicating your priority. First priority in case of scheduling conflicts will go to session organizers and discussants. However, since ASAO sessions are lengthy and participating in multiple sessions during meetings is not uncommon, there is no guarantee that scheduling conflicts can be avoided.

All correspondence to the program coordinator should be sent by email at tlefevre@fandm.edu or by mail to: Tate LeFevre, Assistant Professor, Department of Anthropology, Franklin and Marshall College, P.O. Box 3003, Lancaster, PA 17603-3003

Tate LeFevre, program coordinator
FORMAL SYMPOSIA

Healthy Islands, Healthy People: Examining Health Promotion Programs and Non-Communicable Diseases in Oceania

Organizers: Dr. Fepuleʻaʻi Micah Van der Ryn, Dr. Barbara Andersen, Dr Jemaima Tiatia-Seath

This session represents a collaborative effort to develop an array of ethnographically informed and anthropologically framed essays that examine health promotion efforts in various parts of Oceania. Part of the purpose is also to address how these efforts resonate with the “Healthy Island/Healthy People” strategic framework adopted by Pacific Island Ministries and Departments of Health to improve health and wellness across all population sectors in culturally and environmentally appropriate ways. An important aspect of our collective effort is to demonstrate the value of in-depth qualitative ethnographic research to complement the more common quantitative methods employed in evaluation of health promotion programs and strategies.

We are have chosen to continue the Healthy Islands/Healthy People: Examining health promotion programs in Oceania as symposium at the 2019 ASAO Meetings in Auckland. Some guiding questions for papers include: How can anthropological forms of analysis contribute to the evaluation and design of strategies and programs to affect positive health outcomes in communities? How are cultural competencies, identities, and other issues of cultural translation related to each community’s health promotion strategies and projects? Are the target audiences most in need being effectively targeted? How are the health promotion programs and strategies targeting those most in need, and how do they address health disparities? How are the health promotion efforts informed by and locally adapted from the Healthy Islands/Healthy People Pacific framework? Our aim is to have about ten publishable articles ready for publication by May 2019.

We invite additional interested participants to send us notice of their interest as soon as possible, to submit an abstract by end of September 2019, and be prepared to send a final draft of the paper to the session organizers by January 8, 2019.

Please send abstracts by September 30, 2018 to:
Fepuleʻaʻi Micah Van der Ryn, American Samoa Community College <f.m.vanderryn@gmail.com>; Jemaima Tiatia-Seath, Auckland University <j.tiatia-seath@auckland.ac.nz>; Barbara Andersen, Massey University, Auckland <B.Andersen1@massey.ac.nz>

Sounds of the Pacific

Organizers: Karen Fox, Andie Palmer, Nancy Lutkehaus, and Eric Silverman

Following our successful gathering in New Orleans in 2018 the participants in the session “Sounds of the Pacific” decided to convene again in Auckland in 2019 as a symposium.

As of August there are eleven potential participants in the symposium. Some papers may be presented in absentia:
Burke, Lisa (Framingham), “Feeling the Spirit of the Dance: Kiribati Performance as a Sonic and Physical Expression of Place” (To be confirmed)
Hao-Li Lin (National Tsing Hua University, Taiwan) “Songs, Hymns, and the Negotiation of Identities in Waitabu, Fiji” (To be confirmed)
Hernandez, Daniel (Auckland), “Hymns and Hip Hop: Exploring Mormon Moana Identities in Kava circles” (To be confirmed)
Kingi, Pefi (Massey), {Title to be announced}
Lepowsky, Maria (Wisconsin), “Singing with spirits: Soundscapes, aural histories, and aural modernities in the Louisiade Archipelago”
Lutkehaus, Nancy (University of Southern California) From “Crying Songs” to Pacific Pop: Manam Soundscapes, a “Sense of Place” and Cultural Identity
Mahina, ‘Okusitano Hufanga (Tonga International Academy) and Tu’ifonualava Kaivelata (Middlemore), (Title to be announced)
Palmer, Andie (University of Alberta), “Waiata in the Waitangi Tribunal”
Refiti, Albert (Auckland University of Technology) “Songs from the Inside: Samoan vi’i o pagota”
Christiane Falck (Gottingen) “Lost in Space—Nyaura music, politics of place and the Voyager recordings”.

Discussant: John Connell (University of Sydney)

Andie Palmer, Department of Anthropology, University of Alberta <andie.palmer@ualberta.ca>; Karen Fox, Faculty of Physical Education and Recreation, University of Alberta <Karen.fox@ualberta.ca>; Eric K. Silverman, Research Professor of Anthropology, Wheelock College <esilverman@wheelock.edu>; Nancy Lutkehaus, Professor of Anthropology and Political Science, University of Southern California, Los Angeles <lutkehaus@dornsife.usc.edu>

(!) indicates a new session
Schooling in the Pacific Session

Organizer: Rachel Emerine Hicks

At the 2018 meetings, we had twelve people in attendance leading to a lively discussion around issues of schooling in the Pacific. Some of the topics discussed included westernization as a threat to traditional culture, schools as sites of socialization and transformation, the role of schools in reconciling differences and keeping the peace, and the influences of schooling on youth identities. Six people (Mary Good, Rachel Hicks, Helen Lee, David Oakeshott, and Jordan Prokosch) presented papers at various stages of the drafting process and received excellent feedback to strengthen the papers. From this, a few people decided to move to independent publication within the next year. Many people expressed interest in continuing the conversation and joining it in New Zealand. For this reason, the rest of the group decided to convene as a formal symposium in Auckland in 2019. If you are interested in presenting a paper at the 2019 meetings, please express your interest to Rachel Hicks as soon as possible; and send an abstract by October 31st rdhicks@ucsd.edu.

This session seeks to renew the conversation on schooling systems within the Pacific Islands, particularly at the primary and secondary levels (although tertiary level contributions are also welcome). Whether from personal experience at schools or from research about the schooling systems, in this session, we plan to discuss how schools throughout the Pacific become sites of both cultural preservation and cultural change. Some of the questions we will explore are: How does schooling prepare (or not) students for entering the workplace or returning to their village? How does schooling change students’ understanding of their home cultures, languages, and villages? How is the access to technology in urban centers and schools changing the way students learn and interact with their traditional values?

We met as an informal session in 2017 and a working session in 2018. We currently have contributions from research in the Solomon Islands, Tonga, and Papua New Guinea. We would love to have others join the conversation and share the research they are doing on schooling throughout the Pacific.

Rachel Hicks, University of California–San Diego <rdhicks@ucsd.edu>

Facebook in the Pacific

Organizers: David Lipset and Eric Silverman

We continued our exploration of the relationship between social media and Pacific societies in New Orleans. We had an active and interesting second informal session, although a number of people who had participated in Kaua‘i were unable to attend. We remain committed to the project and intend to hold a working session in Auckland at which we expect that drafts of papers will be presented. Topics that were discussed in New Orleans included effects on Samoan language use among Samoan youth living in Auckland, transnational communication among Micronesians on FB, transition from FB to other social media platforms, critical attitudes about FB, youth groups, such as “Planet Tonga,” on FB, the relationship of FB to politics in PNG, stratification and FB in PNG, among others.

Those who attended the session in New Orleans were: John Barker, Maggie Cummings, David Lipset, Mariko Nishitani, Helen Lee, Jordan Prokosch, Peggy Fairbairn-Dunlop, Juliana Flinn, and Robert Foster.

Those who have expressed interest in Auckland include Karen Brison, Steffen Dalsgaard, Courtney Handman, Alan Howard, Dan Jorgensen, Susanne Kuehling, Guido Pigliacio, Kathleen Adams, Barbara Andersen, Christiane Falck, Nancy Lutkehaus, Nicolas Garnier, Kaliapi Kani ‘Kalani’ Young, Cristela Garcia-Spitz, Adrian Tanner, Paige West, Derek Milnes, Lise Dobrin, Grant McCaill, Alex Golub, Allison Jablonko, John Wagner, Miriam Supurna, Tevita Kaili, Willem Church, Wolfgang Kempf, Yuyun Surya, Jan Rensel, Ryan Schram, Sabina Pearson, and Thomas Strong.

If you are inclined to participate next year, please let us know. Participants must agree to submit a full working draft of their paper by January 1, 2019. By “draft,” we mean at least 10 pages of text (doubled spaced), complete with a thesis or argument.

To assist conversation, we have set up a closed Facebook Group (email Eric if you wish to join) and also a public bibliography on Google Docs.

David Lipset, University of Minnesota <lipse001@umn.edu>; Eric K. Silverman, Research Professor of Anthropology, Brandeis University <eric18@brandeis.edu>

Large-Scale International Capital and Local Inequalities

Organizers: Bettina Beer, Tobias Schwoerer, and Doris Bacalzo

This working session focused on how the flow of international capital to Pacific nations in the form of large-scale extractive and development projects shapes and transforms local inequalities. A total of six papers were presented that discussed a wide range of cases, including mining prospects (Willem Church), infrastructure development (Bettina Beer), a hydropower dam (Shu-Yuan Yang), logging and agro-industrial projects (Jason Roberts), large-scale tourism (Yu-Chien Huang) and the conduct of elections as a form of vote and legitimacy extraction (Bruce Knauft). As durable inequalities are relational and thus the product of interactions between different categories of people, attendees paid attention to how inequalities manifest between different entities. We considered differences between gender, age and status groups, between communities that are directly impacted and those that are not, as well as between communities and the state or the corporate forms that are involved. In some of the ethnographic cases local communities were fractured by the diverging desires whereas in others they pulled together to resist these
projects. We discussed the role of land as undergirding local livelihoods, issues of displacement and dispossession, the desire for development by local communities that lead to engagement with resource extraction companies, and the importance of the creation of corporate groups among the local communities for the development of inequalities.

We will continue the discussion of the mechanisms leading to durable inequalities and the commonalities and differences between the case studies in a Symposium in Auckland. There is still space for additional case studies, and if anyone is interested in contributing, please contact the session organizers as soon as possible.

Bettina Beer, University of Lucerne
<b>bettina.beer@unilu.ch</b>; Tobias Schwoerer, University of Lucerne <b>ttschwoerer@gmail.com</b>; Doris Bacalzo, University of Lucerne <b>dbacalzo@gmail.com</b>

Imaginary Peoples of the Pacific

Organizer: Roger Lohmann

Oceania is peopled not only by human beings that anyone can see, but also by imaginary people whom one must be enculturated to experience and know. Our challenge is to understand diverse perspectives on apparently imaginary people, to document their range through comparison, and to explain their causes, nature, and consequences. All participants should send the organizer their papers by October 20 for pre-circulation. These papers should be advanced drafts, as we hope to submit the collection for joint publication as a special issue of a journal. Expected participants include Chris Ballard, *Serge Dunis, Christiane Falck, Roger Ivar Lohmann, Diane Losche, Fraser Macdonald, Tom Ryan, and Rachel Elizabeth Smith. Charles Laughlin will serve as discussant. Additional participants are welcome!

Roger Lohmann, Department of Anthropology, Trent University, 55 Thornton Road South, Oshawa, ON L1J 5Y1, CANADA; <rogerlohmann@trentu.ca>

WORKING SESSIONS

Mapping, GIS and Social Geography in the Pacific, Problems and Prospects

Organizers: Joshua Bell and David Lipset

We had an encouraging informal session in New Orleans on a variety of topics associated with maps and mapping practices in Pacific societies. Topics that were raised included local meanings of maps in song, chants, etc., locally drawn maps, the significance of maps for local sovereignty and property claims, particularly in the contexts of extractive industry, mapping practices in relationship to pre-existing local-level politics, structural divisions and rivalry, the gender of maps, the meaning of boundaries, and, not least, mapping and fieldwork ethics. We intend to follow up in Auckland by holding a working session. Please contact one of the session organizers if you are interested in participating.

Attendees in New Orleans included: Alphonse Aime, Josh Bell, Kali Fermantez, Jamon Halvaksz, Grant Hayes, Jerry Jacka, David Lipset, Harley Manner, Joran Prokosch, Ryuju Satomi, and Micah Vander Ryn.

Joshua Bell, Department of Anthropology, Smithsonian Institution <BellJA@si.edu>; David Lipset, University of Minnesota <lipse001@umn.edu>

The Urban Pacific

Organizers: Michelle Rooney and Paige West

We had eleven participants in the Urban Pacific session last year, with papers focusing on how people imagine urban lives, trans local communities, suburbanization, urban infrastructure, migration, the role of the state in the management of the urban, new media and urban belonging, the relationship between international aid and Pacific urban communities, settler colonialism and race in cities, rural to urban social ties, on climate change and urban migration. The conversation was lively and we plan to come together again in 2019 with 8000 word papers.

Michelle Rooney, ANU <michelle.rooney@anu.edu.au>; Paige West, Columbia University <cw2031@columbia.edu>

ASAO Histories

Organizers: Jan Rensel and Alan Howard

Participants in this session have drafted papers on a variety of aspects of ASAO’s history. Some of these could be further developed to address wider audiences (particularly those interested in the history of anthropology or the history of associations), but most of the papers should be of greatest interest to ASAO members and particularly ASAO officers and board members.

In one core paper, “A History of ASAO Sessions: Formats and Topics,” Alex Mawyer and Alan Howard draw on a massive amount of data that they have assembled from ASAO Newsletters about the more than 700 ASAO sessions held since the organization’s inception in the late 1960s, including the organizers, authors, and paper titles in each of those sessions, geographical focuses, topical areas, and whether the sessions gave rise to publications. This data compilation will undoubtedly be useful for further analyses, including for the authors of other papers in this session.

Other papers in the session address the histories of the Distinguished Lectures and the ASAO Monograph/Book series; the processes of annual meeting site selection; the early evolution and significance of membership categories; the importance of mentoring and networking with students as exemplified by Jane Goodale; the origins of the Pacific Islands Scholars Fund and reflections on other ways of encouraging Pacific Islander participation and membership; an account of experiencing
ASAO through ASAONET; the intertwined histories of the what was once the Association for Social Anthropology in Eastern Oceania (ASAEO) and NEWS, the former NorthEast Wantok System newsletter for Melanesianists; and the development of the ASAO website.

The organizers are checking with all current participants about whether to convene again in person in Auckland or simply proceed with finalizing the current papers; either way, this is an ongoing project and new topics are welcomed. We will also be exploring best ways to make the papers available online once they are all finished.

Jan Rensel, Center for Pacific Islands Studies, UH Mānoa <rensel@hawaii.edu>; Alan Howard, Anthropology Department, UH Mānoa <ahoward@hawaii.edu>

(1) Positioning Culture within Pacific Christianities

Organizers: Fraser Macdonald and Christiane Falck

As a religion of secondarity, Christianity invariably comes after a prior religion and culture with which it must sustain a complex evaluative relationship. Within the Anthropology of Christianity, studies of evangelical, Pentecostal, and charismatic Christianity that conceptualized this relationship in terms of the moralised rejection, abandonment, and diabolisation of indigenous culture have since given way to more nuanced approaches demonstrating how these kinds of Christianity may actually thrive upon the preservation and assimilation of existing cultural traditions. Analysis has consequently yielded theoretical concepts adapted to this new perspective, such as ‘ontological preservation’ in Melanesia (Robbins 2011), ‘resonant rupture’ in North America (Marshall 2016), as well as Anderson’s recent characterization of African Pentecostalism as ‘not an either/or situation’ (2018).

This growing awareness by anthropologists of the complex positioning of culture within global evangelical, Pentecostal, and charismatic Christianity is our departure point for this working session. However, we do not seek to limit our gaze only to Christians from the mentioned traditions but want to deliberately open up this discussion to include the ethn-theologies of Christians from a range of denominational backgrounds, whether evangelical, mainstream Protestant, Catholic, or Neo-Christian. Indeed, we think that the strong ethnographic, theoretical, and disciplinary inclination toward Christians who espouse ‘born again’ theologies of world breaking has often obscured accounts of cultural positioning by other kinds of Christians. A central objective of this working session, therefore, is to begin to appreciate how the ethn-theological projects of Pacific Christians emerge within, and often transcend, the wide variety of theological frameworks given by the different church groups throughout the region. Within this expanded framework, longstanding debates about cultural continuity and cultural rupture re-emerge but with a fresh theoretical potential. Evangelical, Pentecostal, and charismatic Christians can be thought about as undertaking, whether consciously or unconsciously, projects of cultural reproduction alongside their tendencies for rupture, while Christians with open ended theologies able to comfortably accommodate local ideas and values stand to provide a good counterbalance to narratives of radical change as well as illuminate their own modes of cultural critique.

For this working session, we invite papers that strive to augment the theorisation of how Christians from throughout the Pacific region evaluate their traditional religions. We ask those interested in participating in this session to please send us abstracts of approximately 250 words by 1st November, 2018.

Christiane Falck, University of Goettingen <christiane.falck@uni-goettingen.de>, Fraser Macdonald, University of Waikato <fraser.macdonald@waikato.ac.nz>

(1) The proliferation of models: methods, models and new paradigms in Pacific Indigenous research

Organizers: Tamasa’ialau Suaalii-Sauni and Albert L Refiti

The proliferation of models is a talanoa session for scholars to present and discuss the multitude of methods and models currently in use and applied in Pacific research. We aim to explore what part these methods play in the larger decolonial project that is currently underway by attempting to describe, critique and unpack how they are being used to understand what type of new knowledge (if any) is being produced by them. Some of these methods and models include kaupapa Māori (Smith), kakala (Helu-Thaman), talanoa (Halapua, Vaioleti), su’ifefiloi (Figiel, Silipa), fa’aafetai (Tamasese ET AL), teu le vā (Anae ET AL), tävais (Māhina, Ka’i ET AL), tāuhi vā (Ka’ili, malie/mafana (Tamasese ET AL), fonofale (Pulotu-Endemann), Mana Moana (Mila) to name a few. We invite researchers and scholars to present their Pacific Indigenous research, fieldwork or ethnography that uses an existing Pacific Indigenous model or a proposed new Pacific Indigenous model as a methodology for gathering and synthesising their research. We especially welcome papers that deal with new and emerging methods, models or paradigms for doing research in the Pacific.

Send the organizers an email if you’re interested, and an abstract later, if you want to be part of the session.

Albert Refiti, Auckland University of Technology <albert.refiti@aut.ac.nz>, Tamasa’ialau Suaalii-Sauni <s.suaalii-sauni@auckland.ac.nz>

(1) Kava: A global phenomenon?

Organizer: Apo Aporosa

Two decades ago Lebot, Merlin & Lindstrom (1992) predicted a time when kava would become a “world drug”. Since then, there has been a rapid growth of kava bars in the USA, venues that mimic small nightclubs and licensed cafes, which attract customers seeking to de-stress with an alternative to alcohol. Likewise, there
have recently been pop-culture and online claims that kava is "officially trending". However, such reports fail to include the growth of private kava venues in previously unimagined places like France, China, India and the UK, where diasporic Pacific communities embrace their traditional substance as part of cultural continuance, or as a means of engaging with their local (host) communities. This working session seeks contributions that address contemporary kava themes, ranging from its use in the Pacific today, to kava's diverse manifestations in ever-changing contexts around the world.

The call for abstracts is now open and will close on 1 August 2018. Please send your abstract (of no more than 300 words) or enquiries to apo.aporosa@waikato.ac.nz

App Aporosa, University of Waikato University, New Zealand <apo.aporosa@waikato.ac.nz>

Stitching New Traditions: Quilting in Polynesia
Organizers: Phyllis Herda and Joyce D. Hammond

Quilting has been adopted and encompassed into indigenous textile traditions across Polynesia. In some archipelagoes, such as the Hawaiian, Society and Cook Islands, these quilting practices were established over a century ago. Other island nations, such as Tonga, Niue and Fiji, have much more recent traditions.

For our proposed working session we invite anyone with an interest in Polynesian quilts—their creation, their history, their uses, etc.—to join us for discussions about research into the past, present and future of Polynesian quilts and quilters. Topics might include but are not limited to: motivations for islanders to make quilts, Polynesian diaspora and its impact on quilt-making, the continued influence of other quilt traditions on Polynesian quilting and vice versa, Polynesian quilts in worldwide exhibitions and contests, Polynesian quilts as part of the gift-giving economies of Polynesia, and Polynesian quilts as markers of identity.

It is our hope that this working session will result in an anthology of work on Polynesian quilts. For more information or to participate in the working session in 2019, please contact the Organizers. We are asking to receive all abstracts by November 1st.

Phyllis Herda, University of Auckland <p.herda@auckland.ac.nz>; Joyce D. Hammond, Western Washington University <joyce.hammond@wwu.edu>.

Affect and Place in the Contemporary Pacific
Organizers: Paige West and Jamon Halkavsz

We had a productive and exciting session last year with thirty-six participants, seventeen of whom have committed to writing 8000 word papers for the continuation of the session next year in Auckland. Our group consisted of scholars working across the full Pacific region, with both urban and rural based projects. All of the partici-pants talked about their on-going work focused on affect, space, place, and subjectivity. Specific topics included taboo, climate change, soundscapes, labor and gender, commemoration, landscapes and social relations, custom, human-animal relations, place and kinship, material culture, displacement, migration, and diasporas.

Paige West, Columbia University <cw2031@columbia.edu>; Jamon Halkavsz, University of Texas San Antonio <jamon.halvaksz@utsa.edu>

INFORMAL SESSIONS

(!) Decolonizing Anthropology: A view from Oceania
Organizers: Marama Muru-Lanning and Lorena Gibson

In this session we will ask what it means to decolonise anthropology in Oceania. Drawing on recent work by indigenous anthropologists and those working with decolonising methods and theories, the goal of the session is to collectively discuss what decolonisation looks like when viewed from our sea of islands. We invite participants from across Oceania to this informal session.

Marama Leigh Muru-Lanning, University of Auckland <m.muru-lanning@auckland.ac.nz>; Lorena Gibson, Victoria University of Wellington <lorena.gibson@vuw.ac.nz>

(!) Transgender voices in the Pacific societies and artistic creation: Facing legal, social and linguistic constraints
Organizers: Sarah-Marie Cabon, Serge Tcherkezoff, Fata Simanu-Klutz (in absentia)

This informal session is aimed first at comparing across several Pacific societies, the current legal rights of transgender people, those extended and those still denied. Secondly, it aims to connect the legal situation to social attitudes, expressed in everyday conversation and official discourse and particularly in the words used in the local languages by transgendered to talk about themselves as against the language of ‘others’ (mainstream audience, church and state leaders, scholars etc). Thirdly, it aims at recognising the importance of the artistic creation scene, which has been flourishing already for some time with bringing on stage MtoF characters, but recently entered into an absolute novelty when putting on stage, in playwrights and literature, FtoM persons. Indeed, a fourth aim of the workshop would be to address the current imbalance in the scholarly and artistic dialogues with MtoF versus FtoM persons. Why mobilities in MtoF transgender experience have been especially “visible” to outsiders (journalists, academics, filmmakers) and publically discussed, whilst the FtoM transgender experience has been virtually invisible and muted in public and scholarly debates.

Such a broad comparative regional survey and data base has not been attempted, even if there are a few studies of the legal situation and the social attitudes
Another important issue to be confronted is the critique of the “Melanesia/Polynesia” binary in most literature. It has been repeatedly said that transgenderism is known and visible in Polynesian societies, but absent in Melanesian societies. In the light of ongoing research in Papua New Guinea, New Caledonia and Vanuatu this claim needs critical revaluation. Moreover this binary cannot accommodate the facts of migration and the formation of diasporic Pacific communities in many countries and the way in which Indigenous Oceanic and Western models of gender and sexuality interact in such contexts.

Sarah-Marie Cabon, Université de la Polynésie Française <sarahmarie.cabon@upf.pf>; Serge Tcherkezoff, École des Hautes Études en Sciences Sociales (EHESS) <serge@pacificdialogues.fr>; Fata Simanu-Klutz, University of Hawaii

(1) Recounting alternative modes of action and design in public spaces in the Pacific

Organizers: Carl Douglas and Layne Waerea

“One of the first questions I am asked by a member of the public, when I am carrying out an intervention, is usually "What are you doing here?"” They can see I am part-Māori and I try and have an answer prepared, sometimes I am an artist doing some research, a student doing a project or a teacher – it depends on who’s asking and how much trouble I’m in” (Waerea, 2018).

Our situatedness and agency are conditioned by social, cultural, and legal rules that configure what we are able to do in a given place or at a given time. Public spaces, and hence public identities, are circumscribed and delimited. How might the conditioning of public space be disclosed or reconfigured through intervention? In particular how might art and design practices offer alternative modes of action and being and therefore alternative ways of being-public?

This informal session opens a preliminary and speculative discussion of the conflicts and tensions between what is often understood to be public space as infrastructure and bounded, in opposition to a more topological, relational ways of structuring the public in Pacific culture. We invite papers and accounts (especially but not exclusively, first-hand accounts) of experimental creative practice and ethnography that work across boundaries, particularly in the context of Aotearoa New Zealand and the Pacific.

Send the organizers an email if you’re interested, and an abstract later, if you want to be part of the session.

Carl Douglas, Auckland University of Technology <carl.douglas@aut.ac.nz>; Layne Waerea, Auckland University of Technology <layne.waerea@aut.ac.nz>

New Voices in Pacific Anthropology

Organizers: Alex Golub and Paige West

This session went very well, with about seventeen participants in total. The goal of the session was to have first-time ASAO attendees come and get to know each other and talk about current issues. In the first half of the session we introduced ourselves and our interests. Did a quick collaborative exercise to identify key themes which were interesting to participants. These ended up being youth, education, environment, and knowledge production (among others). We then broke into small groups to discuss the themes. We look forward to repeating this session again with a new group of first-time ASAO attendees in Auckland.

Anyone who wants to attend ASAO for the first time and wants to participate in a low-stress, welcoming environment and meet new people should contact us so they can come to our session.

Alex Golub, University of Hawaii Manoa <golub@Hawaii.edu>; Paige West, Columbia University <cw2031@columbia.edu>

Growing Old in the Pacific

Organizers: Marama Muru-Lanning and Tia Dawes

Last year’s session initially focused on the increasing number of older Māori within New Zealand and how their needs might differ from a broader non-Māori population. Our aim was to identify issues and approaches for a study that we have proposed within New Zealand which seeks to determine successful indicators of ageing for Māori. The discussion broadened to include comparison with other Pacific nations and the issues faced by indigenous peoples. The key theme that emerged from the discussion was the impact of globalization on indigenous communities and how families have spread or become dispersed beyond their traditional homeland or point of origin. This is having an effect on how younger generations are able to support their older family members and how a younger generation can benefit from the familial involvement of their elders. The effects of this diaspora is exacerbated by the structural ageing of the population where older people are becoming a greater proportion of the overall population. We discussed how we might more effectively study the needs of older people within this context and discussed alternative qualitative approaches. There is clearly recognition, at a societal level, of the value of the ongoing contributions of older people. This will continue to be a focus for us at the 2019 ASAO conference where we will be running a second informal session on ageing well. Participants interested in this session are invited to contact the Organizers with a suggested topic of interest, intention to participate, or any questions that you might have.
Marama Leigh Muru-Lanning, University of Auckland <m.murulanning@auckland.ac.nz>; Tia Dawes, University of Auckland <t.dawes@auckland.ac.nz> 

(!) Dreaming in the Pacific

Organizers: Marianne “Mimi” George and Charles D. Laughlin

Mimi George and Charles Laughlin have been interested in how people in different cultures experience and interpret their dreams. We are both “lucid dreamers” and are very aware of how realistic (perhaps hyper-realistic) dreams can be. Dreaming is a human universal. Humans dream along with other big-brained animals. Thus, every society features a “dream culture” which informs members about the significance of their dreams (Laughlin 2011). In technocratic cultures, the value of dreaming is typically negligible. However, among most of the planet’s non-technocratic peoples, dreaming is considered an extension of reality. What happens in dreams is significant, and in some cases vital. Indeed, dreaming is commonly integral to a people’s world view, their spiritual life and their understanding of healing/reconciliation, time, place, and causation.

So it is with the peoples of the Pacific. Regardless of the focus of their research, Western ethnographers almost inevitably encounter a society’s dream culture during their fieldwork experience (e.g., George 1995a, 1995b; Lohmann 2003; Mimica 2013; Storlue 2012; Tonkinson 2013). Of course, First Nations scholars have been raised in this kind of culture and can speak to dreaming from direct experience. There has been an increased interest among anthropologists in the transpersonal aspects of culture, including dreaming. We want to find out whether there is sufficient interest in this topic of Pacific dream cultures among our ASAO colleagues to plan a more formal working session of this issue in 2020.

References:


Marianne (Mimi) George, Vaka Taumako Project <George.mimi@gmail.com>

(!) Considering Lata: Hero of a Thousand Faces

Organizers: Heuionalani Wyeth and Marianne “Mimi” George

Lata, Laka, La’a, Rata, Ata, etc. are variations on the name of an Indo-Pacific culture hero. Today, the people of Taumako, SE Solomon Islands, describe Lata as the first person to build and navigate a voyaging canoe. They tell episodes of the story and assume the identity of characters in the story during the process of building a voyaging canoe and sailing to other islands. Maori of Aotearoa tell of Rata launching a voyaging vessel in a flood (Te Puke). Hawaiians honor Laka, Goddess of the Forest, and remember the story of cutting down a tree to make a voyaging canoe, and every night it became a tree again…and how little people (menehune) helped Laka build the voyaging canoe by doing the work. Amis of Taiwan honor Lakaa, a God of the seashore. Is Lata north of the equator a more feminine character? Is Lata a story of Austronesian origin? What peoples of the western, north Pacific told, or tell, this story? In this session we aim to locate, and consider relationships between episodes and stories of Lata as they are told or recorded throughout Oceania. By comparing and contrasting themes and presentations we aim to understand more about oral traditions about Lata, and how they may be lived experiences today, and may serve as archetypes for the future.

Marianne (Mimi) George, Vaka Taumako Project <George.mimi@gmail.com>; Heuionalani Wyeth <vakataumako@gmail.com>
MARThA MACINTYRE

It is my pleasure to nominate Martha Macintyre as an ASAO honorary fellow. Martha has had a distinguished career in anthropology and a long involvement in ASAO. She received a BA in 1970 from the University of Melbourne, and a Certificate in Social Anthropology in 1978 from Cambridge, where she studied with Edmund Leach and Marilyn Strathern. After conducting fieldwork on Tubetube in Milne Bay province, Papua New Guinea, Martha earned a Ph.D. in anthropology at the Australian National University in 1983 with a dissertation supervised by Michael Young and Roger Keesing.

Originally an ethnographer of the island of Tubetube in Milne Bay Province, Macintyre brought a focus on history, power, colonialism, and women's lives to the study of the kula ring, a topic which Martha reckoned was too often presented as a timeless world of exotic male ceremonial exchange. Her scrupulous ethnography and gimlet eye produced important (and cunningly-titled) pieces such as "The Problem of the Semi-Alienable Pig," "Better Homes and Gardens," and "Reflections of an Anthropologist who Mistook her Husband for a Yam". Overall, she has published over fifty articles and book chapters.

In the 1980s, Martha's focus shifted to the social impact of mining in Papua New Guinea, and especially the island of Lihir. In addition to her numerous publications on this topic, she has edited edited volumes on topics such as social change and development in Papua New Guinea such as Managing Modernity in the Western Pacific, Women Miners in Developing Countries and a special issue of The Contemporary Pacific entitled "Melanesian Mining Modernities" and which began as an ASAO session.

Gender and social justice have always been central foci of Martha's career, a fact easily seen in the seven edited volumes she has produced in her career, which have titles such as Family and Gender in the Pacific, Human Rights and Gender Politics, Gender Violence and Human Rights, Transformations of Gender in Melanesia and Emergent Masculinities in the Pacific. The fact that these edited volumes have all been co-authored also speak to Martha's deeply collaborative nature. She has been a generous (if demanding!) supervisor of theses and dissertations, and counts among her collaborators many of her former students.

In addition to her anthropological work, Martha has an illustrious record of service and scholarly recognition. She has edited The Australian Journal of the Anthropology, is a past president for the Australian Anthropological Society, and a fellow of the Academy of Social Sciences in Australia.

In sum, I urge our members to recognize Martha Macintyre's scholarly contributions in the form of an honorary fellowship.

Alex Golub

MAUALAIVAO ALBERT WENDT

It is our pleasure to nominate Maualaivao Emeritus Professor Albert Wendt as an ASAO honorary fellow. Wendt is one of the most important Pacific thinkers of our time whose writing has shaped and influenced the way we view and think about the Pacific. An avowed critic of colonial hegemony in the Pacific, Wendt's essays, poetry and novels have been influential in formulating an Indigenous Pacific approach to Pacific knowledge. His writings have actively encouraged researchers to treat the Pacific as a complex intermixture of peoples lives that are deeply rooted to place and space and the mythopraxis at the heart of Pacific culture and heritage. His significant influence on Pacific studies and anthropology began with what Epeli Hau'ofa referred to as Wendt's 'prophetic rumination' (Hau’ofa 1998) in the seminal essay 'Towards a New Oceania' in which these lines were uttered:

I belong to Oceania... So vast, so fabulously varied a scatter of islands, nations, cultures, mythologies and myths, so dazzling a creature, Oceania deserves more than an attempt at mundane fact; only the imagination in free flight can hope—if not to contain her—to grasp some of her shape, plumage, and pain (Wendt 1976).

Wendt applauded the artistic renaissance that has enriched Pacific culture becoming a "unifying force for the identities/self-respect/ and pride" that would transform the Pacific towards a "genuine decolonisation". The creative spirit of the Pacific is a malaga or "journey into the Void" that would lead to a "New Oceania" (Wendt 1976).

Albert Wendt's prophetic rumination of a New Oceania would be taken up by Hau'ofa and many others in anthropology and sociology in subsequent years. His influential essays on the development of Pacific Studies includes 'Towards a New Oceania' as discussed above, and 'Tatauing the Post-colonial Body' (1996), which in the last 15 years, have become the central reference point for a cosmopolitical ideal of a Pasifika diasporic identity with his interpretation of the Samoan concept of teu le vā. A bibliography of his important publications can be found on the following link, http://www.bookcouncil.org.nz/writer/wendt-albert/

Before becoming professor (1988-2006) and emeritus professor (2006-) at the University of Auckland, Wendt was professor and later pro-vice-chancellor at University of the South Pacific (from mid-1970), a most dynamic time at USP identified by Teresia Teaiwa as producing a 'crucible effect' in which an "intense, sustained, rigorous, challenging engagements that – Albert (Wendt), the Crocombes, Malama Meleisea, Epeli (Hau’ofa), the Thamans (Konai and Randy), the Griffins, and all the neo-Marxists (Vijay Naidu, Simone Durutalo and William Sutherland to name only a few of the locals), helped keep each other sharp precisely because they weren't always in consensus" (Brunt 2010).

Continued next page
Professor Wendt delivered the ASAO Distinguished Lecture titled ‘Pacific Fiction as Anthropology and Anthropology as Fiction’ at the meeting in Kaua’i in 2005. He has an Honorary Doctorate from the University of Hawai’i, University of Bourgogne, France, and Victoria University of Wellington. The Arts Foundation of New Zealand awarded him The Icon Award in 2018, and in 2013 he was awarded the highest New Zealand honour (awarded to only 20 living persons) The Order of New Zealand. In March 2012, Wendt was bestowed the ali’i matai ancestor title Mauaiaiva from the Sā Tuala clan of Malie, Samoa.

Because many Pacific members of ASAO have been influenced by his ideas – ‘Oceania’ in the 1980’s and recently in the re-emergence of the concept of vā – we believe that it is timely for our members to award Mauaiaiva Emeritus Professor Albert Wendt our highest honour.

Many ASAO members regularly work to ensure their research results make their way back to the communities and people who contributed to them, but did you know that ASAO can help to support these efforts?

The ASAO Board is committed to making research available to host Pacific Islands communities. We understand the importance of making information relevant and accessible at the local level. While copies of theses, dissertations, and research publications may be useful to in-country scholars and government agencies, ASAO also wishes to support efforts to distribute knowledge in other formats that will reach a wide range of community members. To that end, ASAO established the Grant to Return Indigienous Knowledge to Pacific Islands Communities (GRIKPIC). Consider applying to this grant opportunity that might assist you in providing information materials to local partners and research participants!

Our last GRIKPIC award was given to Susanne Kuehling, who returned photographs of kula valuables to island communities in Milne Bay Province, PNG. Kuehling worked with elders in the region to coordinate the distribution of over 1000 images she and her team had collected. The island communities will use these images to educate young people about the kula objects. The GRIKPIC funding covered the cost of printing and lamination of approximately 100 posters of kula objects.

Applicants must be ASAO members for at least two years prior to submitting a proposal, and preference will be given to junior scholars. Examples of eligible projects include but are not limited to dictionaries, oral histories, biographies, photo books, interviews, and recordings of storytelling events and performances. The applicant is responsible for ensuring that the material being published is appropriate for the audience to whom it is being given.

Proposals of up to 1,000 words (4 double-spaced pages) must include:

1. A description of the island community to which the researcher intends to distribute the information.

2. Specific information regarding what types of research materials or cultural information are currently available, and what kinds of materials the applicant is preparing to contribute to the community. The application should also address the technological capacities and storage capabilities of the community/location and how these correspond with the intended mode of information distribution.

3. A discussion of how the materials would be used in the community. If the researcher(s) have already coordinated with community partners regarding material usage, include information about any agreements that have been made

4. Description of the plan for getting materials to the community in an efficient and effective way

5. An outline of anticipated expenses for production and delivery of materials (grant does not cover stipends, travel, or purchase of equipment)

6. Any other possible additional sources of practical and/or monetary assistance that the applicant might access in order to facilitate this distribution. If the researcher(s) have already received financial support from other institutions or organizations, please address the amount and type of assistance.

The deadline for proposals to be sent to the chair of the GRIKPIC panel (Mary Good, goodmk@wfu.edu) is December 10. The panel will review all applications forward their recommendations to the Board for considera-
Awards will be announced at the upcoming meeting in Auckland.

Award amounts (whether for one or more projects) will total no more than US$1,000 per year. Following the acceptance of an award and completion of the proposed project, the awardee will provide a report that details how the funds were used. Awardees might also be asked to make a presentation on their project at the annual ASAO meetings and/or provide materials to the ASAO archives.

Submit applications by December 10, 2018 to Mary K. Good <goodmk@wfu.edu>

Mary K. Good, GRIKPIC coordinator

ANNOUNCEMENTS

INAUGURAL CONFERENCE OF THE NEW ZEALAND INSTITUTE FOR PACIFIC RESEARCH

The New Zealand Institute for Pacific Research (NZIPR) will be holding its inaugural conference at the Fale Pasifika Complex at the University of Auckland on 29-30 November, 2018. The institute's primary goal is to promote and support excellence in Pacific Research. NZIPR's Oceans and Islands: A Conference for Pacific Research will bring together thought leaders from New Zealand and the Pacific region to showcase Pacific research from throughout the region, enhance Pacific research networks, and encourage new conversations around contemporary Pacific research modalities. A call for submissions is open until October 1, 2018.

Lisa Uperesa, acting director of the New Zealand Institute for Pacific Research

LATEST ISSUE OF OCEANIA IS OUT NOW

The latest issue of Oceania is available online now. In volume 88, issue 2 authors explore Indigenous land management in Central Australia, take a linguistic approach to outrigger canoes in the Torres Strait, and discuss notions of knowledge in Papua New Guinea. The issue also features four book reviews. Click here for more: [http://bit.ly/oceania2018v88i2toc](http://bit.ly/oceania2018v88i2toc) The journal is also available on social media. Follow us on Twitter and Facebook.

Thomas Wright, social media manager for Oceania

SPECIAL ISSUE OF PACIFIC STUDIES, VOLUME 40 (2017)

A special issue of Pacific Studies (volume 40, number 1/2) has been published on the theme of "Ta-Va [Time-Space] Theory of Reality" and edited by Tevita O. Ka‘ili (Maui-Tava-He-Ako), ‘Okusitino Mahina (Hufanga), and Ping-Ann Addo (Kula-He-Fonua). It includes some 14 critical essays of Pacific Studies, deriving from an ASAO session organized and convened members of ASAO Tevita O. Ka‘ili [Maui-Tava-He-Ako], ‘Okusitino Mahina [Hufanga] and Ping-Ann Addo [Kula-He-Fonua]. A table of contents can be found at the [Pacific Studies journal web site](http://www.pacificstudiesjournal.org).

Hufanga Dr ‘Okusitino Mahina, Tonga International Academy and Vava’u Academy for Critical Inquiry and Applied Research

NEW ROUTLEDGE BOOK SERIES

"Anthropology and Cultural History in Asia and the Indo-Pacific" is a new book series published by Routledge and edited by Pamela J. Stewart and Andrew Strathern. This series offers a comprehensive view of Asian and Indo-Pacific anthropology and cultural history. If you are interested in proposing a book, please contact strather@pitt.edu or pamjan@pitt.edu

Pamela J. Stewart and Andrew Strathern

AN APPEAL TO ALL ASAO MEMBERS: SUPPORT PISA TODAY!

The participation of our colleagues from Pacific Islands at the annual meetings is critical to vibrant and productive dialogue in sessions, at plenary talks, and in the development of research publications. Please consider supporting the PISA to help expand the participation of our Pacific Island colleagues. We encourage all ASAO members to consider contributing.

Our new ASAO website makes supporting PISA very easy! You can now make a secure online contribution via PayPal. Simply:

1) go to [http://www.asao.org/PISA.html](http://www.asao.org/PISA.html)
2) click the yellow "support" button, and
3) Follow the prompts. It's that easy!

Please consider contributing monthly to PISA, which is easy when you set up a secure automatic deduction for a set amount from your bank account or credit card. When you enter your contribution amount there is a box to the right you can check labeled “Make this Recurring (Monthly).”
The ASAO Newsletter is published three times yearly (April, September, December). Members and fellows of ASAO receive issues as a benefit of their membership in ASAO. To become a member of ASAO, contact the membership coordinator. In 2018, the annual dues for members are US$80. You can also register for a three-year membership at the rate of US$220. The membership fee for students, retirees, and independent (unemployed) scholars is US$50 annually or US$130 for three years. Current and past issues of the Newsletter are also available from http://asao.org as an open-access publication. ISSN 1095-3000

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CALL FOR PANELS

ASSOCIATION FOR SOCIAL ANTHROPOLOGY IN OCEANIA
2018 ANNUAL MEETINGS, 13-16 FEBRUARY, AUCKLAND, AOTEAROA NEW ZEALAND

The Association for the Social Anthropology in Oceania (ASAO) warmly invites proposals for panels for its annual meeting, which will be held in Auckland, Aotearoa New Zealand, from 13-16 February 2018. The deadline for panel submissions is **1 October 2018**. To submit your panel please email our program coordinator, Tate LeFevre, at tlefevre@fandm.edu

ASAO is an international scholarly society dedicated to the anthropology of the Pacific. We also actively encourage participation from scholars working in related disciplines, such as Indigenous Studies, Pacific Studies, and Cultural Studies. Our meetings are small, intimate, and characterized by social informality and collegial cooperation.

ASAO has three kinds of panels:

- **Informal sessions**, which involve the informal sharing of ideas. Informal sessions are an ideal opportunity to experiment with new kinds of scholarly dialogue, such as *talanoa*, *tok stori*, or other formats.
- **Working sessions**, where participants precirculate and discuss short papers in a conventional format. In keeping with ASAO tradition, people speak to their papers, rather than read them or make a formal presentation. Ideally, most of the session will be allocated for discussion.
- **Symposia**, where session organizers discuss precirculated papers, often with an eye to final revisions and eventual publication.

ASAO has a long tradition of multiyear panels: A panel which begins as an informal session will continue as a working session the following year, and then finally convenes as a symposium in its third year. However, you may propose a panel at any of these three levels.

To submit a panel, send the following information to our program coordinator, Tate LeFevre, at tlefevre@fandm.edu:

1. The title of your panel
2. Whether your panel will be an informal session, a working session, or symposium
3. A description of your panel in no more than 500 words.
   - **For an informal session**: give us a list of people who have expressed interest and number expected to attend.
   - **For a working session**: names of participants, titles of papers, order of presentation; session organizer affirmation of seven abstracts in hand; which papers will be read *in absentia*; how much time required.
   - **For a symposium**: Names of participants, titles of papers, order of presentation; session organizer affirmation of seven papers in hand; a list of which papers (if any) will be presented *in absentia*; how much time required.

We hope to see you in Auckland at the 2018 meeting of ASAO!

—Albert L. Refiti (chair), Mary Good, Alex Golub, Alex Maywer, and Melani Anae (board members)