I. FROM THE EDITOR

Dear members of ASAO,

Let me first say thank you to outgoing newsletter editor, Jamon Halvaksz, for his guidance, and best wishes for his success as ASAO's annual meetings site coordinator.

In this issue you can find out all about ASAO's upcoming meeting in San Diego, including an announcement of the meeting location, how to book your accommodation, and announcements of new and continuing sessions for the program. I look forward to meeting everyone again there, and for those that can't attend, please stay in touch by renewing your membership in ASAO for next year. That way you will continue to receive this newsletter.

Also in this issue, you'll see an expanded announcements section, including both new publications and grants. I'd like to draw attention to an appeal for books from our colleagues at UPNG. If you have any exciting new professional announcements of this type, please send them to me for inclusion in the next issue.

Cheers,

Ryan Schram

Ryan Schram
Anthropology, A26
University of Sydney
NSW 2006 Australia
II. FROM THE CHAIR

Hello everyone!

The year is flying by and in Australia both academics and students are already looking forward to the long end of year teaching break that begins in late October. I’m currently teaching my first year anthropology class with 520 students and making sure they get a strong dose of Pacific studies!

So far, being Chair of ASAO has been surprisingly stress-free and hopefully the rest of the year will be the same. My predecessors have done a lot of work reviewing the by-laws, revitalising the conferences and in many other ways making sure ASAO keeps going from strength to strength. All of the Board members and Officers keep things running so smoothly that it’s really enjoyable being part of the Executive. We have welcomed our two newly elected Board members, Mary Good and Kirsten McGavin, as well as Tate Le Fevre who has replaced Sa’iliemanu Lilomaiaha-Doktor. Sa’ili is having a well-earned sabbatical this year. Paige West and Maria Lepowsky remained on the Board until the new members began; they’ve both made a significant contribution to ASAO already and are staying involved through PISF.

Thanks to all the members who voted in the new Board members. I’m very happy to report that after the vote we also have a new Honorary Fellow, Jan Rensel. Jan has done so much for ASAO in so many ways over the years that it’s wonderful to see her honoured in this way. I’m sure the session Jan is co-convening on the history of the ASAO will show the long term impact of all her work and the efforts of so many other people over many years. The organisation continues to evolve and already there are further changes, with Zakea Boeger working with Alan Howard on the new website and a possible new Treasurer in the wings ready to transition into that role and set Mary McCutcheon free! Ryan Schram has now taken over the newsletter with this issue, swapping roles with Jamon Halvaksz.

So now we can all wait in anticipation for the San Diego conference in February, which is shaping up to be another memorable meeting of ASAO members. We will soon announce the title of the Distinguished Lecture by Jonathan Friedman and there will be other exciting activities as well as the many new and continuing sessions for our hard-working Program Coordinator, Alex Mawyer, to juggle into a program. I hope the mentoring of less experienced session organisers that was so successful in Santa Fe will continue; do let Alex know if you are willing to act as a mentor in San Diego.

I also hope we’ll see a strong presence of postgraduate students and early career researchers at the February meeting and that the mentoring process can extend beyond the sessions to a broader nurturing of upcoming scholars by more experienced researchers. Given the rapid rate of change in academia there is probably a great deal of advice that can go in both directions! As mentioned in my letter in the previous newsletter the Board is continuing to discuss options for including more virtual participation in our ASAO conversations. Session organisers may want to consider a pre-conference meeting online (e.g. via Skype or Google Hangouts) with session participants so those who can’t attend the San Diego meeting can discuss their contribution. There are other ways to include virtual participation both before and during the meeting and session organisers can decide on what will work best for their participants.

Best wishes for the rest of 2015!

Helen Lee, ASAO Board Chair, h.lee@latrobe.edu.au
III. 2016 ANNUAL MEETING LOCATION

The 2016 meeting of ASAO will be held at the Catamaran Resort, Hotel and Spa on the beaches of Mission Beach in San Diego, California, from February 9-13.

Catamaran offers ASAO attendees a discounted rate of $169 per night for single rooms, and $179 per night for double rooms for the week of the meeting. Attendees should make their reservations directly with the hotel’s reservation department:

**Catamaran Resort, Hotel and Spa**
3999 Mission Boulevard
San Diego, California 92109 USA
Tel: +1 800 422 8386
Fax: +1 858 488 1387
Email: reservations@catamaranresort.com
Online Reservations Page: https://shop.evanshotels.com/catamaran_groups/3999.html
Hotel Web Site: http://catamaranresort.com

If you contact the hotel by phone, fax or email, be sure to mention "Association for Social Anthropology in Oceania" to receive the discounted room rate. The deadline to make bookings at the group rate is January 11, 2016.

In 2016, ASAO is returning to its second home at a spacious conference facility widely praised by visiting anthropologists, well regarded by locals, and renowned for its restaurant, Moray’s. We look forward to an active, exciting conference, and the possibility of local engagement with the Pasifika communities of San Diego. The Catamaran is steps away from the beach, and the many restaurants of Mission Beach’s Ocean Front Walk. The Gaslamp District, North Park, and La Jolla, as well as the University of California, San Diego campus, are all with easy reach. When you’re making plans to attend ASAO, please share your tips for travellers online with #ASAOSanDiego and #ASAO2016.

Questions regarding accommodation should be directed to Jamon Havaksz at jamon.halvaksz@utsa.edu.

IV. PACIFIC ISLANDS SCHOLARS FUND

The Pacific Islands Scholars Fund (PISF) would like to remind everyone of the procedures to apply for a PISF travel grant. The final deadline for this round of applications is October 1, 2015. Please see http://asao.org/pacific/pisf.htm for all the details and forms.

For a complete application, you need:

- Application form (from the website)
- Application letter, explaining who you are and what you are planning to contribute to which session, if you have received PISF funding before
- Abstract of your paper
- 2 Letters of reference: your session organizer needs to write one of them, the other should be from a senior or advanced scholar who knows your work well and can comment on it
- Quote for the costs of your airfare

Depending on our funds, we give priority to participants in Working Sessions, next to Symposia, and if we can afford it, to Informal Sessions.

**Please note:** The current deadline for applications for the 2016 San Diego Meeting is October 1. Candidates will be notified by November 15, and awards must be accepted by December 15.
Mary McCutcheon has produced an itemized list of annual total disbursements in relation to the number of annual PISF Travel Grants which have been awarded since 1994. Based on this Jan Rensel has added the number of annual Travel Grants awarded to the table presented in the PISF report in the last issue.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Meeting Site</th>
<th>Travel Awards</th>
<th>US Dollar Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1994</td>
<td>San Diego CA</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>$838</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1995</td>
<td>Clearwater FL</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>$1,699</td>
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<td>1996</td>
<td>Kona, Hawai‘i</td>
<td>9</td>
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<td>1997</td>
<td>San Diego CA</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>$1,697</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1998</td>
<td>Pensacola FL</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>$579</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1999</td>
<td>Hilo, Hawai‘i</td>
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<td>$5,630</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2000</td>
<td>Vancouver BC</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>$1,338</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>2002</td>
<td>Auckland NZ</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>$4,464</td>
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<tr>
<td>2003</td>
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<td>4</td>
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<tr>
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<tr>
<td>2005</td>
<td>Kaua‘i, Hawai‘i</td>
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<td>$4,911</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2006</td>
<td>San Diego CA</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>$6,170</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2007</td>
<td>Charlottesville VA</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>$9,819</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2008</td>
<td>Canberra, Australia</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>$5,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2009</td>
<td>Santa Cruz CA</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>$4,383</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2010</td>
<td>Alexandria VA</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>$4,050</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2011</td>
<td>Waikiki, Hawai‘i</td>
<td>11</td>
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<tr>
<td>2012</td>
<td>Portland OR</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>$3,892</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2013</td>
<td>San Antonio TX</td>
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<td>$4,750</td>
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<td>2014</td>
<td>Kona, Hawai‘i</td>
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<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td>Santa Fe, NM</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>$10,482</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>total</td>
<td>22 meetings</td>
<td>106</td>
<td>$112,524</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Original figures from Treasurer’s annual reports compiled by Jan Rensel (for 1994-2004), Kathy Creely (2005-2008), and Mary McCutcheon (2009-2014). Updated figures provided 23 July 2015 by Mary McCutcheon for 2008, 2011, and 2014; annual report for 2015 will be filed in February 2016. (This table includes only travel grants from PISF and does not include housing and food stipends from the ASAO General Fund.)

Carlos Mondragon, PISF Chair, cmondragon@colmex.mx

**V. FROM THE PROGRAM COORDINATOR**

This issue of the newsletter brings into collective visibility the latest in session announcements, updates, and new proposals for our 2016 San Diego meetings. Session organizers and participants should review guidelines and the timetable below (also available via the ASAO website).

Please note the following **November 1** deadlines for the December newsletter in which the finalized program for the 2016 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, and any special needs. The hotel is responsible for providing equipment for those with disabilities. Session organizers, however, must make their own arrangements for all other equipment, please contact me regarding your other AV or session facilitation needs. It is also important that session organizers inform me (3) about who will not be able to attend the sessions in person, (4) if
participants are participating in more than one session, and (5) whether any of your participants are new to the ASAO. Note, while far from discouraged, multiple participations create scheduling conflicts and may disrupt sessions and distract contributors. In organizing the program, first priority in case of scheduling conflicts goes to organizers and discussants. There is no guarantee that any session will be given a full day. In the past, working sessions have been given priority for full-day meetings. However, there are a large number of working sessions slated for the 2016 meeting and some will by necessity have only half a day available. Since the focus of formal symposia is discussion of publication plans and pulling a collection together (and **not** the presentation of papers, which should be reviewed **before** the meeting), formal symposia, no matter how many participants, are normally given half a day. Depending on the final number of sessions, however, **all** sessions may be given half a day (or less, in the case of informal sessions). With this in mind, it is important for session organizers to have participants do much of the session work ahead of the actual meeting. We anticipate news of additional special events to be available in the winter newsletter.

Finally, please note that it is **not** too late to propose a new session or special event for the 2016 meetings! Please be in touch if you have something in mind.

*Alexander Mawyer, Program Coordinator, mawyer@hawaii.edu*

**TIMETABLE FOR SESSION ORGANIZERS AND PARTICIPANTS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Deadline</th>
<th>INFORMAL SESSION</th>
<th>WORKING SESSION</th>
<th>SYMPOSIUM</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>March 20</strong></td>
<td><strong>To Program Coordinator:</strong> announcement of proposed session.</td>
<td><strong>To Program Coordinator:</strong> Report on informal session held at annual meeting; call for papers, deadlines, etc.</td>
<td><strong>To Program Coordinator:</strong> Report on working session held at annual meeting; next steps, deadlines, etc.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>August 20</strong></td>
<td><strong>To Program Coordinator:</strong> Updated description of proposed session.</td>
<td><strong>To Program Coordinator:</strong> Updated description of session and call for papers, deadline reminders</td>
<td><strong>To Program Coordinator:</strong> Updated descriptions of session, deadline reminders, etc.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Before November 1</strong></td>
<td>Participants submit abstracts to session organizers and send to other participants</td>
<td><strong>To Program Coordinator:</strong></td>
<td>Participants circulate drafts of papers to session organizers and other participants</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>November 1</strong></td>
<td><strong>To Program Coordinator:</strong> Updated description of proposed session; list of people who have expressed interest, number expected to attend. Last chance to be scheduled in the program.</td>
<td><strong>To Program Coordinator:</strong> 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.</td>
<td><strong>To Program Coordinator:</strong> 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.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
VI. 2016 ASAO SESSION ANNOUNCEMENTS

FORMAL SYMPOSIA


Organizers: Leasiolagi Malama Meleisea and Penelope Schoeffel

Eight presentations were made at the Grave Matters working session. These were:

- Alan Howard and Jan Rensel: The Culture of Graves on Rotuma.
- Sa’iliemanu Lilomaiava-Doktor: The changing morphology of graveyard, graves, and burials in Samoa.
- Vilimaina Navila: Modern iTaukei burial practices: The Lovonilase and Nasinu urban cemeteries in the Fiji Islands.
- Albert L. Refiti: The Pacific mound and the architecture of gravesites in the diaspora.
- Jerry K. Jacka: Land conflicts and changing burial practices in a PNG mining area.
- Philip Gibbs: Burial practices and the fear of witches in the Eastern Highlands of PNG.
- Leasiolagi Malama Meleisea and Penelope Schoeffel: The Politics of Custom, Rank, Land and Burials in Samoa.

We will accept new papers on this theme if they are submitted as close-to-final drafts, for circulation among participants by November 1, 2015. We plan to go forward to a symposium at the next ASAO meeting in San Diego and we are making plans for publication. Contact: p.schoeffel@nus.edu.ws

Leasiolagi Dr. Malama Meleisea and Dr. Penelope Schoeffel, Centre for Samoan Studies, The National University of Samoa, PO Box 1622, Apia, Samoa, Phone: +685 20072 ext 322; <m.meleisea@nus.edu.ws> and <p.schoeffel@nus.edu.ws>

Beyond Kula: Assembling the Contemporary Massim

Organizers: Michelle MacCarthy, Sergio Jarillo de la Torre, and Allan Darrah

Our 2015 Symposium in Santa Fe was attended by twelve participants, with four of them presenting papers. Some of the participants in previous sessions, including co-organizer Michelle MacCarthy, sent regrets despite having provided abstracts. The session served the purpose to refine the final programme of the forthcoming international conference “Malinowski’s Legacy: One Hundred Years of Anthropology in the Milne Bay Province, Papua New Guinea,” which took place in August 11-14th in Alotau, PNG. Participants in the ASAO session agreed on the final format of the conference, including the possibility of presenting in absentia due to unforeseen circumstances (Michelle MacCarthy and Maria Lepowsky). The Malinowski conference has generated many expectations both in PNG and beyond, with a number of people showing interest in participating. Amid rumours of this being an “invitation only” conference, the organizers clarified that the conference is open to anybody willing to participate in it following the usual channels (call for papers and submission of an abstract). A $5,000 Initiatives Grant from the Wenner-Gren Foundation will allow us to pay for the conference venue, with participants in the conference covering their own travel and accommodation expenses. We also specified that in order to make this event as inclusive as possible and facilitate attendance there is no fee to participate in the Malinowski conference. Finally, it was also decided to have a “repeat” of the Alotau conference in the next ASAO meeting in San Diego in 2016, allowing those who were unable to travel to PNG to present their
work, as well as giving a chance to those who participated in Alotau to present revised versions of their work (some of the main goals of the conference being bridging the gap between scholars and people in the Milne Bay Province and integrating various forms of research).

Allan Darrah, <darrahac@gmail.com>
Michelle MacCarthy, Postdoctoral Fellow, Department of Anthropology, University of Bergen; <Michelle.Maccarthy@sosantr.uib.no>
Sergio Jarillo de la Torre, Department of Social Anthropology, University of Cambridge, Darwin College, Silver Street CB3 9EU, Cambridge, UK; <sjarillodelatorre@amnh.org>

Order in Melanesia
Organizer: Alex Golub

This was a lively and well-attended session. The following papers were given:

- Tate LeFevre (Franklin and Marshall), “Schizophrenic’ Youth”
- Alex Golub (University of Hawai’i at Mānoa), “Order and Disorder in Melanesia and Elsewhere”
- Lamont Lindstrom (University of Tulsa), “Melanesian Order Cravings”
- Alexis Tucker Sade (University of California San Diego), “Political Loyalties and Fluid Boundaries”
- Ivo Syndicus (Maynooth University), “A Question of Perspective: Order & Disorder in Student Boycotts at the University of Goroka in the Papua New Guinea Highlands”

Three papers were not presented:

- Thorgeir Kolshus (University of Oslo), “A walk in the Banks: movement and mores in northern Vanuatu”
- John Taylor (LaTrobe University), “Structures with Agency: images or organization and community in Vanuatu”
- Tobias Schwoerer (University of Zurich), “Mipela makim gavman’: Unofficial village courts and local perceptions of order in the Eastern Highlands of Papua New Guinea”

Taylor and Kolshus were unable to present their papers because they were double-booked into another session, which took priority. Schwoerer was unable to travel to the conference and did not give his paper.

Lindstrom’s and Golub’s papers described some generalizations about order in Melanesia made by past anthropologists. The rest of the papers examined continuities between the past and the present, as well the disjunctures. Some papers raised the question of whether there was something particularly “Melanesian” about the social dynamics involved. Others traced the influence of anthropology on contemporary understandings of Melanesia. One positive aspect of the session was that Solomon Islands, Vanuatu, and Papua New Guinea were represented. In the future we may look for additional papers from Fiji and Papua to strengthen the truly regional scope of the session.

Overall, the participants were pleased with how things went and we look forward to presenting a formal symposium next year!
**The Pacific Islands in the Digital Age**

Organizers: Geoffrey Hobbis and Alan Howard  
Discussant: Helen Lee

This year’s symposium brings together seven papers on “The Pacific in the Digital Age” that span the four main themes that we developed during our working session in Santa Fe: (1) use of digital technology as an ethnographic tool, (2) the political implications of digital technology, (3) the adaptations to social media by ethnic groups, and (4) the effects, planned and unanticipated, of digital technology on social processes.

Fully developed papers are due by November 1, 2015, in order to meet ASAO deadlines.

Confirmed participants:

- Alex Golub - "The shooting fields of Porgera": Anti-mine activism goes online  
- Stephanie and Geoffrey Hobbis – The Digital Promise as Potemkin Village: Biometric Voter Registration in Solomon Islands  
- Alan Howard - Being Rotuman on the Internet  
- Clara Pau - SNS (Social networking Samoans): Exploring the ethnic identities of Samoan Facebook users in Aotearoa, New Zealand  
- Vilimaina Navila - Problems with the transition to digital teaching and learning in Fiji’s schools  
- Guido Pigliasco – Peeks, likes, and leaks: The Sawau Project goes social.
- Chelsea Wentworth - “Good” and “bad” food revealed: Understanding categorizations in child feeding via digital visual methods  
- Forrest Young - Digitalization and affective politics on Rapa Nui

Shu-Yuan Yang is considering participation as well.

**Pacific Spaces (Retitled)**

Organizers: Tina Engels-Schwarzpaul, Albert L. Refiti, and Tevita Ka‘ili

Please note the title change. We’re going into the final stage of pulling together all the papers from the Pacific Spaces project; these will be circulated and reviewed for the final time in San Diego.

The following papers have been received from all participants and all have been invited to attend the San Diego symposium. We are expecting to have at least 8 participants at the meeting. Were very fortunate to have Leasiolagi Malama Meleisea and Paige West to be our discussants for the session.

Proposed program:

Introduction: A Confluence of Spaces – Albert Refiti & Tina Engels-Schwarzpaul
PART I: Old cosmologies, new ontologies: Transpersonal wayfinding

- Lata at the Entryway: Transpersonal Wayfinding on a Vaka o Lata – Mimi George
- Vaka, fale and kava: Tapu places, tapu structures – Hufanga ‘Okusitino Mahina
- The circulation of mana in centralised spaces, striated territories and shimmering houses in Polynesia – Albert L Refiti
- “Carving costs nothing”: Maori woodcarvers train wage-laborers how to show up to work on time – Jake Culbertson
- Centered space at Kukaniloko – Martha Noyes
- Maunawila heiau: A sacred spatiotemporal site linking Hawaiians, Tahitians, Tongans, and Samoans – Tevita O. Ka’ili

PART II: Social space and place: Fluidity and control

- Constructing cases, creating Kanaky: Spaces of indigenous sovereignty in Nouméa – Tate LeFevre
- Rotumans in Europe: Festival spaces – Jan Rensel & Alan Howard
- Open architecture – Mike Austin
- Pacific spaces of invisibility – Moana Nepia
- A typology of space, the va and the Samoan fale – I’uogafa Tuagalu
- Mana Moana: the journey to Motutapu – Karlo Mila

PART III: Encounters: Openness and thresholds

- Maori architecture in Oceania – Deidre Brown
- Travelling houses – Tina Engels-Schwarzpaul
- Zombie architecture: Sacrifice and Polynesian and European architecture – Ross Jenner & Albert Refiti
- Constructing fale tele (guest house): Constructing va (social-spatial relationships) – Sa’iliemanu Lilomaiava-Doktor

PART IV: Pacific buildings: Apparatus and materiality

- The 19th Century Whare Maori: The culture of technology – Jeremy Treadwell
- The junction of the tala and the itu – Athol Greentree
- Relational drawing as agency: negotiating the tangible and intangible of Samoan diaspora social space – Karamia Muller
- Tatau: symmetry as conflict-mediation of line-space intersection – Semisi Potauaine

Important dates:

Final date for application to Pacific Islanders Study Fund: Thursday 1 October (Tina and I need to endorse your application which needs to be with us by 20 September http://www.asao.org/pacific/pisf.htm);

Submission of papers for circulation among participants (this include papers submitted in absentia): Friday 16 October;

Confirmation of participation with final abstract: Friday 30 October.

Tina Engels-Schwarzpaul, AUT University, Auckland, New Zealand; <tina.engels@aut.ac.nz>
Albert L. Refiti, AUT University, Auckland, New Zealand; <albert.refiti@aut.ac.nz>
WORKING SESSIONS

Theorizing Race and Culture in the Pacific
Organizer: Lisa Uperesa

This panel takes as its task enunciating the generative potential of race in our examination and analyses of life in the Pacific, tracing how it interacts with the more privileged frameworks of culture, ethnicity, and indigeneity. These latter paradigms have dominated analyses of island life, group relations, and identity and belonging in the Pacific. While recent publications have taken up questions about race and racialization, their importance in historical and contemporary life in the Pacific deserves a more sustained conversation across island areas.

Building on and extending existing work in this area, past sessions focused on rights and citizenship, comparative colonialisms, place, and migration/diaspora as shaping formations of race-culture-indigeneity. In particular, clustered conversations emerged around land, racial logics, and culture; sport, racialization, and indigeneity; and the intersection of racialization of Pacific peoples with colonial projects and new configurations of power. In this upcoming working session participants will continue to develop article-length papers to pre-circulate and present in San Diego. Past participants who want to continue and new participants who want to join can send abstracts to lisa.uperesa@hawaii.edu by October 15; PISF applicants must submit abstracts by September 15. See you in San Diego!

Lisa Uperesa, Departments of Sociology and Ethnic Studies, University of Hawai‘i-Mānoa, 2560 Campus Road, George Hall 304, Honolulu, HI, U.S.A.; tel. (917) 684-7707; fax (808) 956-9494; <lisa.uperesa@hawaii.edu>

Agricultural Sovereignty (Cultivated Sovereignties)
Organizer: Jerry Jacka

Please note the title change. Twenty-one people participated in this informal session that explored the topic of how food and agricultural systems in Oceania are being used to express new forms of sovereignty vis-à-vis the state and multinational agro-corporations. We quickly realized that the singularity of the term sovereignty was problematic, as well as was the limitations of the terrestrial concept of agriculture. We decided to go forward with a working session in 2016 with the new, and still tentative, title, Cultivated Sovereignties. Our goal for the 2016 session is to present informal, short papers on our respective interest in the relationships between local practices of subsistence and livelihood and varying levels of political incorporation in the nation-state.

The following people have expressed interest in participating in 2016: Hokulani Aikau, Wasang Baiio, Emily Donaldson, Jamon Halvaksz, Wolfgang Kempf, Hao-li Lin, Carlos Mondragon, Marama Muru-Lanning, Patrick Nason, JC Salyer, Marc Tabani, Chelsea Wentworth, and Paige West. Please contact me if you would be interested in joining our working session in 2016.

Jerry Jacka, Department of Anthropology, University of Texas at San Antonio; <jerry.jacka@utsa.edu>

ASAO Histories
Co-organizers: Jan Rensel and Alan Howard
This continuing session is focused on documenting the histories of various aspects of ASAO since its beginning nearly half a century ago. People are writing papers from a personal or an institutional perspective, pulling together and organizing data, and/or serving as resources for others. Topics proposed thus far range from the earliest inception of the association with its comparative purposes and collaborative nature, to the ways various kinds of people became involved (including Melanesianists, graduate students, and especially Pacific Islander scholars), to meeting sites, session topics, distinguished lectures, publications, the impact of the Pacific Islands Scholars Fund (PISF), ASAONET, and the Grant to Return Indigenous Knowledge to Pacific Island Communities (GRIKPIC). Other topics are possible.

We have a Google site for session participants to access materials. If you are interested but didn’t hear from the session organizers in August, please contact us to indicate what and how you would like to contribute/participate.

Jan Rensel, Center for Pacific Islands Studies, University of Hawai‘i–Manoa  
<rensel@hawaii.edu>

Alan Howard <ahoward@hawaii.edu>

Chiefs Today

Co-organizers: Apolonia Tamata and Simonne Pauwels

Chiefs today are faced with the additional task of having to deal with government, politics, church and development agencies apart from their traditional roles of leadership and tending to concerns within their chiefdoms. The results are not always plain sailing but rather these have questioned their legitimacy, knowledge, know-how, even the authority to be chiefs. From there being no chiefs, to chiefs and in the absence of chiefs, panelists representing Micronesia (2), PNG (1), Vanuatu (1), New Caledonia (1) and Fiji (4) observe interesting yet crucial scenarios in how chiefs carry out their responsibilities. There are many conflicts and contradicting issues that chiefs have to find solutions to. There are people who oppose chiefs. There are communities who also see other options to chiefs. There are chiefs who merely let things be. There are things that happen because of chiefs or lack thereof. In most cases, which were presented, it seemed that succession is a real issue even if the rules are apparently clearly stated. The future analysis of the complexity of the tasks of chiefs today will certainly illustrate the difficulty of chiefs to be representatives, to receive the mana needed to take up responsibilities over the land and its people.

Members on the panel of ‘Chiefs Today’ are working towards the first draft of their papers, which they will circulate and get to comment on each other’s papers. The full list of this panel including some new members include David Wakefield, Elfriede Hermann, Glenn Petersen, Hao-Li Lin, Lamont Lindstrom, Isabelle Leblic, Marc Tabani, Ola Gunhildrud Berta, Margaret Critchlow, Manuel Rauchholz, Riet Delsing, Simonne Pauwels, Susan Montague, Stephanie Lawson, Wolfgang Kempf, Alexis Tucker Sade, Apolonia Tamata.

A group email address for the group is chiefstoday_asao@services.cnrs.fr.

Apolonia Tamata (I Taukei Trust Fund) <apoloniat@itaukeitrustfund.com.fj>

Simonne Pauwels (AMU/CNRS – CREDO) <simonne@pacific-credo.fr>

Constructing Pacific Pedagogies: Strategies for Teaching (retitled)

Organizers: Carmen Borja and Rochelle Fonoti, University of Washington
Please note the title change. Constructing Pacific Pedagogies: Strategies For Teaching is the official inheritor of last year’s session Pacific Islanders in the Classroom organized by Mimi Kahn, Holly Barker, and Kalani Young. Last year’s informal session on Pacific Islander in the Classroom has developed and transformed into a more specific position that the participants developed and are pursuing in this year’s working session. Building upon the previous session of engaged conversation about the rewards and challenges of teaching about Oceania, particularly in classrooms, this session attempts to understand the various pedagogical approaches practitioners engage across multiple sites. It is imperative to make the distinction between the pedagogical approaches of teaching at home in the Pacific, or abroad in the diaspora.

We invite participants to share and consider the following questions:

How does one’s positionality (indices such as race, ethnicity, gender, socio-economics, intellectual genealogy) inform the pedagogy of how one teaches about the Pacific?

What are potential challenges for practitioners teaching in the diaspora versus at home in the Pacific?

To what extent do practitioners and students engage with elders and community members when indigenous communities are present? How might the lack of community interaction impact classroom learning about the Pacific?

What are the benefits or challenges of teaching about Oceania to students who are either indigenous or non-indigenous? What are potential challenges for practitioners and students when learning about Oceania?

What are possible challenges of teaching about Oceania online?

How does one create a conducive learning space of “community” to ensure that students are engaged in the classroom?

The organizers invite participants to email an abstract or brief description (no more than 250 words) of your proposed topic to both Carmen Borja at borjac@uw.edu and Rochelle Fonoti at rfonoti@uw.edu by Friday, September 18th, 2015.

Carmen Villagomez Borja, Department of Anthropology, University of Washington, Box 353100, 511 D Condon Hall, Seattle, WA, 98195-3100, <borjac@uw.edu>

Rochelle Tuitagava’a Fonoti, Department of Anthropology, University of Washington, Box 353100, 511 D Condon Hall, Seattle, WA, 98195-3100, <rfonoti@uw.edu>

Contested Sovereignties in the (Post)Colonial Pacific

Co-Organizers: Tamatoa Bambridge, Pierre-Yves Le Meur, and Alexander Mawyer

This session seeks to build off a lively and free-flowing session in 2015 which raised and problematized the anthropological encounter with “sovereignty” in the French colonies and ex-colonies in the Pacific. For 2016, we invite participants to join us for a working session on the complexity of expression and enactment of various levels and instances of authority (state and non state, supra-national and infra-national, global and indigenous…) in the (post)colonial French speaking Pacific. Our goal for this session is to present and exchange concrete feedback on short working papers bearing on the dynamics and complexities of the sovereign and of sovereignties across diverse ethnographically informed contexts. Noting the comparative value of anthropological research in the overseas territories still “possessed” by the French metropolis in the Pacific, and in now (post)colonial Vanuatu, we hope that participants will
contribute working papers that bring the range of divergent and distinct configurations of autonomies and sovereignties in the French speaking islands of the Pacific into crisp view. For instance, work discussed in our informal session in 2015, drew attention to the distinct realizations of indigeneity and autochthony across the French speaking Pacific; to the constitutions of territorial legal regimes and justice systems; to dimensions of the state’s entanglement in the politics of UNESCO World Heritage projects in the region; issues of performance and politics; and the (un)common destiny of France and New Caledonia and the Pacific. Contributions linking sovereignty with issues of land property/policy, economic emancipation, rent-seeking strategies or resource nationalism will also be welcome.

We welcome new participants and invite participants to email an abstract or brief description (no more than 250 words) of your proposed working paper to us by December 31st, 2015. Please contact one of the organizers for further information.

Pierre-Yves Le Meur, IRD, Nouméa, New Caledonia; <pierre-yves.lemeur@ird.fr>
Tamatoa Bambridge, CNRS, CRIOBE, Moorea, French Polynesia; <tamatoa.bambridge@criobe.pf>
Alexander Mawyer, CPIS, The University of Hawai’i at Manoa; <mawyer@hawaii.edu>

**Ethnic Tension in Hawai’i**

Organizers: Joseph Genz and Julianne Walsh

This second Informal Session on ethnic tensions in Hawai’i included 10 participants, who shared a variety of perspectives that have broadened the scope of the initial 2014 session in Kona. Discussions ranged from (i) the historical trajectories that have led to the current diasporic movements of Compact of Free Association (COFA) migrants to Guam, Hawai’i, and other destinations in the U.S.; (ii) the experiences with ethnic tensions of those migrants as well as in their island homelands, and differences among the diasporic communities, from everyday name callings to occasional high school fights to structural discrimination; (iii) how social media has exacerbated such tensions; (iv) responses from within the Micronesian communities, including political leadership; and (v) how our anthropological research can incorporate and expand toward community-based applied projects for more visible educational outreach efforts. With this more expanded concern of the tensions facing recent migrants in Hawai’i and other locations, we are moving forward with a Working Session in San Diego in 2016. Please contact Joe Genz (genz@hawaii.edu) and Julie Walsh (jwalsh@hawaii.edu) for more information.

Joseph Genz, Department of Anthropology, University of Hawai’i at Hilo, Hilo, HI 96720, USA: tel. 808-974-7472; <genz@hawaii.edu>
Julianne Walsh, Center for Pacific Island Studies, University of Hawai’i at Manoa, Honolulu, HI 968922, USA: tel. 808-956-2668; <jwalsh@hawaii.edu>

**Friendship and Peer Relationships**

Organizers: Jessica Hardin and Mary Good

Our group kicked off its first informal session with a lively discussion about the nature of friendship and peer relationships and the ways in which they complement, replace, and change other forms of relations such as kinship. We had a variety of participants with research interests across the Pacific. From our conversations, we developed several common themes, including Change/Transformations; Finding “One’s Place”; and Commitment to Friendship.
During the Santa Fe meetings, the group discussed moving forward at the next ASAO meetings as a working group. Although we do not plan at this point to collectively publish an edited volume or a special journal issue, we would like to maintain the spirit of the ASAO working sessions by encouraging everyone to deeply engage with the group and work in tandem so as to foster productive cross-citation and shared readership where possible. We plan to exchange manuscripts with session participants as a way to facilitate participation but also eventual publication. With this in mind, we propose sharing manuscripts by November 1 and for those interested potentially another exchange of manuscripts in February. Our working session in 2016 will also include Deborah Gewertz and Fred Errington as discussants of the submitted papers.

Confirmed participants going forward include Ping-Ann Addo, Barbara Andersen, Mary Good, Jessica Hardin, Tate LeFevre, Helen Lee, David Troolin, Christina Kwauk, Mac Marshall, Larry Carucci, Leslie Butt, Ryan Schram, Chelsea Wentworth-Fournier.

Mary K. Good, Department of Anthropology, Wake Forest University, 1834 Wake Forest Road, Winston Salem, NC, 27109; tel. 336-758-3423; <goodmk@wfu.edu>

Jessica Hardin, Department of Sociology and Anthropology, Pacific University, 2043 College Way, Forest Grove, OR 97116; tel. 503-352-3125; <hardin@pacificu.edu>

Hierarchy and Egalitarianism in Austronesia/Oceania

Organizer: Ku Kun-hui

Discussant: Lamont Lindstrom

This session concerns the relationship between hierarchy and egalitarianism among societies in Austronesia and Oceania. There is a long tradition on the theme of hierarchy and egalitarianism in this region, and current revived revision of the topic. We intend to reassess these models ethnographically and ask how these models inform our own work and how our ethnographic materials contest or enhance these analytical frameworks. Twenty people showed up for the informal session and we had a very lively discussion on the topic and more importantly we decide to move forward to the next stage as a working session next year. We discussed some common intellectual ancestors and how the keys terms have been defined. Taking a historical point of view, we think Pacific societies are both hierarchical and egalitarian at the same time, only the particular mix differs (for example, chiefs come and go over time). The issues of land and land tenure were highlighted in some cases, as were age, gender, and class/status difference in others.

Currently we have 7 committed participants and a few more expressed interest to join. We welcome new submission and the deadline for abstract should be in by 15th September. Please contact the organizer for further information.

Ku Kun-hui, National Tsing Hua University, No. 101, Sec.II, Kuang-fu Rd. Hsin-chu, 30013 Taiwan; tel. 886-357242827, <kunhui.ku@gmail.com>

Sexuality and Agency in Oceania: Rethinking Pacific Concepts of Ownership, Exchange, and Morality

Organizer: Manuel Rauchholz

This late-breaking informal session sought to problematize the issue of sexuality and agency in Oceania and place it in the context of a discussion on ownership, exchange and morality in connection with the use and misuse of persons and their bodies. Leading to the session were
exchanges at previous ASAO meetings that seem to indicate a high rate of sexual exploitation or what by human rights standards most nations have ascribed to world wide might be termed sexual abuse. From the earliest times of colonial contact, women’s and mostly girls’ sexuality, it seems, has to varying degrees been part of island exchange cycles, thus raising the question of agency and ownership over a female’s body. In regards to men, the question of agency and ownership seems to concentrate more around control over a male’s labor activities and acts of warring or other forms of aggression in defense of family and kin that might put a male’s health and life at risk. The session will be continued next year as an informal session. If interesting in participating, please contact the organizer at <rauchholz@eth.uni-heidelberg.de>.

Manuel Rauchholz, Akademischer Mitarbeiter, Heidelberg University, GERMANY; <rauchholz@eth.uni-heidelberg.de>

**Sounds of the Pacific (Retitled)**

Co-organizers: Karen Fox and Andie Palmer

Please note the title change. Building upon the active and exciting discussion during the 2015 informal session, the working session for 2016 is designed to allow participants—and others who may be interested—to present their specific research and scholarship about the “sounds of Oceania”. The group agreed we were interested in the sounds of Oceania as Pacific Peoples express, interpret, comment upon, and challenge the fundamental premises of locally experienced sound, whether categorized as music / noise / silence / instruction / entertainment, or other. The working group welcomes those whose research in the Pacific considers: the acoustemology of places (Feld 1996); cultural conventions for organizing sound, understanding of what is and is not appropriate sound, sounds in intimate spaces and auditory imperialism (Padden and Humphries 1988); instrumental musical and oratorical performance (Bauman 1975, Finnegans and Orbell 1995); song practices including waiata (Ngata 1928, 1990) hymns, and their political uses (Pond 1995); the efficacy of sound (how sounds DO something/doing things with sound) (cf. Austin 1962); sounds as claimed or denied or discounted; ontological security of sound; learning to listen, learning to hear; gendered sound; how we use music to hear the past (sound heritage); semiotics of sound; sound, place and meaning; architecture of sound and acoustic archaeology; singing the land; sharing of sound and the meaning of shared sound; silence, sonic exclusion, and not-hearing; soundscapes (Schafer 1977; cf. Adams 2014); sounds unique to Oceania; disordering sounds and sounds out-of-place (e.g., underwater sounds of deep sea mining); and the ways that the Sounds of the Pacific travel or are taken to resound in other places, transnational spaces.

As a group, we decided to support an effective working session by

1. A collaborative bibliography: A collaborative Dropbox folder has been created so participants can upload bibliographic entries or cut-and-paste to a master list. Please use Chicago Style for entries. The organizers will edit, alphabetize, and organize entries. Email Karen Fox for invitation to folder.

2. Presenting papers at the 2016 ASAO Conference. The organizers will need abstracts by October 14, 2015 so we can ensure seven (7) presenters and conference information by November 1, 2015. Abstracts maybe emailed directly to the organizers.

3. We will be looking for papers of circa 3000 words late November for circulation within the group.

Members who attended the 2015 Conference or have indicated interest are Hao-Li Lin, Ivan Brady, Apolonia Tamata, Patrick Nason, Vincent Malcolm-Buchanon, Jacqueline Hazen, Jamon Halvaksz, Susan Kuehling, Rosalind Hunter-Anderson, Albert Refiti, Juliana Flinn,
NEW PROPOSED SESSIONS

Authenticity and Authoring in Pacific Cultures

Co-organizers: Jeannette Mageo and Joyce Hammond

While anthropologists tend to be suspect of the category of authenticity, it is frequently on the lips of those commonly found in the Pacific today—Islanders, tourists, and collectors—and it is a key value in the practices of all three groups. As an emic category it deserves consideration. In part the category of authenticity is suspect because of questions of authoring raised by anthropologists and museum curators for the past several decades. Does a certain practice or product, they ask, trace back to pre-contact times or is it traceable to more contemporary times and to foreign places—questions raised in the invention of tradition literature. Attempts at authentic renderings of Pacific culture by foreigners and locals have persisted ever since first contact and are worthy of study for what these attempts can show about interactive understandings of culture. In all instances the aims of these attempts were mixed and the renderings themselves multi-vocal.

This session will focus on images and texts from varied contexts: from Pacific islands to Western museums and galleries and from early colonial times to the present. Often, if not always, such renderings have been and continue to be multiply authored by foreigners and indigenes in more or less manifest or latent ways and they were and are generative for foreigners and indigenous cultures alike. Troubled by concerns about voice, its origins, who is speaking, with what right and with what legitimacy, these renderings and their reception nonetheless represent creative collisions of cultures; their effects were and are to different degrees eroding and creative. Themes of tribute, gift, appropriation, and trade lace through such productions and their aftereffects. The session will explore all these topics as well as distinctions among different forms of authenticity in actors’ perceptions and how definitions of authenticity may vary over time. Examples may include art forms, photographs, ceremonies and contests, theater and also classic ethnographic accounts where the aim is an authentic rendition of a Pacific culture.

For more information or to participate in an informal session for next year’s meetings in San Diego, please contact Jeannette Mageo (jmageo@wsu.edu) or Joyce Hammond (Joyce.Hammond@wwu.edu).

Avoiding Giving

Organizer: Elise Berman

The gift has been a central topic in anthropological theory and research for more than a century. Data from Oceania informs a large proportion of analyses of the gift. Many of these
analyses argue, implicitly or explicitly, that giving is the basic social act that forges bonds between people.

Rather than analyzing giving this session invites participants to examine its opposite: not-giving or avoiding giving. Analyses of giving as prosocial implicitly construct not-giving as antisocial, as an act that rather than creating bonds destroys them. The goal of this session is to challenge this assumption and unpack the nature of not-giving in a place that has been a bastion of research on the gift. The word “avoiding” refers to the fact that giving has been constructed as central in not only anthropological theory but also local ideologies of social life. Through analyzing a broad range of issues, this session will hopefully not only advance ethnographic analyses of Oceania but also challenge and enhance anthropological theory on gift giving and exchange.

This informal session is intended to restart two previous sessions on Avoiding Giving that were very successful. Previous participants wrote about issues as broad as religious conversion, the kula, adoption, Ponzi schemes, and youth romantic relationships. All previous participants are encouraged to join, as are any new participants. Participants are welcome to discuss any aspect of avoiding giving including but not limited to remittances, linguistic practices, kinship, colonial legacies, globalization, historical practices, and changing religious movements. We are particularly interested in work that re-examines classic ethnographies for examples of avoiding giving as well as analyses of how avoiding giving plays into new social forms in the postcolonial Pacific.

The goal is to run an informal session in 2016 and then jump to a symposium and publication in 2017. For more information, please contact Elise Berman <eberman@uncc.edu>.

Elise Berman, Ph.D., Assistant Professor of Anthropology, UNC Charlotte | 249 Barnard 9201 University City Blvd., Charlotte, NC 28223, Phone: 704-687-5099, <eberman@uncc.edu>

The Experiential Roots of Mana

Organizers: Mimi George and Charles D. Laughlin

Mimi George and Charles Laughlin have discussed the notion of mana for many years. We have been interested in the experiential aspects of apparently universal elements in human spiritual knowledge and ritual practice. Our explorations have ranged across a number of mana-related issues, including ritual, alternative states of consciousness, shamanic practices, entheogens, lucid dreaming and meditation. One of these features has struck us as an important focus for discussing the phenomenological roots of spiritual knowledge and belief, namely what many Pacific peoples call mana, or cognate terms, and which bears other labels in other places (e.g., barakah in Africa, kundalini in Asia, libido in Jungian psychology).

There has been a renewed interest in the question of mana and related issues in the literature (e.g., August 2005; Marshall 2012; Mondragón 2004; Tomlinson 2007; Zepf 2010). When we called for interested participants at the 2015 meeting, we received 15 responses. We feel that the time is ripe to bring this hypothesis before the best minds in Oceanic ethnography and throw it out for discussion at the next meeting. We also wish to put forth the hypothesis that cultural concepts of an invisible spiritual force that animates objects and persons in the world derives from, and is reinforced by the direct experience of psychic energy in the body (Laughlin 1994; see also Lederman’s 1991 account of her personal experience of anjin during her fieldwork in Malaysia). In doing so, we will share what we know about the neuropsychology of psychic energy, as well as transpersonal studies of such experiences. We wish to find out whether our ASAO colleagues feel a more formal working session of this issue in 2017 might be productive.

References:


Marianne (Mimi) George <George.mimi@gmail.com>

**Indigenous Modernities in the Pacific**

Organizer: Kalaniopua Young

This informal session seeks to open up creative space for thinking through ideas about place, race, class, labor, urbanization and indigeneity while also opening up discussion for examining what home means to indigenous Pacific peoples in the contemporary moment and the role of diaspora, dispossession, community empowerment and the co-creative potential for de-occupation, decolonization, transformative theory, methodology and praxis. The new title opens up new limits and possibilities for continuing collaboration, intellectual support and evolving ideas about home, community and wellbeing.

Questions that we want to address:

What issues does a critical focus on indigenous modernity in the Pacific address?

How does an understanding of temporality continue to inform, shape and transform indigenous engagements with development, production and activism?

If you are interested in co-facilitating/participating in this session, please contact Kalaniopua Young, <youngt1982@gmail.com>.

Kalaniopua Young, Department of Anthropology, Box 353100, University of Washington, Seattle, WA98195; <youngt1982@gmail.com>

**The Rural Pasifika Diaspora**

Organizer: Helen Lee

The aim of this session is to bring together researchers interested in the temporary or permanent migration of Pacific Islanders to rural areas in the diaspora. Seasonal worker schemes for Islanders have been introduced in both New Zealand (since 2007) and Australia
(since 2008) and are leading to temporary population flows into rural areas, primarily for horticultural work. In 2015 Australia lifted the cap on its Seasonal Worker Program and expanded it to include even more Pacific nations. However, seasonal workers are not the only Islanders in rural areas as there are also long-term settlers, temporary visitors, and ‘overstayers’ or undocumented migrants. In rural areas of the US Islanders also have various immigration statuses, although no formalised seasonal worker scheme exists, so it will be interesting to compare the impact of the presence or absence of such schemes.

Some of the questions that could be explored in the session include:

The implications of seasonal worker schemes for other Islanders in rural areas and for home countries receiving workers’ remittances

Issues Islanders face in rural areas for mobilising social capital and accessing public services

Do different immigration statuses affect the socio-economic status and wellbeing of Islanders in rural areas?

Relationships between Islanders and other ethnic groups in rural areas

Experiences and aspirations of Islander youth in rural areas in the diaspora

The trans-local and transnational networks of Islanders in rural areas

Helen Lee, Sociology and Anthropology, School of Social Sciences, La Trobe University, Victoria 3086, Australia; <H.Lee@latrobe.edu.au>

Tuakana-Teina: Examining Relationships of Power in Eastern Polynesia

Organisers: Marama Muru-Lanning, Carlos Mondragon and Francisca DelaMaza

The tuakana-teina pairing is an organisational structure used by Eastern Polynesian peoples of the Pacific. It distinguishes the paired relationships of ‘senior’ and ‘junior’ between people and things. Recognising that deep cultural meanings are subtly embedded in language is essential to analysing tuakana-teina. Williams’ basic translations of the terms for New Zealand Maori defines tuakana, as ‘an older brother of a male, an older sister of a female and a cousin of the same sex in an older branch of the family’ (1985 [1844]:445) and teina ‘as a younger brother of a male, a younger sister of a female and a cousin of the same sex in a younger branch of the family’ (1985:410). This ordering of people is largely responsible for structuring the reciprocal relationships between kin members of descent groups, tribal groups, and Maori and their environment (Salmond 1991 [1988]:348). The overall purpose of this new session is to explore how and why tuakana-teina defines, in Eastern Polynesian cultural terms, those things which ‘can be’ controlled and owned and those things which are ‘too senior’ or ‘too great in status’ to be dominated or owned.

This session will investigate how the concept of tuakana-teina frames Polynesian conceptions of relatedness, possession, belonging and ownership. Our informal discussions will contribute understandings of tuakana-teina as a fundamental concept that identifies relationships of power in Eastern Polynesia between tuakana nation states such as Britain, France, the United States, New Zealand and Chile and their less powerful counter-parts (or teina nations) such as Aotearoa/New Zealand, the Cook Islands, Tahiti, Hawaii and Rapanui/Easter Island. Among other things this session will critique and compare the historical relationships of tuakana-teina nations and explore the protections, responsibilities and obligations that tuakana-teina nations have with one another.
Caveat: We have used the New Zealand Maori spelling of tuakana and teina to frame our session. These fundamental words (or concepts) will have different spellings in other parts of Eastern Polynesia.

For more information, please contact Marama Muru-Lanning at <m.murulanning@auckland.ac.nz>.

Marama Muru-Lanning, <m.murulanning@auckland.ac.nz>
Carlos Mondragon, <cmondragon@colmex.mx>
Francisca de la Maza, <fcadelamaza@uc.cl>

VII. ASAO.ORG UPDATE

Following the preview of the new ASAO website at the Santa Fe meeting, I'm very excited to announce that all features of the new site are up and running this fall! Just in time for registration for the San Diego meeting, the revised ASAO site will hopefully be familiar and friendly, yet new and improved. The side redesign includes several new features, all of which have been optimized for users to access across devices and platforms.

Features of note include efforts to streamline conference registration and membership, done through forms which users will be able to submit directly on the website. The new site also links directly to PayPal, where ASAOers will be able to toss all of their membership and registration fees into a shopping cart and quickly check out. Powered through Swiftype, the new site’s membership database will gradually learn the most relevant results through user searches, allowing the website manager to edit search results as needed. We are eagerly looking forward to the official debut of the website this fall and will post an announcement of the official site going live through ASAOnet.

Many thanks go out to several who have been especially helpful during this period of site development. Thank you to Helen Lee and Alex Mawyer for input and support as we worked to finalize the site. Thank you also to Mary McCutcheon for all of her assistance in transferring the ASAO PayPal account between sites. Finally, an immeasurable thanks goes to Alan Howard, for not only his extensive help with the site transition, but also for all of the work and care he has for many years put into the ASAO site.

Zakea Boeger, University of Hawai‘i, zakea@hawaii.edu

VIII. NEW PUBLICATIONS, GRANTS RECEIVED, AND ANNOUNCEMENTS


Karen Fox and Lisa McDermott have been awarded a Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council (SSHRC) grant in Canada for a project entitled "Native Hawaiian Responses to 18th and 19th Century Leisure Discourses and Their Haunting Consequences."


Helen Lee was awarded an Australian Research Council (ARC) Linkage Grant for a project entitled “Pacific Islanders in regional Victoria: visitors, migrants and overstayers" for 2015-2018.


Nancy Lutkehaus was awarded a fellowship by the American Council of Learned Societies for 2015-2016 to work on a book entitled “The Met Goes Primitive: Postwar America, Cultural Politics, and the Creation of the Rockefeller Wing of the Metropolitan Museum of Art.”

Jaap Timmer has been awarded a Discovery Project grant from the ARC for a project entitled "State-building from the Perspective of Local Communities,” for 2015-2018.

AN ANNOUNCEMENT FROM THE ASIA PACIFIC JOURNAL OF ANTHROPOLOGY

The Asia Pacific Journal of Anthropology invites the submission of papers for the Nadel Essay Prize. The Nadel Essay Prize celebrates excellence in ethnographic writing. Anthropologists who have earned their doctorate within five years prior to submission are invited to submit ethnographically-based original papers on social and cultural anthropology relating to the Asia Pacific region, including Australia. Word limit: 8000 words. Closing date for submissions: 31 October 2015. Papers must be submitted online at: http://mc.manuscriptcentral.com/rtap. Please indicate that your submission is intended for the Prize in the Cover Letter section. For inquiries please contact the journal: tapja@anu.edu.au.

SPECIAL ISSUE ON THE FRANCOPHONE PACIFIC IN THE CONTEMPORARY PACIFIC

The Contemporary Pacific, volume 27 (2) is now available. It is a special issue on the francophone Pacific and contains the following articles, dialogue, and resource pieces:

- Decolonization, Language, and Identity: The Francophone Islands of the Pacific by Bruno Saura and Léopold Mu Si Yan
- Remembrance of the Colonial Past in the French Islands of the Pacific: Speeches, Representations, and Commemorations by Bruno Saura
- Brave New Words: The Complexities and Possibilities of an “Indigenous” Identity in French Polynesia and New Caledonia by Natacha Gagné
- Imagining the Body in Pacific Francophone Literature by Titaua Porcher-Wiart
- Linguistic Ideologies: Teaching Oceanic Languages in French Polynesia and New Caledonia by Jacques Vernaudon
- Resources for Research in French Polynesia and New Caledonia by David Aymonin and Isabelle Heutte

PNG BOOKS FOR PNG—If you have digital copies of classic works on PNG, please send them to the University of Papua New Guinea for archiving and research. Writings by Otto Reche, Richard Thurnwald and others are especially needed. Contact Nicolas Garnier at ngarnier@upng.ac.pg for more information and advice on transmission.

CORRECTIONS—A previous version of this newsletter contained several minor errors which have been corrected: The session “Theorizing Race and Culture in the Pacific” was incorrectly listed as a Formal Symposium. It is a Working Session for 2016. The list of directors incorrectly included Maria Lepowsky as a Director and omitted Tate Lefevre. Lepowsky ended her term at the 2015 meeting and LeFevre joined at that time. Zakea Boeger was also omitted from the list of Officers; she is the current web site manager.
The ASAO Newsletter is published three times yearly (April, September, December) and is a benefit of ASAO membership. For general members and fellows, membership may be paid annually (US$40) or once every three years (US$110). Student, retired and unemployed membership is US$25 annually or US$65 for three years. Institutional subscriptions are available for US$15 per calendar year. ISSN 1095-3000

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