I. FIFTH ANNUAL MEETING OF ASAO

A. General Information

ASAO 1976

The 1976 Meeting will be held from Wednesday, 25 February through Sunday, 29 February at the Mills Hyatt House in Charleston, South Carolina.

Accommodations

The Mills Hyatt House is holding a block of rooms for us until 4 February. Special convention rates are: Single, $20; Twin or Double, $26; with $5 for an additional third person in the room. Please make reservations directly with the hotel, mentioning that you are with ASAO. (Reservations can be made at the special rate after 4 February if they have rooms available after that date.)

Mills Hyatt House
Meeting and Queen Streets
Charleston, South Carolina 29401
(803) 577-2400

Registration

At the Mills Hyatt House from 1:00 P.M. until 6:00 P.M. Wednesday, 25 February.

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Newsletter Editor - Dr. Paul A. Dahlquist

News items should be sent to the Editor: Department of Sociology and Anthropology; Ohio Wesleyan University; Delaware, Ohio 43015. Dues and other correspondence should be sent to the ASAO Secretary: Dr. James Nason; Burke Museum; University of Washington; Seattle, Washington 98195.

ASAO membership dues are US$5.00/year for individuals and US$10.00/year for institutions.
Meals

Charleston is the home of Low Country Seafood, one of the great American cuisines. We are planning group meals served in a private dining room at the hotel for breakfast and lunch only, leaving everyone free to make their own dinner arrangements. This will cost $35.00 for 4 breakfasts and three lunches. For this we need a minimum of 50 people by 48 hours before the event and we will have to handle the billing through ASAO at registration. Those who wish to have meals with the group should notify Karl G. Heider in advance. If not enough people commit themselves to meals, we will cancel the group meals.

Transportation

There is regular air service to Charleston, and the airport limousine is $1.65 (including baggage) for the 20 minute drive to the Mills Hyatt House. (Cabs are about $5). Parking is available in the city garage behind the hotel for fifty cents per day.

Local Arrangements:

Karl G. Heider  
Department of Anthropology  
University of South Carolina  
Columbia, South Carolina  29208  
(803) 777-6500

B. Program Arrangements for 1976

As of this writing four symposia and six working sessions are planned for the 1976 meeting. As in the past there will be three classes of sessions: (1) symposia; (2) working sessions; (3) informal sessions.

Symposia are sessions in which a group of people have written papers on a common theme by prior agreement with a symposium chairman. The papers will have been circulated before the meetings so that each participant has had a chance to read the other papers. Symposia are given preference in scheduling of meeting time.

Working Sessions are designed as more or less informal meetings to discuss some ethnographic topic of interest. Although not all working sessions will culminate in a formal symposium, it is assumed that this is a possibility.

Informal Sessions are meetings scheduled by anyone who is interested in gathering people for discussion of a particular topic. These sessions are not included in meeting schedules, but should be scheduled when nothing of a formal nature is scheduled. Anyone may propose an informal session by writing to the Program Chairman asking for space with sufficient advance notice to allow for announcements. If the session title is to be published in the Newsletter prior to the meetings, requests must be received by December 31, 1975.

Program Chairman for 1976 is Daniel Hughes; Department of Anthropology; Ohio
Chairmen of sessions are urgently requested to keep the Program Chairman informed as to the progress of the sessions.

C. Symposia Planned for 1976

(1) Symposium: Curing in Oceania

Chairman: Roger Ward; Department of Anthropology; Tulane University; New Orleans, Louisiana 70118

Arising out of a working session at the 1975 ASAO meeting, the topic of this symposium is cultural definitions and responses to illness in Oceania. This is defined as Micronesia, Polynesia, Melanesia, and New Guinea. An immediate aim of the symposium is share information on an aspect of Pacific cultures about which little is known: customs and beliefs related to curing. The broader objective is to shed more light on the common elements and problems raised by ethnographic accounts of the identification and treatment of illness in this part of the world. Some papers may focus on a problem such as the folk classification of categories of illness. Others may be concerned primarily with a general description of a single medical system, with the social aspects of medicine, or with the relation of traditional and scientific medicine. We expect to discover some unifying elements in the approaches of Pacific societies to the threat of illness as well as differences which reflect variations in the ecological, social, and historical contexts.

Participants should think of January 15th as the deadline for submission of papers for the symposium. Papers should be sent to the Chairman.

(2) Symposium: Multi-Ethnic Politics in Pacific Island Nations

Chairman: Eugene Ogan; 215 Ford Hall; University of Minnesota; Minneapolis, Minnesota 55455

The Pacific island nation states recently, or about to become, independent are with few exceptions ethnically heterogeneous. This heterogeneity varies in nature from Papua New Guinea with more than 500 recognized languages to essentially tri-ethnic Fiji. In some cases, ethnic complexity is solely the product of colonialism. In others, even relatively small islands contained a number of unrelated languages, with differing cultural correlates, before Europeans arrived.

Anthropologists have for years recognized theoretical and practical problems in dealing with ethnicity (cf. Helm 1968), especially as these relate to drawing ethnic boundaries (Barth 1969). What has become increasingly clear is that ethnicity can become most salient in the realm of politics -- that is, in the competition for control over valued resources. For example, Irish Catholic identification may be expressed in a St. Patrick's Day parade in an American city, but the relevance of such identity for behavior is obviously much greater in Belfast.
Given these historic and theoretical considerations, I suggest that an examination of ethnicity and politics in existing or nascent Pacific island nations could constitute a stimulating basis for a symposium at the 1976 meeting in Charleston. The topic is relevant to Micronesia, Melanesia and -- perhaps to a lesser extent -- Polynesia. It can be examined in several different contexts; the following list is suggestive, rather than exhaustive:

- Political strategies of outer island ethnic groups in administrative centers
- Legal recognition of multi-ethnic politics (e.g., reserved electorates)
- Multi-ethnic politics as colonial heritage (e.g., missionization and ethnicity)
- Venacular languages and *lingue franche* as political symbols
- Ethnicity vs. social class in Pacific island politics

The political arenas to be discussed might range from school boards or town councils to national legislative assemblies.

Because the possibilities are varied, some effort should be made to keep the symposium from galloping off in all directions. A short bibliography appears below; it consists of five general works and a specific example of Pacific island multi-ethnic politics. If participants are familiar with at least some of these works, there is greater likelihood of dialogue, rather than disparate contributions.

Persons interested in participating are urged to contact the chairman as soon as possible. I welcome questions and promise to reply promptly to all correspondence. In addition, I will be attending the AAA meeting in San Francisco, and it may be both feasible and desirable to hold a planning session there. Prospective participants should think of 1 January 1976 as the deadline for submission of papers to be circulated. (Depending on interest and the pressures of time, we may have to settle for a working session in Charleston, rather than a symposium with formal papers, but Dan Hughes assures me that there is room on the program for a full-scale symposium.) I look forward to hearing from all those interested.

**Selected Bibliography**


(3) Symposium: Sources of Conflict and Processes of Resolution

Co-Chairmen: Kenneth E. Knudson; Department of Anthropology; University of Nevada; Reno, Nevada 89507

J. Jerome Smith; Department of Anthropology; College of Social and Behavioral Sciences; University of South Florida; Tampa, Florida 33620

This session will be devoted to the comparative analysis of the situations which give rise to conflict and the processes for resolving conflict in Pacific Islands cultures. Papers should deal with a specific society and include a discussion of the ecological setting, the scale of the society, socio-political organization, and world view as a background for the analysis of the origins of conflict and the processes by which different types of conflict are resolved in that society. One or two discussants will be invited, who will review the papers to provide a comparative summary and critique. Both the 1974 and 1975 working sessions were aimed at providing ethnographic data and clarifying our understanding of the nature of conflict. The aim of this symposium, if enough papers are submitted, is a volume in the ASAO monograph series. Deadlines: 100-word summary by December 1, completed paper by January 15.

(4) Symposium: Women's Roles in Oceania

Chairman: Sharon W. Tiffany; Department of Sociology-Anthropology; University of Wisconsin-Whitewater; Whitewater, Wisconsin 53190

The goal of this informal symposium is to examine issues of comparative and theoretical interest to the study of women's roles and sex differentiation in Pacific Island societies. Suggested topics to be considered include: the distribution of power and authority relations; the jural status of women; the economics of sex differentiation; marriage, family, and kinship; and women in myth and ritual. Other topic suggestions are welcome.

If sufficient interest is generated during the 1976 meetings, participants will determine the theoretical issues for organizing a formal symposium for the 1977 meetings. The deadline for short (100-200 words) abstracts is 1 December. Persons submitting short abstracts are expected to present and distribute copies of their paper at the meetings. Persons unable to present papers should be prepared to discuss informally a topic of interest and distribute a long (2-3 page) abstract of their topic at the meetings. Copies of long abstracts are due in the chairman's hands by 1 February. Copies of long and short abstracts will be distributed by the chairman to the other participants. Interested persons should contact the chairman immediately.

D. Working Sessions Planned for 1976

(1) Working Session: Controls on the Dissemination of Knowledge

Chairman: Glen T. Petersen; Anthropology Department; Columbia University;
Anthropologists working in Oceania (and elsewhere as well) are continually confronted with restrictions on just how much their informants are willing -- or able -- to communicate to them. In part this is a consequence of being an outsider and the general colonial atmosphere, though the former may also work in the opposite direction, breaking down certain barriers to communication. But this phenomenon is also due in great measure to controls placed upon the sharing of knowledge and/or information that obtain within the society itself, between its members. In some places restrictions and sanctions against full disclosure or unimpugnable veracity are quite formal, such as on Panape, where ancestral spirits are likely to visit harsh punishment (e.g., serious illness or death) upon any individual foolish enough to tell all he or she knows about any given subject, and where people are often quite frank about the fact that what they are communicating is purposefully not complete.

The implications of such behavior and values for anthropology are manifold. How can the ethnographer ever hope to get a reasonably complete story, and what happens when only one version, with lacunae and errata, is published as the account? Aside from the axiom that knowledge is power, what are the reasons for such developed systems of discommunication? What are the concomitant relationships with social organization in a situation where everyone knows that they don't know everything? What does this imply for the enculturation of children, who aren't told everything they need to know? These are, of course, very simplistic questions, posed more to tease than to elicit explicit answers.

The proposed working session would be devoted to informal presentation and discussion of specific accounts of cultures where such rules are in effect, ways individual students have dealt with this sort of epistemological problem, and analyses of such phenomena in contexts of social structure and organization. It is envisioned that initial emphasis would be on ethnographic and comparative approaches rather than at the level of metatheory.

Interested persons should contact the chairman by January 1. Petersen will be at the San Francisco AAA meetings in December and happy to discuss proposals and ideas.

(2) Working Session: Copra Production in Oceania

Chairman: Martin G. Silverman; Department of Anthropology; University of Western Ontario; London 72, Ontario; Canada

This proposed Working Session will deal with facets of copra production in Oceanic societies. The concern is not with the plantation-type system, but rather with that form in which people get the coconuts from their own land. From his own material, the chairman feels that one among many possible themes is the theme of the constraints imposed by this form on other aspects of social life, the opportunities it provides for the maintenance (and transformation) of certain older patterns, and areas of contradiction. The scene might be depicted at various levels: local, governmental, regional marketing, 'international' economy. The chairman is issuing a call for papers at this time in order to determine the interest in such a session. Any interested parties should immediately contact Silverman at the above address indicating their interest and
possible form of participation.

(3) Working Session: The Cultural Geography of Oceania

Chairmen: Sam Price; 16715 County Road 220; Salida, Colorado 81201
Julia Hecht; Department of Anthropology; University of Chicago; 1126 East 59th Street; Chicago, Illinois 60637

In the past, the environment has usually been defined along physiographical lines. Wet land, for example, is often contrasted with dry land, and the land in general is described over and against the sea. The people of Pacific societies are frequently seen as different from land, having relationships to land primarily through rights and obligations to other people. Social anthropological analyses utilizing such an approach make a contrast between land and people in legalistic terms.

It is significant that an ethnobotanist, Barrau suggested in "L'humide et le sec," (JPS 74:329-346, 1965) that "These systems of ideas, of which I have given a rough outline and which seem to be related to a basic humidity contrast... may have some resonance in the structure of Oceanian societies." Many of us find that we are dealing with a variety of problems that are best understood by viewing land and people as symbolically unitary. Our data on widely scattered Pacific cultures seem to indicate that concepts such as wet and dry, and center and periphery define "land and people" in the same terms. There is no opposition of land to people and those concepts in no way oppose "land and people."

We propose a working session to address the significance of these concepts and related assumptions as they structure the Oceanic worldview.

Questions, comments and possible contributions should be addressed to one or both of the session's Chairmen.

(4) Working Session: Pacification in Melanesia

Chairman: Ms. Margaret Rodman; Department of Anthropology; McMaster University; Hamilton, Ontario, Canada L8S 4L9

In this working session investigation will be made of a synthesis between ecological interpretations of primitive warfare and non-equilibrium models of culture change. Members of encapsulated societies will be viewed as actors instrumental to the success or failure of externally imposed pacification attempts. In addition, economic changes and adjustments in ecological relationships will be evaluated as indicators of the dimensions of a process that includes both warfare and peace. Persons interested in participating in the session should immediately contact the chairman.

(5) Working Session: Problems of Historical and Ethnohistorical Research in Oceania
Chairman: James D. Nason; Burke Museum; University of Washington; Seattle, Washington 98195

This session will be devoted to an investigation of several facets of research into the history and ethnography of Oceanic societies: (1) the evaluation of ethnohistoric data and its collection - Can there be an ethnohistoriography?; (2) the impact of contemporary changes on the feasibility of historic or ethnohistoric research - especially the problem of diminishing sources of information, the decline of roles of 'historian' or 'holder of esoteric lore' in island communities; (3) ethical difficulties faced by researchers investigating past and contemporary island history - particularly in light of recent guidelines for the protection of individual rights; (4) the potential application of anthropological concepts and approaches to such research as opposed to those of history; and, (5) the identification of key or central problems for historical or ethnohistorical research in island communities - especially as these may exist or arise for governmental or legal purposes (as with American Indian land claim cases). Formal papers are acceptable, but data 'briefs' of five pages or so will also usefully serve to stimulate discussion on some or all of the above issues. Copies of papers should be sent to the chairman by 15 January, with prior advisement of interest in participation highly desirable.

(6) Working Session: Urbanization in the Pacific Islands

Chairman: Kenneth E. Knudson; Department of Anthropology; University of Nevada; Reno, Nevada 89507

In spite of a number of significant reports and publications, the study of urbanization in the Pacific is a comparatively neglected field. None the less, it is perhaps the most obvious manifestation of contemporary culture change there as elsewhere. Discussion at this session will be concerned with attempting to identify and make clear the various issues involved in urbanization in the Pacific, including range of population, governmental organization (or its absence), sub-communities and ethnic groups, economics, household and family organization, relationships with outlying communities, migration to and from the urban center, crime and delinquency, and so on.

The concept of an "urban area" should be considered broadly for the purposes of this session: any concentration of population that is a center of administration, trade, industry, mission activity, etc. (some or all of these). Total populations need not be large; some of these number only a few hundred persons in size (for example, Gizo in the western Solomons is clearly an urban center, although it has a total population of only about 1,500).

Formal papers will not be requested for this session; instead each participant will be given time for an informal oral presentation and discussion. Each presentation should briefly describe a city or town and comment on some topic, issue, or theoretical problem brought out by data from that community. Those interested in participating should submit an abstract of 100 to 200 words to the chairman by January 1; copies of the abstract will be distributed to the other participants by the chairman. Hopefully we will be able to do the groundwork in this session for a formal symposium in 1977, focussed on some specific issues in comparative perspective.
E. Other Events Planned for 1976

(1) Photographs from the Pacific. During both of the last two Annual Meetings, evening time has been set aside for presentation of slides by various participants. This event has met with great favor and will be a continuing feature of the Annual Meeting, usually involving no more than 7-10 participants, each with a limited number of slides on one area or topic. Anyone who wishes to participate should contact the Program Chairman as soon as possible. Participants should prepare ditto or mimeo sheets listing the slides to be presented with a brief description of each. Such listing would facilitate requests for copies.

II. BIBLIOGRAPHIC NOTES

A. ASAO members should note the new address for the University Press of Hawaii, publisher of the ASAO Monograph Series and numerous other books of interest to Pacific scholars. Effective immediately, the Press's new address is:
   The University Press of Hawaii
   2840 Kolowalu Street
   Honolulu, Hawaii 96822

Members are also reminded that publication in the ASAO Monograph Series brings with it a special author's discount on all books issued by the University Press of Hawaii (40% off list price).


D. A revised and much expanded edition of Ben Finney's Polynesian Peasants and Proletarians, originally published by the Polynesian Society in 1965 has recently been published by Schenkman Publishing Company. The distributor is: General Learning Press; 250 James Street; Morristown, New Jersey.

E. Recently published is Oceanic Prehistory by Richard Shutler, Jr. and Mary Elizabeth Shutler. 125 pp., 6 maps, 3 tables, 12 figures. It includes chapters on S.E. Asia, beginnings of food production, Australia, Melanesia, Polynesia, Micronesia, and Oceanic Prehistory in Perspective. Good bibliography. A paperback from Cummings Publishing Co., Inc.; 2727 Sand Hiill Road;
The University of Minnesota Press has just published the following book which should be of particular interest to Micronesianists: Barrett, Ward J. 1975. Mission in the Marianas: An Account of Fr. Diego Luis de Sanvitores and His Companions, 1699-1670.

III. RESEARCH NEWS

A. General

(1) Newsletter XVII, August 1975 contained a description of a conference to be held at the University of New South Wales, August 25-29, 1976 entitled: "The First Young Nations Conference: Research for Development and Development Planning in the South Pacific," Alexander F. Mamak; School of Sociology; University of New South Wales; P.O. Box 1; Kensington N.S.W. 2033; Australia is coordinating the conference. The Smithsonian Institute has suggested to Mamak that potential American participants should apply for a travel grant under the U.S.-Australia Scientific Bi-Lateral Agreement. The agreement is administered by the Office of International Programs at the National Science Foundation in Washington.

B. Micronesia

(1) Mac Marshall and Leslie B. Marshall will conduct eight months of fieldwork in Peniesine Village on Moen Island, Truk and on Namoluk Atoll in the Eastern Caroline Islands from January-August 1976, under the auspices of a University of Iowa Research Assignment. Mac's research will focus on drinking behavior, migration and friendship. Leslie's research will concentrate on such aspects of medical anthropology as diet, nutrition and cultural notions relating to pregnancy and childbirth.

(2) Glen Petersen writes that he is back from a satisfying eighteen months on Ponape and is now writing his dissertation about why, despite the great emphasis placed on it by the Micronesian, there is no economic development taking place at the grass roots level there. Glen is also looking for ways to explain the general political situation in Micronesia (the referendum, the Constitutional Convention, etc.) to a wider audience in the U.S. and would like to hear from anyone else interested in this.

IV. CORRECTIONS

A. Ian Hogbin should be added to the list of Honorary Fellows of ASAO which appeared in the August 1975 Newsletter. Apologies are extended for this inadvertent omission.

B. Please note the corrected Zip Code for the Newsletter Editor. The correct Zip Code is 43015 and its use will help to speed the not so swift mails on their way.
PARTICIPATION IN THE 1976 ANNUAL MEETING

In order to assist the Program Chairman in scheduling sessions, please return this form as soon as possible to:

Dr. Daniel Hughes  
Department of Anthropology  
Ohio State University  
Columbus, Ohio 43210

***Yes, I will attend. My name and mailing address for further information is:

________________________________________
________________________________________
________________________________________

(PLEASE NOTE THAT YOU ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR MAKING YOUR OWN TRANSPORTATION AND HOTEL ARRANGEMENTS AS NOTED ON PAGE ONE AND TWO OF THIS NEWSLETTER.)

***I plan to participate as follows:

Symposia:

____ Curing in Oceania ( ) with paper ( ) without paper
____ Multi-Ethnic Politics ( ) with paper ( ) without paper
____ Sources of Conflict ( ) with paper ( ) without paper
____ Women's Roles ( ) with paper ( ) without paper

Working Sessions:

____ Controls...Knowledge ( ) with paper ( ) without paper
____ Copra Production ( ) with paper ( ) without paper
____ Cultural Geography ( ) with paper ( ) without paper
____ Pacification ( ) with paper ( ) without paper
____ Problems...Research ( ) with paper ( ) without paper
____ Urbanization ( ) with paper ( ) without paper

____ I plan to attend but am not sure what I will informally participate in.
____ I plan to attend but only for the following dates:

________________________________________

ANYONE WHO WOULD LIKE TO SHARE A DOUBLE OR TRIPLE, BUT WHO HAS NO PARTICULAR ROOMMATE PREFERENCE, SHOULD WRITE TO KARL HEIDER, WHO WILL MATCH UP PEOPLE AND WILL MAKE THE NECESSARY ARRANGEMENTS WITH THE HOTEL. Professor Heider's address is Department of Anthropology; University of South Carolina; Columbia, South Carolina 29208.