I. IN THIS ISSUE

Reports from organizers on sessions held during the 11th Annual Meeting; 1983 Annual Meeting site information; proposed sessions for the 12th Annual Meeting; minutes from the Chairman of the Board on official meetings convened during the 11th Annual Meeting of the ASAO; and the Annual Report from the Monograph Series Editor.

II. 1983 ASAO ANNUAL MEETING LOCATION

Though the exact location of the 1983 ASAO Annual Meeting is presently unknown, it was decided that the meeting would take place on the West Coast during the customary time (probably late February). It is hoped that the choice of location will be finalized in time for publication in the Summer Newsletter.

Related to the issue of the 1983 meeting is consideration of Hawaii as the site. Since Hawaii is receiving serious consideration it has been requested that potential session organizers and others with suggestions for activities to be held in connection with a Hawaii meeting please contact Geoff White at the address shown below. In addition to session topics,

1981-82 ASAO BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Michael Lieber (Chicago Circle), Chair
Dorothy Counts (Waterloo)
Martin Silverman (British Columbia)
Bradd Shore (Sarah Lawrence)

For information concerning ASAO membership and Newsletter subscription, please contact: Donald Mitchell, ASAO Secretary, Dept. of Anthropology, SUNY-C, Buffalo, NY 14222.

Contributions to the ASAO Newsletter should be sent to: Richard Marksbury, 124 Gibson Hall, Tulane University, New Orleans, LA 70118.
ideas and/or questions about opportunities afforded by a Hawaii meeting are welcome, especially from Pacific, Australian and New Zealand members. Please address all correspondence to: Dr. Geoff White, Culture Learning Institute, East-West Center, 1777 East-West Road, Honolulu, HI 96848.

III. NOTE FROM THE 1982 PROGRAM CHAIR

I would like to thank the organizers of symposia, working sessions and informal sessions for all their help in putting the program together. It is clear that ASAO meetings are emergent cultural events; form, topic and participants transform themselves from year to year, often in quite creative ways. I think our program went very well this year and that it can be attributed primarily to innovative and zealous session organizers, articulate and well-prepared participants and a high degree of intellectual engagement; thank you all.

- Don Brenneis

IV. SESSION REPORTS, 11TH ASAO ANNUAL MEETING: HILTON HEAD, SC

Three formal symposia, three working sessions, and five informal sessions (four reports submitted) were held during the 11th Annual Meeting of the ASAO in Hilton Head, South Carolina, March 3-6. Summaries of these sessions, including possible future plans, are presented in the organizers' reports below:

A. FORMAL SYMPOSIUM: "Social Stratification in Oceania"

Organizer: Michael Howard
Sociology, SSED
University of the South Pacific
PO Box 1168, Suva Fiji

Michael Howard was unable to attend the Hilton Head meeting since he had recently assumed a new position as chairman of the sociology department at the University of the South Pacific. Consequently, Rick Marksbury (Tulane) and Don Mitchell (Buffalo) co-chaired the symposium.

Symposium participants delivered papers dealing with social stratification in both Melanesia and Micronesia. In most cases, the Melanesian presentations examined various levels of incipient social stratification while the Micronesian examples considered recent as well as projected changes in societies having more of a history of social stratification than their Melanesian counterparts. An interesting point raised during the discussion was the bias most anthropologists have toward social stratification and the need to determine whether we, as social anthropologists, like or dislike social stratification.

The papers presented during last year's working session in San Diego have been accepted for publication by Oceania for its 50th Anniversary edition. This special edition will be published in May 1982. Nevertheless, Mike Howard has expressed an interest in publishing a volume from this symposium and encourages all participants (including those who were unable to attend the meetings) to contact him about their papers.
Participants and Papers:

Virginia Guilford (Graduate Center CUNY): "Oksapmin trade stores in Papua New Guinea"

Daniel Hughes & Stanley Laughlin (Ohio State): "Changing social stratification in the Federated States of Micronesia"

Rick Marksbury (Tulane): "Legislating social order: An example from the Yap Islands"

Donald Mitchell, II (SUNY-C Buffalo): "Frozen assets in Nagovisi"

Glenn Petersen (Baruch): "Bad debts and good credit: Redistribution in Ponape's commercial economy"

Margaret Rodman (McMaster): "Traditional land tenure and new forms of social inequality in a Vanuatu peasantry"

Lorraine Sexton (118 Roumfort Rd., Philadelphia, PA 19119): "Development projects and social stratification: A case study from Papua New Guinea"

Michael Smith (3704 N. 14th St., #3, Arlington, VA 19119): "White man, rich man, bureaucrat, priest: Hierarchy, inequality, and legitimacy in a changing Papua New Guinea village"

B. FORMAL SYMPOSIUM: "The History of Papua New Guinea"

Organizers: Deborah Gewertz, Dept. of Sociology & Anthropology, Amherst U., Amherst, MA 01002 and Buck Schieffelin, 520 S. 46th St., Philadelphia, PA 19143

Eight papers were presented at this very successful symposium followed by critical comments from Herb Klein (History, Columbia) and Jane Goodale (Bryn Mawr). Subsequent discussion was spirited and fruitful with useful contributions from members of the audience.

The term "ethnohistory" was taken to refer not to "the history of non-western, third world, or tribal people" but to the culturally constituted view(s) that a given people have of their past.

A number of important themes of theoretical concern to ethnohistorical studies emerged, and are succinctly recapitulated below:

1) There is a need to treat ethnographic field materials as historical material e.g., as having historical antecedents and being the outcome of historical forces, and not merely a configuration of social and cultural structures in a timeless ethnographic present (Ogan);

2) A major issue of concern in ethnohistory is the way in which the people under study view the relation between time and structure. One may distinguish two basic modalities: a) The episodic perspective where structures are unchanging, change is repetition and replacement and the flow of events is merely process; and b) In the temporal, evolutionary view, where reality is change, events are cumulative, and structures are constructed and deconstructed in the movement of events (McDowell);

3) One must be alert for changes in historical perspective of our informants as they develop greater hindsight and new perceptions on the past (Sankoff);

4) Ethnohistorical studies are especially suited to dealing with the misunderstandings and miscommunications involved in the encounter of different cultures. Where historians tend to see contrasting views of events as representing different points of view, anthropologists see the different points of view as representing whole different cultural
orientations as well as reflections of different structural positions of the protagonists vis-a-vis one another (Scaglion, Sankoff, and Schieffelin);

5) One must pay attention to the way that nontemporally related cultural structures (world view, spirit beliefs, cultural typifications) affect interpretations of events in both the past and the present (Schieffelin);

6) One must be alert to different types of models people use in the cultural construction of their past. The past may be modeled on genealogy (lineages of disputes), chronology (wars, kings, conquests), or by analogy to the quality of experience e.g., the golden girl myth (Gewertz, Lutkehaus).

Discussant Herb Klein recommended the model of the French Annals school of historians as an appropriate approach for ethnohistorians, and cautioned against a too narrow focus on local tribe-centered or village-centered historical studies. He called instead for contexting village and tribal histories within larger regional and world historical trends and situations. He also urged the greater use of what historical documents, photographs, etc., there are available to supplement and balance off purely oral accounts.

Ward Goodenough urged us to keep in mind the question of what are the uses of history, e.g., the uses to which our informants put the remembrance of the past, and to what extent is the form in which history comes related to the way in which it is used?

Jane Goodale noted the narrative and interpretive nature of historical accounts, emphasized the notion of "replacement" for understanding events perceived within an "episodic" perspective, and drew attention to the need to discover the units in which people measure time in perception of the past: Years? moons? generations? lifespans? She also pointed to the importance of determining the relationship that people conceive the past to have with the present and the future.

It is planned that the revised symposium papers will be submitted (together with two additional papers by Jim Boutilier and Jim Roscoe) for a special publication of a Pacific journal concerned with history and anthropology which is available to Papua New Guineans. Following that, we plan to convene again in 1983 as a focused workshop on a topic in the area of "the relation of ethnohistory to history" with the aim of producing a full symposium the following year which will provide the papers for a major book. (See Section XI PROPOSED "NEW" SESSIONS FOR 1983 ANNUAL MEETING).

C. FORMAL SYMPOSIUM: "Folk Psychology in Pacific Cultures"

Organizers: John Kirkpatrick, Dept. of Anthropology, Wesleyan University, Middletown, CT 06457 and Geoffrey White, East-West Center, 1777 East-West Rd., Honolulu, Hawaii, 96822

Eleven participants presented papers during the Folk Psychology symposium. The first day was devoted to brief presentations of key issues in the papers, followed by joint discussions aimed at identifying useful comparative themes. Three interrelated themes were selected for discussion the following day: (1) ethnopsychological bases of social control; (2) conceptualization of internal-external relations in ethnopsychologies; and (3) situational bases of folk knowledge of emotion.
The second day was devoted to exploring these themes which was facilitated by first breaking into small groups that formulated issues connected with each of the topics. Several points emerged from subsequent discussion by the entire group which reviewed a broad range of ethnographic data. They were: (1) social control and power often rely upon definitions of the situation which presume cultural premises about persons and forces which affect them. The study of ethnopsychology may provide access to these premises; (2) looking comparatively at ethnopsychological data shows that distinctions of internal-external are articulated in terms of connections between these realms, rather than as conceptual oppositions; and (3) examination of the basis for translation and comparison of emotion terms led to a review of cultural knowledge about the situations and social contexts which evoke specific emotional responses. Similarities in the semantic clustering of emotion concepts were noted.

At the conclusion of the symposium it was agreed that the study of ethnopsychologies encompasses a variety of research interests and methodological styles. Also, this pluralism should be encouraged by being explicit about the diverse approaches represented in symposium papers. Collaborative work on these topics will continue through joint critique and revision of papers in light of the symposium discussion. Plans are being made for publication of the papers in the form of an edited volume.

Participants and Papers:

Peter Black (George Mason): "Explaining Self Destruction on Tobi"
Jane Fajans (Stanford): "The Ups and Downs of Baining Personhood: Ethnopsychology among the Baining"
John Kirkpatrick (Weasley): "Marquesan Ethnopsychology: A View of Human Identities"
Michael Lieber (U. of Illinois, Chicago Circle): "Kapingamarangi Folk Psychology"
Catherine Lutz (SUNY-Binghamton): "Ijaluk Ethnopsychology: Self Awareness and Interpersonal Interpretation"
Susan Montague (Northern Illinois): "Trobiand Folk Psychology"
Fitz John Porter Poole (Rochester): "Coming Into Social Being: Images of Children in Bismin-Kuskusmin Folk Psychology"
P.B. Roscoe (Rochester): "Aspects of Personal Control Among the Yangoru Boiken, East Sepik Province, Papua New Guinea"
Edward L. Schieffelin (Rutgers): "Anger and Shame in the Tropical Forest: On affect as a Cultural System in Papua New Guinea"
Martin G. Silverman (British Columbia): "Inalienable and Alienable Possession: An Informal Research Report"
Geoffrey White (East-West Center): "The Interpersonal Self in A'ara Folk Psychology"

D. WORKING SESSION: "Conception Theory in Oceania"

Organizer: Dan Jorgensen, Dept. of Anthropology, Univ. of Western Ontario, London, Ontario, Canada N6A 5C2

The session on "Conception Theory..." was well attended and generated interest among both participants and audience. Issues that emerged from the papers include: Conception and gender ideologies (especially in regard to men's cults); the formulation of kinship and the relation between 'nature and nurture' in kinship claims; conception as dogma, speculation,
ideology, and belief. Roy Wagner provided useful commentary and plans to attend and present a paper at next year's Annual Meeting. Bill McKellin (Mangalase) and Gillian Gillison (Gimi) were unable to attend but remain committed to next year. In addition, Anna Meigs (Hua) will join us along with Barbara Jones (Faiwolmin). Also expressing an interest were Jane Fajans (Baining) and Susan Montague (Trobriands). Given the nature of the collection on hand and the shape of the interest expressed by others, the scope of the session will be redefined to reflect the predominance of Melanesian materials. Time will be requested on next year's Annual Meeting calendar to deal with "Conception Theory in Oceania" as a symposium.

Participants and Papers:

Aletta Biersack (Central Michigan): "Paiela conception theory: An exegesis of native belief"
Peter Huber (Virginia): "Reproduction and social reproduction among the Anggor"
Margaret Williamson (Mary Washington): "Kwoma conception"
David Eyde (Texas - El Paso): "Sexuality and garden ritual in the Trobriands and Tikopia"
Christine Payne (Brandeis): "Shared substance: Is it a one-short deal for the Polynesians?"
David & Dorothy Counts (Victoria): "Father's water equals mother's milk: The conception of parentage in Kaliai, West New Britain"
Peter Lovell (New Brunswick): "Myth, conception theory, and multiple gender in Longana, Vanuatu"
Dan Jorgensen (Western Ontario): "Hidden transformations: Telefol models of conception"
Fitz Poole (Rochester): "Symbols of substance: Bimin-Kuskusmin models of procreation, death, and personhood"
Roy Wagner (Virginia): Commentary and concluding remarks

E. WORKING SESSION: "Aging, Gender and Dying in Oceania"

Organizers: Dorothy and David Counts, 2 Flamboro Court, Dundas, Ontario, Canada L9H 4Z3

Discussant: Judith K. Brown, Dept. of Anthropology, Oakland University, Rochester, MI 48063

The session organizers would like to extend their thanks to Vern Carroll for a methodizing suggestion that produced a successful session. Rather than having our participants present their papers in straight seriatim fashion, the first half hour was devoted to drawing up a set of general points and problems common to the papers and which had emerged as focal during the year since the informal session. With these points in mind, participants were asked to speak from their papers to the items of special relevance. In addition, it was agreed to stress the informality of the session and to encourage discussion among participants as issues and questions arose. The outcome was an exchange of ideas from and about a group of papers that had common ground. No amount of organizing could have produced this result without good material to discuss and the Counts would like to thank their contributors who came to the session with thoughtful and well-prepared papers.
While it is not possible to do justice to all the issues that arose during the session, two seemed of special interest and are given here for the information of those who may have been unable to attend the presentations:

1) Gender opposition: papers covering societies ranging from extreme gender opposition (e.g., Meigs: Hua) to very reduced gender/sex role differentiation (e.g., Lepowsky: Vanatinai) seem to suggest that changes in status through the life cycle are covariant with the importance of gender distinction. In societies with pronounced gender distinctions during reproductive years the role content associated with gender may come to be not only less sharp in old age (following Guttman's 'natural androgyne' model) but may even be reversed. Societies with severely muted or non-significant gender role differences will tend to have a rising curve of prestige for both genders through age and perhaps a longer retention of sexuality. In addition, it was clear that in the societies under consideration, where gender distinction is present, it is most marked during reproductive years and hence is not coterminous with genital sex.

2) Aging/Dying: Most of the material reviewed supports the notion of death as process rather than event, but the particular significance of the processes is variable. The most striking differences in meaning are those between societies in which death is thought of as loss leading to entropy on the societal level (Jorgensen: Telefol) contrasted with societies in which the dying is part of the renewal of society. In these (Counts and Counts: Kallai, and others) the aging give their lives -- substance, knowledge, etc. -- to the young who replace them.

The organizers and participants agreed to request three one-half day periods for reconvening as a formal symposium next year. In addition, time will be requested for one evening to discuss final plans. Several persons have indicated an interest in joining the symposium. They are: Jane Goodale (Bryn Mawr), Michele Dominy (Bard), Jack Fischer (Tulane), Fitz Poole (UC San Diego), W. McKellin (Toronto), and Juliana Flinn (Stanford).

The discussant for the session, Dr. Judith K. Brown, drew the threads of the discussion together and has agreed to serve as discussant for the symposium with particular regard to the gender/aging aspects of the presentations. It is planned to invite a second discussant who will complement Dr. Brown by focussing in particular on the aging/dying themes to be explored.

Persons interested in obtaining copies of the draft papers from the working session are asked to contact the authors directly. Those wishing to correspond with the organizers about the proposed symposium may do so until June 1, 1982 at: Centre for Pacific and Oriental Studies, University of Victoria, Victoria, B.C., Canada V8W 2Y2. After June 1, the Counts' address will that listed above.

Participants and Paper Titles:

David Counts (McMaster) & Dorothy Counts: "Linking Concepts: Aging, Gender and Dying" and "'I'm Not Dead . . . Yet!' Aging, Death and the Dead: Process and Experience in Kallai"
Karen Sinclair (Eastern Michigan): "Age and Gender amongst the Maori"
Anna Meigs (Manitoba): "Old Woman as Young Male Initiate"
Maria Lepowsky (Berkeley): "Gender, Aging and Dying in an Egalitarian Society: Vanatinai, (Sudest Island) PNG"
Naomi Scaletta (McMaster): "Gender and the Life Cycle as Interrelated Processes in Melanesia with specific reference to the Bariai of northern West New Britain"
Jane Fajans (Chicago): "The Work of Living: Life Cycle and Death Among the Baining"

Lawrence Carucci (P.O. Box '144, Indain Hills, CO): "Conceptions of Death and Dying in the 'Middle of Heaven'"

Dan Jorgensen (Western Ontario): "The Answer to Death is Life" (Telefolmin, PNG)


F. WORKING SESSION: "Infant care and feeding in the Pacific"

Organizer: Leslie Marshall, College of Nursing, University of Iowa, Iowa City, Iowa, 52242

The participants met for paper presentation and lively discussion during the morning and afternoon sessions on March 4 and 5, and again briefly on the evenings of March 5 and 6 to discuss common themes brought out by the papers and to plan for a symposium on the same topic during next year's Annual Meeting. The emphasis of most presentations was on detailed ethnographic accounts of infant feeding practices which related to a number of important issues in the current literature on the subject.

The major issues raised during the discussions included: the cultural symbolism of food (and infant feeding as early socialization); the resolution of conflicting demands on a mother's time and energy ("baby" and "non-baby" activities) as related to women's roles and their social support system; some underlying factors in changing infant feeding practices (planned and unplanned); the relationship between breastfeeding and sexual activity; the fostering of increasing independence in the infant (including weaning); and the question of what practices are adaptive.

The wide range of discussion may have been due in part to the diverse backgrounds among the participants: cultural anthropology, physical anthropology, nursing, psychology, education, and nutrition. Melanesia, Polynesia, and Micronesia were all represented in the fieldwork sites of the participants. Because those contributing papers to the session were residing all over the globe, 8 of the 19 papers were given in absentia.

The participants, their addresses, and general ethnographic areas are listed below:

Bonnie Nardi (Western Samoa)  
Dept. of Anthropology  
Duke University  
Durham, NC 27701

Kathy Barlow (East Sepik)  
Post Office  
Wewak, ESP  
Papua New Guinea

Leslie Conton (Madang, PNG)  
Dept. of Anthropology  
Western Washington Univ.  
Bellingham, WA 98225

Susan Montague (Milne Bay, PNG)  
Dept. of Anthropology  
Northern Illinois University  
De Kalb, IL 60115

Helen Doan (West New Britain, Southern Highlands, PNG)  
Dept. of Psychology  
York University, 4700 Keele St.  
Downsvieu, Ontario M3J 1P3 Canada

Stanley Ulijaszek, (Gulf, PBG)  
55 Radford Blvd.  
Nottingham NG7 3BQ England
G. INFORMAL SESSION: "Population changes in Papua New Guinea"

Organizers: David Boyd, Dept. of Anthropology, Univ. of California - Davis, Davis, CA 95616 and William Heaney, Land Tenure Center, 310 King Hall, Univ. of Wisconsin - Madison, Madison, WI 53706

The purpose of the meeting was to determine how much interest existed among ASAO members to examine factors affecting local level population change at the community level in Papua New Guinea. Such an approach would contrast and complement the aggregate data collected for the 1980 National Census. The organizers convened two short meetings which were attended by eight members; three other members involved in other sessions showed interest. The members discussed the issues they were interested in pursuing and decided that there was sufficient interest in the topic to prepare preliminary papers for the 1983 Annual Meeting on a series of topics.
The group agreed that 'village' level (census unit), census division and provincial level data would be needed for proper comparisons. Verbal agreement to provide this information was given by the Director of the Census in March, 1981, and the organizers decided to write to the Office of the Census to request the relevant data for the areas in which researchers show interest.

At the second meeting, Dr. T. McDevitt, from the North Carolina Population Center, distributed a list of references and copies of technical papers that described useful procedures in constructing demographic measures from data usually collected by anthropologists in the field. We also distributed copies of Bulmer's classic paper on social practices limiting fertility in Papua New Guinea and suggested that people read, as a useful model for working papers, the article by Gene Ogan and Don Mitchell dealing with population change in Bougainville.

One premise of the organizers, which met with some skepticism from those attending, is that anthropologists, like Chaucer's nun, know more about factors affecting population than they are letting on. What is needed are some simple demographic tools to analyze their census or genealogical data in ways that will be useful to other social scientists. We see the exercise as a discovery and learning experience that will be both enjoyable and intellectually stimulating.

The group decided to examine the technical papers and review their own material while the organizers draft a more detailed outline of the population issues on which anthropologists can shed some light. We hope this will be ready for mailing early in the summer and will include the social and economic factors affecting changes in mortality and fertility, e.g., changes in reproductive practices child spacing, the introduction of health services or family planning. Ideally we would like papers that both contrast and complement each other with regard to geographical distribution and basic issues in population change, including, for example, the New Guinea Highlands and fringe areas which show moderate or declining rates of growth compared to other areas and the New Guinea Islands, coastal and peri-urban areas where rates of observed growth are quite high. Each writer would concentrate on a subject area or series of questions for which they think they have the best information, but would also include their observations about other factors which have been thought to be active elsewhere and therefore important for comparative purposes.

We would like to hear from interested researchers who have worked in the Central New Guinea Highland, coastal and peri-urban areas who are interested in examining their data for a working session in 1983. We would appreciate it if they would write to one of the organizers and describe the population situation in the area where they worked, e.g., whether the local population appears to be increasing, decreasing or resettling because of changes in health, social customs, the onset or re-emergence of diseases, or economic opportunities elsewhere, as well as the kind of data that they have collected. Please also include the name of the census unit (village or rest house), census division and provincial divisions where you have worked. In return, we will send you our prospectus, list of references and (if unavailable to you) copies of the technical papers. When we learn which areas and census information will be required, we will contact the Office of the Census in Port Moresby. In the meantime, all interested researchers are encouraged to contact us.
H. INFORMAL SESSION: "Drugs and Interpersonal Relations in Oceania"

Organizer: Lamont Lindstrom, Anthropology/Sociology, Southwestern at Memphis, 2000 North Parkway, Memphis, TN 38112

A number of members interested in kava and betel met during the Hilton Head meetings and made a serious commitment to be "born again" as a working session at the 1983 Annual Meeting. Participants included Maria Lepowsky (Sudest Is., PNG), Dick and Max Katz (Fiji), Richard Scaglion (East Sepik, PNG), Jacob Love (Samoa), Leslie Conton (Upper Ramu Valley, PNG), Mac Marshall (Truk), and Monty Lindstrom (Tanna, Vanuatu).

The scope of the inquiry was focused on the question of drugs and interpersonal relations while enlarging the drug kit to include all non-alcoholic drugs currently in use in the Pacific. These are tobacco, marijuana, hallucinogens and various drug-like substances, i.e., ginger in addition to kava and betel. During a two-year incubation period, we plan to formulate a set of problems and research topics which address the importance of drugs in interpersonal relations, i.e., social identity and drug use or abstinence; drugs as tokens or props within everyday or marked types of social relations in various contexts (kinship, friendship, exchange, sex, etc.). Anyone with information and ideas on the place and importance of tobacco, kava, betel, marijuana, etc. within Pacific interpersonal relations is invited to join us in 1983.

I. INFORMAL SESSION: "The Significance of Laughter in Oceania"

Organizer: Richard Feinberg, Department of Sociology and Anthropology, Kent State University, Kent, OH 44242

Discussion in this session focused on laughter directed toward victims of pain and suffering. Participants confirmed that this phenomenon is common throughout the Pacific, sometimes taking dramatic and (to Western observers) unsettling form. A good deal of anecdotal material was presented and some initial attempts were made to account for such events both in terms of specific cultures and general psychological principles. The consensus was that this is a phenomenon with great potential for providing insight into Oceanic cultures and that it would be worthwhile to pursue the matter more systematically in a working session at an as yet undetermined future date. Anyone interested in a more complete report of the session's proceedings and conclusions or wishing to participate in the forthcoming working session should contact Rick Feinberg at the above address.

Participants:

Aletta Biersack (Central Michigan)
Kathleen Carlin (Tulane)
Richard Feinberg (Kent State)
Michael Lieber (U. of Illinois at Chicago Circle)
J. INFORMAL SESSION: "Talk in Oceania"

Organizer: Dorothy Billings, Dept. of Anthropology,
Wichita State University, Wichita, KS 67208

Fifteen members attended this session on Thursday evening, March 4, 1982. Discussed were the kinds of topics that might be investigated and the kinds of problems that might be encountered in pursuit of them. These problems are both theoretical and empirical: 1) What categories should be used in describing the material?; and 2) How can the work be documented on the basis of existing field records, which were not made with the study of "talk" in mind? Another problem that emerged was how potential participants could select a common theme or subject matter on which to focus during next year's Annual Meeting.

However, a consensus was reached that the proper place to begin is at the beginning. Time on next year's program for a working session will be requested from Vern Carroll. It is anticipated that session participants will present materials according to their respective theoretical lights, along with whatever documentation is available. It is hoped that categories and data suitable for comparison will emerge from the various presentations. Anyone interested in participating in this session should contact Dorothy Billings.

V. MINUTES OF THE ASAO BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING: March 2-3, 1982

The Board of Directors, after considerable discussion, approved the following resolutions:

The Chairperson of the Board shall be responsible for one evening session during each Annual Meeting. This session may be used for any number of purposes, such as a distinguished lecture, an address by the Chair or someone else, scheduling of informal sessions, or for any other sort of discussion as the Chair might decide.

The proposal that ASAO should use its publication fund to subsidize single-authored monographs on Oceanic anthropology was considered and found to be beyond the scope and means of the Association.

The Secretary shall maintain a master file of the following ASAO documents—Constitution and By-Laws, Newsletters, Annual and occasional reports of officers, published guidelines for officers, symposium organizers, volume editors, etc., reports of agreements between officers, reports of agreements between officers and outside agencies, minutes, editorial policies, and any other documents relevant to the operation of ASAO. These files shall be updated every six months. From this master, the Secretary shall prepare the following documents for distribution:

(a) Current policies governing the operation of the Association for distribution to each board member and officer.
(b) Guidelines to be distributed to each officer and/or member to whom the guidelines are relevant.

It shall be the duty of each Board member and officer to transmit a complete, updated copy of briefing documents to their successor (as designated by the Secretary) along with any other pertinent documents. The files of the Secretariat, if and when they must be transferred to a successor, should be transferred in person if possible. If that is not possible, then an appropriate carrier should be used to ensure safe and complete delivery.

Considering the difficulties in coordinating site selection, local arrangements, and program organization for the Annual Meeting, the Board resolved to integrate these three functions into one office to be known as the Annual Meeting Coordinator. The Board then established a program committee of three members to review program proposals by session organizers and to adjudicate among them for allocating time and space at the Annual Meeting. The three members will be appointed by the Annual Meeting Coordinator in consultation with the Board. Vern Carroll was appointed by the Board to serve as Annual Meeting Coordinator for a three-year period, subject to annual review as provided in the By-Laws.

The Board considered a proposal whereby meeting sites now on a rotation plan of east-midwest-west could avoid the problem of frequent airport closings in the midwest while maintaining the advantage of off-season rates. An October meeting would resolve both problems but would also require amendments to By-Laws II 5 and III 5. It was decided to continue the east-west alternation to allow further consideration of the proposal and the form such an amendment might take.

The Board heard the Monograph Series Editor’s report and made the following resolutions: The Series Editor is empowered to (a) transfer the publication fund to a bank offering an interest-bearing checking account, (b) transfer $500 from the publication fund into a twelve-month CD account, (c) continue negotiations with the University of Michigan Press and with other presses in deciding on the best publication option for the Monograph Series.

The Board established a Publications Board consisting of the Series Editor, Special Publications Editor, and three members appointed by them in consultation with the Board of Directors. The Publication Board will be responsible for the formulation of publication policy and assisting with the review of manuscripts submitted for publication.

The Board approved a motion by the Secretary to propose an amendment to the By-Laws to change ASAO’s fiscal year to a calendar year.

The Board approved a motion to reimburse Board members and officers for unavoidable out-of-pocket expenses of a recurrent (e.g., telephone charges) and an extraordinary expenses only on presentation of documentation for them.

The Board resolved to begin planning for an index to the Newsletters that will be maintained and updated by the Newsletter Editor.

The Board resolved to include on the Newsletter masthead a list of Board members and officers along with the name and address of the person to whom dues should be sent.
Outgoing Board members nominated the following persons for the three vacancies on the board this spring: Ed Cook, Rick Feinberg, Jane Goodale, Denise O'Brien, Margaret Rodman, and Bradd Shore.

VI. MINUTES OF THE PLENARY SESSION: March 4, 1982

Board Chairperson, Michael Lieber, delivered an address assessing some of the major problems of achieving the sort of comparative cultural anthropology that has been the central goal of ASAO. The address concentrated on the organization of symposia discussion and monograph organization. In the discussion that followed there was general agreement the conceptualization of the comparative process is the most critical and difficult aspect of ASAO sessions. Martin Silverman pointed out that, although the ASAO session format may be a trial-and-error approach to comparison, we should not ignore earlier models for such a comparative effort (such as African Systems of Kinship and Marriage). The text of the address will be published in the Summer Newsletter.

VII. MINUTES OF THE FELLOWS MEETING: March 5, 1982

Board Chairperson, Michael Lieber, briefly discussed some of the changes in the Association since the 1970's, particularly the growth and diversity of its membership, necessitating some rethinking of the goals and operation of the organization. This served to introduce a brief review of the recent Board decisions (listed above in the minutes). This report was followed by a long discussion of proposed changes in meeting sites and season.

VIII. MINUTES OF THE MEMBERSHIP MEETING: March 6, 1982

Decisions reached in the Board meetings (as reported in the minutes above) were announced by Chairperson Lieber and by the relevant officers in their reports. In addition, members heard the following reports.

Mac Marshall gave the Series Editor's report, showing sales records of our eight published monographs and discussing the problems involved with sales, particularly the poor advertising by the University of Michigan Press and increasing costs of publication. The need for our members to get their libraries to order our monographs was stressed since the present balance of $3156.39 in the Publication Fund is only enough to cover the costs of about 1 1/2 more monographs. Even this assumes that volume editors continue to get subsidies from their own institutions, which is getting less likely. Ward Goodenough pointed out that even if we can develop standing orders from university libraries and colleges, we are still talking about no more than 300 orders, or less than a third of a normal press run. Mac and the Board members are currently studying means by which publication costs can be reduced.

Geoff White discussed the possibilities of a Hawaii meeting site and asked members to consider the kinds sessions that might best utilize Hawaii's location, facilities, and the many Pacific Islanders in and near Hawaii.

Ivan Brady gave the Special Publications Editor's report, announcing that the first volume of the Series, Marshall Sahlins's *Historical Metaphors and*
Historical Metaphors and Historical Realities has entered its second printing. The series concentrates on theoretical treatments of critical anthropological issues that focus on Oceanic ethnography.

Don Mitchell gave the Secretary's report, showing our current balance at $2578.88 and stressing that this balance is far lower than it should be, given that about a third of our members have not paid their dues, some being two years behind. One of the problems is, simply, that people forget to pay their dues. An amendment to the By-Laws (Article VI) changing our fiscal year to the calendar year would likely improve dues collection by making dues coincide with other bills that come due annually.

Rick Marksbury, Editor of the Newsletter, reminded session chairpersons that their session reports were due two weeks after the Annual Meeting. He also urged members to keep sending him information for publication.

Vern Carroll, the Annual Meeting Coordinator, discussed current plans for meeting sites—that next year's meeting would be the usual spring meeting, probably during the last week of February in response to request from members who will be returning from the Pacific Science Congress meetings in New Zealand which will be on the West Coast. The east-west alternation will continue while the Board studies its options for meeting sites and seasons. Martha Ward pointed out that there are professional meeting organizers whose knowledge of academicians' needs and requirements of meeting sites could greatly reduce the workload of the Annual Meeting Coordinator. Ward Goodenough asked for a poll of the assembled members as to how many were actually committed to spring meetings in particular locales as opposed to those who did not care one way or the other. The show of hands revealed a 50-50 split.

The membership expressed its appreciation to Ivan Brady for his work on local arrangements and to Don Brenneis for his work on the program for this year's meeting. Under new business, the list of candidates for election to the Board of directors was expanded with the nominations of Martha Ward, Glenn Petersen, and Dorothy Billings. The list of nominees now stands as follows—Ed Cook, Rick Feinberg, Jane Goodale, Margaret Rodman, Denise O'Brien, Bradd Shore, Glenn Petersen, Martha Ward, and Dorothy Billings.

IX. ASAO MONOGRAPH SERIES REPORT

Mac Marshall (ASAO Series Editor) sends the following report:

The balance in the ASAO publications fund on 2/25/82 was $3,112.79. This is enough money to underwrite approximately one and a half monographs at current costs and under our current arrangement, and this assumes that volume editors can continue to obtain institutional subsidies to help underwrite production costs of our books. In other words, while we are not broke we are by no means rich. It remains extremely important for all ASAO members to see that their institutional libraries own all volumes in our Series since a major source of revenue for the Publications Fund is from royalties on sales of previously published books. Please take the time to check your library's card catalog and request the librarian to place a standing order for our Series, as well as a back order for any volumes not already on the shelves.

ASAO Monograph No. 8, SIBLINGSHIP IN OCEANIA: STUDIES IN THE MEANING OF KIN RELATIONS, edited by Mac Marshall, was published in late September, 1981.
The book is 427 pages in length, costs $32.75 and may be ordered from: UMI Monographs, Box 1467, Ann Arbor, MI USA 48106 (or call toll free: (800)-521-0600). The SIBLING volume contains the following contributions:

Chapter 3. The Cultural Contexts of Siblingship in Pukapuka, by Julia A. Hecht.
Chapter 4. Complementary and Similar Kinmen in Tokelau, by Judith Huntsman.
Chapter 5. The Meaning of 'Sibling' on Anuta, by Richard Feinberg.
Chapter 8. Paluan Siblingship: A Study in Structural Complementarity, by DeVerne Reed Smith
Chapter 10. Sibling in Malo Culture, by Robert L. Rubinstein.
Chapter 11. Cain and Abel on the Malay Peninsula, by Robert McKinley.
Chapter 12. Conclusions, by David M. Schneider.

ASAO Monograph No. 9, MIDDLEMEN AND BROKERS IN OCEANIA, edited by William Rodman-and Dorothy Counts, is currently in press with the University of Michigan Press and is expected to be available my mid-summer 1982.

A summary of total sales of all ASAO Monographs shows that our Series has had limited sales and that our books average approximately 100 copies per year over as much as eleven years. Again, sales of our books can be helped substantially by you the members and this, in turn, will provide us with the income to sustain the Monograph Series for future volumes.

<table>
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<th>Volume/Editor/Short Title</th>
<th>Year Published</th>
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<tr>
<td>No. 2, Lungsgaarde, LAND TENURE</td>
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<td>No. 3, Carroll, ATOLL POPULATIONS</td>
<td>1975</td>
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<td>1976</td>
<td>559</td>
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<tr>
<td>No. 5, Lieber, EXILES AND MIGRANTS</td>
<td>1977</td>
<td>513</td>
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<tr>
<td>No. 6, Boutilier et al., MISSION</td>
<td>1978</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>No. 7, Rodman/Cooper, PACIFICATION</td>
<td>1979</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>No. 8, Marshall, SIBLINGSHIP</td>
<td>1981</td>
<td>50*</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Sales in 2 1/2 months.

The ASAO Executive Board, meeting in Hilton Head, approved my proposal to establish an ASAO Editorial Advisory Board. This Board will consist of 5 members (the Special Publications Series Editor; the Monograph Series Editor; and 3 appointees subject to the approval of the Executive Board) and will be responsible for establishing general editorial policies, refereeing manuscripts submitted to the ASAO Series and to assist in some editorial tasks. The hope is that the Editorial Advisory Board will make
the manuscript review process a fairer one by involving more members of the organization and that it will provide a kind of "training ground" in editorial matters that will provide ASAO with a pool of experienced persons who understand the specific operations of the editors. Appointments to this Board will be made in the next 2-3 months.

Once more our specific publications arrangements for the Monograph Series has come unravelled. Our last three volumes have been produced jointly in arrangement with the University of Michigan Press and University Microfilms International under a process called "on demand" publication. Basically, this means that we provide UMI with camera-ready copy and they handle production; UMP provides its logo and the prestige of its name. Unfortunately, University Microfilms has decided to close its on-demand publishing division with a result that the production arm of our arrangement ceased to function. The Executive Board has authorized me to undertake a search for a new publisher for the Monograph Series and I shall be working on this in the coming months. While I already have a number of good leads and possibilities in mind, I will be grateful for any relevant information any of you may have on possible arrangements I should investigate. I anticipate that a new arrangement will be in place by the time of next year's Annual Meeting.

XI. PROPOSED "NEW" SESSIONS FOR 1983 ANNUAL MEETING

Anyone interested in organizing a working or informal session for the 1983 Annual Meeting should contact Vern Carroll, ASAO Annual Meeting Coordinator, Dept. of Anthropology, U. of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI 48109.

A. INFORMAL SESSION: "Tree Symbolism in Oceania"

Organizer: Mary Ayres, Dept. of Anthropology, Univ. of Chicago, 1126 E. 59th St., Chicago, IL 60637

Tree idioms are just one kind of the vegetation idioms which occur throughout Oceanic cultures. The informal session will bring together people with data on trees as cultural idioms. Some questions of comparative interest might be: 1) What do trees symbolize?: life cycle of a person, the relations between clans, the identity of clan and territory; 2) What is the nature of the symbolic connection?: is it indexical, iconic, mnemonic?; 3) Are particular trees used in the idiom (e.g. coconut, fig, sago) and why?; 4) What are the contexts in which tree idioms figure?: in myth, in ritual?; 5) How do we theoretically interpret the relationship between a particular tree idiom and our other topics of interest - social structure, power and authority, ritual, life cycle, etc.? If anyone has any suggestions or comments, please write Mary at the above address anytime before next year's meeting.

B. WORKING SESSION: "The Ethnohistory of Melanesia"

Organizers: Deborah Gewertz, Dept. of Sociology & Anthropology, Amherst U., Amherst, MA 01002 and Buck Schieffelin, 520 S. 46th St., Philadelphia, PA 19143

There are two fundamental sets of issues that will be dealt with in the light of ethnographic materials. The first is the ethnographic and epistemological problem of translating another culture's perspective of the past into our own western mode of historical consciousness.
The second set of issue has to do with the cultural construction of the past itself. Inevitably the investigation of this area must come to terms with the fundamental problem of the relation between time and structure. "Structure", referring to the socially and culturally constructed aspects of human reality, is perceived both within some framework of temporality, and molds the apprehension of that temporality. Perception of "time", in turn, involves two opposed perspectives on the relation between structure and change: "life-historical" time and "episodic or eternal" time. The "life-historical" perspective sees reality as change, structures are seen to change gradually and cumulatively over time, present structures develop out of the past, and hence the present encapsulates the past. "Episodic or eternal" time sees reality as structure, events play themselves out in eternal forms, the present replaces (but does not develop from) the past, and time is absorbed into structure. The only change possible from this perspective is millenial in character.

Other aspects of the cultural construction of the past revolve around the issues of time and structure of which three prominent ones are: 1) The ways in which time is molded by its measurement. e.g., rhythms of the seasons, the past as represented by a track connecting geographical places where significant events occurred, and the life cycle envisioned as a slow journey away from a spot and a quick return (Ilongot, Rosaldo 1980); 2) The relation between the past, present and future; and 3) How perception of the past is molded by uses to which it is put.

Anyone interested in participating in this working session is requested to submit a two page abstract or statement outlining the area of interest, and plans for dealing with some of the issues outlined above as they relate to one's ethnographic material. Abstracts will be circulated to all participants as a basis for discussion. Please send abstracts to Deborah Gewertz at the above address.

XII. RESEARCH AND SCHOLASTIC NOTES

Michael Howard sends the following message from his new post at the University of the South Pacific: "As some of you are no doubt aware I left the University of Houston in January to take up a position as Senior Lecturer and Head of Sociology at the University of the South Pacific, replacing Grant McCall who had been at USP for a year on secondment from the University of New South Wales. It occurred to me that members of ASAO might be interested in a brief review of the current state of sociology at USP (there is no anthropology department).

Even though sociology has been taught at USP for about a decade, the present department is in many ways a new one. There has been a fairly thorough turnover of staff, the curricula are being substantially revised, and a few months back the department moved into a new building.

Members of the department (five excluding myself) are currently working on a number of research projects. I have begun a study of the union movement in the South Pacific with an emphasis on Fiji, Vanuatu, and the Solomons. The department as a whole is preparing a brief paper on the role of multinational corporations in Fiji in response to a recent report issued by USP's Centre for Applied Studies in Development, which has a decided pro-corporate bias and has received widespread publicity in the region."
The department has begun a dialogue with the ILO, which has a worker education programme operating in the South Pacific at present, and the Fijian TUC. This year we will be working with both organizations in hopes of establishing a couple of brief workshops on occupational health and safety and on industrial relations.

While most of the teaching is at the undergraduate level (courses are preferred on campus and through extension), there is a fledgling M.A. program with two enrolled students. The USP Sociological Society, formed by undergraduate students, issued its first Newsletter in September 1981. Anyone interested in receiving copies should write: Mike Howard, Sociology, SSED, Univ. of the South Pacific, PO Box 1168, Suva, Fiji.

XIII. BIBLIOGRAPHIC NOTES

A. The Law Reform Commission of Papua New Guinea has begun a monograph series to publish results of the Customary Law Project. The first of these, Homicide Compensation in Papua New Guinea, edited by Richard Scaglion, is now available. The volume contains articles by A. Strathern, T.C. Maclndoe, M. Hasu and L. Morauta, S. Zuckerman, L. Goldman, P. Sillitoe, H. Levine and R. Gordon. The cost is $US 4.00, but members of ASAO and other interested professionals can receive a complimentary copy by writing on their institutional letterhead to: Secretary, Law Reform Commission, PO Wards Strip, Waigani, Papua New Guinea. Monograph No. 2, Customary Law in Papua New Guinea, is presently in press and is expected to appear in August of year.

B. Niko Beanier (Tonga) informs us that John Martin's classic Tonga Islands, William Mariner's account (first published in 1817) has been recently re-edited in Tonga. This one-volume edition contains the unabridged text of the 1827 edition, including the grammar, vocabulary and appendix on surgical skills of the Tongans, along with a preface on the life of William Mariner. This book, which is a detailed account of Tongan culture in the early 1800's is available from the Vava'u Press Ltd., P.O. Box 83, Nelaufu, Vava'u, Tonga. The cost is $T 9.50 surface postage paid, $T 11.60 airmail within the South Pacific, and $T 14.60 airmailed elsewhere. Payment should be by draft on the Bank of Tonga, Nuku'alofa in Pa'anga or equivalent in convertible currency.

C. Pauline Ernst is currently conducting a thorough search of records concerning the Bounty mutiny and all of its ramifications; i.e., the mutiny, the Bounty and Bligh's other ships, the Pandora, the court-martial of the mutineers, William Bligh, Fletcher Christian, Peter Heywood, John Adams alias Alexander Smith, James Morrison, John Fryer and other crew members of the Bounty, Pitcairn Island and Norfolk Island in relation to the Pitcairners. In addition to the bibliography, Ms. Ernst is interested in locating all artifacts, relics, art works, original manuscripts, newspaper clippings, and government documents in order to complete a definitive study of the Bounty story. Any suggestions and/or contributions would be most welcomed and should be sent to: Pauline F. Ernst, 12190 Ravenswood Dr., Los Altos, CA 94022.

XIV. REQUESTS FROM PACIFIC LIBRARIANS

At the Annual Meeting in Hilton Head, several individuals mentioned that a number of Pacific libraries have requested that they be sent papers
relevant to their collections and areas of interest. To support this idea, the following two letters were received by the Newsletter editor:

"I have just received the latest copy of the Association for Social Anthropology in Oceania Newsletter containing the final programme for the 11th Annual Meeting. What an amazing feat of organization that must have been.

Is it at all possible for me to obtain copies of all the papers, submitted and read, dealing with Papua New Guinea? If it is impossible for you, yourself, to arrange this perhaps you would be kind enough to send the names and contact addresses of the coordinators of all the sessions. I could then contact them directly. It would be a great pity for us to miss out on this wealth of research material on Papua New Guinea. Thank you for your assistance."

Christine Barclay
New Guinea Collection Librarian
University of Papua New Guinea
The Library
Box 4819
University Post Office, Papua New Guinea

"As you probably already know, the University of the South Pacific is a tertiary educational institution which serves 11 island groups in the South Pacific: Solomon Islands, Cook Islands, Fiji, Kiribati, Tuvalu, Nauru, Vanuatu, Niue, Tokelau Islands, Tonga & Western Samoa. It also maintains close links with other island groups in the region.

The University Library is therefore interested in all publications relating to the area and endeavours to collect as comprehensively as possible. We maintain a special Pacific Collection in which the first copy of all such publications is maintained.

We receive your Newsletter and we have noticed that ASAO and its members produce quite a lot of material which are very relevant for us. There seems to be a lot of materials, e.g., conference papers, which are not accessible through our normal acquisition channels. We wondered if you could help us by sending us materials or informing us how they can be obtained. Also, we would be grateful if you could put a notice in your Newsletter requesting your members to send us any papers, articles, books, etc. which they themselves or their colleagues have written on the South Pacific.

We hope that you will be able to help us, and look forward to hearing from you."

Ms. S.J. Yee
Assistant Librarian
Gifts & Exchanges Section
University of the South Pacific
P.O. Box 1168
Lauca Bay, Suva, Fiji

Quite obviously, a need and sincere desire exists for papers and articles produced by ASAO members to be sent to relevant libraries and institutions
in Oceania. Consequently, all members are encouraged to respond to the above requests and the editor of the Newsletter would welcome the names and addresses of any additional institutions which may wish corresponding consideration.

XV. NOTE FROM THE EDITOR

Following a procedure established last year, I have devised a schedule for publishing the Newsletter during the coming year. Anyone who is interested in contributing to one of the next three issues should conform to the below schedule. This is especially crucial for session organizers since they must first communicate their plans/desires to the Annual Meeting Coordinator. Finally, I would ask that session organizers and other contributors be breviloquent in their reports. Finally, I am reminded by Don Mitchell, ASAO Secretary, that any members who have not paid their 1982-83 Annual Dues by July 1, 1982 will be dropped from the rolls and will not receive the Summer edition of the Newsletter. Thanks -- Rick Marksbury

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