ASSOCIATION FOR SOCIAL ANTHROPOLOGY
IN OCEANIA

NEWSLETTER #87
DECEMBER 1993

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I. FROM THE EDITOR

A major portion of this issue of the newsletter is devoted to information on the annual meeting in San Diego. The Program Coordinator is Larry Mayo, so if you have any questions about the schedule or the sessions, please contact him. His phone number is: (work) 312-362-8612; (FAX) 312-362-5481 or -5691. Susan Pflanz-Cook is the Site Coordinator. You should have recently received information from her about the conference and a hotel brochure with room rates. If you did not, please contact her. This is her phone number: 904-386-8863. I have included the meeting announcement from Suzy in this newsletter. The reservation deadline to receive the conference rate is January 8.

Regarding deadlines, the next one for the newsletter is April 15. That issue will include the session reports from this year's annual meeting.

As a relatively new member of ASAO myself, I am sympathetic to the other newcomers who have questions about our annual meetings. Each professional association organizes its conferences differently. The format for ASAO is intended to maximize exchange of ideas and promote a collegial atmosphere. I find that to be true, although I do hear from the founders that it was even better in the old days. I have reproduced a portion of the guidelines to help those who may need a map on how to navigate their way through the sessions this year.
There are three types of sessions at ASAO annual meetings:

(A) **INFORMAL SESSIONS** are for the informal sharing of ideas to determine if there is a common ground of interest and data to justify organizing, at a later meeting, a session with formal papers. Informal Sessions receive the lowest priority for allocation of time and meeting space. While participants are not required to write papers for an Informal Session, it is recognized that some Informal Sessions will have very little organization, while others might only be a paper short of meeting the criteria for a Working Session and, therefore, be well organized with committed participants and some complete papers. Accordingly, time given to Informal Sessions will vary depending on the number of committed participants or people indicating an interest in the topic and the level of organization of the session. Ordinarily, Informal Sessions will be given no more than three (3) hours, and most will receive only 90 minutes, depending on time and room availability with respect to Working Session and Symposia.

(B) **WORKING SESSIONS** are based on the existence of prepared papers that are summarized (NOT READ) during the session. A Working Session requires the presence of seven (7) participants with papers. A session that does not meet these criteria by December 1 will be listed on the program as an Informal Session. Available time will be allocated according to the number of participants attending and discussing papers.

(C) **SYMPOSIA** normally are sessions that have met at a lower level of organization at least once before and are based on papers that have been pre-circulated among the participants for written criticism leading to revision. The Symposium is a forum for the discussion of the papers themselves. The Association recognizes that some Symposia may require only 90 minutes to conclude unfinished business, while others may require up to six hours or more to discuss issues, themes, and future plans.

Hope this helps.

II. FROM THE SITE COORDINATOR

San Diego’s beautiful Catamaran Hotel is our 1994 ASAO meeting site. The dates are set for February 9 through the 13th. Look for a first rate program from Larry Mayo.

Room rates are set at $110 for single/double rooms. Triple rooms will be an additional $15. Our reservation deadline is early this year, January 8, so make your reservation soon. If you live in the United States call 1-800-288-0770. If you are in Canada, call 1-800-233-8172. If you are overseas call the regular hotel number of 619-490-3323. The Catamaran reservations department FAX number is 619-490-3328. You must specify that you are with The Association for Social Anthropology in Oceania to qualify for the conference rate. All reservations must be guaranteed by credit card or deposit of $30. Check in time is 4 p.m. Remember—all reservations must be received by January 8, 1994.

The meeting open with registration beginning at 1:00 pm on Wednesday afternoon, February 9. (Don’t forget that there is a $25 registration fee to cover meeting costs.) The meeting officially ends after the Closing Plenary Session on Saturday from 5:30-7:00 pm. Sessions will take place on Thursday, Friday, and Saturday from 9:00 am to 5:00 pm.
Kathy Creeley has been my eyes on the scene in San Diego. Kathy promises that the weather will be mild with highs in the sixties and seventies, lows in the forties and fifties. The airport is nearby and there is a 24 hour super shuttle at $6 per person each way. Pick up the Catamaran courtesy telephone at the luggage area and the operator will tell you where to find the shuttle bus.

Call Suzy Pflanz-Cook at (904) 386-8863 or write at 2720 Everett Lane, Tallahassee, Florida 32312, if you have any other questions. See you in San Diego.

III. FROM THE PROGRAM COORDINATOR

Volunteers are needed to help out with registration for the 1994 Annual Meeting. As usual, volunteers will be compensated with a free book for working a 2 hr. shift. Volunteers should contact Larry Mayo, preferably before February 1.

Session organizers and participants should make any requests for AV materials needed for your session as soon as possible to Larry.

The theme for the 1994 Annual Meeting party will be “Stories of Encounters with Indigenous Insects the Size of Your Head or Larger in the Field”. Visual representations are strongly encouraged. Fantastic prizes will be awarded for the most unique story.

III. FROM THE SECRETARY-TREASURER

The Board appreciates the prompt response of the membership in mailing in their ballot for this year’s elections. ASAO would like to welcome two new members to the Board of Directors, Niko Besnier and Vilsoni Hereniko. Congratulations!

The 1994 ASAO Directory is being prepared. If you have a change of address, or additions, such as a FAX number or email address, send them to Suzanne Falgout by January 15. My phone number is (808) 456-4718.

IV. GENERAL ASAO NEWS

Call for Papers
From 15 to 17 December 1994, the Institute of Ethnology of the University of Basel will host the conference of the European Society for Oceanists (ESO) The new society, ESO, addresses itself to researchers with a regional interest in Oceania. “Oceania” is defined as including the South Pacific Islands, Papua New Guinea, Irian Jaya, Australia and New Zealand, i.e. Micronesia, Melanesia, Polynesia and Australia. The board of ESO consists of representatives from European countries where research in Oceania has a firmly established tradition, i.e. Scandinavia, Great Britain, France, the Netherlands, Germany, Switzerland, Austria, and Spain/Portugal. The ESO wants to be seen as an interdisciplinary organization; membership is open to anthropologists, linguists, historians, geographers, psychologists and other researchers in the social sciences and humanities. The general theme of the conference will be “Knowing Oceania: Constituting Knowledge and Identities.” For more information about membership in ESO (at present there is no annual fee) or the ESO conference next year, contact:
Dr. Jurg Wassmann, Institute of Ethnology, University of Basel, Munsterplatz 19, CH-4051 Basel, Switzerland, FAX (41) (61) 266 56 05; Tel (41) (61) 261 26 38.
Positions Available
The Department of Anthropology at the University of Western Ontario is advertising two positions. As per Canadian immigration policy, they are restricted to those holding (a) Canadian citizenship and/or (b) holding Canadian immigrant visas. Both are at the Assistant Professor level (starting salary $40,093) in Sociocultural Anthropology. Theoretical and geographic specialization is open. The first is a probationary tenure track full-time appointment, and the second is a three year full-time, limited-term appointment. Applicants must send a curriculum vitae and the names of three referees before January 31, 1994 to Dr. Christopher Ellis, Chair, Department of Anthropology, University of Western Ontario, London, Ontario N6A 5C2. FAX (519) 661-2157, email ELLIS@VAXR.SSCL.UWO.CA. You may also contact Dan Jorgensen for more details, email dwj@julian.uwo.ca; phone (519) 661-3430 x5096.

Pacific Concerns Resource Centre Inc. seeks applicants for five Assistant Director positions in the areas of 1) demilitarisation, 2) decolonisation, 3) environment, 4) land rights and sovereignty, and 5) economic development. PCRC Inc. is the secretariat of the Nuclear Free and Independent Pacific Movement. It is a Non-Governmental Organisation that works on human rights, justice, peace, environment and sustainable development issues in the Pacific region. Applicants should have a University degree (undergraduate level), be fluent in English with fluency in a Pacific language beneficial. Contact The Director, Pacific Concerns Resource Centre, Inc. 23 Amy Street, Toorak, Private Mail Bag, Suva, Fiji. Phone (679) 304-649; FAX (679) 304-755.

Fellowships
Several graduate fellowships are available for Native Pacific Islanders (Polynesian or Micronesian). The NSF Minority Graduate Fellowship and the Ford Foundation Predoctoral and Dissertation Fellowships for Minorities have both specifically included Native Pacific Islanders in their description. The deadline for this year was in November, but potentially eligible students may want to begin preparing application for next year. In addition, the Ford Foundation also has Postdoctoral Fellowships for Minorities. Applications for these will be accepted until 1/7/94.

VI. ANTHROPOLOGY Ph.D.s

Akin, David W. (Ph.D. 1993), University of Hawaii-Manoa
“Negotiating Culture in East Kwaio, Malaita, Solomon Islands.”

VII. PERSONAL NEWS

Larry Mayo was granted tenure and promoted to Associate Professor in the Department of Sociology/Anthropology at DePaul University in June 1993. If that wasn’t enough to make him happy, he was also appointed Associate Dean in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences starting in September 1993.

Beginning January 1994, Andrew Strathern and Gabriele Sturzenhofecker will be spending a sabbatical in Europe. They will be affiliated with the Ethnologisches Seminar at the University of Basel, Switzerland, and from there will give lectures in Germany, France, the Netherlands, and the U.K. A short visit back to PNG is also planned during this time, and they are back in Pittsburgh from July 1994 onward. They can be reached at: c/o Ethnologisches Seminar, Universitat Basel, Munsterplatz 19, CH-4051 Basel, Switzerland (FAX: 011-41-61-266-5605).
III. THE 1994 ANNUAL MEETING PROGRAM

Distinguished Lecture
Jane Goodale, Professor of Anthropology at Bryn Mawr, will give the distinguished lecture on Thursday evening, February 10th, from 8:30 to 11:00 in the Kon Tiki Room. The title of her talk is “Ethnography: Is it Real?”

Symposium: Changes in Housing and Social Relationships in the Pacific
Organizers: Margaret Rodman (York) and Jan Rensel (Hawaii)
Meeting: Friday, 9:00 to 5:00, Suite 200
Participants:

Ann Chowning (Victoria University-Wellington)
“From Cooperative Hamlet Towards Independent Household: Sharing and Self-interest in Galilzo Village, Lakalai, New Britain, 1918-1992”

Michele Dominy (Bard)
“From Station to Farm: Generational Transformations in the Domestic Landscape of New Zealand Homesteads”

Bob Franco/Simeamativa Aga/Tom Keane (Kapi'olani CC)
“From Houses without Walls to Vertical Villages: Samoan Housing Transformations”

Juliana Flinn (Arkansas, Little Rock)
“Private Houses, Public Sharing: Migrants Coping with Change”

Judith Modell (Carnegie Mellon)
“From Chicken Coops to Homes: Homelessness in the Contemporary Hawaiian Context”

Joakim Peter/Rainer Buschmann (Hawaii)
“From Change to Continuity: The Fal as a Window to Ettalese Society”

Jan Rensel (Hawaii)
“From Thatch to Cement: Social Implications of Housing Changes on Rotuma”

Margaret Rodman (York)
“But Can You Sleep There? Housing Changes in Longana, Vanuatu”

Dan Shaw (Fuller Seminary)
“From Longhouse to Outhouse: Samo House Styles and Social Change”

Anne Marie Morissette (Hawaii)
“Aspects of Change Affecting Housing in Rangiroa”
Symposium: Fieldwork and Families
Organizers: Juliana Flinn (Arkansas, Little Rock) and Leslie Marshall (Iowa);
Discussants: Anne Marie Tietjen and Michele Dominy
Meeting: Thursday, 9:00-10:30, Suite 308
Participants:

Sheila Seiler Clark (UCLA)
“Both Ways Through the Looking Glass: The Accompanied Ethnographer as (Accompanied) Repositioned Other”

Richard Feinberg (Kent State), Nancy Grim, Joe Grim Feinberg, Kate Grim Feinberg
“Fieldwork and Family in the Solomon Islands”

Juliana Flinn (Arkansas, Little Rock)
“Single Woman, Married Woman, Mother, and Wife: Defining Family and Identity in the Field”

Heather Young Leslie (York)
“KO ’EKU TAMA TONGA (My Tongan Child) or: On the Relativity of Cultural Relativity”

Eudene Luther
“His Mother’s Son: Hell in Paradise”

Leslie B. Marshall (Iowa)
“Feathered Family: Pets and Fieldwork in the Pacific”

Barbara Burns McGrath (University of Washington)
“Relations of Power: The Strength of Family in the Field”

Diane Michalski Turner (Michigan State University)
“What Happened When My Daughter Became a Fijian”

Dorothy Ayers Counts (University of Waterloo) and David R. Counts (McMaster)
“Fictional Families in the Field”

William Thurston (Okanagon College)
“The Inadvertent Acquisition of Families in the Field”

Tamar Gordon (Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute)
“’Going Native’ or ’Border Crossing’? Fieldwork and Marriage in Tonga”

M. Jocelyn Armstrong (Illinois)
“Fieldwork With and Without Family in New Zealand”
Working Session: Strategies of Violence in the Contemporary Pacific
Organizer: Laura Zimmer-Tamakoshi (NE Missouri);
Discussants: Dorothy Counts (Waterloo) and Richard Scaglion (Pittsburgh)
Meeting: Friday, 9:00 to 5:00, Suite 308

Ann Chowning (Victoria-Wellington)
"Violence Against Sisters among the Matrilineal Lakalai in West New Britain"

Jeanette Dickerson-Putman (Indiana)
"Female Fighting and Contemporary Courtship and Marriage Among the Bena Bena of the Eastern Highlands"

Judith Huntsmen (Auckland)
"The Illegitimacy of Violence on Tokelau"

Lisette Josephides (Minnesota)
"Rascals, Respect and Self-Esteem in Town and Country (PNG)"

Rolf Kuschel (Copenhagen)
"Managing Marital Conflicts on a Polynesian Outlier"

Martha Macintyre (LaTrobe)
"Violent Bodies"

Ernest Olson (SUNY-Oswego)
"Dog Fights and Street Fights: Violence in a Tongan Community"

William Rodman (McMaster)
"'We Have Not Come To Hold Court: We Have Come To Fight': The Determinants of Establishment Violence in Rural Vanuatu"

Karen Sykes (Princeton)
"Violence Among Young Men on New Ireland"

Eric Venbrux (Nijmegen)
"A Case of Homicide in an Australian Aboriginal Society"

George Westermark (Santa Clara)
"Genealogical Claims: Land, Law, and Conflict in the Papua New Guinea Highlands"

Laura Zimmer-Tamakoshi (Northeast Missouri)
"The Politics of Rape in Papua New Guinea"
Working Session: Representations of the Past in the Pacific
Organizers: John Terrell (Field Museum) and Lin Poyer (Cincinnati)
Meeting: Saturday, 9:00 to 5:00, Suite 308
Participants:

Laurence Carucci (Montana State)
"History and Anti-History: Some Thoughts on the Ontological Status of Lived Processes and Historical Events in the Marshall Islands"

Michele Dominy (Bard C.)
"Creating A Sense of Spatial and Temporal Locality in New Zealand's South Island Up-Country Runs"

Suzanne Falgout (Hawaii-W. Oahu)
"It's Not Important: The History of World War II in Pohnpei"

Joseph C. Finney (Monterey, CA)
"The Lusi Legend as Focal Point of Local Patriotism in Nanumanga"

Paula Brown Glick (New York, NY)
"Makers of Chimbu History: Places, Names and Gifts"

Brigitta Hauser-Schaublin (Gottingen)
"The Division of the Past, The Redistribution of the Present: Abelam's Concept of the Past and Its Impact on the Present"

Glenn Petersen (Baruch CUNY)
"Pohnpei's Utilitarian History"

Lin Poyer (Cincinnati)
Title not available

Karen Sinclair (E. Michigan)
"Carrying Tales: Maori and Pakeha Narratives of the Early Twentieth Century"

John Terrell (Field Museum)
Title not available

Eric K. Silverman (DePauw)
"The Tropics of History and Time In a Sepik River Society"

George D. Westermark (Santa Clara)
"The Number of a Man: Historical Consciousness and Conversion in the Papua New Guinea Eastern Highlands"

Edward LiPuma (Miami)
"Representing the Past and Investing in the Future: The Emergence of Social Movements in Oceania"

Mara Rosenthal
"The Ancestral Fijian Settlement Sites and the Power of the Present Past"
Working Session: Sex and Gender Liminality in Pacific Cultures
Organizers: Niko Besnier (Yale) and Jeannette Mageo (Washington State)
Meeting: Saturday, 9:00 to 10:30, Suite 200
Participants:

Niko Besnier (Yale)
"Gender Liminality on Nukulaelae Atoll: The Centrality of a Peripheral Category"

Sheila Clark (UCLA)
"With a Mahu in the House"

Phillip Guddemi (Florida)
"Transvestite Dancing Among the Sawiyano of Western East Sepik Province"

Jeannette-Marie Mageo (Washington State)
"Samoa, on the Wilde Side"

Mac Marshall (Iowa)
"Where is Gender Liminality in Micronesia"

Douglass St. Christian (McMaster)
"Coincidence and Likely Stories: Taking Account of Fa'afafine"

Walter L. Williams (USC)
"The Non-Marginalized Status of Gender Variance Among Native Hawaiians"

Jeffrey Clark (ANU)
"Men in Between: Liminality in Tari"

Working Session: Women and Development in the Pacific
Organizers: Jeanette Dickerson-Putman (Indiana) and Laura Zimmer-Tamakoshi (NE Missouri)
Meeting: Saturday, 9:00 to 10:30, Room Bahia Belle I
Participants:

John Barker (British Columbia)
"Women and Development in Uiaku, Oro Providence, Papua New Guinea"

Jeanette Dickerson-Putman (Indiana)
"Finding a Road in the Modern World: Men, Women and the Development Experience in an Eastern Highlands Community"

Judith Huntsman (Auckland)
"Companionate Conjugalilty: Developing Marital Partnerships in Tokelau"
Kimberlee Kihleng (Hawaii-Manoa) and Elizabeth Keating (UCLA)
“Dealing with Development: Pohnpei Women and the Traditional Political Economy”

Nancy J. Pollock (Victoria-Wellington)
“Development Issues in Women’s Health”

Penelope Schoeffel (Auckland)
“A Vision of Family Life: Attitudes to Development and Social Change Among Church Women’s Organizations in Melanesia”

Laura Zimmer-Tamakoshi (NE Missouri)
“Unacceptable Difference and Failed Development: A Case of Being Too Much Like a Man in the PNG Highlands”

Informal Session: Festival/Festival Behavior in Polynesia
Organizer: Karen Stevenson (S. California)
Meeting: Friday, 9:00 to 10:30, Bahia Belle I

Informal Session: Tattoo: Cultural Renaissance or Popular Culture
Organizer: Karen Stevenson (S. California)
Meeting: Thursday, 3:45 to 5:00, Suite 200

Informal Session: The Bougainville Crisis
Organizer: Gene Ogan (Minnesota)
Meeting: Thursday, 2:00 to 3:00, Bahia Belle I

Informal Session: Logging in the Western Pacific and the Role of Anthropology
Organizers: Kathleen Barlow (Minnesota) and Dan Jorgensen (W. Ontario)
Meeting: Thursday, 9:00 to 10:30, Bahia Belle I

Informal Session: Current Trends in Marriages in Oceania
Organizer: John Altrocchi (Neveda)
Meeting: Thursday, 10:45 to 12:15, Suite 200

Informal Session: Righting Wrongs
Organizer: Jan Rensel and David Akin (Hawaii)
Meeting: Thursday, 3:45 to 5:00, Bahia Belle I

Organizer: Eric Silverman (Minnesota)
Meeting: Friday, 2:00 to 3:30, Bahia Belle I
## SCHEDULE OF SESSIONS

**ASAO SAN DIEGO 1994**

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(S) = Symposium  (W) = Working Session  (I) = Informal Session  (BB) = Bahia Belle
The Asian American and Pacific Islander Journal of Health is a new quarterly peer-reviewed scientific journal. It will feature articles addressing all aspects and areas of health in “AAPI” communities. The Board of Advisors and the Board of Editors include American Samoan, Camorro and Hawaiian members, as well as Asian Americans. Editor Moon S. Chen, Jr., Ph.D., MPH, is a professor of preventive medicine at Ohio State. To subscribe to this quarterly journal, send a check for $50 payable to the journal’s name to: Dr. Chen, 5525 Covey Swirl Drive, Dublin, OH 43017-3057. For information on manuscript submission, write to Dr. Chen at the same address.

CULTURGRAM ’94 is now available from the Kennedy Center Publications, Brigham Young University, PO Box 24538, Provo, UT 84602-4538, phone 1-800-528-6279. Pacific Islands countries that are included are: Fiji, Marshall Islands, New Zealand, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Tahiti and Tonga.

Manoa: A Pacific Journal of International Writing published a special feature entitled, Writing from the Pacific Islands. Guest editor is Vilsoni Hereniko and the issue includes interviews, poetry, essays, drama, and fiction by Samoan, Tongan, Fijian, Indo-Fijian, Rotuman, Banaban, and Maori authors. The journal is published by the University of Hawaii Press, Vol 5(1), Summer 1993.

The latest edition of Current Publications from the Pacific Islands concentrates on Fiji, Tonga, Vanuatu and the Solomon Islands. The Vanuatu section contains a multi-volume set of histories of individual Roman Catholic parishes. The editors have also obtained environmental assessments and health care and health planning documents for each nation. Contact Pan Pacifica, 1511 Nuuanu Avenue, PT 194, Honolulu, Hawaii 96817, (808) 536-5662.

ASAO Monograph No. 14, The Business of Marriage: Transformations in Oceanic Matrimony, edited by Richard A. Marksbury, is expected to be available at the next ASAO meeting in San Diego. It has been featured already in the University of Pittsburgh Press Fall 1993 Catalog. The paperback price is expected to be $19.95 with the usual reduction for ASAO members. Copies and order forms will be available at the meeting.

ASAO Monograph No. 15, Migration and Transformations, edited by Andrew Strathem and Gabriele Sturzenhofecker, is expected to follow and to be published in Fall of 1994.
Drug use is either interpreted as a reaction to individually experienced stresses or as a disease. Different criteria - dispossession, colonisation, low socio-economic status or rapid social change - are often proposed to explain the 'causes' of Aboriginal drug abuse. While a reappraisal of past and present social and political factors affecting Aboriginal people is essential, it tends to result in Aboriginal people being seen as 'Victims'.

In *Heavy Metal* the author attempts to go beyond the socio-political or disease models. Brady focuses on petrol (gasoline) sniffing in a number of Aboriginal Communities to arrive at an understanding of the users' subjective decisions to engage in this behaviour. She provides an overview of the use of drugs among Aboriginal people and surveys the extant international literature. She also gives detailed descriptions of the interactions between the setting and the users, examines the substance itself, and canvasses a range of possible intervention programs.

This informed ethnographic account is the first major published study of contemporary research, including statistical data and case studies material. It is reported from an anthropological perspective but will be of interest to anyone in the medical, drug abuse and Aboriginal studies fields.
a special 352-page issue of the journal Pacific Studies

The Arts & Politics in Oceania

"Without politics, art has no power; without art, politics has nowhere to go, and no way to get there."

-D. Billings

Introduction: Challenging Communications: Political Expressions through the Arts Karen L. Nero, guest ed.
Dancing Defiance Glenn Petersen
Dance Performance, Invented Traditions, and Legitimacy Eve Pinsker
Pulapese Dance: Asserting Identity and Tradition in Modern Contexts Juliana Flinn
It's the Same Old Song but with a Different Meaning: Community and Ethnicity in Sikaiana Expressive Culture William Donner
Symbols of Power and the Politics of Impotence: The Mölmahao Rebellion on Rotuma Alan Howard
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