ASSOCIATION FOR SOCIAL ANTHROPOLOGY
IN OCEANIA

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I. FROM THE EDITORS

Warm thanks to all who submitted session announcements and other information by the March 1 deadline and special thanks to Jan Rensel and Mary MacDonald for help above and beyond the call of duty. Karen Brison and Steve Leavitt will be bowing out as Newsletter editors with this issue and Larry Carucci will be taking over. So send your submissions for the September Newsletter by September 1 to Larry at the address listed below.

Enclosed with this Newsletter, voting members will find a ballot with the slate of candidates for new ASAO board members. Please print out this ballot, vote for two people, and return this ballot by June 15 by mail to Rick Feinberg at:

Richard Feinberg, Anthropology Department, Kent State University
Kent, OH 44242-0001, USA

Larry Carucci
Incoming ASAO Newsletter Editor
Dept. of Anthropology and Sociology
Montana State University
Bozeman, MT 59717
E-mail: <lamaca@MONTANA.EDU>
II. FROM THE CHAIR

It was wonderful to see many of you last February in Kaua‘i. I think you will agree that it was an exciting meeting. There were 219 registrants, making it the largest in ASAO history. We had 27 sessions: 1 special session, 5 symposia, 2 working sessions, and 19 informal sessions. The Pacific Island Scholars Fund, under Paul Shankman’s leadership, issued 6 travel awards along with 27 mini-grants, enabling a record number Pacific Islanders to participate.

Thanks to Ty Tengan, Kehaulani Kekua, and the hula halau who initiated the proceedings and made us feel welcome in one of the world’s most exquisite locations. Vili Hereniko’s award-winning film, “The Land Has Eyes,” served as a fitting tribute to Jan Rensel, marking her retirement from over a decade of leadership and service. We are indebted to Distinguished Lecturer Al Wendt for his stimulating presentation. The opportunity to contribute in a modest way to construction of the voyaging canoe, Nā Mahoe, was for many of us a high point of the meeting; thanks to Polynesian Voyaging Society members John Kruse, Dennis Chun, Marshall Mock, and Ben Finney for making that possible. Saturday afternoon’s gripping performances by Rosanna Raymond, Shigeyuki Kihara, Tusiata Avia, and Vince Reyes’s young group of Guamanian dancers rounded out the special events that made this meeting memorable even by ASAO standards. The Radisson’s staff, particularly hotel sales director Tom Bartlett and conventions manager Jodi Omo, went far beyond the call of duty and also deserve special recognition.

The heart of every ASAO meeting is the intellectual exchange. For that we are indebted to program coordinator Mary MacDonald; site coordinator Judy Flores; local arrangements coordinators Suzanne Falgout and Alex Golub; secretary/treasurer Jan Rensel; and most especially the session organizers and participants, who are the driving force behind our association.

Changes: 2005 will be a year of changes in ASAO. Beginning with this issue, the Newsletter will be distributed in electronic form. This is also the last issue to be edited by Karen Brison and Steve Leavitt. I trust that you will join me in expressing our collective appreciation for their stellar efforts over the past three years and in welcoming Larry Carucci as the new Newsletter editor. Larry has served the association in numerous capacities, including program coordinator, board member, and PISF committee member; and I have every confidence that he will be a worthy successor to Karen and Steve.

As you know, Jan Rensel is stepping down after many years as secretary/treasurer, a job that we have learned is beyond the capability of any one ordinary person. Therefore, we have divided the position: Kathy Creely has taken over as treasurer, and Jocelyn Armstrong is our new secretary. Both have long experience with ASAO, and I look forward to working with them in their new positions.

In other changes, Paul Shankman is retiring after many years as PISF chair and has been replaced by Keith Chambers. Jane Barnwell is beginning a three-year term as at-large member of the PISF Committee; Dorothy Counts has agreed to serve as the executive board’s PISF Committee representative over the coming year; and Eric Silverman is ASAO’s new chair-elect. It’s comforting to know that the association, for the foreseeable future, will be in good hands!

Election of Board Members: Among our yearly tasks is to nominate candidates for two positions on the association’s board of directors. Candidates to replace outgoing board members Joel Robbins and Julie Flinn are Leslie Butt, Naomi McPherson, ‘Okusitino Mahina, and Jukka Siikala. Anyone still receiving paper newsletters will find brief biographies of the candidates as well as election ballots in your package. Those receiving the Newsletter electronically should have the biographies and ballots as a separate PDF file. Please print out the ballot, mark it appropriately, and return it in an envelope that is sealed and signed on the outside. If you have difficulty printing the file, you may substitute a handwritten note to indicate your vote. The deadline for returning your ballot to me is June 15.

Honorary Fellows: Last year the board increased the maximum number of ASAO Honorary Fellows from fifteen to twenty-five, with the caveat that no more than three may be elected in any one year. Honorary Fellowship is awarded to senior scholars in anthropology
and closely related fields who have made an exceptional impact on Pacific Island studies. If you wish to propose a nominee for this recognition, you should write a letter to the board summarizing your candidate's contributions. We must receive all nomination letters by November 1. The board will then determine which of the nominees will be placed on a ballot for a vote of the full membership. Ballots and nomination letters for Honorary Fellow candidates will be published in the April Newsletter.

**ASAO Bibliography:** Last fall, a number of ASAO members brought to the board’s attention Google’s development of an academic search engine called "Google Scholar." It was suggested that we make ASAO publications available to Google Scholar so that they will be readily accessible to the wider community of researchers via the Internet.

As a first step, the Board authorized me to update the bibliography of ASAO publications that Susan Win and I compiled back in 1991, and which Karen Peacock and Lynette Furuhashi first updated in 1996. At this time, I am soliciting information about books and articles that have appeared in print since the mid 90s that began as contributions to ASAO sessions. You should note that chapters in ASAO Monographs as well as chapters and articles in other officially recognized ASAO publications (posted on the ASAO website at <http://www.soc.hawaii.edu/asao/pacific/hawaiki.html>) will automatically be included in the new ASAO Bibliography. Therefore, I only need information on other publications that have grown out of ASAO meetings. If you know of items that should be added, you may contact me, preferably by e-mail <rfeinber@kent.edu>. Please remember to format your entries using AA style (or the style found in the “References” section of ASAO monographs). Don't forget to include the volume, number, and pages of the article or chapter! Once the new bibliography has been completed, it will be posted on the ASAO website.

**AAA Party:** Because of confusion surrounding the 2004 American Anthropological Association meeting and the move from San Francisco to Atlanta, we had to cancel last fall’s ASAO party/reception. Not to be denied, however, past-chair Mark Mosko has agreed to host our gathering at the 2005 AAA meeting in Washington, DC. Please stay tuned for further details on our annual bout of Dionysian revelry.

**2006 Meeting in San Diego:** Among our most eagerly anticipated decisions is always the following year’s meeting site. ASAO’s 2006 conference will be at the Mission Valley Hilton in San Diego. Details are described below and will also be on ASAOnet and the ASAO website. It is several years since we last met in San Diego, and we look forward to our return to Southern California.

*Rick Feinberg, ASAO Chair*

**III. 2006 ASAO ANNUAL MEETING**

The 2006 ASAO meeting site has been selected in San Diego, February 7-11:

Hilton San Diego Mission Valley  
901 Camino del Rio South  
San Diego, California 92108  
Tel: 619-543-9000 or 1-800-733-2332 (toll-free)  
Fax: 619-543-9358

The special ASAO Guest room rate is US$105.00 plus 10.5% tax. When you make your reservations, be sure to tell them you are with ASAO.

Guestroom accommodations include a refrigerator, spacious work desk, data port hook-up, high-speed internet access and two phone lines, voice mail, in-room coffee makers, hair dryer, iron and ironing board, individual climate control, color TV with web access, pay-per-view movies, Play Station and free HBO. On-site recreation facilities feature a heated outdoor pool, jacuzzi/whirlpool, sauna, and complimentary health club. Two on-site restaurants provide a choice of fine or fun dining. Hotel services include a full service business center,
complimentary USA Today newspaper, gift shop, same-day dry cleaning/laundry service, room service, non-smoking and accessible rooms.

ASAO sessions will be held in the hotel’s Executive Conference Center, nestled against a hill, and described as feeling “like you’re in the forest.” Evening plenary sessions will be held in an adjacent ballroom.

The Hilton San Diego Mission Valley is near a beautiful walk along the San Diego River. It is also across from the San Diego Trolley and near the Mission Valley and Fashion Valley shopping centers, San Diego's largest outdoor shopping centers with more than 250 department stores, specialty shops, restaurants and movie theaters. The hotel is conveniently located between three major freeways, only 3 miles east of famous Old Town, 5 miles from the San Diego Zoo, 6 miles north of downtown San Diego, and 6 miles (10 minutes) from San Diego International Airport.

**Ground transportation:** For airport transportation, Cloud 9 Shuttle is readily available at a rate of $8.50 each way, and the hotel can book pick-ups when you register. A taxi will typically charge $18-$20 each way, so sharing a taxi is also an option. The San Diego Trolley stops in the Mission Valley shopping center close to the hotel. The Trolley provides easy transport access into Old Town with its authentic Mexican Village, restaurants and shopping. The Trolley Line also directly accesses San Diego’s downtown and beautiful Seaport village and beyond . . . all the way to the Mexican Border in Tijuana!

*Judy Flores, Annual Meetings Site Coordinator*

**IV. PACIFIC ISLANDS SCHOLARS FUND 2005**

**This year's awards**
The members of this year's PISF committee were Kathy Creely, Christine Jourdan, and Coordinator Paul Shankman. Kathy served as a representative of the ASAO Board, and Christine continued as the ASAO member-at-large. Jan Rensel provided invaluable administrative support.

For this year’s meeting in Lihu’e, 6 travel grant awardees and 27 PISF mini-grant awardees were able to attend. In fact, Pacific Islanders were a major presence at the 2005 meeting, participating in and organizing several different sessions. This year’s awards were as follows:

**PISF Travel Awards**

**Property and Ecology** (John Wagner and Mike Evans)
1) Malia Talakai (The Netherlands) [also in Intellectual Property Rights; Pacific Research]

**The New Voyagers: Pacific Artists in the Global Art World** (Pamela Rosi and Eric Kjellgren)
2) Vince Reyes (Guam)
3) Ake Lianga (Victoria, BC)
4) Tusiata Avia (Christchurch, NZ)
5) Shigeyuki Kihara (Auckland, NZ)

**Pacific and Hawai'i Web Sites: Archiving Strategies and Issues** (Jane Barnwell and Dore Minatodani)
6) Imengel Mad (Palau)
PISF Mini-Grants

The New Voyagers: Pacific Artists in the Global Art World (Pamela Rosi & Eric Kjellgren)
1) Rosanna Raymond (London, England)
2) Konousi Aisake (Vancouver, BC)

AIDS in Oceania (Leslie Butt and Richard Eves)
3) Anita Jowitt (Fiji) [also in Research in Vanuatu: Past, Present and Future]
4) Herick Aeno (PNG)

Crosstalk: Dialectics with the "Me" of West Papua (Eben Kirksey and Octovianus Mote)
5) Octovianus Mote (US)

Moanan (Polynesian) Concept and Practice of Ta and Va, "Time and Space" (Okusitino Mahina and Tevita O. Ka’ili)
6) ‘Okusitino Mahina (NZ) (also in Indigenous Anthropology; Pacific Research)
7) Tevita Ka’ili (US) (also in Indigenous Anthropology; Polynesian Modernity)
8) Unasa Va’a (Samoa) (also in Polynesian Modernity)
9) Lea Lani Kinikini (Hawai’i) (also in Indigenous Anthropology)
10) Rochelle Fonoti (Hawai’i)

Indigenous Anthropology in/of Oceania (Ty Tengan and Tevita O. Ka’ili)
[besides those listed above:]
11) Ty Tengan (Hawai’i)
12) Katerina Teaiwa (Hawai’i)
13) Hokulani Aikau (Hawai’i)
14) Kapono Chong-Hanssen (Hawai’i)
15) Lahela Perry (Hawai’i)
16) Sean Naleimaile (Hawai’i)
17) Hinanui Cauchois (Hawai’i)
18) Kali Fermantez (Hawai’i)
19) Dennis Chun (Hawai’i)
20) Maile Andrade (Hawai’i)
21) Ku’ualoha Ho’omanawanui (Hawai’i)
22) Terri Leo Mauu (NZ)
23) G. Ku’ulei Reyes Tengan (Hawai’i)
24) Elizabeth Rago Tekaha (US)
25) Brandon Ledward (Hawai’i)

Issues of Representation, Identity, & Empowerment in Oceanic Film (Michelle Tupou)
26) Michelle Tupou (NZ)

Issues & Challenges in Pacific Research (Nuhi Williams, Malia Talakai, ‘Okusitino Mahina)
27) Nuhisifa Williams (NZ)

Financial support by members
In addition to an allocation of $4 per dues-paying member ($1,336.00 in 2004), PISF is
supported by member contributions, which totaled $3,935.46 between December 1, 2003, and
December 30, 2004. Individual donations ranged from just a few dollars to much larger
amounts. These contributions allowed PISF to award a larger than usual number of grants this
year, totaling $6,820.97. Several members continue to send their royalties checks for Pacific-
related publications; others send donations in memory of deceased colleagues. Many thanks to
all for your continuing support! (Remember that because ASAO is a 501(c)3 nonprofit
corporation, your contributions are tax-deductible in the US.)
Personal outreach by session organizers and other ASAO members
Our efforts as an association to fully incorporate Pacific Islands scholars into our meetings go well beyond financial donations. Session organizers play a key role in encouraging Pacific Islander participation and facilitating PISF applications. This year session organizers again helped their participants arrange transportation and, in some cases, accommodation. Although this year there were no complimentary rooms, there were a limited number of reduced room rates available and session organizers helped facilitate room arrangements.

Once travel awards are granted, session organizers should know the scholar’s itinerary, make sure that ticketing and visa arrangements are taken care of well before the meetings, and provide the scholar with information on ground transportation to and from the airport. Organizers should inform the PISF Coordinator of the scholar’s itinerary, accommodation plans, and any problems that might arise as the meetings approach. Organizers should also introduce scholars from their sessions to members and encourage them to attend other sessions that might be of interest.

2005–2006 Selection Guidelines
The committee selects individuals based on the following criteria/emphases:

1) We place priority on participation in Working Sessions; next on those in Symposia; but participants in Informal Sessions are also welcome to apply.

2) We prefer to fund younger scholars and graduate students who may have difficulty accessing institutional funds.

To the extent possible given the availability of funds, the PISF travel award will cover the awardee’s round-trip airfare and conference fee. PISF awardees will also be given one year’s complimentary membership in ASAO.

Institutional cost-sharing will promote the fund’s effectiveness in accomplishing its objectives and is therefore strongly encouraged. The granting of awards, however, will not be contingent on the availability of institutional cost-sharing.

"Mini-grants"
Because ASAO meeting venues shift annually and PISF funds are limited, we can maximize funding support by identifying Pacific Islander scholars studying at institutions in close proximity to the meeting site in addition to bringing PI scholars from distant locales. PI scholars who contribute presentations to ASAO sessions are eligible for registration fee waivers (“mini-grants”) simply through the request of the session organizer, by no later than the deadline for conference preregistration.

PISF application:
The application form is available at <http://www.soc.hawaii.edu/asao/pacific/pisfap.htm> on the ASAO website, or by request from Keith Chambers. The application consists of the scholar’s basic contact information; an economy round-trip airfare quote (for purposes of estimating award); and three letters: one from the applicant, one from the session organizer, and one from the applicant’s supervisor (or colleague). Each letter should address the scholar's potential contributions to the session and how participation fits into the scholar’s professional development. Send completed applications and letters to:

Keith Chambers, 715 Pennsylvania Ave, Ashland OR 97520 USA; tel: (541) 482-3179; fax: (541) 552-6439 (c/o Anne Chambers); e-mail <anekiti2004@yahoo.com>

PISF APPLICATION DEADLINE: SEPTEMBER 15, 2005

PISF AWARD NOTIFICATION DATE: OCTOBER 15, 2005
V. FROM THE PROGRAM COORDINATOR

I would like to thank the session organizers for all the hard work that resulted in a successful 2005 meeting in Lihu’e. It was especially good to see so many Pacific Islands scholars participating and organizing sessions. Reports on the 2005 sessions are included in this newsletter. Those who submitted reports will, if you are continuing with your sessions in 2006, be invited to submit updated announcements for the September newsletter. Guidelines for Session Organizers and Participants and a Timetable are included in this newsletter and are also available on the ASAO web site. I encourage both organizers and participants to read them carefully because they explain the steps you need to follow to have everything ready for your session. Let me reiterate the main points concerning ASAO sessions.

ASAO sessions provide opportunity for scholars interested in the Pacific Islands to engage in stimulating intellectual exchange, to focus on a topic, and to pursue it as a collaborative project for as long as the collaboration seems useful and productive. The organizer of an ASAO session should be a member of the association. We have three types of session, each distinguished by a particular level of organization. An informal session is primarily exploratory; someone has an idea and floats a proposal to determine whether colleagues have sufficient interest in the topic to merit a more highly organized session at some future date. Abstracts, statements of interest, or developed papers may be pre-circulated among participants in an informal session, but such advance preparation is not required. A working session must involve pre-circulated abstracts or papers; it is intended as an opportunity to identify common themes and useful theoretical approaches. If participants and organizers have a cohesive set of themes, a common theoretical focus, and at least seven well-developed papers ready to be circulated prior to the meeting, they meet the criteria for a formal symposium. Formal symposia reflect a high degree of organization and often precede collective publication, either as an ASAO monograph, a volume issued by another academic press, or a special issue of a journal.

The three types of session may occur in successive years, the "classic" sequence beginning with an informal session, leading to a working session, a formal symposium, and ultimately an ASAO volume. The three-year sequence, however, is not a requirement. We have had sessions continue for years at the informal level. In some instances, a panel has met two or three times as a working session. If you are not sure at which level your session should meet I would be glad to talk over with you what would be appropriate. Some sessions do lead to publication but this is by no means a requirement. Any session that generates productive, stimulating intellectual exchange is successful. Some sessions highlight problems rather than solutions and, for that reason, disband after one or two meetings. Others generate insightful, thought-provoking papers that do not cohere as a set but are published separately as articles in major journals. Some, like the series of sessions that addressed the teaching of Pacific anthropology, were never intended to lead to publication; but they offered ideas that colleagues have usefully incorporated into their classes. In other words, just as there is no one correct sequence of session types, there are many ways in which a session can succeed. The important thing is that a group of scholars engage in a conversation that furthers knowledge of the societies of Oceania and the communication of that knowledge to a wider audience.

I look forward to working with you on the sessions for the 2006 meeting. Let me know if I can help you in any way in planning your sessions.

Mary MacDonald

VI. GUIDELINES FOR SESSION ORGANIZERS AND PARTICIPANTS

ASAO is characterized by social informality and collegial cooperation regardless of rank. At the same time, the rigorous examination of data and ideas in ASAO sessions is designed to lead to high quality, often publishable sets of comparative papers on topics of importance in Pacific anthropology. The format of ASAO sessions differs from those at many scholarly meetings where individual papers are presented. Instead, ASAO sessions feature the ongoing give-and-take required for penetrating intellectual examination of difficult, yet vital, issues. ASAO sessions are of three types:
(A) INFORMAL SESSIONS involve the informal sharing of ideas to determine whether there is common ground for further inquiry. Anyone who has relevant data is welcome to attend and participate. If such sessions generate enough interest, participants make plans to develop and share lists of bibliographic references, draft and circulate papers, and discuss them (possibly via e-mail) in preparation for the next stage (see below).

Informal Sessions are of two types. Impromptu Informal Sessions can be announced at the Opening Plenary Session of the annual meeting and posted on the bulletin board in the registration area during the meeting. These sessions do not have pre-arranged meeting locations but may meet in available conference rooms, participants’ rooms, or local cafes. The second type of Informal Session may be announced at the prior year’s meeting, proposed in the ASAO Newsletter or on ASAONET, or otherwise pre-arranged. **To appear in the full schedule of the annual meeting, which is published in the December Newsletter, announcements of Informal Sessions must be submitted to the Program Coordinator and the Newsletter Editors by November 1** (see Timetable).

The level of organization for Informal Sessions varies. Participants are not required to write papers in advance, although it is helpful to session organizers if people advise them of their interest beforehand. If planned with sufficient lead time, some Informal Sessions may be well organized, with pre-circulated abstracts or papers and, perhaps, be only one or two papers shy of meeting the criteria for a Working Session.

Thus 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, scheduled Informal Sessions will be given no more than three hours of meeting time, and most will receive only one and a half hours.

(B) WORKING SESSIONS are based on prepared papers that are briefly summarized (NOT READ) during the session. Abstracts, if not drafts of papers, must be pre-circulated among session organizers and participants. Most of the meeting time during the session is allocated for discussing common themes, with an eye toward finding coherence and preparing for a second round of writing.

Session organizers can be imaginative in how they organize Working Sessions. Participants should respond to and make constructive suggestions on each other’s papers. If complete drafts are pre-circulated, some organizers assign people to read particular papers and prepare commentary ahead of time; some have participants present each other's papers, allowing the authors time afterward to clarify points and respond to questions. One or more invited discussants can be helpful at this stage, but again, only if complete drafts of papers are circulated in advance.

Working Sessions form the heart of ASAO meetings and require considerable time for the discussion of provocative ideas, the analysis of different approaches, and the search for core themes. Accordingly, Working Sessions are ordinarily given first priority when meeting time and space are allocated. Time will be allocated according to the number of participants attending and presenting papers.

A minimum of seven participants presenting papers in person at the meeting is required for Working Session status. **A list of participants, paper titles, and copies of their abstracts must be sent to the Program Coordinator by the November 1 deadline (see Timetable).** Sessions that do not meet these criteria by the November 1 deadline will appear on the Annual Meeting Program as Informal Sessions.

(C) SYMPOSIA are sessions that normally have met at a lower level of organization at least once before. Papers must be pre-circulated among the session organizers, participants, and any invited discussants. Contributors do not read their papers but discuss the key issues that arise from them. Conversation in the session focuses on those issues and provides a constructive critique that contributes to building a coherent set of papers or book chapters.

Time should be set aside during the Symposium to discuss whether and how to pursue publication. Options include the ASAO Monograph Series (which has an informal right of first refusal for volumes arising from ASAO sessions) or other academic publishers; a special issue of an appropriate journal; or separate publication of individual papers.

Some Symposia may require only an hour and a half to wrap up unfinished business, while others may need as much as six hours to discuss issues, themes, and future plans. Symposium organizers should advise the Program Coordinator of their time requirements.
The presence of seven participants with pre-circulated papers is required for full Symposium status. A list of participants, paper titles, and copies of the first and last pages of their papers must be sent to the Program Coordinator by the November 1 deadline (see Timetable). Sessions that do not meet these criteria by the November 1 deadline will appear on the Program of the Annual Meeting as Informal Sessions or Working Sessions, according to their level of preparedness as judged by the Program Coordinator.

**Responsibilities of Session Organizers:**

1) Submit the required information about your session to the Program Coordinator by the April 1, September 1, and November 1 deadlines. (See Timetable for Session Organizers and Participants.)

2) Assist any Pacific Islands scholars who are interested in applying for support from the Pacific Islands Scholars Fund. (See PISF Guidelines.)

3) Advise the Program Coordinator by no later than November 1 of any particular scheduling needs (e.g., late arrivals, early departures, or potential conflicts with other sessions).

4) Advise the Program Coordinator by November 1 of audio-visual or other special needs. The hotels are responsible for providing equipment for those with disabilities. In all other cases, however, the rental of equipment from hotels is quite expensive for ASAO. Session organizers should encourage their participants to make their own arrangements for costly equipment.

5) Send the Program Coordinator your contact information, and advise the Program Coordinators persons of any changes during the year.

6) Plan to attend both the Opening Plenary and Closing Plenary Sessions at the annual meeting. All session organizers are expected to deliver a Closing Plenary Report on the results of their sessions and future plans. If the organizers cannot be present at the Closing Plenary, they should appoint one of the participants to deliver the report. A written copy of the report must be sent to the Program Coordinator Newsletter Editors before the April 1 deadline.

**Responsibilities of Session Participants:**

1) Please respect the deadlines for your particular session and your session organizer’s responsibility for meeting the overall deadlines (see Timetable). Submit and circulate your abstracts and draft papers on time. Advise the organizer well in advance as to whether you will be able to attend the session in person.

2) Members should limit themselves to participation in no more than two sessions, preferably at different levels. In the past, problems have sometimes resulted from members participating in multiple sessions. For the ASAO format to work, contributors must give their sessions their undivided attention. Multiple participation creates scheduling conflicts which often disrupt sessions and distract contributors. If you must be in more than one session, please send the Program Coordinator a note indicating your priority. First priority in case of scheduling conflicts will go to session organizers and discussants. However, since ASAO sessions are lengthy and relatively few in number, there is no guarantee that scheduling conflicts can be avoided.

All correspondence to the Program Coordinator should be sent to:

Mary N. MacDonald, Dept. of Religious Studies, Le Moyne College, 1419 Salt Springs Road, Syracuse, NY 13214 USA; tel (315) 445-4364; fax (315) 445-4540; e-mail <mnmacd@aol.com>
### Timetable for Session Organizers and Participants

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Informal Session</th>
<th>Working Session</th>
<th>Symposium</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>April 1</td>
<td><em>to Program Coordinator:</em> announcement of proposed session</td>
<td><em>to Program Coordinator:</em> report on informal session held at annual meeting; call for papers, deadlines, etc.</td>
<td><em>to Program Coordinator:</em> report on working session held at annual meeting; next steps, deadlines, etc.</td>
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<tr>
<td>(in 2005, March 1)</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>September 1</td>
<td><em>to Program Coordinator:</em> updated description of proposed session</td>
<td><em>to Program Coordinator:</em> updated description of proposed session and call for papers, deadline reminders</td>
<td><em>to Program Coordinator:</em> updated description of proposed session, deadline reminders, etc.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Before November 1</td>
<td></td>
<td>Participants submit abstracts to session organizer(s) and send to other participants.</td>
<td>Participants circulate drafts of papers to session organizer(s) and other participants.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>November 1</td>
<td><em>to Program Coordinator:</em> (updated) description of proposed session; last chance to have a room/time scheduled and printed in the December newsletter; list of names of people who have expressed interest and total number of people expected to attend; state of preparedness of session.</td>
<td><em>to Program Coordinator:</em> names of participants, titles of papers, order of presentation; plus copies of all abstracts; which papers will be presented in absentia; total number of people expected to present papers; how much time requested.</td>
<td><em>to Program Coordinator:</em> names of participants, titles of papers, order of presentation; plus copies of first and last pages of each paper; which papers will be presented in absentia; total number of people expected to present papers; how much time requested.</td>
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VII. 2005 ANNUAL MEETING SESSION REPORTS

SPECIAL SESSION

Publishing for Pacific Island Communities
Organizers: David Counts & Dorothy Counts (Okanagan University College), Alan Howard & Jan Rensel (University of Hawai‘i)

The Special Session met in order to explore ways to make research results available in national or local languages, and in levels of European or other major world language that are accessible to members of the communities where we conduct research. We discussed issues associated with archiving and the use of local libraries as repositories for such materials, the pros and cons of electronic (CDs and DVDs) versus paper formats for archiving and making materials available, and the possibility of using the Internet as a means of disseminating information. The session was attended by 25 participants.

A matter of concern is the lack of credit toward tenure and promotion for publishing nonacademic materials or engaging in activities that primarily benefit our research communities, despite the fact that most of us feel a profound debt to the people we study. Those of us in the session who have done the most to provide such a service for the communities we’ve studied are either retired or senior enough to ignore the pressure to publish for our disciplinary colleagues. Yet we were in agreement that there is a strong moral basis for giving parallel credit for activities, including publication, that serve the communities we research. We agreed that ASAO should take the lead in doing what we can as an organization to promote the legitimacy of such activities within universities.

At the conclusion of our session we drafted a resolution to present to the Board of ASAO, which reads:

We, the participants in the Special Session on Publishing for Pacific Island Communities, propose that ASAO establish a fund to support publication (broadly defined to include all media) for, and accessible to, Pacific Island communities. This proposal builds on prior decisions of the ASAO Board to support publications for Pacific Island communities. ASAO members would be able to apply for a grant from this fund on a competitive basis according to criteria to be established.

This fund is intended to achieve two main goals: 1) to assist ASAO members in meeting their obligations to their host communities; and 2) to promote the academic legitimacy of such activities.

To this end, we ask the Board to establish a means to implement this proposal.

We agreed to meet again next year to establish criteria and guidelines for awarding such grants.

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FORMAL SYMPOSIA

Property and Ecology
Organizers: John Wagner (Okanagan University College) and Mike Evans (Okanagan University College)

In attendance: Nick Bainton (for Martha Macintyre and Simon Foale), Mike Evans, Alex Golub, Nancy Pollock, Malia Talakai, John Wagner, Mike Lieber (Discussant) and Michael Rynkiewich (Discussant). Papers in absentia: Andrea Bender, Mark Calamia, Leah Horowitz, Chris Morgan, Bryan Oles, Adrian Tanner.

Participants in this session have been exploring the ways in which customary property rights systems throughout the Island Pacific are being re-shaped as a consequence of changing social, economic, political relations within and among communities, regions and nations. Over the past four years we have assembled a rich and varied but representative set of case study materials that describe contemporary processes of change associated with activities such as ecotourism and conservation, labor migration, fishing, mining, logging and agriculture. On the basis of a detailed analysis and comparison of materials from Micronesia, Polynesia and Melanesia, our papers emphasize that property rights, as sets of social relations, are increasingly global in nature, that the trajectory of change for such systems is not linear in either economic or ecological terms, but variable and reversible, and that customary systems often generate particularly effective strategies for managing social and economic risk. We also raise a series of questions in our papers about the utility of common property theory as it is frequently applied to customary property systems. We are now actively involved in finalizing our papers for publication as either an edited volume or a special edition of a journal.

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The Gang of Four, or Bateson, Benedict, Fortune and Mead in Multiple Contexts
Organizers: Jerry Sullivan (Collin County Community College) and Sharon Tiffany (University of Wisconsin, Whitewater)

During this all day session ten people presented papers; we also received and distributed papers from three others who could not attend. Then Nancy McDowell and Nancy Lutkehaus took up the daunting task of providing commentary.

We had deliberately organized the session with the intent that participants would discuss these canonically important ancestors and their work not only with attention to their various intellectual and personal relationships with one another but also with regard for elements of their work which are usually overlooked or even forgotten. Wherever possible, then, we sought to avoid yet another examination of materials and moments discussed at length elsewhere and thereby to revivify a useful anthropological past. Given the excitement in the room and the echoes between the papers, we may have partially succeeded.

We have already been in preliminary discussions with Jeanette Mageo about possibly bringing out a publication based on the papers presented in this session as part of the ASAO monograph series. We expect to proceed toward publication reasonably quickly.

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Sharon Tiffany, Anthropology Department, University of Wisconsin, Whitewater WI 53190-1790 USA; e-mail <swtiffany53705@yahoo.com>
**Language Ideology and Social Change in Oceania**  
Organizers: Bambi Schieffelin (NYU) and Miki Makihara (Queens College, CUNY)

We had a very lively and successful session on ideologies of language and social change. The seven papers provide detailed ethnographic and theoretical analyses of language ideologies and practices in a range of Melanesian and Polynesian societies. They deal with a variety of topics, including: analyses of scholarly vs. local representations of social groups in Tonga and New Guinea Islands; bilingual language socialization practice which allows the maintenance of the local stigmatized language in the Marquesas, French Polynesia; new cultural conceptions of language as a medium for communicating religious truth and for constructing social boundaries and hierarchies in the context of Christianization in Bosavi and Urapmin communities in Papua New Guinea; how language is objectified and manipulated in order to constitute new social realities in communities in contact zones ranging from an incipiently bilingual West Papuan community in Indonesia to post-colonial Rapa Nui, Chile. Participants included Keir Martin, Susan U. Philips, Kathleen Riley, Joel Robbins, Rupert Stasch, Bambi Schieffelin, and Miki Makihara. Christine Jourdan and Courtney Handman could not be present at this meeting but they, along with the others who attended the session are revising their papers and we are collectively exploring publication options.

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**The New Voyagers: Pacific Artists in the Global Art World**  
Organizers: Pamela Rosi (Bridgewater State College) and Eric Kjellgren (Metropolitan Museum of Art)

The New Voyagers two-day formal Symposium, which included academic papers, artists’ statements, and performances and visual art work presented by artists participating in the session, proved an exciting conclusion which coalesced many of the ideas and images presented at earlier sessions in Vancouver and Salem. Although several participants could not rejoin us in Kaua‘i, we were able to invite—thanks to the PISF—performance artists Shigeyuki Kihara and Tusiata Avia from Aotearoa, and to welcome back Rotuman artist Konousi Aisake, now living in Vancouver, B.C. Altogether, we had fourteen presenters, including five artists (representing Polynesia, Micronesia, and Melanesia), six academics (working in Germany, the Netherlands, Canada, and the USA), and a gallery owner from Victoria, B.C. This heterogeneous combination of voices enabled us to address the topic of contemporary Pacific art and artists from a diversity of perspectives.

Following up on suggestions made at the Salem session, this year we were able to better integrate the voices of artists and scholars through having interviews between artists and professional colleagues pre-circulated ahead of the meetings and by pairing presentations by individual artists and those who work with them at the symposium. This helped to stimulate interpersonal dialogue and to reveal the dynamic relationships, which link artists, scholars, and institutions in the increasingly global world of contemporary Pacific art. For example, Elaine Monds, Director of the Alcheringa Art Gallery in Victoria, BC, and Solomon Islands artist Ake Lianga, whom she represents, discussed how the Gallery works to exhibit and cultivate clients for the artist’s contemporary imagery. Similarly, Vince Reyes, in his activities as a Chamorro cultural arts instructor at Inarajan Middle School on Guam, spoke about the collaborative relationship his school dance troop has developed with the nearby Gef Pa‘go Chamorro Cultural Village and its Executive Director Judy Flores, also a panel member. This relationship has helped to widen the cultural knowledge of his students and to enhance the
possibilities of having the school dance troop perform at other venues on Guam as well as abroad—including their marvelous performance as part of the New Voyagers session.

In presenting scholarly papers and having artists address their careers and artistic visions, our primary purpose at the symposium was to look for comparative connections among themes we had singled out at our working session in Salem so that papers could dialogue with one another by focusing on and integrating core concepts. These included art’s significance in the search and construction of personal and group identity; strategies for marketing art as culture and the issues artists encounter in entering the global art world; and the influence of gender and how it impacts such factors as choice of imagery, access to and control of resources, empowerment, and success.

In refining and illuminating these themes, we were aided greatly by the input of our two discussants—Professor Vilsoni Hereniko, Center for Pacific Island Studies, University of Hawai’i at Manoa, and Professor Robert Welsch, Dartmouth College. Professor Hereniko initiated our discussion by providing a detailed critique of each paper pointing out the strengths and revisions needed for refining the themes just identified. Professor Welsch then offered an outline for how he thought the papers and artists’ statements could be organized into a volume to present to publishers. In the general discussion that followed, we agreed to go forward to publication and a timetable was agreed upon for revising papers by early fall. Also, after organizers consulted further with the discussants, it was agreed that both would participate as editors and that Vilsoni Hereniko would write a chapter on Pacific performance to contextualize the work of our three performance artists. We are also pleased to report that our discussants have now met with the editor of the University of Hawai’i Press about publishing our volume, and she has expressed strong interest in doing this. This is good news, but I think we will all agree that the highlight of our symposium was the Saturday lunchtime performance staged by Pacific Islander artists from the symposium panel and the Inetnon Gef Pa’go Dance Group led by their teacher Vince Reyes. This was a special event and we thank everybody who participated for all the time and effort devoted to it. Mahalo.

Creating Town and Country: New Places and Old in Melanesia
Session Organizer: Jerry Jacka (North Carolina State University)

Eight people contributed papers to this session – Jerry Jacka, Maxine Craig, Alex Golub, Jean de Lannoy, Rupert Stasch, Debra McDougall, Thomas Strong (in absentia), and Peter Kanaparo (in absentia). The session generated some lively discussion around the ways in which the categories taun and ples resonate in Melanesian peoples’ lives and imaginations. We have decided to publish our papers in some type of joint format by mid-July.
WORKING SESSIONS

AIDS in Oceania
Organizers: Leslie Butt (University of Victoria) and Richard Eves (Gender Relations Center, RSPAS, ANU)

The working session AIDS in Oceania, convened for the first time in Hawai‘i, brought together participants from Papua New Guinea, Vanuatu, Canada, Germany, France, Australia and the United States. Several participants attended ASAO for the first time, including two Pacific Island scholars, Herick Aeno (Papua New Guinea Institute of Medical Research) and Anita Jowitt (University of South Pacific).

Papers were pre-circulated, and at the session each author summarized his or her paper and then responded to comments by an assigned discussant. The session was greatly enriched by discussant Margaret Jolly’s distillation of the key themes of the papers. Most of our discussion centered on cultural and political patterns of the epidemic. Some commonalties across papers included, among others, the influence of Christianity on local interpretations of HIV/AIDS, stigma in local practice, the effect of political leaders’ priorities, the language of international human rights and AIDS efforts, and problematic epidemiological categories. Many papers noted the incompatibility of Eurocentric interventionist projects with on-the-ground interpretations and practices. Recognizing the importance of publishing materials on AIDS sooner rather than later, participants have agreed to rework their papers for publication, ideally in an accessible monograph format to be distributed widely across the Pacific. The monograph would be relevant not just to anthropologists, but to AIDS intervention workers, development officers, and health researchers in the region. It was agreed that the session would proceed to symposium level next year only if participants are unable to meet established publication deadlines.

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Survival at Sea
Organizers: David and Dorothy Counts (Okanagan University College)

Thirteen people attended the session, and there were 7 presentations covering a wide range of situations, both contemporary and historical, in which one or more persons had survived—sometimes for months—being adrift in the Pacific. Participants have agreed to convene as a symposium in 2006 with two publishing goals in mind for the papers: (1) This collection of ‘rippling good yarns’ should be available in accessible form to Pacific Islands communities; (2) Analysis of survival tales as mythic/political/religious texts can shed light on the uses to which materials are put by tellers.

Rick Feinberg has agreed to join the symposium as discussant.

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INFORMAL SESSIONS

Issues of Representation, Identity and Empowerment in Oceanic Film
Organizer: Michelle M. Kamakanoenoe Tupou (University of Auckland)

Although this informal session was organized fairly quickly there were twenty-five participants and interest in the topic was high. The session brought together filmmakers, documentary makers, visual artists/performers, graduate students, movie buffs and kupuna all of whom were very enthusiastic supporters of film in Oceania. The discussion focused on themes of Pacific Islander representation in film, indigeneity, as well as issues of funding sources and fund accessibility.

There was great interest in the set up of a discussion board and listserv to discuss issues surrounding the subject. The topic is very large and will need to be developed further and refined; as such possible future sessions will be discussed throughout the year via e-mail with those who expressed interest.

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Crosstalk: Dialectics with the Me of West Papua
Organizers: Eben Kirksey (University of California, Santa Cruz) and Octovianus Mote (Yale University)

In understanding the interactions between the Me and foreign interlopers, our ambition is to develop a case study for thinking about the character of colonial interactions. We seek to understand a tension between colonial mastery and neglect. Specific contingencies channeled the encounters between the Me and foreigners in unexpected and particular ways. Foreigners were all from a strange place called Surabaya (a city in Java), by many early Me accounts. One family, named Zonggonau, from the neighboring Moni tribe mediated many early colonial encounters with the Me. The paths of individuals and kin networks through foreign landscapes lead to prominent positions in the post-contact colonial order.

Me collaborations with foreigners who have connections to particular nodes of power for example with Jakarta, the Netherlands, and the United States have generated new ambiguities. We will interrogate Me yardsticks for measuring when someone is too close, or too far, from foreign power. Going beyond the analysis that collaborators are by nature spoiled goods, we will explore the problematic possibilities that emerge from these relationships.

Five participants attended our session: Leslie Butt, Eben Kirksey, Mary MacDonald, Octovianus Mote, and Danilyn Rutherford. Extended conversations with Benny Giay and Leopold Pospisil, who were not physically present in Kaua’i, also informed our discussion. Next year we hope to continue this session and plan to approach a number of other Me scholars and foreigners. In addition to conventional scholarly papers, we will solicit interviews with prominent Me figures. We will pre-circulate transcripts of these interviews and then invite the interviewees to participate in our session next year.

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Regional Comparison in the Western Solomon Islands
Organizers: Debra McDougall (University of Notre Dame), Cato Berg (University of Bergen), and Christine Dureau (University of Auckland)

This was an engaging informal session with wide-ranging conversations based on diverse research in the Western Solomons and beyond. Our overall theme was inter-regional connections. More specific topics included continuities in how Marovo people have engaged with outsiders in the pre-colonial era and the current era of globalization; connections between Bougainville and the northwestern islands of Solomon Islands and reactions to the Bougainville conflict; the role of foreigners in social reproduction in historical narratives from Ranongga; the circulation, production, collection of shell artifacts in the Western Solomons; and recent dictionary work in northern Choiseul. Scheduled participants included Edvard Hviding, Piet Lincoln, Debra McDougall, Jill Nash, Gene Ogan, and Deborah Waite; Murray Chapman, Rick Feinberg, Ward Goodenough, Tarcisius Tara Kabutaulaka, Eric Kjellgren, and Caroline Yaco contributed much to the discussion. Given the diversity of our interests, we have decided not to proceed to a working session but will continue our conversations through an electronic mailing list and a semi-private website.

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Cato Berg, Department of Social Anthropology, University of Bergen, PO Box 7800, N5020 Bergen, NORWAY; e-mail <Cato.Berg@sosantr.uib.no> [on fieldwork, late 2004]
Christine Dureau, Department of Anthropology, University of Auckland, PB 92019, Auckland, NEW ZEALAND, e-mail <cm.dureau@auckland.ac.nz>

Research in Vanuatu: Past, Present and Future
Organizers: Haidy Geismar (UCLA and New York University), Jean de Lannoy (Oxford), and Benedicta Rousseau (Cambridge)

Thanks to the generosity of the ASAO we were able to hold two double sessions. Eighteen presenters gave an overview of the range of research projects being carried out across Vanuatu by three generations of scholars. We were honored to welcome Barbara Lane, a pioneer of Vanuatu research in the 1950s. At the outset Lamont Lindstrom and Bob Tonkinson said a few words and offered some kava in remembrance of Terry Crowley, an expert on the languages of Vanuatu, who unexpectedly passed away a couple of weeks before the conference. Presentations by Lissant Bolton on behalf of the Vanuatu Cultural Centre and Anita Jowitt on behalf of the University of the South Pacific (Vanuatu Campus) led to a discussion on the ways of assuring that research is accessible and relevant to the country and the people of Vanuatu, particularly in the domains of environment, urban issues, history, and the availability of educational material for schools and the university. In a similar line, Nick Thieberger attracted attention on the PARADISEC digital archiving program. It has been proposed that a major conference should take place in Vanuatu in September 2006 while we will continue with a more focused session at the next ASAO meeting.

The various papers illustrated comments by Margaret Jolly on the evolving context of research, most strikingly through an emergent dialogue with Vanuatu citizens, but also through the continuous interest for the discourse on tradition (kastom), linking gendered, political, indigenous and international perspectives (Hess, W. Rodman, Tabani, Taylor, Zagala), often overlapping with ethnographic histories of Christianity, magic, labour and anthropology (Geismar, Kolshus, de Lannoy, M. Rodman, Tonkinson), political issues about language and education (Myerhoff), “casino capitalism” (Patterson), and American TV entertainment “Survivor
Vanuatu" (Lindstrom). We had a second double session dedicated to three recent films on Vanuatu topics: on sand and dust drawings (Zagala), the history of women's "island dress" (Bolton and Tarisesei) and on new developments in the John Frum movement on Tanna (Tabani).

We are planning to move forward to a working session in San Diego. Two themes have been proposed: "Vanuatu Time" and "Multiple Voices." 'Multiple Voices' reflects our dialogues with filwoka and other ni-Vanuatu or expatriates who share with us their knowledge and experience, as well as innovative historical and multi-sited research practices. A version of the resulting papers should be made accessible to a Vanuatu readership and we are considering applying to a new ASAO fund established for this purpose.

We also decided that we should hold another meeting in Vanuatu, to connect up to the fieldworkers, USP, and other colleagues there. That this will probably be held at the time of the fieldworker meeting in 2006. Stephen Zagala, Jack Taylor and Nick Thieberger volunteered to organize this meeting. The theme of the meeting could be "Collaboration and Change" encompassing the potential role of research in forging productive relationships, and in gaining perspective and knowledge on changes and developments in Vanuatu.

Anticipating the Social Impact of Mine Closure in PNG
Organizers: Dan Jorgensen (University of Western Ontario) and Glenn Banks (UNSW@ADFA)

This session was attended by roughly twenty to twenty-five participants who contributed to a wide-ranging consideration of mine closure’s potential impacts. Much of the discussion concerned the planned Porgera and Ok Tedi closures, flagging issues including effects on government budgets, services and infrastructure. Public health was identified as a special concern, particularly in the context of an emerging HIV/AIDS crisis. Closure will also drastically affect household incomes and is expected to produce new forms of marginalization, which may fuel resentment, raising questions about the potential for increased conflict. There was some discussion about questions of social value as the likelihood of declining incomes may force contentious choices between claims and priorities (e.g., consumption, bridewealth, compensation, school fees, etc.). Finally, closure raises the prospect of demographic shifts to outlying areas or towns as mining winds down.

An unexpected payoff of the session was a discussion of what we already know about mine closure based on historical instances. Misima affords the most recent example, but Bougainville’s closure (though unplanned) may reveal a great deal about the impact of lost services and incomes. Another consequence of Bougainville’s closure was the repatriation of large numbers of workers throughout PNG, where their return had both economic and cultural impacts on home communities. Further afield, the Banaban case is instructive, especially insofar as the historical encounter with mining has become a core part of contemporary identities and imagined futures. These examples suggest that an expansion of the scope of our project to take them into account may be warranted.

Looking toward (or imagining) the future formed a large part of the discussion, including accounts of local anticipations of the end of mining at Ok Tedi (a mining cult) and Lihir (negotiating dreams of sustainable development). Planners also anticipate the future, with or without the advice of researchers. In this vein John Burton gave an account of the history of social monitoring at Ok Tedi; he also announced that the "Ok-Fly" reports of the 1990s have emerged from the shadows of the grey literature and are now available on the ANU’s RMAP website: <http://rspas.anu.edu.au/rmap/publications/>.
One aim of the session was to take steps towards forming a network of researchers interested in working on mine closure issues; our next step will be to convene as a working session in 2006, with commitments for nine papers already in hand. In view of developments at this year’s session, we are retitling the session as follows: “The Social Impact of Mine Closure in the Pacific: Retrospect and Prospect” [The organizers will shout a drink at the 2006 meeting for any participant who comes up with a better title; all decisions of the judges shall be final]. Those interested in taking part should submit a title and abstract by June 1st to one of the organizers at the e-mail addresses listed above. We plan to circulate paper drafts to all confirmed participants by September 15.

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Current Knowledge about Polynesian Outliers
Organizers: Richard Scaglion (University of Pittsburgh) and Rick Feinberg (Kent State University)

We plan to produce a volume summarizing and synthesizing contemporary knowledge about the Polynesian outliers. This informal session was designed to discuss how best to organize and produce such a volume. Our session consisted of a small but lively group of about a dozen participants. We have decided to go ahead with the project by creating a list of appropriate topics and issues and assigning "topic coordinators" to produce chapters collaboratively. Chapter coordinators need not have actually worked on an outlier; they merely need to have an interest and be comparatively inclined. Because it has proven difficult to convene a large group of chapter coordinators at any given ASAO meeting, we intend to work on the project on our own for a while, although it is possible that we will organize another ASAO session in the future as the project nears completion. Anyone who is interested in the project should contact one of the organizers.

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Indigenous Anthropology in/of Oceania
Organizers: Ty P. Kawika Tengan (University of Hawai'i at Manoa), Tevita O. Ka'ili (University of Washington)

The goal of this year's informal session was to initiate a new cross-cultural and interdisciplinary discussion on the theory and practice of "indigenous anthropology in/of Oceania." Well over forty participants showed up, at least 20 of whom were Pacific Islanders. A wide array of institutional and disciplinary locations was also represented. All of these factors made for very rich and enlivened discussions on issues of identity, theory, pedagogy, fieldwork, writing, ethics, protocol, relationships, language, time, publication, film, art, religion, spirituality, archaeology, belonging, and genealogies (and much more). The challenge for the organizers was to find common themes and to discover whether or not there would be enough interest to move forward either as a second informal session or a working session. Though we never identified a core set of issues or topics that we might organize papers around, we
nonetheless voted (not unanimously) to go on to a working session. Discussions in our session resonated with those in Michelle Kamakanoenoe Tupou's session on Oceanic Film and spilled over into the session on Pacific Research organized by Nuhisifa Williams, 'Okusitino Mahina and Malia Talakai. Further dialogue was carried out in the “informal” informal sessions organized around the lounge areas, restaurants, and elsewhere. At UH Manoa, Lahela Perry and I are co-teaching a course on Indigenous Anthropology and others in Pacific Island Studies, Geography, English, and the International Cultural Studies Program continue to talk, debate, fight, make-up, and start all over again.

The organizers would like to thank everyone who participated and made our session a success, and we would especially like to thank Paul Shankman and Jan Rensel for their efforts in awarding the numerous mini-grants that assisted many of us with our costs. We also would like to note that our focusing on indigeneity and/in anthropology on Kaua‘i was first preceded and enabled by the welcoming we received from Kehaulani Kekua and Halau Palaihiwa o Kaipuawai, whom we were honored to share our aloha with. Finally, we want to acknowledge the significant contributions of Pacific Islanders in other parts of the program, including the New Voyagers symposium and performances, Vilsoni Hereniko's film "The Land Has Eyes," Albert Wendt and Reina Whaitiri’s presentation on the fale, and in all the other sessions (such as Ta and Va) and forums that indigenous Oceanians were helping us move forward to an indigenous anthropology in/of Oceania.

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Pacific and Hawai‘i Web Sites: Archiving Strategies and Issues
Organizers: Jane Barnwell (University of Hawai‘i) and Dore Minatodani (University of Hawai‘i)

The objectives of this session were to open discussion begun last year to a larger body of people; to develop criteria for web-based and digital content to be archived and managed by participating libraries; and to develop strategies for implementing an archiving plan. Participants offered observations and listed issues and concerns relating to the preservation of web content, including: moral and ethical issues of preserving voices of Pacific Islanders; sustainability of funding for such preservation efforts at both larger and smaller institutions; stability of content formats; intellectual property of content; open archives initiatives; and commercialization of free content. The participants also noted several important requirements if such web archiving efforts are to be successful. These include the need to avoid duplication of efforts, the need for migration plans to be included in digital projects, and the need for good cataloging and indexing mechanisms.

The group also reviewed ongoing projects to preserve web content (e.g., U.S. Library of Congress, California Digital Library, Way Back Machine, International Internet Preservation Consortium) and larger websites maintaining digital content (e.g., Paradisec). Ingrid Mason, from the Alexander Turnbull Library, National Library of New Zealand, sent a paper describing a project to begin archiving websites. Unlike a similar project underway at the National Library of Australia, the New Zealand project explicitly includes website containing content relating to the Pacific Islands.

There was agreement that efforts at libraries situated within the Pacific should also be undertaken, to take advantage of local language skills and knowledge of local concerns, and that efforts should focus on unique and/or at-risk content that is not available or easily duplicated in other formats. Beth Tillinghast and Dore Minatodani from the University of Hawaii, and Imengel Mad from the Palau Community College, agreed to undertake a pilot project in the coming year. They will test the viability of a small-scale project for possible implementation in other smaller Pacific libraries that may be willing and able to contribute to future collaborative efforts.
Participants included: John Barker, Jane Barnwell, John Burton, Keith Chambers, Kerry Clark, David Counts, Kathy Creely, Tisha Hickson, Alan Howard, Barbara Lane, Vicki Luker, Mary MacDonald, Imengel Mad, Dore Minatodani, Karen Peacock, Jan Rensel, Sally Roggia, Marc Tabani, Nick Thieberger, Beth Tillinghast. Participants expressed interest in continuing this and related Pacific collection discussions at the 2006 ASAO meetings in San Diego.

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Gender Violence in Oceania
Organizers: Dorothy Counts (University of Waterloo/Okanagan University College) and Christine Stewart (Australian National University)

This informal session was well attended, both by participants who had already indicated their interest, and by a number of welcome newcomers. Presentations were given by Anita Jowitt, Christine Salomon and Christine Hamelin, Lawrence Hammar, Dorothy Counts, Kathy Lepani, Nicole Haley, Penelope Schoeffel, Victoria Lockwood, Polly Wiessner, Naomi McPherson, Phillip Gibbs and Holly Wardlow, with other participants adding comments and indicating their interest in future participation. A number of other potential participants were unable to attend this year, but wish to be kept in touch via e-mail. In all, more than thirty people have indicated their interest in this important topic, which seems set to proceed to Working Session next year. Laura Zimmer-Tamakoshi, although not present, has already agreed to be principal discussant.

Session discussions covered a wide range of matters related to gender violence, both in the home and in the wider society. At first it seemed that we had enough materials and themes for two sessions: but when scrutinized, a cohesive presentation emerged. As our starting point, we will discuss the range of definitions and forms of inter-personal violence, and the ways in which this violence is gendered. Discussions fell into three Parts (with some overlap):

Part I: The Structuring of Gender Violence
(a) social constructs both traditional and modern — the role of childhood influences (sexual abuse, adoption, disciplinary practices etc); gender relations, negotiations of marital relations, age and social status; legitimizing ideologies, socio-economic factors and variations
(b) constructs of state and civil society — the ways in which state and civil society structure public debate, the role of the law and law enforcement, police, socio-political constructs.

Part II: Post-colonial Changes and Modernities
(a) ideological justifications — religiosity and the spiritual (Christianity, witchcraft, warrior codes); the breakdown or alteration of traditional control mechanisms and processes (eg. compensation benefiting the victim’s kin, spacing of births); the new gendering of power structures; changes to masculinities.
(b) technological changes and effects, such as the influence of the cash economy on brideprice and compensation culture, and the use of high-powered rifles in tribal warfare; alcohol (as a cause as well as a symptom); HIV/AIDS; socio-economic factors and the collapse of services and infrastructure; influence of health services; the operations of the introduced legal system.
(c) international culture — modern warrior codes, electronic media, international aid, mobility, migrations, ethnic links, mixing and disruptions.

Part III: Seeking Solutions
The various approaches tried in Oceania; policy and programming responses; law reform initiatives; the role of women’s groups; links between academic knowledge and action.
Those interested in participating in a Working Session in 2006 are asked to submit abstracts as soon as possible. We would also like to hear from anyone else interested, who was not at February's meeting and who is interested in participating in future.

Dorothy Counts, 15130 Old Mission Rd, Oyama, BC V4V 2A9 CANADA; e-mail <countsd@cablelan.net>
Christine Stewart, Gender Relations Centre, Research School of Pacific/Asian Studies, Australian National University, Canberra ACT 0200, AUSTRALIA; tel +61-2-6125-2448; fax: +61-2-6125-4896; e-mail <christine.stewart@anu.edu.au>

Globalization, Diet, and Health
Organizers: Lisa Henry (University of North Texas) and Jeanette Dickerson-Putman (Indiana University-Indianapolis)

The fourteen session participants included: Lisa Henry, Jeanette Dickerson-Putman, Jocelyn Armstrong, Jane Fajans, Karl Rambo, Larry Carucci, Mike Burton, Mac Marshall, Sandra Barrier-Heinz, Nancy Pollock, Penelope Schoeffel, Hironari Narita, and Leslie Butt. Discussion remained informal throughout the session as participants discussed their particular regions and specific research interests within the broad theme of Globalization, Diet, and Health. The discussion eventually coalesced around the central topic of food. Participants agreed to change the title of the session to Food, Power, and Globalization. This broad theme allows participants to explore the social impacts of globalization on food from various directions, such as: obesity and related health consequences, food consumption, food security and hunger, self-image/body image, the manipulation of food for prestige, food as a global commodities, etc. We have decided to meet again in 2006 as a working session and we welcome additional participants.

In moving forward to our working session, we request that participants keep to the following schedule: (1) submit a statement of topic interest by May 15, 2005; (2) submit a title and abstract by August 15, 2005; and (3) circulate your paper to all participants by January 1, 2005.

Lisa Henry, University of North Texas, Department of Anthropology, P.O. 310409, Denton, TX 76203 USA; tel (940) 565-4160; fax (940) 369-7833; e-mail <HenryL@scs.unt.edu>
Jeanette Dickerson-Putman, University of Indiana-Indianapolis, Department of Anthropology, 425 University Blvd, Indianapolis, IN 46205 USA; tel (317) 274-2995; e-mail <jdickere@iupui.edu>

"From the Native's Point of View," Revisited: On the Problem of 'Empathy' in the Pacific
Organizers: C. Jason Throop (UCLA) and Douglas W. Hollan (UCLA)

This engaging informal session had a very good turn out with over twenty participants, fourteen of whom have committed to continuing on with the project in the months to come. Overall there was an excellent mix of interested participants at different stages of their careers and representing a diverse mix of cultures throughout Micronesia, Polynesia, Melanesia, and island South-East Asia.

Some of the common themes explored during the session included: (1) discussing local theories of empathy in relation to concepts of personhood and emotional exchange; (2) investigating communicative norms for demonstrating, displaying, and recognizing empathy, in particular focusing on what culturally available non-verbal idioms may be utilized in communicating empathy (i.e., transactions in which material goods are exchanged between...
interlocutors); (3) examining the how empathy is implicated in discourses of suffering, pity, compassion and care; (4) exploring what place empathy has in those communicative contexts wherein which the establishment and maintenance of ambiguity is a valued goal and where there are prevalent strategies for concealing personal knowledge, motives, and intentions; (5) interrogating methodological concerns regarding the role of empathy in ethnographic research and practice; and finally, (6) detailing cultural articulations of empathy in connection to individual differences in personality, gender, and status.

Having decided to go ahead with organizing a working session for next year’s meetings, we will soon be sending out via e-mail a working bibliography and a more delimited set of questions that we hope to see addressed in participants’ papers. We hope that this combination of shared readings and orienting questions will serve as a touchstone in the development of more a cohesive set of papers that will later be transformed into a viable symposium and eventual publication.

Assessing the Discourse of Intellectual Property Rights in the Pacific
Organizers: Toon van Meijl (University of Nijmegen) and Malia Talakai (University of Nijmegen)

Of the many people who expressed interest in this session, eight were able to pre-circulate abstracts. Seven people who pre-circulated abstracts attended the session in Hawai’i, one participated in absentia, and twelve others attended either as participants or audience. The abstracts reflected a range of diverse issues that came under the general topic of intellectual property rights of Pacific peoples. Out of these diverse abstracts, common themes enabled a very lively discussion. General themes included the issues over protection and appropriate protection mechanisms, ownership, benefits, the complexities of the talk of rights and property rights, appropriation and piracy often associated with what is out in the public and the use of intellectual property as either a form of enclosure or as a form of ethnic boundary. At the end of the meeting in Hawai’i, there were suggestions to move to a working session and we will therefore reconvene as a working session in 2006. The organizers will reformulate a more focused abstract and will utilize group e-mail discussions.

New Perspectives on Adoption and Fosterage in Oceania
Organizers: Jeanette Dickerson-Putman (Indiana University-Indianapolis) and Judith Schachter (Carnegie Mellon University)

This Informal Session attracted a very lively group of participants including Mac Marshall, Paula Brown Glick, Laurel Monnig, Thorgeir Kolshus, Arne Perminov, Richard Davis, Gene Ogan, Eric Silverman, Marlene Levine, Jane Fajans, Mike Burton, Jukka Siikala, Jeanette Dickerson-Putman and Judith Schachter. Another group of individuals, including Leslie Butt,
Manuel Rauchholz, Larry Carucci, Christine Solomon, Christine Hamelin, Naomi McPherson, Rose Elu, Karen Sykes, and Michael Jenkins, expressed a strong interest in our session but were either unable to come to the Kaua’i meeting or were involved in another Session scheduled at the same time. We enjoyed a stimulating and productive discussion and exchange of ideas. Participants shared their research interests in adoption and fosterage and agreed to develop papers for a Working Session in 2006 around one or more of the following topics/themes: processes of both legally-based and non-legalized forms of adoption and fosterage set in a global context; the impact of change on local processes of adoption and fosterage; a comparison of the processes of adoption and fosterage on both the ideological/normative and behavioral levels; contemporary forms of agency and strategy involved in adoption and fosterage; the relationship between adoption and fosterage and access to and inheritance of both material and non-material resources and explorations of adoption and fosterage set in the context of the life histories of individuals and households.

The co-organizers request that participants (1) inform them of their commitment to be part of the Working Session by May 31; (2) send items to be incorporated into a bibliography on adoption and fosterage by May 31; (3) submit abstracts for papers by August 15 and (4) submit drafts of Working Papers by November 1. These papers will be pre-circulated in preparation for our 2006 Working Session. We strongly encourage new participants to join our dynamic exploration. For more information please contact the session organizers.

Jeannette Dickerson-Putman, Department of Anthropology, Indiana University-Indianapolis, 425 University Blvd., Indianapolis IN 46202 USA; tel (317) 274-2995; e-mail <jdickere@iupui.edu>
Judith Schachter, Department of History, Carnegie Mellon University, Baker Hall 240, Pittsburgh, PA 15213-3890 USA; tel (412) 268-3239; e-mail <JM1e@andrew.cmu.edu>

Issues and Challenges in Pacific Research
Organizers: Nuhisifa Williams (University of Auckland), 'Okusitino Mahina (University of Auckland), and Malia Talakai (University of Nijmegen)

The informal session was a continuation of the discussion in regards to this topic that began at the 2003 meeting in Vancouver. The session had ten participants of whom five had attended the first session in Vancouver. It was decided by participants that the session would continue to talanoa/dialogue about issues around Pacific research. Issues that were raised by some of the participants were methodological approaches used, ethical considerations and ownership of research. Discussion also centered on the continuation of the session as the session was dependant on the attendance of session organizers at the annual meetings. However, it was decided to keep the session going. It is anticipated the session would continue on to a working session at the next meeting the organizers would be able to attend.

Nuhisifa Williams, Centre for Professional Development/Centre for Pacific Studies, University of Auckland, Private Bag 92019, Auckland, NEW ZEALAND; fax +64-9-373-7474; tel +64-9-373-7599 ext. 88327; e-mail <ns.williams@auckland.ac.nz>
'Okusitino Mahina, Department of Anthropology, University of Auckland, Private Bag 92019, Auckland, NEW ZEALAND; fax +64-9-373-7441; tel +64-9-373-7599 ext. 85188; e-mail <o.mahina@auckland.ac.nz>
Malia Talakai, Centre for Pacific and Asian Studies, University of Nijmegen, P.O. Box 9104, 6500 HE Nijmegen, THE NETHERLANDS; e-mail <M.Talakai@ru.nl>
**Polynesian Modernity**  
Session Organizer: Heather Young Leslie (University of Hawai'i at Manoa)

The objective of the session was to discuss a "de facto canon" of literature used to teach about Polynesia, then to move to a discussion of what reflections on that canon might or might not inform an understanding of an indigenous, Polynesian modernity, with the goal of creating a master-text for teaching about Polynesia. The session was well attended, with senior, junior and Pacific Islander colleagues. The idea of a de facto canon was resisted by some, but embraced by others; the theoretical literature invoking modernity and indigenous modernity, and how it might relate to Polynesia was also of equivocal interest. Nevertheless the session promoted quite interesting and spirited discourse, and ended with an expressed desire for two outcomes: 1) the creation of a bibliography of ethnographies recommended for teaching undergraduates about contemporary Polynesia, and 2) to reconvene with a more focused theme at next year's meeting. ASAO members are invited to stay tuned for a description of the latter, and to forward to me any suggestions for the former. In constructing the 'Teaching Polynesia via Ethnography Bibliography', I ask that you send me the exact reference information in AE format, with a brief annotation explaining the value of the suggested reference for teaching about Polynesia. I will compile your suggestions and they will be posted to ASAOnet and to the ASAO website.

Heather Young Leslie, Anthropology Department, University of Hawai'i at Manoa, 2424 Maile Way, Saunders Hall 306, Honolulu, HI 96822; tel (808) 956-8415; fax (808) 956-4893; e-mail <hyleslie@hawaii.edu>

**Scale and Complexity in Melanesia**  
Organizers: Paula Brown Glick, Hal Levine (University of Victoria at Wellington)

This session was organized to explore the issue of why the societies of Melanesia lack hierarchy. The region was an early center of plant domestication and contains some of anthropology's best known examples of trade and exchange systems, ritual practices and cults. Yet Melanesian big-men amass little wealth or power nor do they establish stable hereditary polities. The fourteen participants considered how to approach questions relating to scale in a way that can produce new insights.

The problem has become topical recently due to the influence of Jared Diamond's *Guns Germs and Steel* and his new book *Collapse*. In the course of his wider exploration of the reasons for western world domination Diamond specifically discusses the constraints on hierarchy that existed in the New Guinea highlands. It was there that the densest populations of Melanesia are found. However, the area of land that could be effectively planted and settled was small, limited by altitude and geological fragmentation. The population remained far smaller than that of any other area of independent domestication in the world. Locally grown root crops were low in protein. No suitable mammals existed that could be domesticated and used for traction or transportation. Possibilities of technological and socio-cultural interchange with other regions were restricted by mountains and seas. The local population was very fragmented, linguistically, socially and culturally, and by frequent warfare.

The significance of Diamond's environmental explanation to anthropological considerations of scale and complexity was subject to debate. Ethnographically oriented anthropologists are skeptical about the lack of an autonomous role for culture or human agency in the process of the development of social systems. The Melanesian emphasis on egalitarianism, a rejection of hierarchy, concerns with controlling ritual rather than achieving secular power, and the tendency of men to dominate women and not each other are cultural factors that were posited to have kept Melanesian societies small in scale. The influence of Austronesian people, the arrival of sweet potatoes and the existence of some chiefly societies in Melanesia provide good opportunities to consider more subtle relationships between
environmental and cultural factors. An analysis of how egalitarianism and hierarchy work in Melanesia is certainly an ethnographic enterprise. A question to consider is what we can add to the existing literature on this topic. Is it possible, or worthwhile, to attempt to bridge the gaps between macro and micro approaches?

The participants agreed to re-title the session "Power, Egalitarianism and Hierarchy in Melanesia" and to move towards another informal session next year. We want to expand the number of participants and include archaeologists in the discussion. We also agreed to exchange ideas about developing a more precise focus via an e-mail discussion group in the interim.

Paula Brown Glick, 59 West 12th Street, New York, NY 10011-5827; e-mail <pblick@aol.com>
Hal Levine, Anthropology Department, Victoria University of Wellington, P.O. Box 600, Wellington, NEW Zealand; tel (04) 463-6132; e-mail <hal.levine@vuw.ac.nz>

Moanan (Polynesian) Concept and Practice of Ta and Va, "Time and Space"
Organizers: 'Okusitino Mahina (University of Auckland) and Tevita O. Ka'ili (University of Washington)

No report was submitted for this session. For information contact the organizers.

'Okusitino Mahina, University of Auckland, Private Bag 92019, Auckland, NEW ZEALAND; tel +64-9-373-7599 ext. 5188; fax + 64-9-373-7411; e-mail <o.mahina@auckland.ac.nz>
Tevita O. Ka'ili, Maui Community College, HHS Unit, 310 Ka'ahumanu Avenue, Kahului, Maui, HI 96732; tel (808) 669-2331; e-mail <tkaili@hawaii.edu>

Parenting and Childhood in the Pacific
Organizers: Eric Silverman (DePauw University) and Leslie Butt (University of Victoria)

This small session of eight participants chatted informally about our individual research interests in various aspects of Pacific parenting and childhood. Topics included: language, ethnicity, and socialization in Fiji; questions about the formal transmission of Kanak identity in elementary schools on New Caledonia; cognitive models for how children learn about rank, chiefs, and respectful behaviors on Samoa; the absence of "fatherhood" in Melanesian anthropology; and efforts by diasporic Tongans to teach their children a sense of belonging to their "homeland." We also discussed national policy issues in regard to children. We aspire to move forward to a Working Session in 2006, a goal that might require additional participants. Consequently, we encourage other members of the Association to offer their insights and data, and to join us in exploring this vital yet vastly under-studied aspect of contemporary and traditional Pacific social life.

Eric Silverman, Department of Anthropology & Sociology, 307 Asbury Hall, DePauw University, Greencastle, IN 46135 USA; tel (765) 658-4889; fax (765) 658-4799; e-mail <ERICS@depauw.edu>
Leslie Butt, Department of Pacific and Asian Studies, University of Victoria, Box 3045, STN CSC, Victoria, BC V8W 3P4, CANADA; e-mail <lbutt@uvic.ca>
Pacific Culture Areas Reconstructed, Rehabilitated, and Reclaimed
Organizer: Glenn Petersen (Baruch College, CUNY)

No report was submitted for this session. For information contact the organizer.

Glenn Petersen, Department of Sociology & Anthropology, Baruch College, CUNY, New York NY 10010, USA; e-mail <glennpetersen@baruch.cuny.edu>

VIII. NEW SESSION PROPOSED FOR 2006 ANNUAL MEETING

A Useable Past
Organizer: Jerry Sullivan (Collin County Community College)

Recently Regna Darnell has contended that the study of anthropology’s history provides anthropology with a useable past. Over the past several years ASAO has hosted sessions on an important book *(Sex and Temperament in Three Primitive Societies)* and important ethnographers associated with each other and with the region (Bateson, Benedict, Fortune and Mead). These sessions have proved both interesting and valuable, but they have necessarily also been deliberately limited in scope.

In this informal session we would like to pursue the notion of a useable past in some variable combination of either of two ways: the history of anthropology and the histories of those Oceanic peoples anthropologists have worked among, both broadly conceived. For further information please contact Jerry Sullivan as soon as possible. Those who join the session should submit abstracts or drafts of papers to the session organizer by **October 25**.

Jerry Sullivan, Department of Anthropology, Geology and Earth Sciences, Collin County Community College, 9700 Wade Boulevard, Frisco, TX 75034 USA; e-mail <Gsullivan@cccccd.edu>/<pakdjeri@earthlink.net>

IX. ARCHIVIST’S REPORT

By now you have all heard about the tragedy that befell the University of Hawai’i Library. A stroke of luck meant that two large boxes I received from Margaret Rodman were sitting in my living room, awaiting the Library pickup. One box contained meeting photos from 1972 to 1998, which are also available on the Website. (Viewing them may provoke some sobering thoughts about the passage of time.) The other contained quite a variety of correspondence, which I have sorted through with some care. These continue to wait for pickup.

I should note that even though the Library may not be open for some time, I am prepared until further notice to receive hard copy of appropriate material, sent to my mailing address as listed in the Directory. I know that electronic communication sometimes inhibits old-fashioned printed media, but certain items like correspondence affecting major Board decisions do belong in the archives.

Let me call your attention again to my new e-mail address. This is particularly important since, for reasons best known to Mike Lieber, I still have been unable to reconnect with ASAOnet. <ogane001@hawaii.rr.com>

*Gene Ogan*
X: OTHER CONFERENCES AND EVENTS

Third Asia Pacific Arts Forum (APAF): (Un)Masking: The Art of Disguise/Disclosure in Asia-Pacific Cultures, Taipei National University of the Arts, Taiwan, Oct. 6-17, 2005

Western civilization often perceives the world and constructs system of knowledge through binary oppositions—reason vs. insanity, reality vs. illusion, life vs. death. In quite different ways, many Asia-Pacific cultures see these pairs of seemingly incongruent concepts as co-existent, either as two sides of one essence or belonging to one great cycle. This is especially true in the context of rituals or religious rites, wherein the ability to maneuver freely between the normally antithetical states is considered as proof of owning extraordinary or supra-human power. As a result, in the action of entering and exiting these different states the concept of "masking/unmasking" becomes a powerful metaphor.

Mask enables people to cross the boundaries of gender, age and class to enact the role of the "other." The act of donning a mask does not necessarily mean disguise. Certain masks are believed to reveal the dark side of human nature. Furthermore, seen from a poststructuralist perspective, the notions of gender, class, ethnicity and skin color are all humanly constructed and hence can be seen as forms of social or ideological mask.

The Third Asia-Pacific Arts Forum will explore the ambivalent, chaotic, in-between, transitional nature and other possibilities between the notions of "masking" and "unmasking." Some specific subcategories include:

**Transformation and Impersonation - Role Play and Identity Subversion:** In Asia-Pacific rituals and performances, there are many traditions of appearance and identity transformation. One of the great examples is gender impersonation, a special form of transformation which reflects the gender politics of its times and often connotes erotic imagination between the spectators and performers. While the artificial beauty formulated in the tradition of female impersonation in theatres like Chinese Opera and Japanese Kabuki constitutes the aesthetic essence of certain Asian performing arts, in contemporary theatres however gender impersonation is often used to challenge taboos, subvert conventions and transgress preexistent boundaries.

**Political Camouflage - Between Masking and Unmasking:** Many Asia-Pacific countries share the experience of colonialism and/or autocratic rule. With censorship on thoughts and expression, political and social criticisms often have to take on forms of camouflage; in other words, artists often have to "mask" themselves in order to "unmask" the authorities. On the other hand, in commercialized democratic societies where market economy reigns supreme, the symbiotic relationship between politics and media leads to a great variety of camouflage practices by politicians in image and language and even ideology, a phenomenon urgently awaits artistic insights to expose its hypocritical nature.

**The Creative Power of Ambivalence - from Traditional Ritual to Avant-Garde Art:** In fertility rites or rituals related to, the boundaries between genders, ages and classes are temporarily suspended, resulting in an ambivalent state full of creative possibilities, what anthropologists call "liminal space" or "liminality." All phenomena with the in-between, transitional, becoming or transformational qualities of this creative chaos can be subjects of exploration.

**Contemporary Inspiration from Asia-Pacific Arts - Identity and Identification in the Context of Globalization:** With the globalization of cultural exchange and art marketing, how to strive for presence on the world stage while resisting the temptation of becoming commodities of the First World by maintaining cultural and aesthetic autonomy is a great task faced by all Asia-Pacific cultures. We need to think of ways to avoid being codified and pigeonholed, to preserve the possibilities of change, ambiguity and even subversion. The expressive strategies evolved from the above three subcategories can trace their origins to Asia-Pacific traditions of cultural practices and arts. What these expressive strategies mean to contemporary artists and how they can inspire in the context of globalization are also focuses of interest at the forum.
If interested, please send your abstract (approximately 300 words) by **April 15, 2005**. Also include your contact information and a brief biography page in length. You will be notified by May 15, 2005 if accepted, and the full paper (length 5000-8000 words in English, or 6000-10,000 in Chinese) is due August 31, 2005. Abstracts can be sent to:

Office of President Chiu Kun-liang, Ph.D., Convenor of Asia Pacific Arts Forum, Taipei National University of the Arts, 1 Hsueh-yuan Road, Peitou, Taipei 112, Taiwan Tel: +(886-2) 2896-1000 ext. 3650; Fax: +(886-2) 2893-8704E-mail: <apaf@apaf.tnua.edu.tw>

**Moving Masculinities: Crossing Regional and Historical Borders**, The Gender Relations Centre, Research School of Pacific and Asian Studies and the Faculties of Arts and Asian Studies, Australian National University, Canberra, Australia, Nov. 30-Dec. 2, 2005.

This conference aims to encourage interdisciplinary dialogue on masculinities across regional borders and historical epochs, attempting to describe, understand and explain their diverse and changing forms, with particular reference to Australia, New Zealand, Asia and the Pacific. Some questions to be explored include: (1) How have masculinities changed and what forces have shaped historical transformations?; (2) Are current theories of masculinity unduly influenced by European and American models of masculinity?; (3) What are the contours of indigenous and settler masculinities in colonial and contemporary situations?; (4) How have hegemonic masculinities been challenged by alternative or queer masculinities and new configurations of sexuality?; (5) To what extent have localized masculinities been globalized through war, sport, and electronic media?

If you are interested in giving a paper, please submit a title with an abstract of c. 300 words to:

<Richard.Eves@anu.edu.au> or <Jodi.Parvey@anu.edu.au> by **April 30, 2005**. We aim to review abstracts and confirm participation by June 30, 2005. A conference website will be posted during April 2005 with further information including registration details and costs.

**XI. ASAO WEBSITE MANAGER'S REPORT**

During the year I have updated the website as required to reflect session reports from the 2004 meeting in Salem, session announcements provided by the Newsletter Editors and Program Coordinator, and information concerning the 2005 meeting in Kaua‘i provided by the Local Arrangements Coordinator and Secretary-Treasurer. The pre-registration form and PISF application form for the Kaua‘i meeting were uploaded in PDF format.

The membership database has been modified periodically to reflect changes in membership and members' information. Additions have been made to the list of ASAO publications (following Board approval), with links to publisher or journal sites for ordering information. Employment opportunities relevant to the membership have been posted as they were drawn to my attention.

The archives have been updated to include all the newsletters in PDF format through the year 2003 (in compliance with the plan to add newsletters one year after their publication so that members maintain the benefit of having current newsletters that are unavailable to non-members). A photo album has been added to the archives with pictures from the Salem meeting.
The site has been averaging about thirty visits per day, which is about five more than last year. As always, I would be happy to hear from members of the Association regarding ways to improve the website, and would appreciate being informed of any errors, misspellings, or bizarre experiences you might have when visiting the site.

Alan Howard

XII. FROM THE SECRETARY-TREASURER

Financial Report for 2004

The beginning balance in the ASAO general fund on January 1, 2004, was $26,906.92; the ending balance on December 31, 2004, was $34,275.89. During the year, income totaled $22,999.44 and expenditures totaled only $15,650.47, but expenses for the September and December 2004 newsletters have not yet been submitted.

Annual Meeting Attendance, 1997-2005

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Note: The PISF awardees at the 2005 meeting included 14 students, so the total number of student-rate registrants (including unemployed members) was 44.

The average ASAO annual meeting attendance over the past years was 120 on the East Coast, 152 on the West Coast, and 179 in the Pacific.

A word of thanks from the retiring Secretary-Treasurer: I am proud and grateful to be a part of ASAO in a number of ways. If you would call to mind one of the images from Albert Wendt’s distinguished lecture—looking up at the inside of a fale’s large, thatched roof:

Imagine that each of the many cross beams or curved rafters, extending out from a central beam, represents a year, and in particular, a group of people working together during
that year. For each of the past ten years I have been part of the rotating group of individuals who serve as members of the board of directors and officers and committee members of our association. Session organizers are also key members of this yearly team, not only proposing the themes to be addressed but also helping set the tone for interaction. Each person plays a role in keeping the organization going, defining its direction, helping to create the annual meetings and addressing each year's unique challenges, supporting the publications series, and so on. Some individuals are more visible than others, but doing all this is very much a group effort—which makes it all possible, and so rewarding. Thank you to all those with whom I've worked so closely over the years; I've learned so much from you.

The central beam, uniting all the rafters, represents the association over time. I am proud and grateful to be part of the ongoing lineage of ASAO—particularly as someone who worked with the archives and thus became familiar with its history. I am happy to have had a particular role in carrying on and helping to fulfill and develop our predecessors' vision.

And the roof itself, with all its complexities, could be seen to represent the group as a whole. Every year at the meeting, and between meetings via ASAONET and other means of communication, ASAO members—professors and students alike—work together, exploring ideas, listening to each other, offering constructive suggestions, discovering new insights, and developing publications—not to mention getting to know each other and having fun! ASAO is so not about posturing or status: we don't even use our academic titles in the membership directory. Members actively encourage newcomers, mentor new session organizers, support meeting attendance of students, and contribute to the PISF to facilitate the participation of Pacific Islander scholars who might otherwise not be able to attend.

I am very proud to be a member of ASAO.

Jan Rensel

XIII. ASAO MONOGRAPH SERIES REPORT

On February 18, 2004 the monograph series editor opened a new account for the Monograph Series with a check from Michèle Dominy for $9362.02. The first ASAO monograph with the University of Pennsylvania Press in their Social Anthropology in Oceania Series was published in June 2004: *Women as Unseen Characters: Male Ritual in Papua New Guinea*, edited by Pascale Bonnemère. We received royalties from Penn in the amount of $142.38. ASAO contracted to pay Penn composition costs, which amounted to $1330.42. As of 12/20/04, including a small amount of interest, the Monograph Series had $8181.79. The editor, together with monograph series board (Bruce M. Knauft, Suzanne Falgout, Rena Lederman), revised the submission guidelines with the help of Alan Howard, the ASAO site manager. At the request of the editor, Alan also helped make the guidelines for readily accessible on the site. The monograph series board reviewed two prospectuses this year. In the first case, the series editor reviewed the manuscript as well. We decided this edited volume was not appropriate for UPP and made suggestions as to how the manuscript might be improved and where it might be more appropriately submitted. The board is seriously considering the second volume and is presently reviewing it. There were a number of interesting symposia at the 2005 meeting in Hawai‘i that will probably mature into volumes over the course of the next year and the monograph series board looks forward to reviewing them.

Jeannette Mageo

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