IN THIS ISSUE

I. From the Editor .................................................. p. 1
II. From the Chair .................................................. p. 2
III. Pacific Islands Scholars Fund .................................. p. 5
IV. From the Program Coordinator .............................. p. 6
V. 2013 ASAO Session Reports
   1. Special Sessions ............................................. p. 10
   2. Formal Symposia ........................................... p. 10
   3. Working Sessions ......................................... p. 11
   4. Informal Sessions ......................................... p. 18
   5. New Session Proposals .................................... p. 25
VI. Officer Reports
   1. Program Coordinator’s Annual Report ...................... p. 26
   2. Site Coordinator’s Report ................................ p. 26
   3. Distinguished Lecture Series Report ....................... p. 27
   4. Secretary’s Report ........................................ p. 27
   5. Membership Report ....................................... p. 28
   6. Newsletter Editor’s Report ................................ p. 29
   7. Archivist’s Report ........................................ p. 30
   8. Book Series Editor’s Report ............................... p. 30
   9. Treasurer’s Report ....................................... p. 31
  10. Web site Manager’s Report ................................ p. 32
VII. Recent Journals ................................................ p. 32
IX. Bibliographic Information ................................... p. 33
X. Honorary Fellow Nominee .................................... p. 33

I. FROM THE EDITOR

Welcome to the latest issue of the Newsletter. Thanks to everyone that could make the journey to San Antonio, it was truly a pleasure having folks in town.

For information on the next meeting in Hawai‘i, please see the site coordinator’s report.

Jamon Halvaksz
II. FROM THE CHAIR

I write to you from the chilly confines of my office here in New York City. The memory of the unseasonably warm and beautiful weather of San Antonio, as well as the always-seasonable scholarship and friendship found at the ASAO meetings, being one of the few things getting me through this long winter. The meandering San Antonio River provided a perfect backdrop for discussions about photography and anthropology, fieldwork, law and custom, masculinity and violence, natural history, sports, kinship, transcultural encounters, fashion and style, and many other compelling topics. The bars and cafes along the River Walk provided sites for continued scholarly discussions and for catching up with old friends and meeting new ones. I will perhaps sound a bit Pollyanna-like when I say that attending the ASAO meetings each year remind me why I became an anthropologist and make me optimistic about the future of our discipline, however, that is how it always makes me feel and this year was no exception. Additionally, this year’s meetings brought numerous scholars from outside of anthropology to the meetings and opened up some new avenues for discussion that were wonderful and that will, I hope, provide fertile ground for new sessions and collaborations.

The meetings were truly fantastic so I want to begin by thanking everyone who was involved in planning and organizing them.

Laura Zimmer-Tamakoshi and Mike Rynkiewich, Program Coordinator and Site Coordinator, deserve special thanks. As do Jamon Halvaksz and Jerry Jacka, our on site members who helped Laura and Mike with much of the pre-meeting logistical work. Both Laura and Mike will step down from their positions with ASAO this year. They have both worked incredibly hard for the organization and we owe them many thanks. Alex Mawyer has agreed to take over as Program Coordinator and Ryan Schram has agreed to take over as Site Coordinator. Mike’s last work for the ASAO has been to work with the King Kamehameha Hotel in Kona, Hawai‘i, to organize the 2014 meetings.

I also want to thank Roger Lohmann, Ping-Ann Addo, Judith Schachter, and Cato Berg, our out-going board members and officers. Roger was a wonderful ASAO chair and just finished his board term as outgoing chair, Ping-Ann is an outgoing board member, Judith is our outgoing PISF chair, and Cato is our outgoing secretary. Additionally, I want to thank several officers who have agreed to continue working with ASAO. Mary McCutcheon, our treasurer, and without whom nothing in the organization could happen, will stay with us, as will book room coordinator David Troolin, monograph series editor Rupert Stasch, and ASAO-net coordinator Mike Leiber. A hearty thank you to all of these wonderful ASAO members. I want to give a special thanks and acknowledge met to Jan Rensel, our archivist, and Alan Howard, our membership coordinator and our web page manager. They both give more than you can possibly imagine to ASAO and without them the organization would not flourish. Susanne Kuehling and Maria Lepowsky, two of our current board members, have agreed to co-chair the PISF committee this year. I am thrilled that they have taken on this important task and so pleased to be working with them both. Additionally, I would like to thank Lamont Lindstrom. Lamont coordinates our distinguished lecture each year and works with the journal Oceania to organize the publication of the lecture yearly. We owe him tremendous thanks for his work this past year and for organizing Professor Sahlins’ intriguing distinguished lecture.

We are pleased to welcome our newly elected board members Helen Lee and Carlos Mondragon. We welcome Jerry Jacka to the ASAO officer’s ranks as the new secretary for the organization and thank him for taking on this job. You can e-mail him about ASAO business at: asaosec@gmail.com. We also welcome Lisa Uperesa as the incoming chair of ASAO. When I leave you in February 2014, I will hand over the chairpersonship to Lisa and I thank her for that honor.
Finally, in terms of thanks, I want to thank outgoing ASA O chair Edvard Hviding. Edvard has been a truly exceptional leader for our organization. During a time when he was chairing his department as well as serving as the leader for the ESFO, he worked diligently to produce an excellent annual meeting and keep the behind-the-scenes board and officers’ world running smoothly. His careful thinking, always articulated with his subtle and hilarious sense of humor, made him a truly exceptional chair. I’m so pleased to continue to work with him in his board position as outgoing chair.

Next, I would like to make some announcements based on decisions made at our winter virtual board meeting.

We have voted to award Ross Gordon a GRIKPIC award for his project “Na vu ni era rai kila me baleta na ika vata na sasalu iso na koro va Nakasaleka” (The knowledge of Kadavu marine life of some Nakasaleka people). We were pleased to hold a special election to review Ross’ wonderful proposal.

We also voted to include four ASAO-session generated volumes as ASAO publications. We are pleased to include:

A special issue of Pacific Studies (33:2/3) titled “Genealogies: Articulating Indigenous Anthropology In/Of Oceania,” that arose from a series of ASAO sessions and that was edited by Ty Kawika Tengan, Rochelle Fonoti, and Tēvita ‘Ō. Ka‘ili. I would like to make mention of the fact that this is the first ASAO-session generated volume edited by and contributed to by all Pacific Island scholars.


A special issue of Pacific Studies (35:1/2) titled “Pacific Island Diaspora, Identity and Incorporation” that arose from a serious of ASAO sessions and that was edited by Jan Rensel and Alan Howard.


The ASAO board also voted to make some changes to the annual meetings. We hope that these add to the joyful atmosphere and the scholarly content of the upcoming meetings. First, we voted to add a slot in the program for “emerging issues” this will be an open slot that will be planned for but not formally planned along with the rest of the program. As the meeting time grows near, members are encouraged to contact Alex, the program chair, to discuss timely, topical issues that they might like to organize this session around. Alex is in charge of this new slot and in the coming months he will let us know what he has in mind more formally. Second, we have voted to change the time of the distinguished lecture. The convention has been to have it after dinner so that members can have a leisurely meal after the end of formal sessions. At the next meeting we will hold the lecture at 6 PM and then offer a cash bar and “heavy” snacks afterwards at a reception. This will allow for a more social atmosphere after the lecture. Finally, we have also voted to alter the format of the opening plenary. Historically the plenary has included officer’s reports and organizational business reports. This year we will make these reports available prior to the meetings so that we can focus the opening plenary away from the organization and towards what brings us all together: work with people from the Pacific. We will do this with a series of short presentations and special performances with the hope of making the opening of the conference as exciting as the rest of the conference.
I want to close this letter with some thoughts about ASAO.

ASAO came to be in March, 1967, two years before I was born. It all started with a meeting organized by Dr. Vern Carroll in Santa Cruz, California that brought together scholars to discuss “systems of adoption and fosterage in Polynesia, Micronesia, and Melanesia” (ASAO Newsletter 1). At the meeting the participants agreed that there was an intensification of social anthropological research in the Pacific but that the research was lacking the comparative aspects found in, for example, African social anthropology. People who worked on New Guinea were excluded from ASAO at its inception, as were linguists, archaeologists, and physical anthropologists. New Guinea research was excluded because it was seen to already have a comparative strategy and the three fields of anthropology were excluded because the questions they approached were not seen as sociological. The first newsletter, in addition to including this information, also has a section on “An Anthropologically Ideal Data Retrieval System”, the $30,000 Kodak Miracode System, what was basically a microfilm machine with an electronic indexing system capability.

Today, ASAO has a robust membership, many of whom work on New Guinea. Additionally, each of us holds in our hands daily small machines that cost less than 1/30th of the Kodak Miracode System and that hold space for more data that we can ever begin to imagine. Change is often good and the changes that have happened in ASAO over the past 45 years have brought us to the place we are in today. However, change is often difficult.

After the meetings this February, I sent a message to the past and present board members and officers asking them to take a couple of minutes to reflect on their experiences of this most recent meeting and of previous meetings and to provide me with a list of anything that they thought that we might consider changing, enhancing, or doing away with. The exact textual content of the message was:

“Could you each take a couple of minutes and reflect on your experience of the meetings this year and send a few lines about the highlights / lowlights and suggestions for minor or major adjustments for next year’s meetings? Several people approached Lisa, Edvard and I with suggestions and I want to create a list of possible things for our first “virtual” board meeting.”

This simple request set off a storm of e-mail that resulted in 48 messages. Some of the messages were wonderful, they said that the meetings seemed to go smoothly, some of the messages were compelling, they provided excellent suggestions from both long-time and newer members about new initiatives and potential major and minor changes, and some of the messages were wholly inappropriate and directed toward individuals who had taken a chance and voiced opinions about how ASAO might change for the better. I was stunned and appalled by the lack of consideration for the inclusion of divergent perspectives in some of the messages.

ASAO is an extraordinary organization that was founded and fostered by many of you. We are so lucky to have so many of the people who participated in the early days of the organization still as active participants. My request for suggestions for change were not about anything that our elders have done wrong. My request was based on suggestions given to me at the meetings and my own sense that we must change a bit in order to attract young and vibrant new members to the organization.

The world of scholarship is changing. Many people who conduct research in the Pacific Region, including most of the Pacific Islanders who work there, are not anthropologists. We have to work out how to include these new scholars in ASAO while retaining our commitment to the study of sociological questions. Additionally, much of the most interesting new work in the Pacific Region brings us together with colleagues from other disciplines to carry out joint projects configured around timely issues. We must figure out how to open our world to our
colleagues. Finally, questions about sovereignty as they relate to materials gathered during anthropological research are serious and timely. We must work with our colleagues from the Pacific Region to be at the forefront of conversations about return and repatriation. We must also work diligently to make sure that ASAO is a welcoming and productive place for our Pacific Islander colleagues more generally.

We must, as an organization, be able to have open, honest, and collegial conversations about change, inclusion, and the future. That is the way that we can carry this wonderful organization into the distant future with a robust and excited membership who care about ASAO as much as we all do.

*Paige West  
ASAO Chair

III. PACIFIC ISLANDS SCHOLARS FUND

PISF Travel Awards for 2013 Meetings

This year’s PISF Committee consisted of Michael Goldsmith as member at large, Ping-Ann Addo as member at large, Susanne Kuehling as representative of the Board, and myself, Judith Schachter, as chair. Our initial budget was $16,139.18 (with some increase at the start of 2013). This includes donations, membership allocations, a generous contribution from the Oshkosh Area Community Foundation’s Heaney Family Fund, and Bill Mitchell’s gift of royalties from *Clowning as Critical Practice*. As in previous years, when we made our decisions we also kept in mind the importance of carrying over funds into subsequent years.

We had nine applications for Travel Awards, about the same as last year but not as many as we would like. All completed applications came in on the new due date of October 1, which gave us a good amount of time to review the materials. Criteria include the applicant’s description of research interests and contribution to the session; the type of session; the strength of the session organizer(s) letters; the applicant’s previous history of funding; and, the number of PI scholars in one session requesting support. With these criteria as a guide, we were able to offer full support to five applicants and partial support to three more. In one case, we did not provide any support and encouraged the applicant to apply for a mini-grant either before or at the meetings in San Antonio.

Besides the travel funding, each recipient also received (from Board funds, not the PISF fund) $US200 toward accommodations, a year’s complimentary membership in ASAO, had her/his meeting registration fee covered, and was invited to the Board Luncheon on Thursday, February 7th.

Here is our list:

*Full funding*
Gonzaga Puas (FSM)--Law and Custom in Micronesia [working].
*Yvonne Aitu SuniaMafileo (Fiji/Rotuma)--Photographing Pacific Islanders [symposium].
David Lakisa (Samoa)--Contemporary Sporting Formations in Oceania [working].
*Laurence Edwards (RMI)--Law and Custom in Micronesia [working].
*Jeremy Dorovolomo (Solomon Islands)--Obesity and Health in the Pacific [working].

*Partial funding*
*Unaisi Nabobo-Baba (Fiji)--Sisters and Brothers [working].
Kirsten McGavin (PNG/NZ)--Reverse Mobilities [working].
*Tarisi Vunidilo (Fiji)--Naturalist Histories [working].
*Unfortunately, for various personal reasons, a number of recipients were not able to attend the meetings this year. We hope to see them at next year’s meetings in Hawai`i.
We are grateful to the Board for approving our “newbies” event. This was held at lunch on Friday, February 8th, and was open to all first-timers at the meetings. As was the case last year, conversations around the tables were lively, important questions about the ASAO were asked, and new ideas proposed.

The PISF will undergo some changes: I have resigned from the position of chair, and the Board will appoint a new chair. Susanne and Ping-Ann remain on the committee, and Maria Lepowsky will join them.

Judith Schachter, PISF Committee Chair

IV. FROM THE PROGRAM COORDINATOR
The 2013 meeting in San Antonio demonstrated the remarkable breadth of scholarly endeavor by our association’s members. I have gathered reports on all of these excellent sessions along with updated news and several early proposals for new sessions at the 2014 Kona meeting. All session organizers and participants should review guidelines and timetable here or on the ASAO web site. A condensed version of the timetable for session organizers and participants is included below. Please note an October 1 deadline for all “special” session or “special” events proposals in order that the board can review such proposals and select those that fit into and merit inclusion in the overall program. All such “special” session or event proposals should be sent through me as Program Coordinator first. Symposia organizers are also asked to note that it is no longer necessary to send the program coordinator first and last pages of finished drafts in order to prove that the papers have been written. Simply send the full drafts via email attachment (I do not need to print them out; merely look at them).

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, 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:

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 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.

**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 Program of the Annual Meeting as Informal Sessions.

**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:**
Submit the required information about your session to the Program Coordinator by the March
20, August 20, and November 1 deadlines. (See Timetable for Session Organizers and
Participants.)

- Assist any Pacific Islands scholars who are interested in applying for support from the
  Pacific Islands Scholars Fund. (See PISF Guidelines.)
- 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).
- 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.
- Send the Program Coordinator your contact information, and advise of any changes
  during the year.
- 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 Newsletter Editor before the March 20
  deadline.

RESPONSIBILITIES OF SESSION PARTICIPANTS:

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 (before the organizer’s
November 1 deadline) as to whether you will be able to attend the session in person.

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:

Alexander Mawyer, Assistant Professor, Department of Sociology and Anthropology, Lake
Forest College, Lake Forest, IL 60045, mawyer@lakeforest.edu, 847.735.5255.
# Timetable for Session Organizers and Participants:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Deadline</th>
<th>Informal Session</th>
<th>Working Session</th>
<th>Symposium</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>March 20</td>
<td><strong>To Program Coordinator:</strong> announcement of proposed session.</td>
<td><strong>To Program Coordinator:</strong> Report on informal session held at annual meeting; call for papers, deadlines, etc.</td>
<td><strong>To Program Coordinator:</strong> Report on working session held at annual meeting; next steps, deadlines, etc.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>August 20</td>
<td><strong>To Program Coordinator:</strong> Updated description of proposed session.</td>
<td><strong>To Program Coordinator:</strong> Updated description of session and call for papers, deadline reminders</td>
<td><strong>To Program Coordinator:</strong> Updated descriptions of session, deadline reminders, etc.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Before November 1</td>
<td>Participants submit abstracts to session organizers and send to other participants</td>
<td></td>
<td>Participants circulate drafts of papers to session organizers and other participants</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>November 1</td>
<td><strong>To Program Coordinator:</strong> Updated description of proposed session; list of people who have expressed interest, number expected to attend. Last chance to be scheduled in the program.</td>
<td><strong>To Program Coordinator:</strong> Names of participants, titles of papers, order of presentation; all abstracts; which papers will be read in absentia; how much time required.</td>
<td><strong>To Program Coordinator:</strong> Names of participants, titles of papers, order of presentation; attachments of finished papers; a list of which papers (if any) will be presented in absentia; how much time required.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
V. 2013 ASAO SESSION REPORTS

SPECIAL SESSIONS

Emerging Issues
Convener: Pat Townsend

At the opening plenary in San Antonio the ASAO board announced a session on Emerging Issues to fill an open slot on Saturday afternoon. The half dozen of us who persisted had a lively discussion of topics we’d like to see developed as sessions in the future. Think of them as informal sessions looking for potential organizers. All of us are over-committed or we would do this ourselves.

1. Human rights, “vigilante violence,” and cultural relativism. This was inspired by the article on the UN involvement in gender violence against accused witches in PNG appearing in the San Antonio newspaper on the very day of our session. “Vigilante violence” was in the headline.
2. Organized cultural exchanges within Asia and the Pacific, e.g. teaching of Japanese in a school in Port Moresby
3. Indigenous languages and urbanization, with special reference to what happens in the interaction between town and village in marriages between language groups
4. Theories of friendship in the Pacific i.e. horizontal egalitarian relationships, wantoks.
5. The social significance of “leapfrogging” development, IT in a wide range of settings in a less developed country, e.g. cellphones, GPS, computers in schools and hospitals

Patricia K. Townsend: <pkt@buffalo.edu>

Special Event in honor of Ali Pomponio
Organizer: Alan Howard

A special gathering honoring Ali Pomponio, who passed away on 19 June 2012, was held on Thursday evening, 7 February 2013. Ali was a faithful and extremely productive member of ASAO for many years. In addition to her scholarly contributions to multiple sessions, she served as chair of the association in 1992 and was a member of the GRIKPIC committee. The event in her memory attracted some 35 to 40 people, most of whom were friends of Ali. In homage to Ali’s vivacious nature, the theme was expressions of joy in cultural perspective. Alan Howard opened the event with a PowerPoint presentation showing expressions of joy in various cultures, followed by a slide show of photos of Ali presented by Laura Tamakoshi. Many of those attending then shared their favorite memories of Ali. Mike Lieber, Esther Lieber, Mary McCutcheon, and Michael French Smith provided musical accompaniment for a sing-along of joyful songs.

Alan Howard: <ahoward@hawaii.edu>

FORMAL SYMPOSIA

Photographing Pacific Islanders
Organizers: Kathryn Creely and Eric K. Silverman

We are pleased to report the success of our symposium! Eleven participants, authoring eight papers, and one discussant attended; two papers were presented in absentia. Over the past several years, we maintained a page at Google sites, where we uploaded a bibliography, session information, and the various iterations of the papers. (Pragmatically speaking, this is an
excellent way to organize a session.) We asked each participant to read all ten papers (which they could download at their convenience from the session Google page). We discussed each contribution according to pre-arranged thematic clusters during the symposium. For each paper, we asked participants to bring brief written comments on three issues: (i) what further work needs to be done in order to improve the internal, intellectual merits of the paper; (ii) what further work needs to be done in order for the paper to better fit, and also to strengthen, the thematic unity of the cluster; and (iii) what further work (e.g., cross-referencing) needs to be done in order better to create unity among the entire set of papers. At the end of the day, we benefitted from comments by our discussant, Stu Dawrs. Currently, we are exploring publication venues.

Eric K. Silverman, Department of American Studies, Wheelock College, 200 The Riverway, Boston, MA 02215, USA; <esilverman@wheelock.edu>; office tel.: 617-879-2423
Kathryn Creely, Melanesian Archive, Geisel Library 0175-R, 9500 Gilman Drive, University of California, La Jolla CA 92093-0175, USA; <kcreely@ucsd.edu>

WORKING SESSIONS

Contemporary Sporting Formations
Organizers: Fa’anofo Lisaclaire Uperesa and Tom Mountjoy

This year’s working session was a continuation of discussions starting back in 2010 concerning themes addressing contemporary sporting formations in the Pacific. Most of the participants had been part of the panel in recent meetings and we were privileged to have PISF recipient David Lakisa from Sydney presenting his research on Pacifica diaspora and rugby league in Australia. Seven papers were presented during the session, including two via Skype on topics ranging from the circulation of players and imaginaries, economies of mobility, development and contested identities. The scope of the session was broad, but given the lack of a wide-ranging overview of the salience of sporting practice in the Pacific today, the intention was to draw upon themes covering social, economic and political expression through sport, and some of the links that research in sport may usefully provide. The papers were pre-circulated and well developed with useful feedback and discussions involving interested observers contributing to a successful day from which the organizers hope to gather manuscripts shortly and present a proposal for the publication of a special issue on contemporary sporting formations. The sporting theme is not closed however, and the organizers wish to invite anyone interested in sport in the Pacific to get in touch for further information regarding future events.

Participants:
Domenica Gisella Calabrò (University of Messina), “The Māori Appropriation of Rugby and its Sociocultural and Political Implications”
Julien Clement (France), “The Shadows of the Show”
Christina Ting Kwauk (University of Minnesota), “To help my family: Samoan construction of sport for development”
David Lakisa (University of Technology Sydney), “Pacifica Diaspora in Australian Sport and Society: The changing face of Australian Sport”
Tom Mountjoy (University of Bergen), “Playing with knowledge: sport and the paradox of development in Solomon Islands”
Lisa Uperesa (University of Hawai‘i—Manoa), “Community Histories of Sport and the Political Economy of the ‘Polynesian Pipeline’”
Paige West (Columbia University and Barnard College), “‘Such a Site For Play, This Edge’: The circulation of fantasies and Papua New Guinea”
Ethnographic Presence: Fieldwork in Oceania c. 1965 to 1995
Organizers: William Heaney and Laura Zimmer-Tamakoshi

The working session was well-attended and generated much discussion among audience and participants. There were nine presenters and five in absentia. Participants focused primarily on their first fieldwork experiences during a period of time involving abrupt and critical changes in both the island Pacific countries we worked in and in anthropology, changes that affected the outcomes and directions our research took in our first and subsequent fieldwork. Numerous themes, contrasts and commonalities emerged, one in particular being how frequently we change or modify topics in the field as we learn what is important to our interlocutors or unexpected events dictate such changes. Another is how different the fieldwork experience is now in contrast to our past experiences when we had little or no contact with advisors and others outside the local communities we were immersed in. The group is planning to go on to a more advanced working session in 2014. We have been joined by Richard Feinberg (Kent State) who has agreed to be our discussant and to help us situate our individual papers in an introductory chapter and a larger discussion of a period of much change in the political and anthropological history of Oceania. While most of us continue to do field research and are to one degree or another tech savvy, we are looking for a second, younger discussant to write a contrasting conclusion from the perspective of someone who has begun his or her research more recently at a time when both ‘home’ and ‘our informants’ are a mobile phone call away and new theoretical perspectives and concerns shape research and ‘field’ methodologies. We also hope to attract further participants with field experience in Micronesia and Polynesia to help balance our large New Guinea contingent.

Those interested in joining our session as active participants should contact both organizers—myself and Bill—as soon as possible. Bill has produced a digital recording of our all-day session in San Antonio which will be invaluable to new participants. Full-length working papers of 20-25 double-spaced pages are due by August 1 so that they can be pre-circulated and commented upon by everyone in the session by October 15, and go through a revision and re-circulation process before the 2014 meeting. We are working on a new name for our session, something that will reflect more clearly what we hope to accomplish, such as Fieldwork on the Brink: Ethnographic fields and fieldwork in a changing Pacific, 1960-1985.

Participants:
Richard Scaglion (University of Pittsburgh), “Changing Topics in the Field”
Glenn Petersen (Baruch College and Graduate Center, City University of New York), “Led Astray by Too Much Kava”, paper presented by Laura Zimmer-Tamakoshi
William H. Heaney (University of Wisconsin, Oshkosh), “In Search of Our Ancestors: Rolling Back the Genealogy to Find Where We’re To”
Anton Ploeg (Radboud University, Nijmegen), “Into the Unknown”
Michael French Smith (Michael French Smith Consulting), “Longtaim Man: Thoughts on Writing and Reciprocity from Four Decades of Sporadic Research in Papua New Guinea”
Patricia K. Townsend (University of Buffalo) and William H. Townsend (Retired), “On the Fringe: First Fieldwork in the Upper Sepik, 1966-67”
Law and Custom in Micronesia
Organizer: Manuel Rauchholz

The full-day session was attended by 12-17 persons, most of who were actively engaged in a productive discussion of five pre-circulated papers (Chen, Farran, King, Puas, Rauchholz). Two participants (Edwards, Puas) were graciously sponsored through the PISF fund. Unfortunately, Mr. Edwards fell ill the day of his departure and was unable to attend the session in person. Dr. Farran’s paper was presented and discussed in absentia on short notice as well due to illness in the family. By the end of the session Michael Lieber, Michael Rynkiewich, Mary McCutcheon, Albrecht Schachter, Rebecca Hofmann and Rita Tsai expressed interest in writing a paper for the next session in 2014. We are working towards further contributions by Micronesians themselves and hope that meeting in Hawaii in 2014 will assist in promoting that cause.

The main goal of this working session has been to consider the relationship between law and custom/tradition from the first colonial administrations that introduced their legal concepts and implemented them in Micronesia up into the present interpretation of law and custom within the independent States of Micronesia such as the Republic of Palau (RP), The Federated States of Micronesia (FSM) and the Republic of the Marshall Islands (RMI). What these island nations have in common today, is that while they have incorporated US law into their own legal systems they have also – to varying degrees – included the respect and acknowledgement of their past traditions and customs into their legal codes and constitutions. The mix of senior and junior scholars from both anthropology and law and the resulting time span of nearly five decades of field work and research experience being covered promises for an overall well grounded diachronic and synchronic look at consistencies and changes in the understanding and the interpretation of law and custom in Micronesia.

It was decided to continue the session in 2014 as a working session to allow for the new participants written contributions (Michael Lieber, Michael Rynkiewich, Mary McCutcheon, Albrecht Schachter, Rebecca Hofmann). Please send statements of interest to Manuel Rauchholz.

Participants:
Sue Farran (Northumbria University), “A Pacific Perspective on Law and Custom in Micronesia”
Scott Garvey (Attorney at Law, FSM, together with Walberg Hadley).
Edward C. King (Attorney at Law, Former Chief Justice, Supreme Court of the Federated States of Micronesia), “Law and Custom in the Federated States of Micronesia”
Puas, Zag (PhD candidate, ANU), The FSM Legal System, Responses to US Influence
Manuel Rauchholz (University of Heidelberg) and Ben Enlet (Attorney at Law, FSM), “Áchemwir (adoption as a sibling) versus Mwúúmwú (adoption as a child) in Chuuk, Micronesia: A Case Study on the Interpretation of Law and Custom in an Adversary Court System”

Richard Scaglion (Professor, University of Pittsburgh): Discussant

Yuping Chen (National Taiwan Museum), “Western law, customary law, and the role of the State: Land issues in Palau”

Rita Tsai (University of Pittsburgh), “Customary concepts of adoption and their interaction with modern law in Pohnpei, FSM”

Current Justices from Micronesia.

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

Men, Masculinities, and Violence: The Contemporary Pacific in Historical Perspective
Organizers: Aletta Biersack, Margaret Jolly, Martha Macintyre

This was our second working session. The papers were more substantial and polished than last year’s papers, and they also dovetailed one with another. We had lively discussions throughout the day and at the close. We decided to submit revisions to the co-organizers by October 1st and to decide at that point whether to have a symposium at next year’s ASAO or to focus simply on publishing the papers. Overall there were eight texted and one untexted oral presentations, with discussions of all presentations. A tenth paper was circulated after the session. Papers submitted for the session were: Aletta Biersack, “Introduction”; Margaret Jolly, “Men of War, Men of Peace: Changing Masculinities in Vanuatu”; Laura Zimmer-Tamakoshi, “Inequality and Degenerate Masculinities”; Gina Koczberski and George Curry, “Migrant Lives and Changing Generational Values and Aspirations in West New Britain, PNG”;

Participants;
Manuel Rauchholz and Suzanna Tiapula, “Men, Masculinities, and Violence in Micronesia”

Thomas Mountjoy, “The Return of Muscular Christianity: Masculine Moralities at Work in Solomon Island Sport”

Geir Henning Presterudstuen and Dominik Schieder, “Bati as Bodily Work: Post-colonial Masculinities in Fiji”

Domenica Calabrô, “Observing Contemporary Formulations and Expressions of Maori Masculinity”

Christopher Little, “Raskals in Highlands, PNG”

Shu-Yuan Yang, “Christianity and the Transformation of Manhood among the Bugkalot (Ilongo) of Northern Luzon, Philippines”

Margaret Jolly (with input from Martha Macintyre and Aletta Biersack), “Discussion”

Aletta Biersack, Professor, Department of Anthropology, 308 Condon Hall, University of Oregon, Eugene, Oregon 97403-1218, USA; tel. +1 541-346-5110; <abiersac@uoregon.edu>

Martha Macintyre, Associate Professor and Editor, The Australian Journal of Anthropology, Room 308, Old Geology South Building School of Social and Political Sciences, University of Melbourne, Victoria, Australia 3010; ph: +61 (0)3 8344 9474 <marthaam@unimelb.edu.au>

Margaret Jolly, Professor of Anthropology, Gender and Cultural Studies and ARC Laureate Fellow, Australian National University, Acton ACT 2601, AUSTRALIA; +61 (0)2 6125 3150; <margaret.jolly@anu.edu.au>
Mimesis and Transcultural Encounters
Organizers: Jeannette Mageo and Elfriede Hermann

This second session aimed at the theorization and illustration of mimesis in the context of transcultural encounters. Several common themes continued to develop: (1) the importance of mimetic “conversations” in transcultural encounters; (2) the presence and signification through mimicry of specific perspectives of all parties involved; (3) the impact of history and power relationships on mimetic processes; (4) the existence of various layers of mimesis; (5) the relation between imagery and mimesis; (6) the significance of sensuality, emotionality, performativity and embodiment in mimetic processes; (7) mimesis as a mode in which to think simultaneously about similarity and difference; (8) the relevance of authorship, control and agency in mimesis; (9) the potential of mimesis for transculturation and cultural transformation. Not all of our participants could be present but six papers were presented and discussed. Our invited discussants Deborah Gewertz and Frederick Errington offered valuable and insightful comments. We hope to move onto a symposium next year. Participants so far include Roger Lohmann, Andrew Connelly, Joyce Hammond, Elfriede Hermann, Tate LeFevre, Jeannette Mageo, Tom Ryan, Sarina Pearson, Larry Carucci, Sergio Jarillo de la Torre, and Douglas Dalton. We plan to have our papers ready for pre-circulation by Oct 15, 2013. We are still open to new participants. People who would like to join us are kindly asked to contact Jeannette Mageo and Elfriede Hermann.

Jeannette Mageo <jmageo@wsu.edu>, Anthropology Department 664910, Washington State University, Pullman, Washington 99164-4910, USA;
Elfriede Hermann <Elfriede.Hermann@sowi.uni-goettingen.de>, Institut für Ethnologie, Universität Göttingen, Theaterplatz 15, 37073 Göttingen, Germany
Deborah Gewertz <dbgewertz@amherst.edu>, Amherst College, Amherst MA 01002, USA

Naming Systems and Naming Relations in Austronesia/Oceania
Organizers: Ku Kun-hui and Lamont Lindstrom

Names implicate a number of central issues of anthropological, linguistic, and philosophical concern and it is no surprise that our papers go in a variety of directions. Diversity is further enhanced by our different field sites. A strength of the session is that our case studies come from across the Austronesian language area from Madagascar, to Sarawak, Taiwan, Chuuk, Papua New Guinea, and Vanuatu. And although the set includes the non-Austronesian Mianmin system, one could hope that such breadth might provide comparative basis for Austronesian system and how this has developed, here and there.

Given our diversity, we think the best approach (used also in other ASAO sessions) is to gather papers into clusters, keeping in mind that papers will of course speak to more than one of these topics. Our initial suggestion is to form three clusters around three central topics: 1. Social Reproduction (how naming systems inform the constitution of local groups and personages from one generation to the next): Likely contributions here are Latham, Leblic, Lindstrom. 2. Identity and Personhood (how names both identify and get used by persons and groups in strategic social and political competition; how individuals rename themselves throughout their life cycles or to reposition themselves in significant ways): Bacalzo, Chen, Gardner, Janowski, Ku, MacPherson. 3. Global/Historical Impacts on Local Systems (how naming systems have responded to, and thus also record, historical events during the past several centuries): Marshall, Regnier, Fang.

Participants: Don Gardner (Mian, PNG), Kun-hui Ku (Paiwan, Taiwan), Isabel Leblic (Paicî, New Caledonia), Lamont Lindstrom (name-sets everywhere), Mac Marshall (Namoluk, FSM), and Latham Wood (Aneityum, Vanuatu) shared working papers about names and nomination in a variety of Austronesian/Oceanic societies. We also discussed working papers by Doris Bacalzo
(Wampar, PNG), Wen-Te Chen (Puyuma, Taiwan), Monica Janowski (Kelabit, Sarawak) and Denis Regnier (Betsileo, Madagascar) who were unable to join us in San Antonio. Other interested folks joined the discussion and we thank them for their contributions. The group decided to promote itself to a Formal Symposium in 2014 and identified three cross-cutting interest clusters that we will particularly and collectively explore. Guided by ideas and input from session members, we will refine these clusters during the upcoming year. Naomi Macpherson (Bariai, PNG) and Chun-wei Fang (Bunun, Taiwan) have joined us and if others are interested in contributing a paper to our Formal Symposium, contact Ku or Lindstrom. Participants will circulate 8000 word papers before 20th Aug.

Ku Kun-hui, National Tsing Hua University, No. 101, Sec.II, Kuang-fu Rd. Hsin-chu, 30013 Taiwan; tel. 886-357242827, <kunhui.ku@gmail.com>
Lamont Lindstrom, University of Tulsa, Department of Anthropology, 800 South Tucker Drive, Tulsa OK, USA; ph: (918) 631-2348, <lamont-lindstrom@utulsa.edu>

Naturalist Histories: Making nature in Oceania
Organizers: Jamon Halvaksz and Joshua Bell

From early explorers to contemporary scientists, naturalists have examined island flora and fauna of Oceania. Sometimes focusing attention on the discovery of new species, but also carefully documenting the lives of animals, their work has been central to the wider image of Oceania (consider recent discoveries in the Foja Mountains of New Guinea). These ‘discoveries’ and exploratory moves have had profound local and global impacts. But often, local knowledge and communities are silent in the ethologies and histories that naturalists produce. This session will examine the ways that indigenous and non-indigenous naturalists have made island natures visible to a wider audience, their relationship with the communities where they work, as well as the unique natures that they explore and help make.

In staking out an area of naturalists histories, we invited contributors from a range of disciplines whose work might address the following questions: What is the relationship between naturalists and Oceanic communities? How have naturalists’ histories shaped place and practices in the past and present? How have their works influenced communities, conservations, and development projects? What is the relationship between scientific and indigenous knowledge? Whose natures are revealed, and alternatively concealed, in the final work?

During Working Session in San Antonio, we had more than 25 people attend what was very productive discussion of these and other questions. Circulated papers by Joshua Bell, Jamon Halvaksz, Edvard Hviding, Maria Lepowsky, Lamont Lindstrom, Carlos Mondragon, Richard Scaglion, and Paige West. Others expressed an interest in joining us as we move on to a Symposium during the next meeting. If you are interested, please contact both organizers as soon as possible. Completed papers will be due by October 15th in order to meet ASAO deadlines.

Jamon Halvaksz, Department of Anthropology, University of Texas at San Antonio, One UTSA Circle, San Antonio, TX 78249, USA; <jamon.halvaksz@utsa.edu>
Joshua A. Bell, Natural History Museum, Smithsonian Institution, PO Box 37012, Washington, D.C. 20013-7012, USA; <bellja@si.edu>

Obesity and Health in the Pacific
Organizers: Aunchalee Palmquist and Nancy Pollock

This year, our session on Obesity and Health in the Pacific graduated to a working session. Over the past two years, participants have been developing research questions and carrying
out various research projects, throughout the Pacific region, using innovative approaches to examine the complexities of body size and health within particular social, cultural, and historical contexts. As one of the most “obese” regions of the world, lessons learned from Pacific scholarship have the potential to advance global health research. We had 9 participants (including two in absentia) present summaries of papers based on ethnographic research and enjoyed discussions from several new participants with scholarly interest in topics that intersect with the session themes.

As a group we have decided to move to a symposium in 2014, where this will be an opportunity to refine our collective work and identify new directions for research and future collaboration. We have also decided to pursue publication in a peer-reviewed journal as a special thematic issue. Potential new participants with completed papers ready for publication whose topics fall within the scope of the session should contact the session organizers to be considered for inclusion as well. Current papers cover the following themes: globalization and modernity; global health policy and foreign aid; disentangling body size and disease; community centered public health education; resilience and well-being in health interventions; gender, sexuality, and body image; body size and health identity; illness experience; moral and social life of food and the body; child/adolescent obesity and food insecurity. Papers represent a range of theoretical perspectives and methodological approaches in anthropology and beyond. New papers that complement this body of work are welcome. We have requested that all participants submit a manuscript ready for publication to the organizers no later than May 15, 2013.

Participants:
Ofa Dewes (University of Auckland), “Obesogenic Environments in New Zealand: A call to action”
Jeremy Dorovolomo (University of the South Pacific), “Investigating the Fijian Child’s Day to Better Intervene in Obesogenic Environments”
Jessica Hardin (Brandeis University), “Mentalities and Priorities: Public Health Struggles with Health and Well-being Approaches to Body Size and Non-Communicable Diseases (NCDs) in Samoa”
Thomas Mountjoy (University of Bergen), “Obesity and Applied Anthropology: A Biocultural Perspective from Solomon Islands”
Aunchalee Palmquist (Elon University), “The Hands that Feed Us: Rethinking Obesity in the Context of Food Insecurity in Hawai’i”
Nancy Pollock (Victoria University of Wellington), “Themes in Nauruan Obesity Research in the last 20 years - Pacific orientations”
Susan Wurtzburg (University of Hawai’i-Manoa), “Body Image and Body Health: Samoan and Tongan Perspectives from Hawai’i”
Ashley Vaughn (University of Hawai’i-Manoa), “Sugar, Sorcery, and Sickness: Local Interpretations of Diabetes in Tautu, Vanuatu”

The Social Life of Rivers
Organizer: John Wagner

Rivers have rarely been the subject of ethnographic enquiry in Oceania despite their cultural and ecological significance and the fact that most Pacific Island scholars have fascinating
stories to tell about their personal experiences of rivers and other forms of fresh water. In this session we therefore hope to fill a gap in the ethnographic record but we are also finding that a focus on the social life of rivers enriches our understanding of culture in unexpected ways. Participants in our first working session addressed a variety of issues including: the symbolic opposition between saltwater and fresh water which can be especially prominent for coastal peoples; the legal, political, and economic struggles that arise over rivers as economic resources; the historical, symbolic and material relationships of rivers to the cultural identities of kin groups and communities; and the continuing importance of oral narratives that portray rivers as ‘spiritscapes’ that emerge, as primordial waters, through the actions of culture heroes or spirit beings. Several participants also noted the widespread metaphorical application of diverse notions of ‘flow’ and ‘blockage’ to ideas about health, intergenerational knowledge transfer, and the social relations among upstream, downstream, and cross-stream communities.

We were struck by the diversity of themes that emerged in our San Antonio session but we concluded that diversity would be our strength as we go forward to a symposium in 2014. We were especially gratified to have achieved some geographical as well as thematic diversity with papers from all Pacific Island regions (Melanesia, Polynesia, Micronesia). Although our primary focus is on rivers we welcome more papers that focus on other bodies of fresh water such as springs and aquifers.

Seven participants contributed papers during our 2013 session but three more have now submitted abstracts and we are still willing to consider additional participants as long as they can commit to the abstract and paper deadlines required for symposia. All abstracts must be submitted by August 15; papers must be submitted by October 28. Each participant will be asked to review and present someone else’s paper as part of an internal review process that will ideally allow us to move forward quickly after the session to publication.

Participants in 2013 who plan to continue with us in 2014 are Joshua Bell, Edvard Hviding, Jerry Jacka, Alexander Mawyer, Carlos Mondragón, Toon van Meijl and John Wagner. Additional participants for 2014 who have submitted abstracts are Eric Silverman, Eilin Torgersen, and Jeffery Wescott. We are still able to accept up to two additional participants.

John Wagner, Community, Culture and Global Studies, University of British Columbia Okanagan, Arts Building 273, 3333 University Way, Kelowna, BC, CANADA, V1V 1V7; tel. 250-762-9194; <john.wagner@ubc.ca>

INFORMAL SESSIONS

Adoption and Fosterage
Organizers: Judith Schachtner and Isabelle Leblic

We will move to a working session at the 2014 Meetings, under a new title: Circulation of Children in a Global Context. Fourteen people attended the session in 2013, and we developed several overarching themes, which will be the basis for papers to be delivered in a working session. All participants contributed ideas based on fieldwork and, in most cases, on long stays in an area of the Pacific; a few participants spoke as Pacific Islanders themselves. While the themes we summarize did not appear in all presentations, they do provide a unifying rubric for a working session. Themes included: Migration/circulation—we noted the importance of movements of people from rural to urban settings (e.g., Australia); from one island setting to another; from island to former or current “colonial” nation-state (e.g., French Polynesia and France); from islands under “western” influence to the western nation-state (e.g., Marshall Islands to the US). We pointed to the diverse reasons for circulating a child, including providing educational opportunities, addressing an economic need, forming kinship bonds, among others. Vocabulary/concepts—we discussed problems with the word “adoption” and with the
concept of traditional or customary adoption. Related to that are issues of what “child” means, in international documents, in local settings, and in global conversations. Attached to diverse notions of child are different interpretations of a child’s agency, ability to make decisions, and to choose placement. Law and custom—several participants focused on the difficulties of adjusting national and international legal systems to custom and vice versa. Principles borrowed from or imposed by the “west” complicate this relationship, and interpretations of “best interests of a child,” for instance, provoke controversy and uncertainty. Another theme involved the links among child exchange, gift exchange, and bridewealth—and the intersection of these exchanges within larger kinship systems. Finally, several presentations regarded the emotional and psychological dimensions of child circulation—the impact on the child of being transferred from biological to social parent; related to this, the significance of biology as not just a western notion (e.g., importance of blood in Micronesia).

We welcome new participants. Please send abstracts by May 1, 2013 to: Isabelle Leblic (leblic@vjf.cnrs.fr) and to Judith Schachter (jm1e@andrew.cmu.edu)

Judith Schachter, Department of History, Carnegie Mellon University, 5000 Forbes Avenue, Pittsburgh PA 15213-3890, USA; tel. 412-268-2880; <judithm@cmu.edu>
Isabelle Leblic, Ethnologue DR2 au CNRS-LACITO, Paris FRANCE; <leblic@vjf.cnrs.fr> 17

Buyers’ Remorse
Organizer: Cathy Pyrek

The session was very informal, with no written papers. Instead, the 17 attendees at the session discussed many pertinent themes: language loss, threats to identity, land loss, environmental concerns, economic and religious changes and challenges to long-held values that have resulted, engagement with outside influences and efforts at modernization. In part, the diffuse character of our discussion was attributed to the somewhat vague title, which evidently meant different things to different people. We agreed to hold another (more structured) informal session next year, with participants proposing papers addressing: the adoption of consumerism in the Pacific, the sense of loss (on the part of indigenous communities) that has resulted, and whether and what to do about it. New participants are welcome and should contact the organizer.

Attendees who have indicated an interest in continuing: Ping-Ann Addo, Elise Berman, Aletta Biersack, Terry Brown, Yaping Chen, Dominica Colobro, Frederick Errington, Rick Feinberg, Deborah Gewertz, Isabella Leblic, Roger Lohmann, Kirsten McGavin, Naomi McPherson, Melissa Moniz, Zag Puas, Cathy Pyrek, Rita Tsai, and John Wagner.

Cathy Pyrek, Department of Anthropology, Kent State University, Kent OH 44242, USA: tel. 512-669-9454, <cpyrek@kent>

Fabricating Fashion: Theorizing and Practicing the Ontology of Dress in the Pacific
Organizers: Bethany Edmunds, Rosanna Raymond, Paige West

We had a lively session with ten people in attendance (eight in person and two via skype). We discussed the relevance and use of fibre, bone, feathers, ink and textile arts in the Pacific and how they relate to ontology, fashion, and the body. As well as the contemporary context of garments and adornment, how they are cared for and displayed in museums, and how they can coexist within themselves as animated beings, objects in museum collections, contemporary street-wear, and on the catwalk.
Topics included "Pacific Fashion," the use of natural materials in fashion, the relationship between the designer, the wearer and the audience, how dress has changed over the past 30 years across the Pacific, the influence of US based design in the Pacific, how knowledge informs garment choice and design, The relationship between ontologically driven flocks and garments and other forms of artistic production (e.g. music, museum exhibitions, performance), The appropriation and commoditization of indigenous Pacific arts and images into European Fashion and the economics and politics of this appropriation and commoditization, The social consequences of these appropriations and commoditization of Pacific arts, and The “mash-up” of youth culture and how young people across the Pacific are connecting with each other through art and cultural production.

We are discussing how to move forward.

Bethany Edmunds, Youth Outreach Programmer, Auckland War Memorial Museum- Tamaki Paenga Hira, The Domain, Private Bag 92018, Victoria Street West, Auckland 1142, New Zealand, www.aucklandmuseum.com, M +64 21 988 164, P +64 9 309 0443 ext 7090, E <bedmunds@aucklandmuseum.com>

Rosanna Raymond, Artist, 12 Casino Ave, SE24 9PH, London, UK; M +44 793279881, <ro@sistarspacific.com>

Paige West, Department of Anthropology, Barnard College and Columbia University, 3009 Broadway, NY, NY 10027, USA; tel. 212-854-5933, <cw2031@columbia.edu>

Gathering with Pacific Islanders from San Antonio and Vicinity
Organizer: Aletta Biersack

The idea behind these annual gatherings is to incorporate Pacific Islanders living in the area of the meeting to help us know something of their everyday lives and to introduce them to the organization and its work. There was some interest in participating among members of halau hula and other Hawaiian ‘ohana groups in the San Antonio area. However, Saturday, the day the gathering was scheduled for, turned out to be the day that hula groups performed and no one from them participated. We were lucky to have the delightful Mrs. Melissa Leina’ala Ha’a Moniz, the founding head of the Kai ‘Ula Pono ‘i Texas Hawaiian Civic Club, as our guest for this occasion. Melissa has been living in San Antonio for the last seven years. She told us about her schooling as a young girl in the Hawaiian Islands, when she was separated from her family and taught formal table manners and had to wear white dresses with white socks and shoes. There was much that she had to say about growing up in Hawai‘i, being cut off from her cultural roots because of the assimilationist educational policies to which she was exposed, and her concern about the level of cultural accommodation and assimilation among Hawaiians living in the San Antonio area. She hinted at the racism to which she has been exposed on the U.S. mainland. The gathering included one of the Pacific Island Scholars and several other members and their family. We talked with Melissa through the break and were captivated by her and appreciative of her total honesty in everything she said. Melissa will help us next year identify Hawaiians living on the Big Island who might be willing to come to our gathering of Pacific Islanders there. We can look forward to another opportunity to meet and talk with Pacific Islanders about matters of concern to them at next year’s annual meeting.

Aletta Biersack, Department of Anthropology, University of Oregon, Eugene, Oregon 97403-1218, USA: <abiersac@uoregon.edu>; tel. 541-343-7623 and 541-346-5110.
Malinowski Centennial Symposium, 2015: Preliminary Planning Session and Expressions of Interest
Organizers: Michelle MacCarthy and Sergio Jarillo de la Torre

This session was designed as a preliminary opportunity for planning and discussion regarding the proposed symposium in 2015 to commemorate 100 years of Massim ethnography. There were no formal papers circulated or presented, but rather the time was used to discuss participation, possible session topics, logistics and possible avenues for funding. Present at the meeting were session organizer Michelle MacCarthy, Maria Lepowski, and Allan Darrah as individuals who plan to take part in the 2015 event; several other interested parties sat in for some or all of the meeting. A number of other participants were unable to attend the meetings in person, but sent in email expressions of interest. These included Mark Mosko, Martha Mcintyre, Jordan Haug, Susanne Kuehling, Jeff Kinch, Andrew Connelly, Gunter Senft and Harry Beran. The session co-organizer, Sergio Jarillo de la Torre, was unable to attend the meetings as he is presently undertaking fieldwork in the Trobriand Islands.

Going forward, we ask participants who have not yet done so to draft a session and/or paper abstract, and submit it to either Michelle (mmaccarthy@yahoo.com) or Sergio (sj323@cam.ac.uk) by August 15, 2013. For next year’s session, we would like to have as many people as possible present to further develop the symposium’s program in concrete terms, and to discuss practicalities and publication plans. Meanwhile, we are seeking funding for the symposium, and a small Engaged Anthropology Grant from Wenner-Gren has now been secured as a starting point to that end. Other possible avenues for funding were discussed in the meeting and will be followed up in the coming months.

Michelle MacCarthy, Department of Anthropology, Private Bag 92019, University of Auckland, Auckland 1142 NEW ZEALAND; tel. +6422 079 9037; <mmaccarthy@yahoo.com>
Sergio Jarillo de la Torre, Department of Social Anthropology, University of Cambridge, Darwin College, Silver Street CB3 9EU, Cambridge, UK; <sj323@cam.ac.uk>

Maternal and Reproductive Health in Oceania
Organizer: Naomi McPherson

In 2013 we were unable to reach the minimum number of participants and I had to cancel the session; however, Naomi McPherson, Phil Gibbs, Nancy Pollock and Chelsea Wentworth met very informally to discuss the topic and reconfirm the need to carry on with this issue. We are planning on continuing in Hawai’i 2014 as a working session to explore a number of issues affecting maternal/reproductive health in rural and urban areas: transportation and infrastructure; the MDGs; nuclear testing; contributing factors such as diabetes, malaria, STIs, HIVs and AIDS that impair women’s immune systems and impact on pregnancy, and delivery; issues of contemporary polygyny, single women and teen pregnancies; and, where are the men, husbands and fathers, in all this? Anyone interested in contributing, is welcome to do so; please contact the organizer, for due dates. Naomi.mcpherson@ubc.ca

Naomi McPherson; <naomi@emusoftware.ca>

Mobilities of Return
Organizers: Helen Lee and John Taylor

We had an excellent session in San Antonio with eight participants; four others were unable to attend including our co-convenor Jack Taylor. As with the original 2011 session (then called ‘Reverse Mobilities’) we had an excellent representation of regional geographic spread across the Pacific, this time also including Taiwan and Timor-Leste. The presentations and
discussions addressed different aspects of the flows of people 'back home' from previous rural-to-urban and diasporic movements and focused on both migrants and their children. There were strong themes linking the papers together including the linguistic and cultural disconnect often experienced with 'return', questions of forced and voluntary movement, reflexive questions concerning ‘culture’ and ideas of ‘home’, the importance of kinship obligations and family support across dispersed communities, gender differences in experiences of mobility, and class mobility.

We have decided to move ahead to a working session at the next conference with the aim of developing a special journal issue. To that end we now have a Dropbox folder, set up by Rachana Agerwal, which participants can use during this year to share drafts of papers and useful resources. Participants moving on to the working session include Rachana Agarwal, Maggie Cummings, Joe Esser, Alan Howard, Helen Lee Kirsten McGavin, Pyone Myat Thu Ryan Peseckas, Jan Rensel, Rachel Smith, Taomi Tapu-Qiliho, Jack Taylor, Susan Wurtzburg, Shuling Yeh, and Laura Zimmer-Tamakoshi. We aim to have papers pre-circulated by mid-January 2014.

New Food: Cultural Consequences of Dietary Change in the Pacific
Organizer: Ryan Schram

The New Food informal session, an all-day session, consisted of 13 presentations and a very lively discussion involving many other people who attended. The discussion touched on several interconnected problems and questions. The participants embraced the idea that food is both natural and cultural, as has objective and subjective dimensions, which makes food's place in human worlds especially problematic. We also acknowledged the corollary that the physical, cultural, political and economic effects of dietary and subsistence changes cannot be dissociated from each other.

Another key point was that there is no single, cross-culturally valid definition of a new food, nor any single objective measure of what constitutes dietary change. Instead these changes and innovations are always mediated culturally, and participants often discussed examples of change and innovation in relation to the local constructs of tradition and traditional diet, while still questioning these as well. Like the effects of diet, the salience of dietary changes themselves are embedded in many overlapping systems of value.

The paper topics ranged from introduced crops, imported foods, commodified forms of familiar foods, and new ways of thinking about, representing and valuing food, especially coming from different competing discourses of health, nutrition, and family. Many cases intersected in some way with the colonial encounter between Western and Pacific societies, and the phrase "dietary colonialism" was introduced. Many papers raised issues of how people manage the boundaries between categories of food, practices and people.

Ten participants volunteered to present papers next year, so at this time we are planning on moving forward to a working session in 2014. Questions about the session can be directed to the organizer Ryan Schram (University of Sydney).

New Food: Cultural Consequences of Dietary Change in the Pacific
Organizer: Ryan Schram

The New Food informal session, an all-day session, consisted of 13 presentations and a very lively discussion involving many other people who attended. The discussion touched on several interconnected problems and questions. The participants embraced the idea that food is both natural and cultural, as has objective and subjective dimensions, which makes food's place in human worlds especially problematic. We also acknowledged the corollary that the physical, cultural, political and economic effects of dietary and subsistence changes cannot be dissociated from each other.

Another key point was that there is no single, cross-culturally valid definition of a new food, nor any single objective measure of what constitutes dietary change. Instead these changes and innovations are always mediated culturally, and participants often discussed examples of change and innovation in relation to the local constructs of tradition and traditional diet, while still questioning these as well. Like the effects of diet, the salience of dietary changes themselves are embedded in many overlapping systems of value.

The paper topics ranged from introduced crops, imported foods, commodified forms of familiar foods, and new ways of thinking about, representing and valuing food, especially coming from different competing discourses of health, nutrition, and family. Many cases intersected in some way with the colonial encounter between Western and Pacific societies, and the phrase "dietary colonialism" was introduced. Many papers raised issues of how people manage the boundaries between categories of food, practices and people.

Ten participants volunteered to present papers next year, so at this time we are planning on moving forward to a working session in 2014. Questions about the session can be directed to the organizer Ryan Schram (University of Sydney).
The Pacific and Judaism  
Organizers: Terry Brown and Lynda Newland

"Judaism and the Pacific" met as an informal session in 2011 and 2012. Out of those sessions, papers were presented or formulated which were offered to the journal Oceania for a special issue. Oceania has tentatively agreed to a special issue on the topic in 2014 and papers are now being prepared. As only one member of the session was able to be present at ASAO in 2013, the session scheduled was cancelled.

Terry Brown, Anglican Church of Melanesia, Honiara, P.O. Box 1846, Honiara SOLOMON ISLANDS; <terrymalaita@yahoo.com> and <tmb@solomon.com.sb>  
Lynda Newland; <newlandlynda@gmail.com>

Sisters and Brothers: New Perspectives on Contemporary Siblingship in the Pacific  
Organizers: Mary Good and Simonne Pauwels

Our group continued as an informal session for the third and final year in a row, due to smaller numbers of confirmed participants. Our session builds on the foundation of the original work done by ASAO members on siblingship in Oceania. Significant new directions taken include explorations into the effects of transnational movement, divorce and adoption, and rural-urban migrations on sibling ties. We had a very successful session that included the presentation of research from three members who had circulated papers in advance, and the session ended with a roundtable discussion of common themes throughout the papers. Over the past three years of the session, we have had significant research contributions from the Polynesian and Melanesian regions. Following the discussion of common themes across all three years and after securing commitments from our previous participants who could not attend this year, we have decided to submit the collection of papers for consideration as a special journal issue in the coming months.

Mary K. Good, Department of Anthropology, Briggs Hall, Lawrence University, 711 E. Boldt Way, Appleton, WI 54911 USA; tel. (920) 832-7107; <mary.k.good@lawrence.edu>  
Simonne Pauwels, CREDO, Maison Asie Pacifique, 3 Place Victor Hugo, 13003 Marseille, FRANCE; tel. +33(0) 4 91 10 61 19; <simonne@pacific-credo.fr>

Small Islands in Peril or Under Pressure  
Organizers: Colin Filer and Simon Foale

The session (informal for the second time) had only 7 presenters but the papers were generally very interesting and well received by the large audience present, and there was a relatively high level of cohesion among them. Papers covered a good spread of political economy and political ecology, with climate change prominent among the themes, though this will not dominate the collection. Due to our satisfaction with the quality of the papers AND the quite large number of extra papers we are confident we can get firm commitments to have advanced drafts of by the end of the year, we are moving to a symposium next year. Themes include: Demography, Issues of carrying capacity & emigration (contemporary resettlement options); Reconfiguration of social relations and kinship; Isolation and connection (the culture of ‘difference’ between small and big islands); Biodiversity conservation (with focus on coral reef ecosystems); Anthropogenic landscapes; Climate change adaptation (climate frontline or canaries in the coalmine); Seasonal and longer (e.g. ENSO) cycles of change; Disaster risk reduction and disaster management strategies; Vernacular models; Bridging epistemologies; Motivation of local attitudes and responses. In addition to the participants below a number of additional papers have been provisionally committed or will be solicited including work on Lihir social-ecological assessment
(Colin and Simon); Tikopia as a social-ecological system (Simon & Matt Prebble); Sacred sites in the Marshall Islands (Ingrid Ahlgren); Climate change on Nauru (Nancy Pollock); Radiation poisoning on Marshall Islands (Nancy Pollock); Representations of climate change impacts on Carteret Islands (Colin); Climate change on Mortlock Islands (Bettina Beer/Anke Moesinger); and SMIPs in Langalanga Lagoon (Pei-Yi Guo). Target publisher is ANU E Press.

Participants:
Colin Filer, ‘SMIPS in Papua New Guinea: Are they all in the same boat?’
Nancy Lutkehaus, ‘Lives in limbo: The fate of living on a Pacific Island that’s a volcano’
Simon Foale, Martha Macintyre and Jeff Kinch: ‘The place of education in contemporary economic strategies of small island residents in Milne Bay, PNG’
Edward Hviding, ‘Pilot-fish Rock, or, how to live large on a small island’
Ross Gordon, ‘Tenure, taboo and totem: a troublesome trinity’
Rebecca Hofmann, ‘Islands in a sea of perils: Chuukese perceptions of nature in changing climates’
Carlos Mondragon, ‘Notes from a floating island. Agroforestry, marine tenure and sea level rise in Vanuatu’

Value in Motion: (E)motions of Exchange
Organizers: Susanne Kuehling and *Katharina Schneider

This session explores the construction and negotiation of value in a broad sense, including tangible and intangible valuables (objects, consumables, rituals, performances, and personnage, e.g. first-born children). We are interested in wisdoms and uncertainties, shifts in value from generation to generation, and the relations between monetary and non-monetary value. Papers are taking into account that value is mediated in an embodied and gendered way, causing emotions (e.g. the burden of fame, the shame of owing too much, the fear of envy and anger, the pride of giving). The production and reproduction of value, in our ethnographic case studies, speaks to shifting desires, (re)negotiations of systems of measurement, and modified outlooks into the future.

The 2013 session was Informal but the group decided to move on to a Working Session, expecting five-to-ten-page working papers (2000-3000 words) by Sept 1. While we are open to include more participants, we do require a paper for circulation within the group in September. Former participants who did not submit papers for the 2013 meeting are, of course, welcome to rejoin the group. The session will be renamed to mark the slightly revised focus: Value – objects, relations, and emotions.

Participants:
Ping-Ann Addo (University of Massachusetts, Boston, ping_anna@yahoo.com), “Mafana or Mamafa (warmth or weight)? Diasporic Tongans assess the Worth of their Gift-giving”
Susanne Kuehling (University of Regina, susanne.kuehling@gmail.com), “Kula: Motions and Emotions of Exchange”
Michelle MacCarthy (University of Bergen, mmaccarthy@yahoo.com), “The Value of Dance in the Trobriand Islands”
Naomi McPherson (University of British Columbia, naomi@emusoftware.ca), “Reproducing Elements of Value: The Firstborn and Exchange in Bariai, West New Britain”
NEW SESSION PROPOSALS

The Pacific Islands in the Digital Age
Organizers: Alan Howard and Geoffrey Hobbis

This session will provide an opportunity to explore ways in which the advent of digital media is affecting Pacific Island populations and the anthropologists who study them. For example, how has access to the Internet, the introduction of mobile phones, computers, video cameras and other digital media impacted social life in the islands? How have social media like Facebook affected relationships within diasporic communities? To what extent and in what ways do islanders use blogs, websites and other means of expressing themselves publically, and to what effect?

From the ethnographer’s perspective, how has access to digital media affected the research process? What technological innovations have been most significant for generating new kinds of data and for storing and processing information? What use can be made of items posted on the Internet and what are the ethical issues that might be involved? What use can be made of digitalized information and digital media to present ethnographic accounts in innovative ways?

We invite anyone who would like to participate in the session to contact us prior to September 1st. If you already have a case study you would like to share please send an abstract that can be circulated to other participants. If interested in participating, contact Alan Howard or Geoffrey Hobbis.

Friendship and Peer Relationships
Organizers: Jessica Hadin and Mary Good

While kinship is widely regarded as a classic domain of ethnographic research, other crucial relationships including friendships and peer-oriented relationships have received relatively less anthropological attention until recent decades. Relationships between peers, whether friends, colleagues, or trading partners, also have significant impact in the creation and maintenance of contemporary communities and publics. Friendships and other intimate relationships can be taken as overlapping the realm of kinship (in the case of relatives with whom close friendships are shared), but range more broadly to encompass forms of sociability extending beyond filial bonds. In the Pacific region, friendships and peer relationships have been a critical part of expanding linguistic and social networks, carrying out symbolic and economic trading activities, and building political connections. In recent years, many of these relationships have emerged as responses to global changes in expectations about aging, gender, and sociality as well as transformations in economic, urban, and educational contexts. Scholarship also suggests such relationships, under conditions or contexts of change, might develop in particularly globalized forms, including egalitarian friendship. In this informal session, we will
discuss various aspects of friendship and peer relationships, keeping in mind previous ASAO volumes on *Anthropology of Empathy* (Hollan & Throop) as well as recent work including *Intimate Strangers* (Smith), *The Ways of Friendship: Anthropological Perspectives* (Desai & Killick), and the *Anthropology of Friendship* (Bell & Coleman). If you are interested in participating, please contact Jessica Hardin or Mary Good with a brief description of your proposed contribution or an informal abstract.

Jessica Hardin, Department of Anthropology, Brandeis University; <jahardin@brandeis.edu>
Mary Good, Department of Anthropology, Lawrence University; <mkgood@email.arizona.edu>

VI. OFFICER REPORTS

1. PROGRAM COORDINATOR’S ANNUAL REPORT

At the end of the 2013 conference in San Antonio, I turned the program coordinator-ship over to Alex Mawyer. I would like to acknowledge Alex’s active shadowing of my activity over the year. He is a very personable individual and well prepared to take over. I’d like to thank my fellow officers and the board members who have readily stepped forward when needed to solve one or another issue over the past four years. This was especially so at the 2010 meeting in Alexandria when we had back-to-back snowstorms preventing participants from getting in on time (if at all) and requiring that I, Mike Rynkiewich, Kathy Creely and Mary McCutcheon redo the program *in situ*. This year the program included one symposium, nine working sessions, and ten informal sessions for a total of 20 sessions. This represents an increase from the 18 sessions at the 2012 meeting in Portland (the 2011 meeting in Honolulu had 22 and the 2010 meeting in snowy Alexandria had 16). This represents an overall climb in ASAO sessions as the previous four years had 15 in Santa Cruz (2009), 19 in Canberra (2008), 16 in Charlottesville (2007) and 20 in San Diego (2006). Finally, I am grateful to Jamon Halvakz for getting the formal programs and schedules printed out to time with my arrival in San Antonio and for being an attentive local site person providing us all with a list of local restaurants and attractions.

*Laura Zimmer-Tamakoshi*

*Former Program Coordinator*

I would like to take this opportunity to thank Laura and the other ASAO Officers and Board Members for many fine-tuned and wonderfully clarifying insights, suggestions and supports in taking on this position. I am looking forward to working with all of the members of the association to craft a memorably successful meeting in Kona. Please do not hesitate to reach out to me in the coming months if you have any questions that I might be in a position to answer about the program, or suggestions for the upcoming meeting’s program. In the meantime, emerging spring’s best.

*Alexander Mawyer,*

*Incoming Program Coordinator*

2. SITE COORDINATOR REPORT

The 2013 ASAO Annual Meeting was held at the St. Anthony Riverwalk Wyndham Hotel in San Antonio, Texas. By all reports, the meeting went well as the hotel staff was helpful and the nearby Riverwalk was full of restaurants.
The 2014 ASAO Annual Meeting will be held at the King Kamehameha Hotel in Kailua-Kona on the Big Island of Hawai‘i. The dates are February 5-8. Guest room rates are $135.00 for a double (plus tax). The hotel is situated on the beach, has 452 rooms, 16 meeting rooms, two restaurants, complimentary in-room internet, complimentary access to the fitness center, and is surrounded by bars and restaurants, not to mention the three S’s: sea, sand, and sun. Kona International Airport (KOA) at Keahole is 7 miles from Kailua-Kona. Information concerning booking guest rooms will follow in the next ASAO Newsletter.

Mike Rynkiewich
Site Coordinator

3. DISTINGUISHED LECTURE SERIES REPORT

Marshall Sahlins presented the 2013 ASAO Distinguished Lecture, an erudite and wide-ranging treatise on the significance of DIFFERENCE as a fundamental organizational principle within human society. We thank Professor Sahlins for joining us in San Antonio and we look forward to his lecture’s publication in the November issue of Oceania, continuing the Association’s agreement with that journal. After covering 2012 Distinguished Lecturer Polly Wiessner’s travel expenses, the Distinguished Lectureship account, as of 31 December 2012, totals $7622.11.

No expenditures were made this year from the Special Publications account and just over $7764.00 remains available to support future publication and also future Distinguished Lecturers. ASAO may cover travel expenses for Distinguished Lecturers, as needed, in addition to the modest honorarium that each currently receives.

Lamont Lindstrom

4. FROM THE SECRETARY

2012-2013 was my third year in the office of secretary. I have performed the usual routines of the office, and also worked on the considerable task of summarizing Board decisions 1996 and onwards. The latter task has proved more time consuming and challenging than suspected but will be successfully completed in the Spring of 2013. Hence this will be my individual contribution to the Office of the Secretary.

Routine tasks
1. Responded to inquiries from members and non-members
2. Prepared minutes from the 2012 meeting and opening and closing plenaries
3. Prepared draft minutes for review by board members and officers and an approved version for distribution and deposit in archives
4. Compiled copies of bylaws and minutes of past board meetings for distribution to new board members and officers*
5. Prepared certificate for presentation/mailing to newly elected honorary fellow
6. Invited and processed submission for recognition of edited volumes/special journal issues resulting from ASAO sessions as ASAO publications
7. Informed contributors to newly recognised ASAO publications of their change of status to fellow
8. Maintained file of board discussions and decisions (by email) between 2012 and 2013 meetings
9. Prepared draft summaries for review by board members and approved version for distribution and deposit in archives
10. Prepared agenda for 2011 board meeting
Special tasks
The above mentioned summary of Board decisions between 1996 and present which will be presented to the archives late Spring 2013

I will give my thanks to Chair Edvard Hviding, past Chair Roger Lohman, and Chair elect Paige West for advice and support this year and to other members of the board and officers that helped me with my inquiries. I wish to step down as Secretary this year but will remain for the following year as advisor for the new officer the Board finds for the position.

Respectfully,
Cato Berg

5. FROM THE MEMBERSHIP COORDINATOR

Membership statistics are as follows:

2009 ... 289
2010 ... 291
2011 ... 229

2012 ... prior to last year’s meeting the count of paid up members was 128
2012 ... following the meeting, as of Feb. 17, the count was 185 (inc. honorary fellows)

After sending personal renewal notices and invitations to rejoin from March 17 to April 4, 2012, the number of members increased to 314 (inc. hon fellows) as of May 7, 2012.

As of 28 January 2013 (inclusive of members paid up through 2012 and new members paid up through 2013, and honorary fellows) ... 341

Membership information is available on the ASAO Website at <http://www.asao.org/pacific/membership.htm> Payment of dues can be made by check, credit cards (using PayPal on the Internet), or by cash at the meeting. Three-year memberships are available at a discount. Pacific Islanders and honorary fellows are exempt from paying dues, while students, retirees, and unemployed members pay dues at substantially reduced rates.

I keep a database that includes contact information and designated area and topical interests, as well as a record of membership status. This information derives from the membership forms you should be sending me as e-mail attachments when you join or renew your membership. My e-mail address is ahoward@hawaii.edu.

If you move, change any of your addresses, etc., please let me know so that I can keep the database up to date. The database provides the newsletter editor with e-mail and postal addresses for distributing newsletters, so if you want to receive your newsletters on time it is important to keep me informed of changes in your contact information.

The database also serves as the basis for the ASAO online directory, which gets updated twice a year, around the beginning of March and in September. I ask for the membership’s patience in this regard because the time required to update individual information as forms are sent in would be prohibitive.

One other matter: As noted in the ASAO Bylaws, members are made fellows of the association on the basis of contributing to a board-approved publication or for serving as an officer or
board member. This is supposed to be noted in the database (and subsequently in the online directory). Fellow status has not been updated since 2005, and I have made an effort to check publications and the list of past officers in order to bring this aspect of the database up to date. After I have updated the online directory (in early March) please let me know if you should be listed as a fellow and are not yet listed as such.

Alan Howard
Membership Coordinator

6. FROM THE NEWSLETTER EDITOR

My thanks to the board and officers for continued support, with special thanks to Alan Howard and Laura Tamakoshi in the editing and distribution of each issue.

Thanks to Lamont Lindstrom, who while cleaning out his office sent me ASAO issues going back to the 1970s. The same month a new subscriber requested all of our archived issues if available. We have a number of backorders and subscribers that want issues going back 10-20 years. These haven’t been completely resolved in terms of payment. But there is a question of if we in fact want to fulfill such requests. My sense is that if we have the issues at hand, this is not a problem. But when we have to print new ones, we should not.

Under Alan’s direction, the number of newsletters sent grew substantially. Below, I have included last year’s data with this years for comparison

Summary of issues sent in 2011 and associated costs

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>April</th>
<th>September</th>
<th>December</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Pages</td>
<td>35 pages</td>
<td>21 pages</td>
<td>30 pages</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Print copies sent</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>48</td>
<td>46</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Electronic copies</td>
<td>197</td>
<td>220</td>
<td>207</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Costs

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>April</th>
<th>September</th>
<th>December</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Photocopies and supplies</td>
<td>198.88</td>
<td>145.70</td>
<td>195.95</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Postage</td>
<td>130.40</td>
<td>103.55</td>
<td>104.62</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total costs</strong></td>
<td><strong>329.28</strong></td>
<td><strong>249.25</strong></td>
<td><strong>300.57</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Cost per printed newsletter</strong></td>
<td><strong>9.68</strong>*</td>
<td><strong>5.19</strong></td>
<td><strong>6.53</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*April includes cost of new letterhead and a reduced rate for printing as the printer messed up the order.

Summary of issues sent in 2012 and associated costs

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>April</th>
<th>September</th>
<th>December</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Pages</td>
<td>43 pages*</td>
<td>25 pages</td>
<td>26 pages</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Print copies sent</td>
<td>46</td>
<td>56</td>
<td>63</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Electronic copies</td>
<td>236</td>
<td>292</td>
<td>300</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Costs

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>April</th>
<th>September</th>
<th>December</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Photocopies and supplies</td>
<td>208.99</td>
<td>160.28</td>
<td>158.80</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Postage</td>
<td>114.03</td>
<td>109.00</td>
<td>112.56</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total costs</strong></td>
<td><strong>232.02</strong></td>
<td><strong>269.28</strong></td>
<td><strong>271.36</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Cost per printed newsletter</strong></td>
<td><strong>5.05</strong></td>
<td><strong>4.81</strong></td>
<td><strong>4.31</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
This year, the average cost per issue was $4.68. The average cost per page was 5 cents. We always order 5 extra copies in case we miss someone; so that cost is folded into the total. Supply purchases also vary. For example, in December 2012 there was no need to purchase envelopes. Large print orders also lead to lower average cost as the initial set up charges become less significant per issue.

Costs per issue vary by location as well. For the December issue, postage for various locations was as follows:

- PNG: 3.23
- Australia and New Zealand: 3.31
- Europe: 3.31
- Canada: 1.80
- US: 1.30

Jamon Halvaksz

7. ARCHIVIST’S REPORT

In January 2012, with the ASAO Board’s approval, I created an online site to archive electronic versions of important ASAO documents generated since 2002, particularly those that ASAO Board members and officers might have need to consult on a regular basis. These include past board meeting agenda and minutes, officers’ reports and lists of responsibilities, and organizational documents such as the articles of incorporation and bylaws.

The association’s physical archives are housed in the Pacific Collection, Hamilton Library, University of Hawai‘i at Manoa, and include similar reports (up to 2002), as well as correspondence and other materials dating from ASAO’s founding in the late 1960s up through 2002. Access to the minutes and reports is open; access to the correspondence files requires board permission. For more information please contact me.

Jan Rensel

8. BOOK SERIES EDITOR’S REPORT

Volume 2 in our series with Berghahn, titled Christian Politics in Oceania and edited by Matt Tomlinson and Debra McDougall, appeared in hardback in November 2012. Volume 3, the monograph The Death of the Big Men and the Rise of the Big Shots: Custom and Conflict in East New Britain by Keir Martin’s monograph, is in proofs and should be out soon. Volume 4, Ping-Ann Addo’s Creating a Nation with Cloth: Women, Wealth, and Tradition in the Tongan Diaspora, has been announced for May 2013. The front cover, table of contents, and promotional information for each of these books can be viewed at www.berghahnbooks.com/series.php?pg=asao. Information about publishing in the series can be found at ASAO’s own website (under “Publications” and “Book Series”). Please feel free to email me directly with queries, whatever stage your work is in. We are very much seeking new submissions.

Rupert Stasch
BANK ACCOUNTS
We have two accounts in Wells Fargo Bank plus Lamont Lindstrom’s two accounts in the Tulsa Credit Union. Comparing our balances at the beginning and at the end of 2012 shows that 2012 was a good year for us. One reason is that there were, once again, several generous PISF donations. Another reason is that Alan Howard embarked on a very successful campaign to bring back old members and to promote three-year memberships. Seventy-nine people took advantage of this three-year option. While this has given us a windfall this year, we can expect that the next couple of years will see an apparent fall off of membership payments since 79 people will not have to pay again until 2015. We should continue to recruit, however, and see if we can keep up this precedent.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Jan 1, 2012</th>
<th>Jan 1, 2013</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Wells Fargo Checking</td>
<td>$21,867.11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wells Fargo Savings</td>
<td>$26,237.19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tulsa Credit Union</td>
<td>$7851.07</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wells Fargo Checking</td>
<td>$30,668.31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wells Fargo Savings</td>
<td>$26,287.77</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tulsa Credit Union</td>
<td>$7622.11</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

PACIFIC ISLAND SCHOLAR’S FUND
A component of our Wells Fargo checking account is designated for the Pacific Island Scholars Fund. The money that makes up this component comes from a) intentional donations, and b) an $8.00 per membership allocation
At the beginning of 2011, the PISF fund had a balance of $11,007.44.

Over the course of 2012, members donated $7651.99. It is always the case that some members make very large PISF donations and Bill Mitchell has turned over all of his royalties for his ASAO volume, Clowning as Critical Practice, to PISF.

The $8.00 per membership over the course of 2012, yielded an additional $2832.

The four PISF recipients for the Portland meetings in 2012 cost the fund $3892. So the balance for PISF at the beginning of 2013 was $17,599.43.

Grants that have been awarded and accepted for 2013 amount to $10,550. There will be a comfortable carry-over for next year especially since so far in 2013 we have received another generous donation from the Oshkosh Community Foundation, thanks to our member, Bill Heaney.

BIG EXPENSES 2012
Over the course of 2012 our biggest expense was the annual meeting in Portland. Though the meeting room rental was free, refreshments, two unexpectedly well-attended lunches and session technology needs cost us a total of $15,109.70.

Other major expense included reimbursements for PISF recipient hotel rooms and one night of hotel rooms for officers. This amounted to $1,130.00.

We supported a GRIKPIC project proposed by KenNehrbass and reimbursed him $708.99 for the distribution of his multi-language dictionary on Tanna Island, Vanuatu.

The newsletter during 2012 cost $1079.29, including buying a new supply of newsletter paper.
THANKS FOR REDUCING THE CASH FLOW PROBLEMS

I was grateful for the cooperation of the members last year by using the envelopes for cash and check payments. There was none of the usual cash flow chaos and I hope we can do it again this year.

Mary McCutcheon

10. WEB SITE MANAGER’S REPORT

During the year I updated the website as required to reflect session reports from the 2012 meeting in Portland, session announcements provided by the Newsletter Editor and Program Coordinator, and information concerning the 2013 meeting in San Antonio provided by the Program Coordinator and Site Coordinator. The PISF application forms for the San Antonio meeting were uploaded in PDF format. Employment opportunities relevant to the membership have been posted as they were drawn to my attention.

The archives on the website have been updated to include all the newsletters in PDF format through December 2011 (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 with pictures from the Portland meeting has been added to the archives.

An updated membership directory was uploaded to the website in April after renewal forms were received from members and ex-members. The plan is to update the directory twice a year, around the beginning of March and in September. I ask for the membership’s patience in this regard because the time required to update individual information as forms are sent in to the membership coordinator would be prohibitive.

The list of honorary fellows and Board-approved ASAO publications were uploaded when relevant information was received.

During January 2013 the website received an average of 100.7 visits per day with an average of 239 pages observed. Total number of visits for the month was 3,122, with 7,431 pages observed.

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

VII. RECENT JOURNALS

The Contemporary Pacific, Volume 25 (#1), is now available and contains the following articles and dialogue pieces:

ARTICLES

How Can Traditional Knowledge Best Be Regulated? Comparing a Proprietary Rights Approach with a Regulatory Toolbox Approach
by Miranda Forsyth

Looking Good: The Cultural Politics of the Island Dress for Young Women in Vanuatu
by Maggie Cummings
"I Guess They Didn’t Want Us Asking Too Many Questions": Reading American Empire in Guam
by Valerie Solar Woodward

RESOURCES

Pacific Research Protocols from the University of Otago
compiled and edited by Judy Bennett, Mark Brunton, Jenny Bryant-Tokalau, Faafetai Sopoaga, Naomi Weaver, and Gary Witte, with an introduction by Stuart Dawrs, 95

POLITICAL REVIEWS

Micronesia in Review: Issues and Events, 1 July 2011 to 30 June 2012
by David W Kupferman, Kelly G Marsh, Donald R Shuster, Tyrone J Taitano

Polynesia in Review: Issues and Events, 1 July 2011 to 30 June 2012
by Lorenz Gonschor, Hapakuke Pierre Leleivai, Margaret Mutu, Forrest Wade Young

To purchase any issue, or for subscriptions to The Contemporary Pacific, contact the Journals Department, University of Hawai‘i Press, 2840 Kolowalu Street, Honolulu HI 96822; tel 808/956-8833; http://www.uhpress.hawaii.edu/journals/cp/; e-mail uhpjourn@hawaii.edu. TCP issues from 2000 to present (volume 12 on) may also be accessed online (if your institution subscribes to Project MUSE): http://muse.jhu.edu/. Back issues through volume 22 (1) are freely available on ScholarSpace, the University of Hawai‘i Hamilton Library’s open-source institutional digital repository (http://scholarspace.manoa.hawaii.edu/handle/10125/2828).

IX. BIBLIOGRAPHIC INFORMATION


X. HONORARY FELLOW NOMINEES

The following nominee was elected to be ASAO Honorary Fellow via electronic survey.

We write to nominate Richard Scaglion for the position of ASAO Honorary Fellow. Many ASAO members know Rich both from his publications and his long-term involvement with the association. He has attended our meetings, contributed papers, and organized sessions for more than 35 years; he has served as a Board member; and he Chaired the organization in 1994-95.

The scope of Rich’s academic interests and influence is extraordinarily broad. Following an undergraduate major in mathematics (quite unusual for an anthropologist), Rich is one of the few contemporary socio-cultural anthropologists who has also published multiple professional articles in archaeology and in biological anthropology. The former have concerned materials from sites in the Eastern USA, the Caribbean, Costa Rica, Ecuador, and Colombia. The latter have focused upon fertility and birth seasonality and made good use of his mathematical background, as have some chapters he published on quantitative research methods. In addition, Rich has engaged serious issues in human ecology, history, and applied anthropology in his publications. While his primary research venue has been in Papua New Guinea, he also has conducted field studies with Native Americans (Omaha and Seminole), in Ecuador, in the urban metropolis of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, and most recently in urban Honolulu. Adding to his geographical areas of research, just last year he co-edited Polynesian Outliers: The State of the Art.
Growing out of his doctoral dissertation research on conflict management practices among the Abelam of PNG, Rich has become perhaps the leading legal anthropologist working in Oceania today. Even before his doctoral fieldwork he was involved in an applied anthropology project on police-community relations in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, and this subsequently led to publications in *Law & Society Review, Human Organization* and *Criminology*, several book chapters, and a co-authored volume titled *Police in Contradiction: The Evolution of the Police Function in Society*. Soon after completing his Ph.D. in 1976, Rich was appointed by the Papua New Guinea Law Reform Commission as Director of the Customary Law Development Project, which ran from 1979 to 1981. Three volumes that he edited were among the results of that project. Over the ensuing years he has continued to publish on everything from Papua New Guinea village courts to national and provincial legal planning to matters of domestic violence. Most recently he served as discussant for the ASAO Working Session on Law and Custom in Micronesia.

As a human ecologist with a long-standing interest in tropical shifting cultivators in Oceania and elsewhere, Rich has produced articles in *Behavior Science Research* and the *Journal of Anthropological Research*. He has given attention in his published work to Abelam yam cycles; and his interest in the spread of cultigens led to his involvement with South American ethnography and ethnobotany and prompted him to become a key player in the ASAO-inspired 2005 *Sweet Potato* volume, published jointly by Australian National University and Ethnology Monographs. Along with Leonard Plotnicov he co-edited *The Globalization of Food*, which first appeared as *Consequences of Cultivar Diffusion*. Rich Scaglion’s contributions to historical scholarship via anthropology are numerous, with chapters in *History and Ethnohistory in Papua New Guinea* (eds. D. Gewertz and E. L. Schieffelin), *Sepik Heritage: Tradition and Change in Papua New Guinea* (eds. N. Lutkehaus *et al.*), and *Colonial New Guinea: Anthropological Perspectives* (ed. N. McPherson). He also has authored historically oriented articles in *Ethnohistory* and in *Reviews in Anthropology*.

Richard Scaglion has published articles and reviews in such leading journals as the *American Anthropologist*, *American Ethnologist*, *Anthropos*, *Ethnology*, *Ethnos*, *Journal of Anthropological Research*, and *Man*. His work also has appeared in the major regional journals for the Pacific Islands, including *Anthropological Forum, the Journal of Pacific History, Journal of the Polynesian Society, Oceania, Pacific Affairs, Pacific Studies*, and *The Contemporary Pacific*. He has authored or edited half a dozen books, 45 book chapters, more than 30 journal articles, and 44 book reviews.

In addition to his writings and public presentations, Rich has done much important work behind the scenes. He has spent years on the editorial board of *Ethnology*, which has been a publication venue for many ASAO members. For approximately four years, he chaired the anthropology department at the University of Pittsburgh, and from 2009-2011 he was Director of Pittsburgh’s Asian Studies Center. Additionally, he has held visiting positions at such institutions as the University of Hawai‘i, ANU, and the Institute for Shipboard Education.

Rich has received numerous honors for his teaching and other work with students, ranging from a 1984 Chancellor’s Distinguished Teaching Award to a 2010 Provost’s Award for Excellence in Mentoring of doctoral students. At ASAO and elsewhere he has been a thoughtful, supportive colleague who consistently brings out the best in those around him. For these reasons and more, we urge members of ASAO to recognize Rich Scaglion as an Honorary Fellow.

—Rick Feinberg and Mac Marshall
The ASAO Newsletter is published three times yearly (April, September, December) and is a benefit of ASAO membership. For general members and fellows, membership may be paid annually (US$35) or once every three years (US$100). Student, retired and unemployed membership is US$20 annually or US$50 for three years. Institutional subscriptions are available for US$15 per calendar year. ISSN 1095-3000

ASAO Board

Past Chair  Edvard Hviding (University of Bergen) <edvard.hviding@sosantr.uib.no>
Chair  Paige West (Barnard College and Columbia University) <cw2031@columbia.edu>
Chair-Elect  Lisa Uperesa (University of Hawai’i) <lisa.uperesa@hawaii.edu>
Directors  Susanne Kuehling (University of Regina) <susanne.kuehling@uregina.ca>
         Maria Lepowsky (University of Wisconsin) <lepowsky@wisc.edu>
         Helen Lee (La Trobe University) <h.lee@latrobe.edu.au>
         Carlos Mondragon (El Colegio de Mexico) <cmongdragon@colmex.mx>

ASAO Officers

Newsletter Editor  Jamon Alex Halvaksz, II
 Department of Anthropology
 University of Texas at San Antonio
 San Antonio, Texas 78240 USA
 <jamon.halvaksz@utsa.edu>

Secretary  Jerry Jacka
 Department of Anthropology
 University of Texas at San Antonio
 San Antonio, Texas 78240 USA
 <asaosec@gmail.com>

Treasurer  Mary McCutcheon
 2115 North Rolfe St.
 Arlington, VA 22209 USA
 <mmccutch@gmu.edu>

Membership Coordinator  Alan Howard
 2499 Kapiolani Blvd. #1609
 Honolulu HI 96826 USA
 <alanhoward@hawaii.rr.com>

Program Coordinator  Alex Mawyer
 Dept of Sociology & Anthropology
 Lake Forest College
 555 N. Sheridan Road
 Lake Forest IL 60045 USA
 <mawyer@lakeforest.edu>

Annual Meetings Site Coordinator  Ryan Schram
 Anthropology, A26
 University of Sydney
 Sydney NSW 2006, Australia
 <ryan.schram@sydney.edu.au>

ASAO Archivist  Jan Rensel
 Center for Pacific Islands Studies
 University of Hawai’i – Manoa
 1890 East-West Road, Moore 210
 Honolulu, HI 96822
 <rensel@hawaii.edu>

Special Publications Editor  Lamont Lindstrom
 Department of Anthropology
 University of Tulsa
 Tulsa, OK 74104
 <lamont-lindstrom@utulsa.edu>

Book Series Editor  Rupert Stasch
 Department of Anthropology
 UCSD, Anthropology 0532
 9500 Gilman Dr.
 La Jolla, CA 92030-0532
 <rstasch@ucsd.edu>

Pacific Islands Scholars Fund  Judith Schachter
 Department of History
 Carnegie Mellon University
 Baker Hall 240
 Pittsburgh, PA 15213-3890
 <jm1e@andrew.cmu.edu>

ASAO Web site Manager  Alan Howard
 <alanhoward@hawaii.rr.com>

ASAONET  Mike Lieber
 <mdlieber@uic.edu>

ASAO Web site:  http://www.asao.org