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I. FROM THE EDITOR

Warm thanks to all who submitted session reports and proposals and other information by the April 1 deadline. The deadline for the next issue is September 1.

Enclosed with this Newsletter, voting members will find a **ballot** with the slate of candidates for **new ASAO Board members**. Please vote for two people, and return this ballot by **July 15** to ASAO Chair John Barker at either:

John Barker, Dept. of Anthropology and Sociology, The University of British Columbia, Vancouver BC V6T 1Z1, CANADA

-or-

John Barker, 708 Fieldston Road, Bellingham WA 98225 USA

Letters of nomination for ASAO Honorary Fellow are also invited (see "From the Chair," next page), and may be sent by **July 15** to John Barker at either address above, or faxed to him at UBC: 604/822-6161.

<p>Jan Rensel ASAO Newsletter Editor/ Secretary-Treasurer 2499 Kapi'olani Blvd. #2403 Honolulu HI 96826 USA tel 808/943-0836 fax 808/956-4893 email <rensel@hawaii.edu></p>
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II. 2001 ASAO ANNUAL MEETING SITE

**February 14-17, 2001
Miccosukee Resort, Miami, Florida**

The Miccosukee Resort has been selected as our 2001 meeting site. It is situated about 20 minutes from the Miami international airport, with complimentary shuttle service from and to the airport, and free parking. The Miccosukee is a brand-new casino resort owned by the Miccosukee Indians, and is located on the southeastern edge of the Everglades. (They offer Everglades excursions and also a tour to the nearby Miccosukee Indian Village and Museum.) We got such good rates during peak season because they are trying to attract new business. As I discovered, rates in south Florida this time of year are usually very high.

Guaranteed room rates for ASAO members are \$89 for single or double room, for up to 4 people per room (plus 8.75% tax). Each room has telephone, voice mail, modem hook-up, remote control cable TV/movies, mini-bar, coffee maker, hair dryer, robes & slippers, and in-room safe. If you would like to upgrade to a double parlor, which includes a kitchenette and separate sleeping room with two queen-size beds, the cost is \$109 to ASAO members. Non-smoking and Accessible rooms are available. The resort is completely self-contained. It has five restaurants to choose from. In addition, they offer guests a buffet breakfast for \$7.95 and buffet lunch and dinner for \$10, including taxes.

Our meeting rooms will be complimentary, and the catering options for coffee/tea breaks include some interesting veggie and fruit choices in addition to pastries. The registration area, book exhibit, and meeting sessions will all be located on the second floor near the ballroom. Meeting rooms all have separate entrances, although three of them are separated by removable dividers. A full range of audiovisual equipment is available (for various fees plus service charges), but we may also bring in our own equipment. There is a complete business center in the resort, plus a child-care center, fitness center, European spa and beauty center, gift shop, jewelry store and fine clothing boutique, in addition to a glitzy casino (!).

More details and hotel registration information will be included with the September ASAO Newsletter. *Judy Flores, ASAO Annual Meetings Site Coordinator*

III. FROM THE CHAIR

My thanks to everyone who attended the Vancouver meetings. Thanks for your intellectual energy, for your good cheer, and for bringing the wonderful weather. All of us were delighted by the record number of Honorary Fellows who attended and contributed so much to the sessions. A number of people worked hard to make the meetings a success, but special thanks go to Jan Rensel and Rick Feinberg, who performed small miracles of organization, to Cyril Belshaw (my nominee for ASAO entertainment and dining coordinator), to Patrick Kirch for giving the Distinguished Lecture, to Carol Mayer and the Museum of Anthropology for a wonderful tour, and to the friendly and helpful staff of the Chateau Granville hotel. It was a pleasure for me to show off a bit of my working digs. I look forward to seeing more ASAO members in Vancouver in future years.

Every year brings changes to the ASAO Board. The association owes a debt of gratitude to Michele Dominy (past Chair) and Paul Shankman (director, and member of the Pacific Islands Scholars Fund committee) for their many contributions. We are delighted that they are willing to give even more to the association as new officers (on which more below). We welcome Margaret Rodman (Chair-elect) and Larry Carucci (the Board's new representative on the PISF committee), along with returning Board member Cluny Macpherson (who is busy organizing wonderful things for our 2002 meeting in Auckland). Last but certainly not least, a bouquet of thanks to Laura Zimmer-Tamakoshi for her hard work as Chair. It has been said many times before, but as the new Chair I am immensely relieved that the Past Chair (particularly this Past Chair) will continue to serve as guide, mentor, and counsel.

There are a number of changes in the ranks of officers. Lamont Lindstrom will continue as Special Publications Editor; Jan Rensel as Secretary-Treasurer-Newsletter Editor; and Mike Lieber and Dan Jorgensen as ASAONET coordinators. Larry Mayo has generously agreed to step in as Program Coordinator for the Florida meetings while Rick Feinberg is on sabbatical.

We welcome Judy Flores as Annual Meetings Site Coordinator, and Paul Shankman who will continue to serve on the PISF committee, now officially as chair. We are pleased to announce that, as we enter the 21st century, the Board has recognized the growing importance of the ASAO website as a source of information about our organization and as a central point of linkage to other key sites dealing with Oceanic research. We are very happy that Alan Howard, who has informally served as the creator and shaper of the website, will be joining the ranks of ASAO officers as the ASAO's first webmaster.

As you will see below, Andrew Strathern and Pamela Stewart are announcing their retirements as Editor and Associate Editor of the ASAO Monograph Series. A decade ago, Andrew brought the series to the University of Pittsburgh Press and, with Pamela, has nurtured, guided, and enriched the series in countless ways. We are very grateful for this as well as their characteristically generous and professional commitment to see through the last three monographs submitted during their watch.

As most of you will by now know, we are in search of a new publisher for the series. A lively discussion of possibilities has already started on the ASAONET. I cannot stress how valuable discussion, suggestions, ideas, and contacts will be in the months ahead.

Michèle Dominy has agreed to the Board's request to serve as Monograph Series Editor for volumes subsequent to Volume 20 (which will be the last published by the University of Pittsburgh Press). Rena Lederman, Bruce Knauft, and Lin Poyer will serve as the new Editorial Board. We know that Michele will continue to build upon the strengths of this critical series as it moves to a new home. During this coming year, while Michele is on sabbatical, I will be coordinating the search for a new publisher and will begin the initial work, with the help of the Editorial Board, on any new manuscripts that may be submitted for consideration.

The ASAO Board requests nominations for ASAO Honorary Fellow, who should be a distinguished scholar in the field; we can have up to 15 at one time (we have 14 now). Nominations must include (1) a brief biography of the nominee; (2) a bibliography of major publications; (3) a justification. Nominations received up to July 15, 2000, will be considered by the Board, which will select one person, to be confirmed by ballot by the ASAO membership.

We have an exciting annual meeting shaping up in Miami for 2001. Our Distinguished Lecturer will be Mary Catherine Bateson, speaking on the centenary of her mother's birth. Finally I want to express thanks to four of our members who have agreed to stand for election to the Board: Unasa Felise Va'a (National University of Samoa), Joel Robbins (University of California - San Diego), Martha Macintyre (University of Melbourne), and Suzanne Falgout (University of Hawai'i - West O'ahu). Please vote! Ballots should be mailed to me by no later than July 15. You may send them either to my work address in Canada: Dept. of Anthropology and Sociology, The University of British Columbia, Vancouver BC V6T 1Z1, CANADA; or to my home address in the US: 708 Fieldston Rd., Bellingham WA 98225. *John Barker, ASAO Chair*

IV. ASAO MONOGRAPH SERIES UPDATE

ASAO Monograph number 18, *Identity Work: Constructing Pacific Identities*, is currently listed on Amazon.com and Jan Rensel is including a flyer for the volume with this Newsletter. Naomi McPherson's revised collection on Colonialism, tentatively scheduled for Monograph number 19, has been received and is being prepared for presentation to the University of Pittsburgh Press. We have been in contact with Sjoerd Jaarsma about his collection of papers on Repatriation and he expects to have them ready in May of this calendar year. His collection is tentatively scheduled as Monograph number 20 in the Series published with the University of Pittsburgh Press. With these volumes we will complete our work as Editor and Associate Editor with the Monograph Series. The University of Pittsburgh Press has also decided that it will not continue to publish the volumes in the Series after volume 20. In conjunction with the Board's decision to appoint a new Series Editor at the Vancouver meeting, the new Series Editor will thus have the opportunity to seek a new publishing relationship and to develop further the vision for the Series in the future. Future manuscripts, emanating out of the 2001 meeting and onward, should be submitted to the new Series Editor. Meanwhile, we want to thank the University of Pittsburgh Press for agreeing to work with us in order to publish volumes 19 and 20 as previously agreed. *Andrew Strathern, ASAO Monograph Series Editor and Pamela J. Stewart (Strathern), ASAO Monograph Series Associate Editor*

V. PACIFIC ISLANDS SCHOLARS FUND REPORT FOR 1999

This year's awardees were: Caroline Tupoulahi (Tonga), who was unable to attend; Nicole Santos (Guam), and Joakim Peter (Chuuk), McRose Elu (Torres Straits), and Unasa Dr. Felise Va'a (Samoa). Nicole Santos and Joakim Peter received travel grants.

The members of this year's PISF committee were Karen Nero, Cluny Macpherson, and Paul Shankman. Cluny served as a representative of the ASAO Board, and Karen as the ASAO member-at-large for a term of three years. Our warm thanks to both of them for their service. The new Board representative for this coming year will be Larry Carucci, and Lin Poyer has been appointed by the Board as the new member-at-large on the Committee. Paul Shankman has agreed to serve as the Committee chair.

This year we continued the transition to a system in which session organizers are primarily responsible for recruiting applicants to appropriate sessions, incorporating them into the sessions, and helping them with logistical arrangements to attend the meetings.

In addition to an allocation of \$4 per dues-paying member (\$1,432 in 1999), PISF is supported by member contributions, which totaled \$1,932.07 between December 1, 1998 and November 30, 1999. Individual donations ranged from just a few dollars and cents (as people rounded up their dues payments) to over \$100, including royalties checks for Pacific-related publications. Many thanks to all for your continuing support. (Remember that because ASAO is a 501(c)3 nonprofit corporation, your contributions are tax-deductible in the US.)

The objectives of PISF are:

- 1) To incorporate greater Pacific Islander perspective and voice in ASAO meetings, primarily in working sessions and symposia
- 2) To support and advance the professional development of junior Pacific Islander scholars.
- 3) To increase Pacific Islander membership in the Association
- 4) To increase Pacific Islander contributions and leadership in the Association.

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

Because ASAO meeting venues shift annually and PISF funds are limited we can maximize funding support by identifying PI scholars studying at institutions in close proximity to the meeting site in addition to bringing PI scholars from distant locales. Local area scholars who participate in ASAO sessions will be eligible for registration fee waivers ("mini-grants") simply through the request of the session organizer, by no later than the deadline for preregistration, or two weeks before the meeting.

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

The PISF application form is now available on the ASAO website or by request from Paul Shankman (see below). The application consists of the scholar's basic contact information; an economy round-trip airfare quote (for purposes of estimating award); and three letters: one from the applicant, one from the session organizer, and one from the applicant's supervisor (or colleague). Each letter should address the scholar's potential contributions to the session and how participation fits into the scholar's professional development.

2000-2001 Selection Guidelines

The committee selects individuals based on the following criteria/emphases:

- 1) We place priority on participation in Working Sessions; next on those in Symposia.
- 2) We prefer to fund younger scholars and graduate students who may have difficulty accessing institutional funds.
- 3) We try to achieve equal representation from throughout Oceania.

Request application forms from, or send completed applications and letters to:
Paul Shankman, Anthropology Department CB 233, University of Colorado, Boulder CO 80309
USA; fax 303/492-1871; email <paul.shankman@colorado.edu>

PISF APPLICATION DEADLINE: SEPTEMBER 1, 2000
PISF AWARD NOTIFICATION DATE: OCTOBER 1, 2000

VI. ON THE NATURE OF ASAO SESSIONS

As Program Coordinator for the 2000 meeting, I would like to thank all of the session organizers and participants. Because of your cooperation, understanding, and support, a potentially onerous job was, instead, a pleasure. For the most part, it appears that the meeting went smoothly, with a large number of stimulating and productive sessions. It has come to my attention, however, that there is some confusion about the structure of ASAO meetings and sequencing of sessions.

Contrary to the impression shared by a number of participants, external observers, and even a few long-time members, a session is *not* required to proceed through a rigid three-year cycle, moving from an informal gathering to a working session and formal symposium before going to publication as an ASAO Monograph. While that is how the prototypical ASAO colloquium develops, it is not mandated by the association. The objective of ASAO meetings is not to have three-year sequences, nor is it necessarily publication of monographs. The objective is to have an intellectually stimulating experience from which participants benefit by improving their knowledge and understanding of important issues and establishing collaborative relationships with colleagues who share their interests.

The conference format of most scholarly societies, where panelists meet, read papers, and promptly disband, is not conducive to the kind of intellectual development we seek. Historically, our members have found that the opportunity to explore a complex problem in depth over a number of years with the same group of people leads to a far more satisfying experience and tends to yield a more meaningful product. The “ASAO treatment” is what attracted many of us to the association and what keeps us coming back. But we should not confuse the means and the end.

In some instances a well-organized session may result in collective publication after meeting only once or twice. (ASAO Monograph No. 8 on *Siblingship*, edited by Mac Marshall, comes to mind as a prime example.) In other cases, a session may meet once or twice, experience a hiatus of a year or two, come back together, and then move on to publication. (The *Seafaring* volume, published in 1995 by Northern Illinois University Press, followed this model.) A session may also meet for several years at the same level, sometimes working its way to publication and sometimes not. We have had some extraordinarily useful informal and “special” sessions that were not intended to result in monographs, but which contributed in important ways to their participants’ professional development. (This is well illustrated by a series of sessions that Bob Franco organized, which were devoted to teaching Pacific Islands ethnography. Regionally-oriented gatherings to review recent work on Tonga, Samoa, and—most recently—the Federated States of Micronesia have also adopted this format.) Whether leading to joint publication or not, each of these sessions has been successful in its own way.

ASAO has always been amenable to a variety of models for session development. The three-year sequence of sessions at different levels is often useful for promoting quality ethnographic and theoretical insight; but it is only one option among several. A sufficiently well-organized and focused session may move quickly to publication. And it is acceptable to have a series of sessions, whether at the same or different levels, which may or may not lead toward publication. Whether or not a session results in an ASAO monograph is not the only measure of its success; and we have had many useful sessions that were never intended to involve publication in any form. Finally, if a member has an idea for a session that is likely to be of general interest to the association and does not fit neatly into the normal typology, “special sessions” may provide a viable option.

I am grateful to Larry Mayo for his willingness to stand in for me as Program Coordinator over the coming year, while I am in the field. I expect to be back on the job for the 2002 meeting and look forward to continued work with all of you. *Rick Feinberg*

VII. GUIDELINES FOR ASAO SESSION ORGANIZERS AND PARTICIPANTS

ASAO is characterized by social informality and collegial cooperation regardless of rank. At the same time, the rigorous examination of data and ideas in ASAO sessions is designed to lead to high quality, often publishable sets of comparative papers on topics of importance in Pacific anthropology. The format of ASAO sessions differs from those at many scholarly meetings where individual papers are presented. Instead, ASAO sessions feature the ongoing give-and-take required for penetrating intellectual examination of difficult, yet vital, issues.

ASAO sessions are of three types:

(A) INFORMAL SESSIONS involve the informal sharing of ideas to determine whether there is common ground for further inquiry. Anyone who has relevant data is welcome to attend and participate. If such sessions generate enough interest, participants make plans to develop and share lists of bibliographic references, draft and circulate papers, and discuss them (possibly via email) in preparation for the next stage (see below).

Informal Sessions are of two types. Impromptu Informal Sessions can be announced at the Opening Plenary Session of the annual meeting and posted on the bulletin board in the registration area during the meeting. These sessions do not have pre-arranged meeting locations but may meet in available conference rooms, participants' rooms, or local cafes. The second type of Informal Session may be announced at the prior year's meeting, proposed in the ASAO Newsletter or on ASAONET, or otherwise pre-arranged. *To appear in the full schedule of the annual meeting, which is published in the December Newsletter, announcements of Informal Sessions must be submitted to the Program Coordinator and the Newsletter Editor 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 precirculated abstracts or papers and, perhaps, be only one or two papers shy of meeting the criteria for a Working Session.

Thus time given to Informal Sessions will vary depending on the number of committed participants or people indicating an interest in the topic, and the level of organization of the session. Ordinarily, scheduled Informal Sessions will be given no more than three hours of meeting time, and most will receive only one and a half hours.

(B) WORKING SESSIONS are based on prepared papers that are briefly summarized (NOT READ) during the session. Abstracts, if not drafts of papers, must be **precirculated** 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 precirculated, 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.

(C) SYMPOSIA are sessions that normally have met at a lower level of organization at least once before. Papers must be **precirculated** 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 precirculated papers is required for full Symposium status. *A list of participants, paper titles, and copies of the first and last pages of their papers must be sent to the Program Coordinator by the **November 1** deadline (see Timetable).* Sessions that do not meet these criteria by the November 1 deadline will appear on the Program of the Annual Meeting as Informal Sessions or Working Sessions, according to their level of preparedness as judged by the Program Coordinator.

Responsibilities of Session Organizers:

- 1) Submit the required information about your session to the Program Coordinator and the Newsletter Editor by the **April 1**, **September 1**, and **November 1** deadlines. (See Timetable for Session Organizers and Participants.)
- 2) Assist any Pacific Islands scholars who are interested in applying for support from the Pacific Islands Scholars Fund. (See PISF Guidelines.)
- 3) Advise the Program Coordinator by no later than November 1 of any particular scheduling needs (e.g., late arrivals, early departures, or potential conflicts with other sessions).
- 4) Advise the Program Coordinator by November 1 of audio-visual or other special needs. The hotels are responsible for providing equipment for those with disabilities. In all other cases, however, the rental of equipment from hotels is quite expensive for ASAO. Session organizers should encourage their participants to make their own arrangements for costly equipment.
- 5) Send the Program Coordinator and the Newsletter Editor your contact information, and advise these persons of any changes during the year.
- 6) Plan to attend both the Opening Plenary and Closing Plenary Sessions at the annual meeting. All session organizers are expected to deliver a Closing Plenary Report on the results of their sessions and future plans. If the organizers cannot be present at the Closing Plenary, they should appoint one of the participants to deliver the report. A written copy of the report must be sent to the Newsletter Editor before the April 1 deadline.

Responsibilities of Session Participants:

- 1) Please respect the deadlines for your particular session and your session organizer's responsibility for meeting the overall deadlines (see Timetable, next page). Submit and circulate your abstracts and draft papers on time. Advise the organizer well in advance as to whether you will be able to attend the session in person.
- 2) Members should limit themselves to participation in **no more than two sessions**, preferably at different levels. In the past, problems have sometimes resulted from members participating in multiple sessions. For the ASAO format to work, contributors must give their sessions their undivided attention. Multiple participation creates scheduling conflicts which often disrupt sessions and distract contributors. If you must be in more than one session, please send the Program Coordinator a note indicating your priority. First priority in case of scheduling conflicts will go to session organizers and discussants. However, since ASAO sessions are lengthy and relatively few in number, there is no guarantee that scheduling conflicts can be avoided.

All correspondence to the Program Coordinator should be sent to:

Larry Mayo, Anthropology Program, DePaul University, 2320 N. Kenmore Ave., Chicago IL 60614-3298 USA; tel (o) 773/325-1851; fax 773-2325 7452; email <lmayo@wppost.depaul.edu>
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VIII. 2000 ANNUAL MEETING SESSION REPORTS

Symposium: Pacific Dreams

Organizer: Roger Ivar Lohmann (University of Wisconsin - Madison)

Roger Lohmann, Wolfgang Kempf & Elfriede Hermann, Joel Robbins, Bob Tonkinson, Jane Goodale, Sylvie Poirier, and Doug Hollan presented revised papers at our symposium. Pamela Stewart and Andrew Strathern, Florence Brunois, and Ian Keen were unable to attend, but are staying with the project. Among the central themes we discussed is the common apprehension that dreams are a means of transcending, of transforming, and of traveling. In different cultural settings, this potential of the dream experience and narrative is used to overcome the concerns at hand, be they limitations of wealth, power, human contact, or spatial freedom. We will be making one more set of revisions on our papers, and then seeking publication as an edited volume. We are fortunate that Waud Kracke has agreed to write a commentary on the papers as an afterword. Participants have committed to having **revised papers** to Roger Lohmann to assemble **by June 15**. More than one university press has expressed interest, and the volume is tentatively entitled "Dream Travelers of the Western Pacific: Sleep Experiences and Culture in Australian Aboriginal, Melanesian, and Indonesian Societies."

Roger Lohmann, Department of Anthropology, University of Wisconsin - Madison, 1180 Observatory Drive, 5240 Social Science Building, Madison WI 53706 USA; tel 608/280-0707 (h), email <rlohmann@students.wisc.edu>

Symposium: Repatriation of Field Material: Possibilities, Prospects, and Problems

Organizer: Sjoerd R. Jaarsma (Centre for Pacific and Asian Studies, Nijmegen University)

We met for the third and final time in Vancouver to discuss the repatriation of field materials. Attending the symposium were Dorothy and David Counts, Alan Howard, Kathy Creely, Suzanne Falgout, Amy Stillman, Keith and Anne Chambers, Nancy Guy, and myself. The consensus among the participants was that we had put together a near-finished manuscript in preparation for this year's meeting. It was decided to finalize the volume by adding a set of basic considerations that could be applied as a checklist to any future project involving the return of ethnographic field materials. The lively discussion that ensued took us back across most of the ground that we covered during the last few years. In the end we compiled a first draft of the list that will be worked out over the next few months. We also saw the need for a fitting name for the volume and decided unanimously to call it "Handle with Care: Engagement and Responsibility in the Return of Ethnographic Materials." The finished manuscript is expected to go to the editors of the ASAO Monograph Series by mid-June at the latest.

Sjoerd R. Jaarsma, Beethovenlaan 6, NL-1217 CJ Hilversum, THE NETHERLANDS; phone/fax: +31 35 6280866; email <sjaarsma@knoware.nl>

Symposium: Negotiated Space and the Construction of Community in the South Pacific

Organizer: Anne Allen (Indiana University Southeast)

The session met with Dan Shaw, Leslie Butt, Anne and Keith Chambers, Larry Carucci, Candy Vanderhoff, Anne Allen, and Naomi McPherson in attendance, and Wende Marshall and Eric Metzger represented in absentia. Participants summarized their papers and spoke to the connections between them. Although it was agreed that more work needed to be done, it was decided to proceed toward publication. To that end, Anne Allen will be revising the introduction to provide a clearer theoretical focus. This will be completed by June 1. Final rewrites from the authors will then be due August 15. During this time Anne will also work on the prospectus. The aim is to have the manuscript ready to submit for publication by the end of the year.

Anne Allen, Fine Arts Department, Indiana University Southeast, 4201 Grant Line Road, New Albany IN 47150-6405 USA; email <aeallen@ius.edu>

Working Session: Pacific Seascapes: Practical Knowledge of the Maritime Environment

Organizer: Gene Ammarell (Ohio University)

Although we had hope for more, the six papers that were presented at this session evoked a lively and thoughtful discussion among both participants and the several observers present. In the end, however, the small number of papers combined with an overly broad range of perspectives, from cognition to development, suggested that we were not ready to move ahead as a group at this time. Still enthusiastic about the topic, we decided to continue to stay in touch and to work toward coming together once again at the 2002 meeting in Auckland. On a personal note, I would like to thank all of the participants for their considerable contributions and welcome new participants to our ongoing conversation.

Gene Ammarell, Dept. of Sociology and Anthropology, Lindley Hall, Ohio University, Athens, OH 45701 USA; tel 740/593-1379, fax 740/593-1365; email <ammarell@ohio.edu>

Working Session: Anthropologists and Consultancy Issues

Organizers: Andrew J. Strathern and Pamela J. Stewart (both University of Pittsburgh), and Martha Macintyre (University of Melbourne)

Those who were able to attend profited from a discussion of the topics as outlined previously for the participants i.e., an exploration of the experience of consultancy work on the part of ethnographers and the ways in which consultancy influences the practice of ethnography. The topic is one that is timely and lends itself to development for publication so as to widen the circle of scholarly discussion and debate. The session will not go forward to a symposium level session at ASAO, but the organizers will work with the session participants and others to collect a set of papers for publication.

Pamela J. Stewart and Andrew J. Strathern, Dept. of Anthropology, University of Pittsburgh, 3H01 Forbes Quadrangle Building, Pittsburgh PA 15260 USA; tel 412/648-7519 (o), fax 412/648-7535, email <pamjan+@pitts.edu> or <strather+@pitt.edu> and Martha Macintyre, Centre for the Study of Health and Society, The University of Melbourne, Parkville, Victoria 3052 AUSTRALIA; tel +61-3-9344-0834, fax +61-3-9344-0824, email <m.macintyre@medicine.unimelb.edu.au>

Working Session: Transformations of Food and Drink

Organizers: Heather Young Leslie (University of Alberta) and Nancy Pollock (Victoria University - Wellington)

At this working session we discussed the seven preliminary papers which were presented as basic ideas. We agreed that we would elaborate them to fit around key ideas. Each author will work to have a **10-page (maximum) draft to be ready by the end of April**. Three further intending participants who had submitted abstracts were unable to join us at the last minute, including Dr. Caroline Fusimalohi, our Tongan discussant. We expect those people to offer papers. Two other people expressed interest during the meetings, but were unable to attend the session.

We identified three dimensions of transformations of food and drink, from which we agreed each author would select one as the focus of her/his paper:

(1) Food in conceptual thought where ideas of food for the body versus food for the mind will be addressed.

(2) Food as social relations, particularly as expressions of identity, and for identity maintenance.

(3) Food security and related to policy matters arising from the globalisation of food and the place of local foods in social systems.

We would welcome further offers of papers that fit one of these themes. Anyone with further ideas can contact either of the session organizers.

Nancy Pollock, Dept. of Anthropology, Victoria University, P. O. Box 600, Wellington, NEW ZEALAND; fax +64 4 463 5064; email <nancy.pollock@vuw.ac.nz> and Heather Young-Leslie, Dept. of Anthropology, Tory Bldg. 13-6, University of Alberta, Edmonton, AB T6G 2H4 CANADA; fax 780/492-5273; email <hyleslie@ualberta.ca>

Working Sessions: Historical and Contemporary Transformations in Pacific Island Exchange

Organizers: Paula Brown Glick and Maria Lepowsky (University of Wisconsin - Madison)

Discussant: Maurice Godelier (Ecole Des Hautes Etudes en Sciences Sociales, Paris)

We had a lively and well-attended program in Vancouver, as reported at the final session. The papers range from historical (precontact and early contact period exchange systems and changes) to contemporary (how modernization and monetization have affected exchange). Now we are taking stock and making plans for a symposium in 2001.

We are excited about the prospects for an advance in theory and studies of transformation of exchange in the Pacific, and would like to see all areas represented. There will be some changes in the composition of the symposium contributors, but these are not quite definite yet. Expected participants in 2001 include: Shankar Aswani & Peter Sheppard, Paula Brown, Maurice Godelier, Rena Lederman, Maria Lepowsky, John Liep, Martha Macintyre, Cluny Macpherson, Anton Ploeg, Andrew Strathern & Pamela Stewart Strathern, Eric Venbrux, and Polly Wiessner. Required for participants:

- Prepare a **draft paper** for circulation to all participants by **June 1**.
- Prepare and send **comments** on the papers to the authors by **August 1**.

(Maurice Godelier, whose discussions during the session were very full and stimulating, has promised to write up his comments and circulate them.)

- Prepare a **symposium paper** and circulate it to the organizers, discussant, and other participants by no later than **October 25**.

In their final symposium papers participants should incorporate or answer discussant's and others' comments and also discuss how their papers relate to other papers in the session.

Paula Brown Glick, 59 West 12th St., New York NY 10011-8527 USA; fax 212/242-1036; email <pblick@aol.com> and Maria Lepowsky, Department of Anthropology, University of Wisconsin - Madison, 1180 Observatory Drive, Madison WI 53706 USA; tel 608/262-2866; fax 608/265-4216; email <lepowsky@facstaff.wisc.edu>

Informal Session: Critical Ethnography in the Pacific

Organizers: Laurence Carucci (Montana State University) and Michèle Dominy (Bard College)

Members of the session precirculated five-page working drafts, and met as an advanced Informal Session in Vancouver. The session was well attended and several themes derived from the working drafts were discussed. Based on the discussions, the session organizers identified four themes as complementary foci for the papers next year. The sub-themes include: (1) Contra-Essentialism, (2) Ethnographic competence, (3a) Toward a re-disciplined anthropology (ethnographic practice), and (3b) Toward a re-disciplined anthropology (theoretical edges). Members of the session agreed to move toward an advanced Working Session in 2001. Based on comments on the drafts currently being circulated, participants are asked to resubmit **refashioned draft statements by April 15, 2000**. **Full papers** will then be circulated to the session organizers and all participants by **December 1, 2000**.

Laurence M. Carucci, Department of Sociology and Anthropology, Montana State University, Bozeman MT 59717-0238 USA, tel 406/994-5255 (w), fax 406/994-6879, email <lamaca@montana.edu>; Michèle D. Dominy, Anthropology Program, PO Box 5000, Bard College, Annandale-on-Hudson NY 12504-5000 USA, tel 914/758-7215, fax 914/758-7628, email <dominy@bard.edu>

Informal Session: Exploring Models of Collaboration for Anthropology and Community in Chuuk

Organizers: Joakim Peter (College of Micronesia - Chuuk) and James Nason (Burke Museum, University of Washington)

Nine people showed up and participated in the session. The first half of the session was led by Joakim Peter. A great deal of discussion time centered around the current cultural projects taken on by local Chuukese scholars and researchers at the Chuuk branch of the College of Micronesia-FSM system. The purpose was mainly to provide information about these projects for the anthropologists, for subsequent discussion on collaborative ideas. The second part was led by James Nason, who talked about current collaborative projects by anthropologists and Native American groups in the US and Canada.

The discussion on collaboration and support networking between anthropologists and local Chuukese researchers focused on educational issues and how to provide support for teaching cultures in curriculum development, etc.

There was general agreement to continue the discussions on two levels. First, the focus on Chuuk projects will be taken up in a separate forum since ASAO's next meeting (in Florida) will be more difficult for other Chuukese participants to attend. A follow-up meeting will then be taken back into ASAO's forum in form of a Working Session in the following year's meeting (2002 in Auckland). Second, interest was expressed in broadening the focus to a larger discussion on issues of collaboration and support networking between local researchers and anthropologists elsewhere in the Pacific. This idea would have to be taken up by more anthropologists and local researchers than Joakim Peter and James Nason in order to be a reality for the 2001 or 2002 meeting. The session organizers are open to your suggestions.

Joakim Peter, Chuuk Culture and Education Studies Program, College of Micronesia - Chuuk Campus, P. O. Box 879, Weno, Chuuk FM 96942; tel +691- 330-2689; fax +691-330-2740; email <jojo@mail.fm>; James D. Nason, Burke Museum, University of Washington, Box 353010, Seattle WA 98195 USA; tel 206/543-9680; fax 206/685-3039; email <jnason@u.washington.edu>

Informal Session: Short, Sweet and To the Point: Pacific Anthropology for General Audiences

Organizer: Ali Pomponio (St. Lawrence University)

We had a great turnout for our first effort to discuss common issues, themes, and experiences we all had in writing for different audiences beyond those in academe. Eighteen participants from within and outside of anthropology and academia joined the discussion. Two major themes emerged of interest to participants: (1) actually producing pieces which are ethnographically correct but aimed specifically at a nonacademic audience; and (2) the intellectual and pragmatic issues involved in writing for a general audience (e.g., for museum signage, popular magazines, children's publications, and other like genres). After much debate we decided to proceed to a Working Session next year, with participants choosing to write to one or both of these central issues. In addition, David Counts has agreed to be one of two discussants; the other to be contacted and chosen later in the year. All of us will write a piece of 500-2000 words which will be circulated before the meetings. There is a strict upward limit on words; shorter pieces will be acceptable where appropriate. Tentative deadlines are: **August 20th**: preliminary title and abstract, including theme addressed and target audience; **October 15th**: final title and first draft, to be distributed to all the members; **January 15th**: Comments on preliminary drafts sent individually to authors, with a copy to the session organizer. New members are welcome; please contact the session organizer, below.

Ali Pomponio, Anthropology Department, St. Lawrence University, Canton NY 13617 USA; office tel 315/229-5797; fax 315/229-5803; email <apomponio@stlawu.edu>

Informal Session: Reconsidering the Compacts of Free Association in Micronesia

Organizers: Ted Lowe (University of California - Los Angeles) and Jim Hess (University of California - Irvine)

Our informal session this year was attended by about 11 members of the ASAO. We began with a brief overview of the ongoing talks aimed at the renegotiation of the Compacts based on resources that have been released to the public by the US State Department and the US Office of Insular Affairs. After the briefing of the information concerning the current rounds of negotiations between the United States and the Republic of the Marshall Islands (RMI) and the Federated States of Micronesia (FSM) from the US side, we had a brief series of updates from Holly Barker, who works for the RMI embassy, and Jojo Peter who has spoken to members of the negotiating team from Chuuk in the FSM. After these presentations, the assembled group undertook a round-table discussion of issues surrounding the current compacts and issues of concern in the present round of talks. After covering several important issues of concern to policymakers and scholars alike (i.e., education, migration, and health and well-being under the compacts), we decided as a group to form a network of concerned friends of the Micronesian States. The purpose of this network will be to discuss issues surrounding the relationships between the Micronesian states and the United States and its territories, to organize informed responses to policy issues as they arise, and to serve as a information resource for those interested in the evolving relationship between the US and the Micronesian States. Upon leaving, we decided as a group to begin the network by establishing a list serve and a web site that could disseminate information on the network and its activities. These projects are currently underway. We plan to meet again as an informal session next year to update all those interested in the ongoing negotiations between the United States, the RMI and the FSM.

Ted Lowe, UCLA Sociobehavioral Research Group, NPI, 760 Westwood Plaza, Rm. C8-752, Los Angeles CA 90095-1759 USA; tel 310/794-4803 (o); 949/650-9337 (h); fax 310/825-9875; email <elowe@ucla.edu>; and Jim Hess, SSPB 4264, University of California - Irvine, Irvine CA 92697 USA; tel 949/824-4371 (o), 949/856-3213 (h), fax 949/824-4717; email <j2hess@uci.edu>

Informal Session: Social and Economic Transformations in Samoan Island and Continental Communities

Organizers: Penelope Schoeffel (University of Auckland) and Bob Franco (Kapi'olani Community College/University of Hawai'i)

The first session of the ASAO Samoa session was successful and well attended. We have given the session a new and shorter title: "Global Samoa." But our theme continues to be contemporary issues and cultural transformations in Samoan communities in Samoa, the "hub," and in "outer Samoa" in North America, Hawai'i, New Zealand, Australia, and in micro-communities of Samoans to be found all over the world. The scope is multidisciplinary, not exclusively anthropological, but the focus is on people and culture.

We will meet again next year in Miami for a working session. Leasiolagi Malama Meleisea has been invited to be the discussant. We understand that some of you may not be able to travel that far afield next year, but we would welcome draft papers from those of you who intend to participate in the final symposium, even if you can't make it to the 2001 working session.

If you intend to participate at the next session and/or Auckland in 2002 - and we extend a warm welcome if you would like to - **PLEASE SEND US AN ABSTRACT AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. Draft papers must be sent to us before November 1.** A draft should be at least 10 pages. Our ultimate aim is to publish a book; "Global Samoa" - an anthology of papers by Samoan and non Samoan scholars from around the world.

Pacific Scholars seeking support to attend the 2001 session should contact Paul Shankman as soon as possible for an application form (see Pacific Islands Scholars Fund report, p. ---). Let us know right away if you are applying so that we can write a letter of support. **The deadline for PISF applications is September 1.**

Topic for papers proposed so far are: Melani Anae: Ethnic and Cultural Identity in NZ; Unasa Felise Va'a: Samoans in Sydney; Paul Shankman: Samoan Identity in the Rockies, USA; Cluny Macpherson: Elaboration of Ceremonies in NZ Samoa; Martin Orans: Quantifying

fa'avelave; Tony Hooper: Enterprise development; Barbara McGrath: Culture and health (HIV, Diabetes); Serge Tcherkezoff: Political transformation; Eve Coxon and Peggy Fairbairn Dunlop: Samoan models of education; Anne Allen: Cultural items to cultural icons; Reevan Dolgoy: Identity-based fa'afafine groups; Sailiemanu Lilomaiava-Doktor: Samoan perceptions of the migrant experience; Bob Franco: International Samoan networks; Penelope Schoeffel and Malama Meleisea: Case study: Impact of emigration on a south Upolu village, 1976-1998; Ilana Gershon: Comparisons of Samoan representations of collective identity, NZ and USA; Hiro Narita: Japan Corporate Citizenship in Samoa: The case of Matai in the Yazaki Factory; Gerard Ward: The 20th century spread of Samoan peoples. Since the session another paper has been offered: Richard Moyle: Why the Taku (Mortlock Islanders) believe they came from Samoa.

And we are seeking further contributions related to the above topics and on the following topics - Language, language change, loss - Globalisation as a development strategy - Churches, religion - Material culture in overseas Samoa - Social Problems - Land, property and titles - Urbanisation - Environment - Politics, governance - Small overseas Samoan communities (small towns, Asia, Europe etc.) - Topics on American Samoa - Gender And there may be other topics we have overlooked, so we welcome further ideas and suggestions, but best of all ABSTRACTS!

Another proposal arising from our meeting was to establish an international network of scholars of Samoa, with a website and a "listserve," to facilitate communication and synergy between scholars of Samoa around the world. We will explore this possibility with the hope that we can link through the Institute of Samoan Studies at the National University of Samoa. We will keep you posted, and again request email addresses of people who may be interested. Fa'afetai tele lava to those who have participated so far, including those of you who just came to listen. Soifua.

Penelope Schoeffel, c/- Malama S. Meleisea, UNESCO, 920 Sukhumvit Road, Bangkok 10110 THAILAND; email <melsco@ksc.th.com> and Bob Franco, Kapi'olani Community College, 4303 Diamond Head Road, Honolulu HI 96818; tel 808/734-9438; fax 808/734-9828; email <bfranco@hawaii.edu>

Informal Session: New Healths and Old: Living the Health Transition in the Pacific

Organizer: Douglass Drozdow-St. Christian (University of Western Ontario) and Heather Young Leslie (University of Alberta)

First, Douglass would like to thank Heather Young Leslie for stepping into the breach and running the session. You are a true pal, Heather. We would also like to thank Stacy Pigg, editor at Medical Anthropology, for her suggestions and encouragement.

The session was well attended and the discussion various and lively. Several key themes have begun to emerge from the diverse ethnographic and theoretical grounds people brought to the discussion. Three in particular will serve as the frame around which the dialogue will continue:

1. A critical theoretical orientation towards health status change, one which seeks to advance knowledge of both historical and contemporary health in the Pacific, is needed to advance our understanding of these changes beyond those entailed by conventional health transition models. Any contribution Pacific anthropologists can make to the field of health status change needs to begin with a thoroughgoing critique of the models employed so far.
2. Medical anthropology demands an activist orientation, one which is grounded in ethnographic and participatory rigour and commitment and therefore questions the assumptions of public health liberalism and medical triumphalism. Any contribution to the understanding of health status changes in the Pacific needs to be guided by a recognition of the centrality of activism, advocacy, and collaboration with the peoples of the Pacific with whom, and for whom, we work. There was general agreement that our working together as colleagues also requires our working together with Islanders themselves. Our professional praxis can and should be demonstrated without losing sight of the importance of a critical/theoretical orientation. To this end we encourage participants to consider close collaboration and co-authorship with Pacific Islander colleagues where possible.

3. The core focus around which our discussions need to coalesce is the double headed question: What has been the nature and quality of health status change in the Pacific and what is the best way to apprehend the substance, directionality, and future consequence of these changes. In other words, has there indeed been a health transition in the Pacific, has health improved, worsened, or remained the same, and what are the most effective and appropriate techniques and tools for identifying and understanding these possible changes.

With these three "orientations" in mind, we will proceed to a full working session at the upcoming 2001 meetings. To facilitate this, we will need the following:

1. By August 15th: An indication from participants of a willingness to join the working session next year.
2. By October 15th: A brief abstract for the material you will be bringing to the session. This abstract, though understandably in draft form, should be at least 3 to 5 pages in length.
3. By January 1, 2001: A short draft paper, copies of which we will circulate to all participants.

This working paper should be a substantial—10 to 15 pages at least—discussion of the work each of us is pursuing.

Heather and I are compiling a list of participants from the Vancouver meetings, along with those who expressed an interest in joining the session. At the same time, we want to encourage anyone with an interest in health, well-being, and the changing nature and quality of health and illness in the Pacific, to consider joining this discussion. To facilitate communication, all correspondence regarding the session all communication, including abstracts and draft papers, plus any other discussion material, should be forwarded to both Heather and Douglass through the contact information below.

Douglass Drozdow-St. Christian, Department of Anthropology, University of Western Ontario, London, Ontario N6A 5C2, CANADA; home tel (anytime, but this will change after 5/1/2000): 416/234-9978; office: 519/679-2111 Ext 5067; fax 519/661-2157; email <stchri@julian.uwo.ca>
Heather Young Leslie, Department of Anthropology, Tory Bldg. 13-6, University of Alberta, Edmonton, Alberta T6G 2H4, CANADA; tel (o) 780/492-9879; fax 780/492-5273; email <hyleslie@ualberta.ca>

Informal Session: Grandparenting in Contemporary Pacific Societies

Organizers: Jocelyn Armstrong (University of Illinois at Urbana - Champaign) and Juliana Flinn (University of Arkansas - Little Rock)

Attendance at the session was very sparse, but five people have expressed interest in the topic. If a few more express interest, we will proceed to a working session. Otherwise, we will try another informal session. Anyone interested in the topic should contact one of the organizers as soon as possible. The original announcement follows below.

Worldwide, with increase in life expectancy, more older women and men are experiencing the role of grandparenthood and the length of occupancy in the role is also increasing. In other ways, too, the contexts and experience of grandparenting are changing. In response, a new wave of attention to grandparent research has emerged. This informal session will consider grandparenting in contemporary Pacific societies. We propose a general focus on definition and relevance of the grandparent role. Topics could include the following: changing dynamics and contingencies of grandparenthood, interactions with other family and community roles, grandparenthood as a marker of being socially old, grandparents as parents, grandparenting styles, diversity in the grandparenting experience, and the value of grandparenthood as a social role.

Jocelyn Armstrong, Department of Community Health, University of Illinois at Urbana - Champaign, MC-588, 1206 South Fourth Street, Champaign IL 61820 USA; tel 217/244-1196; fax 217/333-2766; email <jocelyn@uiuc.edu>; and Juliana Flinn, Department of Sociology and Anthropology, University of Arkansas at Little Rock, 2801 South University, Little Rock AR 72204-1099 USA; tel 501/569-3166 or 569-3173; fax 501/569-8458; email <jbflinn@ualr.edu>

Informal Session: Studying Religion in Oceania

Organizers: Mary N. MacDonald (Harvard University) and Jolene Stritecky (University of Iowa)

Forty people attended the session and explored issues related to the history of the study of religion in Oceania and to trajectories of religious change in current ethnographies of Oceania. Twenty-three participants indicated the intention of preparing papers for a working session in 2001. In addition a few people who were not able to be present this year are interested in joining the 2001 working session. Two major areas were explored and, for working purposes, we have designated them as: (1) History of the Study of Religion in Oceania; and (2) Trajectories in Oceanian Religions. Participants suggested items for a common bibliography, including Dan Jorgenson's article in the *Encyclopedia of Religion*. It was requested that all the suggested items be forwarded to the session organizers for compilation into a list which will then be circulated. Jolene Stritecky has agreed to serve as co-organizer. We discussed how to ensure participation of Pacific Island scholars in the working session next year and in a symposium in 2002. This year McRose Elu, a Torres Strait Islander, came from Australia for the session. Some suggestions for funding sources for participants from Papua New Guinea were made. Since the 2002 meeting will be in Auckland we shall explore ways in which Pacific Islanders in that area might be able to participate indirectly next year (e.g., by circulation of papers) and directly in 2002.

Papers for the 2001 meeting are expected to deal with one, if not both, of the conceptually distinct yet interdependent areas noted above. Papers concerning the history of the study of religion in Oceania should address such questions as:

- (i) How has the category of religion been used by scholars of Oceanian religions?
- (ii) How does religion come to emerge as a category of concern among observers in Oceania?
- (iii) What is happening currently in Oceania that makes religion a hot topic?

Papers concerning trajectories in Oceanian religions (i.e., processes of transformation in individual and communal religious practice and identification) should address such questions as:

- (i) What does it mean to say, "Formerly religion was life and now it is a part of life?" (Or, to put it another way, "Is religion subsistence or fervor?")
- (ii) What is happening every day that is religious?
- (iii) With regard to Christianity: Is there seen to be a conceptual center to Christianity? What is the local inflection of Christianity?
- (iv) How are the categories such as the following understood by Christians in Oceania: celebration, sin, sacrifice of Jesus Christ, salvation, conversion, grace?
- (v) What can be said of religious pluralism (e.g., Christianities) and privatization in the life of the individual or community being studied?

Abstracts of papers for the 2001 meeting should be sent to Mary MacDonald and Jolene Stritecky **by October 1**, and **draft papers** for the working session should be sent to them by **January 15**. Each person will be asked to read the drafts of papers by two other participants and to give feedback on them. The co-organizers will be in touch with participants about draft-reading procedures. Feel free to express a preference if there are particular papers on which you would like to comment.

Mary N. MacDonald, Center for the Study of World Religions, Harvard University, 42 Francis Avenue, Cambridge MA 02128 USA; tel 617/493-4075; email <mnmacd@aol.com> and Jolene Stritecky, Dept. of Anthropology, University of Iowa, 114 MacBride Hall, Iowa City IA 52242-1322; email <jstritec@blue.weeg.uiowa.edu>

Informal Session: Back in the Field Again

Organizers: John Barker (University of British Columbia) and Ann Chowning (Auckland)

This informal session, held on the last afternoon of a conference marked by unusually sunny weather, was remarkably well attended, indicating a considerable interest in this topic. Discussions shifted between accounts of personal fieldwork experiences and reflections on the challenges and rewards of regular and irregular returns to the field. Participants raised a wide range of themes and issues, but five in particular stand out:

- There are two types of returns to the field—intermittent, in which one tends to notice changes, and regular, in which one’s knowledge of people and place deepen.
- Returns have important consequences for personal connections with local populations and, consequently, for access to information and its interpretation.
- The “field” is becoming more and more global, more like part of a network than a distant place. Not only are anthropologists return to field sites, members of host communities visit anthropologists. Is it time to rethink the terminology of the “field”?
- What are the long-term consequences of early research strategies and choices on later experiences of fieldwork? Do our early choices have unintended consequences for later relations and intellectual interests?
- What kinds of local and regional conditions influence how host communities view the returning anthropologist? How have these developed historically?

Participants clearly have important stories to tell, but finding central themes to hold the papers together will be challenging. One very helpful suggestion, made by Jane Goodale, is that all contributors discuss the developing purpose of their various research and applied projects, thus keeping in clear focus the essential point that fieldwork is a purposeful activity. All contributors, therefore, should be willing to discuss their motivation or object in undertaking fieldwork, as a common lens to explore the themes and questions listed above.

Fourteen participants expressed an interest in continuing to a working session next year. We would like to extend a special invitation to our colleagues in Auckland and other Pacific centers to encourage islander anthropologists and islanders with experiences of anthropologists working in their own communities to consider joining us. Those who wish to join the session should send an **abstract** to us as soon as possible, but **no later than August 31, 2000**. Participants should prepare **drafts of papers** ready for circulation **by the beginning of December 2000**.

John Barker, Department of Anthropology and Sociology, University of British Columbia, Vancouver, BC V6T 1Z1, CANADA; tel 604/822-4982, fax 604/822-6161; email <barker@interchange.ubc.ca> and Ann Chowning, 32 Wiremu St., Mt. Eden, Auckland 1004, NEW ZEALAND; tel +64-9-630-7630; fax +64-9-373-7441. (University of Auckland Anthropology Department).

Informal Session: Worth, Morality, and Modern Success in the Western Pacific

Organizers: Bruce Knauft (Emory University) and Joel Robbins (University of California - San Diego)

We had a productive session at which a general discussion of the definitions of and interrelations between worth, morality, and success in various parts of the western Pacific was followed by presentations from eleven people who had precirculated abstracts. The presentations refracted the discussion of worth, morality and success through considerations of a wide range of topics including gender, religion, language, economic development, politics, violence, art, and exchange. The issues of evaluation raised by worth, morality, and success provided a vantage point from which to cast fresh light on the analysis of all of these areas. In preparing to move forward, we agreed to keep the topical range of papers broad while asking all of them to address several themes. These include the ways ideas of worth, morality, and success may vary historically and contextually, may at times be in harmony and at others in disharmony with one another, may be exemplified in certain lives that are widely discussed within a community, and may articulate with emerging or transforming notions of inequality both within and between communities.

We now have 15 confirmed participants. We have asked those who have not yet done so to supply us with an **abstract by May 15th** and have asked all participants to prepare polished papers of article length for next year’s meeting. Our title for next year will be “Post-Colonial Virtue: Worth, Morality, and Modern Success in the Western Pacific.”

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Informal Session: Recent Events in the Solomon Islands

Organizer: Christine Jourdan (Concordia University)

The purpose of the session was to allow colleagues and friends interested in the Solomon Islands to meet and exchange information on the current sociopolitical events in this country. Twelve participants and two observers met for two and a half hours. The convenor opened the session by summarizing the background to the session, and moved to a brief presentation of historical and sociopolitical considerations. As this was not a formal session but rather a discussion session, no papers were prepared or presented. Rather, participants provided whatever information they had. The session concluded with a pledge by participants to support our Solomon Island colleagues in their reconciliation efforts, and to continue the fund-raising drive, the proceed of which will be donated to the Solomon Islands Red Cross.

Christine Jourdan, Dept. of Sociology and Anthropology, Concordia University, 1455 de Maisonneuve West, Montréal, Quebec H3G 1M8, CANADA; tel (o) (514) 848-2169; fax (514) 848-4539; email <Jourdan@vax2.concordia.ca>

Informal Session: Meetings as Cross-Cultural Context among Pacific Islanders

Organizer: Eve Pinsker (University of Illinois - Chicago)

This informal session had four participants, discussing data from the PNG (Eastern Highlands, Kainantu District), Federated States of Micronesia, Tuvalu, and Tonga, and audience members. We began by discussing our data and looking for common themes and questions. Cross-cultural influences in meeting genres and roles were only a part of the common themes identified. All the participants converged in focusing on meetings and community (at multiple levels), so "Meetings and the Construction of Community in the Pacific" would be a better title for the session.

The discussion identified major elements and relationships that people draw on in planning and participating in meetings:

1) Genres and formats, including colonial or postcolonial vs. neotraditional genres, such as church vs. maneapa meetings in Tuvalu. As well as contrasts between genres in constraints on discourse within meetings, we also discussed contrasts in the periodicity of meetings or gatherings, e.g. between meetings held by standing bodies vs. impromptu demonstrations. Each society cited included a range of genres, and the links and contrasts between genres (including linguistic ideology) were a resource for actors.

2) Roles and personnel in meetings and their relation to culturally constituted categories of persons, e.g. emerging racial oppositions and questions about the role of the expatriate council clerk in the Kainantu Council in the '70s, the pastor in Tuvalu and local questions about his roles in maneapa vs. church meetings.

3) Sequences of meetings, including the relationship between public meetings and more private gatherings held to plan them or respond to them.

4) Meetings as face-to-face, that is physical and embodied, events including the elements of physical setting and the placement and action of participants' bodies. The serving of food in many meeting contexts came up in the discussion as related to the mouth as a connecting point between the individual body and the larger community, through the ingestion of food as well as its perceived relation to voice, as in the phrase "the mouth of the people" used in Kainantu.

The discussion also covered what people do with these elements and relationships:

1) They are deployed to constitute community and the links between levels of community (local village, district or island, region or province, nation, etc.) through recognized forms that support the legitimacy and effectiveness of roles and actions asserting control over or access to people and/or resources.

2) They link personal to communal action in culturally specific ways. Cross-cultural comparisons in linking personal to communal action have formerly been discussed in terms of the contrast between hierarchical vs. egalitarian relationships, chiefly vs. big-man societies, Polynesia vs. Melanesia (with Micronesia as intermediate), etc. We are interested in revisiting these distinctions through looking at how meetings articulate collective actions or decisions, and the choices that individual persons have in creating and responding to these actions—the scope of personal autonomy and agency.

In order to continue this discussion and move to a working session, we need more participants. Anyone interested in joining the discussion for next year, as a working session on “Meetings and the Construction of Community in the Pacific,” please contact Eve Pinsker. We are looking to continue and broaden our inclusion of examples from Melanesia, Micronesia, and Polynesia, and atoll as well as large island societies. Diasporic/transnational data are also welcome. For the level of analysis we are aiming at, participants do not need to have transcripts of meetings: notes on meetings and their outcomes are sufficient, including reported or recorded as well as observed data; data on sequences of meetings (meetings held as a consequence of other meetings or gatherings) and consequent action is particularly welcome.

Eve Pinsker, Office of Social Sciences Research (M/C 307), The University of Illinois at Chicago, B-111 Behavioral Sciences Building, 1007 W. Harrison, Chicago IL 60607-7136 USA; tel (o) 312/996-9876; fax 312/996-9484; email <epinsker@uic.edu>

IX. NEW SESSIONS PROPOSED FOR 2001 ANNUAL MEETING

Informal Session: Current Knowledge about Polynesian Outliers

Organizers: Rick Feinberg (Kent State University) and Janet Keller (University of Illinois)

Since the 1960s, extensive ethnographic fieldwork has been conducted on most of the western Polynesian outliers in Melanesia and Micronesia by professional anthropologists and scholars in related disciplines. Janet Keller and Rick Feinberg would like to hold an informal session at ASAO-2001 with anyone able to attend the meeting who has conducted research on any of these islands. Our objective is to assess the current state of knowledge relating to these (mostly) small, remote, “traditional” communities. We would like to consider whether this is an appropriate time to produce a volume synthesizing the state of Polynesian outlier ethnography and, if so, how such a publication might best be organized.

Since Rick expects to be in the field from July through December 2000, anyone interested in participating in this session should contact Janet. If you need to communicate directly with Rick, you may do so until mid-June and after the New Year at his usual address.

Janet Dixon Keller, Dept. of Anthropology, 109 Davenport Hall, 607 S. Matthews, MC-148, University of Illinois, Urbana IL 61801 USA; tel 217/333-3529 (o); fax 217/244-3490; email <jdkeller@uiuc.edu> and Rick Feinberg, Dept. of Anthropology, Kent State University, Kent OH 44242 USA; tel 330/672-2722 (o); fax 330/672-2999; email <rfeinber@kent.edu>

Informal Session: Reflections on Pacific Ethnography in the Margaret Mead Centennial, 2001

Organizer: Sharon W. Tiffany (University of Wisconsin - Whitewater)

This Informal Session will bring together participants who conducted or are currently conducting research in areas where Margaret Mead worked, including scholars working with Mead's unpublished materials. This “Advanced Informal Session” is an opportunity to discuss contemporary issues of Pacific ethnography and to reflect on the legacy of an important foremother of Pacific anthropology. Participants will be asked to present a short paper on issues or approaches of their choice. Those interested in participating in the session should contact me with their proposed topics as soon as possible.

Sharon W. Tiffany, Department of Anthropology, University of Wisconsin-Whitewater, Whitewater WI 53190 USA; fax 262/472-2794; tel 608/238-3565; email <s.tiffany@juno.com>

X. OTHER CONFERENCES AND EVENTS

The **Pacific Peoples Partnership** (formerly South Pacific Peoples Foundation) announces their sixteenth annual Pacific Networking Conference 2000, to be held **Friday evening May 5 through Sunday May 7**, on the territory of the Tsartlip First Nation near Victoria, British Columbia. The theme of the conference is “**Indigenous Wisdom: Stewardship of Culture, Environment, Resources.**” As stated in the PPP/SPPF announcement on ASAONET: “The principal targets for this conference are Indigenous Peoples and nonindigenous individuals/organizations in North America that have an interest in learning about issues in the Pacific and in developing solidarity links with Pacific Peoples. Thus, the conference provides an excellent opportunity for Pacific Islanders to reach a non-Pacific audience. There are always many First Nations members from Canada in attendance.” The keynote speaker will be Motarilavao Hilda Lini, former Vanuatu government minister and newly appointed Director of the Pacific Concerns Resource Centre, in Suva, Fiji.

The PPP/SPPF has a limited budget to support the travel and participation of Pacific Islanders as resource people at the conference; others manage to find their own funding to attend. Funds for this year’s conference have already been allocated, but the PPP says they are prepared to do what they can to host other Pacific Islanders who can find alternative funding. This would include waiving the conference registration fee; providing letters of invitation; and arranging homestays with PPP/SPPF members to help keep accommodation/meals costs to a minimum. In addition, some of the Pacific Islanders attending the conference will be staying on afterwards for a week or two of visits with First Nations’ communities and organizations. Let the conference organizers know if you are also interested in this option.

For further information about the conference please contact: Troy Hunter, Conference Coordinator, Pacific Peoples Partnership, 1921 Fernwood Road, Victoria BC V8T 2Y6 CANADA; tel 250/381-4131; fax 250/388-5258; email <sppf@sppf.org>; website <www.sppf.org>

Brigham Young University Hawai’i (BYUH) Division of Social Sciences and the Institute for Polynesian Studies are sponsoring a National Pacific Islanders in America Conference entitled “**Who is a Pacific Islander American?**” The conference, to be held **May 9-12, 2000**, is designed for both scholars and practitioners who are interested in diasporic communities of Pacific Islanders in the United States. Particular focuses will be identity and family issues, social and political situations, and community endeavors of Pacific Islander Americans. The conference will include cultural demonstrations and an evening banquet and show at the Polynesian Cultural Center. For further information, contact: The National Pacific Islander American, Brigham Young University Hawai’i, Division of Continuing Education, Box 1963, La’ie HI 96762; see also website <<http://academics.byuh.edu/npiaconference>>

Papua New Guinea Food and Nutrition 2000 Conference, sponsored by the PNG National Agricultural Research Institute and Department of Agriculture and Livestock, will be held at the Rose Kekedo Convention Centre, **PNG University of Technology (Lae), 26-29 June 2000**. The theme is food security in Papua New Guinea. Food security and food insecurity are defined by the Food and Agricultural Organization of the UN as follows: “Food security exists when all people, at all times, have physical, social economic access to sufficient, safe and nutritious food which meets their dietary needs and food preferences for an active and healthy life. Food insecurity exists when people lack access to sufficient amounts of safe and nutritious food and are therefore not consuming enough for an active and healthy life. This may be due to the unavailability of food, inadequate purchasing power, or inappropriate utilisation at household level.”

The Organizing Committee for the conference are seeking papers on the theme of food security in Papua New Guinea. Papers may relate to particular events, such as the 1997 drought; or to broader questions on food security and human nutrition; or to production aspects of particular foods; or problems that threaten production of particular foods. Offers of papers to be presented at the Conference, and published in the Conference Proceedings, should be sent to: Food and Nutrition 2000 Conference (Attention: Ms Sharryl Ivahupa), National Agricultural Research Institute, PO Box 4415, Lae, PAPUA NEW GUINEA; tel +675-4721751; fax: +675-4722242; email: <nari@datec.com.pg>

The Millennial Conference of the **Pacific History Association**, "Bursting Boundaries: Places, Persons, Gender and Disciplines," will be held at Coombs Building and Menzies Library of the Australian National University, **26-29 June 2000**.

Marshall Sahlins will give a keynote address on Tuesday morning; Epeli Hau'ofa will present "Performance as History" Tuesday evening; and Greg Dening will give an address at the conference dinner Wednesday evening (expected cost for dinner: under A\$30 each). There will be a half-day excursion through Historic Canberra on Wednesday afternoon, and a longer "Canberra in Winter" excursion on Friday, "including snow if available." There will also be a display of books for sale.

The following sessions are on the agenda: Negotiating Indigenous Identities in Australia; Gender and Cultural Identity; Burdens of Citizenship; History Beyond the Boundaries; Outside the Frame [Pacific Images in Film and Photography]; (Un)settled Communities; Participants as Historians; Beyond Missionaries; Globalism and Regionalism; and Casting the Net.

Presenters of papers should submit a one-paragraph **abstract** no later than **10 June**. Afterwards conference organizers are planning to edit and publish the papers of everyone who leaves a clean copy. According to the conference announcement: "To minimise the need for parallel sessions, presenters should expect no more than their statutory fifteen minutes of fame." Please inform Donald Denoon if you need a projector or screen of any kind.

The registration fee will be A\$100 before 31 May 2000; or A\$125 after 1 June, with discounts for specially deserving participants (such as students and the unwaged). Note that it will be too cold to sleep out. The conference organizers can assist you with booking accommodation at Ursula College or Liversidge Court, ranging in cost from A\$35 to A\$70 night, or you can make your own arrangements.

For further information please contact Donald Denoon, Pacific and Asian History, RSPAS, Australian National University, Canberra, ACT 0200, AUSTRALIA; tel +61 2 6249 2298; fax +61 2 6249 5525; email <dxd@coombs.anu.edu.au> or see the Pacific History Association website: <<http://rspas.anu.edu.au/ccp/PHA.htm>>

WAKA: Pacific Communities 2000: Perceptions and Representations, is a conference focusing on the South Pacific Region, to be held **28-30 July 2000** at the **National Library of New Zealand, Wellington**. Multidisciplinary approaches are invited. Its intention is to provoke discussion of the region across a wide social, literary, and historical spectrum, and to engage with contemporary issues. Proposals for 30-minute papers (200-word abstract) should be sent by mid-April 2000 to Vincent O'Sullivan, Director, Stout Research Centre, Victoria University, P. O. Box 600, Wellington, NEW ZEALAND; tel +64-4-463-6434; fax +64-4-463 5439; email: <Stout-Centre@vuw.ac.nz>. Registration inquiries may be made to Sarah Upton, Administrator, Stout Research Centre; tel +64- 4-463-5305; fax +64-4-463-5439; email: <Sarah.Upton@vuw.ac.nz> Further information can be obtained from Nancy Pollock <nancy.pollock@vuw.ac.nz>.

Palau Community College and Kapi'olani Community College are pleased to announce a three-day curriculum and teaching workshop to be held **27-29 July 2000 at Palau Community College** in conjunction with 17th Annual Pacific Educational Conference, Pacific Communities: Lifelong Learners. The **Pacific Teaching workshop** is designed to encourage the development of Pacific-related curriculum, culturally appropriate teaching methods, as well as regional strategies for resource sharing, interaction, and exchange. The program includes featured presentations and workshop sessions with specialized facilitators.

Pacific Teaching is an initiative of Moving Cultures: Remaking Asia-Pacific Studies, a pedagogy and instructional project based in the School of Hawaiian, Asian, and Pacific Studies, University of Hawai'i at Manoa, and funded by the Ford Foundation. The **deadline for registration is 22 May 2000**. There is a \$20 registration fee.

Palau coordinator: Alvina Rehuher Timarong, Palau Community College, P. O. Box 9, Koror, Republic of Palau PW 96940; tel (680) 4882470; fax (680) 4882447; email <alvina@belau.org>
Honolulu coordinator: John Cole, Kapi'olani Community College, 4303 Diamond Head Rd., Honolulu HI 96816; tel (808) 734-9246; fax (808) 734-9151; email <jcole@hawaii.edu>
Further information: Isebong Asang, Center for Pacific Islands Studies, 1890 East-West Road, Honolulu, HI 96822; tel (808) 956-7700; fax (808) 956-7053; email <isebong@hawaii.edu>

See also the Moving Cultures website for continually updated information or to register: <www.hawaii.edu/movingcultures/>

The **Pacific and Asian Communication Association** is a young organization, based in Hawai'i, with members throughout Asia, the Pacific, and 16 states on the US mainland. They are recognized by the IRS as a tax-exempt educational association, publish an annual refereed journal, and are in the press of establishing an electronic journal. The PACA holds a conference in even-numbered years (the 1998 conference was held at Sapporo University, Hokkaido, Japan), and their 2000 convention will be held in **Honolulu, Hawai'i**, on the Diamond Head campus of Kapi'olani Community College, **August 10-11, 2000**. "Qualitative, quantitative, theoretical, critical, or artistic inquiries" into the following topics are invited: (1) relationships between communication and culture in general; (2) communication theory and practice within Pacific and Asian cultures in particular; (3) intercultural communication; or (4) issues facing communication studies as an international discipline. "We especially encourage integrative, speculative, cutting-edge projects that are creative, visionary, and that explore new horizons." **Send three copies of papers (or proposals) by May 1, 2000** to: Steve Miura or Catherine Becker, Dept. of Communication, University of Hawai'i at Hilo, 200 W. Kawili St., Hilo HI 96720-4091; email <beckerc@hawaii.edu> or <smiura@hawaii.edu>

Second Biennial Aotearoa New Zealand International Development Studies Network (DEVNET) Conference is to be held at **Victoria University, Wellington, 17-19 November 2000**. The theme is Poverty, Prosperity, and Progress. Proposals for papers should be sent to the Development Resource Centre, 123 Molesworth Street, P. O. Box 12440, Wellington, NEW ZEALAND by the end of March (or shortly thereafter); email <gbedi@drc.org.nz>

XI. FROM THE SECRETARY-TREASURER

Annual Meeting Attendance, 1997-2000

Residence	1997 San Diego	1998 Pensacola	1999 Hilo	2000 Vancouver
USA	113	76	112	75
Northeast	25	19	15	19
Southeast	7	13	6	3
Midwest	25	24	20	17
West	45	16	28	28
Hawai'i	11	4	43	8
Pacific Islands	3	2	15	7
New Zealand	7	1	10	8
Australia	3	0	10	6
Japan	1	0	2	1
Canada	12	12	8	23
Europe	6	9	11	13
Other			3	1
TOTAL	145	100	171	134

Category	1997	1998	1999	2000
General/Fellow	113	78	115	105
Student	27	20	41	18
Honorary Fellow	2	1	3	6
PISF	3	1	8	4

Financial Report for 1999

The beginning balance in ASAO's general fund on January 1, 1999, was \$19,599.44; the ending balance on December 31, 1999, was \$16,662.31. During the year, income totaled \$21,816.56 and expenditures totaled \$24,753.69.

ASAO Publication

In addition to the publications listed in the April 1999 ASAO Newsletter, the following has been recognized by the ASAO Board as an ASAO publication, and the editors and contributors as ASAO Fellows: Denise O'Brien and Sharon Tiffany, eds. 1984. *Rethinking Women's Roles: Perspectives from the Pacific*. Berkeley: University of California Press.

2000 ASAO Directory, Fellows and Honorary Fellows

The 2000 ASAO Membership Directory is now available, and may be purchased for US\$6 plus postage. Beginning this year, the names of Honorary Fellows are marked with (HF), and Fellows with (F). ASAO Fellows are those current members who have either served as members of the ASAO Board or as officers; or have edited or contributed to an ASAO Monograph or other publication arising from ASAO sessions and duly recognized by the ASAO Board as an ASAO publication. If you are an ASAO Fellow and you find that your name is not so marked in the 2000 Directory, please contact me to remedy the situation. *Jan Rensel*

XII. ASAO WEBSITE

Tables of contents for all ASAO publications and ASAO Monographs are now posted on the ASAO website. All of the recent Monographs and some of the publications are linked to publishers' websites to facilitate ordering. Please contact me at <ahoward@hawaii.edu> to provide links to any additional publishers' websites for ASAO volumes.

The ASAO website now has an archive section containing photographs from the last three annual meetings: Pensacola (1998), Hilo (1999), and Vancouver (2000). To access the archives go to the ASAO home page <<http://www.soc.hawaii.edu/asao/pacific/hawaiki.html>> and scroll to the bottom of the page where a link to the archives has been posted. Alternatively, you can go directly to the archives at: <<http://www.soc.hawaii.edu/asao/pacific/archives.htm>>

The association's online membership database has a new URL address: <<http://128.171.9.94/ASAOmembers>>. The database can also be accessed from the ASAO home page by clicking on "ASAO Membership Database," at the bottom of the page. *Alan Howard*

XIII. IN MEMORIAM: LAURA M. THOMPSON (1905-2000)

ASAO Honorary Fellow Laura M. Thompson, 95, passed away peacefully in her sleep on January 29, 2000, in Honolulu, Hawaii. A distinguished sociocultural anthropologist, she studied peoples and cultures in wide-ranging geographic locations over the course of some 60 years. In the Pacific region, Laura is best known for sociocultural studies in Fiji and on Guam.

Laura Thompson was born in Honolulu on January 23, 1905. She was schooled at home in her early years and then went to Punahou. She received her B.A. Degree from Mills College, her Ph.D. in Anthropology from the University of California at Berkeley, and an honorary LL.D. from Mills College. She also did graduate work at Radcliffe College. Among many other honors and awards, in 1979, Laura received the Bronislaw Malinowski Award for her significant contributions to the development of Applied Anthropology from the Society for Applied Anthropology.

Laura published nine books, more than 70 articles in professional journals, and has numerous conference presentations, radio talk shows, and the like to her credit over the years. She wrote in her autobiography, *Beyond The Dream: A Search For Meaning* (Micronesian Area Research Center, University of Guam, 1991: 39) that she was one of "Kroeber's girls," young women who became known for their "far-flung explorations in various parts of the world" in the 1930s. Among the "Kroeber's girls" she identified were Isabelle Kelly, Cora DuBois, Dorothy Demetracapoulou, Margaret Lantis, and Katherine Luomala. Laura and Katherine both resided at Arcadia in Honolulu in their last years. Lunches or dinners with them were never dull—longtime friends, they nonetheless usually sparred with each other in conversations, typically with reference to Anthropology!

As well as conducting fieldwork in Fiji and Guam in the early years of her career, Laura was on the staff of the Bernice P. Bishop Museum in Honolulu from 1929-1934. In the late 1930s, living in Germany with her first husband, Bernhard Tueting, Laura experienced for herself something of National Socialism. In the 1940s, while holding a research position via the University of Chicago's Committee on Human Development, Laura undertook research among Native Americans, particularly the Hopi, as a member of a multidisciplinary research team. During this time, she was married to then Commissioner of Indian Affairs, John Collier.

From the 1950s and onward, Laura taught for various periods at the University of North Carolina, North Carolina State College, City College and Brooklyn College of the City University of New York, Southern Illinois University, San Francisco State University, and the University of Hawaii. She also conducted fieldwork in Iceland.

Laura maintained a lifelong interest in the people and culture of Guam, based on her fieldwork on Guam before World War II. Upon her passing, the Honorable Robert A. Underwood of Guam introduced his lengthy accolade to Laura Thompson into the Congressional Record in the House of Representatives of the United States of America, on February 8, 2000. The opening paragraph of his tribute contains the following statement: "For the people of Guam and researchers everywhere, [Thompson's book] *Guam and Its People* is the seminal work on the essence of the Chamorro culture. She was the first anthropologist to formally study the culture of the people of Guam and every student, researcher, or any person interested in serious thinking about Guam must begin by reading and understanding her work." On February 15, 2000, Governor Carl T. C. Gutierrez of Guam posthumously awarded to Laura the Ancient Order of the Chamorri, an award "given to honor persons who are not native to Guam but who have contributed substantially to the betterment of the people of Guam."

Laura's many books and professional papers reveal her significant contributions in cultural anthropology, ecology, theoretical anthropology, archaeology, culture history, and applied anthropology. Laura, who loved fashionable clothing and having her hair well coiffured, wrote in her autobiography that one of America's most significant contributions to the world was jazz, and declined to write at length about Margaret Mead ("There's so much I could say, but . . . what would it accomplish?") At the Memorial Service for Laura held at Arcadia on February 18, 2000, among the many people present to celebrate Laura's life was Jesse S. Perez. He and Laura had been a part of each other's lives consistently since before the second World War. The photo on the cover of Laura's autobiography shows her and Jesse within the ruins of the old Catholic church in Umatac, Guam, in 1937. One of her local research assistants on Guam then, Jesse was 15 years old.

Laura is survived by her niece, Laura Good of Portland, Oregon, and her niece Alice Broderick and granddaughter Marcella Moran of Honolulu. Laura's husband, Sam Duker, her classmate at Punahou when they were young, preceded her in death.

Rebecca A. Stephenson

[Editor's note: See also Rebecca Stephenson's biographical sketch of Honorary Fellow Laura Thompson in the Fall 1990 issue of the *ASAO Newsletter*, pp. 8-10.]

XIV. MELANESIAN INTEREST GROUP AT THE 1999 AAA MEETINGS

This year the Melanesian Interest Group (MIG) got formally underway at the Chicago meetings with Bob Foster and Dan Jorgensen as co-convenors.

MIG's statement of purpose:

- a) to publicize the full range of Melanesianist anthropology to the largest possible audience inside and outside the AAA.
- b) to explore and develop the connections between Melanesian studies and topics that both cut across regions and engage current debates within the four fields of anthropology.
- c) to provide an informal vehicle for bringing together scholars with interests in Melanesia in order to exchange information (thus complementing existing area organizations), to strengthen social networks and personal contacts, and to discuss the changing place of Melanesian studies within the discipline of anthropology.

(For more detail, see <<http://www.melanesia.org/purpose.htm>>)

The two MIG presences on the 1999 AAA program took the form of a business meeting and a panel discussion.

Business Meeting

Bob Foster opened the meeting by announcing that the AAA had approved MIG as an interest group. MIG is now a permanent fixture of the AAA as long as a minimum annual membership of 25 is maintained. If we are able to muster a minimum of 100 signed-up members over the next three years, MIG will also be entitled to host an invited session on the AAA program. We are optimistic of reaching this goal, given the fact that the attendance at the business meeting constituted a sizable portion of this requirement.

MIG website

One proposal, now in effect, was to create a MIG website. This is maintained by Kevin Kelly, and can be found at <<http://www.melanesia.org/>>

Suggestions for the site included the following:

- A listing of Melanesianist papers, plus abstracts, for the next AAA meeting
- 'comings and goings'
- listings of grad students and recent PhDs in Melanesian research
- course syllabi
- links to relevant home pages
- information about the Melanesian Archive and the NRI
- institutional audits of Melanesian anthropology, listings of programs
- bibliographic links
- compilations of material relevant to public interest groups (e.g., environmental groups)
- Melanesia in the news and some sort of Media Watch

There will be no MIG electronic list; MIG members are encouraged to use ASAONET but to tag messages in the subject line with the acronym MIG where appropriate.

The general orientation of MIG

Whereas some seemed to harbour a residual skepticism about a Melanesian focus, Jimmy Weiner pointed out that there has been a concerted move towards area studies at ANU, with the Resource Management and the State, Society, and Governance in Melanesia as interdisciplinary projects. This signals an areal focus that jumps disciplinary boundaries.

Bruce Knauft was particularly interested in taking Melanesianists outside of North America (e.g., in ESfO) into account, arguing that drawing them into MIG would help to internationalize our interests while giving us the opportunity to draw on other perspectives. This was a point seconded by Fred Damon, who also suggested we try to establish links with researchers working in other areas.

A number of people spoke about the importance of focusing attention on public knowledge of Melanesia and how it articulates with larger political issues. Deborah Gewertz wanted to examine the ways in which various institutions such as the World Bank come to know what they know about Melanesian issues and their contexts, pointing out that the Washington venue for the 2001 AAA meetings might be ideal for inviting participation from these quarters. Bambi Schieffelin also suggested we might promote a focus on public interest issues in which anthropologists play a prominent role, such as the campaign surrounding the Freeport mine in Irian Jaya.

On the topic of MIG special events at AAA . . .

Laura Zimmer-Tamakoshi, keeping next year's theme in mind, suggested that we think in terms of the public face of Melanesian anthropology, a prospect Nancy Lutkehaus amplified by suggesting we focus on the responses of Melanesians to anthropological writings about them (this with a nod in the direction of a Mead centennial). Bambi Schieffelin suggested we try to get some Melanesians to attend the next MIG events at the AAA, noting that Meg Taylor might be available.

John Barker took up this question by suggesting that we rejuvenate Melanesian anthropology by seeking new audiences, including those outside academe. He also suggested that if we wanted to facilitate the participation of Melanesians we might consider seeking funding from various agencies that might have an interest in sponsoring a "conference within a conference," noting that involving Greenpeace, the WWF, or Brian Brunton's ICRAF could explore and develop linkages between Melanesian anthropology and NGOs active in the region. Geoff White pointed out that something analogous to ASAO's Pacific Islands Scholars Fund might be worth considering.

Deborah Gewertz suggested that we try to stage some sort of Event that would draw in our interlocutors beyond Melanesia, and perhaps even beyond the discipline (see account of panel discussion below). Another suggestion for next year's meetings was the possibility of a panel on graduate training in regional work.

MIG sessions for San Francisco?

Dan Jorgensen argued that there are a number of current foci of Melanesian research that have potentially strong articulations with work outside the region that MIG might want to sponsor. For example, work on the political ecology of resource development in Melanesia could form

the basis of a session in which Melanesianist papers could be complemented by similar research carried out in other regions, such as Southeast Asia and Amazonia. Here possible discussants might include, for example, Pete Brosius, Terry Turner, Colin Filer, etc.

Panel Discussion on the future of regional anthropologies

The focus for Saturday evening's panel discussion was provided by Rena Lederman's 1998 *Annual Review* article, in which she questioned the continued place of Melanesianist research in the light of disciplinary interests in globalization and translocal processes. Rena reprised her own views on the matter and emphasized the importance of comparison, opening the door to a variety of takes by panelists assembled for the purpose. Jim Peacock gave no indication that he thought the days of regionally focused research had passed, and argued instead that regional dynamics assume a new saliency even as globalization erodes nationalism. Sylvia Yanagisako confessed to being a closet Melanesianist at heart, and reminded us that reading Melanesia remains a staple of graduate education in the discipline. She suggested that we consider framing our questions in terms of how globalization responds to the challenge of Melanesia as a way of provoking a theory crisis, and turned the tables on present musings by suggesting that Melanesia provides an excellent site for rethinking contemporary arguments seeking to displace the local. Finally, she wondered if we might not be able to come up with an anti-essentialist view of Melanesia, noting the region's fame as the home of flow and flexibility. Michael Herzfeld approached Melanesia by way of Rome, drawing upon his shifts in Mediterranean fieldwork locales to make the point that a continuously recalibrated consciousness of regional differences enhances ethnography's richness and value. None of the participants seemed to doubt the value of regional ethnography in general and Melanesian ethnography in particular, and much of the remainder of the discussion was given over to considering how Melanesian research could be made to pay off in disciplinary terms. Many suggested that, one way or another, a key issue was maintaining Melanesia's visibility for research support, noting the discrepancy between the region's historical role in anthropology and its relatively inconspicuous place in government research priorities. Dan Segal pointed out the intellectual problems surrounding the practice of drawing regional boundaries (e.g., does Irian Jaya count as Melanesia or Southeast Asia?) while underscoring the significance of such boundaries for the infrastructure of funding. Geoff White also called attention to funding issues and asked whether the crisis in area studies is due to globalization or the politics of funding. He noted that The Melanesian Spearhead Group and other regional forms indicate an emergent political prominence for Melanesia, and his experience with Pacific studies suggests that areal discourse will not go away because it provides a focus for strategic identities (e.g., among students who become "Melanesian" while at university).

The panelists' remarks were accompanied by a number of comments and questions from the audience, one of the more memorable of which was John Barker's remark that Melanesians don't have to choose between the local and the global, and we shouldn't either. For those who came in anticipation of a transformative critique of Melanesian ethnography, the discussion offered ambiguous comfort. There are opportunities to insert Melanesian research into contemporary debates, and the panelists all affirmed the worth of our ethnographic efforts. This would be more reassuring were it not for a diffuse uneasiness about the relation between regional ethnography and the discipline as a whole. What we may want to ask at some future *bung* is not so much how Melanesia fits into contemporary anthropology as a whole, but rather how general currents in anthropology figure in Melanesianist work.

Dan Jorgensen
University of Western Ontario
dwj@julian.uwo.ca

XV. MEMBER NEWS

Pamela J. Stewart (Anthropology, University of Pittsburgh) and her husband **Andrew Strathern** (Anthropology, University of Pittsburgh) jointly received an American Philosophical Society grant to complete a book project on a collection of sung epics/ballads from the Highlands of Papua New Guinea.

For more than five decades of teaching and service at the music department of the University of Hawai'i - Manoa, **Barbara Smith** was honored February 25–26, 2000, with a concert, conference, and dinner. Smith was hired at UHM in 1949 to teach piano and music theory. Recognizing that her students presented a multicultural mix of Japanese, Chinese, Korean, and Hawaiian, Smith resolved to find a way for music to help bridge cultural and generational gaps. She immersed herself in the music of Hawai'i, Asia, and the Pacific, and introduced ethnic music performance classes into the music department curriculum, starting with Hawaiian chant and Japanese koto. She designed ethnomusicology lecture courses and education workshops that eventually led to a master's program. Even after retirement in 1982, Smith continues to teach courses and lead seminars, give special lectures, serve on thesis committees, and participate in various activities on a voluntary basis. *[adapted from Ku Lama, the newsletter of the University of Hawai'i system, Feb. 18, 2000, vol. 6, no. 24.]*

XVI. ANTHROPOLOGY PhDs

Demian, Melissa 1999

Persistence of Vision: Time and Knowledge in Suau Adoption. University of Cambridge [UK]

In the December 1999 issue, complete information for the following dissertation was not available. Here it is in full (thanks to Niko Besnier for sending the missing details):

Makihara, Miki 1999

Bilingualism, social change, and the politics of ethnicity on Rapanui (Easter Island), Chile. Yale University.

XVII. BIBLIOGRAPHIC INFORMATION

Besnier, Niko

2000 *Tuvaluan: A Polynesian Language of the Central Pacific*. Descriptive Grammars Series. London & New York: Routledge. xxvi, 662pp. US\$200. ISBN 0-415-02456-0.

Two hundred dollars divided by almost 700 pages, that's about 30¢ a page. For this price you can find out much more than you ever thought of asking about Tuvaluan, spoken by about 10,000 people in Tuvalu and small expatriate enclaves in Nauru, Fiji, New Zealand, and Australia. And you should consider yourself lucky, because this is the "abridged" version of what I had originally produced, which would have probably run to about 1000 pages, and which the publisher threatened to throw at me if I did not cut it down to a less indecent size. Back in 1983, compiling the grammar of a language I knew well seemed a good idea, the sort of thing I could whip up in a couple of months. Seventeen years later, after having put myself through torture that the Inquisition would be proud of, here is the result. Trouble is, of course, that in the meantime the publisher has gone on to much better things than publishing arcane grammars of obscure languages, such as books that bear titles like *_(Re)pres[s](ent)ing Body/ies_* and contributions to . . . oh!, sorry, interventions in emergent disciplines designed to interrogate the hypocrisy of your grand-narrative-informed bourgeois upbringing (e.g., Madonnaology). So this grammar has the dubious distinction of being the last of the series of which it is part.

However, in it, you can find out about the syntax of the language (260 pp.), its morphological structure (340 pp.), the phonology (15 pp.) and bits of information about the lexicon and peripheral aspects of language structure (20 pp.). Although this is probably one of the most detailed descriptions of a Polynesian language (along with Winifred Bauer's 1993 *Maori*, part of the same series), most of the discussion is very technical, and probably unintelligible without a background in linguistic analysis. However, it is not a piece of theoretical linguistics, so, who knows? One or two people might open it. *[Submitted by author--obviously.]*

Borofsky, Robert (ed.)

2000 *Remembrance of Pacific Pasts: An Invitation to Remake History*. Honolulu: University of Hawai'i Press. ISBN 0-8248-2301-X (paper); cloth forthcoming (ISBN 0-8248-2189-0).

How does one describe the Pacific's pasts? The easy confidence historians once had in writing about the region has disappeared in the turmoil surrounding today's politics of representation. Earlier narratives that focused on what happened when are now accused of encouraging myths of progress. *Remembrance of Pacific Pasts* takes a different course. It acknowledged history's multiplicity and selectivity, its inability to represent the past in its entirety "as it really was" and instead offers points of reference for thinking with and about the region's pasts. It encourages readers to participate in the historical process by constructing alternative histories that draw on the volume's chapters.

The book's 34 contributions, writing by a range of authors spanning a variety of styles and disciplines, are organized into four sections. The first presents frames of reference for analyzing the problems, poetics, and politics involved in addressing the region's pasts today. The second considers early Islander-Western contact focusing on how each side sought to physically and symbolically control the other. The third deals with the colonial dynamics of the region: the "tensions of empire" that permeated imperial rule in the Pacific. The fourth explores the region's postcolonial politics through a discussion of the varied ways independence and dependence overlap today.

Remembrance of Pacific Pasts includes many of the region's most distinguished authors such as Albert Wendt, Greg Denning, Epeli Hau'ofa, Marshall Sahlins, Patricia Grace, and Nicholas Thomas. In addition, it features chapters by well-known writers from outside Pacific Studies—Edward Said, James Clifford, Richard White, and Gyan Prakash—which help place the region's dynamics in comparative perspective. [from the publisher's catalog]

Dinnen, Sinclair, and Allison Ley

2000 *Reflections on Violence in Melanesia*. Hawkins Press/Asia Pacific Press. ISBN 1 876067 13 6.

Activists, commentators, and academics from throughout Melanesia reflect on aspects of violence in a region so often depicted as the tropical paradise of tourist brochures. The background is the dislocation caused by the impact of globalisation on cultures where plantation economies have already been grafted onto traditional, precolonial societies. Chapter by chapter, the authors document the diverse meanings of violence in the region, making plain the huge variation in its nature and level across different Melanesian contexts.

Acknowledging the considerable levels of violence experienced in some parts of Melanesia, the authors show the complexity of its phenomena and the folly of propounding simple explanations and simple solutions for a remarkably diverse group of island societies. They challenge the thoughtless applicability of Western law and learning to the Melanesian world, noting that indigenous patterns of restorative justice, retribution and reconciliation continue to operate in conjunction with more modern forms. Furthermore, there are major paradoxes in the disappointments of reforms that have failed, and the ramifications of colonial plantation and mining economies.

Contributors include John Braithwaite, Sinclair Dinnen, Maev O'Collins, Christine Weir, Bronwen Douglas, Alaine Chanter, Cyndi Banks, Anou Borrey, Merrin Mason, Alan Rumsey, Sarah Garup, Afu Billy, Christina Romosaea, Maxine Anjiga Makail, Jean Mitchell, Michael Monsell-Davis, Michael Ward, Michael Goddard, Glenn Banks, Karl Claxton, Otto Ondawame, Anthony J. Regan, and Margaret Jolly.

This is not just a book for Melanesianists, but for all who are concerned about violence and its healing. It is not about recreating a pre-colonial utopia, nor about Western criminal law, but thinking in time and thinking in place.

To order: Asia Pacific Press, tel +61 2 6249 4700; fax +61 6257 2886; email: <books@asiapacificpress.com.au> website <<http://www.asiapacificpress.com/>> OR Hawkins Press (a division of The Federation Press), tel +61 2 9552 2200; fax: +61 2 9552

1681; email <info@fedpress.aust.com>; website <<http://www.fedpress.aust.com/Books/Dinnen.htm>> [from ASAONET posting]

Howe, K. R.

2000 *Nature, Culture, and History: The "Knowing" of Oceania*. Honolulu: University of Hawai'i Press. ISBN 0-8248-2329-X (paper)

K. R. Howe is a major and long-standing contributor to Pacific history and historiography. Quotes about this new book:

"Howe displays impressive scholarship and deep reading on a whole host of contentious issues in Pacific studies: disease and depopulation, ecology and environment, ownership and representation of scholarship, conflict between tradition and modernity. There is no other book quite like this. Clearly an important work by a distinguished historian."—Brij V. Lal, Australian National University

"This is a remarkable book. It could only have been written by a unique individual like K. R. Howe who is both a highly creative and at the same time capable of drawing upon a long professional career of serious research and reflection about Pacific history and historiography. He helpfully places Oceania in a broad global and intellectual context and successfully explores the meeting of two perceived entities—the West and Pacific peoples. He does this in such a way as to incorporate such widely diverse topics as notions of paradise, islands as psychological spaces, human destiny, technology, 'knowing,' colonialism, racism, gender, nuclear testing, and indigenous peoples. *Nature, Culture, and History* represents the combination of imaginative insight, personal experience, scholarly depth, and philosophical wisdom at its best."—Paul Gordon Lauren, Regents Professor, University of Montana [from the publisher's website]

McLean, Mervyn

2000 *Weavers of Song: Polynesian Music and Dance*. Honolulu: University of Hawai'i Press. ISBN: 0-8248-2271-4 : book + CD

Following his highly respected *Maori Music*, Mervyn McLean presents a companion volume that takes into account the entire sweep of Polynesian music and dance. *Weavers of Song* is divided into two books. Book 1 covers regional music and dance, exploring in detail the musical traditions of twenty specific areas, including the Society Islands, the Cook Islands, Tonga, Samoa, Tuvalu, Tokelau, Niue, Uvea and Futuna, the Marquesas Islands, Easter Island, Hawai'i, and New Zealand. In Book 2, McLean describes the musical instruments and the uses, performance, composition, teaching, and structure of music across the entire region. He studies the impact of European music on traditional music and includes a chapter on modern music and dance. Finally he examines the cultural connections and the diffusion of styles throughout the Polynesian Pacific. *Weavers of Song* is lavishly illustrated with 165 photographs and over 80 musical examples. An accompanying CD sampler contains songs, dance-songs, and instrumental music from the twenty regions examined in the book. [from the publisher's website]

Midian, Andrew

2000 *The Value of Indigenous Music in the Life and Ministry of the Church: The United Church in the Duke of York Islands*. Boroko: Institute of PNG Studies. ISBN 9980-68-034-2; ISSN 1027-4707.

This book was launched on Saturday, 1 April 2000 at Molot village, Duke of York Islands, by Sir Rabbie Namaliu, MP for Kokopo, and on Monday, 3 April 2000 at Rarongo Theological Seminary by Albert ToBurua, former Moderator of the United Church. The author, Rev. Andrew Midian, was born in the Duke of York Islands in 1965. After receiving his Christian Community Training Course certificate from George Brown Pastor's College, he entered Rarongo Theological Seminary and graduated with a Bachelor of Divinity in 1990. This book is a revised version of the thesis he presented at that time.

After working as a pastor in the Duke of Yorks, Kokopo, and Rabaul, Rev. Midian travelled with his family in 1994 to the United Kingdom where he worked as a United

Reformed Church minister for three years. Since his return in 1998, he has been chaplain at Gaulim Teachers College in East New Britain.

The Value of Indigenous Music in the Life and Ministry of the Church presents a critical examination of the hymns presently used in the United Church, particularly in the Duke of York and Rabaul areas. Rev. Midian considers the traditional music of the area and the hymns introduced by missionaries. He then explores the question of whether traditional music has a role to play in the United Church.

This book is the sixth in the series *Apwitihi: Studies in Papua New Guinea Musics*, published by the Institute of Papua New Guinea Studies. Dr. Michael Webb has written a foreword to the book and the editor, Don Niles, an introduction. Drawing on his experiences and thoughts following the completion of his book, Rev. Midian, has also written a preface. The book is available for PGK 10.00 plus postage and bank charges from the Institute of Papua New Guinea Studies, P. O. Box 1432, Boroko 111, PAPUA NEW GUINEA; tel +675-325-4644; fax +675-325-0531; email <ipngs@global.net.pg> [posted on ASAONET by Don Niles]

Stewart, Pamela J., and Andrew Strathern (eds.)

2000 *Identity Work: Constructing Pacific Lives*. ASAO Monograph No. 18. Pittsburgh, PA: University of Pittsburgh Press. ISBN 0-8229-4115-5 (cloth), 0-8229-5716-7 (paper)

This volume links the genres of biography, history, and the concepts of personhood. Each contributing author traces a set of themes in the life of the subject represented, showing how persons can be both linked to and alienated from their social worlds through their own developing experiences. The volume contributes to the understanding of how Pacific Islanders creatively negotiate with changes in their lives over time, and how their ongoing construction of their identities relates to the wider processes of history in which they are involved. The authors' studies are drawn from across the Pacific—Irian Jaya, Papua New Guinea, Vanuatu, Tonga, New Zealand, and the Marianas (Saipan). The contributing authors are: Juliana Flinn, Barbara Burns McGrath, William Rodman, Richard Scaglione and Marie Norman, Karen Sinclair, Pamela J. Stewart, Andrew Strathern, Louise Thoonen, and Geoffrey M. White. [Submitted by editors. Please see enclosed ASAO Monograph Series flyer.]

XVIII. RECENT JOURNALS

Issue no. 23 of the *Oceania Newsletter*, published by The Centre for Pacific Studies (CPS) at the University of Nijmegen, The Netherlands, includes the following items:

Paul van der Grijp, "Asia in the Pacific - Fruitful Conference of the European Society for Oceanists"

Jan Pouwer, "Address to the 4th Conference of the European Society for Oceanists, Leiden, 25 June 1999"

Anna-Karina Hermkens, "New Research Project: Engendering Objects"

Anton Ploeg, " n Memoriam F. J. Wissel"

Pamela J. Stewart and Andrew Strathern, "A Highlands Malaise: Alcohol and Identity Constructions in Papua New Guinea"

Robert Verloop, Review of video, "Lieweila: A Micronesian Story"

Jaap Timmer, "The Van Baal Institute for New Guinea Studies"

Also included are an editorial, a calendar of conferences, new Pacific Islands sites on the World Wide Web, publications received, and listings of new books and recent publications on Oceania, compiled by René van der Haar. As with all CPS newsletters, it has been made accessible on-line at the internet site: <<http://www.kun.nl/cps/>>.

For further information, contact René van der Haar (Documentalist) or Toon van Meijl (Academic Manager), Centre for Pacific and Asian Studies, University of Nijmegen, P.O. Box 9104, 6500 HE Nijmegen, THE NETHERLANDS; tel +31-(0)24-361-3065/2361 (secr.); fax +31-(0)24-361-1945; email: < csacps@baserv.uci.kun.nl >

Issue 47.1 (2000) of the journal **Ethnohistory** is a Special Issue entitled "Millennial Countdown in New Guinea." The guest editors are Pamela J. Stewart and Andrew Strathern. Included are a set of essays that consider in depth the complex variations on the theme of the millennium that have been played out in different cultural and historical settings in Papua New Guinea and Irian Jaya over the last decade or so. In particular they demonstrate the influence of history, through comparisons between different areas. Contents:

Pamela J. Stewart and Andrew Strathern, "Introduction: Latencies and Realizations in Millennial Practices"

Jaap Timmer, "The Return of the Kingdom: Agama and the Millennium among the Imyan of Irian Jaya, Indonesia"

Dianne van Oosterhout, "Tying the Time String Together: An End-of-Time Experience in Irian Jaya, Indonesia"

Lorenzo Brutti, "Afeke's Last Son: Integrating Change in a Papua New Guinean Cosmology"

Jan Bieniek and Garry W. Trompf, "The Millennium, Not the Cargo?"

Ira Bashkow, "Confusion, Native Skepticism, and Recurring Questions about the Year 2000: 'Soft' Beliefs and Preparations for the Millennium in the Arapesh Region, Papua New Guinea"

Holger Jebens, "Signs of the Second Coming: On Eschatological Expectations and Disappointments in Highlands and Seaboard Papua New Guinea"

Chris Ballard, "The Fire Next Time: The Conversion of the Huli Apocalypse"

Richard Scaglione, "Afterword: Zero Hour: Reflecting Backward, Looking Forward"

For more information on the Journal contact: *Ethnohistory*, Neil L. Whitehead, General Editor, University of Wisconsin - Madison or *Ethnohistory*, Journals, Duke Univ. Press, Box 90660, Durham, NC 27708-0660 USA. [1-888-387-5765] [919-687-3602]
<http://www.duke.edu/web/dupress/>

Volume 34, Issue 3 of the **Journal of Pacific History** (December 1999) contains the following:

Nic Maclellan, "The Noumea Accord and Decolonisation in New Caledonia"

Deryck Scarr, "Communalism and a Constitution: Fiji's General Election of May 1999"

Hank Nelson, "Crises of God and Man: Papua New Guinea Political Chronicle 1997-99"

I. C. Campbell, "The Democracy Movement and the 1999 Tongan Elections"

Sandra, "Negotiating a Tuna Management Regime for the Western and Central Pacific: The MHLIC Process 1994-1999"

Donald Denoon, "Black Mischief: The Trouble with African Analogies"

Richard J. Shell, "The Marianas Population Decline: 17th Century Estimates"

Brij V. Lal, "Bound for the Colonies: A View of Indian Indentured Emigration in 1905"

Send queries about subscriptions to the *Journal of Pacific History* to Stefan Lacny, Subscriptions Manager, Carfax Publishing Ltd., P O Box 25, Abingdon, Oxfordshire OX14 3UE, UNITED KINGDOM; tel +44-1235-401000, fax +44-1235-401550, email <stefan.lacny@carfax.co.uk>

Issue 14.1 (2000) of the **Journal of Ritual Studies** includes a collection of papers dealing with the topic of food and ritual, including the following articles of potential interest to Pacific scholars: Mary N. MacDonald, "Food and Gender in the Highlands of Papua New Guinea"; and Pamela J. Stewart and Andrew Strathern, "Returns of the Gift, Returns from the Gift."

For information about the Journal write to Co-editors, *Journal of Ritual Studies*, Department of Anthropology, 3H01 Wesley W. Posvar Hall, Pittsburgh, PA 15260 USA; tel 412/648-7539; fax 412/649-7535; email <jors@pitt.edu>

The ASAO Newsletter is published three times yearly (April, September, December) and is a benefit of ASAO membership. Annual dues are US\$35 general, US\$20 student. Institutional subscriptions are available for US\$15 per calendar year. ISSN 1095-3000

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