

# Newsletter

## Society for Applied Anthropology

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### PRESIDENT'S LETTER

By Linda Whiteford  
[lindaw@chuma1.cas.usf.edu]  
University of South Florida

Taxes. Some people think that January is the time to start on their taxes, while others ask for an extension around April 10<sup>th</sup>. And we know who we are and how we approach deadlines...some start early, some get to them barely in time, and others need extensions. So, here is an opportunity to see which you are. We are quickly approaching the 2005 annual meeting of the Society to be held in Santa Fe, New Mexico. All, or at least most, of it is ready. And you have your abstract in, your plane reservations, and your hotel room all set. But what about next year? Have you even thought about the 2006 meeting of the Society?



Probably not. And here is your chance. In 2006 the Society will host its annual meeting in Vancouver, British Columbia. We are looking for proposals for Program Chairs and a meeting theme. This is your call to be a Program Chair. Check webpage (<http://www.sfaa.net/>) for more details, but the deadline is quite tight (hence all the earlier stuff about how people approach deadlines). Proposals need to be submitted to the Executive Director, Tom May, no later than Feb. 17<sup>th</sup>.

Just in case you are one of those whose taxes aren't done yet and probably won't be in time for you to put together a Program Chair Proposal, but you want to become more involved in the activities of the Society, I have

another offer for you. A great way to learn about and help shape the workings of the Society is through participation on committees of the Society. Not only do you get to meet good people, but also you can strengthen the Society through your ideas (and work) and by bringing other people and organizations into the Society. We are working on replacing people who are rotating off of committees, and *I NEED YOU!* (to use an oft-used phrase). If you are interested in participating on a committee, please look at the website above and see the committees that exist and drop me a note at the email above with your name and what committee(s) you would be interested in.

I am totally convinced that we are only as good as our membership and their willingness to be active members. Stay warm and let us hear from you.

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## SANTA FE MEETINGS - NEW TWISTS ON A TRIED AND TRUE PROGRAM

By Erve Chambers  
[echambers@anth.umd.edu]  
University of Maryland  
2005 Program Chair



If you have already taken a look at the preliminary program for our upcoming meetings in Santa Fe (available at [www.sfaa.net](http://www.sfaa.net)), you will know that the meetings are going to be large. We anticipate between 2,000 and 2,500 registrants from more than 20 countries for what will almost certainly be the largest meetings in the history of the Society, and that I understand will also be the largest meeting of its kind ever held in the city of Santa Fe. We have filled the meeting rooms of four hotels, including our headquarters hotel La Fonda. For most days of the meetings, up to 16 sessions will be offered simultaneously. There will be more than 250 paper sessions, panels and roundtables. This does not include the varied workshops, business meetings, and special interest group meetings that are still being sorted through and readied for the program.

As many of you know, some of the sessions that will be offered in Santa Fe came to us as a result of the unfortunate circumstances that resulted in the relocation of the 2004 American Anthropological Association meetings from San Francisco to Atlanta. You might be interested to learn that the number of these sessions is relatively small, accounting for less than 10% of the total number of sessions. It is important to realize that our decision to accept these papers and sessions was not taken lightly. We did not solicit any sessions, but only responded to requests from session organizers and presenters. We insisted that the sessions be subject to our independent review and be appropriate for our meetings, and we also asked organizers to assure us that the sessions they were proposing would not in any case have been moved to Atlanta (in other words, we did not want to take any sessions from the AAA's Atlanta meetings). The sessions that we did accept for our meetings are of high quality and both enrich and diversify the program.

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I hope you will be, as I have been, impressed by the number of sessions that respond directly to the theme of "Heritage, Environment, and Tourism." It is worth noting that the theme appears to have drawn a larger than usual number of colleagues in the "humanities" oriented fields of practice and application, such as public folklorists, historians, and museum professionals. There are also more sessions devoted to archaeology than I can remember from past meetings. And yet we have done this without detracting from the other interests that have been common to our meetings—we have strong and innovative sessions related to health and medicine, agriculture, community and regional development, education, and many other topics.

What I want to discuss for the remainder of this column is what you *do not* see in the preliminary program, because there is quite a bit that is still to be announced. I have mentioned some of these features in earlier announcements, but they are now far enough along that they can be added with greater certainty. From the beginning of my involvement with the program, I have hoped that the 2005 meetings could be a little different from previous meetings, particularly in the ways we relate to the location of our meetings and interact with the good citizens of Santa Fe and northern New Mexico. What I wanted us to do, as much as possible, was to reduce the distance between ourselves and the place where we were meeting, in effect taking our meetings out into the community and bringing the community into our meetings. There are two elements of the program that are critical to these plans. One element is Santa Fe/New Mexico Day, which is scheduled for Tuesday, April 5, of the meetings. The other element is the various tours that will occur throughout the meetings and that are in the final stages of planning as I write this.

From the preliminary program, you will see that all the sessions scheduled for April 5 are related to New Mexican issues and topics. What is not yet on the program are a number of other activities planned for that day. We will, for example, be hosting a number of authors who have recently published books about the region. They will give talks and participate in

an afternoon book signing. The authors include John Pen LaFarge, oral historian and son of the noted Southwestern anthropologist Oliver LaFarge. We have also planned a public lecture on the "Legacy of El Delirio," a magnificent estate on Santa Fe's East Side that later became the grounds of the School of American Research. Nancy Owen Lewis will present the lecture and a tour on the SAR campus. As I write this, we are as well trying to finalize arrangements to have a screening of the work of some local Native American filmmakers, followed by a conversation with the filmmakers. We hope to have this activity take place on the campus of the Institute for American Indian Arts, a unique multi-tribal center for higher education located on outskirts of town. For the evening of April 5, we are planning a screening of Robert Redford's 1988 film *The Milagro Beanfield War*, which was filmed just north of Santa Fe, followed with a talk by John Nichols, the author of the book on which Redford based the film. We have invited the mayor of Santa Fe to join us for the evening, and there is a rumor that he will have a surprise announcement concerning our Society.

And here is what I think is the most exciting thing about the activities of Santa Fe/New

**We plan on inviting the citizens of Santa Fe to meet with us, to attend our sessions and talks, to join us for the films and other activities, and to do this at no cost to them.**

Mexico Day. In other words, this day of the meetings will, on a space available basis, be free to all interested parties. I see this as a great opportunity to give a little back to the community, as well as to demonstrate to the public the relevant ways in which our membership and other colleagues are addressing issues of importance to their lives. This gesture will not be without costs, and we are grateful for the support of such organizations as the Santa Fe City Council, the New Mexico Humanities Council, the National Park Service, the Association of Latina and Latino Anthropologists, and The Fund for Folk Culture.

Some features of Santa Fe/New Mexico Day are going to spill over to other days of the meeting. For example, for Wednesday, April 6, we have asked Chris Wilson, author of *The Myth of Santa Fe*, to give a public lecture on

his much heralded and controversial account of the representations of ethnicity and locality in the tourist-oriented construction of modern Santa Fe. On Saturday evening we hope to be able to offer a free showing of *Salt of the Earth*, a 1953 film based on a strike by Spanish and Mexican American laborers in Baynard, New Mexico. We are also hoping to host a few local storytellers to join us at La Fonda and help us make the transition from our afternoon scholarly sessions to the evening activities.

By the time you have this newsletter to read, descriptions of most if not all of the tours we have been planning should already be posted on the Society's webpage. The tours are intended to support the program theme of "Heritage, Environment & Tourism." As a rule, we have relied on our members and closely allied heritage professionals to help develop the tours and serve as hosts. Many of the tours will include members of the communities represented—involving them in ways that we trust will be respectful of their places and talents. Tour hosts have been encouraged to be reflexive in their presentations, reflecting not only on the "subjects" and "objects" of the tour but also on their own professional experiences and

on pertinent issues related to such concerns as the politics

of heritage representation, cultural and natural environment conservation, and tourism.

We have developed a variety of walking tours within Santa Fe, as well as several bus tours to nearby archaeological and historical sites, communities, and museums. The maximum the size of most tours will be small, and we do anticipate that many of them will fill rapidly. I encourage you to check out the tours on the Society's webpage as soon as you find convenient.

There is quite a bit more that you will not find in full detail on the preliminary program. For example, on Wednesday evening, the University of New Mexico will sponsor an opening reception, with a Mariachi band provided by New Mexico Highlands University. On Thursday evening, we have scheduled a plenary session

devoted to repatriation that is sponsored by the School of American Research, as well as a keynote address by noted environmentalist Peter Raven. Our Awards Ceremony and the Malinowski Address will occur on Friday evening, followed by another reception. On Friday evening registrants will have an opportunity to participate in the city's "Gallery Walk," hosted by several local art galleries. I also understand that a number of the downtown museums are open free of charge on Friday evenings.

So don't be square, and don't let yourself miss this one. Come to the SFAA meetings this April and get to know some things you didn't know about Santa Fe and New Mexico. Come bring your enthusiasm and help us think about the Society and its mission in fresh ways and to good purposes.

## SFAA AND PUBLIC POLICY

By Paul Durrenberger [edp2@psu.edu]  
Pennsylvania State University

This morning, some whack job from the Hoover Institute was on NPR saying that since all prescription drugs have some side effects, you and your doctor should be free to decide which ones you want to risk taking. The FDA has no business controlling that part of your life by judging the risks and benefits of drugs.



Heard about Social Security Reform? It only gets rid of the "social" part and the "security" part so that we invest in the stock market to make brokers rich. The "social" part is supposed to mean people helping each other—while I have an income, I contribute some of it to support those who don't. The "security" part means that if I don't have an income because I'm disabled or retired, I can count on getting an income from the system. I earn that right by paying in while I do have an income. It has nothing to do with stocks or brokers.

I suppose one of these genius whackos is busy in a right-wing think tank coming up with

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some way to justify saying that it's your choice where you work and OSHA shouldn't meddle with businesses that don't care to invest in workplace safety. It's your right to breathe particulate matter if you choose to live in Atlanta or Los Angeles and the EPA shouldn't interfere with your right to elect slow suicide.

But somehow it's not a woman's right to decide whether she wants to carry a fertilized egg to term. The government can decide that one. If you're in a reserve unit that's called up, it's not your choice whether to go to Iraq and violate that commandment of that jealous god of that Old Testament that ordered people not to kill. So the government can make you violate your religious tenets.

That's the thing with whack-jobs; they aren't bothered by such hobgoblins of small minds as consistency.

And that's the thing about their think-tanks. The brokers, war mongers, and drug companies that benefit from this insane chatter pay these people to think up these absurdities and repeat them until they seem obvious to people. People lose that fine sense of the absurd that gives life spice and come to think of themselves as strange if the absurd does *not* seem obvious. Jules Henry wrote about that in his book, *Culture Against Man*.

What he didn't write about was how those absurdities become public policy or how people come to vote absurdly. People work harder than ever before for less and less. Everywhere they turn, they lose. Healthcare. Pensions. Security. Education. Potholes. Schools. Jobs. So they get angry. They know there are some bastards out there making their lives miserable. Liberals. And they vote against them. And it gets worse and worse and they get madder and madder and vote more and more against those friggling liberals. That's the thesis of Thomas Frank's book, *What's the Matter With Kansas?: How Conservatives Won the Heart of America*. The Democrats dropped the ball when they took economics out of politics.

Anthropologist Dimitra Doukas points out that this right wing barrage on reason is no new phenomenon. In her book, *Worked Over: The Corporate Sabotage of an American Commu-*

nity, she dates it to more than a hundred years ago when trusts re-organized as corporations justified their piracy by promoting the gospel of wealth—that wealth generates wealth—in opposition to the prevailing gospel of work—that work generates wealth. They endowed university chairs and sponsored university professors who would spread their gospel via the religion-as-science doctrines of economics. They sponsored a cultural revolution. If you're at a university, see who bought your department of economics, check who built the buildings. Here at Penn State, people and corporations buy whole colleges and collect individual professors as well. Most universities are the same.

Here I keep hearing that song, *Send in the Clowns*, but there are too many syllables in "anthropologists" to fit where "clowns" should go. But where are we? Where are the anthropologists in the formation of public policy? No-where to be seen.

A bankruptcy judge just decided that U.S. Air can violate its contract with the flight attendants' union and delete their contract because the corporation's obligation to honor contracts with workers comes low on the list. The policy this proclaims to corporations? Declare bankruptcy, scrape off the unions that represent your workers, and continue with non-organized workers. Work them more and pay them less...I'm not predicting the future here, I'm reciting the past. We've seen the exact same tactic used by coal mining companies in Pennsylvania that now pay low wages to non-union workers. Thanks to some bankruptcy judge, coalminers dying of black lung and other ailments have lost the health insurance and pensions their union negotiated for them decades ago.

So workers get angry and vote for the politicians the corporations are buying anyway.

NEAT. It doesn't get any better than that.

Or Congress takes seriously proposals to "re-form" social security.

Or a grass roots movement organizes to oppose abortions.

Or OSHA doesn't get enough funds to enforce job safety rules.

Or FDA changes its rules about approving drugs.

Or a conservative judge says you don't have to honor your contracts with unions. And where are we?

Well, whatever you want to say about anything else the American Anthropological Association has done lately, they've at least put a little bit of their money behind a Public Policy Center. In addition, AAA sections including the Biological Anthropology Section, Association of Senior Anthropologists, Central States Anthropological Society, Anthropology and Environment Section, and National Association of Practicing Anthropologists all kicked in. The 5k from AAA and the contributions from the sections don't amount to much compared to the coffers of irrationality, but it's a start.

And it's a damned sight more than the Big Fat 0 that our own SfAA board put behind it.

Want to hear a voice of reason? Well, if not reason, anthropology? Then help the SfAA leadership see the necessity of supporting a Policy Center. The committee working on this policy center has spent years answering every question, and foreseeing every wrinkle, writing plans for every contingency, even making an administrative setup so that the SfAA doesn't lose its identity in the process. They've crossed every 't' and dotted every 'i.' Now it's time for the SfAA to put up.

Shoot, if each member ponied up a buck a year that would do it. If we decided to forego one big reception at our annual meeting, we could make a meaningful contribution to the seed money the Policy Center needs to get started.

So let's all think about what we value and help our SfAA leadership see the sweet light of reason—let's all spend a little effort educating our board members and do something to gain a voice for anthropology in the discussions of public policy that affect us all.

## IS IT WORTH THE GAMBLE?: LESSONS FROM GAMING RESEARCH

By Merrill Singer [Anthro8566@aol.com]  
Hispanic Health Council

A number of months ago, I wrote a column for the SfAA *Newsletter* under the title "Ties That Bind: Lessons from Medical Research for Business Anthropology." The essay focused on the warnings of people like Marcia Angell, then the editor in chief of the *New England Journal of Medicine*, about the growing pro-pharmaceutical industry bias in medical research. Dr. Angell's level of concern was so great that she went on to write a book, published by Random House, entitled *The Truth About the Drug Companies: How They Deceive Us and What to Do About It*.



One message of Angell's book is this: how much can we trust research on the positive and negative effects of new medicines when the research has either been bought and paid for outright by the pharmaceutical industry or the ties between university-based medical researchers and the pharmaceutical industry are so close, and the likelihood that researchers and their university employers will share in the rich profits of new drugs produced by pharmaceutical companies, is so great? My point in raising this issue in an applied anthropology forum was to introduce a cautionary message for the growing field of business anthropology. If medical research can be bent to the needs of Big Pharma and the biotech industry, is the same kind of thing happening in corporate-funded research carried out in business anthropology? And if the potential for pro-employer bias exists in business anthropology research, what mechanisms are there to assess and address this not insignificant threat to the integrity of applied anthropology--recognizing that there are those in our discipline (fairly or otherwise) who already equate "applied anthropology" with the worst things that happen in the world in the name of our discipline (e.g., supporting colonialism).

Further lessons for business anthropology are now available from the gambling industry *Society for Applied Anthropology*

and the research that is conducted by some investigators on pathological gambling. Recently, for example, both Henry Lesieur, a clinical psychiatrist at Rhode Island Hospital and Richard Rosenthal of UCLA resigned from the board of the National Center for Responsible Gambling (NCRG), charging that *the gambling industry has too much influence on health and gambling research in the United States*.

What is the NCRG? According to its website, it was established in 1996 as "the first national organization devoted exclusively to funding independent, peer-reviewed scientific research on pathological and youth gambling." Since its founding the NCRG has raised \$13 million in pledges to support its functioning and to fund new research. Where does the money come from? Initial funding came from a start up contribution of \$875,000 over a ten year period from the Boyd Gaming Corporation (a \$1.3 billion company that owns 18 casinos and related businesses in Nevada, New Jersey, Mississippi, Louisiana, Indiana, and Illinois). Since then other big contributors have included Harrah's Entertainment, Inc., International Game Technology, Mandalay Resort Group, MGM MIRAGE, and Park Place Entertainment Corporation among various other gambling industry bigwigs, including casinos, gambling equipment manufacturers, and industry vendors. With this money, the NCRG began to fund research on gambling.

In 1996, the NCRG awarded its first extramural grant. The recipient was the Harvard Medical School for a study designed to determine the prevalence of gambling-related mental health and other disorders in the populations of the United States and Canada. The findings of this study were published in the *American Journal of Public Health* and received wide acclaim. Four years later, the NCRG awarded Harvard Medical School's Division on Addictions a \$2.4 million grant to set up the Institute for Research on Pathological Gambling and Related Disorders. Funding for the Institute from the NCRG is now up to \$5 million. Organized on the model of the National Institutes of Health, the new university-based center took over all of the academic and scientific research functions formerly performed by the NCRG and the latter has focused on fund-raising for the

Institute. As it proudly notes on its website, the generous financial support provided by the NCRG has enabled it "to attract the best minds from the most prestigious institutions to conduct research in [the] uncharted field [of gambling disorders]."

Anti-gambling activists, however, have begun to question the quality and integrity of the Institute's research program. They point out that virtually all funding on gambling disorders comes from the very industry that directly profits from significant increases in the number of gambling venues and gamblers in North America (e.g., it is estimated that the lifetime problem gambling rate doubled between 1977 and 1997). According to the Rev. Tom Grey, a Methodist minister and head of the nonprofit National Coalition Against Legalized Gambling, "They point to the Harvard research all the time.... It's a good investment. They're getting Harvard cheap at this point" (Associated Press, November 11, 2004).

Howard Shaffer, the head of the Institute for Research on Pathological Gambling and Related Disorders, counters that researchers are not responsible for how the industry uses their findings and publications. For example, in September of 2004, during legislative hearings in Maryland on the expansion of the number of allowable slot machines, gambling industry lobbyist Frank Fahrenkopf testified to Maryland lawmakers that research at Harvard found that only 1.14% of adult Americans suffer from pathological gambling disorders. This was indeed part of what the Institute had reported. Fahrenkopf failed to mention other findings from the Institute showing that almost 4% of adults engage in problem gambling and that among adolescents' rates of pathological gambling disorders or being at risk for these conditions reaches 20%.

Anti-gambling activists question the ethics of accepting funding from an industry that researchers know will pick and choose the research findings it likes and ignore those that do not advance industry interests. Even more importantly—for gambling as well as business anthropology researchers—is the corrupting effect of industry funding. As has been seen in pharmacy research, researchers who report findings that could hurt industry profits tend to not be

refunded. Is there any reason to think this would not be true of gambling disorder research, or, for that matter, corporate-funded business anthropology research? Patterns that have already emerged in medical and gambling disorder research should serve as red flags for business anthropology and applied anthropology as a whole; let's hope that they do.

## MINDING OUR MONEY IN 2005

By Diane Austin [dustin@u.arizona.edu]  
University of Arizona

At the November teleconference meeting, the Society's Board of Directors approved the 2005 Budget with an estimated income of \$381,414 and estimated expenditures of \$381,085. This very narrow margin of \$329 was achieved only after the Board rejected several proposals for new projects. The entire 2005 budget, including all sources of expected income and purposes for expected expenditures is posted on the Society's web site <[www.sfaa.org](http://www.sfaa.org)>.



Estimated and actual income and expenditure figures for the years 1996-2005 are presented below for comparison. The reader will note that in only three of these years did revenues exceed expenditures. Also, beginning in 2001, the budget and actual totals reflect the impact of national economic problems on the Society. In 2003, the discrepancy between revenues and expenditures reached 33 percent of total expenditures and caused significant concern among members of the Board and Executive Committee. President Whiteford organized a March 2004 Board retreat, one outcome of which was the creation of a committee to assist with development.

Though we are still awaiting the final 2004 financial statement from the Society's auditors, as of November 2004 the Society had received annual revenues of \$394,372 and expended \$350,920. The rebound for 2004 can be attrib-

uted to several things, especially membership dues and revenue for the 2005 Meeting in Santa Fe. Subscriptions to *Human Organization* also remain a significant source of revenue for the Society. While this good news does not mean we no longer have to watch our pennies, I am pleased to report that we are moving into 2005 with the clear expectation that we will exceed our revenue projections and begin the year in sound financial shape.

The Society's leadership will continue to work hard to improve the financial health of the organization, but I will take this opportunity to remind you that we all have an important role to play. Our base budget is built from revenues generated from membership dues, the Annual Meeting, and the Society's publications. If you have not yet paid your dues, now is the time to do so; it's also the perfect time to recruit a friend or colleague to join as well. Among the benefits of membership are reduced fees at the Annual Meetings. The 2005 Meeting promises to be intellectually stimulating and fun, as well as an important revenue generator, so make sure to register now if you have not yet done so.

Year		Total Expenditures	Total Revenues
1996	Budget	\$225,590	\$230,069
	Actual	\$226,500	\$303,348
1997	Budget	\$258,618	\$261,835
	Actual	\$387,795	\$486,039
1998	Budget	\$444,084	\$449,565
	Actual	\$417,528	\$414,615
1999	Budget	\$422,047	\$428,480
	Actual	\$430,524	\$410,286
2000	Budget	\$428,695	\$435,885
	Actual	\$452,268	\$480,123
2001	Budget	\$334,466	\$342,835
	Actual	\$372,508	\$305,383
2002	Budget	\$355,644	\$351,500
	Actual	\$347,824	\$321,627
2003	Budget	\$360,248	\$362,713
	Actual	\$367,328	\$245,986
2004	Budget	\$379,703	\$382,760
	Actual	n/a	n/a
2005	Budget	\$381,085	\$381,414

Finally, while subscription to the Society's publications (*Human Organization*, *Practicing Society for Applied Anthropology*

*Anthropology*, and the newsletter you are now reading) is a benefit of membership, the Society also generates revenue from the sale of subscriptions to libraries. Many libraries are drastically reducing the number of publications to which they subscribe, and the Business Office has been tracking cancellations and taking steps to recapture former subscribers and recruit new ones. You can check to see that your library is a subscriber and, if not, contact the Business Office to learn more about how you can help expand circulation of the Society's publications. Working together, we can ensure that the Society remains strong and viable.

## STUDENT COMMITTEE REPORT

By Jon Poehlman  
[poehlman@helios.acomp.usf.edu]  
University of South Florida

Each year the student committee hosts several sessions at the society's annual meeting. These sessions are designed specifically for students and range from a general orientation for all students to sessions that will interest students at different stages in their academic careers. This year the committee, I believe, has exceeded itself with a set of germane presentations, many hosted by fellow students.

Listed below are the sessions that have been planned for students:

*Student Conference Welcome and Orientation.* This session is designed to familiarize students and those new to the SfAA Conference with conference events, activities and session organization, as well as to welcome students to the annual meeting. Student Committee representatives will discuss the most productive ways to choose among sessions, workshops, business meetings, receptions, and open forums; suggestions for ways to approach presenters and contact professionals; and foremost, practices that will reap the most benefits from your participation and experiences at the annual program. All students are encouraged to join us for this orientation session to map their 2005 Santa Fe Conference experience!

*A Panel and Mentorship Session for Undergraduate Students.* The Student Committee



welcomes undergraduate students and recent graduates to a panel and mentorship session designed to provide options and advice concerning graduate program selection processes (including information about choosing a graduate program, writing a graduate school application, identifying areas of specialization, and developing independent research projects) as well as non-academic options for further education and employment. The session will begin with a presentation by academic and non-academic professionals. Undergraduate students may then meet individually with a number of academic and non-academic professionals and current graduate students for additional mentorship. We encourage all interested students to join us for this interactive session.

*Applied Serendipity, or "How I got my job": Advice for students from recently awarded Ph.D.s.* The purpose of this roundtable is for students to have a chance to listen to (briefly), and question some relatively recent graduates (from academics to those working in the public and private sectors) as to how they found themselves in their present employment/careers.

*Student Opportunities in the SfAA: Student Committee Business Meeting.* The SfAA Student Committee is dedicated to representing and promoting the interests of applied anthropology students. All students are encouraged to attend this session to learn more about student leadership opportunities in the SfAA. The committee will discuss topics including student awards, the recruitment of committee officers, website development, and setting the agenda of the Student Committee for the coming year.

*Got Grants? An Information Session for Students Searching for Research Money.* Join students and professionals as we share information about grant databases specific to applied anthropology, as well as suggestions for maneuvering through the grant proposal writing process. Locating funding opportunities is difficult, and this session hopes to demystify the process as well as provide tips for organizing and writing effective funding proposals and applications. Students will be encouraged to share their own funding resources to contribute

to a compilation that will be posted on the Student Committee's webpage.

*SfAA Past Presidents & Students Luncheon.* For the eighth consecutive year, the Student Committee has organized the SfAA Past Presidents & Students Luncheon. Students get the rare opportunity to meet and engage in discussions with a group of SfAA Past Presidents. The sit-down luncheon is designed to be a casual, yet intimate event open to all students. Students guide individual discussions with Past Presidents and some past topics have been: SfAA history, research and practice, and broader issues in applied anthropology. The SfAA Conference Committee continues to generously sponsor lunches for 25 students. Pre-registration is required at the Conference Registration Desk.

Look for these and other great activities for students at this year's meeting. Start planning now so that you can attend. The annual meeting is a great way to learn about the many great things going on in applied anthropology, network with peers, and enhance your professional skills.

## COPAA NEWS

By Linda Bennett [lbennett@memphis.edu]  
University of Memphis

The Consortium of Practicing and Applied Anthropology (COPAA) Programs will hold its sixth annual business meeting on Tuesday morning, April 5<sup>th</sup>, 2005, in Santa Fe in advance of the SfAA meetings. The Consortium is organized around the mission to collectively advance the education and training of students, faculty, and practitioners in applied anthropology. If your program—undergraduate, master's, or doctoral—would be interested in taking part in the Consortium, please contact me.



COPAA has organized two sessions for the SfAA meetings.

Judith Freidenberg (Maryland), Peg Graham (Santa Clara), and Karen Quintiliani (U.C Long Beach) have organized a panel session on "Practitioner and Academic Collaborations in the Training of Students—Opportunities and Challenges." The session will take place on Friday, April 8, 8-9:45 AM. Abstract: Many academic departments that offer degrees in applied anthropology have established relationships with practicing anthropologists. Yet little is known about how collaborations between practitioners and applied anthropologists in academic settings operate and the challenges and opportunities they offer for student training and the development of the field of applied anthropology in general. This panel explores the experiences of practicing and applied anthropologists. Panelists will discuss how collaboration enhances student education and fieldwork; the challenges faced by practitioners who do not hold a permanent department position; and the possible directions for improving interaction between departments and practitioners through local applied anthropology networks. Invited panelists include: Patricia Sachs (Social Solutions), Jean Gilbert (CSU-Long Beach), Cathleen Craine and Neil Tashima (LTG), Linda Kaljee (U Md. Medical School), and Magdalena Mieri (Smithsonian Institution).

Michael Whiteford (Iowa State University) and Linda Bennett (U of Memphis) have organized a panel session entitled "Tenure and Promotion in Applied Anthropology" which is scheduled for Wednesday, April 6, 10-11:45 a.m. Abstract: Anthropologists holding varied administrative positions in their universities address the concepts of applied scholarship and engaged scholarship as they are applied in the tenure and promotion process and decision-making at their institutions. Each panelist will discuss the distinction between conventional, applied, and engaged scholarship from his/her own perspective and with regard to the tenure and promotion guidelines and process in the anthropology department and in the university overall. Panelists include: Marietta Baba (Michigan State University), John Young (Oregon State University), Elizabeth Bird (University of South Florida), Michael Whiteford (Iowa State University), Kathryn Cruz-Urbe (Northern Arizona University), Allen Batteau (Wayne State University), and Linda Bennett (University of Memphis).

## FOOD AND AGRICULTURE TIG

By Garry Stephenson  
[garry.stephenson@oregonstate.edu]  
Oregon State University

As noted in the October newsletter, this year's SfAA conference is taking an important step toward supporting local farmers. Based on recommendations from the Food and Agriculture TIG formulated during the 2003 meetings in Portland, SfAA has included sourcing food from local farmers for conference activities in its contract. Here is an update from Tom May who has put his heart into making this a reality:

From the beginning, we have had in mind the notion of informing the hotels and local vendors of our interest in 'supporting local producers'. Language to this effect was put into our contract with the main host hotel (La Fonda). We also negotiated a waiver on the customary 'corkage fee', should we be able to obtain donations of local beverages. Finally, we have received an exemption that would permit us to host a 'local wine tasting' in the La Fonda Hotel, contingent on a donation of wine.

The major receptions and food functions at our meeting will be held at the La Fonda Hotel. The Food Director of the Hotel clearly understands our interests and is very supportive. He has worked in the past with the Farmers' Market of Santa Fe, and other related groups. We will turn in the food order in late March and he will survey his suppliers.

He will then report to SfAA with information on cost and availability. He anticipates that the cost of local products will be higher, simply because of unit costs. He will develop a model that illustrates any additional costs associated with using local producers. I have in mind the idea of absorbing up to a 20% difference in cost in order to use local producers. Should the cost of local producers exceed that, I will suggest that we use the lower cost alternative. If local produce is included in items that are used at our receptions, the Hotel will prepare a descriptive card for the food tables and we will include a notice in the Annual Meeting Program.

The TIG sponsored agriculture tour is scheduled for Saturday, April 9<sup>th</sup>. The tour theme is "Sustaining Agriculture at 7,000 Feet," reflecting various successful adaptations over time to farming in a challenging environment. Tour stops include Nambe Pueblo, and farms near Embudo and Holman. A family-style lunch at Las Tarrazas del Embudo is included. Registration is being handled through the SfAA office as per other conference tours.

The Food and Agriculture TIG will be meeting on Friday, April 8<sup>th</sup> beginning at noon. Check the final conference schedule for the location. These meetings are always informal. Discussions focus on potential conference sessions, developing a conference tour, and other issues intended to advance the TIG.

To subscribe to FoodAg list, go to <<http://lists.oregonstate.edu/mailman/listinfo/foodag-l>>. Or, enter *Subscribe* in body of an email message and send to <[foodag-l-request@lists.oregonstate.edu](mailto:foodag-l-request@lists.oregonstate.edu)>. The list provides occasional postings (very rare) related to food and agriculture and TIG activities.

## FROM THE DESK OF WILL SIBLEY: WAPA NEWS

By Will Sibley [[shadyside1190@comcast.net](mailto:shadyside1190@comcast.net)]  
Washington, DC

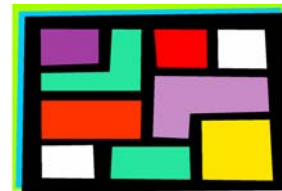
Long-time and founding member of WAPA, Gretchen Schafft, has published a remarkable book detailing anthropologists' involvement in activities involving Nazi eugenic policies in Poland during WW-II. Several millions of Polish persons perished as a result of Nazi policies. Based on captured documents discovered at the Smithsonian, and assiduous research in Poland and elsewhere in Europe, the book is titled *From Racism to Genocide: Anthropology in the Third Reich* and is published by University of Illinois Press in 2004.

WAPA held its annual winter social gathering in January at Past-President Rob Winthrop's home on Capitol Hill in Washington. Among notables present were current President Judith Freidenburg and President-elect John Mullen [who has been our faithful newsletter editor for a number of years].

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Monthly meetings are held at the Sumner School in the DuPont Circle area of Washington. They will continue through May 2005 in this "season."

Because of the difficulties with the 2004 Annual Meeting of the AAA, the due date for applications for the 2005 Praxis Award has been moved from June 2005 to September 1, 2005. Publicity will be available at the 2005 Annual Meeting of the SfAA in Santa Fe. Questions may be forwarded to Willis Sibley, Chair, Praxis 2005, E-mail <[shadyside1190@comcast.net](mailto:shadyside1190@comcast.net)> or (301) 261-9404.



## LPO NEWS

By Carla Littlefield [[Lneilcarla@cs.com](mailto:Lneilcarla@cs.com)]  
Denver, Colorado

The "High Plains Society for Applied Anthropology" (HPSfAA) held its annual retreat at Ghost Ranch near Abiquiu, New Mexico, October 1-3, 2004. Retreat organizer Emilia Gonzalez-Clements, along with a competent team, divided the surrounding area into community clusters for investigation by retreat participants. In a short period of time, participants gathered a wealth of information through what Peter Van Arsdale labeled, "Rapid Rapid Assessment." As only anthropologists could say, President Clare Boulanger reported that they thoroughly enjoyed themselves.

HPSfAA will hold its annual conference in Estes Park, CO on April 22-24, 2005. The theme is "Applying Anthropology: Collaboration Across and Within Sub-Disciplines." Guest speaker will be Mark Singer (Western State College of Colorado), author of "Hunter-Gatherer Archaeology of the Colorado High Country." For more information, visit the conference website at <[www.hpsfaa.org](http://www.hpsfaa.org)>. Springtime in the Rockies is always memorable.

Reporting for the "Sun Coast Organization of Practicing Anthropologists" (SCOPA), Alvin Wolfe says that members are busy applying their skills and perspective in many areas of the Tampa Bay Area, but have not done much as a corporate body. As previously reported, their activities are mostly in the areas of neighborhood and community planning, especially when that planning is for children and families, housing and transportation. These same areas are a priority for the University of South Florida (USF) Collaborative for Children, Families and Communities that involves USF faculty and always involves community representatives as well.

A most interesting current development for SCOPA is a jointly sponsored forum aiming at arousing community interest in doing community impact assessment before proceeding with any developments that would affect neighborhoods. Susan Greenbaum's research on public housing has stimulated interest on the part of SCOPA members as well as other activists in the Tampa Bay Area. Stan Hyland (University of Memphis) is expected to participate.

The "Chicago Association for the Practice of Anthropology" (CAPA) is moving ahead with its sustainability initiative. President Nancy Greenman reports that they now have a web host that is purely CAPA's rather than routing through an individual member. She encourages practicing anthropologists in the Chicago area to join them. See their website at <[www.chicagoanthro.org](http://www.chicagoanthro.org)>.

To submit LPO news for the SfAA Newsletter, please contact Carla Littlefield at the e-mail address above. The SfAA-LPO Liaison, Leni Bohren <[bohren@CAHS.colostate.edu](mailto:bohren@CAHS.colostate.edu)>, also would like to hear from you.



## SFAA ORAL HISTORY PROJECT: SOME BASIC INFORMATION AND A LOOK AT A TRANSCRIPT

By John van Willigen [[ant101@uky.edu](mailto:ant101@uky.edu)]  
University of Kentucky

The Society for Applied Anthropology initiated its Oral History Project to create a body of interviews and transcripts dealing with development of applied anthropology. The project is based at the University of Kentucky Libraries' Oral History Program where the audio tapes and transcripts are archived and transcription is done. The Program has a website <[www.uky.edu/Libraries/Special/oral\\_history](http://www.uky.edu/Libraries/Special/oral_history)>, which includes a data base that includes all the transcribed SfAA interviews along with other projects.

Members of the Society can help the Oral History Project in many important ways. We rely entirely on volunteer interviewers and many of our ideas for interviews come from members. It would be really useful if you suggested persons to be interviewed and volunteered to interview them. While we may think first about "historic figures" it makes a great deal of sense to interview experienced people who are still very much active in the field. There are a number of ideas that come to mind: 1) Interview applied anthropologists that were your teachers; 2) Create a student study group or course that focuses on the development of your applied anthropology program or local practitioner organization; 3) Have someone interview you about your earlier experiences in application. There are many possibilities.

To illustrate some of the content of interviews I have included a short excerpt of a transcript. I interviewed Robert Rhoades for the Project while at the SfAA meetings in Atlanta. Bob played a very important role in the development of participatory research in agricultural development while at the International Potato Center and is an important player in the realm of "agricultural anthropology. His "farmer-back-to-farmer" model is very important and remains influential in this field. I have included an excerpt from the transcript that describes

the emergence of the label of “agricultural anthropology.”

**RHOADES:** [I had] no particular background in potatoes. But, anyway, when I came back and reestablished connections with the anthropological community, around 1976, this was before I went to the Potato Center, but my interests had started in that direction. I attended the first meetings of the Culture and Agriculture Group, [at] the AAA meetings in San Francisco.

**VAN WILLIGEN:** That was the very first meeting?

**RHOADES:** The very first meeting, which was organized by John Bennett, and if you recall, Margaret Mead was still alive at that time, and Margaret Mead didn't come to those meetings. But, she was there, and she had blessed them, and, but really the person that did the organizing of the culture and agriculture group was John Bennett. And, it was at that point, was the first time I heard this term used, agricultural anthropology.

**VAN WILLIGEN:** Mmmm. It came out of John Bennett's mouth.

**RHOADES:** I heard it out of John Bennett's mouth, but it had never been written down by anyone, until I started writing it down when I went to work at the Potato Center.

If you have any comments send them to me at the email address above.



## NEW EDITORIAL TEAM FOR *HO*

By Nancy E. Schoenberg [nesch@uky.edu]  
SfAA Publications Committee  
University of Kentucky

In January, many in this great nation waited with bated breath for two significant changes of power. While the one in Washington *Society for Applied Anthropology*

somehow failed to bring the transfer of leadership sought by many, the other one based in Kansas and North Carolina, was successful. This latter event marked a new editorial team for *Human Organization*. With little noticeable fan fair and no accompanying balls (that we know of anyhow), files were mailed, advice given, offices set up and perhaps disassembled. Some lives will gain a bit more free time and other lives will lose it, but all anticipate that the high standards set by Don Stull will continue under the able editorial leadership of Jeff Johnson and David Griffith.

And speaking of accomplishments...did you happen to read, cover to cover without stopping, Don's final *HO* masterpiece? This incredible issue brings to mind the term "swan song." Contrary to the Olando Gibbons madrigal cited below, both Editor Don and the *cygnus olor* (mute swan) produce sound throughout their lives. But consistent with this poetic piece, both Don and *cygnus olor* leave their respective endeavors with a heartbreakingly beautiful song.

*The silver swans which, living, had no note, when  
Death approached, unlocked her silent throat  
Leaning her breast upon the reedy shore  
thus sung her first and last and sung no more.*

In any case, if somehow your *HO* got placed under the "to do" pile with those holiday thank you notes... quick, run and get your copy. In this very special issue the past, present, and future meet and are discussed by some of anthropology's most exciting scholars. In addition to a beautiful tribute from Robert and Beverly Hackenberg, diverse perspectives on the state of anthropological thought, and what he calls his "few meager observations, Don leaves us with the traditional Gospel tune, "Hallelujah, I'm a Bum."

Don, what will you do with all that bummin' out time? Oh, yes... the SfAA presidency! No rest for the weary, I'm afraid. On behalf of the Publications Committee and all of your loyal readers, we are grateful for your dedication that has made *HO* the preeminent international journal of the applied social sciences.

## REPORT FROM PA EDITORS

By Jeanne Simonelli [simonejm@wfu.edu]  
Wake Forest University

Bill Roberts [wcroberts@smcm.edu]  
St. Mary's College of Maryland

We'd like to first state our hope that all of our readers are enjoying what will be a very healthy, happy and successful new year in 2005! Both of us had a wonderful holiday season with family and friends, and are looking forward to an exciting and challenging year ahead of us. We feel especially grateful and privileged given the widespread devastation and suffering caused by the *tsunami* in the Indian Ocean, and the on-going human disasters in Iraq, Sudan, Israel and Palestine and many other areas of the world. This helps us maintain perspective as we clear the ice and snow from our walks and cars in southern Maryland and central North Carolina.



We want to share two things with you that we're very excited about. Jeanne Simonelli and Duncan Earle's book, *Uprising of Hope: Sharing the Zapatista Journey to Alternative Development*, will be available from AltaMira Press this month and in time for the Annual Meetings in Santa Fe. Unfortunately, you will not be able to congratulate Jeanne personally at the meetings, as she will be in Jerusalem (but Duncan should be there, so be sure to congratulate him). Jeanne will be teaching applied anthropology at Hebrew University, conducting exploratory research in Jerusalem, and working collaboratively with Israeli and Palestinian applied anthropologists. Sometime in the next two years you'll learn more about applied anthropology in Israel as Jeanne puts together a special issue based on the work she'll carry out over the next five months.

With Jeanne in Israel, Bill and Wake Forest University anthropology-English majors will take over much of the day-to-day activities for *Practicing Anthropology*. The current issue of

*Society for Applied Anthropology*

*PA* features work on the topic of indigenous knowledge and fisheries by anthropologists working with Native Americans. Tony Whitehead, colleagues and students from the University of Maryland College Park will have their work featured in the next issue. We want to hear from practitioners and applied anthropologists about their ideas for a special theme issue, or just send Bill your individual submission that will be reviewed and published either as part of an editors' choice issue or another theme issue. But do not limit your *PA* contributions only to articles about projects or research that you've done. We are open to publishing information about news and opportunities for other practitioners or applied anthropologists that may come up between editions of the society's flagship newsletter.

For example, I just returned from The Gambia, West Africa, where St. Mary's College of Maryland concluded a memorandum of understanding with the University of The Gambia (UTG). UTG is a relatively new institution. Its first cohort of medical students began their program in the 1999-2000 academic year, and should graduate in December, 2005. The faculties of Humanities and Social Science, Economics and Management, and Science and Agriculture enrolled their first students in 2000-2001. The UTG is very interested in having U.S. American faculty come to teach summer courses (mid-July through the end of August) in development studies, sociology or anthropology (among others). Anyone who might be interested in learning more about this extraordinary effort to build a university in one of the smallest and poorest countries in Africa should contact me, or check their website at <[www.unigambia.gm](http://www.unigambia.gm)>.

See you soon in Santa Fe, and please contact us if you have something you think would be appropriate for publication in *PA*. The guidelines and contact information is available on the web at <[www.sfaa.net/practicing](http://www.sfaa.net/practicing)>.



University of California San Francisco,  
Dept of Anthropology, History and Social  
Medicine

Openings exist for two (2) full-time researchers to team with a Principal Investigator in an ethnographic and qualitative interview-based study at two sites in California, one in a rural area and one in an inner-city location. The study examines dental beliefs and behaviors of Mexican-Americans, especially but not exclusively with respect to oral care of children aged birth to five years. Successful applicants will be well trained in socio-cultural anthropology or a related social science at the PhD level, have at least two years prior relevant experience in conducting ethnographic investigations and being a member of a research team, have successfully worked with the Mexican-American population before, and be fluent in spoken (and preferably also in written) Spanish and English. The study will last 2.5 years, starting March 1<sup>st</sup>, 2005.

For details, please contact Judith C. Barker, PhD, email <jcbark@itsa.ucsf.ed> or call (415) 476-7241. Interested persons should send resumes/letters of application to Dental Ethnography Search Committee, Dept., Anthropology, History & Social Medicine, University of California San Francisco, 3333 California Street, Suite 485, Campus Box 0850, San Francisco CA 94143. Applications close February 1<sup>st</sup>, 2005.

*UCSF is an "Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Employer. All qualified applicants are encouraged to apply, including minorities and women."*

FROM THE EDITOR

It will be approximately two months from the time you receive this *Newsletter* until the spring meetings in Santa Fe. Preparation plans have been underway for some time and the Board office expects a very robust turn out. As is always the case with SfAA meetings, this gathering should be professionally enlightening and a lot of fun.

As you know, I am always trying to have members send us materials about what they are doing so that we can share things with the applied community. Krista Harper, an assistant professor in the department of anthropology and the Center for Public Policy and Administration at the University of Massachusetts-Amherst at the University of Massachusetts Amherst, will study Roma (commonly misidentified as Gypsies) human rights advances and attitudes in Eastern Europe next semester as a European Union Policy Affairs Research Fellow. Harper is the first anthropologist to receive the fellowship from the Fulbright Scholar Program. Krista will continue with her research next year and plans to bring Roma scholars and students to work and study at the Center for Public Policy and Administration. For more information, contact Krista at <kharper@anthro.umass.edu>.

That's about it from Ames, Iowa. The May issue of the *Newsletter* will have reports and photographs covering the spring meetings. If you would like to submit something, please try to get me those materials by April 25.

*Mike Whiteford [jefe@iastate.edu]*

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Items to be included in the *Newsletter* should be sent to: Michael B. Whiteford, College of Liberal Arts & Sciences, 202 Catt Hall, Iowa State University, Ames, IA 50011-1301, E-mail: [jefe@iastate.edu](mailto:jefe@iastate.edu). Telephone: 515/294-43220; fax 515/294-1303. The contributor's telephone number and e-mail address should be included, and the professional affiliations of all persons mentioned in the copy should be given.

Changes of address and subscription requests should be directed to: SfAA Business Office, P.O. Box 2436, Oklahoma City, OK 73101-2436 (405/843-5113); E-mail [<info@sfaa.net>](mailto:info@sfaa.net). Visit our website at [<http://www.sfaa.net/>](http://www.sfaa.net/).

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Society for Applied Anthropology  
P.O. Box 2436  
Oklahoma City, OK 73101-2436

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