I. FROM THE EDITORS

Warm thanks to all who submitted session reports and proposals and other information by the April 1 deadline. Special thanks to Jan Rensel and Mary MacDonald for help above and beyond the call of duty. 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 and ASAO Honorary Fellows. Please return this ballot by July 15 to Kathy Creely at:

Kathy Creely, Melanesian Studies Resource Center, Geisel Library, 0175-R, 9500 Gilman Drive, University of California, San Diego, La Jolla CA 92093-0175

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II. FROM THE CHAIR

All who attended the recent 2004 Annual Meeting can attest that the Salem gathering was one of the more exciting in recent memory. We had 134 registrants, which is the largest recorded attendance for an East Coast ASAO meeting so far. The historic Hawthorne Hotel and neighboring sights and restaurants (not to mention springtime weather!) seemed to suit our needs wonderfully. Many people remarked to me and to other Board members that this year’s sessions were very stimulating and of notably high calibre, for which session organizers must be heartily congratulated. Several additional individuals deserve our thanks, as well. Judy Flores as Site Coordinator and Mary MacDonald as Program Coordinator earned everyone’s gratitude for all their work and organizational skills, which guaranteed the meeting’s success. The Pacific Islands Scholars Fund (PISF) committee and a number of session organizers (Pamela Rosi, Eric Kjellgren, Serge Dunis, Christine Jourdan, Paige West and Martha Macintyre) must be thanked for assembling such a large and vibrant group of PISF scholars. All who attended can confirm that this year’s PISF participants contributed in numerous and significant ways to the conference, adding a new dimension of artistic display and performance. Shirley Lindenbaum’s magnificent Distinguished Lecture provided a veritable feast of information about the anthropology of cannibalism that left no one’s appetite unsated. Members of the Board and many other attendees were pleased and heartened that Honorary Fellows Jane Goodale and Ward Goodenough were able to join us for conference activities including a luncheon with the PISF travel grant awardees. As all Secretary-Treasurers before her, Jan Rensel held everything together under the graceful and supportive steersmanship of Chair Joel Robbins.

I take this opportunity of thanking the Directors and Officers of the Association for their contributions leading into the Salem meetings. Of special note, Joel Robbins, the outgoing Chair, proved himself a wise and sensitive leader with a special knack for maintaining harmony in all relations. Fortunately, we shall continue to benefit from his counsel over the coming year as he stays on in the role of Past Chair. Outgoing Past Chair Unasa Va’a brought much welcome openness to many Board discussions, and his contributions will be sorely missed. Also, Director Christine Jourdan must be thanked for the enthusiasm that she brought to all of the Board’s deliberations. I wish to welcome Rick Feinberg and Kathy Creely as incoming members of the Board of Directors. Over the coming year Rick will be serving as Chair-elect, and Kathy will join the PISF committee as Board representative. Also I would like to welcome Monograph Series Editor Jeanette Mageo, who some months ago assumed those responsibilities, as Michèle Dominy saw through to completion a new title in that series.

Participants at the Salem meeting will recall Jan Rensel’s announcement of her intention to step down from the Secretary-Treasurer position at the conclusion of the 2005 conference, and Mary MacDonald’s wish to retire as Program Coordinator at the end of three years service (in 2006). For the sake of continuity, Jan and Mary have agreed to tutor their successors over the interim. During the Salem conference Board members sought willing and able successors to Jan and Mary. Given the large scale of the Secretary-Treasurer position, the Board decided to split it into its two primary functions and recruit successors to each. I am very happy to report that before the Salem meetings broke up, we found willing candidates for all three Officer positions. Jocelyn Armstrong and Kathy Creely agreed to serve as Secretary and Treasurer, respectively, succeeding Jan, and Roger Lohmann volunteered to become Program Coordinator following Mary. On behalf of the entire association, I want to thank Jocelyn, Kathy, and Roger for their timely generosity.

A number of important matters were decided at the Board Meeting in Salem, which I would like to call to the attention of the membership.

**Election of New Board Members:** I am pleased to announce that Dorothy Counts, Mike Rynkiewich, and Eric Silverman have been nominated as candidates for the Board of Directors. A ballot for this year’s election of two new Board members is included with this newsletter for all voting members, and should be returned no later than 15 July to Kathy Creely at the address indicated. Please take the trouble to vote. It is important!

**Honorary Fellows:** The Board voted unanimously to increase the number of Honorary Fellows to twenty-five, out of concern that, with the previous limit of fifteen, many clearly qualified senior scholars of the Pacific would never have an opportunity to be nominated while they were in a
position to enjoy the distinction. At present two nominations are pending: Prof. Ann Chowning and Prof. Dame Marilyn Strathern; their nomination letters are included in this newsletter, and their names also appear on the enclosed ballot.

ASAO Bylaws allow us to elect a maximum of three Honorary Fellows per year. Members should be reminded that Honorary Fellows should be distinguished scholars in the field. Nomination letters must include (1) a brief biography of the nominee; (2) a bibliography of major publications; (3) a justification for their consideration.

**Pacific Islands Libraries Donations:** In 2002 it was reported to the Board that the University of Pittsburgh Press had offered ASAO the opportunity to purchase at a very nominal price overstocks of the four ASAO Monographs named in Jane Barnwell’s report (see below). Last year’s Board decided to donate most of them to Pacific Island libraries. Jane, from the University of Hawai’i Pacific Collection, and Kathy Creely, from the UC San Diego Melanesian Collection, worked with then ASAO Chair Joel Robbins to identify the libraries and determine how many to send where. In the meantime, Andrew Strathern and Pamela Stewart Strathern arranged to store the books, and then shipped them to the UH library for subsequent distribution. To the current Board’s delight, the books have now been shipped to their various destinations. Thanks to University of Pittsburgh Press and everyone else who has contributed to this important effort!

**Electronic Newsletter:** In view of the considerable expense of publishing the ASAO Newsletter in hard copy, the Board recommended that we switch to e-mail or Internet as the default means of distributing the newsletter. Beginning in 2005, only members who lodge a special request would receive the newsletter in hard copy.

**AAA Party:** As I shall be attending the American Anthropological Association meetings this November in San Francisco, I am happy to volunteer my hotel room for the annual ASAO party (one night only, that is), which has become a focal event at the annual AAA meetings. To avoid the hassles with hotel management experienced in recent years, we will be moving to a “bring your own” arrangement for drinks. ASAO will still undertake the provision of a respectable quantity of good nibbles, however. It would be very helpful if an ASAO member or two from the Bay area would volunteer to help with transporting these supplies. Please contact me if you would be willing to assist.

**Hawai’i Meeting 2005:** Plans for next year’s meeting in Hawai’i are just now being finalized. After extended but ultimately unsuccessful negotiations with one Waikiki hotel and close examination of several other Honolulu possibilities, the Board decided that the O’ahu options were far too expensive for the association, its individual members, or both. Jan Rensel followed up with research on alternatives suggested by Judy Flores, resulting in a unanimous choice of the Radisson Kaua’i Beach Resort, just outside of Lihu’e, for 1-5 February 2005; see the meeting notice elsewhere in this newsletter. Further details about the 2005 Kaua’i meetings will be provided in future newsletters and on the ASAO website.

I am particularly happy to announce that Lamont Lindstrom and his committee have secured Prof. Albert Wendt of the University of Auckland to deliver the 2005 Distinguished Lecture on the topic, “Pacific fiction as anthropology, and anthropology as fiction.”

Meanwhile, I wanted to thank Suzanne Falgout and all of the Honolulu people who had been working with her on organizing local activities to complement the now-aborted Waikiki gathering. Happily, though, thanks to Suzanne, Jan, Judy, and others, plans are already afoot to make next year’s Kaua’i meeting one of our more memorable.

*Mark Mosko, ASAO Chair*

**III. ASAO MONOGRAPH DONATIONS TO PACIFIC LIBRARIES**

The Pacific Collection at Hamilton Library, University of Hawai’i at Manoa, was pleased to collaborate with ASAO on the project to distribute ASAO monographs to Pacific island libraries. We mailed a total of 269 books to 59 different island libraries, including:

97 copies of *Aging and Its Transformations*, edited by Dorothy Ayers Counts and David R. Counts (1992);

Books were mailed to the following total number of libraries in each country/entity: American Samoa (2); Cook Islands (3); Federated States of Micronesia (8); Fiji (5); French Polynesia (3); Guam (3); Kiribati (2); Republic of the Marshall Islands (2); Nauru (1); New Caledonia (5); Niue (1); Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (1); Republic of Palau (2); Papua New Guinea (9); Samoa (3); Solomon Islands (3); Tonga (2); Tuvalu (2); and Vanuatu (2).

Alan Howard and Jan Rensel donated labels, which were affixed to the inside front cover of each book, stating, "This book is a gift from ASAO – Association for Social Anthropology in Oceania."

*Jane Barnwell*

### IV. NOMINATIONS FOR ASAO HONORARY FELLOWS

The ASAO Board of Directors proposes Ann Chowning and Dame Marilyn Strathern as ASAO Honorary Fellows. To vote to confirm the nomination, please complete and send the enclosed ballot to Kathy Creely at the address given on the ballot.

**NOMINATION FOR ASAO HONORARY FELLOW: ANN CHOWNING**

We, the undersigned, wish to nominate Dr. Ann Chowning for the position of Honorary Fellow of the Association for Social Anthropology in Oceania. Dr. Chowning received her PhD in 1958 from the University of Pennsylvania. Her dissertation was titled "Lakalai Society" and was based on her field research in the Lakalai area of New Britain, Papua New Guinea. Dr. Chowning has conducted extensive field research in PNG. She worked in Lakalai for a total of 12 months spread over nine visits between 1954 and 1992. She also did research in Molima, Fergusson Island, PNG, for 12 months in 1957-58 and two months in 1974-75; in Sengseng, interior West New Britain, for 18 months between 1962 and 1966 and for 2-1/2 months in 1980-81; and in the Kove area of New Britain for a total of 20 months between 1966 and 1987.

Dr. Chowning has been the member of the faculty of several distinguished universities. She taught at Barnard College, Columbia University, New York, between 1958 and 1965. She was a Senior Research Fellow in Social Anthropology at Australian National University between 1965 and 1970 and, throughout this time, she was also a representative of the Anthropology Department on the New Guinea Research Unit committee. From 1970 to 1977 she was a Professor of Anthropology at the University of Papua New Guinea, holding the position of Dean of the Faculty of Arts in 1974. In 1977 she was appointed Professor and Chairperson of Anthropology, Victoria University of Wellington, New Zealand, a position she held until 1995. Since 1995 she has been an Honorary Research Fellow and Associate with the Department of Anthropology at the University of Auckland, New Zealand. During her years as a professor of anthropology, Dr. Chowning encouraged, fostered, helped, and supported many anthropology students and young faculty who were just beginning their scholarly careers or starting their fieldwork in Papua New Guinea. Dr. Chowning has long maintained an interest in ASAO, has participated in many of the organization’s sessions, and has contributed to volumes published both by ASAO and elsewhere as a result of ASAO symposia. During her long and productive career she has published 72 reports, journal articles, book chapters, modules, and books. Some of her publications have been widely reprinted and are basic and required reading in anthropology courses focused on the area of Oceania.

The ASAO should recognize Dr. Chowning’s scholarly record and her assistance to generations of young Pacific scholars by inviting her to be an Honorary Fellow of our organization.

Some of her more important publications are:


Dorothy A. Counts, David Counts, and Naomi McPherson

**NOMINATION FOR ASAO HONORARY FELLOW: DAME MARILYN STRATHERN**

We are delighted to have the opportunity to nominate Professor Dame Marilyn Strathern for consideration as an Honorary Fellow of the Association for Social Anthropology of Oceania.

Professor Strathern is one of the leading social anthropologists in the world today. Her writings on Melanesia and her influence on Pacific ethnography would be more than sufficient to qualify her for the honor of Honorary Fellow. Perhaps most familiar to ASAO members, Professor Strathern’s contributions to gender studies and feminist anthropology have had an enormous impact on the ethnography and anthropological theory of the Pacific and many other culture areas. But, unique among contemporary anthropologists, she has articulated insights drawn from Melanesian experience, which have revolutionized several areas of scholarship within and beyond anthropology. Thus, her ethnographic analyses of Melanesia culture and sociality have opened utterly new paths in thinking about the implications of the new birth technologies, Euro-American patterns of kinship, the comparative study of personhood, chaos theory, intellectual and cultural property, and ‘audit cultures.’ Yet, the insights of all these subsequent writings are grounded in her earlier ethnographic perceptions of the cultural dynamics of Pacific Islands societies, and particularly the Hagen peoples of the highlands of Papua New Guinea. Professor Strathern has relentlessly and courageously pursued an innovative anthropology during a period when the practices of fieldwork and the relation between ethnography and theory have been passionately debated. Few Pacific anthropologists have been so influential in these debates within and beyond anthropology.

Marilyn Strathern (née Ann Marilyn Evans) was born in 1941 in North Wales. She was educated in social anthropology as part of her BA, MA, and PhD degrees at Cambridge University, where she worked with both Edmund Leach and Meyer Fortes. Her doctoral thesis, later published
as *Women in Between* (1972), was the first ethnography of that period to focus on Melanesian women, and, like much of her subsequent writing, was prescient, foreshadowing an emergent feminist anthropology that revolutionized the discipline and cognate fields in the humanities and social sciences. But, from the outset she critically interrogated the mutual relation of feminism and anthropology, and the way in which Western preoccupations were projected onto Melanesian social practices. In a series of scintillating essays and a magisterial comparative work, *The Gender of the Gift* (1988), she demonstrated how several cognate Eurocentric binaries—nature and culture, female and male, subject and object, domestic and public—distorted anthropological interpretations of Melanesia. That book originated in reflections on her own ethnography of Melpa and Wiru peoples, but assiduously compared contemporary ethnographies of the Highlands, Massim, Sepik, and Gulf regions in Papua New Guinea and the islands of Vanuatu. It entailed not only rigorous comparison but also critical reflection on the comparative method itself and developed an original approach to gender as a fluid code pertaining to permeable and partible persons and things, in mutual relation. Her stress on the notion of relation as mutually transforming inspired her later approach to conceptions of subjects and objects and authorship in Western models of kinship and intellectual property.


Prof Strathern’s publications also include 44 single-authored journal articles and 57 book chapters. Many of these easily qualify as contemporary classics. To list just a few:

Professor Strathern has held a string of academic appointments and been awarded many formal distinctions. She was Research Fellow at the New Guinea Research Unit of the Australian National University in 1970, and later Senior Research Fellow in the Research School of Pacific Studies at the ANU. She was a Fellow and Lecturer at Girton College (1976-83) and Trinity College (1984-85) at Cambridge. In 1985, she was appointed Professor of Social Anthropology at Manchester University. Since 1993 she has occupied one of the most prestigious chairs in the discipline, as William Wyse Professor of Social Anthropology at Cambridge University. She has been Mistress of Girton College since 1998. At Manchester and Cambridge in particular, and in a series of visiting appointments in the United States, Australia, and Europe, she has educated a generation of younger anthropologists who have included some of the most fertile young minds working at the horizon of anthropology in the Pacific and beyond. She has been invited to deliver the Malinowski Lecture, the Frazer Lecture, the Munro Lecture, the Lewis Henry Morgan Lectures, the Girton College Founder’s Memorial Lecture, the Ernst Jones Lecture, the Rothschild Lecture, the Hardy Chair Lecture, the Linacre Lecture, the Hilldale Lecture, and the Rickman Godlee Lecture. She delivered the 1988 ASAO Distinguished Lecture at the annual meetings in Savannah, Georgia. In 1976, Professor Strathern was awarded the Rivers Memorial Medal of the Royal Anthropological Institute. In 1987 she was elected a Fellow of The British Academy. In 2001 she was recognized as a Daughter of the British Empire. Her most recent distinction is the award of the Viking Fund Medal of the Wenner-Gren Foundation for Anthropological Research in 2003. This had not been awarded since 1972. It seems there is no more highly decorated living social anthropologist. Until now, perhaps the only honor Professor Strathern has not been awarded is that of ASAO Honorary Fellow. It is therefore timely, if not overdue, that the ASAO celebrate her preeminent contribution to Pacific scholarship and to the broader advancement of social anthropology.

Mark Mosko, Margaret Jolly

V. 2005 ASAO ANNUAL MEETING

February 1-5, 2005
Lihu’e, Kaua’i, Hawai’i

The 2005 ASAO annual meeting will be held at the Radisson Kaua’i Beach Resort, Lihu’e, Kaua’i. This is a full-service, oceanfront resort, with newly renovated guest rooms and public areas; an on-site restaurant, cafe, lounge with light evening meals, and a gourmet coffee/Internet cafe; three miles of sandy beach for strolling, four swimming pools, and complimentary shuttle from Lihu’e airport, 5-10 minutes away. For more details, see the hotel website at <http://www.radisson.com/kauaihi>

The really great news is that the hotel has offered to waive charges for ASAO’s use of their meeting rooms, thereby allowing us to keep our conference registration fees low. Our registration fee schedule will be announced in the September newsletter and on the ASAO website.

The ASAO conference rates for Radisson Kaua’i guest rooms will be $130 + tax, double or single; $150 + tax, triple (i.e., $20 + tax for the extra person); maximum of three persons per room. Children 17 years and under are free when sharing room with parent(s), using existing bedding. (Of the ASAO guest room block, the Radisson will also be offering a limited number of rooms for PISF and ASAO student members at a special reduced rate; application details to follow.) Rooms with pool or ocean view may also be arranged for $150 and $170/night, respectively, double or single, again plus tax. All guest room rates also apply for four days before and four days after the meeting.

The hotel has offered to help ASAOers locate the best deals on domestic airfares. Reservations for rooms, or for room and air packages, will be possible via a link from the ASAO website. The Radisson Kaua’i will hold our guest room block until January 5, 2005; after that reservations at our conference rate will be subject to availability.
VI. PACIFIC ISLANDS SCHOLARS FUND 2004 REPORT

This year’s awards:
The members of this year’s PISF committee were Lin Poyer, Julianna Flinn, and Coordinator Paul Shankman. Julianna served as a representative of the ASAO Board, and Lin continued as the ASAO member-at-large. Jan Rensel provided invaluable administrative support, as always. For the coming year Kathy Creely will serve on the committee as the ASAO Board representative, and Christine Jourdan has agreed to become the member-at-large for the next three years.

For the 2004 meeting in Salem, there were six PISF travel grants, awarded to Vilsoni Hereniko, Daniel Waswas, Rose Elu, Rosanna Raymond, Vince Reyes, and Ake Lianga. Raymond, Reyes, and Lianga accepted and attended the meeting. PISF mini-grants were awarded to: Unasa Va’a, Whare Heke, Ben Imbun, Gabriel Maelaasi, Lisa Uperesa, and Marama Muru-Lanning, as well as George Nuku and Santi Hitorangi. All but Imbun were able to attend.

The total expenditure of PISF funds for this year’s meeting was $2,945.00.

Financial support:
In addition to an allocation of $4 per dues-paying member, PISF is supported by member contributions. Individual donations ranged from just a few dollars and cents (as people rounded up their dues payments) to much larger donations. Several members continue to send their royalties checks for Pacific-related publications; others send donations in memory of deceased colleagues. Many thanks to all for your continuing support! (Remember that because ASAO is a 501(c)3 nonprofit corporation, contributions are tax-deductible in the US.)

Personal outreach by session organizers and other ASAO members:
Our efforts as an association to fully incorporate Pacific Islands scholars into our meetings go well beyond financial donations. Session organizers play a key role in encouraging Pacific Islander participation and facilitating PISF applications. In recent years, session organizers have helped their PISF participants arrange transportation and, in some cases, accommodation. This year we had no complimentary hotel rooms, but did have two discounted rooms for the use of our travel award winners, with the costs covered by the organizers or other participants in their session.

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

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

2003–2004 Selection Guidelines:
The committee selects individuals based on the following criteria/emphases:
1) We place priority on participation in Working Sessions; next on those in Symposia; but participants in Informal Sessions are also welcome to apply.
2) We prefer to fund younger scholars and graduate students who may have difficulty accessing institutional funds.

To the extent possible given the availability of funds, the PISF travel award will cover the awardee’s round-trip airfare and conference fee. PISF awardees will also be given one year’s complimentary membership in ASAO.
Institutional cost sharing will promote the fund’s effectiveness in accomplishing its objectives and is therefore strongly encouraged. The granting of awards, however, will not be contingent on the availability of institutional cost-sharing.

"Mini-grants": Because ASAO meeting venues shift annually and PISF funds are limited, we can maximize funding support by identifying Pacific Islander scholars studying at institutions in close proximity to the meeting site in addition to bringing PI scholars from distant locales. PI scholars who contribute presentations to ASAO sessions are eligible for registration fee waivers (“mini-grants”) simply through the request of the session organizer, by no later than the deadline for conference pre-registration for the next meeting, that is, **January 15, 2005**.

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

Paul Shankman, Anthropology Department CB233, University of Colorado, Boulder, CO 80309-0233 USA; fax (303) 492-1871; e-mail <paul.shankman@colorado.edu>

**PISF APPLICATION DEADLINE: SEPTEMBER 15, 2004**

**PISF AWARD NOTIFICATION DATE: OCTOBER 15, 2004**

**VII. FROM THE PROGRAM COORDINATOR**

It was good to see many of you at our February 2004 meeting in Salem and I am looking forward to seeing even more participants at our 2005 meeting in Hawai‘i. Reports on the sessions at Salem and on new sessions proposed for Honolulu are included in this newsletter. Those of you who submitted reports on this year’s sessions will, if you are continuing with your sessions in 2005, be invited to submit updated announcements for the September newsletter. Guidelines for Session Organizers and Participants and a Timetable are included in this newsletter. I encourage both organizers and participants to read them carefully because they explain the steps for you to follow to have everything ready for your session.

ASAO sessions provide opportunity for scholars interested in the Pacific Islands to engage in stimulating intellectual exchange, to focus on a topic, and to pursue it as a collaborative project for as long as the collaboration seems useful and productive. The organizer of an ASAO session should be a member of the association. We have three types of session, each distinguished by a particular level of organization. An **informal session** is primarily exploratory; someone has an idea and floats a proposal to determine whether colleagues have sufficient interest in the topic to merit a more highly organized session at some future date. Abstracts, statements of interest, or developed papers may be pre-circulated among participants in an informal session, but such advance preparation is not required. A **working session** must involve pre-circulated abstracts or papers; it is intended as an opportunity to identify common themes and useful theoretical approaches. If participants and organizers have a cohesive set of themes, a common theoretical focus, and at least seven well-developed papers ready to be circulated prior to the meeting, they meet the criteria for a **formal symposium**. Formal symposia reflect a high degree of organization and often precede collective publication, either as an ASAO monograph, a volume issued by another academic press, or a special issue of a journal.
The three types of session may occur in successive years, the "classic" sequence beginning with an informal session, leading to a working session, a formal symposium, and ultimately an ASAO volume. The three-year sequence, however, is not a requirement. We have had sessions continue for years at the informal level. In some instances, a panel has met two or three times as a working session. If you are not sure at which level your session should meet I would be glad to talk over with you what would be appropriate. Some sessions do lead to publication but this is by no means a requirement. Any session that generates productive, stimulating intellectual exchange is successful. Some sessions highlight problems rather than solutions and, for that reason, disband after one or two meetings. Others generate insightful, thought-provoking papers that do not cohere as a set but are published separately as articles in major journals. Some, like the series of sessions that addressed the teaching of Pacific anthropology, were never intended to lead to publication; but they offered ideas that colleagues have usefully incorporated into their classes. In other words, just as there is no one correct sequence of session types, there are many ways in which a session can succeed. The important thing is that a group of scholars engage in a conversation that furthers knowledge of the societies of Oceania and the communication of that knowledge to a wider audience.

I look forward to working with you on the sessions for the 2005 meeting in Honolulu. Let me know if I can help you in any way in planning your sessions.

Mary MacDonald

VIII. GUIDELINES FOR SESSION ORGANIZERS AND PARTICIPANTS

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

ASAO sessions are of three types:

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

Informal Sessions are of two types. Impromptu Informal Sessions can be announced at the Opening Plenary Session of the annual meeting and posted on the bulletin board in the registration area during the meeting. These sessions do not have pre-arranged meeting locations but may meet in available conference rooms, participants’ rooms, or local cafes. The second type of Informal Session may be announced at the prior year’s meeting, proposed in the ASAO Newsletter or on ASAONET, or otherwise pre-arranged. To appear in the full schedule of the annual meeting, which is published in the December Newsletter, announcements of Informal Sessions must be submitted to the Program Coordinator by November 1 (see Timetable p. 12).

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

Thus time given to Informal Sessions will vary depending on the number of committed participants or people indicating an interest in the topic, and the level of organization of the session. Ordinarily, scheduled Informal Sessions will be given no more than three hours of meeting time, and most will receive only one and a half hours.
(B) **WORKING SESSIONS** are based on prepared papers that are briefly summarized (NOT READ) during the session. Abstracts, if not drafts of papers, must be pre-circulated among session organizers and participants. Most of the meeting time during the session is allocated for discussing common themes, with an eye toward finding coherence and preparing for a second round of writing.

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

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

A minimum of seven participants presenting papers in person at the meeting is required for Working Session status. *A list of participants, paper titles, and copies of their abstracts must be sent to the Program Coordinator by the November 1 deadline (see Timetable p. 12).* 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 pre-circulated among the session organizers, participants, and any invited discussants. Contributors do not read their papers but discuss the key issues that arise from them. Conversation in the session focuses on those issues and provides a constructive critique that contributes to building a coherent set of papers or book chapters.

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

Some Symposia may require only an hour and a half to wrap up unfinished business, while others may need as much as six hours to discuss issues, themes, and future plans. Symposium organizers should advise the Program Coordinator of their time requirements.

The presence of seven participants with pre-circulated papers is required for full Symposium status. *A list of participants, paper titles, and copies of the first and last pages of their papers must be sent to the Program Coordinator by the November 1 deadline (see Timetable p. 12).* Sessions that do not meet these criteria by the November 1 deadline will appear on the Program of the Annual Meeting as Informal Sessions or Working Sessions, according to their level of preparedness as judged by the Program Coordinator.

**Responsibilities of Session Organizers:**

1) Submit the required information about your session to the Program Coordinator by the **April 1, September 1, and November 1** deadlines. (See Timetable for Session Organizers and Participants, p. 12.)

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 scheduling needs (e.g., late arrivals, early departures, or potential conflicts with other sessions).

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

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

6) Plan to attend both the Opening Plenary and Closing Plenary Sessions at the annual meeting. All session organizers are expected to deliver a Closing Plenary Report on the results of their sessions and future plans. If the organizers cannot be present at the Closing Plenary, they should appoint one of the participants to deliver the report. A written copy of the report must be sent to the Program Coordinator 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, page 12). Submit and circulate your abstracts and draft papers on time. Advise the organizer well in advance as to whether you will be able to attend the session in person.

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

All correspondence to the Program Coordinator should be sent to:

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

IX. 2004 ANNUAL MEETING SESSION REPORTS

FORMAL SYMPOISA

A Man and a Woman: Mythology
Session Organizer: Serge Dunis (Université de la Polynésie française)

Eleven out of twelve colleagues and friends involved in the Mythology Symposium were present, as planned, since Wolfgang Kempf, from Germany, could not make it this year. Out of the eleven “live bodies present at the session,” as the ASAO puts it, two were from the Continental USA, two from Canada, two from France, one from Finland, one from Samoa, two from Hawai‘i and myself from Tahiti. The order of presentation given by the Newsletter, with the four papers on Melanesia preceding the eight on remote Oceania, is a thing of the past. A profound structure binds us now, so profound that it allowed us to weather every trial, despite or rather thanks to agitator number one, Ward Goodenough.

Our new structure transcends the Melanesia/Polynesia dichotomy, a stage already reached in Vancouver. It transcends the story/legend, history/myth distinctions and it also transcends the different approaches whose legitimacy Ward intends to emphasize in the afterword. I shall soon be writing the introduction to facilitate cross-referencing in the final copies. Here is this structure:
Ben Finney appropriately launches us into the Pacific with his applied mythology. Then the first of five pairs of papers bring together Doug Dalton and Jukka Siikala to broach primordial indifferensation and differentiation. Then Roger Lohmann unleashes raw sexuality for the four remaining paper sets to channel.

In the second pair, I try to show that twinship and incest in New Zealand and Hawai‘i give the key to the powers of reproduction, and Marika Moisseeff reveals how Polynesian mythology and modern science fiction deal with pregnancy. Unasa Va’a and Solange Skinner then offer us the delicate balance of the brother/sister relationship in Samoa and of sexual freedom on Nauru. The fourth pair is the most enticing one with Naomi McPherson and Heather Young Leslie extolling super Melanesian woman and super Polynesian woman. Finally, the fifth pair, by Wolfgang Kempf and Jean-guy Cintas, brings us back to male power through pre-European Melanesian images and Polynesian poetry in mythology. To crown it all, we could well entitle this bracing work *Sea, Sex and Space in the Pacific!*

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**Grandparenting in Contemporary Pacific Societies**

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

The 2004 formal symposium concluded a series of sessions organized to examine grandparenting in the Pacific in the context of ongoing change in the grandparent role worldwide. An original general focus on definition and relevance of the role has continued and been addressed in relation to specific topics including: intersection of attitudes about aging and attitudes about grandparenting; advantages and disadvantages of the grandparenting role; gender and ethnic differences; grandparents as caregivers of grandchildren; grandparent status and social old age; social networks of grandparents; grandparents in the kinship system; and grandparent households. The sessions have identified three recurring themes of change within the original general one: relationships between being a grandparent and having senior status in society; diversity in styles of grandparenting; and grandparenting as a vehicle for coping with social and cultural change. Participants and their fieldwork locations include: Jocelyn Armstrong (North Island, New Zealand); Laurence Carucci (Ujelang and Enewetak, Marshall Islands); Ann Chowning (Lakalai society, New Britain, Papua New Guinea); Jeanette Dickerson-Putman (Raivavae, Austral Islands, French Polynesia); Rose Elu and Rod Mitchell (Western-Central Torres Strait society, Australia); Juliana Flinn (Pollap, Micronesia); Sally Keeling (South Island, New Zealand); Sela Panapasa (Fiji) and Vicki Torsch Woolfson (Guam). We acknowledge significant contributions to the working and symposium sessions from Dorothy Counts in the role of discussant and Alan Howard, David Counts, and Ward Goodenough as audience/participants. Papers prepared for the symposium will be revised for publication as an edited volume.

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**Young People in the Global Pacific: Culture and Agency**

Organizers: Christine Jourdan (Concordia University) and Jean Mitchell (University of Prince Edward Island)
This symposium followed the successful working session held in Vancouver and was well attended. It explored the emergent and complex practices of young people in the global Pacific. During the day-long session a total of eleven papers, ranging from Papua to Easter Island (Rapanui) were presented. By focusing on the agency of young people, the participants sought to understand the ways in which they are reconfiguring the boundaries and the relationships between rural and urban spaces, between young and old, between males and females, as well as tradition(s) and modernities. The importance of understanding the nature of the movement between and within these spheres and spaces was noted. Changes that were straining and reshaping social reproduction, kinship, gender, and generational relationships were raised in a number of papers. The session was enriched by discussant Lamont Lindstrom’s participation and his summary of the key themes in what he called “Pacific youth scapes.” These underlined the agency of young people in dispersed and contested sites that encompass individual desire and family concerns as well as the postcolonial state and its young citizens. Resistance among young people, an important theme, was registered through acts of agency that included such disparate responses as pregnancy, magic, music, migration, and glue sniffing. Discussions of cultural identity included identity formation, hybridities, language, and code switching. The tensions that resonate between home or place and mobility to town and the lives of young people in anonymous urban areas were a common theme. Papers and videos highlighted the practices of global youth culture evident among Pacific youth in their use of music studios, cell phones, and video production, which are vehicles for self and collective expression. The transformation of sexuality, the reality of HIV/AIDS, and ideas of romantic love were also discussed. Young people, as the various papers have shown, are inventive and imaginative in crafting their lives in the contemporary Pacific. The lively questions from the audience added greatly to the session.

Participants have decided to prepare the manuscript for publication and a set of deadlines has been agreed upon.

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WORKING SESSIONS

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

Following up on our Informal Session in 2002, The New Voyagers: Pacific Artists in the Global Art World met as a Working Session in Salem. In all there were eighteen participants covering all the regions of the Pacific and presenting diverse voices, which addressed the heterogeneity of contemporary Pacific art and artists as they move beyond local and regional venues to engage with the diverse markets, consumer tastes, and gatekeepers of the global art world. Reflecting a variety of perspectives, experiences, and issues, our presenters included academics, curators, a gallery director, as well as six contemporary Pacific artists. Thanks to the PISF, we were pleased to welcome contemporary Solomon Islands artist Ake Lianga from Vancouver as well as Chamorro choreographer Vince Reyes from Guam. Our discussions were additionally enriched by the continuing participation of performer and poet Rosanna Raymond, as well as Massachusetts-based Maori carver Whare Heke, in addition to Maori artist George Nuku and Rapanui artist Santi Hitorangi who were able to join the session at the last minute and gave thought-provoking presentations on the politics of contemporary art in the Pacific.
This year we were pleased to welcome Robert Welsch of Dartmouth College as our discussant. Following the presentations Rob was instrumental in helping to identify and bring into sharper focus many of the central themes that emerged from the session, including the ongoing problematics of the relationship between art and identity; the politics and marketing of culture; the emergent individualism and role of the artist as social critic, that is, the issue of "voice"; as well as gender issues in the production and representation of art. Given the quality of the presentations and continuing interest and enthusiasm of the participants, we have decided to continue the session as a formal Symposium next year in Honolulu.

At the request of several of the artists, we are exploring the possibility of organizing a formal staged performance in which the artists will have the opportunity to present their work to all ASAO members who wish to attend. Over the next year presenters will work with the session organizers and discussant to refine and revise their papers for presentation at the Symposium. Specific comments and suggested revisions for each participant will be sent by early summer and the deadline for first revision of papers will be September 1. If all goes according to plan, the organizers hope to publish the session as an edited monograph, possibly including a DVD of artists' performances and additional material. Those who are interested in participating in the session for 2005 are requested to contact the organizers at the addresses below.

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Eric Kjellgren, Oceanic Art, AAOA, The Metropolitan Museum of Art, 1000 Fifth Avenue, New York, NY. 10028, USA; tel (212) 650-2597; fax (212) 396-5039; e-mail <eric.kjellgren@metmuseum.org>

Conceptions of Social Relationships in Pacific Societies
Organizers: Alan Howard (University of Hawai‘i) and Joel Robbins (Univ. of California, San Diego)

Eleven papers were presented, followed by a lengthy discussion, led by Joel Robbins. Because issues were not clearly defined, we ended up with a set of papers that lacked a theoretical focus, raising doubts about going on to a symposium next year. Although we entertained the prospect of a reoriented follow-up working session, with participants rewriting their papers (or writing entirely new ones), insufficient interest has been shown to warrant continuing.

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Joel Robbins, Department of Anthropology, University of California, San Diego, 9500 Gilman Dr, La Jolla, CA 92093-0532 USA; e-mail <jrobbins@weber.ucsd.edu>

Encountering Expatriates: Papua New Guinean Responses to Miners in the 21st Century
Organizers: Paige West (Barnard College, Columbia University) and Martha Macintyre (The University of Melbourne)

This session proceeded with six paper presentations at the 2004 ASAO meeting in Salem. Each of the papers addressed the time before a mine opened, the effects that local people have on mining operations; local imaginings of what social, economic, and ecological life might be like in the wake of mining; and the kinds of communities formed among expatriates, miners, and local landowners. All of the papers also ask the question: When does “underdevelopment” begin, given that the discourses of development are the narratives that pull local people into mining scenarios? The session participants agreed to work together to submit the papers jointly as a special issue to a peer-reviewed journal.

Participants are asked to have completed papers to the organizers by October 1, 2004.
Language Ideology and Social Change in Oceania
Organizers: Bambi B. Schieffelin (New York University) and Miki Makihara (Queen’s College, CUNY)

Contact between agents of colonial and post-colonial governments, religious institutions, and indigenous social groups has spurred profound social change in Oceania and has transformed communicative practices and ideologies. While small speech communities of Oceania have often been conceived as homogeneous entities by outsiders, on closer inspection, they often reveal heterogeneous linguistic ideologies and practices, where multiple codes, styles, and modes of communication develop, compete, and coexist simultaneously. Small speech communities often experience language change at an accelerated rate, as innovations and continuity routinely depend on the imagination, creativity, and charisma of fewer individuals. We can gain insight into the history of a language because it is marked by the history of its users and by the contexts in which they transform and construct their ethnolinguistic landscape. An examination of these changes and the resulting codes and choices provides a lens for understanding yet another set of relationships between linguistic ideologies and practices and their role in the transformation of social relations over time. With this in mind, we ask how and why new codes and genres are created, and what choices among multiple codes and modes mean for languages, speakers, and genres across a range of Oceanic societies.

The papers in this session provide detailed ethnographic and theoretical analyses of language ideologies and practices in a range of Melanesian and Polynesian societies. The case studies represent diverse contact zones between indigenous and introduced institutions and ideas and between local actors and the outsiders, and involve different lingua franca, colonial, and local language varieties. The papers foreground the simultaneity and multiplicity of linguistic phenomena, such as interactions between communicative modes (e.g., spoken and written), genres, and registers. Local actors in these societies have created new genres and registers to accommodate and participate in their changing social contexts and have cultivated new cultural conceptions of language, for example, as a medium for communicating religious truth and for constructing social boundaries. One common theme running through our analyses is how language is objectified and manipulated in order to constitute new social realities. Drawing on and transforming metalinguistic concepts, local players actively shape language, reproducing and changing the communicative economy. All levels of language may be deployed from lexical and grammatical through a range of tropic and discursive strategies to mobilize new social and political formations. Furthermore, language ideologies are not just about language, but are intricately enmeshed with changing conceptions of person and community. The papers demonstrate that notions of agency, morality, emotion, authority, and authenticity link language to the changing consciousness of self and to religious and political ideas. These notions inform agents’ choices and evaluations of modes of communication and particular discursive strategies.
Creating Town and Country: New Places and Old in Melanesia
Organizer: Jerry Jacka (North Carolina State University)

The categories of "town/taun," "village/ples," and "bush/bus" permeate Melanesians' discourse about their own lives and anthropological representations of those lives. People work with an opposition between taun and ples, but they also fold taun into ples (and vice versa), as when they recreate rituals in town that address ples issues, or they reconvene in the village to adjudicate conflicts that occur in town. "Where" are these locations? These essays raise questions about these categories. How do people define themselves and their place in opposition to or in conjunction with their definitions and understands of town and village? How do rural places and spaces get made in relation to urban places and spaces? How are town and village imagined by people in either location? What are the social, economic, religious, and political connections and disconnections between villages and towns? How do these categories inhabit outsider understandings of Melanesia, such as those of conservationists, development workers, missionaries, and anthropologists? How do taun/ples relations differ for young and old, men and women, and are generational differences refracted through varied responses to these categories? How do taun/ples relations contribute to senses of Melanesian nationality?

Social and spatial categories are actively made and re-made by persons—they are material and symbolic creations. Contrasts between town and village, contrasts that capture a whole range of values and practices through the metonymically concrete imagery of particular places and their associated lifestyles, also capture a sense of historical change and modernity. The "new" place might be town, and its modern markets and discos, or it might be the "country" of Papua New Guinea, a place in which people today find themselves. Conversely, "country" might be the countryside of village and bush, often (but not always) characterized as backwards or marginal or old, positively or negatively contrasted to both dangerous and desirous aspects of town life. The reification of these places (town and village) as separate, and as culturally contrastive, might be shown in the liminality of the spaces that connect them, roads and routes and the buses and boats that move along them. The essays draw on long-standing interests in the social anthropology of Melanesia in mobility, interstitiality, processes of synthesis and anti-synthesis, encompassment, regional trade, ideologies of place, and gender relations—and extend them into contemporary social circumstances of Melanesian people as well as into discussions within anthropology about the proper location of anthropological study.

We have decided to go on to symposium status for the next set of meetings. We had a lively session that dealt with much of the new theory on "place," and that also had significant ethnographic contributions from throughout Melanesia. Ten people contributed papers, and one who intends to join us next year participated with her attendance and comments for the entire session. With another ten people or so as spectators/commentators it was a very productive session. We now have a listserv so we can keep in contact with the session members, sharing ideas and reading lists, etc. We will circulate the next revision of papers on Oct 15, in order to include references to one another's papers, and to ensure that we are remaining within the thematic area of our session. For Hawai'i, we intend to have a discussant who will then write a closing article for the final published piece. As most session members are junior in status, we plan to approach a journal for publication of a special issue so submissions can be peer reviewed. Tom Strong and Paige West have withdrawn as organizers due to other commitments and, therefore, Jerry Jacka has taken over as organizer.

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

Participants in this session are exploring the ways in which property rights systems throughout
the Island Pacific are being re-shaped as a consequence of changing social, economic, and political relations within and among communities, regions and nations. Mike Evans, Bryan Oles, Adrian Tanner, John Wagner, and Alex Golub were in attendance. Andrea Bender, Mark Calamia, Martha McIntyre, Chris Morgan, and Nancy Pollock delivered papers in absentia. Over the past two years we have assembled a rich and varied but representative set of case study materials that describe contemporary processes of change throughout the region, including those associated with logging, mining, commercial agriculture, fishing, labor migration, ecotourism, and conservation. In theoretical terms, we have taken an inductive approach, opposing from the outset the recent tendency of many scholars to treat customary property systems as a type of common property system. Common property theorists have done much to establish the legitimacy of customary property rights systems in opposition to simplistic and destructive land privatization schemes, but that agenda has also led to the construction of "common property" as an ideal type, one that can be reduced, as Ostrom would have it, to a set of institutional rules and universal "design principles." Contributors to this session, on the other hand, seek to describe property systems as they operate on the ground, as mixed, contested and complex systems in which private, common, corporate, and public rights are interwoven. The theoretical framework emerging from our case studies emphasizes that property rights, as sets of social relations, are increasingly global in nature and that the trajectory of change is not linear in either economic or ecological terms, but variable and reversible. Although development pressures often lead to greater inequities among rights holders, in many instances customary systems generate effective and innovative strategies for managing economic risk and limiting inequities.

Participants agreed to re-convene as a symposium at next year’s conference in Hawai‘i and, following that, to move toward publication. Revised papers are to be completed by the end of September.

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INFORMAL SESSIONS

Historical and Contemporary Research in Western Solomon Islands
Organizers: Debra McDougall (University of Chicago), Cato Berg (University of Bergen), Christine Dureau (University of Auckland)

Of the many people who expressed interest in the session, seven pre-circulated abstracts and twelve people were present at the session as participants and audience. Organizers Cato Berg and Debra McDougall opened by suggesting a possible overarching theme for the session: the distinctive ways that people of the Western Solomons have engaged or incorporated foreigners. Edvard Hviding set the stage with a history of research in this region from the 1880s to the present. Cato Berg discussed patterns of interisland marriage and their implications for property rights on Vella Lavella, and Debra McDougall discussed the centrality of foreigners in local rituals of social reproduction on Ranongga. Jill Nash’s comments raised questions about the complex relationship of Bougainville to the Western Province of Solomon Islands and about the role of ethnicity in the Bougainville conflict. Edvard Hviding discussed the tension between friendship and hierarchy in New Georgia, focusing especially on the hierarchical organization of the Christian Fellowship Church and the egalitarian assumptions of nongovernmental organizations. We switched gears in the latter part of the session, as Pierre Miranda discussed the notion of transversality—the circulation of people and things—as a principle for regional comparison. His team presented fascinating materials from North Malaita, focused on cosmogonic myths (Julie
Ayotte), riddles based on bodily metaphors (Gabriel Maelaasi), and the geographic circulation of styles and iconography in artifacts (Fabienne Labbe).

We all agreed that a more systematic regional comparison of Western Solomons was well worth undertaking. We plan to utilize group e-mail discussions to sharpen the themes for next year (organizers will work on this beginning in May and June). We expect to have a much larger group in Hawai‘i and we hope to have a working session.

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Christine Dureau, Department of Anthropology, University of Auckland, PB 92019, Auckland, NEW ZEALAND, e-mail <cm.dureau@auckland.ac.nz>

An Ambivalent Commodity: Marijuana in the Contemporary Pacific Islands
Organizers: Jamon Halvaksz (University of Minnesota) and David Lipset (University of Minnesota)

We had a rich discussion of problems and themes associated with marijuana during our afternoon session. About twelve people joined in, contributing a wide variety of experiences with the substance, with half promising to prepare papers for next year. Four additional written contributions were provided in absentia, and a number of people have expressed interest since.

The topics varied widely, as marijuana does not seem to have uniformly entered into the Pacific imaginary. A number of themes did emerge as we each related potential areas within our fieldwork: How and why is marijuana's use and production gendered? What is its relationship to alcohol and other drugs? What is the economic significance of its circulation? How is marijuana conceptualized as development? What is its role in conflicts (gendered, generational, and in relation to the state)? What are the ideologies, pathologies, and discourses of danger and pleasure that surround its use? Are there counter-discourses of marijuana as enabling work, soccer, warfare, etc.? How are expatriates, tourists, and others involved in its use and circulation? Finally, what is the relationship of marijuana to ideas of the body? Significantly, marijuana's use, circulation, and production vary widely, and it is this variance, at odds with an almost uniform condemnation by Pacific nation-states, that seems to unify these themes.

We do welcome further contributions as we move toward a working session in 2005. Please contact either one of us to express interest.

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Not Just Sex and Temperament Revisited Any More, or "The Gang of Four" in Multiple Contexts
Organizer: Jerry Sullivan (Notre Dame University)

The informal session on Margaret Mead, Ruth Benedict, Gregory Bateson, and Reo Fortune continued discussions generated during the Mead Centennial of 2001 and subsequent ASAO and AAA sessions. The current year’s session drew four presenters and one paper read in absentia for Ira Bashkow and Lise Dobrin. Bashkow and Dobrin discussed a range of issues pertinent to Mead’s and Fortune’s Arapesh fieldworking situation and strategies, and how these circumstances were shaped by the ethnographers themselves with special reference to Mead and Fortune’s understanding or misunderstanding of reciprocity in Arapesh life. Pat Francis discussed Mead’s
participation in the Hanover Seminar on Human Relations, a Culture and Personality conference convened by Larry Frank in Hanover, New Hampshire, during the summer of 1934. Preparatory to this conference, Mead wrote a lengthy document on Arapesh education, which appears to be her earliest manuscript on her and Fortune’s New Guinea material; additionally, the discussions at the conference influenced Mead’s later work on Sex and Temperament. Phillip Guddemi spoke about how “the gang of four” went about the process of comparing cultures. He emphasized notions of what we now call cultural relativism, differing degrees of integration or lack of integration inherent in the cultural situation of various peoples and what they sometimes called the “aliveness” or the “functioning” of cultures for those who lived them. Jerry Sullivan discussed Mead’s evolving ideas about culture and psychology. Against the background of the common understanding that Mead held culture to be personality writ large, he focused on the development of Mead’s preferred notion of the individual in culture, beginning with her early published works and preceding through Benedict’s notes on Mead’s Columbia seminar on the study of the individual in culture, given in 1935. Sharon Tiffany concluded with an overview of popular media representations of Mead and her New Guinea fieldworking experiences. She suggested that Mead’s ethnographic narrative in Sex and Temperament could be read as a heroine’s quest, consistent with popular notions of Mead as scientific explorer and adventurer.

Jerry Sullivan and Sharon Tiffany have agreed to co-organize a formal symposium dedicated broadly to the history of anthropology in Oceania, and in a more focused way, on one or more members of “The Gang of Four” and the body of their work for the ASAO 2005 meetings. Papers on Bateson and Fortune are especially welcomed. Those interested should contact one of the co-organizers with a topic and tentative title as quickly as possible. A call for papers will appear in the next Newsletter issue, along with deadlines.

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Sharon Tiffany, Anthropology Department, University of Wisconsin, Whitewater WI 53190-1790; tel (262) 472-1965; fax (262) 472-2794; e-mail <swtiffany53705@yahoo.com>

Managing West Papuan Identities
Organizer: Sjoerd R. Jaarsma (Papua Heritage Foundation, Nieuwegein, The Netherlands)

In my absence the session report was prepared by Charlie Farhadian, for which I thank him.
The meeting began at 1:00 and ended at 4:00 p.m. In attendance were Jenny Munro, Rupert Stasch, Anton Ploeg, and Charlie Farhadian. In the absence of Sjoerd Jaarsma, Charlie introduced the participants to the theme of the emerging panel. Rupert spent only a few minutes with us because of a prior commitment to be on another panel. Jenny and Anton stayed the entire time. We discussed our experiences and research in Papua, and then we made an informal list of topics that may be considered in a more formal panel.
The following topics were considered worth following up:
1. Refugees (and idealization of homeland Papua): Netherlands, Indonesia, etc.
2. Intermarriages between Papuans and non-Papuans.
3. Islam, Christianity, and Indonesian state.
4. Ethnography.
5. Political and professional Papuan elites: how do they articulate identity politics.
7. Highlands vs. coastal realities.
8. Development discourse and "Papuanness" after Suharto: NGOs, etc.
9. "Desire" to become more Indonesian as an ideal: what aspects of Indonesian identity are received and why, what are the available alternatives.
11. Issues of land and environment.
Firm commitments to the session have been received from Ruth Horie, Mike Wesch and Charles Farhadian, Jaap Timmer, and Jenny Munro. We will continue this session at the next meeting and develop the issues further in the meantime using e-mail. Depending on the number of participants and contributions, we will proceed as either an informal or a working session.

The papers in this session will explore different ways in which Papuans manage their "West Papuan" identity: its shape and maintenance against the pressure to become ever more Indonesian. The above list of topics is indicative, but certainly not final. Both papers looking at the present-day situation and papers with a historical focus will be welcome.

If you are interested in participating in the session, send me an abstract of what you want to write about (or a first draft of your paper) by **mid-October** at the latest, preferably by e-mail.

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

The session had twelve participants and consisted of a lively exchange of often-dramatic stories of hardship and privation, despair, and hope. There were tales old (really old, as in early to mid-19th century) and new, of Pacific Islanders who had survived drift voyages at sea, and of islanders who had gone to sea and never been heard of again. There were, as well, "mythic" tales of the survival in some distant, never visited, place of the descendants of seafarers who had sailed away, never to return.

The participants have agreed to continue with a request for a working session in Hawai‘i in 2005 and to gather as many such well-fleshed-out accounts as possible. Our goal is to find a way to collect these stories, especially but not restricted to first-person accounts, and publish them in some venue that will make them available to the people of the Pacific whose tales they are. For further information or to participate in the session, please contact:

David and Dorothy Counts, 15130 Old Mission Rd, Oyama, BC V4V 2A9 CANADA; e-mail <countsd@cablelan.net>

**Pacific Web Sites: Archiving Issues and Challenges**
Organizer: Jane Barnwell (University of Hawai‘i at Manoa)

The objective of this session was to begin discussion on concerns for the longevity and preservation and/or archiving of web sites with Pacific content.

Participants offered the status of such archiving activities at their respective institutions (e.g. Yale University’s participation in the LOCKSS Project), as well as the status of archiving of participants’ respective projects (e.g., Friends of Tobi Island web site; Rotuma web site; West New Britain web site).

Dore Minatodani provided an overview of systematic efforts underway at the Hawaiian Collection, University of Hawai‘i Library. Ms. Minatodani provided extensive information on software options for capturing web content.

There was agreement on the importance of this topic to Pacific collections, researchers, and scholarship. Concerns include the overwhelming and unmanageable nature of the growing body of Pacific content on the web. The need to target sites created in or by island communities that are most "at-risk" will be important.

Participants included: Jocelyn Armstrong, Jane Barnwell, Bobbi Black, Peter Black, David Counts, Dorothy Counts, Kathy Creely, Lynette Furuhashi, Alan Howard, Dore Minatodani, Karen Peacock, Jan Rensel, Richard Scaglion, Paul Stuehrenberg, and Vicki Torsch.
We plan to continue the discussions at an informal session at the ASAO 2005 meetings, and will seek to encourage participation from our colleagues in the Pacific.

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Current Knowledge about Polynesian Outliers
Organizer: Rick Feinberg (Kent State University)

This informal session met over lunch on the last day of the conference. Those present included Cato Berg, Serge Dunis, Rick Feinberg, Ben Finney, Janet Keller, Pierre Maranda, Solange Skinner, and Heather Young Leslie. Conversation focused on questions involving what might be described as language ideology and inter-island dominance hierarchies, and contemporary seafaring practices among Polynesian outlier communities.

The plan is to reconvene next year in Hawai‘i as a more formally structured informal session to be co-organized by Rich Scaglion and Rick Feinberg. 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. Rick Feinberg and Rich Scaglion would like to hold an informal session at ASAO-2005 for those interested in summarizing this research. Our objective is to assess the current state of knowledge relating to these (mostly) small, remote, "traditional" communities. We aim to produce a volume synthesizing the state of Polynesian outlier ethnography, and would like to discuss how such a publication might best be organized. Participants need not have actually worked on one of the islands. We are particularly eager to have participants interested in cross-cultural synthesis within a somewhat discrete culture area.

Those interested in participating may contact either of the organizers.

Richard Scaglion, Department of Anthropology, University of Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh, PA 15260 USA, (412) 648-7512; e-mail <scaglion@pitt.eduscaglion@pitt.edu>
Rick Feinberg, Department of Anthropology, Kent State University, Kent, OH 44242, USA; (330) 672-2722; e-mail <rfeinber@kent.edu>

X. NEW SESSIONS PROPOSED FOR 2005 ANNUAL MEETING

SPECIAL SESSION

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

During the sessions organized by Sjoerd Jaarsma on "The Repatriation of Field Material: Possibilities, Prospects, and Problems," which resulted in the volume Handle with Care, there was much discussion and debate on ways of making research results available in the communities that hosted the research. The minimum now required by many host societies is that researchers deposit copies of their published work in appropriate institutions in the host country. However, the obligation goes beyond providing access to research results to the educated elite of host societies. Researchers must find ways to make such access available directly to those who have provided the knowledge, and to their descendants. These are people who may have little opportunity to see what is in research centers, university libraries, or government document repositories, and who may not have the literacy skills to read materials that are written largely for an academic or metropolitan audience. The ASAO Board has suggested that in 2005 we hold a first Special Session to discuss
how we, as individuals and as an organization, can fulfill our moral obligation to return to host communities the material they have shared with us. The following are some possibilities.

a) We could explore ways to publish some research results in national or local languages and in levels of English/French/German or other major world languages that are accessible to the general public of the countries where we conduct research. This includes providing local schools with collections of their oral histories and other literature that we have recorded, if possible in both a local vernacular or widely understood trade language, creole, or pidgin, and at least one of the official languages of the country.

b) Make use of contemporary technology such as the Internet for publication of research results and oral histories and literature they have shared with us. While many or most villages and villagers do not have access to the Internet, this situation is likely to change dramatically in the next decade. “Publication” on the Internet will eventually give indigenous people inexpensive access to research results and to materials from their own culture. It will be particularly important that material made available through electronic media be written in languages and in a style accessible to the intended audience.

c) Consider a special series of publications in various vernaculars made available at cost to schools and libraries through professional organizations such as the ASAO.

This first Special Session will be dedicated to brainstorming ideas about how return research results to host communities. Many ASAO members are already doing this, and we invite them to attend and share their ideas, and examples of their work, with the rest of us. For further information, please contact us by October 25, 2004.

David and Dorothy Counts, 15130 Old Mission Rd, Oyama, BC V4V 2A9 CANADA;
e-mail <countsd@cablelan.net>
Jan Rensel and Alan Howard, 2499 Kapí'olani Blvd. #2403, Honolulu HI 96826 USA; e-mail <rensel@hawaii.edu> <alanhoward@hawaii.rr.com>

INFORMAL SESSIONS

Microanalysis of Social Interaction
Organizers: Alan Howard (University of Hawai'i) and Marika Moisseeff (Laboratoire d’anthropologie sociale, Paris)

This informal session will focus on the microanalysis of interactions videotaped in field settings. Videos showing interactions between parents and children, grandparents and grandchildren, healers and clients, chiefs and commoners, males and females, peers with one another, or between others occupying culturally significant roles would be welcomed. Analysis will center on body language, gestures, use of space, the timing of responses, and the like. We will not be concerned with the analysis of linguistic content, although aspects of speech, such as tone of voice and length of time spent in talk, will be considered.

Participants should bring a suitable video segment lasting from two to ten minutes duration on either digital tape or a DVD. Ideally the segment should reveal aspects of interaction that illuminate key cultural motifs.

Alan Howard, 2499 Kapí’olani Blvd. #2403, Honolulu HI 96826 USA;
e-mail <alanhoward@hawaii.rr.com>
Marika Moisseeff, Laboratoire d’anthropologie sociale, 52 rue du Cardinal-Lemoine 75005 Paris, France; e-mail <moisseeff@attglobal.net>

Research in Vanuatu: Past, Present, and Future
Organizers: Haidy Geismar (UCL and New York University) and Jean de Lannoy (Oxford)
Ten years on from the lifting of the moratorium of foreign research, Vanuatu has seen a multiplication of PhD projects as well as a renewed interest from an earlier generation of scholars. A characteristic of this research is its great variability and originality, paradoxically a positive effect of the moratorium, which forbade the creation of a regional school. The primary objective of this session is to bring scholars together and identify common agendas. The current title is therefore conceived as open to a variety of topics. We would like to encourage paper givers to reflect on the relevance of their research for Vanuatu present and future generations and on the continuities and contrasts in Vanuatu research from the pioneers to the post-war era to the present. Please send abstracts to the organizers.

Haidy Geismar, Dept. of Anthropology, University College London, Gower Street, London WC1E6BT UNITED KINGDOM; tel -44-20-7679-2458/2455; e-mail <h.geismar@ucl.ac.uk>
Jean de Lannoy, Linacre College, Oxford,OX1 3JA UNITED KINGDOM; tel +44-1865-767998; e-mail <jean.delannoy@linacre.ox.ac.uk>

XI: OTHER CONFERENCES AND EVENTS


The Melanesian and Pacific Studies (MAPS) is organizing its first international conference on reframing indigenous knowledge systems and research methods. The conference will cover themes that are currently of interest to scholars, educators, NGOs, activities, scientific researchers, and policy makers in the region and in the world. These themes are central to research and learning processes of people in the Pacific region.

Indigenous knowledge systems are the basis upon which many indigenous communities survive. Their language, agriculture, folklore, arts, medicinal knowledge, and philosophies of life are important systems of knowledge. We need to identify some of these knowledge systems and promote them, to reclaim some of what has been lost through colonization and modernization. Towns and cities are expanding, and people are further distanced from their own indigenous cultures. We need to work at remembering our past, and develop strategies to connect people and place. We need to create modes of survival in this day and age by drawing inspiration from our indigenous knowledge systems.

We should begin by identifying existing approaches and indigenous practices. What kinds of issues emerge when there are issues of resource development, landownership claim, and scientific research and discovery? How do we go about creating awareness and introducing vital skills of progress in indigenous communities without conflict being ever involved? From the period of colonization in the Pacific to now, many new ideas and approaches were introduced. Some of these were internalized and others remain the exclusive domain of western knowledge systems and practices. How can we talk about indigenizing bodies of knowledge, images, languages themes, and metaphors? Individuals and organized groups, especially NGOs, have intervened in some of the institutional structures that continue to colonize indigenous peoples. Indigenous writers have written against their colonizers. What kinds of roles do writers have towards indigenous peoples today? What about the issues of gender and development? Does it have an important place in our struggles as indigenous peoples? We need to take stock of our lives and reframe some of the issues and social problems that affect us as indigenous peoples. We cannot continue to blame others about our problems and social issues. Perhaps through developmental research that is non-conflicting but integrative, we should empower indigenous peoples with skills of literacy and development. We must look at the ways in which indigenous ideas, epistemologies, cultural practices, land, and people have to be reframed in order to reclaim them. We should look at the
ways we practice naming of place, people, and our society. We should look at ways to democratize disciplines of law, science, humanities, social sciences, traditional ways of doing things. How should we negotiate indigenous voices, rights, and thinking? Our nature of sharing knowledge must be nurtured and developed further.

What kinds of methods are used in indigenous communities to practice and transfer their knowledge systems? We should look at identifying some of these methodologies. We need to research indigenous methods of fishing, hunting, gardening, healing, storytelling, and feasting. What kinds of methods were observed in trade and exchanges, in conservation and environmental management? We need to identify ways in which our children and our people can remember their past, identify with their cultures, and return home. We need to tell our histories in a different way. Many of our people have left their villages and tribal communities and are living outside. How can we identify new indigenous research methodologies that will help us to promote indigenous ideas, skills, knowledge, and methods? How can we combine new scientific research and discovery with our people’s knowledge? These are questions we need to ask as we come to understand the importance research and new discoveries play in our lives. Scientific research gives new hope and how should we participate in it?

Funds are limited and conference participants will have to meet their own travel and accommodation expenses. Accommodation in Port Moresby can be arranged once conference participation is confirmed. To participate send your title and abstract to the address given below. Dateline for expression of interest to attend is May 23, 2004.

Steven Edmund Winduo, PhD., Director, Melanesian and Pacific Studies (MAPS), School of Humanities and Social Sciences, University of Papua New Guinea, P. O. Box 320, University, NCD. Papua New Guinea. tel +675-326-7171 or 326-7112/174; fax +675-326-7187; e-mail <windstev@upng.ac.pg>.

History of the Pacific: Assessments and Prospects. 16th Pacific History Association Conference, Université de la Nouvelle-Calédonie, Noumea, New Caledonia, December 5-10, 2004

At the PHA meeting in Canberra in November 2000, when it was suggested that Noumea could be a suitable venue for the 16th PHA conference, Prof. Paul de Deckker and his team considered this to be an exciting opportunity. Our aim is that Oceania academics and historians attending the Conference will discover Noumea, its research organisations, University de la Nouvelle-Calédonie (UNC), Institut de Recherche et de Developpement (IRD), and Institut Agronomique Calédonien (IAC), as well as the physical diversity of the main island and the Loyalty Islands and the special population patchwork. The conference will also generate many opportunities for Anglophone and Francophone participants to interface. “Assessment and Prospects” is purposely a very broad title enabling a variety of topics to be exchanged during the Conference. Panels include: assessments of history in relation to archaeology, science, geography, anthropology, literature, visual images, museums, and the presences of the French language in Oceania.

A number of meals will be hosted as cocktail parties with finger food. Others meals are at participants’ expense. Transfers to and from the hotel and the university as well as to and from functions will be provided by the Organising Committee. Airport transfers for delegates not requiring accommodation may be provided at a cost of CFP 3000 per person. The Historic Workshop of New Caledonia is planning to provide a complimentary historic half-day visit of Noumea on Wednesday, December 8. There are two choices of accommodation and an option to book transfers to and from the International Airport. The Novotel Surf bookings are managed by Center Tours/American Express and the University UNC Halls by the Organising Committee. Accommodation in UNC halls is limited and priority is afforded to doctoral students.

Submit title and 100- to 150-word abstract in French or in English by September 30, 2004. The Planning Committee will accept or request further details on a monthly basis until on October 15, 2004. Final program to be prepared for distribution by November 1, 2004.
Rethinking Teacher Education in the Pacific: Pacific Association of Teacher Educators (PATE) Conference, Faculty of Education, National University of Samoa, May 31-June 4, 2004.

Tili Afamasaga, Dean, FoE/NUS; e-mail <t.afamasaga@nus.edu.ws>; web <http://www.nus.edu.ws/PATE>.


Shaun McLaughlin; e-mail <ancient@compuserve.com>; web <http://www.islandheritage.org/conference.html>.

XII. IN MEMORIAM: WILLIAM DAVENPORT, CELIA EHRLICH

William Davenport
William Hunt Davenport, ASAO Honorary Fellow, Professor and Curator Emeritus at the University of Pennsylvania, died at age 81 on Friday, March 12, 2004. He is survived by his sister, Mary Yohalem of New York City, two nieces, Jennifer and Deborah Salt, both living in California, and a great nephew, Jonah Greenberg, currently residing in Beijing, China.

Bill's life was rich, exciting, and productive. His scholarship and teaching combined a curator's attention to detail with an adventurous spirit, an expansive curiosity, and an original and creative mind. His enthusiasm and knowledge left an indelible impact on his students and colleagues.

Bill's travels began early. Born in 1922, he grew up in Cucamonga, California. At age 14 he stowed away on a boat that took him to Singapore, where, according to his sister, he enjoyed a brief stay in a Singapore jail. Before starting college he studied photography, worked in Hollywood, acquired a reputation as a talented surfer, sailed with the US Naval Merchant Marine, ran a shipping company, and served in the Pacific during World War II. In his mid-twenties, he enrolled at the University of Hawai'i to pursue an interest in Japanese and Chinese philosophy. He studied with Peter Buck and Kenneth Emory, beginning his life-long involvement with anthropology. After completing his B.A. at Hawai'i, he continued his studies in anthropology at Yale University, where he received his doctoral degree under the supervision of Sidney Mintz. At Yale he undertook interdisciplinary training in the behavioral sciences, which included courses in psychology, social psychology, sociology, and anthropology.

He joined the faculty at the University of Pennsylvania in 1963, and was professor of anthropology and curator of the Pacific collections at the University of Pennsylvania Museum for most of the ensuing three decades. During his long career, he also held visiting professorships at Wesleyan, the University of California at Santa Cruz, Bryn Mawr College, and the University of Hawai'i. In 1971-72, he was a fellow at the Center for Advanced Study in the Behavioral Sciences in Palo Alto, California.

Bill conducted many different ethnographic research projects, most of them close to saltwater. He carried out his doctoral dissertation research in Jamaica, using game theory to analyze two fishing communities. In the early 1960s, he began a series of long-term research projects in the Solomon Islands on social organization, economics, art, and navigation. Starting in the 1970s, he developed an interest in the art and ethnography of Southeast Asia, and he continued research in Indonesia and Malaysia well into the 1990s.
Bill made substantial contributions to the field of anthropology in general, and to the scholarship of Oceania in particular. In addition to seminal articles on kinship, exchange, sexuality, and art, he also published on leadership, stratification, royal incest, and social movements. He was one of only a few scholars to have carried out research and published on each of the three major regions of Oceania, ranging from Marshall Islands stick charts, to his book *Hawaiian Sculpture* with J. W. Cox, and to "red-feather money" in the Santa Cruz Islands. Bill’s scholarship effortlessly spanned linguistic anthropology, cultural anthropology, and archaeology, appearing in journals as diverse as *American Anthropologist, Journal of the Polynesian Society, Baessler-Archiv, Journal of American Folklore, Scientific American, Sarawak Museum Journal, and Expedition*.

Bill was also very active in service to the profession. He was an Associate at the Bishop Museum in Hawai’i (1953-60, 1980-2004), served on numerous committees of the American Anthropological Association, and was appointed to the Council of the Smithsonian Institution in Washington, D.C. (1976-1984). He was one of the founding members of the Association for Social Anthropology in Oceania (ASAO), and in 1989 was elected to the status of Honorary Fellow. His energy and enthusiasm always seemed boundless. He continued sailing long after his retirement in 1992, and his neighbors in North East, Maryland report that even in his late seventies, "he could still bring his boat into dock under sail!" A scholar until the end, he was completing an article for *Expedition* and a book on Santa Cruz art at the time of his death.

Bill’s wide-ranging life experiences and his great passion for knowledge made him an extraordinary scholar, mentor, and colleague. His research in Hawai’i followed on his early experiences there, which included being at Pearl Harbor during the air attack, meeting Duke Kahanamoku, and working as a bouncer. His contributions to the anthropology of art drew on his training at the Art Center School in photography and his work in Hollywood film studios. His understanding of Santa Cruz voyaging was enhanced by his travels in the Merchant Marine and his life-long love of sailing. Whether it was the workings of Chinese fireworks, the invention of the chronometer that enabled sailors to chart longitude, or how Melanesians "kissed," Bill could always be counted on not only for an explanation, but also a first-rate story.

Students, not surprisingly, loved his classes. Discussions moved effortlessly from the classroom to the Potlatch coffee shop in the University Museum, and not infrequently led to long dinners spent talking about fieldwork, anthropology, and life. His students sometimes hid their watches from view, hoping that Bill would not notice that class was over. His lectures combined vivid descriptions of life in the Pacific with original insights and a strong dose of humor. And always there was a balanced perspective on work and life, as suggested by his parting words of advice to a graduate student before he left for several years of ethnographic field research: "Have a great time!"

Finally, and perhaps most importantly, Bill had a kind and generous spirit that affected everyone he met, whether students, colleagues, and staff at the museum, his neighbors in Philadelphia and Maryland, or the many people he befriended during the course of his extensive travels. He inspired tremendous loyalty and affection among those who knew him well. Bill was an inspirational romantic when it came to anthropology and many of our paths have been immeasurably enriched by his contagious enthusiasm for the subject. His death is a great loss; but his students, colleagues, friends, and family can also celebrate all that he brought to us, and to the world.

A memorial service is being planned at the University of Pennsylvania Museum in the spring. His papers will be deposited in the University Museum archives, close to the collections he helped to build.

*Bill Donner and Stuart Kirsch, with numerous contributors*
Celia Ehrlich
From the Valley News (Lebanon, New Hampshire)

ASAO member Celia Lesley Ehrlich passed away on February 27 after a short illness. Life-long student, ethnobotanist, naturalist, author, wife, mother of five, and grandmother to nine, Celia lived life as a free spirit for all her 78 years.

Celia was raised in Riverside, California, where both her parents worked as plant geneticists. She graduated from Pomona College with a degree in botany. While studying for her masters degree at University of Wisconsin at Madison, she met and married Paul Ehrlich, originally of Vienna, Austria. They remained together until Paul’s death one year ago.

Celia taught their five children to value original thought, human imagination, creativity, and self-motivated pursuit of knowledge. An active and energetic mother during a time when "housewives" were urged to model conformist values, Celia was happy to be viewed as outspoken, colorful, and eccentric.

The family lived in western Massachusetts, St. Louis, Missouri, and Buffalo, New York, before Paul and Celia retired to Lebanon, New Hampshire. While in Buffalo, Celia earned her second masters degree, in early childhood education. With her customary flair and initiative, she researched and wrote an architectural guidebook called Seeing Buffalo with her photographer friend and neighbor, Maggie Headrick. It was published in 1978 by Ivyhall.

Joining life-long interests in plants and culture, she completed a PhD degree in anthropology at the State University of New York (SUNY) at Buffalo in 1991, with a doctoral thesis on the ethnobotany of the Ti Plant in Polynesia. Her studies included field research on the island of Tonga. Celia delighted in Internet, classroom, and conference discussions related to her constantly expanding range of interests.

Paul and Celia chose the Hanover area for its New England ambience, access to extended learning facilities through Dartmouth College, and proximity to two of their sons. Celia is survived by her five children, Dan Ehrlich of Boston; Jim Ehrlich of Argyle, New York; Katy Ehrlich of Portland, Oregon; Margot Ehrlich of Bloomington, Illinois; Roger Ehrlich of Raleigh, North Carolina; and nine grandchildren.

ASAO member Rob Welsch adds: Celia was a frequent visitor to the Department of Anthropology at Dartmouth College and frequently sat in on our various courses. For the past two years we have trying to arrange an exhibition of Celia’s Tongan tapa at the Hood Museum of Art at Dartmouth College. We had learned just shortly before Celia passed away that the exhibition was set for October 2004. After consultation with her sons and daughters, we have decided to go ahead with the exhibition, which will be held in her memory and curated by Rob Welsch and her former colleague in Tonga, Joan Shore. The family has asked Welsch to help sort through her papers and preserve them in an appropriate archive.

Donations to the ASAO Pacific Islands Scholars Fund may be made in Celia’s name, and her family will be notified.

XIII. PACIFIC SCHOLARS NEWS

Professor Raymond C. Kelly has been elected to the National Academy of Sciences. Professor Kelly is a graduate (PhD, 1974) and a longtime faculty member (1971 to present) of the Department of Anthropology at the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor. Dr. Kelly’s has published two books (Etoro Social Structure and Constructing Inequality) and numerous papers about the Etoro people of the Papuan Plateau.

XIV. SAMOAN SCHOLARSHIP FUND

The Samoan Scholarship Committee recently selected four local Samoan students to receive $500 grants to begin or continue their academic studies at any one of the ten University of Hawai‘i campuses. The four recipients are Mehealani Luafalemana and Jennah-Keri Tulafale, graduates of Moloka‘i High School, Class of 2004; Tolua Samifua, currently studying at Leeward Community
College; and Vaialofi Samifua, Radford High School, Class of 2004. The Fund initially provided four UH scholarships for the 2003-2004 academic year.

The Samoan Scholarship fund was established at the UH Foundation in 2002 with strong support from the Student Equity, Excellence, and Diversity (SEED) program at UH Manoa, and a $10,000 contribution from the Samoan community. The scholarship application and review process is administered by Robert Franco, Director of Planning and Grants, at Kapi'olani Community College, and Loia Fiaui, Director of the "Friends of Samoa" organization and local TV producer and host. Iosefo Suafai, student at Kapi'olani Community College (Recipient of the 2004 Chancellor's Award for College Service), and Jacinta Galeai, doctoral candidate in English at UHM, played important roles on the selection committee.

The committee is actively seeking funding from all friends of Samoa. Anyone interested in contributing can contact Bob Franco at (808) 734-9569; e-mail <bfranco@hawaii.edu>; or simply send a check to: Samoan Scholarship Fund, Attn: Bob Franco, Kapi’olani Community College, Ilima 203, 4303 Diamond Head Road, Honolulu, HI 96816. This is a fully tax-deductible donation, substantiated with a letter from the UH Foundation. They are also seeking larger matching grant opportunities.

Bob Franco

XV. FROM THE SECRETARY-TREASURER

Financial Report for 2003

The beginning balance in the ASAO general fund on January 1, 2003, was $23,229.32; the ending balance on December 31, 2003, was $26,906.92. During the year, income totaled $21,221.71 and expenditures totaled $17,544.11.

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*In 2000, Thailand; in 2002 and 2003, Taiwan.

Annual Meeting Attendance, 1997-2004

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*In 2000, Thailand; in 2002 and 2003, Taiwan.
Registration and Dues Payments

Once again, approximately 70 percent of annual meeting attendees preregistered for the meeting; many thanks! Although we will continue to offer on-site registration and payment of dues, etc., especially for the benefit of members who don’t have checking accounts or would just prefer to pay in cash, the record-keeping is much easier when handled by mail—and for a few people a day.

Thanks also to all those who have paid their 2004 dues to date. I have just sent final reminders to rest of you; please send your payment as soon as possible. Checks should be made out to ASAO and mailed to the address below. Note for those without US bank accounts: our bank can also accept for deposit checks in Canadian, Australian, or New Zealand dollars, British pounds, or Euros; just make sure the checks have the bank routing number encoded on them. Please check the current exchange rate for the equivalent of the US dollar amount (and round up to the nearest unit).

If you have any questions about your dues status, please contact:

Jan Rensel, ASAO Secretary-Treasurer, 2499 Kapi’olani Blvd. #2403, Honolulu, HI 96826 USA; e-mail <rensel@hawaii.edu>

XVI. ASAO WEBSITE NEWS

During the year I have updated the website as required to reflect session reports from the 2003 meeting in Vancouver, session announcements provided by the Newsletter Editors and Program Coordinator, and information concerning the 2004 meeting in Salem provided by the Site Coordinator and Secretary-Treasurer. The pre-registration form and PISF application form for the Salem meeting were uploaded in PDF format.

The membership database has been modified periodically to reflect changes in membership and members' information. Additions have been made to the list of ASAO publications (following Board approval), with links to publisher or journal sites for ordering information. Employment opportunities relevant to the membership have been posted as they were drawn to my attention. The archives have been updated to include all the newsletters in PDF format through the year 2002 (in compliance with the plan to add newsletters one year after their publication so that members maintain the benefit of having current newsletters that are unavailable to non-members).

A photo album has been added to the archives with pictures from the Vancouver meeting.

A new section has been added that lists all current and deceased Honorary Fellows, along with copies of the letters nominating them (which give an account of their accomplishments).

The site has been averaging about 25 visits per day, which is about twice as many as last year. As always, I would be happy to hear from members of the Association regarding ways to improve the website, and would appreciate being informed of any errors, misspellings, or bizarre experiences you might have when visiting the site.

Alan Howard

XVII. ASAO MONOGRAPH SERIES REPORTS

The first ASAO monograph to be published by the University of Pennsylvania Press in their Social Anthropology in Oceania Series will be available in June 2004: Women as Unseen Characters: Male Ritual in Papua New Guinea, edited by Pascale Bonnemère. See the UPP website: <http://www.upenn.edu/pennpress/book/14011.html> Our contract for the book was executed on May 6, 2003, and the contract was delivered to the Series Editor on July 10, 2003. My appreciation goes to Pascale Bonnemère and her ASAO contributors for launching this new publishing venture.
The Editorial Board for the Press approved the Association’s nomination of Jeannette Mageo as Monograph Series Editor, and Jeannette and UPP’s Peter Agree met to finalize the change at the American Anthropological Association Meetings in November 2003.

Royalties paid by the University of Pittsburgh Press as of September 11, 2003, totaled $241.13.

I do appreciate having been given the opportunity to serve the Association as Monograph Series Editor, and I wish Jeannette Mageo every success in acquisitioning the very best of Pacific scholarship for the Series.

Michèle Dominy

As new monograph series editor I am happy to announce the members of the new editorial board: Bruce M. Knauft, Suzanne Falgout, and Rena Lederman. Suzanne and I were, as many of you know, at the Salem meetings, attending sessions where volumes were developing. Our contract with University of Pennsylvania Press calls for a volume a year for 5 years. From the Salem sessions it was clear there are many provocative volumes that will come to fruition over the next few years. My contact information is listed on the back page of the newsletter. Please note that during the summer months it may be easiest to reach me at my home phone: (509) 332-8259.

Jeannette Mageo

Monograph Series Website: <http://www.soc.hawaii.edu/asao/pacific/monographs.html>

XVIII. BIBLIOGRAPHIC INFORMATION

Feinberg, Richard

Revised to stimulate and engage an undergraduate student audience, Feinberg’s updated account of Anuta opens with a chapter on his varied experiences when he initially undertook fieldwork in this tiny, isolated Polynesian community in the Solomon Islands. The following chapters explore dominant cultural features, including language, kinship, marriage, politics, and religion—topics that align with subject matter covered in introductory anthropology courses. The final chapter looks at some of the challenges Anutans face in the twenty-first century. Like many other peoples living on small, remote islands, Anutans strive to maintain traditional values while at the same time becoming involved in the world market economy. In all, Feinberg gives readers magnificent material for studying the relations between demography, environment, culture, and society in this changing world. [From the back cover.]

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

"How do people perceive the land around them, and how is that perception changed by history? The contributors explore this question from an anthropological angle, assessing the connections between place, space, identity, nationalism, history and memory in a variety of different settings around the world. Taking historical change and memory as key themes, they offer a broad study that will appeal to a readership across the social sciences. Contributors from North America, Australia, New Zealand, Taiwan, and Europe explore a wide variety of case studies that includes seascapes in Jamaica; the Solomon Islands; the forests of Madagascar; Aboriginal and European notions of landscape in Australia; place
and identity in 19th century maps and the bogs of Ireland; contemporary concerns over changing landscapes in Papua New Guinea; and representations of landscape and history in the poetry of the Scottish borders."


"This book combines two classic topics in social anthropology in a new synthesis: the study of witchcraft and sorcery and the study of rumours and gossip. It shows how rumour and gossip are invariably important as catalysts for accusations of witchcraft and sorcery, and demonstrates the role of rumour and gossip in the genesis of social and political violence, as in the case of both peasant rebellions and witch-hunts. Examples supporting the argument are drawn from Africa, Europe, India, Papua New Guinea, Sri Lanka, and Indonesia. They include discussions of witchcraft trials in Essex, England in the seventeenth century, witch-hunts and vampire narratives in colonial and contemporary Africa, millenarian movements in New Guinea, the Indian Mutiny in nineteenth-century Uttar Pradesh, and rumours of construction sacrifice in Indonesia."

XX. RECENT JOURNALS

The September 2003 issue of The Journal of The Polynesian Society, Vol. 112 (3), is a special issue entitled "Postcolonial Dilemmas: Reappraising Justice and Identity in New Zealand and Australia," edited by Toon van Miejl and Michael Goldsmith. The articles originated in a workshop on multiculturalism convened by van Miejl at the July 2002 conference of the European Society for Oceanists, held in Vienna, Austria. The contents include:
"Introduction: Recognition, Redistribution and Reconciliation in Postcolonial Settler Societies," by Toon van Miejl and Michael Goldsmith
"Effecting Change through Electoral Politics: Cultural Identity and the Maori Franchise," by Ann Sullivan
"Abortive Redemption? Apology, History and Subjectivity in Australian Reconciliation," by John Morton
"Conflicts of Redistribution in Contemporary Maori Society: Leadership and the Tainui Settlement," by Toon van Miejl
"Culture, For and Against: Patterns of 'Culturespeak' in New Zealand," by Michael Goldsmith
"One Nation, Two Peoples, Many Cultures: Exhibiting Identity at Te Papa Tongarewa," by Senka Bozic-Vrbancic

ASAO members are especially welcome to join the Polynesian Society. On annual payment of dues (NZ$50) members receive the quarterly JPS and discounts on publications and earlier journal issues. Student 50 percent discount available (limited to three years). For membership application and dues payment, write the Society's Treasurer/Assistant Secretary, Rangimarie Rawiri, c/o Maori Studies, University of Auckland, Private Bag 92019, Auckland, New Zealand, or e-mail <jps@auckland.ac.nz>.

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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