I. FROM THE EDITOR

This issue includes reports from the 1996 annual meeting, and a look ahead to 1997 in San Diego. Many thanks to all who contributed.

The Guidelines for Session Organizers and Participants is reprinted on pages 6-7; please note the following deadlines:

September 1: Submit descriptions (or updates) for all 1997 sessions to Program Coordinator and to Newsletter Editor. This is also the deadline for any other input to the September Newsletter.

November 15: Submit final version of announcements for all sessions to Program Coordinator and to Newsletter Editor; for working sessions and symposia include list of papers, presenters, and an indication of how many presenters will actually be attending. In addition, send the Program Coordinator abstracts of all papers for working sessions, and copies of first pages of all papers for symposia.

December 1: Deadline for any other input to the December newsletter.

ELECTION: For honorary fellows and members who have paid their 1996 dues, a Ballot for New ASAO Board Members is enclosed. Please vote for two of the candidates on the slate selected at the February meeting, and return the completed ballot to Lin Poyer by July 1.

Jan Rensel, ASAO Newsletter Editor
2499 Kapiolani Blvd. #2403
Honolulu HI 96826 USA
tel/fax: 808/943-0836
e-mail <rensel@hawaii.edu>
II. FROM THE CHAIR

Welcome to the second quarter-century of ASAO (give or take a year or two)!

Thanks are due first of all to Niko Besnier, Larry Mayo, Craig Severance, Terri Aihoshi, and all who contributed to an excellent 25th anniversary meeting in Kona. The 1996 meetings demonstrated that we have become large enough to require some structural adjustment to get our official work done. To that end, the Board decided at its 1996 meeting to try combining the positions of Secretary, Treasurer, and Newsletter Editor into a single, part-time, paid position. Jan Rensel holds that position for 1996-97. Our thanks to retiring Secretary-Treasurer Tamar Gordon!

Because of this innovation, and the longstanding problem of persuading people to pay on time, we also raised dues (see announcement elsewhere in this Newsletter). By next year’s meeting, we should have a good picture of our financial projections over the next few years. (And we should have many more paid-up members as well!)

Many new sessions were launched at Kona. I urge those who are relatively new to ASAO to benefit from the wisdom of the elders and solicit advice about how to organize and run a session, so that we can continue to produce the kind of high-quality comparative scholarly publications that have been ASAO’s hallmark. And if you are a long-time member, I encourage you to actively aid and enculturate newcomers to ASAO’s formal structure, and to the ASAO traditions of scholarly work and friendly mutual aid.

Our 1997 meeting will be in San Diego—a familiar city, but a new hotel. Our West Coast location should help us connect with Pacific Islander scholars and students living in that region—if you have contacts or suggestions about how to link students with our Pacific Islands Scholars Fund, please send them to us. And as always, we hope you will share with any member of the Board your advice, concerns, wishes and opinions about ASAO. Lin Poyer

III. FROM THE SECRETARY-TREASURER

Many thanks to Tamar Gordon for her service as Secretary-Treasurer over the past two years, and for her patient help as I learn the ropes!

Currently, we have 12 honorary fellows and 231 members whose dues are paid for 1996; of these, 5 members paid through 1997 and 2 through 1998! Please note that the Board has instituted a raise in dues to US$35 for general members, US$20 for students. However, if you renew for this year before June 30, 1996, you may do so at the old rate (US$20 general, US$15 student). Make checks payable to ASAO.

Our gratitude to the many members who included contributions to the Pacific Islands Scholars Fund when renewing their membership. Donations in any amount are always welcome; because ASAO is a 501(c)3 organization, they are also tax-deductible (in the US). Again, checks should be made payable to ASAO, with a note indicating that it is for "PISF."

Alan Howard has been assisting me in creating a new, more flexible database for keeping the ASAO directory/mailing list. This database will allow us an option we didn’t have before: if you would like to list one address in the directory, and have your newsletter mailed to another, you may now do so. Please advise me anytime of corrections or changes to your contact information.

I would also like to encourage you to include your interest areas in the Directory, and to make sure the information is up-to-date. In the next directory I will reinstitute a practice Juliana Flinn inaugurated while she held this position: an index of members by geographical and topical interests. Jan Rensel

IV. PACIFIC ISLANDS SCHOLARS FUND REPORT

Fa‘afetai tele lava (much gratitude) to Vilsoni Hereniko (University of Hawai‘i, Center for Pacific Island Studies) and Karen Stevenson (School of Fine Arts, University of Canterbury) for all their dedication, commitment, and wise decision-making as members of the Pacific Island Scholars Fund Selection Committee, 1995-96. Vill will be leaving the committee but we’ll be calling upon him to help maintain our philosophical center/centre. A third member of the committee will be selected from the ASAO Board.
This past year, with a generous 25th anniversary allocation from the ASAO Board, we were able to support the full roundtrip air travel of eight Pacific Island Scholars:

- Teresia Teaiwa, from Banaba, the University of the South Pacific, and the University of California, Santa Cruz. Teresia was the co-organizer, with Pamela Rosi (Bryn Mawr College) of the working session, "Constructing and Imagining Images of Women in Contemporary Pacific Cultures."
- Selina Tusitala Crosbie-Marsh (Auckland University and University of Hawai‘i) also participated in the "Images of Women" session.
- Simon Porautek, Deputy Director, Papua New Guinea National Museum and Art Gallery, and Director of the newly formed Pacific Island Museum Association, participated in a session on "Museums in the Pacific."
- Faustina Rehuher-Marugg, Belau National Museum, and Secretary for the Pacific Island Museum Association, also participated in the "Museums" session.
- Dr. Andrew Lakau, Director, Pacific Land Tenure and Policy Centre, Lae, Morobe Province, Papua New Guinea, participated in the working session, "Rights to Land and Resources in Oceania: Changing and Conflicting Views."
- Wilkie Rasmussen, from the Cook Islands and Auckland University, participated in the working session, "Ethnography of Pacific Islander-made Videos."
- Kehaulani Kauanui, from Hawai‘i and the University of California, Santa Cruz, also participated in the "Videos" working session.
- Joakim Peter, from Ettal, Chuuk State, and the University of Hawai‘i, participated in the working session "Community Creation in Urban Settings."
- In addition we provided partial reimbursement to Shane Solomon, Centre for Maori Studies and Research, University of Waikato, for his participation in the symposium, "Ethnography of Ethnographies: Creating Ethnographic Statements and Cultural Brokerage." Shane was unable to attend, but Nanaia Mahuta from Auckland University was funded in his place.

The funding level returns to earth next year. We're probably looking at about US$1,500 being available, unless of course we can raise more funds. Please consider making (and then make) a tax-deductible donation to the fund. Please send your check (made out to ASAO) to Jan Rensel, specifying "PISF." We'll be developing other funding strategies but for 1996-97 we're dependent on you. Another means of supporting the participation of more Pacific Island scholars will be to identify individuals studying or working at universities in proximity to the meeting site. For example, next year’s meetings in San Diego may draw participation from Pacific Island scholars from west coast institutions.

The Committee wishes to thank Mary McCutcheon for her very generous donation of US$500 to the Scholars’ Fund.

1996-97 Selection Guidelines
The committee selects individuals based on the following criteria/emphases:
1) We place strongest priority on participation in working sessions; then, symposia.
2) We place priority on funding younger scholars and graduate students who may have difficulty accessing institutional funds. We would like to develop a separate fund (US$1,500 annually) that would be used to invite a senior Pacific Island scholar to contribute at the symposium level as a discussant.
3) We try to achieve equal representation from throughout Oceania.

SESSION ORGANIZERS PLEASE NOTE: The role of the session organizer is paramount. From application submission to the scholar’s arrival at the meeting site, the session organizer plays the central role in communication between the committee and the scholar. This is particularly the case when the scholar cannot be reached by email. We do not want to introduce a technological bias into the selection process, so session organizers may need to fax and phone those places not yet on email, thereby ensuring timely communication. As we get closer to the meeting date, session organizers should work with the Program Coordinator (Larry Carucci) and Site Selection Chair (Terri Aihoshi) to arrange cost-effective ground transportation and especially accommodations for the scholar.
The Application Process
We've tried to keep the application process as demystified as possible. The committee, with the above criteria/emphases in mind, base their decision on the quality of:
1) The letter from the session organizer addressing the potential contributions of the scholar to the session.
2) The letter from the scholar addressing her/his contribution to the session, and how the session fits into his/her professional development.
3) The letter from a colleague of the scholar. For scholars who are graduate students, this letter should be from their principle advisor. This letter should also address the scholar's potential contribution to the session and professional development.

You can mail these letters to:  Bob Franco
Kapi‘olani Community College
4303 Diamond Head Road
Honolulu HI 96816 USA

You can also fax letters to:  808/734-9828
Or email letters to:  bfranco@hawaii.edu

PISF APPLICATION DEADLINE:  NOVEMBER 1, 1996
PISF AWARD DATE:  DECEMBER 20, 1996

V. FROM THE SITE COORDINATOR
In mid-February, 1997, we can all look forward to participating in the ASAO Annual Meetings in sunny, warm (no promises!) San Diego, California. Watch for details on the hotel and reservation information in the September 1996 newsletter. In the meantime, a quick toll-free call (in the US or Canada) to 1-800-892-VALU (1-800-892-8258) will get you a free planning guide for your stay in San Diego. See you there!

Terri Aihoshi
27 Davelayne Road
Weston, Ontario M9M 2A6
CANADA
tel 416/741-9014
email <aihoshi@yorku.ca>

VI. ASAO BIBLIOGRAPHY UPDATE

The revised edition of the Bibliography sold out in Kona! If you would like a copy, please send your name, address and US$5.00 (checks made out to ASAO) to Karen Peacock at the address below. In June we will print enough copies to fill the requests that we receive.

Karen Peacock
Pacific Curator
University of Hawai‘i Library
2550 The Mall,
Honolulu HI 96822 USA
e-mail <peacock@hawaii.edu>
VII. FROM THE SPECIAL PUBLICATIONS EDITOR

Copyright to Greg Dening’s History’s Anthropology: The Death of William Gooch was transferred to the author last year (as was Marshall’s Sahlin’s Historical Metaphors and Mythical Realities previously). University of Hawai’i Press has republished Dening’s volume as The Death of William Gooch, a History’s Anthropology (1995). Publisher Rowman and Littlefield informs us that Special Publication 3, Marilyn Strathern’s Partial Connections, is now out of stock. The Special Publication series is currently building up funds to subvent the publication of a fourth volume, which the Board hopes will originate as a distinguished lecture presented to the organization. Lamont Lindstrom

VIII. ASAONET REPORT: Busy, Busy, Busy!

As the number of subscribers to ASAONET has increased (from 290 to 344 in three months), Net traffic has grown substantially. The number of requests for information of various sorts has grown, and these requests now include working stiffs and both graduate and undergraduate student requests for bibliography, for information on specific topics, for information about research permits, and the like. There is a parallel growth in the number of announcements--about conferences, tables of contents of journal issues, job openings, etc. We’re also getting information on events in Oceania -- a hospital closing, kidnapping in Irian Jaya, mining and timber activity in Melanesia, the semi-arrest of Carol Jenkins, the murder of a graduate student, and the like as they are happening. It has become clear since the postings about the volcanic eruption in New Britain that the Net provides quicker access to ongoing events than local (or national) newspapers and television.

Danny Yee continues to publish book reviews on a variety of subjects, but he also seems to have become the go-to guy when there are problems (or rumors) about technically related Internet problems. To the delight of most of us, we have also gotten reviews of plays from Niko Besnier and Grant McCall. Leslie Marshall has become our regular link to ongoing public health problems throughout Oceania with postings about dengue fever and Mad Cow Disease both sparking controversy on the Net.

Net subscribers are, for the first time, getting regular summary reports of ASAO Annual Meeting sessions. Given that less than 30 percent of subscribers are ASAO members, these reports give subscribers a good idea of what goes on at ASAO meetings.

Various issues continue to stimulate bursts of discussion and a bit of controversy. What constitutes an ad hominem argument and the relationship between Pacific Studies and the water rights issue on O’ahu were two controversial topics, and discussion served to tease out some of the complexities in both. Announcements and requests for info on the Net also stirred up some interesting discussion, e.g., the request from neo-Nazis to start their own usenet group, health dangers of chewing betel nut, the anniversary of the first H-bomb on Bikini, the recently released film on “first contact” with a “lost tribe” in New Guinea, and Mad Cow disease.

Among the more interesting announcements are an increasing number of World Wide Web sites dedicated to Oceanic issues, e.g., Jeff Marck’s Austronesian linguistics Web Page, the Micronesian Counselor, and Henry Lundsgaarde’s Pacific Islands Web Page (almost finished). I hope that the variety of topics and talk on ASAONET will encourage more ASAO members to subscribe. I also hope that what subscribers have learned of ASAO sessions will encourage all of you to join ASAO. Net talk is fun, but face-to-face on issues that matter is even more fun.

To subscribe to ASAONET:
(1) address a message to LISTSERV@UICVM.UIC.EDU
(2) leave subject line blank
(3) in the message space, type: SUB ASAONET YOURFIRSTNAME YOURLASTNAME

ASAONET listowners Mike Lieber <mlieber@UIC.EDU> and Dan Jorgensen <dwj@julian.uwo.edu>
I. There are three types of sessions at the ASAO Annual Meetings:

(A) INFORMAL SESSIONS are for the informal sharing of ideas to determine if there is a common ground of interest and data to justify organizing, at a later meeting, a session with formal papers. Informal Sessions receive the lowest priority for allocation of time and meeting space. Participants are not required to write papers for an Informal Session, and some Informal Sessions have very little organization. Others may be well organized and only a paper or two shy of meeting the criteria for a Working Session. Accordingly, 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 Informal sessions will be given no more than three hours, and most will receive only one-and-a-half hours of time. The organizers should send a brief description of the session focus to the Program Coordinator and to the Newsletter Editor no later than the September 1 deadline for the September Newsletter. The organizers of Informal sessions are responsible for keeping the Program Coordinator posted regarding the number, state of preparedness, and names of interested people. This will facilitate scheduling and the appropriate allocation of time and space.

(B) WORKING SESSIONS are based on prepared papers that are summarized (NOT READ) during the session. Working Sessions form the heart of ASAO meetings, and require considerable time for the delivery of papers and the exchange of ideas. Accordingly, Working Sessions are ordinarily given first priority when meeting time and space is allocated. The organizers of a Working Session are responsible for: (1) sending a description of the session topic and call for papers to the Program Coordinator and the Newsletter Editor no later than the September 1 deadline for the September Newsletter; (2) Obtaining from participants an abstract or 2 page synopsis of all papers; (3) sending to the Program Coordinator the names, paper titles, copies of the abstract/synopsis of all papers and a realistic indication of how many participants will actually be attending the meetings. These materials should be sent to the Program Coordinator by November 15. Send the Newsletter Editor the list of participants and titles of papers only. A Working Session requires the presence of seven participants with papers. A session that does not meet these criteria by November 15 will be listed on the Program as an Informal Session. Complete information (brief description of topic, list of participants by name and paper title, order of presentation) will be included in the December Newsletter if it is sent to the Program Coordinator by November 15. Time will be allocated according to the number of participants attending and presenting papers.

(C) SYMPOSIA are sessions that normally have met at a lower level of organization at least once before and are based on papers that have been pre-circulated among the participants for written criticism leading to revision. Symposia provide opportunities for the discussion of ideas and issues arising from the papers rather than for the presentation of the papers themselves. The organizers of Symposia are responsible for: (1) sending topic descriptions and call for papers to the Program Coordinator and Newsletter Editor before the September 1 deadline for the September Newsletter; (2) Assuring that drafts of papers are circulated among participants; (3) Sending the Program Coordinator the first page of each full paper (with title and author) together with a dated note indicating to whom the paper has been circulated and whether the author will be physically present at the session. The Association recognizes that some Symposia may require only an hour-and-a-half to wrap up unfinished business while others may need as much as six hours or more to discuss issues, themes, and future plans. It is, therefore, the responsibility of a Symposium organizer to indicate to the Program Coordinator the amount of time that the session will require. This information must be sent to the Program Coordinator by November 15. Send the Newsletter Editor the list of participants and titles of papers only. The presence of seven participants with pre-circulated papers is required
for full Symposium status. Sessions that do not meet these criteria will go on the Program of the Annual Meeting as Informal Sessions or Working Sessions, according to the judgment of the Program Coordinator.

Organizers should take note that designation as a "Working Session" or a "Symposium" reflects the actual state of the papers in the session, and does not guarantee any specific length of time to be allocated.

NOTE: Organizers must send to the Program Coordinator by November 15 all information to be published in the December Newsletter. Descriptions of sessions, names and paper titles of participants, and order of presentation will be published if they are received by the deadline. Session organizers who do not contact the Program Coordinator will not have their session on the Program of the Annual Meeting. Please remember that time and space is limited and will be allocated on the basis of number of papers, the number of participants actually attending the meetings, the level of organization of the session, and the request of the session organizers. No session will be given more than three blocks of time or one full day, including two or three evening hours, and these latter will be very rare. If a session requires more time, the organizers will be responsible for informally arranging extra meetings with their participants.

II. Members should limit themselves to participation in no more than two sessions, preferably at different levels. Scheduling conflicts may occur. If you are in two sessions, please send the Program Coordinator a note indicating your priority. There is no guarantee that scheduling conflicts can be avoided.

III. Session organizers or participants who have particular scheduling needs (e.g., must arrive late or leave early), or who require audio-visual equipment such as slide projectors and screens should contact the Program Coordinator as early as possible. Satisfaction is not guaranteed but we do try.

IV. Session organizers should send the Program Coordinator their addresses and telephone numbers (work and home), their email address, and a schedule of when and where they will be if they plan to move around during the year.

V. More Guidelines, entitled "Musts for Session Organizers and Prospective Volume Editors" are available from the Program Coordinator. All Session Organizers and Prospective Volume Editors should have one. If you do not, contact the Program Coordinator and ask for one.

VI. All session organizers are expected to deliver to the closing Plenary Session (usually held on Saturday evening or Sunday morning) a report on the results of their session and future plans. If the organizers cannot be present at the Plenary Session they should appoint one of the participants to deliver the report. A written copy of the report must also be sent to the Newsletter Editor before April 1, the deadline for inclusion in the April Newsletter.

VII. All correspondence to the Program Coordinator should be sent to:

Larry Carucci  
Department of Sociology  
Montana State University  
Bozeman MT 59717 USA  
tel 406/994-5255  
fax 406/994-6879  
email <isilc@msu.oscs.montana.edu>
Symposium: Ethnography of Ethnography: Generating Ethnographic Statements and Cultural Brokerage
Organizers: Sjoerd Jaarsma (Utrecht) and Marta Rohatynskyj (Guelph)

Participating in the symposium were: Niko Besnier (Wellington), Jane Fajans (Cornell), Michael Goldsmith (Waikato), Sjoerd Jaarsma (Utrecht; co-organizer), Judith Macdonald (Waikato), Mary MacDonald (Le Moyne), Toon van Meijl (Nijmegen), Marta Rohatynskyj (Guelph; co-organizer). Unable to attend were Jane Goodale (Bryn Mawr), Douglass St. Christian, Shane Solomon (Waikato).

All in all nine papers were precirculated for this symposium, though only eight were dealt with during the symposium owing to the illness of Douglass St. Christian, much to our regret. Each of the participants discussed her/his paper and then had it commented upon by another participant.

At the end of a six-hour session an hour was left to draw conclusions and face the question whether to go ahead and publish the resulting papers. The unanimous decision was that the papers had enough quality and overlap in thematical contents that an attempt at publication would be worthwhile. No title has yet been decided on (though a definite idea is floating around).

The resulting publication will deal with two intertwined issues: the changing relationship between the researcher and the researched, and the life history of ethnographic texts in not only nonliterate, but often increasingly literate spheres. We are addressing a more complex and (inter)active audience than ever before. This audience tends not only to read our texts, but also to act upon them. In this sense we can for instance be faced with an audience of the people we researched, redefining our ‘right’ to publish. The papers presented at the symposium deal with a variety of these issues in a number of different ways, at times phrasing questions, and at times, challenging extant definitions of issues. For further information contact:

Marta Rohatynskyj <mrohat@css.uoguelph.ca> or Sjoerd Jaarsma <sjaarsma@knoware.nl>. Postal address: Department of Sociology and Anthropology, University of Guelph, Guelph, Ontario N1G 2W1, CANADA; tel 519/824-4120 ext. 3554 (w); fax 519/837-956.

Symposium: Righting Wrongs: Compensation, Apology and Retribution in Contemporary Pacific Societies
Organizers: David Akin (Kwaio Cultural Center) and Jan Rensel (University of Hawai‘i)
Discussant: Richard Scaglion (University of Pittsburgh)

Participants in this all-day symposium presented and responded to thirteen papers, including one on apology and self in Japan by special commentator, Takie Sugiyama Lebra (University of Hawai‘i), and an overview of issues by our discussant Rich Scaglion. Other contributors included David Akin, David Boyd, Larry Carucci, Rick Feinberg, Juliana Flinn, Alan Howard and Jan Rensel, Cluny Macpherson, Susan Philips, Joel Robbins and Andrew Strathern.

We focused on what we are calling the "cultural logics" behind how people perceive, and cope with, and sometimes right wrongs. Discussion brought in issues such as the construction of anger and the locus of harmony; self and personhood; implications of hierarchy and status; strategic uses of apology and compensation demands; boundaries and extensions of customary approaches; and the various uses and roles of courts and churches.

Most participants decided to proceed toward a volume; the session organizers will work with the discussant to prepare an introductory chapter to circulate among participants along with suggestions for revisions of their individual contributions.

David Akin, Atoifi Postal Agency, East Malaita, SOLOMON ISLANDS; email c/o <telf@umich.edu> and Jan Rensel, 2499 Kapiolani Blvd. #2403, Honolulu HI 96826 USA; email <rensel@hawaii.edu>
Working Session:
Rights to Land and Resources in Oceania: Changing and Conflicting Views
Organizers: Paula Brown Glick (SUNY Stony Brook) and Anton Ploeg (Utrecht)

There were eleven papers (one in absentia) in the working session, and great interest in the subject. The group agreed that four of the papers were excellent finished papers that could best be published separately, by preference in Australia, New Zealand, Holland, and a Pacific Island journal. These are:

Robert Tonkinson (University of Western Australia): Anthropology and Aboriginal Tradition: the Hindmarsh Island Bridge Affair and the Politics of Interpretation
(This paper concerns the role of anthropologists as consultants on this case, which has attracted great debate in Australia. We felt that the issue is of great importance and that it requires separate publication in Australia, as soon as possible.)
Centre for Maaori Studies and Research (University of Waikato, New Zealand): Tainui Land Settlement 1995
Anton Ploeg (Utrecht University, The Netherlands): Colonial Land Tenure in Dutch New Guinea
Ron Crocombe (Rarotonga, Cook Islands): Rethinking Land Policy Once Most Landowners Live Abroad: The Cook Islands and Niue Prepare for the 21st Century

The following seven papers are concerned with Papua New Guinea. Several also stimulated discussion on the role of anthropologist as consultant and/or advocate. They concern a number of issues and areas, including land rights, and relations to registration, logging, mining, baitfish royalties. These are all resources now impacted by overseas investors and exploiters; they were not known to be commercially valuable until recently. We felt that the issue is urgent, and we do not believe holding off for another session at ASAO would be useful, given the delay involved. Rather, we hope that they can be published as a group as a journal special issue, and hope for distribution in the Pacific area where these are important issues now. The papers are:

Hartmut Holznecht (Australian National University): Problems of Representation and Articulation in Forestry Development in Papua New Guinea/Melanesia
Paula Brown (Glick) (SUNY Stony Brook): Historical Background on Rights to Land and Resources in Papua New Guinea, and a View from Simbu
Dan Jorgensen (University of Western Ontario, Canada): Who and What is a Landowner? Mythology and Marking the Ground in a PNG Mining Project
Laura Zimmer-Tamakoshi (Northeast Missouri State University): When Land has a Price - Conflicts and Resolution in Gende Land Rights and Land Use
Phillip Guddemi (Sacramento CA): Transformations of Land Concepts in a Sepik Hinterland People
Ton Otto (University of Nijmegen, the Netherlands): Baitfish Royalties and Customary Marine Tenure in Manus, Papua New Guinea

Another paper, a report by Buck Schieffelin on logging concerns in Bosavi, was circulated on ASAONET and on the PNG rainforest campaign news some months ago. Buck Schieffelin has said that he will expand and revise it for publication with the papers from this session, if a special journal issue eventuates.

Paula Brown Glick, 59 West 12th Street, New York NY 10011 USA; fax 212/242-1036; email <pbglick@aol.com>
Working Session: Melanesian Currencies and Changing Exchange Spheres  
Organizers: David Akin (Kwaio Cultural Center) and Joel Robbins (Virginia)

This all-day working session focused on the histories, meanings, and uses of both indigenous and introduced state currencies in Melanesia. Our goal was to go beyond simple claims about either the enduring importance of traditional wealth or the corrosive effects of introduced "money." To that end, each participant presented a detailed case study of the role of currencies and the interrelations between them in a specific Melanesian group. Taking part were David Akin, Karen Brison, Doug Dalton, Robert Foster, John Liep, Edward LiPuma, Mark Mosko, Joel Robbins, and Andrew Strathern. We will not be going on to a formal session next year. Instead, we have decided to spend the next several months reworking our papers for publication as a volume.

Joel Robbins, 2000 E. Roger Rd, Apt. D-8, Tucson AZ 85719 USA; email <jlr2t@virginia.edu> and David Akin, Atoifi Postal Agency, East Malaita, SOLOMON ISLANDS; email c/o <telf@umich.edu>

Working Session:  
Television, Nationalism, and Transnationalism in the Contemporary Pacific  
Organizer: Kathleen M. Adams (Loyola University of Chicago)

This year's all-day working session on television in the contemporary Pacific was both focused and productive. The participants included Reshela DuPuis (University of Michigan), Robert Foster (University of Rochester), Kirsten Wehner (New York University), Kathleen Adams (Loyola University of Chicago), Jo Recht (University of Pittsburgh, paper presented in absentia), Miriam Kahn (University of Washington) and Victoria Petersen. A number of people in the audience also contributed to a lively and fruitful discussion.

The issues raised in the papers and discussion fell into several general categories, including (1) the role of television (and videos watched on television) in fostering reflections on local, national, and transnational relations and identities; (2) ethnographically grounded examinations of television's influence on local patterns of social interaction (e.g., the ways in which vernacular cultural orientations mediate the cultural impact of television; and (3) explorations of the ethnocentric assumptions we bring to our fieldsites about television and video-viewing.

In discussing these three general themes, the participants agreed that a central focus for next year's symposium should be on problematizing assumptions made about the role of visual media in nation-building. As we revise our papers we will be taking care to attend to the particulars of what is meant by "nation" in our particular settings. (For instance, what does it mean to be constructing a nation in a weak state as opposed to a strong state? etc.) Moreover, we also hope to encourage participants to consider issues of class and transnationalism as they revise their papers. We are particularly interested in furthering our understanding of television as a dynamic site of discourse over representation, a complex arena in which subjectivities and identities are constructed and contested.

There is still room for a few additional participants. Individuals with ethnographically grounded research data addressing television and national/transnational identity negotiation are particularly encouraged to contact the organizer as soon as possible. Participants have agreed to precirculate revised papers by September 1, with final versions to be distributed to all participants by January 5.

Kathleen M. Adams, Dept. of Anthropology and Sociology, Loyola University of Chicago, 6525 N. Sheridan Road, Chicago IL 60666 USA; tel 312/508-3458; email <kadams@orion.it.luc.edu>
Working Session: Weaving the World: "Cloth" in Oceania
Organizer: Heather Young Leslie (McMaster)
Discussant: Adrienne Kaeppler

This session was a great success and will go ahead to symposium in 1997. My thanks to the participants for an exciting session. Discussion was lively - so much so that Larry Mayo had to eject us from the room! In all, ten papers were presented, one in absentia. The papers focused mostly on Polynesia, with good representation of Samoa, Tonga, Futuna, Fiji, Pohnpei and Kapingamarangi; one discussed a contemporary textile designer working in PNG, and another paper delved into the poorly documented use of hair as plaiting medium in Oceania. The papers presented demonstrated clearly that cloth exists as a mediator of social spaces; as a marker of gendered roles, social relations, and hierarchies of knowledge and skill; and as a medium for the invention of new traditions. Our strength in this session lies in the ethnographic detail we each bring to the wider discourse on 'cloth'. Adrienne Kaeppler was our discussant, and I am most grateful for her enthusiastic participation. Her concluding remarks included the memorable decision that we must "purge the term 'fine mat' from our vocabulary", as the session demonstrated, among other things, just how meaningless is that term!

Participants have agreed to circulate first drafts of papers in September 1996. I will sort and allocate papers for participants to comment upon, and we will present our revised papers at next year's meetings. Our roster for the symposium is large, but there is room for representation from Melanesia. Interested parties should contact me as soon as possible. Please note that the address in the February 1996 directory is out-of-date. The email address is good. I can be reached by snail-mail at the address below.

Heather Young Leslie, Midwifery Education Programme, McMaster University, Fontbonne Building F622, 50 Charlton Ave East, Hamilton, Ontario L8N 4A6 CANADA; tel 905/521-6015, fax 905/521-6014; email <youngl@fhs.csu.McMaster.CA>

Working Session: Community Creation in Urban Settings
Organizer: Judith Modell (Carnegie Mellon)

The Working Session was organized around the theme of community creation in urban settings. Though the word "community" was not precisely defined, the general idea was to emphasize a Durkheimian notion of collective solidarity--to emphasize moral and cultural communities rather than communities based on economic or political institutions, with a recognition that the distinction is not absolute. We had eight papers, in various degrees of completion. The papers fell into two broad categories which will form the basis for future organization in a Symposium and in an edited volume. The first set dealt with (broadly) establishing a community (e.g., migration, household arrangements, entering a wage economy) and the second set with "celebrating" community (e.g. defining cultural identity; adapting rhetorical strategies; utilizing rituals of solidarity). The papers had several concerns in common which will be further developed in the next round, including: the importance of kinship; the impact of a growing population; the use of social services; links between the "urban" and the "home" community; and the significance of individual motivation and well-being. In our next drafts, we will attend not only to the local impact but also to the locally oriented interpretations of international political and economic developments.

We plan to move to a Symposium next year, and in the meantime will circulate relevant bibliographic references; exchange comments and criticisms; and establish a common vocabulary (what do we mean by "urban"). It was agreed that we would add a literary perspective and, as well, take into consideration previous ASAO volumes on migration and movement in the Pacific. Final drafts of papers for the 1997 Symposium should be circulated by June 15.

Judith Modell, Department of History, Carnegie Mellon University, Pittsburgh PA 15213-3890 USA; tel 412/268-3239, fax 412/268-5288, email <JM1e@andrew.cmu.edu>
Working Session: Engendered Wealth and the Cross-Sibling Dyad
Organizer: Karen Nero (Auckland)
Discussant: Margaret Jolly (ANU)

We had a lively comparative session on the transfers of gendered wealth primarily at marriages and funerals, focusing on Polynesian and Micronesian systems. Historical transformations, and relationships between elite and commoner exchanges, were key issues that connect exchanges with changing political structures and the global nature of contemporary Pacific societies. We plan to hold a Symposium next year, expanding our ethnographic range as Mark Mosko, Martha Macintyre and Lissant Bolton join us. Papers this time included:

Phyllis Herda (U Auckland): The Transfiguration of Koloa in Tonga
Heather Young-Leslie (McMaster U): Hands Across the Water: Tongan Women’s Katoanga Exchanges
Adrienne Kaeppler (Smithsonian): Kie hingoa
Judith Huntsman (U Auckland): Pandanus and Pearlshell: Gendered Valuables and Cross-gender ‘Exchange’ in Tokelau
James A. Egan (UCI): Giving While Keeping Land: Gendered Wealth, the Cross-Sibling Dyad & the Production of Hierarchy: Yap
Kimberly Kihleng (U Hawai‘i): The Cross-Sibling Dyad: Wealth, Power, and Feasting in Pohnpei

Working Session: The Culture of Contact: Experiences of Colonialism in the Pacific
Organizer: Naomi McPherson (Okanagan University College)

Our session, comprised of twelve participants able to attend to present papers, met all day Friday to explore experiences of colonialism in Guam, New Zealand, Vanuatu, and Papua New Guinea. Topics addressed included the use of census data to create a subject population and how these “populations” were fashioned according to European notions of evolutionary ranking and stereotypes of the other, and represented in film, photography, colonial literature and the architectural use of space. A second set of issues emerged concerning the diversity of colonial groups, the diversity of the application of ‘colonialisms’ within those groups, and the importance of contextualizing colonial experiences at the interface of social and personal histories. A third and fascinating issue explored was the reciprocal relationships among anthropology/anthropologists, and colonial officers/administrators. Session participants suggested that our topic covered a geographic area too far flung and that the session should be split into two groups, one pertaining to Papua New Guinea and one session focused on other areas of the Pacific. To this end, this session will revert to its original intent to explore The Culture of Contact: Experiences of Colonialism in Papua New Guinea and will reconvene at the next meeting as a working session. Anyone interested in joining our session on colonial experiences in PNG please contact:

Naomi M. McPherson, Department of Anthropology, Okanagan University College, 3333 College Way, Kelowna, B.C. V1V 1V7 CANADA; email <nmcperson@okanagan.bc.ca>
Working Session: Ethnography of Pacific Islander-made Videos
Organizer: Karen Nero (Auckland)
Discussant: Vili Hereniko (U Hawai'i)

This was a truly working session, in that the other two co-organizers were unable
to attend at the last minute due to funding/work commitments. However we had
an extremely lively set of presentations, made possible by the extra time available, dealing
in detail with issues concerning off-island Hawaiian uses of videos to reimagine nations
and reconstruct identity (Kehalani Kauanui), the unanticipated ways the videos are
affecting concepts of tapu and noa in videos made by and for Cook Islanders (Wilkie
Rasmussen), and issues involved in Marshallsean attempts to re-produce images of a
Marshallese overseas community for both the home islands and for the greater-Los
Angeles television-viewing publics (Jim Hess and Que Keju). Nero discussed some of the
issues encountered by Micronesian historic preservation offices’ attempts to maintain
video libraries and institute culturally-sensitive management policies.

Depending on interest, we will continue at a working level next year, and welcome
new participants. Hopefully those unable to attend--Rufino Mauricio and Allan Burns,
Deborah Gewertz, and Barbara Lüem--will join us next year. For additional information,
please contact:

Karen Nero, Department of Anthropology, The University of Auckland, Private Bag
92019, Auckland, NEW ZEALAND; fax 649/373-7441, email <k.nero@auckland.ac.nz>

Working Session: Festival and Communitas: Enacting Identity in the Pacific
Organizers: Keith S. Chambers (Southern Oregon State) and Karen Stevenson
(Canterbury, NZ)

Our working session occupied the full day Sunday, February 11th. Nine participants
presenting eight papers took part, and there were an additional 6-12 people in the
audience throughout the day, despite it being the last day. Participants had all pre-
circulated papers (just!). Our session format included a 5-minute period allowing each
presenter to summarize main points or speak to problematic issues in her or his paper,
followed by comments from a pre-appointed discussant from among the group and then
by other session members and the general audience (about 20 minutes was allotted for
discussion). Toward the end of the day we had time for more general focus on the
session as a whole and our consensus, or lack of it, about continuation toward
symposium status next year. We found this format to be workable and productive.

As we noted in a previous announcement about this session, “our challenge
remains that of finding in this great ethnographic variety common themes and issues.
Areas being explored include scale and scope of the festival event(s), rationale and
motivation (including audience), issues of authenticity and of community
expression/creation, and gender.”

While enriching and of great interest, the spread represented in our presented
material and the different approaches taken was too great for comfortable work. The
variety appears to stem mainly from the varying professional backgrounds and interests
of researcher (our group was composed of art historians, anthropologists and
ethnomusicologists). Other obvious variables included differences in “density” of
ethnographic materials and whether or not the material being presented was the main
focus of one’s work or less central to it. There was no consistent involvement of theory
and little consensus about what a “good paper” on this topic should include. While all
participants have benefited from the cooperation this year and last, we have concluded,
with regret, that we will not move ahead for next year. Two participants plan to publish
their papers separately before then, one has decided to withdraw, and at least one and
possibly more will not be at the San Diego sessions in 1997. Given these dynamics, we
recognize that any move toward a symposium would require recruitment of at least 4-5
new participants, a significant narrowing of the focus of the session to achieve a
satisfactory degree of common ground, and lots of plain old elbow grease. We may
revisit this rich topic in future, but not at ASAO in 1997.

Participants at Kona, 1996:
Anne E. Guernsey Allen (Indiana University Southeast): Festivals and the Creation of Social Ties in Western Samoa
Keith S. Chambers and Anne Chambers (Southern Oregon State College): "Big Days": Festival and Community in Nanumea, Tuvalu
Carol S. Ivory (Washington State University): A Contemporary Festival in the Marquesas
Jackie Lewis-Harris (The Saint Louis Art Museum): The Sixth Pacific Arts Festival
Jeannette Mageo (Washington State University): A Genealogy of Samoan Entertainments: Reconfiguring Traditions and Modernity in Samoa
Larry Mayo (DePaul University): From Fiesta to Protest: Changing Modes of Chamorro Cultural Expression
Karen Stevenson (University of Canterbury): La Féte Tahitiéenne: Conception and Construction of a Cultural Identity
Amy Ku'uleialoha Stillman (University of California, Santa Barbara): Hawaiian Hula Competitions: Event, Performance, Tradition

Keith Chambers, Office of International Programs, Southern Oregon State College, Ashland, OR 97520 USA; tel 503/552-6338 (w), fax 503/552-6440, email <chambers@wpo.sosc.osshe.edu> Karen Stevenson, School of Fine Arts, University of Canterbury, Christchurch, NEW ZEALAND, tel 643/366-7001 ext. 8146; fax 643/364-2858, email <k.stevenson@fina.canterbury.ac.nz>

Working Session: Culture, Class, and the Modern Pacific Island State
Organizer: Gene Ogan (Minnesota)

There were seven presentations, drawing on material from Tuvalu, Western Samoa, Tonga, the Cook Islands, and Papua New Guinea. Discussion was lively, spurred by the difficulty in finding an appropriate comparative and historical framework for dealing with concepts like stratification, class, and power. This discussion was enhanced by the contributions of younger scholars like Asenati Liki (University of Hawai'i). Participants decided not to go forward to a symposium format, but to take what they had learned to incorporate into their individual research and writing projects.

Gene Ogan, 1711 Dole Street #204, Honolulu HI 96822-4904 USA; tel 808/943-1814.

Working Session:
Constructing and Imagining Images of Women in Contemporary Pacific Cultures
Organizers: Pamela Rosi (Bryn Mawr) and Teresia Teaiwa (Santa Cruz/USP)

Six participants gave presentations in this working session: Selina Tusitala Crosbie-Marsh, Stephen Eisenman, Mimi George, Pamela Rosi (in absentia), Teresia Teaiwa, and Margaret Jolly. Several others who were not able to give their presentations are also committed to participating next year, including Deborah Elliston, Caroline Fusimalohi, Nicholas Thomas, and Karen Sinclair. As a result of the working session, we were able to identify more specifically some common themes, interests, and concerns. These included the power of and distance between racializing discourses on "Melanesian" and "Polynesian" women, the active construction of images as a form of resistance to totalizing discourses, and the role of the critic in relation to art and artist. Most of all, we found ourselves compelled by how MOVING all of the images were, in the sense that they were emotionally moving, and in the ways that they were actually moving across a multitude of boundaries. We will be exploring both these connections, and the distances (which seem at this point to be mainly disciplinary and methodological) as we circulate and rework our papers in preparation for the 1997 ASAO meetings.

Pamela Rosi, Department of Anthropology, Bryn Mawr College, Bryn Mawr PA 19010 USA; tel 610/526-5000 ext. 5030 (o), 908/870-0370 (h); and Teresia Teaiwa, P. O. Box 3720, Samabula, Suva, FIJI; tel 679/322-906, email <Teaiwa_T@usp.ac.fj>
Informal Session:
The Transmission of Skills and the Status of Experts in the Pacific
Organizer: Bernd Lambert (Cornell)

Five of the six people who had signed up for the informal session were in attendance. We discovered a good deal of common ground in our summaries, as our topic expanded to include Oceanic conceptions of the nature of knowledge, the processes by which it is passed on to the next generation, and its legitimate uses. We are all concerned to some degree with how Pacific peoples have adapted their ideas of what it means to be knowledgeable to changing circumstances. A more inclusive theme has attracted some additional participants; we have heard--in person, by email, or indirectly--from four anthropologists interested in joining us. Counting both old and new participants, four of us have worked in Melanesia, two in Polynesia, two in Micronesia, and one in Sulawesi, allowing for a comparative perspective. We are looking forward to a working session in 1997. We are also extending an invitation to other scholars who can contribute to our project. They should contact:

Bernd Lambert, Department of Anthropology, McGraw Hall, Cornell University, Ithaca NY 14853 USA; tel 607/255-6777 (o) or 607/267-3928 (h), email <BL16@cornell.edu>

Informal Session:
Sustaining Islanders: Political Ecology and Pacific Island Nations
Organizers: Mike Evans (Northern British Columbia) and Charlie Stevens (Arizona)

Participants in this session met for a total of about six hours and agreed to continue at the working level next year. The following papers are expected:

Nancy Pollock (Auckland) is examining the environmental rehabilitation of Nauru. Paul Shankman (Colorado) is beginning research on the adaptation responses of Islanders to alteration of water resources and increased frequency of hurricanes, consequences of ENSO anomalies. Eve Pinsker (Chicago) researched the effects of the Compact of Free Association, focusing on dependencies created by the association scheduled to end in 2001. Jim Hess (California-Irvine) will analyze the implication of changes in the traditional authority of the Marshall Islands’ chiefly system and the ability of the islanders to create of new resource management institutions.

Michelle Dominy (Bard) is studying the role of the landscape in shaping the political identity of highland sheep farmers in New Zealand who developed their own indigenous knowledge on sustained husbandry. Mike Lieber (Illinois-Chicago) has studied sustainable technological innovation in fishing practices on Kapingamarangi Atoll. Bob Franco’s (Hawai’i Kapi’olani) and Craig Severance’s (Hawai’i Hilo) research concerns the stability of the linkages between Samoan out migrants and their families and the influence of remittances on the maintenance of traditional fishing practices.

Mike Evans (Northern British Columbia) presents evidence that the remittance of money to Tonga is based on strong ideologies that ensure the primacy of the family over that of the individual and the flow of remittances to Tonga shows no sign of decline.

Marion Kelly (Hawai’i) and Ulla Hasager (Hawai’i) are interested in the diversion of water away from native Hawaiians who had used these resources for highly sustainable agricultural production. Documentation of the loss of Tongan agroforestry skills with the advent of seasonal market crop production will be presented by Stevens (Arizona). Larry Gorenflo (Argonne National Laboratory) (who was unable to attend) is studying the implications of demographic change for sustainable development in the Federated States of Micronesia. Discussions were facilitated by Mike McCoy, Mike Burton, and Fran Hezel.

Charlie Stevens, Anthropology Department, University of Arizona, Tucson, AZ 85721 USA; email <cstevens@anthro.arizona.edu>
Mike Evans, Anthropology Programme, University of Northern British Columbia, 3333 University Way, Prince George BC V2N 4Z9 CANADA; email <evansm@unbc.edu>
Informal Session: History, Biography, Person
Organizer: Andrew Strathern (Pittsburgh)

Thirteen participants signed up for this session, indicating their interest in the topics as outlined by Andrew Strathern in an introductory statement on the potential triangulation between the arenas of history, biography, and personhood, problematizing the questions of the production of histories and biographies and their relationship to changing concepts of personhood over time. The participants added many perspectives, indicating a rich potential field of data and analysis based on peoples’ self-accounts, either textual or oral, from case-histories, events, narratives compared over time, long or short narratives told either within the society or to the anthropologist, or the collaborative construction of the ideas of biography between anthropologists and informants. It has been decided to move to a working session next year and Andrew Strathern has since provided a short orientating position paper to the participants and will begin shaping the working session by early May. Many thanks indeed to all who turned up and enriched the discussion greatly by their comments and proposals, and to others who indicated their interest and may join us for the working session. The participants and other interested persons are: Leslie Butt, Juliana Flinn, Robert Foster, Lisette Josephides, Verena Keck, John Liep, David Lipset, Edward LiPuma, Barbara Burns McGrath, Judith Modell, Ton Otto, Dan Shaw, Karen Sinclair, Pamela Stewart, Jürg Wassmann, Laura Zimmer-Tamakoshi.

Andrew Strathern, Department of Anthropology, University of Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh PA 15260 USA; tel 412/648-7519, fax 412/648-5911, email <strather+@pitt.edu>

Informal Session: Cultural Memory/Cultural Identity in the Pacific
Organizer: Jeannette Mageo (Washington State University)

Twenty-seven people attended the session and most expressed interest in going on to a working session next year. A lively discussion included the following topics: (1) oppositional versus incorporative processes in memory/forgetting; (2) the role of memory in an ongoing creation/recreation of cultural identity; (3) embodied and enacted cultural memory/identity [how are culture histories written in symbolic forms in the arts and in other traditions of meaningful practice?]; (4) technologies of memory and selective memory [for example, tourist hotels in Honolulu that valorize Hawaiian royalty but forget the Hawaiian sovereignty movement]; (5) polite and impolite histories/memories; (6) double and multiple cultural identities; (7) alternative encoding of memory and invention of tradition; (8) contested authenticities and play on the idea of authenticity in cultural identity.

Those who wish to participate in the Working Session in San Diego next year please send an abstract to by October 21 to:

Please contact Jeannette Mageo, Anthropology Department, 4910, WSU, Pullman WA 99164 USA; tel 509/335-7737, fax 509/335-3999, email <jmageo@mail.wsu.edu>

Field Technology Workshop
Organizer: Alan Howard (Hawai’i)

The approximately twenty people attending the Field Technology Workshop were treated to an extremely informative presentation by Jim Hess, who shared his expertise on the selection, use and maintenance of computers, cameras, tape recorders and other high tech equipment under tropical conditions. David Akin, fresh from the mountains of Kwaio in the Solomon Islands, reported on his recent experience with equipment powered by solar panels, and Henry Lundsgaarde demonstrated the use of interactive computer technology for teaching anthropology. At the 1997 meetings in San Diego Lundsgaarde will offer a workshop on how best to take advantage of multimedia systems (web pages/CDs) to present and archive ethnographic data.
Informal Session: Current Research in Polynesia
Organizers: Jeanette Dickerson-Putman (Indiana) and Victoria Lockwood (SMU)

About twenty people met and shared ideas about current research in Polynesia. Some of the contemporary research foci in the region include the study of how Tahitian artists are crafting contemporary art traditions, an examination of church donation and participation in the Austral Islands and an exploration of the language socialization process and its relation to contemporary constructions of Marquesan identity. There was enthusiastic and supportive discussion and a wonderful exchange of ideas.

The group decided to go forward with a Working Session next year with a tentative title of "Contemporary Choices and Strategies in Polynesia." We envision Polynesians as active and dynamic players who negotiate and strategize within a contemporary world. Individuals not only respond to and make choices and decisions about existing institutions (such as the Church and Colonial Government) but they also create and craft new contexts, traditions and socio-cultural arenas. Within this Working Session we hope to explore the agency of Polynesian islanders as they make decisions and shape their contemporary opportunities in a wide variety of contemporary contexts.

We would welcome additional participants. Interested parties should contact the co-organizers ASAP. Additional information on session abstracts and working papers will be circulated in the near future.

Informal Session: Touristic Encounters in the Pacific: Identity, Representation and Ethnicity
Organizer: Eric Silverman (DePauw)

This session was a success. Miriam Kahn juxtaposed idealized and mass-produced images of touristic encounters with "Paradise" against socio-political events in French Polynesia just after the recent nuclear tests. Patti Peach discussed tourism, salt-making, trade networks and an expanding worldview in Simbu Province, PNG. Eric Silverman critiqued the cinematic gaze of tourism in O'Rourke's film "Cannibal Tours." (Hirokazu Miyazaki was unable to attend the Kona meetings, and thus did not present her paper on debates in Fiji between swordsellers, the Ministry of Tourism, and the tourist industry.)

Silverman wants very much to encourage this session to move towards a Working Session next year! A number of people have expressed interest in this session, which is a timely, viable and theoretically informed topic. Please contact Silverman ASAP if you would like to present a paper—if you are unable to attend the meeting next year, then please submit a paper in absentia. The anthropology of tourism and related activities is a growing field; it is important for ASAOers with relevant knowledge to engage this interdisciplinary discourse. It is also moral inasmuch as tourism will continue to expand in the Pacific and influence greatly the localized communities in which we all live and work.
Informal Session: Superheroine: Mythology and Gender in the Pacific
Organizers: Jeannette Mageo (Washington State) and Jan Rensel (Hawai‘i)

Fourteen people participated in this informal session and most indicated an interest in going on to a working session next year. The following topics were introduced as points of discussion: (1) commonalities and differences in superheroine figures and stories across geographical areas; (2) superheroines as cultural counters to male privilege; (3) exploration of founding-male myths from the perspectives of their female characters; (4) how myth and legend engender national identities; (5) how gender mythologies are deployed in society; (6) body part symbolism; (7) pro-creative, pre-procreative, and anti-procreative superheroines (death goddess); (8) relations between the narrative and other art forms, and actual gender relations in society; (9) the place of superheroines in myth systems. All prospective participants are asked to send an abstract to both organizers by October 21. For further information please contact:

Jeannette Mageo, Anthropology Department, WSU, Pullman, WA 99164 USA; tel 509/335-7737, fax 509/335-3999, email <jmageo@mail.wsu.edu>
and Jan Rensel, 2499 Kapiolani Blvd., #2403, Honolulu HI 96826 USA; tel/fax 808/943-0836, email <rensel@hawaii.edu>

Informal Session: Museums in the Pacific
Organizer: Mary McCutcheon (George Mason)

The chief purpose of the meeting was to bring together ASAO and the newly formed Pacific Islands Museums Association. The two organizations have obvious common concerns and should work together toward common goals. The two presenters were Simon Poraituk, chairman of PIMA and Faustina Rehuher, secretary of PIMA. They summarized the history of PIMA and explained its relationship with UNESCO, ICCROM, ICOM, and PREMO. The audience contributed ideas for future work including collaboration with universities, establishing research and collection guidelines and considering the issue of repatriation of collections. Then Simon gave a slide show on the Papua New Guinea Museum of Art and Culture, and Tina gave a slide show on the Palau National Museum.

Mary McCutcheon, Department of Anthropology, George Mason University, Fairfax VA 22030 USA; tel 703/243-3643 (h), fax 703/993-1446, email <mmccutch@gmu.edu>

Informal Session: Canoes, Culture and Identity in Oceania
Organizer: Eric Silverman (DePauw University)

On the occasion of the 60th anniversary of Haddon and Hornell’s Canoes of Oceania, this session was to be a forum for discussion about the symbolic role of canoes in Pacific Island cultures--both riverine and seafaring--in terms of gender, ethnicity, and identity.

The session featured two semi-formal papers by Deborah Waite (canoe prow figureheads in the Solomon Islands) and Eric Silverman (Sepik River canoes and houses as images of mothers). Leslie Lincoln presented slides of recent canoeing on the Northwest Coast of North America. Perhaps due to the late hour of the session, discussion was limited. Unless others communicate to Silverman a willingness to work towards a Working Session next year, this topic is, as it were, “dead in the water.”

Eric Silverman, Department of Sociology/Anthropology, DePauw University, Greencastle IN 46135 USA; tel 317/658-4889, email <erics@depauw.edu>
Informal Session:
Secrecy and Layered Speech in Melanesian Ethnography--Work in Progress
Organizers: Anton Ploeg (Utrecht) and Hal Levine (Victoria)

This informal session indeed involved secrecy: it was in fact arranged in order to present a surprise festschrift. The book, entitled Work in Progress: Essays in New Guinea Highlands Ethnography in Honour of Paula Brown Glick, and edited by the two session organizers, includes a bibliography of Professor Brown Glick’s works compiled by Terence Hays, and the following articles:

John Barnes: Introduction
Aletta Biersack: "Making Kinship": marriage, warfare and networks among the Paiela
David Boyd: The legacy of a Highlands Great Man
Harold Brookfield: Untying the Chimbu Circle: an essay in and on hindsight
Susan Drucker-Brown: Kinship terms and patterns of authority
Bill Epstein: Anthropology, population growth, and change
Bill Gammage: Police and power during contact in the New Guinea Highlands
Jack Golson: The Tambul spade
Terence Hays: What does one do with white people who stay
Lisette Josephides: Strategies of agency in a changing world: Kewa women, men, and uses of power
Hal Levine: Ethnogenesis in a New Guinea Highlands town
Anton Ploeg: Hugh Men in the Highlands of Irian Jaya
Aaron Podolefsky: Mediator strategies in Chimbu
Andrew Strathern: Structures of disjuncture
Marilyn Strathern: Double standards
George Westermark: Fighting the Queen's men
Laura Zimmer-Tamakoshi: Role models for contemporary Gende women

For ordering information about Work in Progress, write to the publisher, Peter Lang, Europäischer Verlag der Wissenschaften, Abt. WP, Postfach 940 224, D-60460 Frankfurt/Main, GERMANY.

Special Session in Appreciation of Karen Watson-Gegeo:
Social Responsibilities of Anthropologists
Organizer: Rick Feinberg (Kent State)

In addition to nine full-scale presentations, messages were read by David Gegeo on behalf of Karen Watson-Gegeo and by Nancy Grim on behalf of John Barker during this session. Major presentations were provided by Steve Boggs, Sue Philips, Helen Slaughter, Leialoha Perkins, Geoff White, David Akin, Jan Rensel & Alan Howard, Niko Besnier, and Rick Feinberg. David Gegeo offered commentary on the papers and suggested ways in which they tie in with his and Karen's work. In addition to the active participants, about a dozen others, all of whom have known Karen in some capacity during the course of her career, attended the session. David taped the proceedings for Karen, who could not be present. The feeling was unanimous that this was a powerful, moving session.

Participants decided not to proceed collectively at this time. The consensus was well summarized by Alan Howard's observation that "the power of the session was in the moment." David indicated that Karen appreciated the session, and he said it had provided her with much-needed encouragement during a major crisis in her life. That was our primary objective; and in that respect the session was a great success.

Rick Feinberg, Department of Anthropology, Kent State University, Kent OH 44242 USA; tel 216/672-2722, 678-0727, fax 216/672-2999, email <rfeinber@kentvm.kent.edu>
XI. 1997 ANNUAL MEETING: PROPOSED NEW SESSIONS

Understanding Grass-Roots Development Aspirations in the Pacific
Organizer: Michael French Smith

People promoting development -- from giant multilateral aid institutions to small non-government organizations (NGOs) -- are talking more and more about the importance of grass-roots participation in development planning, paying attention to local definitions of development or even defining development as people achieving their own aspirations. This is a great improvement over assuming development is something planned and provided from the top down; but it is a tall order with potentially radical implications. Local development definitions or grass-roots aspirations are likely to be complex, ambiguous and embroiled in politics. Understanding them requires social and cultural analysis. Once understood, they may be at odds with not only larger political-economic trends, but also the expectations of well-meaning promoters of development.

It would be very useful to try to describe and understand local development aspirations in specific Pacific contexts and ask what such understanding means for the project of fostering development that grows from or responds to grass-roots meanings and desires. I have in mind thinking of development practitioners--from the World Bank to indigenous Pacific activists and NGOs--as our ultimate audience and treating this complex issue in an appropriately straightforward way.

Contributions from all parts of the Pacific would be most welcome. I already have received expressions of interest from anthropologists working in PNG and Solomon Islands. Those interested should contact:

Michael French Smith, 8331 16th Street, Silver Spring MD 20910 USA; tel 301/587-2154; email <jfgoldsmith@igc.apc.org> (Please note that my email address is given incorrectly in the February 1996 ASAO directory.)

Technologies of Anonymity and Indifference
Organizer: Ilana Gershon (Chicago)

This session will explore the techniques bureaucracies use to control subjectivities. Its initial premise is that Pacific island nations are the product of internally conflicted groups struggling for control through bureaucratic hierarchies. These communities have often historically distributed power and authority through mechanisms antithetical to bureaucratic premises of anonymity. The papers will examine the resulting conflicts by questioning how particular technologies of courts, censuses, housing plans, sanitation, mining machinery, etc. implicitly project types of users which only partially overlap with the actual participants. By investigating technologies as sites for constituting particular national subjects as well as underpinning the organization of the state, the papers will explore the many different kinds of subjects imagined, and how possible overlaps and clashes are negotiated. These theoretical forays will be both informed by and tested within the context of different cultural constructions of subjectivity. The panel will address the following types of questions: How are citizens, employees and development beneficiaries imagined, and then managed? What effects does the physical organization of these technologies have upon their reception? The various papers will question how class, knowledge, citizenry and sexuality become significant components for the imagined and real users. In question are the methods by which factions in a nation produce and monitor community members.

So that this may become a working session in 1997, I am asking those interested to please send abstracts by May 30 to:

Ilana Gershon, Dept. of Anthropology, University of Chicago, Chicago IL 60637 USA; fax: 312/702-4503; tel 312/324-4174; email <imbenamo@midway.uchicago.edu>
Marking the 1898 Centenary: The United States in the Pacific Islands in Historical Perspective
Organizer: Glenn Petersen (Baruch)

1998 marks the centenary of a major moment in the history of the United States' presence in the Pacific region: Hawai’i, Guam, and The Philippines were all annexed in 1898 (Samoa was taken the following year). The concurrent decision not to claim the islands lying between Hawai’i and the Philippines--Micronesia--would prove in time to be of equally great consequence. Nevertheless, 1898 is no more than an especially iconic focal point in a long continuum of American activity in the Pacific. Annexation solidified America’s hold over way stations along the routes to other locales in the region. We who came of age in the Cold War era have not been educated to understand that the course of American expansion was set long before the rise of Russia as a superpower, and that American dominion will continue to be asserted--and contested--long after its demise.

To that end, I intend to organize sessions marking 1898 as a significant point in the history of the United States in the Pacific, focusing on the entire region--not simply the American possessions and dependencies--and on the continued impact of international rivalries and relations in the region. In 1997 there will be an informal session and in 1998 a working session on this to.

I am not on email and do not intend to be; those who would like to participate will have to utilize the same technology available in 1898--the mails.

The Impact of Native Medical Professionals on the Delivery of Healthcare in Isolated Pacific Island Communities
Organizer: Henry Lundsgaarde (Kansas)

The objectives of this proposed working session are to develop papers that: (1) document the training and placement of native Pacific Islanders who since 1929 have graduated from the Fiji School of Medicine (or other similar medical schools), (2) describe the economic, social, cultural, and medical problems confronting native medical officers working in remote and isolated Pacific Island communities, (3) analyze and compare the factors that affect the social and professional lives of native medical practitioners who now represent the most educated elite in independent nations. Papers might also focus on the changing roles and of dressers, nurses, and ancillary medical personnel.

One article that should be of interest to potential participants, in that it contains testable hypotheses applicable to Oceanic communities: Gallagher, E. B. 1994. Comparative and Historical Notes on the Evolution of Health Care: Three Hypotheses. IN Sutlive, V. H. and T. Hamada (eds.), Physicians and Health Care in the Third World. Department of Anthropology, College of William and Mary.

I will send a list of additional bibliographic references to those expressing interest in this session. Please let me hear from you by June 1:

XII. OTHER CONFERENCES

HISTORY, CULTURE, AND POWER IN THE PACIFIC
Joint Eleventh Pacific History Association Meeting and Twenty-First Annual University of Hawai‘i Pacific Islands Studies Conference
Hilo, Hawai‘i, 9-13 July 1996
The keynote speakers for the conference, History, Culture and Power in the Pacific, will be Dr. Lilikala Kameʻeleihiwa, associate professor in the Center for Hawaiian Studies, University of Hawaiʻi at Manoa, and Professor Greg Dening, emeritus professor, Department of History, University of Melbourne.

Panels, presentations, and performances are planned with the following themes: Reconceptualizing history in the Pacific; Local histories and vernacular sources; Colonialism's cultures; Gender relations in colonial pasts and decolonizing presents; Sovereignty and decolonization; Asserting Hawaiian identity; Public histories and history's publics in the Pacific; Diasporas and nationhood; Postcolonialism and the Native in the colonized Pacific; Christianity and religious transformations; Imaging, representation, and photography; Theaters of encounter; Law and custom in Micronesia; Pacific libraries: issues and developments.

In addition to the scheduled panels, the renowned Halau 'O Kekuhi will perform.

The conference begins with a reception on the evening of Tuesday, 9 July, and concludes at noon on Saturday, 13 July. General registration is US$110 and student registration is US$65, if mailed before 30 May (US$135 general, US$80 for students after that). The first full day of the conference, which will be devoted primarily to issues of history, culture, and power in Hawai‘i, is Wednesday, 10 July.

The deadline for submitting abstracts to panel organizers is 15 April.

For information on panels and presentations, contact the conference convener, David Hanlon, Department of History, University of Hawai‘i, 2530 Dole Street, Sakamaki A-203, Honolulu HI 96822 USA. Tel 808/956-9957; fax 808/956-9600; email <hanlon@hawaii.edu>

Those interested in receiving registration information by email or postal service should contact Tisha Hickson, UH Center for Pacific Islands Studies, 1890 East-West Road, Moore 215, Honolulu HI 96822 USA. Tel 808/956-2652; fax 808/956-7053; email <ctisha@hawaii.edu>

PACIFIC PEOPLES IN THE PACIFIC CENTURY: SOCIETY, CULTURE AND NATURE
Third Conference of the European Society for Oceanists (ESO)
Copenhagen, Denmark, 13-15 December 1996

Plenary sessions speakers for the ESO conference include Marshall Sahlins, Epeli Hau‘ofa, Malama Meleisea, Ralph Regenvanu, and several other Pacific Island scholars who will address major cultural and environmental issues in Oceania today.


Please let us know as soon as possible if you plan to participate—with or without a paper. If you intend to give a presentation, please indicate first and second priority for working sessions. Deadline for abstracts (maximum half a page, letter size) and indication of participation is September 1, 1996, preferably by email. Write to the Conference Secretary at the following address. Include name, home address, institutional address, fax and phone numbers, email address, and indicate whether you are a member of European Society for Oceanists.

Further information can be obtained from the address below or from Ulla Hasager. (808) 956-4218, email <ulla@hawaii.edu> Conference fee: US$30.

CONFERENCE SECRETARY: Bente Wolff, Institute of Anthropology, University of Copenhagen, Frederiksholms Kanal 4, DK-1220 Copenhagen K, DENMARK; ax +45 3532 3465, tel +45 3347 3233, email <es-bw@palais.natmus.min.dk>
XIII. EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Social Sciences/Interdisciplinary Position, Alaska Pacific University

Assistant Professor in Social Sciences or Interdisciplinary Studies beginning August 1996. Ph.D. preferred, ABD considered. Previous college teaching experience required. Specialization in one or more of the following areas is desired: cultural studies, northern studies, women's studies, political science, and/or anthropology. Primary duties will be teaching undergraduate courses in social sciences and related areas. Secondary duties will include assisting the department in the writing program, advising students, and serving on university committees. Experience in student-centered, project-based education is especially desired. Alaska Pacific University is a private, independent, liberal arts university that uses the Alaska, the Arctic, and the Pacific Rim as laboratories for learning. (For further information regarding the university, please refer to our Web site: http://www.alaska.net/~apu.) Applications will be reviewed starting May 1 and will continue until the position is filled.

To apply, send a letter of interest, teaching evaluations, curriculum vitae, and three letters of recommendation to Dr. Robert Wilkinson, chair Liberal Studies Department, Alaska Pacific University, 4101 University Drive, Anchorage, AK 99508 USA. For more information, tel (907) 564-8291, fax (907) 562-4276, or email Robert D. Craig at <rcraig@AONLINE.COM>

Grant proposal writer for National Museum of Papua New Guinea

Would begin at national salary, $16,000/yr. Would also include airfare and baggage. If necessary, family expenses and school fees could be included. Museum will provide housing. M.A. minimum, or Ph.D. preferred. Applications accepted until end of May.

Please send letter of application to: Soroi Marepo Eoe, Director, National Museum of Papua New Guinea, P. O. Box 5560, Boroko, PAPUA NEW GUINEA.

XIV. PERSONAL NEWS

John Barker (University of British Columbia) has received a grant from the Research Enablement Program of the Overseas Ministries Study Center to prepare a book, tentatively titled "Maisin Christianity: Religious Transformation in a Papua New Guinea Societies."

Barbara Wavell will be exhibiting her collection of Micronesian art at the Maitland Museum (Florida) from May 11—June 16, 1996. The show will include 23 Palauan storyboards with at least 9 from the 1940s and 1950s; monkeymen and other figures, handfans from the Marshalls, Pohnpei, Kosrae and Kiribati; other examples of Micronesian fiber arts (baskets, purses, necklaces, etc.), canoe-related items, and other objects including a first edition of Keate's Captain Henry Wilson's Account of the Pelew Islands. An illustrated catalog will be available.

Jackie Lewis-Harris (Saint Louis Art Museum) wishes to announce the upcoming opening of an exhibit entitled Face to the Wind: Papuan Gulf Art from the May Collection. Morton D. May (owner of the May Company retail stores) introduced Oceanic art to the public through department store shows and museum exhibits. He also gave collections to almost every university and museum that requested art. Jackie reports that thanks to Mr. May, the St. Louis Art Museum has an excellent collection of Pre-Columbian, Oceanic and German art. The new exhibit (which has a large selection of Goarbari Island art) will be on display June 16, 1996—January 5, 1997, and a publication on the collection will be available in September 1996.
Until August 20, 1996 Lamont Lindstrom can be reached at the Macmillan Brown Centre for Pacific Studies, Canterbury University, Private Bag 4800, Christchurch, NEW ZEALAND; tel +64-3-364-7958 (o), +64-3-351-0609 (h), fax +64-3-364-2002, email <l.lindstrom@pacs.canterbury.ac.nz>

Deborah Gewertz (Amherst) and Fred Errington (Trinity College) wish to let all ASAO folks know that they are alive and well in Wewak, but that the email connections have not worked out. They can be contacted c/o George Seto & Co., Box 69, Wewak, PAPUA NEW GUINEA; tel +675-86-3422, fax +675-86-2439.

XV. BIBLIOGRAPHIC INFORMATION

* The following two volumes resulted from ASAO symposia.


This book is an ethnographic and theoretical exploration of the rise of new forms of leadership at community and national levels in the islands of the Western Pacific. Changing definitions, functions and expectations of leaders have followed upon political independence for many new nations in Oceania. Islanders are reworking leadership offices, synthesizing traditional and Western models, and drawing on indigenous values and symbols to validate the resulting new structures. These changes raise basic questions about leadership and tradition and bring new challenges to old debates in Pacific anthropology, which are explored by the contributors to this volume. Leadership and Change in the Western Pacific is published as a tribute to Sir Raymond Firth, whose classic work on Tikopia has been an inspiration to generations of anthropologists. (from publisher’s brochure)

Contributors include Niko Besnier, Stephen Boggs, Richard Feinberg, David W. Gegeo, Karen Ann Watson Gegeo, Steven Hooper, Alan Howard, Barbara Lüem, Torben Monberg, Bradd Shore, and Harvey Whitehouse; the epilogue was written by William A. Shack.


Spirits in Culture, History, and Mind reintegrates spirits into comparative theories of religion, which have tended to focus on the institutionalized forms of belief associated with gods. The volume brings an historical perspective to culturally patterns experiences with spirits and examines spirits as a locus of tension between traditional and foreign values. Taking as a point of departure shifting local views of self, nine case studies drawn from Pacific societies analyze religious phenomena at the intersection of social, psychological, and historical processes. Included in a provocative theoretical chapter that argues for a distinction between godlike and spiritlike beings, with gods representing the moral order and spirits encountered at the periphery. Issues associated with morality, power, control, conformity, possession, selfhood, the uncanny, and the impingement of high religions on folk beliefs are addressed in this chapter. The conclusions also incites controversy. Reflecting on the ethnographic material included in the volume, it draws attention to the importance of understanding spirit-related experiences, in their historical contexts, for coming to grips with the very nature of religion. (from the book jacket)

Contributors include David Akin, Niko Besnier, Jay D. Dobbin, Richard Feinberg, Tamar Gordon, Francis X. Hezel, Douglas Hollan, Alan Howard, Michael Lambek, Robert I. Levy, Jeannette Marie Mageo, and Harvey Whitehouse.
Orans, Martin
1996 Not Even Wrong: Margaret Mead, Derek Freeman, and the Samoans. Novato, CA: Chandler & Sharp

*Not Even Wrong* is unique because it is the only book on the Mead-Freeman controversy that makes use of Mead's field materials. A further distinction is that it subjects the claims of Mead and Freeman to the standards of verifiability of science. This work underscores the degree to which natural as well as "unnatural" scientists decide issues of heredity-environment on ideological grounds. *Not Even Wrong* is a detailed comparison of what Mead said about Samoan adolescent girls in *Coming of Age in Samoa* and what she actually observed as revealed in her field materials, with special attention to Derek Freeman's *Margaret Mead and Samoa: The Making and Unmaking of an Anthropological Myth*. The findings are a rebuke to the nonscientific practices of anthropologists who claim to be doing science. Orans also criticizes those, including himself, who have judged anthropological works on the basis of ideological virtue rather than correspondence with empirical observations. Unlike Freeman, who claims that Mead was duped regarding Samoan sexual beliefs, attitudes, and practices, Orans demonstrates that Mead understood Samoan restrictions of female sexuality. On the comparison of adolescent stress in Samoa and the United States and on the relative contributions of heredity and environment to such stress, Orans argues that Mead is "not even wrong" because the terms of the argument are never adequately defined. Here again Orans sharply differs from Freeman, who believes Mead's arguments can be refuted. *(from the book jacket)*

Dari, Willie, Vasiti Ligairi, and Solange Petit-Skinner
*Adolescents in Fiji*. San Francisco: MacDuff Press.

Based on recent interviews, this book describes customs at the time of puberty, circumcision and first menstruation. Since at this time of life customs for girls in Fiji are very elaborate, descriptions of tattooing and the first ritual dance are also included. A statement about the significance of blood, drawn from the interviews, follows. Two sample interviews on the topic complete the book. *(adapted from brochure)*

Shaw, R. Daniel

This case study began in the summer of 1969 when the author and his family arrived in the land of the Samo in the center of Papua New Guinea, where they stayed for twelve years. The depth of familiarity with Samo life is what gives this case study its special character. Thirty years of change are compactly but meaningfully described and discussed. The effects of population aggregation, from isolated longhouses to villages, are central to the process. Despite the abandonment of longhouses and the transformation of their social lives, the Samo retain distinctive cultural identity and values. *(adapted from publisher's brochure)*

Weiner, James F.

Weiner offers the first comprehensive attempt to fashion an anthropological method from the psychoanalytical theories of Jacques Lacan and extends his own previous work on Melanesian sociality and language. Applying literary, psychoanalytic, and hermeneutic theories to myths of the Foi, Marind-anim, Yafar, and Gimi peoples, Weiner shows how mythic narratives reveal the productive and consumptive processes that compose the New Guinea person and body. *(from publisher's catalog)*

For nearly fifty years, US government officials have identified Belau, in western Micronesia, as a key strategic site and have implemented policies designed to maintain permanent access to Belau's land, reefs, and waters for military purposes. Elder women placed themselves at the forefront of opposition to these policies and, as part of oppositional efforts, expanded participation in clan, electoral, and "Compact" politics. Speaking to Power moves beyond examining the impact of militarism and colonial administrative policy in Belau and draws on feminist post structural analysis to explore the fluidity of contests in constructions of "gender," "politics," and "tradition" during US administration in Belau.

In a text based largely on extensive conversations with members of one clan, Wilson offers a compelling ethnography that incorporates critical questions about US military and administrative policy in Belau, introduces contemporary analytical debates concerning power in an accessible way, and examines power relations at the intersections of local, national, and international politics. Wilson challenges conventional approaches to "doing" anthropology, addresses power relations within the process of her own research and writing, and effectively uses this reflexive text to experiment with alternative forms of representation and ethnographic writing.

(from publisher's brochure)

XVI. RECENT JOURNALS

The London Missionary Society Bicentenary Commemorative Issue of the Pacific Journal of Theology has as its focus The Legacy of Christian Mission in the Pacific. This may be a collector's item for all those interested in Pacific history, church history and the work of missions. The articles include:
Bernard Thorogood: After 200 Years, The LMS Legacy
Mark Gallagher: The Tahiti Connection, Planting Christianity in Hawai'i
Raeburn Lange: The Making of a Maohi Ministry, The LMS in Early Christian Tahiti
Featuna'i Liua'ana: Malua Theological College, A Historical Survey
John Garrett: Catholic-Protestant Encounters in the Pacific
Leslie Boseto: The United Church, The Will and the Gift of God
Konai Helu-Thaman: Personal Reflections on the Work of the Missionaries
Sevati Tuwere: Dare to Move Beyond the Reefs
Bruce Deverell: The Calling, Preparation and Appointment of an LMS Missionary
Jeanette Little: Mission Education for Women in the Solomon Islands
This edition also contains a tribute by Doug Munro to the late Sione Latukefu, first Pacific Island academic historian, and a bibliography of Latukefu's writings.

To order, contact: Pacific Journal of Theology, South Pacific Association of Theological Schools, P. O. Box 2426 GB, Suva, FIJI; tel +679-303-924; fax +679-307-005.

Umanidát: A Journal of the Humanities is a refereed journal published once each year by the Diocese of Chalan Kanoa in Saipan. Articles, creative writing, and original art are accepted for review at any time during the year. The featured theme of the latest issue (Volume 3, Number 1, November 1995) is Commonwealth: Twenty Years Later. In addition to numerous poems, there are several articles, such as:
Samuel F. McPhetres: Islands in Political Union with the United States of America
Vicente N. Santos: Covenant Forum
William H. Stewart: Looking Back at Saipan
Barbara Grace Ripple: A Brief History of the Protestant Church in the CNMI
Ward H. Goodenough: A Traditional Micronesian Poetry
Gary M. Heathcote: Recent Findings of Ancient Chamorros and their Lifeways
Elizabeth Drumwright: Florencia Seman, A Saipan Carolinian Elder Speaks
Francis X. Hezel, SJ: In Search of a Talking Point on Human Rights
The latest issue of *The Contemporary Pacific: A Journal of Island Affairs* [Volume 8(1) Spring 1996] includes the following:

**ARTICLES**
- Richard Scaglion: Chiefly Models in Papua New Guinea
- Moshe Rapaport: Between Two Laws: Tenure Regimes in the Pearl Islands
- Reshela DuPuis: Romanticizing Colonialism: Power and Pleasure in Jane Campion’s *The Piano*
- R D K Herman: The Dread Taboo, Human Sacrifice, and Pearl Harbor

**DIALOGUE**
- Jane Freeman Moulin: What's Mine is Yours? Cultural Borrowing in a Pacific Context

**RESOURCES**
- Stephen Innes: The New Zealand and Pacific Collection at the University of Auckland Political Reviews for Micronesia and Polynesia, and fourteen book reviews.

For subscriptions and copies of *The Contemporary Pacific*, contact the Journals Department, University of Hawai‘i Press, 2840 Kolowalu St., Honolulu HI 96822 USA.

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The December 1995 issue of *Pacific Studies* (Volume 18 Number 4) features:

**ARTICLES**
- Harriet Whitehead: Identifying Game Species with the Aid of Pictures in Papua New Guinea
- W. Arthur Whistler: Folk Plant Nomenclature in Polynesia
- Jean Drage: The Exception, Not the Rule: A Comparative Analysis of Women's Political Activity in Pacific Island Countries
- Anne Booth: Employment, Unemployment, and Access to Education: Policy Dilemmas for Papua New Guinea

**BOOK REVIEW FORUM**
- Bruce M. Knauft: *South Coast New Guinea Cultures: History, Comparison, Dialectic* Reviews by Andrew Strathern, Pierre Lemonnier, Gilbert Herdt and a response by Knauft.

For information about *Pacific Studies*, contact The Institute for Polynesian Studies, BYUH Box 1979, 55-220 Kulanui, La‘ie HI 96762; tel 808/293-3665, fax 808/293-3645.

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Volume 2(4) of *Art and AsiaPacific* magazine is dedicated to the contemporary art of the Pacific. In the issue entitled 'Pacific Art Now' guest editor Susan Cochrane has compiled a selection of articles that encompasses Papua New Guinea, New Zealand, the Cook Islands, Samoa, Solomon Islands, New Caledonia, Fiji and Hawai‘i. Filled with brilliant images of the work of artists throughout the Pacific, this issue of *Art and AsiaPacific* promises to be a valuable resource for all those interested in the varied contemporary cultures of the region.

For information about subscriptions or purchase of single issues of *Art and AsiaPacific*, contact: Fine Arts Press Pty Ltd, PO Box 480 East Roseville, Sydney NSW 2069 AUSTRALIA; tel + 61-2)-417-1033, fax +61-2)-417-1045; email <sales@gbpub.com.au>
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