I. FROM THE EDITOR

This issue of the newsletter contains the Program and Schedule of Sessions for the 2001 ASAO Annual Meeting to be held at the Miccosukee Resort near Miami, Florida, February 14–17. Many thanks to all who contributed, especially all the session organizers who managed the November 1 deadline!

Enclosed with this newsletter is a “Straw Poll” concerning your plans related to the 2002 ASAO Annual Meeting, to be held in Auckland, New Zealand. Please complete and return this straw poll to Cluny Macpherson, whose contact information appears on the form.

Members will also receive a personalized multipurpose form, mailed with this newsletter or airmailed separately. Please return this form when you:

(1) Pay your conference registration fee for the upcoming meeting
(2) Pay your 2001 dues \textit{(whether or not you are attending the meeting)}
(3) Make a donation to the Pacific Islands Scholars Fund
(4) Update your mailing address for the ASAO Newsletter
(5) Update your information for the ASAO membership database
(6) Order your copy of the 2001 \textit{ASAO Membership Directory}*

*Directories ordered now will be printed and mailed in March 2001 (after the annual meeting); price includes postage (see form).

Please mail the multipurpose form (along with your check, made out to ASAO) to:

Jan Rensel, ASAO  
2499 Kapi'olani Blvd. #2403  
Honolulu HI 96826 USA  
tel 808/943-0836  
fax 808/965-4838  
email <rensel@hawaii.edu>
II. 2001 ANNUAL MEETING INFORMATION

The 2001 ASAO Board Meeting convenes on Tuesday evening, February 13, and the Annual Meeting is scheduled for Wednesday–Saturday, February 14–17, at the Miccosukee Resort, 500 Southwest 177 Avenue, Miami, Florida 33194 USA.

Meeting Registration (Preregistration Discount Deadline: Postmarked by February 1)

Registration fees must cover all conference expenses, including refreshments during breaks, AV equipment rental, lecture honorarium, supplies, etc. The Miccosukee Resort has agreed to waive meeting room rental charges, but catering and equipment charges are higher than last year’s.

For the 2001 ASAO Annual Meeting, on-site registration fees will be US$50 general and US$30 student. Those who send in their preregistration forms and payment can take advantage of a US$5 discount: Preregistration fees are US$45 general and US$25 student.

If you plan to attend the meeting, please preregister if at all possible! Send your registration form with your payment in US dollars (cash or check payable to ASAO) to Jan Rensel, 2499 Kapi’olani Blvd. #2403, Honolulu HI 96826.

Hotel Reservations (Conference Rate Deadline: January 13)

The Miccosukee Resort is about 20 minutes from the Miami international airport, with complimentary shuttle service from and to the airport, and free parking. It’s a brand-new casino resort owned by the Miccosukee Indians and is located on the edge of the Everglades.

Guaranteed nightly room rates for ASAO meeting participants are $89 for single or double room, for up to 4 people per room (plus 8.75% tax). A rollaway bed is available for an additional $20. Each room has telephone, voice mail, modem hook-up, remote control cable TV/movies, mini-bar, coffee maker, hair dryer, robes & slippers, and in-room safe. If you would like to upgrade to a double parlor, which includes a kitchenette and separate sleeping room with two queen-size beds (and a fold-out couch bed in the “parlor”), the ASAO rate is $109 (plus tax). Non-smoking and Accessible rooms are available. Note for parents: Miccosukee offers a fully supervised, 8,500 sq. ft. child care center on the premises, for children up to 12 years old (including infants). The center is open Sunday through Thursday from 10:00 am to 1:00 am, and Friday and Saturday from 9:00 am to 2:00 am. They charge $5 per child, minimum of two hours.

To make your hotel reservations, call the Miccosukee Resort at (305) 925-2555, ext. 42. You may also fax your reservation information to (305) 221-8309 or (305) 925-2556. Be sure to tell the Reservation Representative you are with the Association for Social Anthropology in Oceania. A block of rooms is being held for ASAO until January 13, 2001 at the special group rate. After that date, rooms will be available only at the usual rack rate.

III. FROM THE PROGRAM COORDINATOR

Other than the Annual Meeting Program that follows, I have two announcements:

(1) Volunteers are needed to work the registration desk and to supervise the book exhibit. (See schedule for times the registration desk and book exhibit are open.) As in previous years, registration desk volunteers will receive a free book, depending on supply, for every TWO HOURS worked. Book exhibit volunteers will also be rewarded!

(2) As noted in previous issues of the newsletter, all requests for audio-visual equipment were to have been submitted to the Program Coordinator by November 1. If you will need AV equipment and have not submitted your request, you must do so immediately. At this point, I cannot guarantee availability. I will try to help meet any requests that I receive within the next week or so, but it may be necessary, at this date, for you to make your own arrangements.

Larry Mayo
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DePaul University
990 W. Fullerton Ave.
Chicago IL 60614-2458 USA
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email <lmayo@wpdept.depaul.edu>
IV. FROM THE CHAIR

I am pleased to announce that the ASAO membership has now confirmed Torben Monberg as our newest Honorary Fellow. Honorary Fellows are elected by the ASAO membership in recognition of their distinguished contributions to the field of social anthropology in Oceania. Our other Honorary Fellows are: Cyril S. Belshaw, Paula Brown, Kenelm Burridge, William Davenport, Raymond Firth, Maurice Godelier, Jane Goodale, Ward Goodenough, Robert I. Levy, Leonard E. Mason, H. E. Maude, Douglas L. Oliver, Marshall Sahlins, and James B. Watson.

On behalf of the association I wish to express my congratulations to Professor Monberg.

John Barker

V. 2001 ANNUAL MEETING PROGRAM: EVENING EVENTS

Session Organizers’ Meeting
Wednesday 2/14, 7:00 pm - 8:00 pm

All session organizers are requested to attend this special meeting. Light refreshments will be served.

Opening Plenary
Wednesday 2/14, 8:00 pm - 9:30 pm

The Opening Plenary will include meeting announcements from the Program Coordinator, reports from officers, nomination of new board members, announcement of this year’s Pacific Islands Scholars Fund recipients, and introduction of ASAO Honorary Fellows and newcomers.

Welcome Party
Wednesday 2/14, 9:30 pm - 11:00 pm

All are invited to attend this no-host open-bar social gathering, especially to welcome our PISF awardees, new ASAO members, and first-time annual meeting participants.

Melanesian Interest Group (MIG)
Thursday 2/15, 8:00 pm - 9:30 pm

The MIG is an interest group within the AAA. Among its goals are to publicize the full range of Melanesian anthropology to the largest possible audience both inside and outside the AAA; and to explore the connections between Melanesian studies and topics that both cut across region and engage current debates in the four fields of anthropology. This evening gathering will be an opportunity to discuss what MIG has done in its first two years, to meet the new MIG co-conveners—Deborah Gewertz, Fred Errington, and Christine Jourdan—and to consider proposed upcoming events.

Distinguished Lecture
Friday 2/16, 8:00 pm - 11:00 pm

Professor Mary Catherine Bateson will deliver a talk entitled “Messages from the Past, Messages for the Future: Using and Abusing the Works of the Ancestors.”

Closing Plenary
Saturday 2/17, 8:00 pm - 10:00 pm

Highlights of the Closing Plenary will include session reports (and future plans), proposed new sessions for 2002, installation of new ASAO Board Chair, announcements regarding future annual meetings, and other association business.
### ASAO 2001 ANNUAL MEETING SCHEDULE

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<td>New Healths and Old (I)</td>
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<td>All Day (8:30–5:30)</td>
<td>Back in the Field (W)</td>
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<td>Evening (7:30–10:30)</td>
<td>Closing Plenary</td>
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(S) Symposium  (W) Working Session  (I) Informal Session

Breaks: 10:00–10:30 am, 12:00–2:00 pm (lunch), 3:30–4:00 pm
2001 ANNUAL MEETING PROGRAM: SESSIONS
Sessions are listed in order of occurrence. *Paper presented in absentia.

Working Session: Studying Religion in Oceania
Organizers: Mary MacDonald (Le Moyne College) and Jolene Stritecky (University of Iowa)
Meeting: Thursday 2/15, 8:30 am - 5:30 pm, Heron Room

1. Ad Borsboom (University of Nijmegen)
Timelessness or Change in Aboriginal Religious Thought: Real Dilemma or False Dichotomy?

2. Jerry Jacka (University of Oregon)
Prophecies from the Past: Rituals and History in Ipili and Enga Modernities

3. Wolfgang Kempf (University of Göttingen)
Foldings of the Inside/Outside: Creation, Christianity, and the Space of Cosmic Order Among the Ngaing in Papua New Guinea

4. Yannick Fer (Fasa Centre, Tahiti)
The Other Protestantism: The Pentecostal Movement in French Polynesia

5. Charles Farhadian (Boston University)
Trajectories in Oceanian Religions: The Privatization and Deprivatization of Christianity in West Papua

6. Matt Tomlinson (University of Pennsylvania)
Making “Meaning” in Fijian Methodist Sermons

*7. Philip Gibbs (Holy Spirit Seminary, Bomana, Papua New Guinea)
Religious Narratives as Political Discourse in Papua New Guinea

8. Gwendoline Malogne (Fasa Centre, Tahiti)
The Theology of Liberation in French Polynesia

9. Michael Goldsmith (University of Waikato)
Religion and the Construction of Consensus in Tuvalu

10. Robert Tonkinson (University of Western Australia)
Assessing “Subsistence Christianity” Among the Southeast Ambrymese Presbyterians

11. Bruce Knauft (Emory University)
“We are Backsliders”: Pluralism, Privatization, and Prevarication in Nomad Christianity

12. Ien Courtens (University of Nijmegen)
Sin and Sorrow: Sorcery and Witchcraft Practices in Contemporary Northwest Ayfat Society, West Papua

13. Theodor Ahrens (University of Hamburg)
Melanesian Christianity Between and Betwixt the Global and the Local

14. Catherine Nongkas (University of Goroka)
Papua New Guinea Melanesian Spirituality in Transition

15. McRose Elu (Queensland Dept. of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Island Policy Development)
The Word of God in Torres Strait

16. Charles Forman (Yale University)
Finding Our Own Voice: The Reinterpreting of Religion by Pacific Island Theologians
17. Mary N. MacDonald (Le Moyne College)
From Travelers and Missionaries to Pacific Scholars: The History of the Study of Religion in Oceania

18. Roger Lohmann (Western Oregon University)
“Trutru”: Interpreting Asabano Religious Epistemology in the Conversion to Christianity

Mary N. MacDonald, Le Moyne College, 1419 Salt Springs Road, Syracuse, NY 13214-1399 USA; email <mmmacd@aol.com> and Jolene Stritecky, 1121 East Burlington St., Iowa City IA 52240 USA; email <jstritec@blue.weeg.uiowa.edu>

Working Session: Transformations of Food and Drink
Organizers: Heather Young Leslie (University of Alberta), Nancy Pollock (Victoria University, Wellington), and Eric Silverman (Depauw University)
Meeting: Thursday 2/15, 8:30 am - 5:30 pm, Sawgrass Room

Nick Araho (Papua New Guinea Museum)
Food Gardens and Ethnicity

Ira Bashkow (University of Chicago)
The Foods of Whitemen

Celia Ehrlich (Lebanon, New Hampshire)
A “Chiefly” Pudding and a “Chiefly” Drink

Lois Englberger (University of Queensland)
Vitamin A Deficiency in the Federated States of Micronesia: A New Problem Appearing after the Increase in Consumption of Imported Foods

Caroline Tupoulahi Fusimalohi (Central Planning Department, Tonga)
Socio-Cultural Antecedents of Obesity in Tonga

Christine Jourdan (Concordia University)
Rice in the Solomon Islands: Prestige Item and Convenience Food

Larry Lake (Messiah College)
Missionary Gardens: Food as a Medium for Cultural Identity Maintenance by Expatriate Missionaries in Highland West New Guinea, 1953-1998

Naomi McPherson (Okanagan University College)
Sago: Symbol and Substance in West New Britain, PNG

Ernie Olsen (Wells College)
Fluid Transformations and Uprooted Traditions: The Flowing Forces of Kava and Alcohol in Tonga

*Nancy Pollock (Victoria University, Wellington)
Food, Identity, and Security

Douglass Drozdow-St. Christian (University of Western Ontario)
Stay Hungry: Status, Propriety and the Moral Geography of the Meal in Samoa

Jukka Siikala (University of Helsinki)
The Body and Folklore, or the Folkloric Body

Eric Silverman (Depauw University)
Food and Colors, Men and Mothers: Levi-Strauss’ “Culinary Triangle” in the Sepik

6
William Thurston (Okanagan University College)
Everything Starts with Food

Ellen Woodley (University of Guelph)
The Decline in Taro (*Colocasia esculenta*) Production and the Contribution to Decreasing Food Security

Heather Young Leslie (University of Alberta)
Social Embodiment, Dangerous Diets, and Ugly Health: Discourses of Food, Gender, and Eating

Informal Session: Current Knowledge about Polynesian Outliers
Organizers: Rick Feinberg (Kent State University) and Janet Keller (University of Illinois)
Meeting: Thursday 2/15, 8:30 am - 12 noon, Alligator Room

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

Should anyone have an interest but be unable to join us in Miami please feel free to let us know. If all goes well we will be aiming for a working session in 2002.

Informal Session: Short, Sweet and To the Point: Popularizing Pacific Anthropology for a General Audience
Organizer: Ali Pomponio (St. Lawrence University)
Meeting: Thursday 2/15, 8:30 am - 12 noon, Conference Room

Papers should address one of the following two major themes as developed in our Informal Session in Vancouver: (1) actually producing pieces that are ethnographically correct but aimed specifically at a non-academic audience; or (2) the intellectual and pragmatic issues involved in writing for a general audience (e.g., for museum signage, popular magazines, children’s publications and other like genres). All pieces should be 500-2000 words and will be pre-circulated before the meetings. There is a strict upward limit on words; shorter pieces will be acceptable where appropriate. Participants may submit two pieces, one per major theme, as long as each submission keeps to the word limit. Current participants and paper titles include:

Celia Ehrlich (Lebanon, NH)
How Hawaiian is the Hawaiian Ki Plant?

Julianna Flinn (University of Arkansas - Little Rock)
Taro, the Devil, and Mary
Judy Flores (Micronesian Area Research Center, Guam)
From the Archives to the Public
Judith Modell (Carnegie Mellon University)
[To be announced]
Jill Nash (Buffalo State College)
[To be announced]
Ali Pomponio (St. Lawrence University)
Aikiba’s Big Day
Diving for Sea Clams on Mandok
Paul Shankman (University of Colorado)
Why are Intelligent People Saying Bad Things About Margaret Mead?

New members are welcome; please contact the session organizer, below.

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

Working Session: Global Samoa
Organizers: Bob Franco (Kapi‘olani Community College) and Penelope Schoeffel (Bangkok, Thailand)
Discussant: Malama Meleisea (Bangkok, Thailand)
Meeting: Thursday 2/15, 2:00 - 5:30 pm, Alligator Room

Robert Franco (Kapi‘olani Community College)
Samoan Multilocality and Community Strategies for Language Perpetuation

Ilana Gershon (University of Chicago)
Being Samoan in America

Elise Huffer and Asofou So'o
Consensus versus Dissent: Democracy, Pluralism and Governance in Samoa

Penelope Schoeffel (Bangkok, Thailand)
Too Many Fa‘alavelave! Keeping up Fa‘asamoa in Apia

Charley Scull (University of Southern California)
Growing up Samoan Style: Notes Towards a Comparative Study of Youth Identity in California, or Deconstructing the Dancing Boy

*Richard Moyle (University of Auckland)
[The Samoan Connection with Takuu]

Penelope Schoeffel Meleisea, 2B Chavalit Mansion, 52 Sukhumvit Road, Soi 40, Bangkok
10110 THAILAND; tel/fax +662-391-7089; email <melsco@ksc.th.com> and Bob Franco,
Kapi‘olani Community College, 4303 Diamond Head Road, Honolulu HI 96818; tel: 808/734-9438; fax: 808/734-9828; email <bfranco@hawaii.edu>

Informal Session: Grandparenting in Contemporary Pacific Societies
Organizers: Jocelyn Armstrong (University of Illinois at Urbana - Champaign) and Juliana Flinn (University of Arkansas - Little Rock)
Meeting: Thursday 2/15, 2:00 - 5:30 pm, Conference Room

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

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

Working Session: Postcolonial Virtue: Worth, Morality, and Modern Success in the Western
Pacific
Organizers: Bruce Knauft (Emory University), Joel Robbins (University of California - San
Diego)
Meeting: Friday 2/16, 8:30 am - 5:30 pm, Heron Room

1. Jerry Jacka (University of Oregon)
Killing in Ipili Society: A Historical Analysis of Murder, Morality, and Success

2. Holly Wardlow (University of Iowa)
Being Bighet: The Gendered Virtue of Docility and Assertiveness

3. Pamela J. Stewart and Andrew Strathern (University of Pittsburgh)
The Ultimate Protest Statement: Suicide as a Means of Defining Self-worth among the Duna of
the Southern Highlands Province, Papua New Guinea

4. Mary Patterson (University of Melbourne)
Leading Lights in the "Mother of Darkness": Perspectives on Leadership, Morality and Gender
in North Ambrym

5. Marta Rohatynskyj (University of Guelph)
Gendered Equality and Inequality as Lifestyle and as Cultural Identity

*6. Joel Robbins (University of California - San Diego)
New Man, Old Man, Renouncer, Priest: Experimenting with This-Worldly and Other-Worldly
Success in Axial Age Urapmin

7. John Barker (University of British Columbia)
Village, Mission, and Government: Moral Domains in Maisin Society

8. Bruce M. Knauft (Emory University)
Semblance of Success in Gasumi Corners

9. Martha Macintyre (The University of Melbourne) and Simon Foale (WWF, Solomon Islands)
The Value of Land and Sea Resources and the Moral/Social Responsibilities of “Owners” in
Two Melanesian Societies

10. David J. Boyd (University of California - Davis)
Worth, Morality, and Success in an Emerging Awa Modernity

11. Matt Tomlinson (University of Pennsylvania)
Kava Talk: The Discourse of Kava Consumption in Fiji
Working Session: Gender History in the Pacific
Organizer: Jeannette Mageo (Washington State University)
Meeting: Friday 2/16, 8:30 am - 5:30 pm, Alligator Room

In the Pacific, the nineteenth and twentieth centuries were periods of transformation in sex and gender roles. In many places, however, little has been done to document these changes and analyze their consequences. Yet gender and sexuality were and are deeply implicated in daily life and personhood in Pacific cultures. This working session will be an initial attempt to trace gender history in different Pacific locales. Building critically on early accounts—missionaries’ letters and journals, travelogues, books authored by adventurers, beachcombers, consuls and other government officials, medics, as well as early ethnological and anthropological records—we will begin to compare depictions of gender and sexuality through time to our own more recent ethnographic work. Considering continuity as well as rupture, we will map the radical changes that came about with missionization and colonization. We will also reflect on how similar but divergent experiences of missionization and colonization have resulted in regionally variant and culturally unique contemporary conceptions and practices. We are still in the formative stages of this session and welcome broader participation. Those who would like to participate but have not submitted an abstract, please come prepared to describe a paper you would like to present in the future. In 2002, the ASAO meetings will be held in Auckland. Those interested in going forward could meet there and/or have a session at the 2002 AAA meeting. Statements of interest prior to the 2001 meeting may be addressed to Jeannette Mageo at the address below.

1. Douglass Drozdow-St. Christian (University of Western Ontario)
Siting Virginity/Sighting Virgins: Sex, Gender and the Embodiments of Purity in Samoa

*2. Melani Anae, Ieti Lima, Tamasailau Suualii-Sauni (The University of Auckland)
Tiute ma Matafaioi a nisi Tane Samoa I le Faiga o Aiga: The Roles and Responsibilities of Some Samoan Males in Reproduction

3. Jeannette Marie Mageo (Washington State University)
Evolving Colonial Conventions and Gender Models in Samoa

4. Judith Macdonald (University of Waikato)
Fafine taka in Tikopia: The Buffer Group (provisional title)

5. Anne D’Alleva (University of Connecticut)
Women and the Architectural Landscape of Early Nineteenth-century Tahiti
6. Amy K. Stillman (University of Michigan)
Gendered Performance in Hawaiian Music and Dance

7. Lissant Bolton (British Museum)
Stablisising Gender: Status, Gender, Clothing and Colonialism in North Vanuatu

8. Barbara Lawson (McGill University)
Material Evidence and Reading Agency in Historical Texts: Women’s Dress on Erromango (Vanuatu)

9. Maria Lepowsky (University of Wisconsin - Madison)
Gendered Travels in the Coral and Solomon Seas

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Jeannette Mageo, Anthropology Department 4910, Washington State University, Pullman WA 99164-4910 USA; tel: 509/335-7737; fax: 509/335-3999. <jmageo@mail.wsu.edu>

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Working Session: Reflections on Pacific Ethnography in the Margaret Mead Centennial, 2001
Organizer: Sharon W. Tiffany (University of Wisconsin - Whitewater)
Meeting: Friday 2/16, 8:30 am - 5:30 pm, Sawgrass Room

1. Alison Nordstrom (Southeast Museum of Photography, Daytona Beach Community College)
Some of Mead’s Early Visual Influences: Moana, the Flahertys, and Asia Magazine

2. Sharon W. Tiffany (University of Wisconsin-Whitewater)
Contesting the Erotic Zone: Wood Nymphs and the Anthropologist in Margaret Mead’s Photographs of Samoa

3. Paul Shankman (University of Colorado-Boulder)
Between the Lines: Rereading the History of Sexual Conduct in Samoa

4. James Côté (University of Western Ontario)
The Archival Material Surviving Mead’s Samoa Research: What Does It Really Tell Us?

5. Patricia A. Francis (Manuscript Division, Library of Congress)
“Something to Think With”: Psychology and the Road to Samoa

6. Penelope Schoeffel (Bangkok, Thailand)
Mead and Gender: Samoa and the Arapesh of Papua New Guinea

7. Ira Bashkow and Lise Dobrin (University of Virginia)
Arapesh Warfare: Mead and Fortune’s Clash of Ethnographic Temperament

8. Eric K. Silverman (Depauw University)
Mead and Bateson in the Sepik, 1938: Reconstructing a Lost Anthropological Efflorescence

9. Nancy McDowell (Beloit College)
The Essentialization of Margaret Mead

10. Gerald Sullivan (Alexandria, Virginia)
The Individual in Culture: Benedict’s Notes and Mead’s Seminar, 1934-35

11. Merrily Stover (University of Maryland University College)
Margaret Mead and American Culture: The Continuing Legacy

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Sharon W. Tiffany, Department of Anthropology, University of Wisconsin - Whitewater,
Whitewater WI 53190 USA; fax 262/472-5117; tel: 608/238-3565; email <s.tiffany@juno.com>
Informal Session: “Race” and Racisms in the Pacific
Organizers: Holger Jebens (Frobenius-Institut, Frankfurt, Germany) and Chris Ballard (Australian National University)
Meeting: Saturday 2/17, 8:30 am - 5:30 pm, Heron Room

Discourses of “race” hinge on contrasting definitions of self and other. Much of the recent literature on ethnicity in the Pacific, however, has focused on expressions of self-identity, while discussion of the perception of indigenous others has been more limited. Yet a growing awareness of the lengthy history of cross-cultural interactions, and of the instability and permeability of ethnic boundaries, suggests that debate over cultural difference has long been an important feature of life in the Pacific. Equally, there seems to have been little written on the historical development of colonial racial theory in the Pacific.

This informal session aims to attract contributions that tackle questions of knowledge of the other from the widest possible range of perspectives, presenting material on precolonial forms of interethnic discourse, on reflections on colonial others, and on indigenous ethnographies of non-Pacific others (government officials, missionaries, traders—and anthropologists). Questions that might be worth considering include the following: How are ethnic and racial stereotypes codified under the terms of different oral and documentary traditions? How might the diacritics of difference vary through time and space? And how are technologies of distinction elaborated though cross-cultural encounters of increasing breadth and duration?
We are looking for statements of interest from people prepared to attend an informal session on this topic at the forthcoming ASAO meeting in Miami in February 2001. A provisional list of participants includes: Chris Ballard, Ira Bashkow, Bettina Beer, Bronwen Douglas, Holger Jebens, Jean Kennedy, Susanne Kühling, Michael Lieber, Margaret Mackenzie, Jeannette Marie Mageo, Malama Meleisea, Joel Robbins*, Margaret Rodman, Marta Rohatynskyj, Tom Ryan, John Edward Terrell, Jaap Timmer, Caroline Tupoulahi, and Paige West. We need to receive brief abstracts of approximately half a page in length by January 15, 2001.

Chris Ballard, Pacific and Asian History, RSPAS, ANU, Canberra ACT 0200, AUSTRALIA; tel: +61-2-6249-0305 (office); fax: +61-2-6249-5525; email <chris.ballard@anu.edu.au>
Holger Jebens, Frobenius-Institut, Liebigstrasse 41, D-60323 Frankfurt am Main, GERMANY; tel: +49-69-71-91-99-27 (office); fax: +49-69-71-91-99-11; email <jebens@em.uni-frankfurt.de>

Symposium: Historical and Contemporary Transformations in Pacific Island Exchange
Organizers: Paula Brown Glick and Maria Lepowsky (University of Wisconsin - Madison)
Discussant: Maurice Godelier (Ecole Des Hautes Etudes en Sciences Sociales)
Meeting: Saturday 2/17, 8:30 am - 5:30 pm, Alligator Room

1. John Liep (University of Copenhagen)
Dimensions and Transformations of Ranked Exchange

2. Shankar Aswani (University of California - Santa Barbara) and Peter Sheppard (University of Auckland)
Commodities and Inalienable Possessions: Exchangeable and Non-Exchangeable Objects in Precolonial Roviana, Solomon Islands

3. Eric Venbrux (University of Nijmegen)
Diagnostic Events: Artifact-Collecting and Exchange in the Tiwi Islands 1905-1916

4. Maria Lepowsky (University of Wisconsin - Madison)
Historicizing Kula

5. Martha Macintyre (The University of Melbourne)
Substitutions and Transformations in Exchange Systems in the Context of Economic Change

6. Anton Ploeg (The Netherlands)
Wealth Items in the Western Highlands of Irian Jaya

7. Polly Wiessner (University of Utah)
Why Tribesmen Did Not Become Peasants: Pre-Colonial Processes and Post-Colonial Change

8. Paula Brown (New York)
Chimbu Exchange: Competition, Display, Largesse

9. Andrew Strathern and Pamela Stewart (University of Pittsburgh)
Exchanging Worlds: Hagen Historical Reflections

10. Rena Lederman (Princeton University)
Making Change: Values at Stake in the Transformation of Exchange

*11. Cluny Macpherson (University of Auckland)
Deference for Peace: Establishing the Exchange Value of Social Honour in Samoa

Paula Brown Glick, 59 West 12th St., New York NY 10011-8527 USA; fax 212/242-1036; email <pbglick@aol.com> and Maria Lepowsky, Huntington Library, 1151 Oxford Road, San Marino CA 91108 USA; tel: 949/758-8842; fax: 626/449-5720; email <lepowsky@facstaff.wisc.edu>
Informal Session: New Healths and Old: Living the Health Transition in the Pacific
Organizers: Douglass Drozdow-St. Christian (University of Western Ontario) and Heather Young Leslie (University of Alberta)
Meeting: Saturday 2/17, 8:30 am - 5:30 pm, Sawgrass Room

The liveliness of the discussions last year, the ongoing conversations between participants old and new over email, and the difficulty for committed but busy participants to meet the draft deadline in October suggested to us that a “second informal” session is in order for the upcoming meetings. We are conceiving of a time for participants with drafts well prepared and new participants to engage in lively and intensive discussion. Several key themes emerged from the diverse ethnographic and theoretical grounds people brought to the discussion last year and we want to highlight these again, as possible starting points for our discussions in February:

1. A critical theoretical orientation towards health status change, one which seeks to advance knowledge of both historical and contemporary health in the Pacific, is needed to enhance our understanding of these changes beyond those entailed by conventional health transition models. Any contribution Pacific anthropologists can make to the field of health status change needs to begin with a thoroughgoing critique of the models employed so far. One idea which might be worth thinking with is the “marketing” of the health transition to islanders as part of the ongoing globalization of the health imperative [Lupton] and the way this rationalization of health cultures around two apparently opposing discourses - the one centered on individual responsibility and the other on bureaucratic homogenization - is shaping the emergence of new health care structures and transformed local health cultures in the Pacific.

2. Medical anthropology demands an activist orientation, one which is grounded in ethnographic and participatory rigor and commitment and therefore questions the assumptions of public health liberalism and medical triumphalism. Any contribution to the understanding of health status changes in the Pacific needs to be guided by a recognition of the centrality of activism, advocacy, and collaboration with the peoples of the Pacific with whom, and for whom, we work. There was general agreement that our working together as colleagues also requires our working together with Islanders themselves. Our professional praxis can and should be demonstrated without losing sight of the importance of a critical/theoretical orientation. To this end we encourage participants to consider close collaboration and co-authorship with Pacific Islander colleagues where possible.

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

What links these, in our minds, is the need for a critically informed ethnographic engagement with well-being which approaches the middle ground between the phenomenology of health status and health change, on the one hand, and the broader systemic focus on medical models or global processes. A critical ethnography of well-being which captures the tensions between various burdens at the level of social networks--extended families, communities, ethnic enclaves and so on where these burdens are enacted and engaged--is needed to bridge the personal and the global aspects of the health transition imperative.

We wish to thank the core group of people who have been talking off and on over the last year about these issues, and assure them that we do not consider a second informal session to be delaying the overall process. Our hope is to circulate full papers to session participants in July of 2001. We also want to encourage anyone with an interest in health, well-being, and the changing nature and quality of health and illness in the Pacific, to consider joining this discussion. We want to ask everyone who has a draft in preparation to send it to us, no matter how rough, and for those without drafts, but good ideas, to let us know, briefly, by not later than January 15th, if they plan to attend the meetings in Miami, and to indicate, again very briefly, the ethnographic, epidemiological, and/or theoretical ground from which they will be engaging the many issues this session raises. To facilitate communication, all correspondence regarding the session, including abstracts and draft papers, plus any other discussion
material, should be forwarded to both Heather and Douglass through the contact information below. Electronic circulation is preferred, since we can move on ideas, papers, and discussion issues quickly with as many participants as possible.

Douglass Drozdow-St. Christian, Dept. of Anthropology, University of Western Ontario
London, Ontario N6A 5C2, CANADA; tel: 519/348-9994 (home, anytime); 519/679-2111 Ext 85067 (office, fall); fax: 519/661-2157; email: <stchri@julian.uwo.ca> and Heather Young
Leslie, Dept. of Anthropology, Tory Bldg. 13-6, University of Alberta, Edmonton, Alberta T6G 2H4, CANADA; tel: 780/492-9879 (office); fax: 780/492-5273; email: <hyleslie@ualberta.ca>

Working Session: Back in the Field Again
Organized by John Barker (University of British Columbia) and Ann Chowning (Auckland NZ)
Meeting: Saturday 2/17, 8:30 am - 5:30 pm, Conference Room

1. Ann Chowning (Auckland, New Zealand)
Shocks, Surprises and Pleasures of Returns

2. Joseph C. Finney (Monterey, California)
[Ties to Tuvalu]

3. Anton Ploeg (The Netherlands)
[No title provided]

4. Alan Howard and Jan Rensel (Honolulu, Hawai’i)
Return to Rotuma

*5. Judith Huntsman (University of Auckland)
Twenty years later: Staying in Atafu, Tokelau

6. Suzanne Falgout (University of Hawai’i - West O’ahu)
Full Circle: The Changing “Field” of Pohnpei, Micronesia

7. Juliana Flinn (University of Arkansas)
Returning to the Field: I’m Older and They’re Wiser

8. Jeanette Dickerson-Putman (Indiana University)
On the Wings of Change: Designing a Long-term Study of the Impact of an Airport on Raivavae

9. John Barker (University of British Columbia)
Back to Front; or, Lessons I Have Learned from about the Values and Weaknesses of Long-term Fieldwork from My Experiences with Film Projects among the Maisin

John Barker, Department of Anthropology and Sociology, University of British Columbia,
Vancouver, BC V6T 1Z1, CANADA; tel: 604/822-4982, fax: 604/822-6161; email <barker@interchange.ubc.ca> and Ann Chowning, 1 Croydon Rd., Mt. Eden, Auckland 1003, NEW ZEALAND; tel: +64-9-630-7630; fax: +64-9-373-7441.

Cancelled Session: Meetings and the Construction of Community in the Pacific

During the conference Eve would like to talk with anyone interested in this topic to see if there is interest in pursuing it in the future.

Eve Pinsker, 915 W. Leland #2E, Chicago IL 60625 USA; tel: 773/583-4802 (h); 312/633-7703 (o);
fax: 312/633-8813 (attn. Eve Pinsker); email <epinsker@uic.edu>
VI. OTHER CONFERENCES

Tongan History Association (THA), April 2-6, 2001, University of Utah, Salt Lake City
The themes for this THA conference is “Takanga ‘Enau Fohé,” Tonga and its Diasporic Communities Voyaging into the 21st Century. Two evening sessions have been arranged in order to allow community participation, on Tuesday April 3 and Thursday April 5. Wednesday April 4 will be dedicated to issues relating to K-12 education, and anyone wishing to offer a paper on such issues is encouraged to do so.

If you would like to offer a paper, please contact Fahina Pasi at the Center for Ethnic Student Affairs, University of Utah, 318 Union, Salt Lake City, UT 84112 USA, email <tha_utah@hotmail.com> For further details on the conference as well as on number of optional field trips please go to the THA website <http://sunsite.anu.edu.au/spin/PACASSOC/TONGHIST/tonghist.htm> and click on the conference link.

VII. EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

University of Iowa, Visiting Assistant Professor of Women’s Studies and Anthropology for 2001-2002. Teaching load two courses per semester, including Introduction to the Study of Culture and Society, and possibly Introduction to Women’s Studies, Feminist Theory, and other topical courses. Geographic area open. PhD and teaching experience required at time of appointment. The Departments of Women’s Studies and Anthropology offer the PhD, and include faculty and students specializing in feminist anthropology. Curriculum emphasizes race and class as well as gender and sexuality.

Please send letter, CV, and contact information for three references to Women’s Studies / Anthropology Search, 202 Jefferson Building, University of Iowa, Iowa City, IA 52242. Screening begins January 16, 2001. The University of Iowa is an equal opportunity / affirmative action employer, offers employment benefits to domestic partners of employees, and prohibits discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation/preference and gender identity/expression.

VIII. GENERAL NEWS

Update on Books Donated in Support of the NUS Anthropology Programme
As Dean of Arts and coordinator of the new anthropology programme at the National University of Samoa, I would like to thank all those who so generously donated anthropology texts for our new programme. Thank you notes are being sent to you individually but let this serve as a general expression of our university’s appreciation for the personal sacrifices you have made in time, effort, and funds to ensure that the texts arrive in Samoa safely.

The texts are now in the safekeeping of the Department of Anthropology for sorting, evaluation, and research purposes. They will be sorted according to major themes and subthemes in anthropology and appropriate texts selected for readers and primary texts for the students. The primary texts will be placed in the main library for the use by the students. The university will soon have the services of an Australian volunteer to assist me in this part of the work.

Another important aspect of the work is the preparation of new anthropology courses. Two introductory courses have already been launched this year and the appropriate texts given to the library for use by the students and at least six more are being planned. For the preparation of these I will be relying heavily on the donated texts. When these new courses are completed, and ready to be launched, perhaps in two years’ time, the appropriate texts will again be given to the main library for use by the students.

Eventually I hope that as much as 90 percent of the donated texts will be given for safekeeping in the main library but the conditions for the release of these books have first to be negotiated with the Chief Librarian. The other 10 per cent will remain in the departmental library for special use by students and staff. Again, thank you very much. Unasa L. F. Va’a
IX. FROM THE SECRETARY-TREASURER

2000 Membership Report

As of October 2, 2000, current ASAO membership totaled 341 (including 14 honorary fellows). This is a drop from last year, but comparable to 1997 and 1998. Numbers grew slightly in Canada and Australia, while dropping in the US, Europe, Pacific Islands and New Zealand.

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*In 1999 and 2000 others were: Japan (3), Thailand (1). In 1996-1998: Japan and Botswana.

Within the United States, members reside in 37 states and in Washington, DC. The highest concentrations are in the Northeast (62 members), followed by the West Coast (50), upper Midwest (36), and Hawaii (36). In addition, the ASAO Newsletter has 34 institutional subscribers, including 12 in the US, 6 in various Pacific Islands, and a total of 16 in Europe, New Zealand, Australia, Canada, the Philippines, Mexico, and Botswana. (If interested, please contact me for more details.)

ASAONET/ASAO Membership Comparison

In September 1996, I compared the ASAO membership list with the ASAONET subscriber list, and found that the two were different groups that overlapped only partially. In October 2000 I once again compared the two lists. The patterns are much the same as they were four years ago:

- Not counting the ASAONET addresses that are second addresses for the same person, there were about 450 ASAONET subscribers; of these, only 159 (35 percent) were current ASAO members.
- Of the total ASAO membership of 341, 182 (53 percent) do not subscribe to ASAONET. (Only 20 of these 182 do not list an email address in the ASAO membership database.)
- At the time of this latest comparison, 59 ASAONET subscribers were former ASAO members, including some who were members as recently as 1999 but had not yet renewed for 2000. But 230 ASAONET subscribers (51 percent) do not appear at all in the ASAO member database, which goes back to 1990.

ASAO membership and ASAONET subscribership each serve important but different needs for different but overlapping groups of scholars. But those who post information or queries on ASAONET should just remember that they are not reaching the majority of ASAO members.

Call for ASAO Archival Materials

If you are a former member of the ASAO Board of Directors, or a former ASAO officer, and have correspondence files or reports you don’t know what to do with, please contact Jan Rensel to see if they should be deposited in the ASAO Archives, which are in the process of being established in the Pacific Collection at University of Hawai‘i’s Hamilton Library. In particular we are currently missing the following documents:

- Minutes of Board Meeting (or Plenary Meeting) for these years: 1978, 1981, 1982, 1983; and all meetings prior to 1976
- Monograph Series Editor's Reports #5 (1976-77?), #16 (1982)
- Special Publications Editor's Report #4 (1983)
If you have these or any other documents related to ASAO organizational matters, please contact me (contact information on page 1). Thanks! Jan Rensel

X. ANTHROPOLOGY PhD

Barker, Holly

XI. BIBLIOGRAPHIC INFORMATION

Please note: The entry for the following book in the September 2000 ASAO Newsletter incorrectly listed the co-authors as co-editors. The correct reference is as follows:

Stewart, Pamela J., and Andrew Strathern

Please note: Several recent publications from Asia Pacific Press are included in this section. Their contact information is: Asia Pacific Press, National Centre for Development Studies, The Australian National University, Canberra 0200, AUSTRALIA: tel +61-2-6249 0178; fax +61-2-6257-2886; email: <gudrun.elms@anu.edu.au>; website: <http://www.asiapacificpress.com>

Akram-Lodhi, A. Haroon, ed.

Fiji, post-independence, has seen several governments, two military coups, and amidst sweeping social, economic, and political changes, the presence of divisive identity politics in its journey toward a united, collective Fiji community. Confronting Fiji Futures takes in these landmark events and eventualities, and aims at a forward-looking assessment of the realities facing Fiji in the present and the future. It focuses on the period of the coups up to and including the 1999 general elections, when an explicitly multiethnic party won government in a surprise landslide result. [From the publisher]

Bolyanatz, Alexander H.

Contrary to conventional anthropological understanding, descent groups need not always be wealth- or office-transmitting groups, but can be principally feast-sponsoring groups. Sursurunga matrilineages are activated by individual’s combined participation in feasting events, but individual’s reasons for participating in feasts vary and often have little to do with matrilineal group membership. This study of Sursurunga mortuary feasting shows that the analysis of groups—in this case, matrilineal descent groups—is best conducted by attention to the reasons that the individuals who comprise those groups act as they do. The salience of group membership cannot be seen as simply the blueprint for social life, but also as the outcome of social life.

“From the perspective of Sursurunga language, cognition, and mortuary practice, Bolyanatz provides vital new insights into how matriline is constituted and experienced. Through his analysis, kinship ceases to consist of systems of abstract principles, but instead becomes embedded in key moments in people’s lives that are laden with meaning and emotion. This approach breathes new life into the study of one anthropology’s great debates, the persistence of matrilineal descent, and it raises crucial issues for the study of kinship, in general.” - Kevin Birth, Queens CUNY
“Bolyanatz’s finely researched and winsomely written account of Sursurunga kinship offers great insights not only into the local phenomena that constitute kinship, but more generally into the dialectic between social structure and activity, especially mortuary feasting. His orientation to action, history, and persons leads him to explore the power of linguistic categories in actual discourse to make salient or perhaps even constitute the lived meanings of relatedness for Sursurunga people. His book thus makes rewarding reading for students of society, language, and structuration.” - Jim Wilce, Northern Arizona University

Chambers, Keith, and Anne Chambers

A compelling portrait of a Polynesian island community caught up in a world of change. Thousands of years ago, Polynesian voyagers discovered and settled Nanumea atoll, a tiny cluster of coral islets in the middle of the Pacific Ocean. The community prospered, first evolving into a traditional culture finely tuned to the atoll’s limited environment and then weathering new changes imposed by missionaries, colonial officials, and Westernization itself. Now one of eight separate island communities comprising the modern Pacific nation of Tuvalu, Nanumea faces new challenges: rising sea levels, globalization, and massive social and economic changes. Using personal stories that evoke the difficulties and excitement of fieldwork, Keith and Anne Chambers draw on more than twenty-five years of ethnographic research in Nanumea to craft an engaging account of Nanumean culture and social organization. Readers will come to appreciate how the community’s intense sharing obligations, service-oriented chieftainship, and a flexible system of extensive kinship reckoning define a lifestyle that differs fundamentally from modern Western society. Includes self-contained student study guide. [From the publisher]

Filer, Colin, ed.

The Porgera gold mine is technically one of the most sophisticated and successful mines of recent times. In its second year of operation (1992) it was the third largest gold producing mine in the world. Socially, though, the mine has brought a range of massive changes for the local Ipiili community–both positive and many negative. Dilemmas of Development is a record of a series of studies of the social and economic effects of the Porgera mine, commissioned by the Porgera Joint Venture (PJV). The principal authors are Susanne Bonnell and Glenn Banks. Two of the chapters were commissioned from Aletta Biersack and John Burton who have studied the social impact of the mine, and were asked to provide their own comments on the design, management and output of the Porgera Social monitoring Programme. This book provides a snapshot of the huge dislocations and transformations that the community experienced as mining operations were established at Porgera. [From the publisher]

Hanlon, David, and Geoffrey White (eds.)

*Voyaging Through the Contemporary Pacific* is a collection of previously published pieces from *The Contemporary Pacific: A Journal of Island Affairs*. The volume includes some of the most-cited pieces from the first decade of the journal’s publication, works dealing with the ethics and politics of research in the Pacific, particularly anthropology and history, as well as the cultural, social, and political effects of globalization in the region. Besides an introduction by Hanlon and White (two of the journal’s editors—past and present) the contents are as follows:
Throughout the South Pacific, notions of “culture” and “development” are very much alive—in political debate, the media, sermons, and endless discussions amongst villagers and the urban élites, even in policy reports. Often the terms are counterposed, and development, along with “economic rationality,” “good governance,” and “progress,” is set against culture or “custom,” “tradition,” and “identity.” The decay of custom and impoverishment of culture are often seen as wrought by development, while failures of development are haunted by the notion that they are due, somehow, to the darker, irrational influences of culture. The problem is to resolve the contradictions between them so as to achieve the greater good—access to material goods, welfare and amenities, “modern life”—without the sacrifice of the “traditional” values and institutions that provide material security and sustain diverse social identities. Resolution is sought in this book by a number of leading writers from the South Pacific including Langi Kavaliku, Epeli Hau’ofa, Marshall Sahlins, Malama Meleisea, Joeli Veitayaki, and Tarcisius Tara Kabutaulaka. [From the publisher]

Huffer, Elise, and Asofou So'o, eds.

What governance agenda for Samoa? “Governance” was recently introduced into development terminology by the World Bank and has been popularly adopted by international aid donors in the Pacific. Governance agendas have been criticised for offering trendy and preordained programs that fail to address the complexities of particular local situations. Governance in Samoa details how governance programs have affected some local institutions and practices in Samoa and provides practical ways for more efficiently tailoring future programs to the development needs of the country. Empirical case studies are provided on issues of nascent civil society, problems of urban management, non-government organisations working in the area of women’s health, relationships between national government and villages, and the subversion of custom and constitutional processes to personal political ambitions. The book contributes to an understanding of how to enhance the efficient, accountable management of Samoa’s economic, political, social, and cultural resources for the benefit of all its citizens. [From the publisher]

Hviding, Edvard, and Tim Bayliss-Smith

For the people of Marovo Lagoon, in the New Georgia group of Solomon Islands, the authors of this book see the local uses of the rainforest as rooted in traditional knowledge and cultural practice, but also firmly connected to modern realities. The authors analyse the far-reaching modifications of Marovo agroforestry during the colonial era: from precolonial large-scale systems of taro irrigation and regional exchange, through successive forms of shifting cultivation, to the coconut plantations and cash crop gardens in the age of “rural development.” In the more unpredictable and more globalised postcolonial world, they trace the activities in New Georgia’s forests of Asian logging companies and their Melanesian collaborators, and assess the ideologies and strategies of rainforest conservation, “eco-timber” enterprises, and tourism. Standing at the intersection of anthropology, historical geography, and rainforest ecology, and also at the interface of the local and the global, this ethnographically grounded study examines how local communities in Melanesia incorporate industries like logging into rapidly evolving postcolonial society and economy, and suggests how the twenty-first century will see the emergence of a new Melanesian modernity in which the “islands of rainforest” become contested between local chiefs, traditionalists, and entrepreneurs; between capitalists and conservationists; and between insiders and outsiders of many kinds. [From the publisher]

Lal, Brij V., ed.

The 1990s were a time of great uncertainty for Fiji. A racially weighted Constitution, promulgated by decree in 1990, divided the country and invited international condemnation, and the economy suffered from the collapse of institutions of good governance. In 1995, an independent Constitution Review Commission appointed by the Fijian parliament recommended wide-ranging changes to the Constitution. Its report formed the basis of a new Constitution promulgated, after wide consultation and debate, in 1997. Two years later, Fiji held a general election under it. This collection of essays looks at the politics and dynamics of that momentous event, and the role of key individuals and institutions in producing an outcome that, a year later, plunged Fiji into its first major crisis of the twenty-first century. The essays look at some of key
political and development issues on the eve of the crisis, but their relevance to the current debates about the nature and meaning of politics in Fiji remains. Contributors: Brij V. Lal, Sitiveni L. Rabuka, Biman Prasad, Robert Norton, Padma Lal, Alumita Durutalo, Teresia K. Teaiwa, Joeli Veitayaki, and Chandra Reddy. [From the publisher]

Levantis, Theodore  

In the past three decades, Papua New Guinea has struggled to find a path of sustained economic and social development. Various strategies, both imported and internal, have been attempted—some to disastrous effect. In this time Papua New Guinea has suffered both socially and economically from the effects of unemployment, the risk of *raskol* gangs and an ineffectual law and order system. In *Papua New Guinea: employment wages and economic development*, Theodore Levantis analyses, using the results of labour market surveys conducted in the 1990s, the effect of economic strategies so far on Papua New Guinea’s employment situation and labour market structure. He outlines the political benefits of a slow transition to a deregulated labour market. This, combined with a loosening of restrictions on informal sector activities and an increase in the effectiveness of law enforcement, can lead Papua New Guinea towards the economic development and social strategy that it desires. [From the publisher]

LiPuma, Edward  

*Encompassing Others* is an historical ethnography of the encounter between the Maring of the Western Highlands of Papua New Guinea and the agents and institutions of Western modernity. The book seeks to develop an understanding that unites a detailed appreciation of local culture and community with a sophisticated theory of the large scale epochal transformations that have inundated Melanesia in particular and the post-colonial world in general. Theoretically, the book is less concerned with the overt aspects of modernity—the building of roads, the advent of Western money, etc.—than the transformation of people’s categories of knowledge and the organization of desire. Central to this story is both sides of the story, and the ethnography seeks to detail the encounter both from the perspective of the Maring and also from the perspective of Western agents, such as missionaries, patrol officers, and ethnographers as well. By examining this highly mediated encounter, the book illustrates the intertwining of the asymmetric forces of modernity with very powerful forms of local agency, thus demonstrating that the complex process of assimilation, accommodation, and invention can not be grasped either in terms of capitulation or resistance. On these grounds, the book seeks to develop a theory of encompassment, a way of understanding the relationships between Western capitalism and culture, the Western agents and institutions that brought such capitalism and culture to Melanesia, and the Maring themselves. Though it does avoid theory, far from given the subject at hand, the book is more jargon-free and more humane than any summary could convey. [Submitted by author, abridged and edited from reviews quoted on book cover]

Pomponio, Alice  

*Seagulls Don’t Fly Into the Bush* explores cultural values and processes in describing and analyzing how Mandok Islanders of the Siassi Islands, Papua New Guinea, understood, evaluated, and either accepted or rejected selected key “development projects” over one hundred years of European contact, colonial and postcolonial domination. Using detailed ethnographic description and analysis, Pomponio
demonstrates the extent to which Mandok personal and cultural identity revolved around their self-definition as mobile, maritime middlemen who fished, whereas most colonial and postcolonial government, mission, and school officials treated them as fisher folk who traded. The difference involved the symbolic and religious importance of the sea and of middleman trade, both of which pervade their epic legend of Namor. The book begins with this sacred legend, for it is here that the core values of Mandok culture are described and explained. Later chapters relate this creation legend to everyday and ritual life on Mandok. Readers will discover the importance of firstborns as “persons” par excellence, the importance and conception of “place” as a distinctly maritime concept, the importance of middleman trade in creating and maintaining intercultural kinship and sociopolitical systems, and ways in which all of these values influenced their actual participation in “development,” which most Mandok understood to mean “personal access to cash.” [From the publisher]

Poyer, Lin, Suzanne Falgout, and Laurence Marshall Carucci

The Typhoon of War combines archival research and oral history culled from more than three hundred Micronesian survivors to offer a comparative history of World War II in Micronesia. It is the first book to develop Islander perspectives on a topic still dominated by military histories that all but ignore the effects of wartime operations on indigenous populations. The authors explore the significant cultural meanings of the war for Island peoples, for the events of the war are the foundation on which Micronesians have constructed their modern view of themselves, their societies, and the wider world. Their recollections of those tumultuous years contain a wealth of detail about wartime activities, local conditions, and social change, making this an invaluable reference for anyone interested in twentieth-century Micronesia. Photographs, maps, and a detailed chronology will help readers situate Micronesian experiences within the broader context of the Pacific War. [From the publisher]

Whimp, Kathy, and Mark Busse, eds.

This book examines important questions that Papua New Guinea must ask in the development of intellectual property legislation. The contributors are specialists in the fields of medicine, law, the environment, music, genetics, and traditional cultural knowledge. The wise and creative protection of intellectual, biological, and cultural property is important if Papua New Guinea is to successfully define and realise its future. This is a book for all those interested in finding the best policies for protecting these rights wherever they may live and work.

Whitehouse, Harvey

Why are some religious rituals intensely stimulating and memorable occasions, while others are habituated and humdrum routines? Why do some religious practices lead to sectarianism and local divisions, while others serve to unify regional and even worldwide followings? The theory of “modes of religiosity” which Harvey Whitehouse develops in this book answers these and a range of other questions with reference to a set of interconnections between styles of religious transmission, systems of memory, and patterns of political association. Although he builds his argument on detailed Melanesian ethnography, Whitehouse argues that the theory of modes of religiosity has wide applicability. He explores such diverse topics as the interpretation of Upper Paleolithic cave art, the origins of centralization and hierarchy, the impact of literacy on social transmission and organization, and the spread of Reformed Christianity in sixteenth-century Europe. [From the book cover]

XI. RECENT JOURNALS

Two more issues of *Pacific Studies* are now available. In addition to book and visual media reviews, they contain the following articles:

September 1998 (21:3):
Working Wrongly and Seeking the Straight: Remedial Remedies on Enewetak Atoll, by Laurence Marshall Carucci
Righting Wrongs on Anuta, by Rick Feinberg
History, Opposition, and Salvation in Agarabi Adventism, by George Westermark
Feather Evidence Helps Clarify Locality of Anthropological Artifacts in the Museum of Mankind, by Carla J. Dove
Dressing, Undressing and Early European Contact in Australia and Tahiti, by Michael Sturma

December 1998 (21:4):
The Anglicans in New Guinea and the Torres Strait Islands, by David Wetherell
The Emergence of an Ethnic Millenarian Thinking and the Development of Nationalism in Tahiti, by Bruno Saura
The Potential Demographic Impact of HIV/AIDS in the Pacific, by Dennis A. Ahlburg, Heidi J. Larson, and Tim Brown
Gahi Revisited: A Historical Overview of the Mariana Archipelago’s Northern Islands, by Scott Russell

To order, please contact: Institute for Polynesian Studies, BYU-Hawai'i, 55-220 Kulanui St., Box 1979, La'ie HI 96762-1294; tel: 808/293-3665; fax: 808/293-3664; email <toluonoj@byuh.edu>

Recent issues of the *Journal of the Polynesian Society* contain, along with reviews and correspondence, the following articles:

June 2000 (109:2):
The Samoan Category of Matai/‘Chief’: A Singularity in Polynesian? Historical and Etymological Comparative Queries, by Serge Tcherkezoff
A Range of Disciplines Support a Dual Origin for the Bottle Gourd in the Pacific, by R. C. Green

September 2000 (109:3):
“Lords of an Empty Creation”: Manus, America and the Depression, by Maureen Molloy
El Niño, Y2K and the “Short, Fat Lady”: Drought and Agency in a Lowland Papua New Guinea Community, by Peter Dwyer and Monica Minnegal
The Conical Clan in Micronesia: The Marshall Islands, by Per Hage.
An Inland Lapita Site in Fiji, by Atholl Anderson, Geoffrey Clark, and Trevor Worthy.

The Polynesian Society welcomes ASAO member to join. Annual dues are NZ$50 for which members receive the quarterly *JPS* (c. 480 pp. per annum) and discounts on publications and earlier journal issues. Students may apply for a 50 percent discount membership, limited to three years. When applying students should provide evidence or support from a regular member.

For membership application and dues payment, contact the Society’s Assistant Secretary, Rangimarie Rawiri, c/o Maori Studies, University of Auckland, Private Bag 92019, Auckland, NEW ZEALAND, or email <jps@auckland.ac.nz>. For information about the journal, please contact Judith Huntsman, Honorary Editor, email <j.huntsman@auckland.ac.nz>

A special issue of *Journal de la Société des Océanistes* (vol. 109, 1999-2, 147 pages), edited by Alain Babadzan, addresses “Les politiques de la tradition: Identites culturelles et identites nationales dans le Pacifique” (The Politics of Tradition: Cultural and National Identities in the Pacific). This issue focuses on the political uses of “culture” in the South Pacific, and investigates some of the current aspects of the symbolic production of collective identities in the region. The apology of tradition and kastom has now become a dominant discourse in the region, and also, in many cases, a discourse of domination. Oddly enough, it has sometimes been described by Western scholars as an “anti-hegemonic” discourse, perhaps because of its anti-Western and romantic overtones. Most of the papers in this collection show that, far from being a form of resurgence or resistance of a primordial culture, the emergence of a culturalist and nationalist discourse is better understood as the expression of a process of political modernization and ideological globalization. Each chapter deals with a particular aspect of the question.

Alain Babadzan, in an introductory theoretical chapter, reappraises the general debate on the “invention of tradition,” and underlines its numerous similarities with the controversy among anthropologists about the politics of culture in Oceania. Stephanie Lawson analyses the political uses of traditionalist ideologies in the Asia-Pacific region, showing that the theme of the defense of cultural authenticity is always put forward by the new political elites of the region when confronted with claims for justice and democracy. Toon van Meijl studies the identity formation of Maori youngsters, who identify themselves as Maori, but who simultaneously experience a crisis of identity when confronted with the formal teaching of Maori traditional culture as part of educational programmes. Brigitte Derlon studies the role of the national cultural policies in the development of the folklorization of culture in New Ireland.

Patrick Pillon notes, in conclusion of his study of some traditional representations of place and social organization in New Caledonia, that the modern forms of collective identification no longer refer to kinship or ancestral figures, but to an abstract and undifferentiated social entity. Caroline Graille analyses the complex conditions under which “la coutume” (kastom) has become a political symbol in New Caledonia, and the progressive emergence of an indigeneous middle class and intelligentsia. Marc Tabani deals with the confrontation on the island of Tanna of (at least) two conflicting definitions of cultural identity: a local (Jon Frum) kastom, and a national kastom. Robert Tonkinson investigates the diversity of the uses of “tradition” by indigenous Australians in a changing sociopolitical context marked by a new land legislation, and the close involvement of many anthropologists in the land claims process, especially the gathering of data on Aboriginal traditions in order to meet legislative requirements.

The special issue can be ordered at the following address (price 175 French Francs, 26.68 euro): Journal des Océanistes, Musée de l’Homme, Place du Trocadero. 75116 Paris, FRANCE; Tel/fax: +33 1 47 04 63 40; email <oceanist@mnhn.fr> website <http://www.mnhn.fr/oceanist/>

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