



ASSOCIATION FOR SOCIAL ANTHROPOLOGY IN OCEANIA

NEWSLETTER LXII

SPRING 1987

I. IN THIS ISSUE

Results of the 1987 Annual Meetings; Report on the board meeting; Ballot for Board elections; Guidelines for Session Organizers; Site information on the 1988 meetings; bibliographic information; notes, news and current roster of board members and officers.

II. 1988 ANNUAL MEETINGS

The 1988 Annual Meetings of ASAO will be held at the Mulberry Inn, Savannah, Georgia. The dates are confirmed for February 17-22. Please note this in your calendar [details below].

III. FROM THE EDITOR

This is my final issue of the Newsletter. I leave knowing that the Newsletter is passing into the very capable hands of Rick Feinberg at Kent State University. All future correspondence concerning the Newsletter should be addressed to Rick. I trust that the members will give him as much cooperation and encouragement and as little grief as they have given me over the past three years. Congratulations/comiserations go to Rick.

I do have a few very pleasurable tasks to perform before my term expires. First, congratulations go to Terry Hays who assumed the Chair of the Association at the Monterey meetings. Second, on behalf of the entire Association I would like to thank Mac Marshall for the fine job he did as Chair during the past year. Third, again on behalf of the entire association, I would like to thank Jim Boutilier for the Trojan work he has done as Secretary/Treasurer of the Association for the past three years and to congratulate Juliana Flinn who was appointed secretary/treasurer at the Monterey meetings. All future correspondence concerning membership and dues should be addressed to Juliana. [Addresses for Rick Feinberg and Juliana Flinn are provided on the back page of this issue].

Finally, I would like to thank again all those of you who submitted material and in other ways assisted the production of the Newsletter during my tenure. Special thanks go to the anthropology graduate students at the University of Southern Mississippi who unfailingly and good-humoredly pitched-in every three months for the past three years to fold, staple, address and stamp the 300+ Newsletters and who tried, albeit in a losing cause, to keep me good humored and sane.



IV. Report of the Board Meeting

The Secretary/Treasurer informed the board that there were 263 paid up individual members in 1986 and that the ASAO general account had a balance of \$US 10,404.92 as of February 1987.

The board agreed that it would declare void the outstanding account related to the expenses associated with local arrangements at the ASAO Salem meeting in 1985 in view of the failure of the Local Arrangements Chair at the time to submit a proper accounting.

The Newsletter editor, James Flanagan, presented his annual report and the board agreed that the Newsletter publishing/distribution subvention should be increased to \$US 2,000.00 p.a. in view of rising costs.

Dr. Margaret Rodman, ASAO Series Editor, presented her annual report and noted that the University Press of America had just published the latest ASAO monograph (Dr. Monty Lindstrom's volume on drug use in the western Pacific) and that, as there were no manuscripts currently under review, she would welcome submissions to the ASAO editorial board.

Dr. Susan Pflanz-Cook, Annual Meetings Coordinator, briefed the board on possible sites for the 1988 and 1989 meetings.

In view of the resignation of Ivan Brady as Special Publications Editor, the board agreed to appoint Dr. Deborah Gewertz as his replacement.

The Secretary/Treasurer, Jim Boutilier, and the Newsletter editor, Jim Flanagan, tendered their resignations to the board and the board agreed to appoint Dr. Juliana Flinn and Dr. Rick Feinberg as their respective replacements. The board agreed to reappoint the Monograph Series Editor (Margaret Rodman), the Program Chair (Dorothy Counts) and the Annual Meetings Coordinator (Suzy Pflanz-Cook) for 1987.

The board agreed to invite Dr. Marilyn Strathern to be the Distinguished Lecturer at the ASAO annual meeting in 1988.

Nominations were accepted to replace Drs. Mac Marshall and Lorraine Sexton who were being rotated off the board (see ballot below).

The board instructed Dr. Dan Jorgensen to review the informal session, working session, symposium format employed hitherto and to report to the board in 1988.

It was further agreed that the board members should receive partial compensation for the subsistence costs involved in attending the conference for an additional/board meeting day.

V. SESSION REPORTS FROM THE 1987 ANNUAL MEETINGS

a. Symposium: PRIMOGENITURE IN PACIFIC SOCIETIES

Organizer: NAOMI SCALETTA

Discussant: PETER LAWRENCE

The central theme that has continued to inform the papers presented in this session since its inception has been the concept of primogeniture as a cultural construct, particularly, the elaboration of beliefs and customs that pertain to the firstborn child. We decided to revise and prepare our papers for publication as a volume. In addition to a concluding/summary chapter from our session discussant, Peter Lawrence, the proposed volume will include the following contributors:

- | | |
|-----------------|--|
| Fitz-John Poole | Images of the Firstborn in the Cultural Construction of Social Personhood among the Bimin-Kuskusmin of PNG |
| Ali Pomponio | Children of Value: The Firstborn as 'Person' <u>par excellence</u> on Mandok |
| Naomi Scaleta | The firstborn Child as Parental Exemplar: Primogeniture among the Kabana of West New Britain, PNG |
| Ann Chowning | Honoring the Firstborn: Changes in the Nature and Function of Ceremonies in Two West New Britain Societies |
| Kathleen Barlow | Firstborn Ceremonies and Status Negotiation in Murik Society (East Sepik, PNG) |
| David Lipset | The Reciprocal Person: The Cost of Firstborn Status among the Murik |
| Pat Townsend | Primogeniture without Privelege: Birth Order among the Saniyo-Hiyowe of PNG |
| Mark Mosko | The Developmental Cycle in Public Groups: Primogeniture and Quadripartition among the Bush Mekeo |
| Ward Goodenough | Eldest Brother and Sister in Truk |
| Karen Sinclair | Contradictions in the System: Rituals of Primogeniture among the Maori |

b. Symposium: THE ETHNOGRAPHY OF CHRISTIANITY IN THE PACIFIC

Organizer: JOHN BARKER
Discussant: CHARLES FORMAN

This session had its initiation as a successful working session at the 1986 New Harmony meetings. Most of the initial participants returned this year to discuss revisions in their papers and our development of the topic as a group. Our discussion was enriched by six new participants, three from south Pacific nations. The seventeen papers presented over the two sessions examine the ethnographic reality of Christianity in local societies across the Pacific. Papers examined examples of several mainline Roman Catholic and Protestant denominations, along with Mormons, small Evangelical sects, millenarian movements, and an indigenously based new religious movement. The papers as a whole have become progressively weighted towards coastal Papua. Of the thirteen papers under discussion in the session, four discussed coastal Papua, three coastal and insular New Guinea, one Fiji, one Solomon Islands, four Polynesia, and one Micronesia.

We discussed the new papers during the morning session. We opened the afternoon session with a public discussion of some of the theoretical and ethnographical issues arising from anthropological approaches to the study of indigenous expressions of Christianity in Oceanic societies. The discussion was very stimulating, indicating, among other things, that there is a great deal of interest and, as of yet, unexamined data concerning this topic.

The papers speak to a wide range of interests in the study of new religions in the Pacific, yet they form a useful totality. All of the papers address two fundamental problems: 1) the particular strengths and weaknesses of ethnographic approaches to indigenous experiences and expressions of Christianity; and 2) the place of Christianity in Oceanic peoples' attempts to find a satisfying identity and way of life in the modern world.

Most of the participants decided to prepare our papers further and to submit them before the end of the year as a volume to the ASAO editorial board.

Session Participants:

<u>Jocelyn Armstrong</u>	Ethnic Separatism and Ecumenism in Christianity: Maori Churches in the <u>South Island of New Zealand</u>
John Barker	The Remaking of a Mission Outpost in Papua
Juliana Flinn	Catholicism and Pulapese Identity
Tamar Gordon	Inventing the Mormon Tongan Family
Martha Kaplan	Imposition or Encompassment? <u>Fijian Christianity</u> in the Ra and Colo Provinces of Viti Levu Island

Martha Macintyre	Christianity, Cargo Cultism and the Concept of the Spirit in Misima Cosmology
Susan Montague	Kidamwa Bukudubumi, Bukumasawa
Elizabeth Roach	Women's Roles in the Samoan Congregational Church
Karen Sinclair	Maori Prophecy and European Politics
Michael Smith	Catholicism, Capitalist Incorporation and Resistance in Kragur Village
Carl Thune	Fathers, Aliens and Brothers: Building a Social World in Loboda Village Church Services
Garry Trompf	Keeping the <u>Lo</u> under a Melanesian Messiah
Geoffrey White	Histories of Contact, Narratives of Self: Missionary Encounters in Santa Isabel.

c. Working Session: ENCOUNTERS WITH OUTSIDERS IN THE PACIFIC

Organizer: JOHN KIRKPATRICK

In this session, eleven presentations were made:

* <u>Jocelyn Amstrong</u>	<u>The Organization of Maori Encounters with Outsiders in New Zealand</u>
Lawrence Carucci	Ruwamwaijet im RiAnin: Outsiders becoming Insiders
Chuck deBurlo	On Tourist Guides in Vanuatu
Frederick Errington and Deborah Gewertz	On Unfinished Dialogues and Paper Pigs
John Kirkpatrick	The Emergence of the Concept of Culture in American Discussions of Personality
David Lewis	Tales of the Imatang: I-Kiribati views of the Whiteman
Susan Montague	Trobriand Construals of Foreigners
Jill Nash and Eugene Ogan	The Red and The Black: Bougainvillina Perceptions of other Papua New Guineans
William Rodman	When Questions are Answers: The Message of Anthropology, according to Ambae

- Carl Thune Aliens, Brothers, Fathers, Partners and Savages: Insiders and Outsiders in Loboda Village 'Contact' Literature
- Geoffrey White On Solomon Islanders' Relationships with Japanese and American Soldiers during World War II

The papers were diverse, but all illuminated the central theme: the job of making sense of foreigners, which we sometimes view as a purely anthropological task, is a cultural practice of some importance in any society. Categories and strategies for construing foreigners are varied, both within particular societies and across societies. Such categories may evolve over time, in response to inter-group politics and to problems in creating and maintaining shared self-identifications.

The papers and the subsequent discussion raised questions about cultural boundaries (as more or less permeable, and more or less important in defining groups). James Clifford, the discussant, found interest in both the emphasis in the session on local histories and in the attempt to map different cultures' extension to and across boundaries, rather than in conventional anthropological terms. Data on Pacific peoples' view of anthropology and anthropologists were presented in some detail, and discussed as shedding light on both cultural wisdom and anthropological assumptions.

Interest was expressed in a future session, but none is planned for ASAO 1988.

d. Working Session: HEALTH-RELATED RESEARCH IN THE PACIFIC

Organizer: LESLIE MARSHALL

Research on health-related beliefs and behaviors has increased tremendously over the past couple of decades and now constitutes the basis for major sub-disciplines in all of the social sciences. The work has been both applied and theoretical, qualitative and quantitative, thickly descriptive and abstract model-generating. Federal funding has been generous. Health-related research in the Pacific has been the subject of several recent monographs and journal special-editions, in addition to the single journal articles which appear regularly. The results of the research are often of direct and immediate use to the people from whom we have gathered the data, forming the basis for policy which may have a positive effect on their quality of life. Health status affects every facet of a person's life and can limit the possible range of behaviors and beliefs. It influences, and is directly influenced by, culture. Many of the changes that Pacific islanders have undergone in the course of "modernization" have profoundly affected their health (as well as their culture, and the interaction between the two). Not only have they come into contact with non-indigenous disease-producing agents and disease-producing models for behavior, but they have also experienced the Western disease-defining health care system.

The 14 papers presented in this session dealt with a number of topics that may be considered "mainstream" medical anthropology: the influence of belief systems on disease prevalence, health care delivery and choice of treatment (with specific examples from Fiji, Torres Straits, Nukumanu, and Vanatinai); the influence of social or personal change on health education (with specific examples from PNG and New Zealand Maori women); the health status of geographically isolated groups (in Pohnpei and PNG); the influence of life style on health status (with specific examples from Hawaii and Samoa and a review of the literature on diet in PNG and tobacco in Oceania); the influence of health status on culture (a hypothesis from Kiribati); and the politics of medicine (during a recent expedition to Easter Island).

Still exploring the matter of how to fit our diverse contributions into a coherent package, we plan to meet next year as a symposium tentatively entitled "Pacific Islanders' Health in the Modern Context."

All those who participated in the working session (Armstrong, Bindon, Boutilier, Feinberg, Fitzpatrick, Friedlaender, Heywood, Jenkins, Lepowsky, Lewis, L. Marshall, M. Marshall, Murry, Prasad, and Severance) should have reconfirmed their interest in participating in next year's symposium by writing to L. Marshall before March 31, 1987. Anyone else who would like to participate in the circulation of papers and symposium discussion must inform L. Marshall (University of Iowa, Iowa City, Iowa) of their interest by June 15, 1987.

e. Working Session: MARRIAGE IN TRANSITION IN OCEANIA

Organizer: RICK MARKSBURY

Eight participants presented papers during this session which was well attended and generated interest among both the participants and the audience. The general themes that had been discussed during last year's informal session were incorporated into the papers in such a way that there was a synthesis. Perhaps the most common concept addressed was the seemingly debilitating impact of an introduced cash economy on the structure and rhetoric surrounding the institution of marriage. The papers that were presented highlighted the fact that throughout Oceania traditional marriage patterns are changing rapidly and in some aspects are radically different from only a few years ago.

There was general agreement among the participants that the group or collective aspect of marriage in Oceania appears to be diminishing. In its place, is the emergence of a more individual aspect of marriage. Along these lines, marriage is becoming more of a private and less a public affair. It appears that the selection of a marriage partner is beginning to be determined more by what a person can do or does than by who (kin oriented) a person is.

The organizer and participants agreed to request reconvening as a formal symposium next year. Martha Ward was unable to attend this year's

meetings, but has agreed to participate next year as the discussant. Joining the session is Bob Franco who will present a paper on "Marriage and International Migration Among Samoans."

Participants:

Achsah Carrier The Effects of Economic Change on Marriage and Marriage Exchange on Ponam Island, 1920-1985

Dan Jorgensen From Sister Exchange to 'Daughter-as-Tradestore': Money and Marriage in Telefomin

Shireen Lateef Forms of Marriage amongst Indo-Fijians in Suva

Sherwood Lingenfelter Education, Economic Change, and Marriage in Yap

Richard Marksbury Marriage in Transition in Oceania

Susan Pflanz-Cook Manga Marriage in Transition: 1961-1981

Pamela Rossi and Laura Zimmer Love and Marriage among the Urban Elite in Port Moresby

Laura Zimmer The Commercialization of Gende Marriage

f. Working Session: SCHOOLING AND THE TRANSFORMATION OF PACIFIC SOCIETIES

Organizers: SUZANNE FALGOUT AND PAULA LEVIN

Eight papers were delivered and three others presented in abstentia at the session on Thursday morning. The group met again over breakfast on Friday to review common themes and to discuss future plans.

We have decided to move ahead to a Formal Symposium for next year's meetings in Savannah. Papers will be revised to focus on the following topics:

1. The role of schooling throughout the history of contact.

2. Theories of education/knowledge contained in indigenous and foreign models of schooling, with supporting examples and routines e.g., who has access to knowledge; channels and processes of cultural transmission; content; goals; etc.).

3. The nature of social transformations that have resulted. Have they led to "cultural reproduction," or reflected existing power relations; or have they led to "cultural production," or produced new social relations (e.g., elites, gender models, etc.).

4. Larger concerns for the future (e.g., parental and local input into the educational system; implications for political status; migration; etc.).

Participants and Papers at Monterey:

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|---|
| Bob Franco | The De-skilling of Samoan Women in Hawaii |
| Paula Levin | Transformation of Teaching and Learning Styles among Hawaiian Families |
| Mary Martini, J. | Mistry and V. Murray
Encountering Problems at Home and at School |
| John Young | Development, Education and Social Stratification: Some Personal Observations |
| Suzanne Falgout | Hierarchy v's Democracy: Two approaches to the Management of Knowledge in Pohnpei |
| Juliana Flinn | Schooling and the Outside World: A Micronesian Atoll Case |
| Judith Lingenfelter | Schooling in Yap: Indigenization as an adaptive response to Cross-Cultural Conflict |
| Karen Watson-Gegeo and David W. Gegeo | Schooling and the Transformation of Solomon Islands Societies |

In Abstentia

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|---|
| Becky Stephenson and Ken Perez | The Cook Islands in Transition: Perspectives and Goals of Cook Islands Secondary Education Students |
| Joseph Sukianomb and Ronald Katak | Teachers in Community Schools in Papua New Guinea: Trouble Makers or Change Agents |
| Pani Tawaiyole and Sheldon Weeks | Cultural Constraints on Grade 10 Leavers Returning to their Villages. |

Anyone wishing to join the Symposium should contact Suzanne Falgout. New and rewritten papers should be circulated to all participants by November 15.

g. Working Session: FEMALE "INITIATION" IN THE PACIFIC

Organizers: NANCY LUTKEHAUS AND JIM ROSCOE
Discussant: TERENCE HAYS

Participants

Kathleen Barlow	Female 'Initiation' in Murik Society
Janet Hoskins	Why do Ladies Sing the Blues? Indigo Dyeing and Female Secrets in Kodi
Nancy Lutkehaus	Putting on the Banana Leaf Skirt: First Menstruation Rites in Manam
Jim Roscoe	Female 'Initiation' among the Yangoru Boiken
Lorraine Sexton	Marriage, Menarche and Models for Initiation Ritual
Anne Marie Tietjen	Female Facial Tattooing among the Maisin of Oro Province, Papua New Guinea: The Changing Significance of an Ancient Custom (co-authored with John Barker)
Patricia Townsend	'She has Washed': First Menstruation among the Saniyo-Hiyowe of East Sepik Province, Papua New Guinea
Margaret Williamson	Women's Coming of Age in Kwoma Culture
Valerio Valerie	Comparison of 'Initiation' Rites in Huaulu and Wemale, Seram, Eastern Indonesia

Discussant:
Terence Hays Oceanic Female Initiation in Cross-Cultural Perspective

In absentia

Brigitta Hauser-Schaublin Puberty Rites, Womens Naven and Initiation:
 Women's Rituals of Transition in Abelam and Iatmul Culture

Marilyn Strathern Making Incomplete: a Comment on Female Initiation

The session, which extended from morning into the early evening, proved that there was indeed much to discuss about female initiation and puberty rituals in the Pacific. Nine participants were present, and a tenth, the co-organizer Jim Roscoe, was present in 'spirit' (via tape and print) - while awaiting the birth of his daughter, Tess. The participants, plus several others who have expressed interest in joining, will move ahead with a formal symposium for the 1988 meetings. Issues for further development that emerged from the papers include:

1. The relationship between means of subsistence and type of female

centered rituals found in different societies.

2. The relationship between social organization and different forms of male and female rituals.
3. Cultural contrasts in attitudes towards female gender: womanhood and maturation as "natural" vs. "cultural" processes.
4. The performative (or transformative) versus communicative functions of male initiation and female initiation/puberty rituals.
5. The historical fact that both female initiation and female puberty rituals seem to have survived social change to a greater extent than male initiation.
6. The relationship - or lack thereof - between female puberty rites/female initiation and marriage.
7. The role of men in female centered ceremonies.
8. The cultural meaning of scarification and tattooing associated with female initiation and puberty rites and contemporary changes in their significance and practice.
9. The prevalence of themes of sexual antagonism, authority and control expressed in female-centered rituals.
10. The symbolism of control over female sexuality and production associated with different forms of female-centered rituals.

December 1, 1987 is the deadline for the completion of revised papers for circulation. Please send all communication to both organizers at the following addresses:

Nancy Lutkehaus, Anthropology, USC, Los Angeles, CA 90089-0661

Jim Roscoe, Anthropology, U. of Maine, Orono, ME 04469

[Cognizant of previous difficulties, the editor has followed the practice of the organizers/reporters enclosing "initiation" in quotes where they have done so and omitting quotes where the reporters omit them -ed.]

h. Working Session: BEYOND HIERARCHY

Organizer: JIM FLANAGAN

This very well attended session more than amply filled its allotted time at the 1987 meetings. Eight papers were presented (see participants below) and one further participant who circulated a paper was unable to attend the Monterey meetings but will rejoin the session for 1988. The session attracted a large audience and members of the audience contributed

significantly to the discussion.

Participants:

- | | |
|----------------------|--|
| Steven Albert | We are all Young Men: Hierarchy and Equality among the Lak of Southern New Ireland |
| Bill Donner | The Contexts for Egalitarian Relationships on a Polynesian Outlier |
| Rick Feinberg | Hierarchy and Equality: The Login of Rank on Two Polynesian Outliers |
| Jim Flanagan | Hierarchy and Equality on the Highlands' Fringe |
| Debra Connelly Kirch | Hierarchy and Equality in Tongan Handicraft Markets |
| Rena Lederman | History against Heroes: The Structure of Indigenous Development in Highland New Guinea (Mende) |
| Nancy McDowell | Competition and the Assertion of Equality |
| Margy Rodman | Inequality and Village Fisheries Development in Vanuatu |

In Abstentia

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|-----------|----------------------------------|
| Lin Poyer | Sepuahfik: The Egalitarian Ethic |
|-----------|----------------------------------|

The papers presented represent a wide theoretical and geographical spectrum although heavily weighted in favor of Papua New Guinea and Melanesia (3 papers deal with mainland Papua New Guinea, 2 with insular Melanesia, 2 with Polynesian outliers, 1 with Polynesia, and 1 with Micronesia). The papers and subsequent discussion brought into focus a number of conceptual distinctions that will be refined and elaborated in preparation for next year's symposium. Some papers (McDowell, Donner, Kirsch, Flanagan, Rodman) were concerned with the behavioral/interpersonal level, others (Feinberg, Albert, Lederman) with the structural/symbolic level. The effects of modernization on both these dimensions is one obvious avenue to pursue and, indeed, has already been undertaken in some cases. Strategies for equality maintenance (ridicule, structural/categorical equality etc.) were treated in many papers. The papers further highlighted a distinction between non-competitive egalitarianism and competitive egalitarianism which deserves further elaboration and inquiry. The relationship of equality (both as ideology and as behavioral strategy) to production modes and exchange patterns will also be explored in next year's session.

Despite, or perhaps because of, the variety represented in this year's presentations, the participants all agreed that we should move forward to the Symposium level for the Savannah meetings. All this year's participants have indicated their intention of remaining with the session.

DRUGS IN WESTERN PACIFIC SOCIETIES

ASAO VOL 11



Lamont Lindstrom, ed.

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Anyone else wishing to join us should indicate their intention by sending a paper title and a two page abstract to Jim Flanagan at Sociology and Anthropology, Southern Station Box 5074, University of Southern Mississippi, Hattiesburg, MS 39406 by June 1st 1987. All revised papers will be circulated among the participants for comment by early Fall 1987.

i. Informal Session: STRINGBANDS IN THE PACIFIC

Organizer: STEVEN ALBERT

About 15 people participated in the discussion on the significance of stringbands in the Pacific. Three issues emerged:

1. How are stringbands a focus of identity? (do they encourage tradition or change? are they subversive or civic? are they a force for cultural distinctiveness or a broad regional culture?)
2. How is the music a form of knowledge? (do the songs substitute for other types of "records," commemorative, historical, etc.?)
3. Are there specific features, musicological or otherwise, that define the music as a genre? (e.g. pervasive repetition, falsetto, adoption of western elements, etc.?)

No conclusion emerged, for it quickly became evident that few have conducted research with the stringbands as a primary interest.

j. Informal Session: CLOWNING IN OCEANIA: SECULAR AND RITUAL COMEDY IN A PERFORMANCE CONTEXT

Organizer: WILLIAM E. MITCHELL

Convinced that comedic behavior in Oceania is underreported in the literature, we met to survey Oceania's "theater of the ridiculous," i.e. to see which people are doing what in a cultural context that makes others laugh. Each participant gave a report on clowning from her or his own fieldwork and it was quickly obvious that we had an interesting representation of fieldworkers from the major cultural areas of Oceania, a nice mix of kinds of data and a variety of theoretical approaches. We decided to draft papers for distribution prior to the '88 meetings for discussion there in a working session.

Members of the group are: Judith Barker, Kathleen Barlow, Jean Brooke, Larry Carucci, David and Dorothy Counts, Bill Donner, Fred Erington, David Gegeo, Deborah Gewertz, Peter Huber, Debra Conelly Kirch, David Lewis, David Lipset, Mark Mosko, Eve Pinsker.

If you are interested in joining our exploration of social comedy from, e.g., the buffoonary of a secular Javanese clown to the Iatmul mother's brother ritual pantomime farces, write to Bill Mitchell at his summer address (Pleasant Valley Farm, Wolcott, Vt. 05680) with a brief description

of what your paper would be about.

k. Informal Session : TEACHING PACIFIC ISLANDS' ANTHROPOLOGY

Organizer: BOB FRANCO

The session attracted a large number of participants with a variety of approaches to teaching about the Pacific. Some innovative, more specific, strategies also emerged from the discussions. We were gratified to hear that we shared similar problems, and that we want to try working collectively to resolve these problems.

We agreed to take the dialogue to a working session level where we can further share course materials, not just course syllabi, but also exams, textbooks, slides, film/video lists, computer simulations and items of material culture from various Pacific Islands.

There appeared to be some consensus that we need a "middle-level" text - either an updated reader, or a textbook written to a student audience. I would be interested in devoting some time to the development of this "text," particularly if we can get broader participation from the ASAO membership. This broader participation would ensure balance in content and theory, and produce a ready-made market for the text.

I asked Dorothy Counts to make a table/display area available at the 1988 meetings where course materials might be displayed. I'm assuming that course materials are a "public resource" to be shared openly. If you have any concerns please let me know.

Participants:

Dan Jorgensen (Western Ontario); Anton Ploeg (Utrecht); Mary McCutcheon (Smithsonian); Frank Young (San Diego); Charlie Urbanowicz (Cal State, Chico); Ben Finney (Hawaii); Michael Smith (Public Sector Consultants, Michigan); David Gegeo (ESL, Hawaii); Bill Rodman (McMaster); Dorothy Counts (Waterloo); Virginia Cox (Boise State); Caroline Webber (Bakersfield College); Karen Nero (Berkeley); Paul Shankman (Colorado); Carol Ivory (Art, Washington); and Rober Franco (Kapiolani Community College).

l. Informal Session: THE UNITED STATES IN OCEANIA

Organizer: LARRY MAYO

This session began with a comment from the organizer stating the general objective of the session: to focus on the most salient features of the United States' presence in Oceania. Each of the 21 individuals attending the session were asked to make a brief statement about their research interests, and then what ideas they had toward a theme for the session and the contributions they wished to offer from their research. Based on the discussion, four areas of research concentration emerged: 1) "Migration" - the movement of people within and outside US soil (i.e. territories and state) in the Pacific region; 2) "Manipulation" - the purposeful use of American institutional models for personal and/or group interest and

advantage, e.g., legal matters, political issues, and education; 3) "Health" - investigating the consequences of the American model of health care that has been applied throughout Micronesia and in American Samoa. The nuclear issue was raised (e.g. the dumping of waste or allowing nuclear weapons in the region), and its health implications; and 4) "Economics" - here attention focused on the impact of the US military on economic development in places such as Guam and Kwajalein, development of the fishing industry in Micronesia, and the negotiations between American companies and Pacific island nations for fishing rights. There were two noteworthy observations: one, that there seemed to be little attention focused on the impact of the American presence in Hawaii; and second, no apparent investigation of American expatriates in the Pacific or the impact of the Peace Corps.

Since ten participants expressed a desire to write papers, we agreed to advance to a working session for the next meeting in Savannah. First drafts of papers should be distributed to session participants by December 1 for review in advance of the 1988 meeting. Those who have indicated a wish to participate in the working session, and others who want to join, should send a title and abstract of their paper to the organizer by October 1. No additional papers will be included in the session after this date. Larry Mayo, Dept. of Anthropology, University of Kansas, Lawrence, KS 66045-2110.

m. Informal Session: DOMESTIC VIOLENCE IN THE PACIFIC

Organizer: DOROTHY COUNTS

The session was well attended and was the occasion for some vigorous debate. We decided to continue with a Working Session on physical violence in the household. We will pay special attention to the context in which violence occurs and the social mechanisms that control the level of violence and the circumstances in which these mechanisms are brought into play. Negative examples - societies in which household violence is minimal or non-existent are welcome for the insight they bring into alternative ways of coping with stress and potential conflict. The organizer will be sending to interested participants a set of guidelines and a list of helpful references. Members who did not attend the session and who would like to participate in the working session should contact Dorothy Counts, 2 Flamboro Court, Dundas, Ontario, Canada L9H 4Z3.

n. Informal Session: LINGUA FRANCA AND VERNACULAR: LANGUAGE CHANGE IN OCEANIA

Organizers: KAREN WATSON-GECEO AND BILL DONNER

The focus of this informal session was on processes of language change resulting from contact between vernacular languages and regional (Pidgin) and colonial/international (English and French) languages. The session was well attended, and short presentations were made by Monty Lindstrom (Vanuatu), Don Brenneis (Fiji Indians), Niko Besnier (Nukulaelae), Geoff

White (Isabel, Solomon Islands), John Kirkpatrick (Marquesas), Mary Martini (Hawaii), Tamara Gordon (Tonga), Jocelyn Armstrong (Maori), Bill Donner (Sikiana, Solomon Islands), and David Gegeo and Karen Watson-Gegeo (Kwara'ae, Solomon Islands).

In the discussion following these presentations, we recognized that the nature of language change varies from place to place, and that the range and kinds of changes require exploration. We agreed to continue next year with a Working Session addressing the four issues around which the Informal Session had been organized: 1) the domains or contexts (domestic, religious, political jural, etc.) for language use, 2) the manner in which vernaculars are changing in phonology, morphology, grammar, and lexicon, 3) the extent to which meanings in regional languages correspond to those in local languages, and 4) the extent to which the use of lingua franca reflect the development of regional cultures (or acceptance of exogenous cultural influences). In fact, we found a great deal of overlap among the participants whichever one of these topics they were analyzing. We also agreed that papers for the working session may focus on one or more of the four issues above, but that all will relate microethnographic issues (e.g., language use in specific contexts, or issues specific to certain communities) with macroethnographic issues (e.g., national patterns of change, or issues of national integration vs. local identity, as reflected in specific communities, etc.).

Presenters planning to participate next year include: Jocelyn Armstrong, Niko Besnier, Don Brenneis, Bill Donner, David Gegeo and Karen Watson-Gegeo, Tamara Gordon, Monty Lindstrom, and Geoff White. Anyone wishing to join the session should contact Karen Watson-Gegeo, Dept. of English as a Second Language, University of Hawaii at Manoa, Honolulu, Hawaii 96822. A two page abstract for working papers should be submitted to her by November 1, 1987. (The organizers are especially eager for submissions relating to Papua New Guinea and Micronesia).

o. Informal Session: SEAMANSHIP IN MODERN OCEANIA

Organizer: RICK FEINBERG

This session met for an hour-and-a-half during the 1987 annual meeting. It was well attended, drawing about a dozen active participants and a small audience. Participants represented Melanesia, Micronesia, and Polynesia, and presented topics ranging from colonial shipping to use of outboard motors on outrigger canoes to Hawaiian canoe racing. Despite this diversity, however, there was a common focus on the synthesis of traditional techniques and attitudes with Western knowledge and equipment. The consensus was that the modern uses of boats and the sea is an intrinsically interesting topic and that it will be worth our while to discuss it in a more disciplined manner. Therefore, we decided to go forward next year as a Working Session.

Participants:

Rick Feinberg, Jim Boutilier, Niko Besnier, Craig Severance, Robert

Solenberger, Ben Finney, James Howard, Tim O'Meara, Tom Harding, Bill Donner.

Anyone interested in joining the session should contact Rick Feinberg at Dept. of Soc. and Anthropology, Kent State University, Kent. OH 44242

VI. NEW SESSIONS FOR THE 1988 MEETINGS

a. Working Session: MELANESIAN ETHNOGRAPHY - METHOD AND INTERPRETATION

Organizers: WARILEA IAMO (UPNG) AND LAURA ZIMMER (UPNG)

The focus of this session is on the question of interpretation and the relationship between different theoretical perspectives and fieldwork techniques. The publication of Malinowski's diary in the 60's and the Mead-Freeman controversy have generated interest in interpretation and a growing awareness of the limitations of current anthropological theory and methodology. Specific topics might include the biases anthropologists both bring to the field and acquire as a result of sustained interaction with their field hosts. Another focus could be on the process by which anthropologists create knowledge of the Melanesian 'other' and how that knowledge alienates Melanesians, not only from the anthropologist but, more importantly, from themselves.

Interested participants are asked to send either a statement of interest or a paper abstract to Drs. Iamo and Zimmer at the Dept. of Anthropology and Sociology, UPNG, University P.O. Box 320, N.C.D., PNG, by September 1, 1987.

b. Working Session: RETHINKING REGIONAL ANALYSIS IN MELANESIA

Organizers: EYTAN BERCOVITCH AND MARK BUSSE

Most anthropological research in Melanesia has focused on detailed analyses of small scale cases (villages or localized groups of villages). There have been relatively few analyses carried out on a larger scale. Among those regional analyses that have been done are Schwartz' work on areal integration in Manus; several studies of millenarian movements along the Madang coast; several historical studies in the Sepik area; a number of comparative surveys or specific cultural traits, like musical instruments, ritual forms, homosexuality, and male-female relations; and archaeological studies of trade systems and subsistence patterns.

Significantly, many of these regional studies have come in the last ten years. And, in fact, there are signs that the interest in regional analysis is growing. A common theme of informal discussions among anthropologists working in Melanesia, for example, is that there is finally sufficient information available to undertake wider comparisons. We propose that the time is ripe for looking critically at the assumptions and methods used in

making regional analyses and the problems that arise when one tries to undertake such analyses. We invite papers that consider specific regional cases. The aim, at this point, is not to offer definitive pictures of the various regions of Melanesia but rather to explore, through specific cases, the kinds of social, political, and economic factors that have historically brought numbers of separate communities together into significant common relations. Different factors are presumably involved in different cases. Also, regional relations may be more pronounced in some parts of Melanesia than in others. The extent and implications of these differences in kind and degree will be one of the main subjects that this session will try to illuminate.

Interested individuals should write to either:

Eytan Bercovitch, Anthropology, Stanford U., Stanford. CA 94305

or

Mark Busse, Anthropology, UCSD, La Jolla, California 92093

VII. GUIDELINES FOR SESSION ORGANIZERS

There are three types of sessions at 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. Participants do not write papers for an Informal Session. The organizers should send a brief description of the focus of the session to the Program Chair and to the Newsletter editor no later than the deadline for the Fall issue (October 15). Informal sessions will be given no more than one block of time (9-12 a.m.; 2-5 p.m.; or 8-10 p.m.) and may receive 1/2 block. Available time will be allocated according to the number of people indicating interest in the session. The organizers of informal sessions are responsible for keeping the Program Chairman posted regarding the number and names of interested people. This will facilitate scheduling and the appropriate allocation of time.

B. **WORKING SESSIONS** are based on the existence of prepared papers that will be summarized (not read) during the session. The organizer(s) of a working session are responsible for: 1) sending a description of the topic of the session and a call for papers to the Program Chair and the Newsletter editor no later than the deadline for the Summer issue (July 15). 2) Obtaining from participants by late Fall an abstract or 2 page synopsis of all papers. 3) sending to the Program Chair 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 mailed to the Program Chair by December 1. A working session requires the presence of seven participants with papers. A session that does not meet these criteria by December 1 (so your Program Chair can meet the January Newsletter deadline) will be listed on the program as an informal session. Complete information (brief description of the topic, list of participants by name and paper title, order of presentation) will be included in the January Newsletter if it is sent to the Program Chair by December 1. Ordinarily a working session will receive no more than two time blocks. Available 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 that are based on papers that have been pre-circulated among the participants for written criticism leading to revision. The Symposium is a forum for the discussion of ideas and issues arising from the papers rather than for the presentation of the papers themselves. The organizer(s) of a Symposium are responsible for: 1) sending a topic description and call for papers to the Program Chair and Newsletter editor before the deadline for the Spring issue (April 15). 2) Assuring that drafts of papers are circulated among participants by mid-fall. 3) Sending to the Program Chair 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. This information must be sent to the Program Chair by December 1. 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 judgement of the Program Chair. Symposia may receive up to three blocks of time (9-12 a.m.; 2-5 p.m.; 8-10 p.m.) and will receive priority over other sessions.

NOTE: Organizers must send to the Program Chair by December 1 all information to be published in the Winter 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 Chair will not have their session on the Program of the Annual Meeting.

1. We usually have only three meeting rooms at our conferences, so program slots are limited and will be allocated on the basis of number of papers, the number of participants actually attending the meetings, and the level of the session. Symposia receive priority, but no session will be given more than three blocks of time or one full day. If a session requires more time, the organizers will be responsible for informally arranging extra meetings with their participants.

2. Participation by a member in a single session is ideal. All members should limit themselves to participation in no more than two sessions, preferably at different levels. If you are in two sessions, and it is not absolutely clear which session has priority if scheduling conflicts should occur, please send to the Program Chair a note indicating your priority. There is no guarantee that scheduling conflicts can be avoided for all multiple participants.

3. Session organizers or participants who have particular scheduling needs (e.g. must arrive late or leave early) should contact the Program Chair as early as possible. Satisfaction is not guaranteed but we do try harder.

4. Session organizers should send to the Program Chair your addresses and telephone numbers (work and home) and a schedule of when and where you will be if you plan to move around during the year.

5. More Guidelines, entitled "Musts for Session Organizers and Prospective Volume Editors" are available from the Program Chair. All session organizers and prospective volume editors should have one. If you do not, write to the program chair. [These guidelines are reprinted below - ed.]

6. All session organizers are expected to deliver to the closing Plenary Session (usually held on Sunday morning) a report on the results of their session and future plans. If the organizer(s) cannot be present at the Plenary Session please appoint one of your participants to deliver the report for you. A written copy of the report must also be sent to the Newsletter editor before the deadline for the Spring issue (April 15) for inclusion in the Newsletter.

7. All correspondence to the Program Chair should be sent to:

Dorothy Counts
ASAO Program Chair
2 Flamboro Court
Dundas, Ontario Canada L9H 4Z3
Telephone (416) 627-0959

VIII. MUSTS FOR SESSION ORGANIZERS AND PROSPECTIVE VOLUME EDITORS

1. As soon as your announcement and call for papers is prepared, send a special notice to:

The Program Chair
The Newsletter editor

Anyone you would like to invite or who you think might be interested in participating.

2. Write to your participants often, reminding them of deadlines that you (and they) must meet.

3. Working Sessions and Symposia Organizers: It is your responsibility to:

- A. get copies of papers or abstracts/synopses and
- B. be sure they are circulated, either by your participants or by doing it yourself. A call may be worth 1000 letters.

4. Know how many people are actually going to show up! You must produce seven on-the-spot participants to be more than an Informal Session. Send all participants copies of hotel information and registration forms.

5. If you are considering having a discussant for a Symposium/volume, you should invite that person to participate in the early stages of your session (e.g. at the Working Session) so that (s)he becomes familiar with the participants, papers, and issues from the start.

6. If you have Honored Participants or guests from Third World countries and you wish to waive the registration fee for them, you must contact the Association Chair in advance.

7. Be ready to report to the Closing Plenary Session on the results of your session and on your plans for the future. A written copy of your report should also be sent to the Newsletter Editor for inclusion in the Spring Newsletter.

8. If you are considering transforming your Symposium into a volume, you should speak to the Series Editor at the meetings and invite her to sit in on your session. She can then advise you on what further action to take.

9. Make sure that each of your participants has a copy of the Guidelines for Session Organizers and Participants and, if you plan to publish, the 1984 ASAO Style Guide, available from the Series Editor.

10. If you have questions or problems do not hesitate to call the Program Chair. Use the home number during the summer and during December.
Dorothy Counts, 2 Flamboro Court, Dundas, Ontario, Canada L9H 4Z3
Telephone (416) 627-0959

WARNING

We have a large number of proposed symposia and working sessions for the 1988 meetings. In order to give sessions adequate time it may be necessary to limit the number of sessions on a first-come, first-served basis. Session organizers who miss the deadlines will be especially vulnerable to being placed on a reversion list. If you are serious about organizing a session, it is imperative that you notify the program coordinator of your intention and (in the case of symposia and working sessions), include a list of committed participants as soon as you can.

IX PRELIMINARY INFORMATION ON THE 1988 MEETINGS

a. From the Program Chair

1) The theme for the Friday night party will be BODY DECORATION (including jewelry and body painting) IN A SOUTH PACIFIC STYLE. We already have two valuable and desirable prizes for the winners (I hate to say the most beautiful) and are negotiating for a jar of blow-fly ointment from the third. All members are urged to spare no trouble or expense in preparing for the contest. Other appropriate prizes are also solicited.

2) While we are soliciting, if you have slides on a theme (the theme of body decoration would seem to be especially appropriate) and would like to show them at the meetings, please contact the Program Coordinator. We would like to work in as many as possible on Friday evening (maybe during the party) and Saturday following the Closing Plenary.

3) Many of us think that a slide bank would be a good idea. Bill Rodman has volunteered to look after it and to circulate a list of what is available together with cost of duplication to facilitate ordering sets. If those of you who have sets of slides on a theme (any theme) will either bring duplicates to the next meeting or send them to Bill (Anthropology, McMaster University, Hamilton, Ontario, Canada, L8S 4L9) with as much provenience detail as you can, we could keep them in a bank from which Association members could order.

4) More solicitation: If you have photographs of yourself (or other ASAO members) in the field, please send them to the Program Coordinator or bring them to the next meeting together with provenience information. If we get a collection, we will start an archive devoted exclusively to ASAO members in the field.

b. From the Meetings Coordinator

1. The Mulberry Inn is a small, full service hotel located on the eastern edge of Savannah's historic district. It has 125 rooms, including 25 two-room suites. Rates are: Single \$60.00 - Double \$70.00 - Suite \$75.00.

2. Special attractions: a "quiet little bar," heated pool, roof deck with hot tub, and a three mile view of the river.

3. Savannah is described as a "more informal version of Charleston," a walker's paradise with dozens of small cafes and restaurants within easy reach.

4. Savannah's airport is served by five major airlines and the hotel will provide free ground transport to and from the airport.

X. ACADEMIC COOPERATION

a. CALL FOR MANUSCRIPTS: The editors of a volume on problems encountered in Oceania Fieldwork, which will be dedicated to Ed Cook, are seeking additional manuscripts for publication consideration.

The collection of essays will not be those written in traditional academic style. We are looking for literary contributions which more explicitly focus upon a particular fieldwork problem resulting from the often dissonant interaction between the ethnographer and member(s) of the research population. Essentially, we are hoping that you will share, with a more general audience, your favorite story about you and "your people."

Two suggested models for style and content are Bohannan's "Shakespeare in the Bush" and Lee's "Eating Christmas in the Kalahari." Each projects elements which we are searching for: a human relationship between the anthropologist and the host population, and a situation of cultural conflict and resolution whereby, in the end, the ethnographer became the student. Further, in each we learn important lessons about ourselves and others, about their cultural belief systems and, by contrast, about our own belief systems.

The deadline for manuscripts is the end of September 1987. For further information write to Phil DeVita, Anthropology, SUNY Plattsburgh, Plattsburgh, NY 12901.

b. Judith C. Ritter, Head Librarian, American Samoa Community College (P.O. Box 2609, Pago Pago, American Samoa 96799) is seeking help in building a usable and broad collection at the college. Currently she is attempting to assemble an extensive file of curriculum vitae (curricula vitarum?) to help as a collection tool and to act as a contact mechanism between scholars. She would appreciate any help which we can give in terms of vitae, offprints, bibliographies, etc. As she points out she is working toward making ASCC an "institution 'of the Pacific' as well as one in the Pacific."

c. George W. Lindley (1019 Charleston West, Indianapolis, IN 46129) has written to Jim Boutilier inquiring as to where he might purchase slides of Tahiti. Can anyone help?

XI. NOTES AND NEWS

a. Pacific Encounters: Island Memories of World War II - is an ethnographic photograph exhibition focusing on cultures in contact during World War II in the Pacific. The photographs, dated between 1942 and 1945 are from American, Japanese, Australian, Fijian, and New Zealander sources. The text, based on an East-West Center project is authored by Geoff White and Monty Lindstrom. Beginning in June 1987, the exhibit will travel through the Pacific, being presented first in Honiara and then in Port Moresby.

b. The interdisciplinary journal Food and Foodways will publish a special issue entitled Continuity and Change in Pacific Foodways in May 1988. The papers included in the volume are from the 1985 ASAO Working Session on Changing Food Choices in the Pacific. The Collection is edited by Mimi Kahn and Lorraine Sexton.

c. The Sixteenth Pacific Science Congress will meet in Seoul, Korea, August 20-30, 1987. Section K (Social Sciences and Humanities) will feature 9 sessions focusing on:

1. Continuity and Change of Traditional Cultures in the Pacific Area
2. Relevance of Social Sciences in the Pacific Societies
3. Prehistory, History and Languages in the Pacific Region
4. Religions in the Pacific
5. Women's Status and Sex Roles in the Pacific Societies
6. Minority Problems in the Pacific Region
7. Legal Problems of Ocean Resources Development
8. Social Sciences for Community Development
9. Traditional Arts and Music in the Pacific Region

d. John Barker (University of Washington, Burke Museum) has recently accepted a position at the University of British Columbia. John has recently returned from PNG where he spent the Fall studying tapa cloth with grants from the National Geographic Society and the Social Sciences and Humanities Council of Canada. He is currently preparing a monograph on his tapa cloth research.

e. The Situation of Children report has recently been published by IASER. The work authored by Patricia Townsend is a result of research conducted under the auspices of UNICEF while Pat was at IASER. At the launching of the report, Dr. Ephram Makis, Director, IASER, stated that he expected the work to "influence the organization of UNICEF's five-year program for Papua New Guinea."

Copies may be ordered from IASER, P.O. Box 5854, Boroko, N.C.D., PNG

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Ballot for Board Elections

The following members have been nominated to serve terms on the Board of the Association to replace Drs. Mac Marshall and Lorraine Sexton whose terms have expired. Please vote for two. All ballots are to be returned to Terry Hays for tabulation by Price, Waterhouse, accountants.

John Barker

Jim Boutilier

Jim Flanagan

Nancy Lutkehaus

Fitz-John Poole

Return to Dr. Terence Hays, Dept. of Anthropology and Geography, Rhode Island College, Providence, Rhode Island 02908 by June 1st 1987. While the ballot will remain anonymous, please ensure that your name and return address appear on the envelope.

Cut here: Return the top portion with your marked ballot and pin the bottom

 portion to your office noticeboard.

ASAO DEADLINES FOR 1987-88

- April 15, 1987 Deadline for receipt by Newsletter Editor and Program Chair of Symposia Announcements.
 Deadline for all items to be included in the Spring Newsletter.
- July 15, 1987 Deadline for receipt by Newsletter Editor and Program Chair of Working Session announcements.
 Deadline for all items to be included in the Summer Newsletter.
- October 15, 1987 Deadline for receipt by Newsletter Editor and Program Chair of Informal Session announcements.
 Deadline for all items for inclusion in the Winter Newsletter.
- December 1, 1987 Deadline for receipt by Program Chair of all lists of session participants, paper titles, abstracts, discussants, etc.
- January 15, 1988 Deadline for receipt by Newsletter Editor of all items for inclusion in the Winter Newsletter.
- February 17-22, 1988 ASAO Annual Meetings, Mulberry Inn, Savannah, Georgia.

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