

Society for Humanistic Anthropology
Section Report to the American Anthropological Association
January 1, 2006

This report describes activities of the Society for Humanistic Anthropology from November, 2004 to November, 2006.

Accomplishments during the period covered.

The Officers for the Year of the Report:

President: Jeanne Simonelli (2004-2006), simonejm@wfu.edu
Vice-President and President-Elect: Michael Harkin (2004-2006)
Immediate Past President: Alma Gottlieb (2002-2004), ajgottli@uiuc.edu
Treasurer: Frederic W. Gleach, fwg2@twcny.rr.com
Secretary: Vilma Santiago-Irizarry (2003-2006), vs23@cornell.edu
Co-Editors for SHA column in *AN*: Frederic W. Gleach, fwg2@twcny.rr.com and Vilma Santiago-Irizarry, vs23@cornell.edu
Editor of *Anthropology and Humanism*: Edith Turner (2003-2006), elt9w@virginia.edu
Board Members: Roy Richard Grinker (2003-2005), rgrink@gwu.edu,
Michelle Johnson (2003-2006), mjohnson@bucknell.edu
Duncan Earle (2003-2006), dearle@utep.edu
Robbie Davis-Floyd (2003-2006), davis-floyd@mail.utexas.edu
Patty Kelly (2005-2007)
Jonathan Skinner (2005-2007)

Graduate Student Board Members:

Alison Gottlieb (2005-2007),
Michael Rolland (2005-2007),

Special Committees and Functions in 2004:

Poetry Competition: Melissa Cahnmann and Kent Maynard
Fiction Competition: Ernestine McHugh, Chair; Adrie Kusserow; and Samrat Upadhyay
Turner Prize Committee: Lawrence Cohen(chair)
Student Paper Competition: Michelle Johnson (chair), mjohnson@bucknell.edu, David Koester, ffdck@uaf.edu, Daphne Berdahl, berda004@umn.edu
AAA Program Committee: Michael Harkin (chair),
Vilma Santiago-Irizarry,
Webmaster: Daniel W. Ingersoll, Jr., dwingersoll@smcm.edu

Publications:

The section column "Society for Humanistic Anthropology" in the *Anthropology Newsletter* is co-edited by Frederic W. Gleach and Vilma Santiago-Irizarry. The editors have consistently contributed compelling and timely pieces to the column while publishing helpful information for our membership and readership.

At *Anthropology and Humanism* editor Edie Turner was thankful that volume 30, number 2 was out *before* the AAA meetings at Washington, November–December 2005, as was requested by the special editor.

That issue, for December 30(2) 2005, was a special issue edited by Helaine Silverman as a festshrift for Edward Bruner.

1. Total number of pages printed. 241
2. Total number of issues printed. 2
3. Publication timelines:
June 2005 issue, on time
December 2005 issue, 3 weeks ahead of time.
4. Total number of manuscripts received.

June issue articles received	10
June fiction, poems, and reviews received	17
December issue received	22
December fiction, poems, and reviews received	7
Total	56
5. Total number of manuscripts accepted.

June issue articles accepted	4
June fiction, poems, and reviews accepted	17
December issue articles accepted	11
December fiction, poems, and reviews accepted	7
Total	39
6. Total number of manuscripts requested for revision and resubmission. 6
7. Average time from submission to acceptance. 6 months
8. Plans for 2006 (including those that may affect both projected expenditures or revenues):

Articles

Tenibac Harvey, Humbling, Frightening, and Exalting: An Experiential Acquaintance with Maya Healing.

Joanna Overing, The Backlash to De-colonizing Intellectuality.

Fran Markowitz, Blood, Race, Soul, and Suffering: Full-bodied Ethnography and Expression of Jewish Belonging.

Beth Buggenhagen, Theoretical Migrations and the French Ethnographic Imagination: Genevieve Calame-Griaule and Linguistic Anthropology.

Andrea Drusini, The Hiding Places of Health: the Elderly in the Age of Technique.

Mieka Brand, "A White Man's Map of a "Black" Virginian Village."

Chris Colvin, " How my Relationship with South African Victims of Racism Changed after the Death of my own Child."

Possible Dec 06 special issue, Belinda Straight, editor. Becoming Dead: The Entangled Agencies Of The Dearly Departed.

9. Anticipated changes in editorial staffing (new editor, assistants).

Dell Hymes retired as poetry editor. We welcome Kent Maynard and Melisa Cahnmann, who will replace him as joint poetry editors.

Awards at the 2003 AAA Annual Meeting:

Each year, three categories of awards are made. The Victor Turner Prize winner (\$500) and one or two honorable mentions are for innovative books that best embody humanistic anthropology. The winner(s), and honorable mention, are invited to read selections from their work at a special session at the Annual Meeting of the American Anthropological Association ("Award- Winning Work in Humanistic Anthropology: Readings from this Year's Prize Winners from the Victor Turner, Fiction, Poetry and Student Paper Prize Competitions").

The Victor Turner winners in 2005 were:

Bill Maurer, UC Irvine, for Mutual life, limited: Islamic banking, alternative currencies, lateral reason.

The honorable mentions:

Joao Biehl, Princeton, for Vita: life in a zone of social abandonment

Michael Jackson, University of Copenhagen, for In Sierra Leone.
The chair was Lawrence Cohen.

Ethnographic Fiction Competition for 2005

The committee consisted of two anthropologists and one fiction writer: Ernestine McHugh, Chair; Adrie Kusserow; and Samrat Upadhyay (fiction writer).

The committee received five submissions, and chose one winner and one honorable mention. The winning story is called "Han Transcurrido los Años" and is by Marisabel Almer, a doctoral candidate at the University of Michigan. The Honorable Mention is called "La Presidente" and is by Tamar Diana Wilson, a Research Affiliate in the Department of Anthropology at the University of Missouri, St. Louis.

Winners of the annual Poetry Competition:

First Place: Kristina Lyons for "Upon Traveling to Nosara."
(\$100 prize winner)

Second Place: Lorraine Healy for "The General's Hands"

Third Place: Renato Rosaldo for "Among Tribesmen"

Student Prize

We are very pleased with our two winners this year:

Undergraduate Category: Christopher Hagan, "Practice Makes Perfect: Doing Ethnography in Two St. Louis Buddhist Communities" 931 University Dr. Edwardsville, IL 62025-3959 Phone: (618) 407-8465

Graduate Category: Marcy Brink-Danan, "The Semiotics of Secrecy: Silence, Intimacy, and Irony in Istanbul" 196 Pleasant St. Newton Centre, MA 02459 (917) 583-6130

Meeting Program at the AAA Annual Meeting 2004-2005:

The SHA held a virtual Board Meeting on January 30, 2005 via conference call. All other activities were cancelled.

The SHA held a Board Meeting on December 1 at 7:30 am. The Business Meeting convened on Friday, Dec. 2, from 6:15- 7:30 p.m.

At this year's AAA meeting the following invited sessions were sponsored by the Society for Humanistic Anthropology:

Invited sessions:

Tangible Returns: Bringing the Past into the Present Through the Dead and Their Things
12/1/2005 4:00 PM 5:45 PM

Interpreting Our World: The Humanistic Experience Past, Present and Future
12/2/2005 8:00 AM 9:45 AM

Invited poster session:

Seeing Struggle: Ethnography and Analysis in Difficult Times
12/3/2005 8:00 AM 9:45 AM

Sponsored session:

Performance, Tourism and Ethnographic Practice: An Exploration of the Work of Edward M. Bruner
12/2/2005 8:00 AM 11:45 AM

Workshops at the AAA Annual Meeting 2005:

There were ten workshops scheduled this year. Pre-registration ranged from 6 to 25 per workshop.

1. HOW TO SUBMIT A BOOK PROSPECTUS TO AN ACADEMIC PUBLISHER

Presenter: Stan Holwitz (U of California Press)

2. ETHNOGRAPHIC WRITING

Presenter: Ruth Behar (U of Michigan)

3. HOW TO SUBMIT YOUR FIRST ARTICLE TO AN ANTHROPOLOGY JOURNAL

Presenter: Fran Mascia-Lees (American Anthropologist, editor)

4. HOW TO TURN YOUR DISSERTATION INTO A BOOK I

Presenter: Gary H. Dunham (U of Nebraska Press)

5. WRITING ANTHROPOLOGY FOR THE GENERAL PUBLIC

Presenter: Deborah Tannen (George Washington U)

6. HOW TO TURN YOUR DISSERTATION INTO A BOOK II

Presenter: Gary H. Dunham (U of Nebraska Press)

7. POETIC WRITING FOR ANTHROPOLOGISTS

Presenter: Renato Rosaldo (New York U)

8. HOW TO SUBMIT AN ARTICLE TO AN ANTHROPOLOGY JOURNAL

(co-sponsored by American Ethnological Society)

Presenter: Virginia Dominguez (American Ethnologist, editor)

9. SPEAKING TO THE GENERAL PUBLIC

Presenter: Robbie Davis-Floyd (Case Western Reserve U)

10. HOW TO PREPARE, PROMOTE, AND PLACE YOUR ANTHROPOLOGICAL NOVEL AND POETRY

Presenter: Rosalie Robertson (AltaMira Press)

2005 SHA Treasurer's Report

Although we remain solvent, there are concerns. Revenues from AnthroSource subscriptions may not be meeting expectations -- although it is hard to tell given how the figures are reported. And memberships are markedly down, although I believe a good part of that to be due to a one-time event.

Memberships as of September were at the lowest point I have observed. We were already one of the smallest sections publishing a journal. We need to add members.

	<u>Regular</u>	<u>Student</u>	<u>Associate</u>	<u>Life</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>	<u>Subscribers</u>
Sept. 1998	203	52	7	0	262	195
Sept. 1999	216	55	6	1	278	185
Sept. 2000	233	58	5	1	297	175
Sept. 2001	223	61	4	1	289	185
Sept. 2002	217	65	3	1	286	188
Sept. 2003	247	65	3	2	316	166
Sept. 2004	225	56	6	1	288	--
Sept. 2005	171	58	3	1	233	--

Lapsed members stat no longer reported

The Turner Prize account is more than solvent, it's in fine shape. This is protected money that can be used for no other purpose, however. We have funded the new and increased awards from general operating expenses, and so far they have been covered by generous contributions, particularly from Jeanne and Vilma and me.

AnthroSource

AnthroSource is a AAA project to develop an internet portal providing centralized access to anthropological materials. Ultimately this will include unpublished and "grey literature," as well as publications of other organizations, but for now it provides access to selected AAA publications (including *A&H*). This development was supported by a grant, but is now shifting to being self-supporting. Revenues and expenses from AnthroSource will be shared by all publishing sections, and probably to a lesser extent by non-publishing sections. Exact formulas are still being determined, and will be adjusted as data accumulates in the next few years.

At the same time, AAA has contracted a new publishing partner. Effective at the beginning of 2004 (for most journals, including *A&H*), the University of California Press is handling all AAA publications. So far there have been some glitches, but in terms of finances the process seems to working pretty much as expected. This should result in lower publication expenses.

The above (2 paragraphs) is verbatim from 2004. Currently there is debate among some sections as to whether AnthroSource is working (financially). There seem to have been delays in implementation, particularly from the UCP end. My reading of our figures suggests that we're OK, but I hope to gather further data onsite this week to verify this.

Bottom line

We need members. We need (unrestricted) money. But we're not in bad shape.

Future plans or activities (3-5) year time frame and other concerns:

- We are continuing to explore relationships with possible funding bodies for the Turner Prize.

- We are looking into the possibility of adding a Spring meeting in conjunction with another anthropological association.
- We are thinking about whether we want to remain associated with AAA or find other means of soliciting extra-AAA members (subscribing members), since membership in AAA is too expensive for many anthropologists at this time. Our membership numbers declined seriously following the San Francisco fiasco, and many will not rejoin SHA as AAA members.
- We are not completely convinced about AnthroSource and share the concerns of other small sections.

Officer and Board Goals for 2006:

1. Membership drive: continue with plan to increase membership.
2. Solicit advertising revenues from book publishers advertising in *Anthropology and Humanism*.
3. Revise bylaws and bring before Executive Board in 2006 for approval.
4. Expand SHA web offerings.

Submitted by,

Jeanne Simonelli

President, Society for Humanistic Anthropology (2004-2006)