

2006 Annual Report
Council on Anthropology and Education

Kathryn Anderson-Levitt¹
Out-going CAE President
January 28, 2007

1. Status, Activities and Accomplishments

- Membership Numbers

The total membership as of September 2006 was 697, significantly down from a peak of 1000 in 1991. Membership trends over the last two years suggest that there seemed to be a real decline of about 25 individuals in our student memberships, now 213, while our regular memberships (more important for revenue, but not more important for long-term section health) were holding their own.

- Financial Balances

Our financial picture is not as dire as that of many sections, but we are not in the position we might hope for. Out-going Treasurer Ted Hamann expects, as planned, a deficit for 2006 of about \$1000. Our balance, going into 2007, will therefore be about \$17,503 (our beginning of 2006 balance) minus \$1,000 (our anticipated deficit). We plan just a \$100 deficit in 2007, with the idea that *AnthroSource* will finally start paying off. It is important to encourage our students to use use JStor and AnthroSource to increase our revenue.

There was a \$10,000+ near mistake in our 2007 budget from AAA, which caused alarm and shook our confidence in the figures from the association.

Thanks to the efforts of Doug Foley's editorial team at U Texas-Austin, we still get much more than we pay for with *AEQ*. Nonetheless, our subsidy of *AEQ* remains our biggest expense. CAE's financial constraints keep *AEQ* from being as big as it could be; an acceptance rate of less than 20% suggests that that viable articles are being turned away.

- AAA Meeting Highlights

CAE received a large number of excellent proposals this year, including 28 individual paper/poster proposals and 35 session proposals. We were able to create four additional sessions using individual paper submissions. This year our AAA

¹ With thanks for information provided by 2006 Program Chair and in-coming President Perry Gilmore, out-going Treasurer Ted Hamann, in-coming Secretary Patricia Calderwood, 3rd Year Member-at-Large Yolanda Majors, and 2nd Year Member-at-Large Yuri Wellington.

acceptance rate was exceptionally high with 100% for the paper/posters and 99% for the sessions.

As we did last year, we invited the general membership to volunteer as reviewers and had an excellent response. Twenty-seven CAE members and twenty-two CAE Board members generously volunteered their time as proposal reviewers. Reviewers rated paper, poster and session proposal abstracts A to D on the quality of the research, clarity of writing, significance of the study, contribution to anthropology and education, and contribution to positive social/educational change. Program Chair Perry Gilmore worked graduate assistants and CAE members, Satoko Seigel and Shri Ramikrishnan, to organize and summarize the reviews. The highest ranking session proposals were designated as “invited.” The CAE program-within-a-program is attached.

AAA worked with the Program Chair to schedule a special plenary event, in addition to the business meeting, which did not compete with any other CAE sessions. This event was well attended and crucial to advancing discussion of our new mission.

CAE also experimented with scheduling the meetings of all 13 standing committees meetings simultaneously in a single large room, in order to reduce schedule conflicts and to facilitate coordinate of joint symposium planning across committees.

Concerns

The web submission process this year created many errors. AAA needs to make the web process more sophisticated and user friendly. We likewise discovered numerous errors on the program schedule and had to rely heavily on AAA meeting coordinators, Lucille Horn and Khara Minter to resolve the problems

- Prizes

The 2006 George and Louise **Spindler Award** was given to Hugh Mehan (California at San Diego). Finalists were Herve Varenne, Doug Foley, and Michèle Foster. The committee proposing candidates to the Board consisted of Kevin Foster (Chair), Kim Powell, and Roland Alum.

The CAE **Outstanding Dissertation Awards** was again shared by two scholars this year:

Shabana Mir, “Constructing Third Spaces: American Muslim Undergraduate Women's Hybrid Identity Construction,” and

Barbara Dupré, “Creative Drama, Playwriting, Tolerance, and Social Justice: An Ethnographic Study of Students in a Seventh Grade Language Arts Class.”

Honorable mention was made of Nancy Kendall, “Global Policy in Practice: The ‘Successful Failure’ of Free Primary Education in Malawi.

The selection committee was chaired by Denise Blum (CSU Fresno), and also included Nancy Garcia-Tafoya, and Andrea Clemons (USC).

CAE New Scholar Travel Stipends of \$225 each went to:

Denise J. Ah Sue, Hawai’i at Manoa
Anita Chikkatur, Pennsylvania
Janice B. Fournillier, Georgia State
Carmen Guzman-Martinez, Texas
San Antonio

Margarita R. Olivas, Wisconsin La
Crosse
Ravneet Kaur Tiwana, UCLA
Srilakshmi Ramakrishnan, Arizona

The Nominations Committee, chaired by 3rd Year Member-at-Large Yolanda Majors and including Herbierto Godina, Texas El Paso, nominated Kris Gutierrez to run in the 2007 election for new Member-at-Large.

- List Serve and Web Page

CAE’s list serve migrated to a new server this year. Jan Nespov had graciously hosted the old list serve at Virginia Tech for many years. When he prepared to step down, no volunteer editors were forthcoming—in part, we assume, because an editor must also volunteer a university server. The President therefore investigated the possibility of housing our list serve on the H-Net site, where SAE houses its list and reports satisfaction. The Board agreed in January and three editors, led by Dorothy Aguilera, volunteered to serve. H-Net requires multiple editors who serve fixed two-year terms.

The Board decided to ask the editors to enroll all CAE members instead of requiring members to enroll themselves, as in the past. This move nearly tripled the reach of the list serve, from about 200 to over 600 when the list went live in May 2006, and now permits us to communicate with virtually all members more rapidly. H-CAE can be found at <http://www.h-net.org/~cae/>.

There are some problems with the new system, which are currently under discussion by the Board. It charges no fee, but it does not allow free job postings. It did not permit CAE to restrict the list to CAE members. Editors must work through a bureaucracy, and the server is frequently down for maintenance. On the other hand, it offers stability and makes it possible for members without access to servers to serve as editors. It also archives the discussions for the first time.

Long-time CAE web editor Leslie Edwards up-dated many pages of the CAE website on the AAA server at <http://aaanet.org/cae/>. However, it is on CAE's 2007 agenda to further up-date the stie.

- **Outreach Efforts and Revising the Mission Statement**

CAE has been making efforts for several years to address inadvertent racism within the organization and to make its structure more transparent and welcoming to scholars of color and to everyone. Following discussion and planning during the 2004 CAE "Canterbury Convocation" in San Francisco and at the 2005 annual meeting, the newly constituted Mission Committee worked during 2006 to draft a new mission statement in the form of a set of opening paragraphs to the by-laws. The statement reaffirms and expands CAE's original commitment to racial and social justice.

A rich discussion among 15 Board members and others at an informal CAE gathering on April 8 at the annual meeting of AERA in San Francisco provided one opportunity for guiding this effort. The draft of a new mission statement was later shared on the list serve and brought to 2006 meetings. It was discussed at a Plenary Session attended by about 60 members and led by in-coming President Perry Gilmore and by co-chairs of the Mission Committee, Mariela Nuñez-Janes and Neriko Musha Doerr. (President Kathryn Anderson-Levitt was unable to attend the meeting due to a bout of pneumonia.) Sentiments were very positive, and the Board directed the Mission Committee to draft a final version. In late January 2007, the Board voted to place the new statement on the 2007 ballot as a by-laws amendment.

The Board also took a first step toward re-structuring CAE to make participation and leadership more inviting by proposing to limit the term of President to one year (after one year as President-Elect). The Board voted this month to put this issue on the 2007 ballot as well.

2. Future Plans in next 3-5 Years

Plans for the next 3-5 years include additional steps to welcome a broader and more diverse membership and new efforts to participate more actively in educational policy debates.

In response to member frustrations at trying to respond to yet another set of articles in the New York Times Sunday Magazine blaming school failure primarily on families, President Perry Gilmore has announced a CAE Task Force 2007. It is charged with the responsibility of initiating and/or recommending a range of activities that contest and resist the persistent and pernicious deficit explanations of school failure and tragic life circumstances of disenfranchised peoples in our own and other societies, and the reductive notions of culture that underlie these views. The activities and recommendations of the Task Force may include such things as sessions for the CAE 2007 program, scholarly and popular articles (e.g., Op-ed pieces, newspaper columns,

position papers, an AEQ Special Issue and/or articles), films (CD's), blogs/websites/resource lists, and a CAE resolution.

Other unfinished projects on the agenda are:

- Revamping the CAE web page.
- Revising the list of duties of officers to improve mentoring.
- Developing a more specific change, a structure, a plan for staggered terms, and a method for recruitment to the Mission Committee.
- Possibly re-organizing the structure of the organization by merging or redefining the standing committees to reduce overlap and make the Board less unwieldy.

3. Chief Concerns and Issues

The issues that CAE would like to keep before AAA's attention, as discussed earlier in this report are:

- The concern that Anthrosource as structured will bankrupt the sections.
- The need for AAA as a whole to address racial and social justice, including inside the organization.
- A need to coordinate our policy efforts, in the form of our Task Force 2007, with AAA's policy efforts—and to make sure that educational policy is on the radar of AAA's policy committee.
- The need to make the web submission to the AAA program more user friendly and error free.

Attachments

CAE 2006 Sessions (pdf file)

Current draft of proposed CAE Mission statement

Section Officers during 2006

Outgoing President

Kathryn (Katie) Anderson-Levitt
katieal@umd.umich.edu

Vice-President/President Elect, 2006
Program Chair; In-coming
President

Perry Gilmore
pgilmore@u.arizona.edu

In-coming Vice-President/President
Elect, 2007 Program Chair

Norma Gonzalez
ngonzale@email.arizona.edu

Out-going Secretary

Janet Hecsh
jhecsh@csus.edu

In-coming Secretary

Patricia Calderwood
pcalderwood@mail.fairfield.edu

Out-going Treasurer

Edmund (Ted) Hamann
ehamann2@unl.edu

In-coming Treasurer

Greg Tanaka
gtanaka@pacificoaks.edu

1st Year Member-at-Large

Yolanda Majors
ymajors@uic.edu

2nd Year Member-at-Large

Yuriko Wellington
ywelling@hawaii.edu

1st Year Member-at-Large

Lesley Bartlett
LB2035@columbia.edu

Incoming 1st Year Member-at-Large

Tricia Niesz
tniesz@kent.edu

CAE Editor, *Anthropology News*

Marta P. Baltodano
mbaltoda@lmu.edu

Editors, *Anthropology and Education
Quarterly*

Doug Foley
dfoley@mail.utexas.edu

Tifani M Jones, Book Review Editor
tmjones@mail.utexas.edu

Linda Prieto, Managing Editor
lprieto@mail.utexas.edu

Kevin Michael Foster
kmfoster@mail.utexas.edu

Sofia A. Villenas
sav33@cornell.edu

Joel Dworin
jdworin@mail.utexas.edu

Lourdes Diaz Soto
Lcs1@mail.utexas.edu

Luis Urrieta, Jr.
urrieta@mail.utexas.edu

Out-going Editor of old CAE list serve

Jan Nespor
nespor@vt.edu

Editors of H-CAE list serve

Dorothy Aguilera, aguilera@lclark.edu
with Judith Preissle, jude@uga.edu
and Barbara Schroder, barbs@bway.net