

# ANNUAL REPORT FROM CSAS TO AAA

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## I. STATUS, ACTIVITIES AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS

### 1. Membership Numbers for 2006:

Nov 2005: 218

Nov 2006: 203, the most recent figures provided by AAA.

**Membership** has been slowly decreasing over last several years. While student membership has remained relatively stable at approximately 50, faculty membership has declined. It appears that faculty join when registering for the annual CSAS meeting, but tend to drop membership within two years. In addition, we are not successfully recruiting long-term younger faculty to replace the aging member population as they either retire and withdraw from academic pursuits or pass away.

**Affecting factors:** Our membership dues are low, but many people, especially students, part-time faculty, community college faculty, retirees, and junior faculty, are prevented from participating because they cannot afford AAA dues.

### 2. Financial Balances:

**Section budget:** Our general fund remains stable, hovering around \$9,000. Our yearly budget has been stable for the last several years at around \$15,000. Most of the revenue/expenses each year are for our annual meeting, which is typically budgeted at approximately \$12,000 each year. We have been very successful at staying close to that budget.

**Publication budget:** The AnthroSource budget is mandated by AAA; CSAS has no control or voice in revenue or expenses. In 2006, AnthroSource charged CSAS just over \$8,100. Of the \$8,100 fee, the two issues of the CSAS Bulletin actually cost less than \$1,000. Thus the electronic version of the 48 pages we publish each year amounted to over \$7,000. That is untenable, and CSAS will have to evaluate our relationship with AnthroSource and AAA.

### 3. AAA Meeting Highlights:

Rick Feinberg and Nancy McDowell presented a session Friday on “**Academic Governance: An Anthropological Perspective,**” which included papers by Larry Breitborde, David Perusek, Nancy McDowell, and Nawal Nmmar, and a discussion by Paul Durrenberger. Our Board meeting Friday at 12:15, at which we discussed some critical issues of our own governance and our relationship with AAA. Paul Durrenberger presented a session in conjunction with ALLA titled “**Organized Labor and Labor**

**Organizations in a Global System,”** with presenters Helen Safa, Gerrie Casey, Christian Zolniski, Carol MacLennan, Sharryn Kasmir, Pete Richardson, Jong Bum Kwon, Judith Marti, Suzan Erem, and Paul Durrenberger, with discussion by Paule Takash and June Nash. On Saturday, Phyllis Passariello and Jim Dow presented papers in Allon Uhlmann’s panel, **“Fundamentals of Anthropology and Religious Fundamentalism: Teaching Anthropology in America.”**

#### **4. Spring Meeting Activities:**

The 83<sup>rd</sup> Annual Meeting of the Central States Anthropological Society was held in Omaha, Nebraska, April 6-10, 2006, at Creighton University. The Distinguished Speaker for the meeting will be Paul Durrenberger (Pennsylvania State). MaryCarol Hopkins (Northern Kentucky University) was Program Chair and Barbara Dilley (Creighton U.) the Local Arrangements Chair.

#### **5. Internal Communications:**

We have a website and two listservs, one for general membership and one for the steering committee, which includes the officers and the other Board members.

#### **6. Outreach Efforts:**

We co-sponsored an invited session for AAA on organized labor with ALLA. We open our annual spring meeting to members of the campus where the meeting is held. We strongly encourage faculty to bring students and we are warmly accepting of student papers. We conduct two student paper contests, one for undergraduates and one for graduates. We offer two grants for students, the Leslie White Award and the Beth Dillingham Award. Outreach is hindered primarily because of the co-requirement of AAA membership, which is prohibitive for many for whom CSAS would otherwise appeal (see #1 above).

#### **7. Changes in Bylaws or Governance Structure:** under discussion.

## **II. FUTURE PLANS OR ACTIVITIES**

**1. Projects:** reorganization of our governance structure

**2. Collaboration:** none

**3. Membership:** The increasing cost of publication may make publishing our Bulletin prohibitive, and the cost of AnthroSource may make any further publication impossible.

**4. Inclusiveness:** We do very well in attracting students to our spring conference. However, they cannot become members because of the dual-membership requirement, which they

cannot afford. We do not have any specific policies regarding inclusiveness nor do we have specific programs designed to attract minorities.

### **III. OTHER ITEMS**

1. CSAS is very likely not going to be able to afford AnthroSource. We may have to abandon our one publication, the *CSAS Bulletin*, if the current cost for that continues.
2. CSAS is a small, friendly organization that attracts students, practitioners, teachers, and scholars who cannot afford to attend the large annual AAA meetings because of distance or cost, or because their school won't support them if they are not presenting a paper. However, although we reach out to these people and welcome their participation, we cannot accept them as members because of the dual-membership requirement imposed by AAA. Thus we lose an audience of people who are interested in anthropology and may be potential anthropologists. We recommend to the AAA that it allow CSAS to open our membership to all those whom we would like to serve and could serve well.