



# Bulletin

**Society for the Anthropology of Europe**

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## 10TH ANNIVERSARY ISSUE

### SAE GROUND ZERO

**Susan Carol Rogers**  
New York University

I recently unearthed a copy of the initial call for members for a new Society for the Anthropology of Europe, Dated March 15, 1986 (reproduced below). Now that the SAE has become a well-established organization and many of the activities suggested in that letter fully routinized, it takes a leap of imagination to remember just how novel and ambitious this initiative seemed a mere dozen years ago. It is also hard to call

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### OTHER ITEMS OF INTEREST

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### A DECADE OF SAE SESSIONS AT THE SAE

**Deborah Reed-Danahay**  
U Texas-Arlington

As Program Chair for the 1997 meetings, I thought that it was time to organize some of the history of the program for future chairs. I began to collect the lists of all roundtables we had sponsored and of the Distinguished Lectures. As I did this, I realized that 1997 marked the 10th anniversary of SAE-

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### COUNTING HISTORY

**Susan Parman**  
California State U-Fullerton

In thinking about the history of the SAE, I was struck by how important it is to have an organizational device to sustain conversations about identity and action. There have been two primary vehicles of continuity for the SAE: the *Bulletin* and

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## SOCIETY FOR THE ANTHROPOLOGY OF EUROPE

The Society for the Anthropology of Europe (SAE) was founded at the 1986 Annual Meeting of the American Anthropological Association in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. Membership is open to all members of the AAA who work in or are interested in Europe as an area concentration.

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Copies of the *Directory* may be ordered (\$20.00 for members, \$22.00 for non-members) plus postage from:

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## SAE MEMBERSHIP REPORT

SAE membership as of April 30, 1998, is 624, with 340 regular and 200 paid student members, for a total of 540. Unpaid members total 84: 50 regular and 34 student.

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## SAE GROUND ZERO

(continued from page one)

up the strong sense of isolation and marginalization among many pre-SAE Europeanist anthropologists that made the new organization spring to life with such a remarkable burst of excitement and energy. Certainly, the results were astonishing to the handful of us who had decided to try to address the poor standing and debilitating professional conditions which we felt to hang over us as Europeanists within our discipline. We worked hard to build solid foundations for a new organization but, at least as important, our instincts were evidently good and our timing right. At the first public suggestion that an SAE was being launched, we discovered that our own frustrations were widely shared; our proposed solution was enthusiastically supported, and large numbers of colleagues actively joined our effort in various ways. It is testimony to the SAE's success over the past decade that Europeanist anthropologists, less likely to be quite so lonely or needy, are undoubtedly harder to move collectively to the same pitch of excitement. For me, it is a source of considerable satisfaction that our research domain and our Society have become so much better established. But it is also a source of great pleasure to have been involved in that heady process of bringing ourselves together.

The idea for our Society began to take form in fall 1985, out of a series of casual conversations. I was in my second year on the NYU faculty, in a joint position in French Studies and Anthropology that I understood to include responsibility for helping to develop the anthropology of France and of Europe more generally. In the course of organizing various events to that end during fall 1985 (a conference at NYU and sessions at the AAA and CES meetings on the anthropology of France), I had the opportunity to meet or resume acquaintance with quite a few Europeanist anthropologists around the country -- both graduate students and faculty. A strikingly recurrent theme in those encounters was a shared sense of the professional illegitimacy of Europeanist anthropology, causing or caused

by an absence of effective networks among Europeanist anthropologists and chronic complaints of intellectual isolation.

Both Carole Counihan, whom I had known slightly in our graduate student days, and Lawrence Taylor, who had initially contacted me about the NYU conference, were especially interested in doing something about this state of affairs, and able to get together in New York. Taylor and I, aiming to begin creating a community of scholars, launched a monthly seminar series on Europeanist anthropology for New York area anthropologists beginning in spring semester 1986 (ultimately running through 1987-8). But a grander scale effort seemed in order, so he, Counihan and I called an initial planning meeting in January 1986, to which we each invited several other Europeanist colleagues in the New York area. In the end, the three of us, together with David Gilmore and James Taggart, met several times at NYU during the 1986 spring semester. Patricia Gibson (Heck), whom I had met at the 1985 AAA meetings, was than at UC-Santa Barbara, where she had made an earlier effort to organize Europeanist anthropologists on the west coast. An *in absentia* member of our group, she stayed in touch by phone and letter. So was born the ad hoc organizing committee for the SAE. Ad hoc indeed: all of us (except Pat) were teaching in the greater New York area, and we were all sociocultural anthropologists working in Western Europe. But at the outset, none of us knew more than one other member of the group very well, and we had no very clear idea about exactly what we should try to do.

We decided quite quickly that it would make most sense to organize a Europeanist "interest group" within the AAA, which at that time required recruiting at least one hundred dues-paying members. I recall quite lengthy discussions about whether or not there were that many Europeanist members of the AAA, how long it might take to find them, and how many might be interested in joining such an organization. Our call-for-members letter suggests that we ultimately decided to go for broke, and at least act as if we expected to be able to meet the requirements to officially constitute ourselves within the AAA by the 1986 meetings. As I remember, though, one of our purposes in sponsoring a series of Europeanist roundtables at those meetings was to drum up potential members, and we expected that it might take a full year or two to find the requisite number of dues-paying members.

In fact, the response to our letter was remarkable. Sent to a cobbled-together mailing list of 300, which we knew to be both incomplete and inaccurate, it yielded close to 150 positive responses within two months. A second mailing to an updated list in the fall resulted in almost 100 more memberships. In addition to checks made out to an organization that did not yet exist, I received dozens of letters thanking us for taking this initiative. It was a heady experience indeed to be involved in launching such a welcomed enterprise.

At our meetings leading up to the call-for-members, we had tackled a number of definitional issues, many of them surfacing in the context of discussions around naming ourselves. One that was easily resolved was the question of whether or not we should limit our Society to anthropologists working in Western Europe. SAWE or SAE? In 1986, Cold War divisions were salient enough for the question to be posed, but even then did not seem to provide an appropriate organizational basis for our Society. We could think of no

good reason to exclude Eastern Europeanists, and lots of reasons to include them. Institutionally, the prior existence of the East European Anthropology Group (EEAG) did suggest the possibility of a sister Western Europe group, but because the EEAG was not a unit of the AAA and was an interdisciplinary organization, it seemed that a pan-European SAE would provide a more fecund complement to the older group. William Lockwood, then the editor of the EEAG newsletter helped us by making available the EEAG mailing list and by alerting us to the sensibilities of his constituency regarding potential relationships between the two organizations.

Less self-evident was the question of whether or not our Society should be limited to ethnologists. SEE or SAE? We knew, of course, that a number of linguists and a larger number of archaeologists were doing important work in Europe, but had no idea if they would be interested in belonging to a Europeanist organization. In the end, we decided to keep options open by using "anthropology" rather than "ethnology" in our name, leaving the sub-disciplinary composition and orientation of the Society to be determined by the interests of its eventual membership.

Beyond those questions of definition, we put considerable thought into SAE's structure. In particular, it seemed to us that such organizations often run afoul of over-long and close association with one person, group, or orientation. To avoid that pit-fall, we drafted by-laws that specified short terms for the Society's officers (generally two years) and clear term limits (no more than one or two successive terms, depending on the office). We also tried to build in a committee structure -- associated with the elective offices of publications, projects and program chairs -- aimed at inviting broad participation and allowing for innovative initiatives.

Finally, we were very concerned to find ways to reach graduate students interested in Europe. We were especially aware of "orphans," those in departments having no Europeanist faculty, and hoped that our Society would provide them with resources and contacts in our geographic specialty. The idea of sponsoring roundtables at the AAA meetings, headed by prominent Europeanist anthropologists, was partly meant as a means to this end. For the 1986 meetings, we initially recruited Stanley Brandes, John Cole, Ernestine Friedl, and Jane Schneider to head round-tables, adding Katherine Verdery when we began getting indications that four would not satisfy the demand. (As it was, our five round-tables were the first to be filled at the 1986 meetings, and I received quite a few disappointed letters and phone calls from people who were turned away.)

By the time of the 1986 AAA meetings, the only remaining requirement for us to be officially constituted as a unit of the AAA was for our membership to approve by-laws and an interim roster of officers. Pending our first elections in the spring of 1987, we had divided up positions among ourselves, adding a few other colleagues from among those who had expressed particular interest in being actively involved in the organization. I was to be interim president, Denny Gilmore treasurer, Carole Counihan secretary, Jim Taggart program chair, and Pat Gibson (Heck) publications chair. Larry Taylor was on leave in Ireland for 1986-7, so did not take a position. Partly to extend ourselves beyond the New York area, we



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March 15, 1986

Dear Colleague,

Plans are underway to organize a Society for the Anthropology of Europe as an official unit of the American Anthropological Association. This requires submitting a list of dues-paying members to the AAA. We invite you to participate in this effort by returning the bottom portion of this letter and joining the group as a founding member.

The purposes of the new organization include:

- \*Strengthening national and international networks between colleagues
- \*Providing forums for discussion and debate
- \*Encouraging comparative research
- \*Enhancing the visibility and legitimacy of Europeanist anthropology, both within the discipline and among other Europeanist groups
- \*Facilitating dissemination of information about employment opportunities, grants, visiting European scholars, and other resources
- \*Promoting the professional integration of students specializing in Europe

Establishment of a Society will allow us to accomplish these goals by:

- \*Organizing invited sessions and sponsoring symposia at meetings of the AAA and other associations (e.g. Council for European Studies)
- \*Hosting distinguished European guest lecturers
- \*Providing an updated directory of Europeanist anthropologists (first issue distributed free to founding members)
- \*Serving as a conduit for special issues of journals and other publications
- \*Circulating to members a newsletter with information on current and planned research, funding sources, meetings, visiting European scholars, etc.

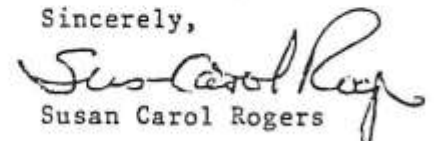
The first business meeting is scheduled for the AAA meetings next fall in Philadelphia. By-laws, officers, and a program for the year will be voted at that time, enabling the organization to move to official status. We urge you to attend as a founding member of the new Society.

A Europeanist Round-Table is also scheduled for the 1986 AAA meetings. The themes chosen are "Historiography and Anthropology" (Jane Schneider), "Sex and Gender" (Ernestine Friedl), "Class, Culture, and Political Economy" (John Cole), and "Religion, Ideology and Folklore" (Stanley Brandes). Watch for subscription information in the AAA newsletter.

We will be compiling a new directory of Europeanist anthropologists in North America (to be updated periodically), and hope to distribute a survey in the fall. This directory will be only as useful as it is complete. We would appreciate your sending us the names of any Europeanists we may have overlooked in our dependence on individuals declared as Europeanists in the Guide to Departments for this initial mailing list.

Join us in this exciting venture by returning the form below.

Sincerely,



Susan Carol Rogers

For ad hoc organizing committee:

Carole M. Counihan (Stockton State)	Patricia Gibson (UC-Santa Barbara)
David Gilmore (SUNY-Stony Brook)	Lawrence J. Taylor (Lafayette)
James M. Taggart (Franklin and Marshall)	



recruited George Saunders as projects chair, and Stanley Brandes and Bill Lockwood as members--at-large.

Over the initial days of the 1986 AAA meetings, I kept running into people who told me they were looking forward to attending SAE's first meeting. I must admit that the growing indications of heavy attendance made me nervous: I was sure that the chances of endless quibbles over provisions of the by-laws grew logarithmically with every ten people who said they were coming. Who ever heard of a business meeting that drew a large crowd anyway? Sure enough, the meeting room was packed with a crowd of about 130. But my worries were misplaced: the excitement and fellow-feeling in the room were palpable, and the experience of running that meeting was unforgettable. For the first time, I understood the potential pleasures of demagoguery: the crowd was electric, and it seemed that everything I said met with a roar of approval. The by-laws were eagerly passed, the roster of interim officers approved with enthusiasm. There followed an animated and friendly discussion from the floor about building our Society across geographic and sub-disciplinary interests, as well as a number of testimonials about the importance of bringing together such an organization. (In a presumably unrelated development, Carole Counihan gave birth to her son Benjamin the following day . . . ) That meeting was a thrilling and astonishing triumph for our formerly ad-hoc committee. Not at all convinced at the outset that we were being very realistic, we had nonetheless tapped into a real need at the right time, and found a way to mobilize effectively.

In the meantime, we had begun compiling a *Directory of Europeanist Anthropologists in North America*. I can't remember how we decided to undertake this project, although the March letter indicates that we committed ourselves to it early on. Undoubtedly, it seemed a good way to help meet our network-building goals, while addressing the pragmatic difficulties we had faced in developing a mailing list of Europeanist anthropologists. Certainly, a synergy resulted, as we hoped, from compiling the *Directory* and establishing the Society at the same time, undoubtedly making both enterprises more successful than either alone would have been. We intended the directory as a comprehensive listing of Europeanist anthropologists in North America rather than as a list of SAE members, on the assumption that some of the former might not be joiners, and some of the latter might not have a strong research interest in Europe. Indeed, at the time the *Directory* went to press in early 1987, it had about 100 more listings (340) than the SAE had members.

In any case, I do remember that Denny Gilmore talked me into the idea that it would be a feasible project for the two of us to take on. With valuable advice from Susan Tax Freeman (compiler of a similar 1975 directory), as well as funding and considerable encouragement for the project from the Council for European Studies, the Western Europe committee of SSRC, and the Wenner-Gren Foundation, we hired a graduate assistant from NYU (Melissa Clegg) and a computer consultant from CUNY (Jonathan Poor), and started sending out questionnaires in the fall of 1986. The project more or less took over the basement of the NYU Institute of French Studies for some months, and resulted in a few heated exchanges between Gilmore and me, as well as a number of disputes between the two of us and the AAA (our publisher and distributor). Nonetheless, the high return rate on our questionnaires provided further evidence of the considerable

enthusiasm abroad in the land for attending to Europeanist anthropology. For me, the experience of helping to process the questionnaire data provided a sense of finally getting to know the players and contours of Europeanist anthropology, as it was constituted in North America of the mid-80s. As we worked on the questionnaire data at NYU, aiming to develop a computer program that would permit regular updates and further analysis, Gilmore worked at SUNY-Stony Brook with Sally Uhl to develop the graphics (maps and brilliant cover design). In the end, we finished the project in record time, getting the *Directory* out by the end of the 1986-7 academic year.

The 1986-7 academic year not only saw the official constitution of the SAE and the publication of the *Directory*, but the first issue of the *SAE Bulletin* (edited by Pat Gibson [Heck]), the first SAE columns in the *AN* (edited by Carole Counihan), our first elections (organized by Stanley Brandes and Bill Lockwood), the organization of the first SAE-sponsored sessions at the 1987 AES, CES and AAA meetings (managed by Jim Taggart), and the beginnings of the — Europeanist slide set and syllabi collections (launched by George Saunders). All of this activity -- most of it still ongoing -- helped draw together a community of Europeanist anthropologists in exciting and invigorating ways that would have been hard to imagine just a year of two earlier. (Not all of our initiatives were equally successful. I thought that our institution-building efforts needed a shared symbol and a little playfulness, so persuaded the executive board to launch a logo contest, with the winner to be announced at the 1987 AAA meetings. Although we lined up a distinguished panel of judges -- Richard Brettell, Barbara Kirschenblatt-Gimblett, and Randall White -- and some truly desirable prizes, we received only a small number of entries. The effort did, however, yield the SAE's current logo, designed by Lisa Groger.)

It seemed to be, though, that although the crucial first step was to strengthen connections among Europeanist anthropologists, we also needed to work at enhancing our visibility and legitimacy more broadly within the discipline. I think we turned that corner at the 1988 AAA meetings, with the blockbuster session organized by William Douglass, that year's SAE program chair. A precursor to SAE's subsequent distinguished lecture series, his session on history and anthropology featured Carlo Ginzberg, Lawrence Stone, and Emmanuel Le Roy Ladurie (who canceled at the last minute when he was named by the French President to head a new national research library), with James Fernandez as discussant. THE major event of that year's meetings, it drew a standing-room only crowd of over 400, and brought the SAE to the attention of the whole AAA. If the 1986 AAA meetings had been exciting as the first time we had all come together, I remember feeling as if I were walking on air at the 1988 meetings, with the sense that we had become a real presence within the profession.

I stepped down as president of the SAE at those 1988 meetings; I knew I was better at starting things than keeping them going, and I thought it would be healthier for the Society to pass into other hands. I also guessed that as the SAE became well-entrenched, it would inevitably lose its spirit of *communitas*, and I wanted to leave the helm before that happened. As far as I can tell, that premonition turned out to be ill-founded. The pioneering spirit of SAE seems to continue moving solidly along as a useful, active organization

that helps foster a wide range of intellectual agendas and has facilitated many productive collaborations and friendships.

Now I sometimes wonder if we haven't been too successful: it certainly was important to bring Europe into the legitimate ethnographic atlas of American anthropology, and I think that the SAE has played an extremely important role in that process. But even if we have found a comfortable home for ourselves within our own discipline, I think it remains important not to lose our "new kid on the block" edge. We need to keep working at demonstrating the interest of anthropological forms of knowledge among the longer-established disciplines and national traditions within European Studies, productively creating and situating ourselves in networks of cross-disciplinary and cross-national exchange. We also need to remember that if we, as American-trained anthropologists, have something of value to contribute to knowledge about Europe, it is at least partly because we have brought to our work broadly cross-cultural habits of thought, extending well beyond the boundaries of the western world.

## A DECADE OF SAE SESSIONS AT THE SAE

(continued from page one)

sponsored sessions at the AAA. It was satisfying to me to know that I was Program Chair for this anniversary because I had delivered a paper in the session on French anthropology organized by Susan Carol Rogers in 1985 that helped generate interest in the establishment of SAE (as Susan writes in her retrospective essay). All of this prompted me to reflect upon the history of the program and to think about what types of sessions we had organized, what topics had been introduced, etc.; in short, how anthropological knowledge about Europe was being produced, shaped, and defined through the sessions at the AAA. In this brief essay, I cannot claim to be able to answer these questions in any depth. However, I did make some interesting observations . . . .

In this essay, I draw from Pat Heck's list of sessions either sponsored or co-sponsored by SAE that she publishes each fall in the *SAE Bulletin*. Therefore, this history is based solely on the title of the sessions, not on the individual papers, and I did not consult abstracts. Originally, I had in mind to do this, but found the task of this initial survey of the program quite daunting in and of itself. My apologies for any misrepresentations based on this use of titles alone. For a complete list of roundtables and Distinguished Lectures, consult the H-SAE web page.

The SAE program at the AAA meetings consists of roundtables on particular topics, organized sessions, network meetings, workshops, the Executive and Business Meetings, and the Distinguished Lecture. The first SAE-sponsored events were five roundtables organized by James Taggart in 1986. Sessions and invited sessions were added in 1987. In 1988, a workshop on publishing European ethnography was organized by Michael Herzfeld, and the first network meeting for Iberianists was on the program. The first Distinguished Lecture was presented by Ernest Gellner in 1989: "The European Roots of British Anthropology." By 1990, several networks had been established and were on the program:

Hungarian Research Group, Network for Britain and Ireland, and Network for the Anthropology of Germany. The East European group also listed its business meeting on the program in 1990. The French Network Meeting was first on the program in 1994. A second workshop, this time on "Teaching Anthropology Outside of Anthropology Departments," was organized by Carrie Douglass for the 1997 meetings.

The first time that SAE sponsored organized sessions at the AAA was in 1987. That year, six roundtables were sponsored, as were the first eight organized sessions. The first SAE Invited Session was called "Europe and the Americas" as was organized by Stanley Brandes and James Taggart. A second Invited Session (co-sponsored with CAE) entitled "Worlds Apart: Images of Teachers and Pupils in European Schools," was co-organized by me and Katie Anderson-Levitt. The remaining sessions that year were entitled: "Food and Power;" "Gender Contradictions/Gender Transformations: Cases from Eastern Europe;" "Finnish Men and Women: Myths and Realities;" "Death Ritual in Europe: Historical and Social Dimensions;" "The Cultural Construction of Identity in Europe;" and "Continuity and Change in Mediterranean Europe." Here we touched upon schools, good, gender, death, identity, regional issues, and connections between Europe and the Americas. This is where we started. Now, let me trace some main trends during the following 10 years.

*Who organized sessions?* More women than men are active in organizing sessions. In my count, 108 sessions were organized or co-organized by a woman and 83 were organized or co-organized by a man. As for sessions that were organized by only one person, males and females were represented in approximately equal numbers: about 45 each. This shows that women are co-organizing sessions more than men. I will let readers draw their own conclusions from this!

The organizing of sessions has been done by a large number of people -- 158. Some of these people have organized more than one session. There is a tie for the winner of most sessions organized or co-organized: both Tom Wilson and Hermine De Soto have organized 6 sessions! Next is Jill Dubisch, who has organized five sessions. Those who have organized four sessions are: Karen Larsen, William Douglass, and Andrew Buckser. While there are also several people who have organized two or three sessions, most (122) have tried it only once!

*How many sessions and roundtables use geographical or regional markers, and what are they?* Where "place" was mentioned, by far the most common terms were Europe or European, without other signifier (and there were 109 cases of this). There were, in addition, 39 more specific "places" or regional markers mentioned in the session and roundtable titles. The most common were, in order of appearance: Eastern Europe (12), Mediterranean (7), Nordic (6), Southern Europe (5), Iberia (4), and Soviet Union (4). Those that appeared three times were: Scandinavia, the Netherlands, Spain, and Greece. Those that appeared two times were: Italy, Ireland, Germany, East Central Europe, Western Europe, France, Britain, and Russia. The rest appeared only once: Northern Ireland, Finland, Scotland, Balkan, Portugal, Swedish, Dutch, the East, the West, Central Europe, Europe's Fringe, periphery, Islands, East Germany, Northern Rim, Aegean, the North, Basque, Poland, Ulster, and Ukraine. Most

striking about this, I think, is the prevalence of Eastern Europe as a "marked" category in contrast to that of Western Europe.

*What have been the most common themes in the program?*  
 The overwhelming impression that one gets from looking over the session titles is that political issues have dominated the program during the past decade. This is not surprising given the two significant events of the European Union forming in the early 1990s and the break-up of the Soviet Union with its aftermath in surrounding regions. It is obvious that anthropologists working in Europe have been "studying up" and addressing these major changes in their work. Issues of "identity" also dominate the program, and this is the word that seems to appear most often after that of "Europe." Other themes that have been prevalent include gender (mostly focusing on women), religion, and regional concerns (as shown in the numbers above). There have also been several sessions on the history and/or theory of anthropology in and on Europe and its various regions/nations. Together with sessions on fieldwork and on the teaching of anthropology, these show an important strain of "reflexivity" in the sessions. Growing more prominent with time on the program are concerns with issues of ethnicity, race, migration, refugees, and public policy issues in general.

Traditional anthropological concerns with such topics as kinship, ritual, language, or expressive culture are much less in evidence than the themes I mentioned above. There has also been a relative lack of attention to economic, social class, or labor issues, especially in relation to the high number of sessions devoted to political changes and movements. Few sessions, also, have looked at colonialism or at relations between Europe and the rest of the world. For the most part, the gaze is on the local or the national. While there have been sessions on the family and household, these are much fewer than one might have found two or three decades ago, and there is very little attention paid to children or youth in the program. There has also been little attention paid to aging or to medical anthropology.

The program shows a dramatic bias toward sociocultural anthropology, despite early efforts to keep a more comprehensive approach. For the first few years of the SAE program, there was a steady flow of sessions on archaeology, with about one per year. There has been only one roundtable on archaeology, in 1987 and chaired by Bernard Wailes. A second planned roundtable on archaeological film for 1997 did not receive sufficient registrations. The last time that a session devoted to archaeology was on the program was in 1995. Language has been the focus of only one session and one roundtable.

The SAE program has been influenced by events in Europe as much as by changes in our discipline. The degree to which this program is representative of Europeanist anthropology, however, is unclear. Most of the presenters and organizers are based in the U.S., and are among those who are able to get funding to go to the AAA meetings. Several European colleagues regularly contribute to the program, however, and their presence has shaped it in significant ways. Increasingly, our members give papers dealing with Europe in sessions sponsored by other units and this brief survey of the SAE program does not capture those sessions or their topics.

I am sure that we all look forward to participating in and observing the future development of the program during the next decade and into the new millennium. Keep sending in those session and paper proposals!

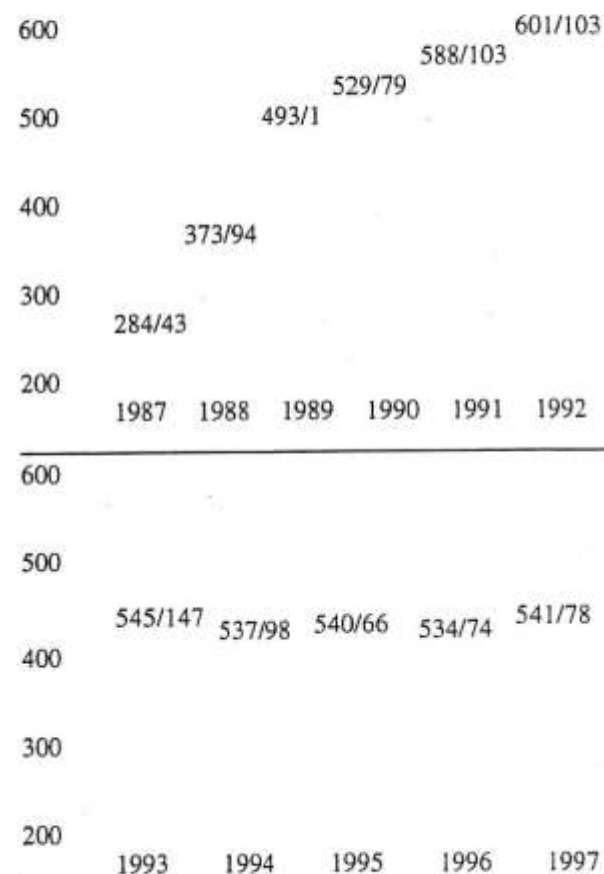
## COUNTING HISTORY

(continued from page one)

H-SAE. The *Bulletin* (thanks to Pat Heck) has provided a steady, consistent format for the reporting of news about the society -- membership numbers, organizational planning, relevant information. Over the past ten years it has steadily expanded its scope and explored creative ways in enabling Europeanist anthropologists to develop linkages with other organizations (especially the Council for European Studies), get grants, involve students, exchange information. H-SAE (thanks to Tony Galt) has supported more extensive conversation, because it is less limited by the constraints of the printed media. My observations below are based on a review of the *Bulletin*.

### I. Membership

The following chart is of the total of paid members (the first number) and unpaid members (the second number) per year, as reported by the *Bulletin*. The number of paid members indicates committed membership; the number of unpaid members indicates a falling off of interest in the organization. Membership rose sharply, peaked in association with the excitement over "Europe 1992," declined slightly, and has maintained a constant level in the mid-500s since then.





## II. Topics

The second chart is based on a review of themes in sessions sponsored by SAE at the American Anthropological Association (minus the years 1991 and 1995 -- missing from my collection of *Bulletins*). Sessions were sometimes counted for more than one category, the number of x's signifies the number of sessions classified in this category. The most common topics (at least in session titles) appears to be the uses of the past; the politics, invention, and construction of identity; issues of nationalism and national identity; gender; and issues of power and politics.

	1987	1988	1989	1990	1991	1992
1		x		x		xx
2		xxx		x		
3		x	x		x	
4		x				
5				xx		x
6	x	x	xx	x		x
7	xx		x	x		
8	x					x
9	xx	x	xx	x		x
10	x		x			
11	x	x				
12	x	x				
13		x	x			
14		x	x	x		
15		x	x			
16		x		x		
17		xx	x			
18		x	xxx	x		
19			x			x
20			xx	xxx		
21			x	xx		x
22			x	x		
23			x			
24				xxx		x
25				x		xx
26				x		

1. The meaning of Europe
2. The relationship between history and anthropology
3. The uses of the past in the present
4. Reflections/summaries/historical retrospectives on anthropologists studying Europe
5. Thoughts on doing ethnography in Europe
6. Politics/invention/construction of identity
7. Nationalism/national identity
8. Cities/urbanization
9. Gender
10. Education
11. Food
12. The relationship between Europe and the Americas
13. Class
14. Migration/immigration
15. Prehistoric/Paleolithic Europe
16. The EC
17. Family/kinship/household
18. Power/politics
19. Race
20. Ethnicity/ethnic groups/ethnic minorities
21. Religion
22. Leftist/Communist/Right traditions
23. Papers in honor of a particular anthropologist
24. Local/national relations
25. Houses/rooms/domestic space

## 26. Drinking

	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997
1	xx	x			
2	x				
3		x		x	xx
4		x		x	
5		xxx		x	
6	xx	xxxx		x	
7		xx		xx	
8	x	x		x	
9	xx	xxxx		xx	x
10					
11					
12				x	
13	xx	x		x	
14	xx				
15					
16	x	x			
17		x		x	x
18	xx	xx		x	
19				x	
20	xx	xx			
21	x	x			
22	x	xx			
23	x				
24					
25	x	xx		x	
26		x			

Categories for which there were few entries include Technological change (1987, 1993), Expressive culture (1987), Death (1987), Bureaucracy (1989), Pilgrimage (1989), Village dynamics (1989), Individualism (1989), Collectivism/privatization (1992), Islands (1989), Monuments (1989, 1990), Language (1993), Films (1993), Welfare (1993), Linen production (1993), Violence (1993, 1994, 1996), Capitalism (1994), Peace (1994), Life course (1996), Honor and Shame (1996), the Body (1997).

## III. Geographical/group focus:

Titles of the sessions sponsored by SAE sometimes reflected a geographical or group focus, as indicated below. As AAA tends to prefer sessions that link rather than focus on specific geographic areas, a more appropriate indicator of geographic foci would have come from an analysis of the individual papers.

1. Balkans
2. Basque
3. Central Europe
4. Eastern Europe
5. Finland
6. former Soviet Union
7. France
8. Germany
9. Greece
10. Hungary
11. Iberia
12. Ireland
13. Mediterranean
14. Netherlands
15. Nordic
16. Northern Ireland
17. Poland
18. Portugal



19.	Russia						
20.	Scandinavia						
21.	Scotland						
22.	Southern Europe						
23.	Spain						
24.	Sweden						
25.	Ukraine						
26.	Viking						
1		x					
2						x	
3							
4				xx		xx	
5	x						
6							
7							
8				x			
9							
10			x				
11		xx					
12	x						
13	x		xx				
14			xxx				
15		x	xx	x			
16						x	
17							
18		x					
19							
20							
21		x					
22		x					
23						x	
24		x					
25							
26							
	1987	1988	1989	1990	1991	1992	

1							
2							
3						x	
4		xx		x		xx	
5							
6		x		x			
7				x			
8				x			
9	xx	x					
10							
11							
12	x						
13		x		x			
14							
15				x			
16							
17	x						
18							
19	x						
20		x					
21							
22	x			x			
23							
24							
25	x						
26		x					
	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997		

IV. Founding year of organizations/conferences listed in the Bulletin:

A sizeable percentage of the newsletter is dedicated to description of other organizations concerned with the study of Europe, perhaps reflecting the efforts of SAE members to identify a network and a context of work in Europe.

- 1888: The Gypsy Lore Society
- 1907: The School of American Research (SAR)
- 1950: Conference on British Studies (affiliated with the American Historical Association in 1952; now the North American Conference on British Studies)
- 1951: School of Scottish Studies
- 1957: European Society for Rural Sociology (ESRS)
- 1960: European Society for Rural Sociology
- 1966: American Italian Historical Association (AIHA)
- late 1960s: Western European Area Studies Center, University of Minnesota (focus on Nordic Countries)
- 1968: American Association for the Advancement of Slavic Studies
- 1969: Society for Spanish and Portuguese Historical Studies
- 1972: European Science Foundation
- 1974: Social Science History Association
- 1975: Annual European Studies Conference; Center for European Studies, CUNY; IUAES
- 1976: The German Studies Association; The International Rural Sociological Association (IRSA), based in Germany (ESRS is founder member)
- 1977: The Gypsy Lore Society, North American Chapter
- 1979: Western European Area Studies Center at University of Minnesota became National Resource Center for Western European Studies
- 1981: West European National Resource Center, Indiana
- 1983: Hoover Institution European Studies Program
- 1984: Center for Multiethnic Research, Uppsala, Sweden
- 1986: Center for European Studies, Stanford (SCES)
- 1987: The Anthropological Association of Ireland; Cultural Anthropology of Complex Societies; European Community Studies Association (ECSA), first inaugural conference in 1989; Manchester Centre for European Studies; Network for Anthropology in and of Fennoscandia and Norden Generally (founded at the AAA)
- 1988: ISSEI (first conference)
- 1989: Associacao Portuguesa de Antropologica (founded by group at Museum of Ethnology at Lisbon); European Association of Social Anthropologists; Finnish Institute for European Studies
- 1990: Association of Social Anthropologists (Greek non-profit scientific association); The Modern Greek Studies Association of Australia and New Zealand (MGSAANZ); Women's International Studies Europe (WISE)
- 1991: Hungarian American Coalition
- 1992: The Wiener Laboratory, American School of Classical Studies
- 1993: Modern Greek Studies electronic mail list (MGSA-L)
- 1996: European Consortium for Political Research

## AAA SECTION ASSEMBLY REPORT

Peter Allen  
SAE President-Elect

Over the weekend of May 15-17 I attended the AAA governance session at the Georgetown University Conference Center in Washington, DC. This is an occasion when all the governing bodies of the AAA meet to deal with a wide variety of issues. This year many of the issues were influenced by the administrative reorganization currently being voted upon by the AAA membership. All business over the weekend was conducted on the assumption that this reorganization would be approved and implemented.

I was attending in place of Caroline Brettell who was unable to go due to commitments relation to commencement at SMU that weekend.

The Executive Board and Finance Committee met early on Friday, but the first event for me was an orientation session for the new section heads. Although I do not take over from Caroline as president until the end of the November annual meeting of the AAA, and thus would normally go through this orientation NEXT May, I took advantage of my presence at the conference to do the orientation. The most valuable aspect was an opportunity to meet the key personnel from the AAA central office. I spent time with Lucille Horn (meetings), Rick Custer (publications), Susan Skomal (*Anthropology Newsletter*), Peggy Overbey (government relations), Susan Evans (academic relations) and Lori Van Olst who is assistant to the (relatively) new Executive Director, Bill Davis. Some of these people I have known and worked with for many years, others I have conversed with on the telephone but never met and others were new. I feel this was a useful exercise and enabled me to get to know these individuals personally. I was impressed by the high percentage who have degrees in anthropology and the generally high level of commitment to the organization. I also had several opportunities over the weekend to speak with Bill Davis who I believe is a real asset and will improve relations between the central office, the membership and the sections.

This event was followed by a reception and dinner of which the highlight was an address by linguist Deborah Tannen who spoke on her new book and its significance for understanding academic discourse. This stimulating presentation provoked a very lively discussion that went on for more than an hour.

Saturday morning was the first meeting of the Section Assembly, a gathering of section heads who, like me, had come to work out the format for this body and define its functions under the terms of the anticipated reorganization. Jane Hill, current AAA President, presided over the meeting and Louise Lamphere, president-elect, was present and active throughout as was Robert Sussman, new Editor of the *American Anthropologist*.

We began by dividing up into four groups of 7 or 8 individuals with a common agenda which included such questions as:

What is the status of sections today?  
Is membership growing or declining?  
How are section finances?  
What are the functions of the section assembly?  
Should there even be a section assembly?  
Who should chair the section assembly?  
How should it be organized?  
When should it meet?

Each group included one of the AAA staff persons. We had Lucille Horn as well as Jane Hill and Robert Sussman. I was designated leader (by virtue of the position of my last name in alphabetical order!!). After an hour or so we reconvened as a whole and each group reported on their deliberations. This process was repeated again in the morning and then twice in the afternoon. In between we had meetings of the various committees of the AAA: Administrative Advisory Committee, External Relations Committee, Membership Committee and the Committee on Scientific Communication. Filling in for Caroline I attended the meeting of the latter committee, but was not allowed to vote.

Areas of general agreement which came out of the group discussion include: the section assembly should primarily deal with section issues not with concerns of individuals or individual sections unless these have wider significance for other sections. Issues identified include: public policy, budgets and finances, publications, liaison with the Executive Board and the central AAA office, meeting policies, section collaboration, governance and other concerns of sections.

Bill Liker of Cal State Chico, Leslie Sue Lieberman of the University of Florida and I were appointed as a committee charged with writing up some motions for action on Sunday morning. At the Sunday breakfast session consensus was achieved on several issues: 1) The assembly voted to recommend a change in the AAA by-laws such that the section assembly in the future will comprise all the section heads OR a designated representative. This means that each section will decide on its own whether to send the section head or perhaps another person to represent the section on the assembly. For purposes of continuity it was also recommended that representatives be able to serve for up to four consecutive years. 2) It was stipulated that the section assembly would meet twice a year - once at the annual meeting of the AAA and once during the spring, most likely as part of the usual AAA governance weekend. 3) The section assembly was given the authority to elect a Convenor with the following duties: a. solicit and prepare an agenda for the 2 annual meetings, b. coordinate meeting arrangements with the AAA central office, c. act as a liaison with the Executive Board and the AAA central office, d. preside over section assembly meetings, e. have the right to appoint a three member steering committee for any assistance.

Shortly after these motions were passed I was elected Convenor for the November and spring meetings and took over the meeting from Jane Hill who had been presiding until that point. Suggestions for the November meeting agenda were then presented and the meeting adjourned.

What does all this mean for SAE?



1) SAE will have to decide whether to continue to be represented on the section assembly by the current president or whether it would be better to have someone else, in which case it will be necessary to devise a method for choosing that person - by election, appointment by the president, etc. This may require a change in our by-laws and should be an item for the November meetings of the SAE executive board and membership.

2) ALL SAE members are urged to communicate with me about SECTION issues that should be placed on the agenda of the section assembly in November.

All in all, it was a useful, informative and productive experience. Not only did I meet and establish rapport with key AAA personnel, I also met many section heads and other anthropologists as well as renewed old acquaintances. Although the majority of section heads who attended this meeting will not be in the section assembly after November (they are rotating out of their positions), I look forward to working with their successors and collectively launching this important organization.

On a personal note, in speaking with Ernestine Friedl over the weekend I learned that she and her husband are planning a trip to Vasilika, her first in many, many years. Since I will be in Greece at the same time, we arranged for me to accompany them. It should be fun and interesting and we hope to write it up for the *Bulletin*.

## SAE/CES PRE-DISSERTATION FELLOWSHIP

**Caroline Brettell**  
SAE President

The SAE/CES Pre-dissertation fellowship committee made up of Peter Allen, Robert Rotenberg, and Caroline Brettell have finished our selection process. We have chosen Emily C. McEwan-Fujita (out of five finalists sent to us by the CES on the suggestion of Peter Allen who served on their selection committee as well). She is a student at the University of Chicago studying under Jim Fernandez, Susan Gal, and Michael Silverstein. Emily's project is entitled "Gaelic in Scotland, Scotland in Europe: Political, Economic, and Social Consequences of Minority Language Revitalization."

The abstract of the proposal is as follows: "My dissertation will be an ethnography of discursive processes through which the national state is both undermined and strengthened in relation to regional and supra-national political and economic entities in a globalizing, transnationalizing world. I will investigate the ways in which government officials, minority elites, and grass roots groups produce discourse about the place of Scottish Gaelic as a minority language in contemporary Scottish life. I contend that such discourses, which are a form of practice that creates links between language and the material world, work to position the speakers and the Scottish national culturally, politically, and economically vis-a-vis Scotland's regions, the United Kingdom, and the European Union."

Emily can be reached by email at [ecmcewan@midway.uchicago.edu](mailto:ecmcewan@midway.uchicago.edu)

## CES PRE-DISSERTATION FELLOWSHIPS: 1998

The Fellowships support short term research in Europe by graduate students in modern history and the social sciences for the purpose of determining the viability of their projected doctoral dissertations. The fellowship stipend is \$3,000 and the typical period of research is approximately 2 months. (Recipients are allowed to supplement the fellowships with grants from other sources provided the funds do not exceed \$3,000.)

In March and April 1998, the Council's selection committee reviewed applications from 71 doctoral candidates at 50 universities. The 28 women and 43 men represented the following disciplines: historians (36); anthropologists (11); political scientists (16); sociologists (5). There were also individual applicants in comparative education, fine arts, and folklore.

The Pre-Dissertation fellowships selection committee was composed of the following members of the Council's Steering Committee:

Peter Allen, anthropology, Rhode Island College  
Michèle Lamont, sociology, Princeton University  
Susan Pedersen, history, Harvard University  
Kathy Thelen, political science, Northwestern University

The fellowships are funded by grants to the Council from the German Marshall Fund of the United States and from the European Commission. Grantees included six historians, three political scientists, two sociologists, and one anthropologist. Pre-Dissertation Fellowships awarded in 1998 are listed below:

Fellowships, general (unrestricted by topic).

- \* Jillian Cavanaugh, anthropology, New York University, "Italian National and Regional Identity and Language: An Investigation of Language Practice."
- \* Michael Ebner, history, Columbia University, "Confinement and Italians under Fascism, 1926-1943."
- \* Jacqueline Gordon, sociology, Princeton University, "Familialism vs. Individualism: Cultural and Institutional Influences on Women's Work and Family Decisions in Italy and the United States."
- \* Joshua Humphreys, French studies, New York University, "Eastern Reflections: French Social Democrats, Democratic Political Culture in East-Central Europe and the Crisis of Democracy in France, 1918-1953."
- \* Eliza Johnson, history, Columbia University, "Cleansing the 'Red Nest': Counter Revolution and White Terror in Munich and Budapest, 1919-1921."
- \* Victoria Johnson, sociology, Columbia University, "Repertoires of Revolution: Opera in Paris, 1785-1799."
- \* Deborah Kaye, history, University of Arizona, "Italian Unification and the Jews of Piedmont: Identity, Ethnicity and National Restructuring in 19th Century Italy."



\* Richard Keller, history, Rutgers University, "Popular Culture, Politics, and the Diffusion of Psychoanalysis in Interwar France."

\* R. Darrel Meadows, history, Carnegie Mellon University, "Family, Race and Exile in the Age of Revolution: The Dislocation of the French Atlantic Community, 1791-1815."

\* Annemarie Sammartino, history, University of Michigan, "Russia's Second Capital: Weimar Culture, White Russian Émigrés and the Impact of the Russian Revolution on Germany."

\*Honorary Pre-Dissertation Fellow; recipient Georges Lurcy Charitable and Educational Trust fellowship.

Fellowships in the Study of European Integration:

\* Rachel Cichowski, political science, University of California, Irvine, "The Evolution of Environmental and Social Priorities for Europe: Interest Groups, the European Court and the Construction of Supranational Policy."

\* Ronald Gelleny, political science, Binghamton University - SUNY, "The Dynamics of the Variation of EU Economic Integration."

\* Scott Greer, political science, Northwestern University, "The Rise of Regional Elites in Western Europe."

## SECOND EDITION OF THE SAE DIRECTORY AVAILABLE!

The second edition of the *SAE Directory* was published in November 1993, and printed copies and/or computer disks were mailed to persons who placed orders. Future orders may be placed through the Book Order department of the AAA (\$20.00 for AAA members, and \$22.00 for non-members and institutions):

AAA Book Order Department  
4350 N Fairfax Dr.  
Suite 640  
Arlington, VA 22203

The *Directory* lists members of the **Society for the Anthropology of Europe** who sent in their questionnaires by the end of August 1993, with information about their fieldwork experience, research interests, topics on which they would be willing to speak, and membership in similar organizations. Useful as a networking tool, the *Directory* lists telephone and fax numbers as well as e-mail addresses.

The indexes and analysis provided by Susan Parman indicate past, present, and future interests in the anthropology of Europe. You can find out:

- \* which universities trained current Europeanist anthropologists (the most frequently listed Ph.D.-granting university was UC Berkeley, followed by Indiana)
- \* where most fieldwork in Europe was done (Spain)
- \* who is doing (or interested in doing) what kind of research today (geographical area and subject topic). Categories were generated by the contributors, so the *Directory* is a cognitive map of current anthropological research interests in Europe (with categories as diverse as

"Bardic and Druidic Inventions of Traditions," "European Community," and "Turks in Europe").

## SYLLABI RESOURCE PACKETS AVAILABLE FOR SALE

A new and updated SAE Resource Packet, entitled "The Syllabi of Members of the Society for the Anthropology of Europe" is now available for sale. The packet contains all syllabi submitted over a nine month period and an index to the more than 200 pages of syllabi. Most of the materials in this edition are new and are for courses given since 1990. Many more materials are included, for example for Eastern Europe, than in the previous resource packets. The cost for this SAE Resource Packet is \$20.00, plus postage. A list of actual costs, depending on the destination is included:

U.S.:	\$20.00 plus \$3.00 postage	\$23.00
Canada:	\$20.00 plus \$5.00 postage	\$25.00
Europe (surface)	\$20.00 plus \$6.55 postage	\$26.55
Europe (air)	\$20.00 plus \$14.25 postage	\$34.25

Prepaid orders only, made payable to SAE, may be sent to:

Elizabeth Evans  
Anthropology Program  
University of New Hampshire  
Durham, NH 03824-3586  
Tel: (603) 862-1884

## SLIDE SETS AVAILABLE FOR SALE

The Society for the Anthropology of Europe (SAE) is pleased to be able to make available ten sets of slides to accompany ethnographies used in teaching about European communities. The slides were taken by the authors of the ethnographies, and each set is accompanied by brief descriptions of the subject. (Note that the authors have provided these slides to the SAE without compensation, that the slides are copyrighted by the American Anthropological Association, and that they are offered for use **for teaching purposes only**. They may not be further reproduced without the author's permission.) Samples of the slides are available for viewing on the SAE website. Each set is \$35, which includes shipping and handling. Checks can be made out to SAE. Allow 2 weeks for delivery.

Brandes, Stanley *Metaphors of Masculinity*  
Gmelch, George/Sharon *The Irish Tinkers/Nan*  
Messenger, John *Inis Beag*  
Halpern, Joel and Barbara Kerewsky-Halpern *A Serbian Village in Historical Perspective*  
Brettell, Caroline *We Have Already Cried Many Tears*  
Friedl, Ernestine *Vasilika*  
Bendix *Progress and Nostalgia: Silvesterklausen in Umaesch.*

Switzerland AND *Backstage Domains: Playing William Tell in Two Swiss Communities*  
Seremetakis, Nadia *Women, Death and Divination in Inner Mani*  
Rogers, Susan Carol *Shaping Modern Times in Rural France*  
Parman, Susan *Scottish Crofters*

To order the slides, please send the appropriate payment to:

Alexandra Jaffe  
Dept. of Anthropology/Sociology  
U of Southern Mississippi  
Box 5074  
Hattiesburg, MS 39406  
(601) 266-6193  
email: ajaffe@ocean.st.usm.edu

## RECENT PUBLICATIONS

### \* The Anthropology of Tribal and Peasant Pastoral Societies

The Anthropology of Tribal and Peasant Pastoral Societies (Como: Ibis, 1996), edited by Ugo Fabietta (U Firenze) and Philip Carl Salzman (McGill U) brings together contributions by specialists on pastoral societies in Europe, Africa, and the Middle East. The chapters (in both English and Italian) on European cases are "Peasant Pastoralism" by P.C. Salzman, "On Agro-Pastoral Space" by Giulio Angioni, and "Migrant Shepherds: from Sardinia to Tuscany: by Pier Giorgio Solinas, Sandra Becucci, and Simonetta Grilli. Library and personal orders (@ Italian Lire 45.000/ca. US\$30) can be sent to:

Paolo Veronesi  
Ibis Publishers  
Via Crispi 8  
22100 Como  
ITALY  
fax (39) 31 30 68 29

## BOOK MARKS

**Katherine Donahue**  
Book Review Editor

Recent Books Accepted for Review:

Assmuth, Laura, *Women's Work, Women's Worth: Changing Lifecourses in Highland Sardinia*.  
Bahloul, Joelle, *The Architecture of Memory* Cambridge University Press.  
Cole, Jeffrey, *The New Racism in Europe: A Sicilian Ethnography*, Cambridge University Press.  
Danforth, Lorin M, *The Macedonian Conflict: Ethnic Nationalism in a Transnational World*, Princeton University Press.

Donnan, Hastings, *Culture and Policy in Northern Ireland: Anthropology in the public arena*, Institute of Irish Studies.

Goody, Jack, *The Expansive Moment: Anthropology in Britain and Africa 1918-1970*, Cambridge University Press.

Herzfeld, Michael, *Portrait of a Greek imagination: An Ethnographic Biography of Andreas Nenedakis*, University of Chicago Press.

Reed-Danahay, Deborah, *Education and Identity in Rural France: The Politics of Schooling*, Cambridge University Press.

Todorova, *Imagining the Balkans*, Oxford University Press.  
Wierzbicka, Anna, *Understanding Cultures Through Their Key Words: English, Russian, Polish, German, and Japanese*, Oxford University Press.

Wight, Daniel, *Workers not Wasters: Masculine Respectability, Consumption & Employment in Central Scotland*, Edinburgh University Press.

Wilson, Thomas M and Hastings Donnan, eds., *Border Identities: Nation and state at international frontiers*, Cambridge University Press.

Books from previous lists may still be available. For review copies, please contact:

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## CALENDAR

### July 26-August 1, 1998

The 14th International Congress of Anthropological and Ethnological Sciences, Williamsburg, VA.

### October 8-11, 1998

German Studies Association Annual Conference, Salt Lake City, UT.

### December 2-6, 1998

97th Annual Meeting, American Anthropological Association, Philadelphia, PA.

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