

Bulletin

Society for the Anthropology of Europe

May 1994
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1994 CES PRE-DISSERTATION FELLOWSHIPS

The Council for European Studies (CES) has awarded 15 Pre-Dissertation Fellowships in the 1994 competition: seven in history, three in anthropology, two in political science, two in sociology, and one in jurisprudence and social policy. The names and topics of the three anthropologists are as follows:

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SAE ANNUAL UNDERGRADUATE AND GRADUATE STUDENT PAPER COMPETITION

Heidi Kelley
Projects Chair

In 1994 the Society for the Anthropology of Europe will hold its second student paper competition. Two categories of entries will be accepted: graduate and undergraduate students. The following rules apply:

1. Papers must deal with some aspect of European anthropology and/or European anthropology's contribution to the broader field. This rule will be interpreted liberally to include papers of a comparative and/or general theoretical nature.
2. All submissions must follow the standard anthropological format for citations, footnotes, and

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E-MAIL ADDRESS DIRECTORY

As mentioned in the February *Bulletin*, what follows are e-mail addresses of SAE members received as of May 10, 1994. Special thanks goes to Tony Galt who provided e-mail addresses of all the people covered in the second edition of the *Directory*. I will continue to provide e-mail address updates as long as I continue to receive them.

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SECOND REQUEST: THE *BULLETIN* NEEDS YOU!

Pat Gibson
Bulletin Editor

Since February no volunteers have emerged. I am therefore running my request one more time. Only with the help of the membership will we be able to continue to provide a publication that is interesting, informative, and generally useful.

During the Business Meeting, I indicated that a new goal of the *Bulletin* is to expand its focus and to increase participation of the members in what is hoped will be a relatively painless way. In the past, members have agreed to take on an editorship, but found that the three-times-a-year publication schedule was difficult to meet. Some columns were begun with enthusiasm, but editors exhausted ideas. For all of these reasons, I decided to try a new approach: joint editorship in

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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.

The *Bulletin* is the newsletter of the SAE and is published three times a year in February, May and October. Deadlines for material to be submitted are as follows:

Winter	January 1
Spring	April 1
Fall	September 1

Allow two to four weeks delivery time. If you don't receive your *Bulletin*, please contact the American Anthropological Association.

Individuals who are not anthropologists or are not based in North America may subscribe to the *Bulletin* without joining the SAE/AAA by sending the \$15 annual subscription fee to AAA, 4350 N Fairfax Dr., Suite 640, Arlington, VA 22203.

All *Bulletin* submissions except those handled by the editors below should be sent to:

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All other business with SAE should be addressed to:

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4350 N Fairfax Dr., Suite 640
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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 has declined once more from its modest 688 as of December 31, 1993, to 678 as of March 31, 1994. The current membership is broken down as follows: 678 total, with 558 paid memberships and 120 members that had not paid. Of these members, 385 regular and 173 students had paid their dues while 70 regular and 50 student members had not paid their dues for 1994.

**REMINDER!:
DON'T FORGET
TO PURCHASE YOUR
1993 SAE DIRECTORY**

**1994 CES PRE-DISSERTATION
FELLOWSHIPS**
(continued from page one)

Stanley Davis (CUNY) "Automobile Production in a 'Backward Area': An Examination of Industrialization and Social Change in a Small Inland Town in the Italian Mezzogiorno;" Laurent Dubois (anthropology and history - U Michigan-Ann Arbor) "Medical Practices and Acculturation Among Caribbean and African Migrants in Paris"; Christopher McIntyre (Johns Hopkins) "Tourism, Immigration, and the EC in Girona, Catalonia, Spain."

CES welcomes inquiries from Ph.D. candidates in anthropology who are in their second or third year of graduate study. The next application deadline is February 1, 1995.

Prospective applicants should contact the Council no later than December 1994. For further information, please contact

Council for European Studies
Box 44 Schermerhorn
Columbia University
New York, NY 10027
(212) 854-4172

**SAE ANNUAL UNDERGRADUATE AND
GRADUATE STUDENT PAPER
COMPETITION**

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"References Cited" as outlined in the *American Anthropologist* style guide.

- All manuscripts must be printed or typed, double-spaced with one inch margins. The smallest allowable type is elite.
- Maximum length is fifteen typed, double-spaced pages, including tables, notes, and references.
- The author's name, address, telephone number, university affiliation and status (undergraduate or graduate) should appear typed on a cover sheet separate from the title page of the manuscript. Include an abstract of 100 words or less. The author's name should not appear elsewhere on the manuscript.
- Entries that do not conform to the above requirements will not be accepted.
- Four copies of the manuscript and one cover sheet are to be submitted to the student paper competition chair by August 15, 1994. No late entries will be accepted.

A prize of \$100.00 will be given for the best paper in each category (undergraduate and graduate) and abstracts of 100 words for the winning entries will be published in the *SAE Bulletin*. Winning entries may be returned to their authors with suggestions for revisions and possible locations for publication.

Heidi Kelley serves as the Student Paper Competition Chair for the 1993-94 academic year. All entries must be received by August 15, 1994. Submit entries to:

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(704) 251-6426

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UNIVERSITY OF LUND OFFERS INTERDISCIPLINARY COURSE

The interdisciplinary course "Swedish Modernity and Everyday Life -- Cultural and Social Perspectives" will be offered for the second time during spring term 1995 (January through June). The course is taught in conjunction with the departments of European Ethnology and Sociology at the University of Lund.

The primary goal of the course is to teach students innovative theoretical and methodological approaches to the study of modern society and culture. The analytic tools taught are applicable to any complex culture and society, but the empirical basis of the course is the development of everyday life and social institutions in 20th century Sweden. Thus, this course not only aims to facilitate students' understanding of Swedish culture, but also to present new approaches to the social and cultural analysis of modern life in general.

The course is designed for students well under way with their undergraduate studies or in the beginning of their graduate studies who could be interested in a course with this approach. The final application deadline date is September 15, 1994. There are no tuition fees for this course.

For further information, brochures and/or application forms, please contact:

Department of European Ethnology
 Student advisor Margareta Stigsdotter
 Finnngatan 8
 S-223 62 Lund
 Tel. 46-46-107560; 46-46-104373
 E-mail: etn@etn.lu.se

SECOND REQUEST: THE BULLETIN NEEDS YOU! (continued from page one)

the various departments formerly headed by just one individual. Specifically, I am seeking volunteers that would be willing to serve as co-editor (providing material once a year) in the following categories: Features, Center Focus, Grants and Fellowships, the Archaeology Column, and the Graduate Student Column. Volunteers are requested to indicate which issue (February, May or October) they would be willing to cover.

If you can think of additional features that you would appreciate seeing in the *Bulletin*, please contact me:

Pat Gibson
 Bulletin Editor
 Department of Anthropology
 The University of the South
 735 University Ave.
 Sewanee, TN 37383-1000

BOSNIAN PUBLICATION AVAILABLE

The Refugee Service Center has made *The Bosnians: An Introduction to Their History and Culture*, by Lynn Maners, available without cost to SAE members. The booklet, "a basic introduction to the people, history, and culture of Bosnia, with a particular focus on Bosnian Moslems" (iii) can be obtained by contacting:

The Refugee Service Center
 Center for Applied Linguistics
 1118 22nd Street, NW
 Washington, DC 20037
 (202) 429-9292

LITHUANIAN OFFERED

The University of Washington/Seattle is offering an intensive first-year Lithuanian course in the summer of 1994. The 15-credit course, LITH 150, will meet four hours daily for nine weeks, from June 20 to August 19, 1994. In this pilot year of the Baltic Studies Summer Institute (BALSSI), to be sponsored in future years by an intercollegiate consortium, two other courses, HSTEU 454: Baltic History, and SCAN 230: Baltic Folklore, are also planned. For more information about the program, BALSSI, and possible financial aid, please contact:

Professor Thomas DuBois
Department of Scandinavian Languages and Literature
DL-20
University of Washington
Seattle, WA 98195
(206) 543-0645
Internet: tdubois@u.washington.edu

NEW HUNGARIAN DIRECTORY FOR EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES AND RESOURCES

The Hungarian American Coalition recently published their *Program Directory: Educational Opportunities and Resources Pertaining to Hungary*. The directory was prepared as a resource for individuals, organizations, and institutions interested in learning about a wide range of educational, training, and exchange programs in the U.S. and Hungary. The publication includes listings of student exchange and related programs available to American and/or Hungarian students; U.S. university-based East European Studies Programs; graduate, scholar and professional exchange and internship programs; services available to exchange program participants; Hungarian Studies summer programs; and book donation programs. Appendices provide additional information on exchange programs and direct enrollment in Hungarian universities.

To obtain a copy of this publication, please contact:

Hungarian American Coalition
818 Connecticut Ave., NW
Suite 850
Washington, DC 20006

RECENT DISSERTATIONS

French and American Medical Perspective on AIDS:
Discourse and Practice
Jamie Lynn Feldman
(Illinois Urbana-Champaign)

This study examines how members of the French and American medical communities, comprised of clinical and research sectors, construct and shape their models of AIDS. The primary goal is to develop a comparative, ethnographically-based understanding of how medical models of AIDS emerge first through discourse, and, secondarily, through clinical practice. Additionally, I explore how medical understanding of AIDS is subsequently communicated within and outside the medical community. Among my informants, AIDS also serves as a "constructor," a medium for the construction of personal, professional and cultural identity.

This comparative study is grounded in participant-observation conducted in two clinics, French and American, involved with AIDS, as well as interviews with other medical professionals outside these clinics. The study focuses exclusively on the medical community, and being an ethnographic study, the data were obtained directly from medical personnel within a medical context. As a physician in training as well as an anthropologist, I had access to a range of data not generally accessible to the ordinary ethnographer. All of the stated research goals, in turn, benefit from the integral cross-cultural comparison.

A comparative study of medical discourse on AIDS increases the amount and breadth of available data and enables us to distinguish discursive elements common to medical culture from those which are particular to a society. The comparative approach allows us to explore the interaction of medical and social realities as they are constructed through discourse, and how local differences in biomedicine emerge through this interaction.

Biomedicine is generally perceived by them as uniform across the Western world, particularly in North America and Western Europe. This study challenges that assumption, highlighting culturally-based differences not only in health care delivery, but in how each biomedicine constructs the interaction between disease and the human body. In this way, one may gain insight not only into differences in biomedical systems, but the cultures themselves, as played out in the context of biomedicine.

ORGANIZATIONS and INSTITUTES

* HUNGARIAN AMERICAN COALITION

This coalition, a non-profit organization, was established in 1991 to mobilize and coordinate the talents and resources of members in promoting the interests of Hungarian Americans. One of its major goals is to encourage cultural and educational interaction between the people of the United States and Hungary. Among current activities is the recent publication of its *Program Directory: Educational Opportunities and Resources Pertaining to Hungary* (see related story). For more information concerning this organization, please contact:

Hungarian American Coalition
818 Connecticut Ave., NW
Suite 850
Washington, DC 20006

CONFERENCE REPORTS

* CES Ninth International Conference of Europeanists

The Ninth International Conference of Europeanists of the Council for European Studies (CES) took place March 31 to April 2, 1994, at the Palmer House in Chicago. Approximately 350 people attended the conference which, according to Executive Director Dr. Ioannis Sinanoglou, had "more anthropology than ever before." Ten sessions over the three-day conference period featured five panels organized and/or chaired by anthropologists. Anthropologists participated, as well, in a number of interdisciplinary panels. As a result, there seems to be a growing interest in our work from scholars from other disciplines, and we no longer are as exotic as we were in 1987, when SAE members first began to participate in the CES meetings.

The chance to meet European scholars and scholars from other disciplines who are working on similar topics remain, for me, the strongest reason to attend. The central location and attractiveness of Chicago, and the small, intimate quality of the meetings are also important benefits. Hopefully, we will see even more anthropologists at the next meetings, two years from now, both as participants and audience.

MEMBERSHIP NEWS

* Davydd J Greenwood, the John S. Knight Professor of International Studies and Director of the Mario Einaudi Center for International Studies at Cornell University has just announced his intention to return to full-time academic duty in the Department of Anthropology as the Goldwin Smith Professor of Anthropology. Anthropology is his home department where he began his academic career in 1970 after graduating from Grinnell College in 1964 and receiving a Ph.D. from the University of Pittsburgh in 1970. In 1983, he became the John S Knight Professor and Director of the Center for International Studies. He just completed a term as the President of the Association of International Education Administrators (AIEA) in 1993. During his tenure at the Einaudi Center, he assisted in the development of Cornell Abroad which now sends over 500 undergraduates abroad each year and he oversaw five Department of Education National Resource Centers for the teaching of Foreign Language and Area Studies, among the 30 programs reporting to the Center. He also chaired the national taskforce that saw to the rewriting of the international portion of the Higher Education Act and the first major increase in federal funding in 15 years.

* Sabina Magliocco has recently completed *The Two Madonnas: The Politics of Festival in a Sardinian Community*, which is being published by Peter Lang Publishing, Inc.

JOURNALS...JOURNALS...JOURNALS...

* INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

International Affairs is Britain's leading journal of international relations. Founded by and edited at the Royal Institute of International Affairs, *International Affairs* is a lively, provocative journal of debate which will keep you up-to-date with critical thinking on the key questions and issues shaping world developments. Published in Europe, it has developed a valuable window onto European policy debates as well as covering global policy issues. The journal provides a stimulating and international mix of authors and draws on the best of both English-language and foreign-language debates. Articles are commissioned from a wide range of writers who have authoritative and interesting points of view on significant topics. The journal has long been acclaimed for its extensive book review section. Over 100 book reviews are offered in each issue as well as a complete listing of other books received, a review index by book author and subject area.

Individual subscriptions are \$59 (institutions \$78). For more information, please contact:

Cambridge University Press
40 West 20th St.
New York, NY 10011-4211
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* ECONOMIC POLICY

Launched in 1985, *Economic Policy* has quickly established itself as the premier European journal of analysis of economic affairs. In recognition of this status, from 1993 the journal is being distributed in association with the European Economic Association. It is written for all those with an informed interest in policy problems and accommodates a wide range of views. Edited in London and Paris, and appearing twice a year, *Economic Policy* emphasizes the possibilities for cross-country comparisons; the balance between conflict and cooperation in national policy formation; and the constraints imposed on individual economies by their integration in the world economy. The perspective is European, the range is global. Providing a unique, non-partisan forum for the discussion of these issues, the journal identifies emerging policy problems early and publishes papers both informed by research findings and in time to influence the evolution of policy. A 1994 special supplement to *Economic Policy* will be published devoted to economic reform in the former USSR with incisive contributions by eminent policy-makers and experts.

Individual subscriptions vary: For 1993 it is \$29.00 (institutions \$59.00); for 1994 \$33.00 (institutions \$79.00). For further information, please contact:

Cambridge University Press
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BOOK MARKS

Gary McDonogh
Book Review Editor

* NATURE/NURTURE UNDEFINED

Thomas M. Wilson
The Queen's University of Belfast

Michael T. McGuire, ed. *Human Nature and the New Europe*.
Boulder; Westview Press. 207 pages. \$49.95 (hardcover).

The first problem in this volume is that most of the essays in it are only tangentially related to the book's principal theme, namely "that our unimpressive record of understanding and forecasting political, social, and economic events is largely a consequence of the failure to incorporate human nature into our thinking Where is this information best acquired? Our answer is modern biology" (p. 3). The second problem is that most of the chapters in this collection are unclear about their definition of 'human nature.' The third difficulty is in regard to the lack of clarity regarding culture, i.e., the volume's introduction suggests that the important features of human nature include, among others, religious beliefs, language preference, and ethnic identification. In addition to the opaque analyses of biology and culture, there is also a lack of definition of the applicability of these studies of human nature to the New Europe. In fact, the first three chapters, which are meant to focus on biology and human nature, have little to do with Europe in any fashion or form. The final chapter in this first section, an essay by Lionel Tiger, focuses on the big picture of human reproduction and economic reproduction in Europe. His essay has little to do with the European market, however, which Tiger suggests is the subject of the book on the whole. In fact, only one essay in the entire volume analyzes the European Community (that on 'language and Federalism' by George Fletcher), and no more than three other chapters (of the book's total of eleven) focus on any aspect of any European Market. Perhaps the biggest problem in this volume is that no chapter seems to have anything more than an implicit connection to any other chapter, and few hold to a clear view of both human nature and Europe, new or old.

There is much that is of interest and value here, however, although the reader must be forgiven for reading the chapters as relatively idiosyncratic pieces. The two chapters by Paul Bohannan, on 'ethnocentrism and xenophobia' and 'an anthropological view of the New Europe' are intriguing analyses of the biological and culturological bases to human behavior in modern nation-states. Although these chapters do not specifically address an anthropology of the New Europe, or culturological views of the people of institutions of the New Europe, or anybody else's anthropological views of the New Europe (as a result, the second chapter's title may be

misleading), Bohannan deftly spins a tale of the "cosmic joke" of humanity: "the processes of learning the culture that make us human and make it possible for us to share ideas, also make us ethnocentric" (p. 79). He rightly points out that ethnocentrism, xenophobia, and nationalism are crucial elements in contemporary Europe and in the construction of a New Europe. Bohannan's overview of the social principles of biology and culture which all humans share serve as his introduction to the emerging forms of society and culture which are transforming life everywhere, including Europe. Other chapters which provide interesting perspectives on Europe are the aforementioned one by Fletcher and those by Robert Cooter and Robert Frank, whose contributions focus on the economic aspects of behavior in Eastern Europe. Michael Lehmann's concluding chapter on the principle of competition may be the best in the volume in terms of integrating biological, social, and economic perspective (but, alas, he says little about the New Europe). Overall, however, this volume lacks cohesion and a clear application to the development of a New Europe.

* CRETAN TIME

Wendy Joy Darby
New York City

Michael Herzfeld, *A Place in History: Social and Monumental Time in a Cretan town*. Princeton University Press, 1991.

Herzfeld examines the disputed ownership of history in the Cretan town of Rethemnos, which contains the best preserved examples of Renaissance Venetian domestic architecture outside of Italy. He shows how cultural hegemony of an "official" past is imposed upon Rethemniots, and how it is contested along highly factionalized and politicized lines.

The dialectical relationship of structure and process -- of state ideology and the exigencies of everyday life -- receive an additional layer of meaning when placed in the context of physical structures. The Archaeological Service's conservation effort is the physical embodiment of that debate put into social practice. It is the remembered past of partisan fighting and the post-Civil War witchhunt of communist party members, that informs the factionalized response to bureaucracy's exercise of power.

Many houses in the conservation area are derelict, their exterior walls patched up with elaborately incised plaster. (This patterned plaster is the scratch-coat to which tiles would normally be set, but which the owners cannot afford.) While the layering of history in Rethemnos, there is no officially sanctioned layering of the physical embodiment of that politia. The incised patterns are not part of an official past and therefore have to be covered over. It is this 'underneathness' which Herzfeld illuminates, demonstrating the plurality of history beneath the officially-sanctioned veneer.

This exploration of contested History/histories also focuses on the strategies of conservation officers, town planners, lawyers and judges as they negotiate a course between the formality of codified legal structure, and the informality of social life -- in which actors act arbitrarily and capriciously. Actors' strategies in using the rhetoric of the State conservation discourse are brilliant in their subversion of that discourse. A demolition

expert advises a Rethemiot who wishes to tear down his Old Town building, to seek a roof renewal permit instead. The old roof is removed and in the process the walls are strategically weakened. The new 'approved' roof is added, whereupon the whole structure collapses. Permission is granted to construct a new building.

Herzfeld analyses competing views of the past, and presentations of that past in the present. Both are constructed of rememberings and forgettings, of alliances and vendettas made with and against the State and local community. Herzfeld makes clear the social relations that produce a place in history.

* YUGOSLAVIAN DISINTEGRATION

Lynn Maners
UCLA

Branka Magas, *The Destruction of Yugoslavia*. Verso, 1993.

Subtitled "Tracking the Break-up 1980-92," this collection of Magas' essays covers a number of issues in post-Tito Yugoslavia. Organized chronologically within each section, the essays reflect what Magas considers to be five periods since the death of Tito. Part 1 focuses on Kosovo in the 80s and the questions it raised for the Yugoslav polity. Part 2 covers the Yugoslav reaction to the Polish Solidarity crisis. Part 3 focuses on the beginnings of the federal vs. republic conflict. Part 4 observes the collapse of the system while Part 5 covers the outbreak of armed conflict. The collection concludes with an essay on opposing the (Serbian) aggressor written in December, 1991. Thus, the extension of the war into Bosnia and the continuing tragedy of Sarajevo are not covered in this volume.

As a Croatian leftist historian and journalist (and a former editor of *New Left Review*), Magas' essays present a particular view, which is that Yugoslavia has been destroyed not by some ages old inexplicable Balkan bloodymindedness, but by the rise of Serbian ultranationalism and its capture of the reins of power. Many of her later essays reflect the shock of betrayal that many non-Serbian Marxists in which is now ex-Yugoslavia felt when their Belgrade colleagues, almost inexplicably, but seemingly ineluctably, began to convert intellectually to extreme nationalist Serbian positions. Readers should be aware that Magas writes with some passion, especially in the latter stages of the book as the full scope of the disaster begins to unfold. Her positions, seen less as anti-nationalism, a traditional goal of Marxism with its preoccupation with social classes and worker solidarity, than as anti-Serbian, have caused a certain amount of excitement during her recent book promotion tour. Here at UCLA, for example, commentary became quite heated to the point where some individuals stomped out of the room in anger. Interestingly enough, those individuals were a Bosnian Serb graduate student and the Bosnian Moslem editor of a quarterly entitled *The Bosnjak*.

Because Magas' essays focus so sharply on the Croat/Serb conflict as seen from London, she fails to place enough weight on certain other factors in the demise of Yugoslavia. Listed in no particular order of importance are, firstly, the role of Tito and the unworkability of his legacy of a rotating federal

presidency. Second is the social role of "veze" or personal contacts, which cross cut both ethnicity and party institutions, and third, the importance of religion (which goes almost unmentioned in this book).

Less personal than Draukulic's *The Balkan Express* (1993) and somewhat less current and comprehensive than either Glenn's *The Fall of Yugoslavia* (1992) or Thompson's *A Paper House* (1992), Magas' collection will be primarily of interest to those scholars who are interested in the history of the disintegration of the Yugoslav experiment in socialism, in the post-Tito era, as viewed from a committed leftist coign of vantage.

* CONSTRUCTIONS OF CURSING

James S. Amelang
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Stephen J. Greenblatt, *Learning to Curse: Essays in Early Modern Culture*. New York and London: Routledge, 1990. 188 pp. Index.

These eight essays on linguistic colonialism, anti-Semitism, scatological humor, family relations, attitudes toward peasants, and conceptions of the self in early modern Europe are virtuoso exercises in the "New Historicism." This approach calls for exploring literary texts by focusing on their historical "embeddedness" in "personal and institutional conflicts, negotiations, and appropriations" (161). Readers of this publication will find especially attractive Greenblatt's anthropologically informed sensitivity to studying the cultural logics of early modern societies as revealed by ostensibly marginal artifacts and episodes. This is, in short, a highly suggestive work, rich with lessons on how to explore cultural experience within a remarkable diversity of contexts.

* A HISTOR OF MUSEUMS

Marshall Joseph Becker
University of Pennsylvania

Eilean Hooper-Greenhill, *Museums and the Shaping of Knowledge*. New York: Routledge, 1992. ix + 232 pp.; 32 plates; bibliography, index. ISBN 0-415-06145-8 hb (also pb).

In this decade of increasing cost control at academic institutions, the various functions of museums are being brought under increasing scrutiny. Obviously anyone who reads this book, or who reads at all, will be likely to support continued public financing of museums. This carefully researched, well illustrated and informative volume narrates a history of museums in the western world. Hooper-Greenhill poses questions about where we are going in the world of museums, and why. The general task is carefully and effectively accomplished, but the path taken is not an easy one.

Hooper-Greenhill begins by asking "What is a museum?" Yet the text devoted to answering this most difficult question is perhaps the least effective chapter in the book. "The first museum of Europe?," the second chapter, also raises a question discussed in various ways but not really answered. The

collections of Cosimo de Medici and the goods amassed by his family as wealth are reviewed here. This collection, probably begun before 1440, increased as the family fortune grew, and after their magnificent *pallazzo* in Florence was completed. While Hooper-Greenhill makes clear that this is a private collection, she uses the contents to show how the *idea* of collecting may have begun. More emphasis, however, is placed on interpreting and translating terms as they relate to the items which were to be found in private collections, and the names used for the collections themselves and the places which they occupied within these *pallazi*.

The third chapter deals specifically with the Medici Palace, further explicating how wealth and treasured goods were one and the same thing. The author, noting that gems were the most valuable items, affirms that all these treasures were valued for their ease of conversion into gold. While noting that Cosimo de Medici's collection of books was maintained as an important unit, no mention is made of how this happened or where they now reside. Some idea of how the Medicis viewed these books, or what value books held to these early collectors, would be helpful.

Developments in the collecting of classical antiquities also are noted in chapter 3. During this period, "collecting" seems to have gone beyond the gathering of valuables to the purposeful collecting of works of art and the commissioning of sculpture for its own sake.

Skipping a century, the fourth chapter takes us to the early 17th century, by which time "cabinets" of curiosities (collections which I see as personal museums or proto-museums) are known from all over Europe. By the late 1500s the Swiss are well represented in this activity, and became party to an important transfer. Note is made of the purchase by the Basle Council of the collection of Basilius Amerbach, to prevent it from being sold abroad. This appears to me to be possibly the first "public" collection, or public museum, now known. Not date is given for this important event.

The fifth chapter - "The 'cabinet of the world'" - focuses on the *studiolo* of Francesco I (1541-87) and its holdings. This cabinet, in Florence, is reviewed as an example of an ordering of "things." Said to have been a secret collection, it appears to be one of many cabinets which did more than amass curiosities, but tried to use them to represent the rapidly expanding body of knowledge about the world as it was then becoming known. In doing so, the author believes, the world was being ordered and organized by these inquiring collectors. These artifacts appear as stimuli to the mind, which their owners and their friends used in order to build coherent cognitive systems from out of the limited religious mythologies which had served medieval scholars.

Chapter six focuses on the Royal Society in England, founded in 1660. Here we see the beginnings of science as it is now known - as a way of "knowing." The linguistic and philosophical discussion here may be confusing for the reader. The author concludes this section by noting that the Society was a "failure" (p. 165) largely because it became absorbed within The British Museum.

Chapter seven describes "The disciplinary museum." Hooper-Greenhill uses the Louvre as her prototype. In 1792 the Louvre was designated as the location of the French national

museum, thus "sharing" this private wealth with the "public." This certainly is one route to the creation of a modern museum. The Louvre complex, however, is not the first to segregate collections by category, as demonstrated by the separation of various parts of the Schloss Ambras collection (p. 89). I also wonder at the use of the term "legalised," in the context of peace treaties, to confirm title to war booty hauled off during the Napoleonic wars. Today the issue of ownership of cultural properties is a hot one, indeed!

The final chapter seeks to find uses in the past for present museum activities in Britain. The temporal leap over another century reads like a discontinuity in the text; a problem which is felt throughout the book. This lack of clear transitions suggests that a strong editorial hand might have caressed an interesting text into a more smoothly flowing narrative.

Throughout, much emphasis is placed on "conceptual" aspects of the development of museums, but I remain unclear as to how modern libraries, art museums, and other types of public collections derive from these early aggregations of things, not all of which had evident financial value. The role of weapons collections (war trophies and related curiosities), common by 1650, also is not mentioned.

Future editions of this books would do well to begin with chapter 2, "The first museum of Europe?," and end with more focus on the more perplexing question of "What is a museum?" A great deal of effort has been made to consider Foucaultian meanings of the words used to describe these collections and their containers, or the rooms in which they were displayed. The emphasis on attitudes towards the meaning of collecting and collections might have been augmented into a fine volume, but here this work seems to have been mixed with a different kind of text. Certainly if the reader does not like the work of M. Foucault, then my advice is to avoid this volume altogether. However, presented here is a great deal of very insightful information regarding concepts of collection and the evolution of these ideas.

* LANDSCAPE AND LANGUAGE

Wendy Joy Darby
New York City

Trevor J. Barnes and James S. Duncan, eds. *Writing Worlds: Discourse, text and metaphor in the representation of landscape*. London: Routledge, 1992.

Writing Worlds exposes the dynamics of power which shapes written and visual representations of landscape. Economics, geopolitics, art, literature and philosophy as they relate to geographical 'writing,' are deconstructed as intertextuality, contextuality, and polyvocality are explored in the labile boundary between literary theory and the social sciences, with special reference to anthropology. The facticity of mimetic representation and the privileging of text -- be it ethnographic or artistic, is demolished.

The Introduction deals with definitions of key concepts and terms, and places each contributor's chapter within the book's three themes of discourse, text and metaphor. Paradoxically, by virtue of postmodernism's ability to destabilize by demolishing the 'truth' of discourses, this critique of power in turn becomes a highly power-possessing discourse. (The

contributors themselves are 'writing geography' through the discourse of academia -- a power base with its own project and territory to defend, but this is one discourse which does not undergo deconstruction!)

Given that the majority of contributors deals with Europe or things European, what this reviewer found missing was Europe itself being addressed as a metanarrative.

* ROMANIA UNDER COMMUNISM AND AFTER

Arthur W Helweg
Western Michigan University

David A. Kideckel, *The Solitude of Collectivism: Romanian Villagers to the Revolution and Beyond*. Ithaca and London: Cornell University Press, 1993. Pp. 255.

The momentous events that have taken place in the former Soviet Union and Eastern Europe since 1989 have jolted the world. The surprise with which these changes took western observers, and subsequent failures in aid and development policies, indicate a basic lack of understanding for the Second World. In *The Solitude of Collectivism*, David Kideckel rightly indicates a major cause of improper analysis and understanding when he writes that the

rise, persistence, and fall of socialism are explained mainly by reference to state-level practices alone When individuals are considered, they are often viewed as homogenized masses . . . (p. 3, 4)

He points out that macro-level analysis, used by disciplines like economics and political science, "mythologized those societies and the power of the socialist state" (p. 4).

Kideckel illustrates the above points in this superb and timely study by examining how the people of Olt Land, an industrialized region in the south-central region of Romania's Transylvania area, responded to Romanian Communism and post 1989 revolution policies. In this micro-level study, Kideckel implicitly shows the fallacy of relying solely on macro-level analysis. By describing the actual behavioral and attitudinal responses of Romanian villagers and workers to pre and post 1989 revolution government policies, Kideckel, among other things, shows how Romanian socialism, a system designed to "motivate people by the needs of the group and the society as a whole," created people "who were of necessity self-centered, distrustful, and apathetic . . ." (p. xiii). He explains how institutions developed to facilitate the state's domination also created conditions and a consciousness that led to its demise.

A careful reading of this superbly written, adeptly organized and well argued study will reveal that many perceptions of the West to pre and post revolutionary periods of the Second World are wrong. By describing the actual responses of a community to socialist policies, Kideckel shows how national programs and policies had unintended consequences, a lesson development planners in the West also need to know; and how these responses led to the revolution and collapse of Ceausescu's regime in Romania.

Of course, much more study needs to be done, but I agree with Kideckel when he postulates that the understanding of Romania's Olt Landers provides insight as to what caused totalitarian collapses in other parts of Eastern Europe and the former Soviet Union.

* * * * *

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Beach, H., *A Year In Lapland..*
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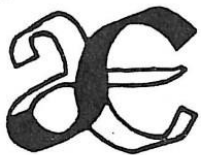
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