



The Australian Anthropological Society Newsletter

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The AAS Newsletter

David Martin (interim Editor)

The AAS Newsletter is one of the major ways in which the Society communicates with its members, and should provide a forum for members to exchange ideas, information about such matters as upcoming conferences, important new publications, and so forth. It should complement the AAS website (see page 5), and the AAS internet discussion group AASNet.

For it to play these roles effectively, it is important that members support it, through providing such items as:

- Notices on upcoming conferences
- Short book reviews or brief notices regarding important new publications
- Short articles on issues of importance to the discipline (longer articles can be published on the Website)

- Notices and articles of importance to the Society.

The Newsletter however can only be as useful as members' contributions make it. The next edition is due out in March, 2002. Please send hard copy to: AAS, LPO Box 99, ANU, Canberra ACT 2601, or electronic copy to David Martin, at:

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Challenges for AAS

The following is from the address given by Julie Finlayson to the AAS annual conference in Melbourne, in her capacity as President.

In this address I focus on three critical challenges. These challenges resonate with the theme of this year's conference, *2001-the end of an Odyssey*.

The introduction to the conference program suggests that while the discipline has experienced moments of crisis following an odyssey of adventurous wanderings and reflections, it has also managed to transform itself through specialisation of interests within a pluralist framework together with a serious re-think of its enterprise and objectives. Such re-orientation has transformed method and theory and focus.

Many of these shifts have been a direct response to pressures exerted by indigenous peoples and the development and critique of a post-colonial consciousness. However in Australia, anthropology is still, it seems to me, yet to fully recognise the nature of the disciplinary and professional crisis and to locate practical and institutional paths for resolution.

The three challenges I identify for discussion here are:

- first, that anthropology is fundamentally changing as solely an academically focused discipline;
- second, that the survival of the discipline will require support from the all arenas of anthropological practice within both the academy and in 'applied work', and
- that in Australia, the capacity to develop and expand the professional body is currently limited by professional indifference and lack of collegiality.

I will now explore these points in detail.

Fundamental changes in the discipline

First, anthropology as an academically focused discipline is under pressure to change.

Key indicators concerning the discipline's health, suggest some emerging challenges occurring across a number of fronts. The same challenges are present irrespective of context; that is to say, whether we are discussing anthropology as a teaching and research enterprise in the academy or within the context of paid consultancy work and/or salaried employment with private and public sector organisations. Indeed, there is a session in this conference discussing how such issues will impact on anthropology post-graduate students and what options are available to ameliorate the impact.

A primary focus of this session convened by Fiona Magowan and Margaret Jolly is how best to deal with the structural changes proposed by DETYA. The Department is setting in place requirements to accelerate completion of a thesis within four years and to implement a system of financial rewards and penalties for universities in terms of completion failures and successes. Universities must therefore develop sustainable options for retaining students under these conditions while also managing to upholding intellectual standards.

However, if pressure is being applied by DETYA, other forces for change are equally impressive in their capacity to reshape the form and content of post-graduate studies in anthropology. Many of these forces are market driven. In the discussion of career options for anthropology graduates in America for example, a recent publication by the AAA says that,

'Since 1985, over half of all new Ph.Ds in anthropology have taken non-academic

positions in research institutes, non-profit associations, government agencies, world organisations, and private corporations. While the job market is relatively steady, demand for anthropologists is increasing in other areas... [Source; AAA web site 20/06/01. Careers in Anthropology].

In Australia we are beginning to mirror the same trend of increasing employment opportunities in anthropology *outside* the academy.

Why should this be so?

There are suggestive explanations. To begin with, the profession is 'greying'. It is also failing to reproduce itself. In addition, there are not the available career vacancies in a contracting fiscal environment. University work loads are also changing with staff now expected to add to an already over burdened teaching load, a requirement to participate in administration, as well as contributing to research, writing and publishing.

Academic life in universities is increasingly dominated by managerialism, evidenced by performance monitoring, departmental reviews, and a trend for staff time to be devoted to procedural and administrative matters, rather than in teaching and research.

Presumably post-graduate students recognise the onerous demands on time and energy of staff and may be disinclined to choose an academic life if other choices are available.

The greying of the discipline is a significant factor. A colleague who raised this factor posed a confronting question: How many departments *do not* have the bulk of their teaching staff over 45-50 years of age? There is clearly a link between a decline in post-graduate numbers and available academic positions.

However, in Australia there is a further suggestive explanation, namely, a steady market demand for anthropologists to work as both consultants to, and as employees of, indigenous organisations.

The genesis of the demand began during the heady days of the Federal Whitlam government. Land rights legislation mooted for the Northern Territory combined with Federal funding to establish incorporated indigenous organisations for service deliver in housing, education, medical and legal services and land related matters.

The development of ATSIC in 1989 and the introduction of the Native Title Act 1993 have further accelerated government-funded

employment opportunities for anthropologists. In 2001 the current demand for anthropologists to work in native title related research exceeds the supply. Yet even in this context native title researchers tend in the main to be grey haired, if not grey bearded.

These shifting employment dynamics and demographic factors challenge the professional body by posing a fundamental with a basic issue: how does the discipline respond effectively and strategically?

Survival dependent on broad support

I turn now to my second point.

Currently, AAS has an active membership of around 300 people. This represents a diminishing number from approximately 400 members we had in the previous financial year of 2000-2001, but it also represents a doubling of the membership from 156 members listed in 1993. At that time, it was estimated that such a figure included 'virtually all the permanent staff of university Anthropology Departments and Sections'¹.

In terms of my earlier comment about the demographics of the profession nearly half of the 300 AAS members are fellows, that is individuals with higher degree qualifications and thus presumably part of the greying population of the Society.

If, as a discipline we are not reproducing ourselves, what, if anything, do we intend to do about this? What is increasingly obvious is the need for a new conceptualisation of anthropology as a discipline and as a career path.

Following an Australia-wide survey of major anthropology departments, evidence suggests students have a growing diversity of career options, and further, that after graduation, anthropologists are more likely to find work in the so-called 'applied' field than in the academy.

The survey also exposed the fact that anthropology departments vary in the degree to which they monitor placements

or maintain an on-going relationship with former graduates. In effect, this means that some university departments more than others have the capacity to monitor student satisfaction, respond to changes in their potential client base, and to argue strategically with funding agencies.

Such variations between universities leads to a wider question: if we are not monitoring our effectiveness in terms of employment outcomes, is it because we see few meaningful links between what happens in teaching anthropology in the academy and what happens to graduates practising anthropology outside it?

In answering this question I think we need to consider what relationship should exist between the professional association, the academy, and field based anthropologists.

However, developing and sustaining such links will be no small feat if present indications of professional commitment are reliable. Indeed, this foreshadows my third point.

Lack of collegiality

If as a professional body, AAS is to grapple effectively and strategically with the challenges of teaching and research - irrespective of the unnecessary 'pure and applied' divide- then we need the courage to critique the pervasive malaise of a professional culture largely indifferent to professionalism and collegiality.

To survive the current challenges, anthropologists need assistance from AAS as a professional body; but the organisation needs to operate collegially with reference to goals and objectives that go beyond a self-serving individualism. David Trigger raised such matters at last year's [2000] annual meeting in Perth. He argued that it was time we lifted our game as a 'discipline-based scholarly and professional organisation'. In particular, he viewed AAS as beset by:

- endemic amateurism,
- the growing, unmet needs of the membership,
- the importance of developing a strong and active national body, and
- a 'less individualistic pursuit of self interest and a greater collective sense of common discipline-wide interests'. In his view such qualities were too often missing among senior staff in established departments.

In 2001 the critique still holds. One of the reasons I can say this with confidence is by

¹ Source: Letter from AAS to Secretary of the Senate Standing Committee on Employment, Education and Training, Inquiry into the organisation and funding of research in higher education. July 23, 1993. Nine departmental heads or representatives signed the letter.

examining how we, her colleagues, treated Dr Deane Fergie over the past five years in relation to the Hindmarsh Island heritage issues. It is not only issues of material fact and process that have been investigated first, by a Royal Commission, then debated in the media, and finally litigated in civil court action, but also Deane's credibility and professional standing as an anthropologist.

Before informing you of a small part of what her experience of being judged as an anthropologist and as a professional was like I think it is important that as a group we recognise a number of key points associated with her situation. First,

- that *any one of us* could have been in her position as a consequence of the volatility and politicization of consultancy work in Aboriginal Australia. Indeed, many anthropologists involved in applied work overseas face on occasions these same conditions. The difficulties of such a working environment stem, in part, from confrontation between different sets of values, and the often-fraught relations between commercial enterprise developments, and in Australia, legislative conditions for preservation of traditional Australian indigenous culture. In Asia and the Pacific, it may be the lack of protective legislation that contributes to a fraught research process.
- Second, that those seeking explanations for the Hindmarsh situations primarily in terms of the personal identity of the individual, too often do so while ignoring professional and practice issues at the core of the controversy.

In terms of what support Deane received from her colleagues, let me simply say that she fought out her case in the absence of significant support from her fellow anthropologists. Those who have experienced vigorous cross-examination as expert witnesses in adversarial contexts will have a capacity to imagine what she faced. But in Deane's estimation, her difficulties were compounded by the indifference of her peers. This 'silence', whatever its origin—in ignorance, disagreement, embarrassment, failure to grasp or be informed of the core issues, personal antipathy or just plain apathy because of a different disciplinary focus—resulted in a

deafening silence that continued **after** Justice von Doussa's judgment exonerated her professional conduct.

Conclusion

While such treatment was personally devastating to Deane Fergie, it is the wider issue exemplified by her experience that needs to be addressed.

Why are we apathetic about issues of anthropological practice when they involve colleagues; in the same way, in fact, that we are indifferent to the development of an active professional body?

Does the fact that anthropology is traditionally conducted through personal relationships with a single key informant or a small group of critical individuals limit our capacity to empathise with others once we are outside the field?

In the twenty-first century, anthropology has survived the difficult odyssey out of its colonial past. But we need to do more than congratulate ourselves on that point. If we are to flourish rather than simply survive as a discipline, we need to grasp the nettle of the changes confronting us professionally and embrace them.

As a beginning, I would urge you to support your professional association beyond just renewing your annual membership, encourage students to see the worth of participation in professional membership, and work to challenge the notion that a gap between anthropology inside and outside the academy should continue. I look forward to your contributions making a difference in 2002.

*Julie Finlayson, President AAS,
September 2001*

Updating the AAS Code of Ethics

It is arguable that the existing AAS Code of Ethics is anachronistic in a number of important respects, and does not take account of the diverse circumstances in which members of the Society are engaged in their anthropological practice. The code is available on the AAS website (see below).

A small working group has been established to update the code of ethics. They are David Trigger, Fiona Powell, John Morton, Jan Anderson, Brian Fegan, David Martin and Julie Finlayson.

Submissions to the working group from members would be greatly appreciated. They should be made to Julie Finlayson (Julie.Finlayson@anthropos.com.au).

Postgraduate issues

Yasmine Musharbash

At the 2001 AAS Conference at LaTrobe, Melbourne, one whole morning was devoted to postgraduate issues. One idea that came out of these very fruitful discussions was to try and turn the AAS into a more postgraduate-friendly organisation.

Obviously, this can only be done if there is actually a substantial postgraduate membership! Currently, the membership fee for postgraduates is only \$13 annually, so if you're not a member already, do consider applying.

Another thing discussed, was to have an extra day for postgraduates at the next AAS conference, to be held in Canberra at the ANU. It's a while until then, but do let me know if you're interested in getting involved in this or any other AAS related postgraduate matters. Fiona Magowan (Adelaide University) will be assisting postgraduates in setting up some kind of committee-like structure and it'd be great to have a wide forum.

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AAS website update

David Martin

The AAS website should provide an important means through which the Society communicates with its members, and through which it presents itself to the wider world as the national professional association of the discipline. The current site however achieves neither of these objectives.

As an interim measure, a number of minor changes have been made to the existing AAS website (currently hosted at the ANU at <http://anthropology.anu.edu.au>), including updating the names of the Executive, contact details, and the Membership application form. The plenary paper delivered by Jeremy Beckett at the AAS conference in Melbourne has also been made available on the site for download.

The Executive have engaged a web designer to professionalise and modernise

the site. It is also intended that the new site will allow for working papers on a range of topics to be available. The 'Clearing House' section of the website will be operationalised, with access restricted to Clearing House members only.

Finally, we have been advised that it is necessary, for legal reasons, to move the site from its current location on an ANU server. We are currently investigating an appropriate web hosting company. This will also involve obtaining a 'domain' for AAS, such as <http://www.aas.asn.au> (the 'asn' being a domain for associations such as ours). While there will be costs associated with this, the advantage is that it will be independent of where the Executive and Secretariat of the AAS are physically located, and will further assist in the promoting a more professional image for the Society.

AAS 2002 conference

Mark Mosko

Seeking to follow the fine example established by colleagues at La Trobe this year, Francesca Merlan and Mark Mosko are happy to announce that ANU will be hosting the 2002 annual AAS conference on 3-5 October. Rooms and other facilities at the Manning Clarke Centre adjacent to the Student Union have been secured. A programme committee is now being established. AAS members will be kept advised of developments through future announcements, but in the meantime should begin planning possible sessions. Sessions and presentations involving honours and postgraduate students are being particularly encouraged (see also 'Postgraduate issues', page 5 above).

Anthropologists as advocates?

Paul Burke

The latest legal judgment in the long-running Hindmarsh Island saga, delivered on 21 August 2001, rejected claims of negligence against the anthropologist involved, Dr Dean Fergie. Initial relief gave way to some confusion about aspects of Justice von Doussa's judgment that seemed to open the door to anthropologists being engaged as advocates, as opposed to independent experts, in some limited circumstances such as this case. In a legal analysis of the

judgment undertaken by Paul Burke, it is argued that anthropologists who wish to avoid this characterisation of their work may now have to be more vigilant in negotiating the terms of their contractual arrangements. In particular, in relation to work that does not involve them appearing as expert witnesses in court, they may have negotiate terms that explicitly cover:

- a right to undertake an independent review of the relevant literature;
- a right to test the veracity of information received;
- a right to raise matters that are relevant but do not necessarily advance the interests of their clients; and
- arrangements for peer review.

Justice von Doussa's decision is currently under appeal to the full Federal Court and so is not the last word on the issue. Nevertheless, it does provide some guidance about minimal acceptable standards for the preparation of anthropological reports. The full analysis by Paul Burke will soon be posted on the AAS homepage.

A proposal for AAS eColloquia

Deane Fergie

Recently AAS President Julie Finlayson posted a message on the AASnet discussion group/bulletin board. In it she acknowledged the disquiet of those who feel their interests and needs are not sufficiently served by 'The Society'. In her posting Julie Finlayson turned the issue around, and suggested that we all take some responsibility for making the Society do the kind of work we need it to do for us. With that call in mind and for member's information, I outline a *proposal-under-development*. The aim of this proposal is to contribute to the scholarly vitality of Australian anthropology by using AAS web resources more fully. At present the AAS home page is a relatively static public information site about the Society, its membership and annual conferences. Any one can 'visit' our home page on-line. AASnet is different. It is a subscribers-only 'bulletin board' which functions mainly as an ephemeral information-posting/requesting site. Not all members of AAS subscribe to AASnet and not all subscribers to AASnet are members of the Society.

ePublishing and eColloquia

My proposal is aimed at enabling one or other of these AAS web resources *also* (and probably spasmodically) to be a vital site of disciplinary scholarship, analysis and debate. The essence of the proposal is for the electronic publication of papers and on-line discussion stemming from them. In effect I am proposing that the AAS occasionally host and publish electronic 'seminar papers' and thematic colloquia. This would enlarge the Society's capacity to constitute and serve the broad interests and needs of our disciplinary community.

The AAS executive has expressed its in-principal support for the initiative and asked me to develop it in co-operation with David Martin (as AASnet list-owner) and Michael Allen (as editor of *The Australian Journal of Anthropology*). As I understand it David Martin is seeking to have an eColloquia facility built in to the re-designed AAS home page. He has also offered to do some of the groundwork entailed in determining whether and / or how we can develop our ePublications/ colloquia so that they count for DETYA purposes. With quality in mind I am proposing that papers for AAS ePublication be subjected to a peer review process.

Though (as you will see below) mine is a specific thematic proposal, the broader intention is to pioneer a process which makes space for others with quite different interests to follow, if and when an issue and committed editorial leader emerges. There are many prospects for AAS eColloquia: ethnographically founded interests, particular theoretical, substantive or practical problems and discussions of the contemporary predicaments of anthropological practice. Some thematic areas may achieve a 'standing' presence on AAS web pages. In these cases editorial and review panels might undertake peer appraisals of occasional papers submitted and also encourage the development of more specific issue colloquia under their ambit in response to proposals and offers from members to take on editorial responsibility. Other eColloquia and their editorial/ review panels will predictably prove to be one-offs.

The general shape of the process that I envisage is not unlike conference panel development, though with added layers of peer review, copy-editing and 'posting'. The first obvious step will be the assumption of an editorial leadership role by a member of the Society, their development of a specific topical

proposal and liaison with the AAS executive. The editor will then manage the establishment of a panel of people willing and able to act as peer reviewers for the topic. Papers will be called for and/or invited, reviewed, copy-edited and published as on-line postings. At this point general discussion and response to the papers will be invited from every one 'on the line'. Members will post responses and commentaries on the ePublished papers. Ideally these will develop into 'strings' of comments (strung together by a common 'subject' entry). Subscribers/Members will be able to follow discussion strings as they come in or read them later. This kind of discussion and critical commentary might in its turn lead to further full papers and more on-line discussion.

Some papers may be further revised on the basis of the eDiscussion and submitted to paper journals for publication (this may require permission from the AAS executive as publishers). Michael Allen has indicated that he, as *TAJA* editor, will be on the lookout for papers which could be published in *TAJA* following that journal's own review processes.

Anthropological knowledge, pedagogy and practice

My specific proposal is that AAS pioneer ePublishing/colloquia with papers and on-line discussion around the theme of *Anthropological knowledge, pedagogy and practice*.

This theme is an attempt to invigorate discussion in the fertile borderland between the administrative / funding division of academic labour into 'teaching and learning' and 'research' works. I see it as a broad theme capable of including everything from discussions of the integral relationship of teaching/learning and research in anthropology to particular strategies for teaching and leaning anthropology or discussions of managing and funding anthropological research in contemporary Australia. Theoretically informed ethnographic analyses of educational, research or other knowledge institutions, or discussions of the sociology or political economy of knowledge in a wide variety of ethnographic settings will also be welcome. So too will contributions about government education policy formation be welcome. I am also interested in 'book reviews' and

would love to hear if someone is willing to review Ann Game and Andrew Metcalfe's book *Passionate Sociology* (Sage, 1996) as a discussion-starter. Indeed I am open to suggestions for further more specific colloquia under the general ambit of *Anthropological knowledge, pedagogy and practice*.

I have recently begun approaching Society members from around the country to be on a peer review panel for the broad topic. In the process I have discovered that a number of anthropologists have won acclamation for their teaching excellence in their home Universities but have not broadcast their success further. So far I have discovered prizewinners at Adelaide, ANU and UWA. While I don't see prize winning as a requirement for being a reviewer, I would like to approach such people directly for papers, review or editorial roles. I am also seeking out those with research interests in issues of pedagogy and practice, or the sociology of knowledge more generally. My networks are limited and a little jaded. If you think you or someone else would be good on a review panel don't be shy: please let me know.

While there remains some behind-the-scenes development work to do, the next 'public' stage in this initiative will be a call for papers. Please start contemplating contributions, and encourage others to contribute. I would be pleased to receive indications of interest immediately. My hope is that our web resources will be sufficiently settled to enable the posting of a formal call for papers at the beginning of February with a deadline for submission just after Easter. I hope we will then be in a position to publish the papers and invite on-line discussion in May/June. Whatever the larger future of AAS ePublishing I look forward to presenting *Anthropological Knowledge, Pedagogy, Practice* as an AAS eColloquia in mid-2002.

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TAJA Annual Report

Michael Allan, Editor

Publication record

Once again, the journal has received a satisfactory intake of material for possible

TAJA SUBSCRIPTIONS

	Australasia Institutions	Europe Institutions	USA Institutions	Asia Institutions	Individuals	Total
10:2 (1999)	53	146	133	43	103	478
11:2 (2000)	63	120	120	45	89	437
12:2 (2001)	62	114	121	44	94	434

publication. For the three issues ending August 2001 (11:3, 12:1 and 12:2) we received a total of 30 articles of which we published 20, and in addition we published 38 book reviews, including 2 book review essays. A notable innovation in 12:1 was a controversial article written by Nigel Rapport presented in conjunction with five critical comments together with Nigel's response. We are also well placed for the year ahead with Special Issue 13 edited by Fiona Magowan and John Gordon on the topic of "Beyond Syncretism: Indigenous Expressions of World Religion" (8 papers plus introduction) due out in December 2001 (12:3), another Special Issue edited by Catherine Palmer on the topic of the "Anthropology of Sport" recently submitted and a front runner for publication next year, and yet a third Special Issue edited by Diane Austin-Broos and on the topic of "Assimilation Blues: Aborigines and Policy Today" in the pipeline. We also currently hold some 11 unpublished individual papers and 36 book reviews.

Finances

I attach the financial statements for the year ending 30 June 2001 (see page 12 below). In my report last year I commented on the fact that for that year we had an exceptionally small surplus of \$1,274. I noted that the principal reason for this was that in order to avoid having to pay GST on the printing costs for issue 11:2, due out in August 2000, we sent it to the printers in June, that is, prior to the introduction of the GST. In other words, the 2000-2001 financial statement includes printing costs for only two instead of three issues, a reduction of some \$4,500 in expenditure. For similar reasons, we also prepaid in June 2000 the labour costs for wrapping and mailing all issues up to and including December of this year, an amount of \$3,443 that would otherwise have figured in this year's expenses. Further savings of approximately \$1,500 were made when

production costs (mostly word processing and formatting) were transferred to the editor. As a result of these arrangements, this year's surplus of \$20,675 has been inflated by some \$9,443.

Subscriptions

Despite the current rosy state of our finances, there are some worrying features regarding the subscription base. From about 1995 to 1999 subscriptions have been fairly steady within a range of approximately 460 to 480. During that period my concern was the absence of any significant increase, especially from AAS members and fellows. However, over the past three years that concern has begun to focus on loss.

The figures below indicate that the loss has been mostly of institutional subscribers in the United States and in Europe. Though the Australian institutions look somewhat better, over the past month, that is, since the figures below were compiled, we have had four Australian institutions (Chifley Library ANU, Australian Museum, University of Western Sydney and Queensland Museum) cancelling subscriptions. Two of these subscribers (The University of Western Sydney and the ANU), have told us that they were cancelling because they now have access to TAJA in electronic form, and it seems highly likely that this may also lie behind many of the overseas losses. Though we do from time to time get modest sums of money in the form of royalty payments from those organisations to whom we have granted the right to distribute the journal electronically, it comes nowhere near compensating for the loss of regular institutional subscriptions. In other words, the trend is ominous and in the medium to long term likely to become a serious threat to our economic survival. For the moment I can see no way to combat such a threat, so any ideas are most welcome. Thus far, I am relying on personal appeals to Australian university libraries by recruiting the help of the relevant departments of anthropology - this approach

has so far reversed a Macquarie University library cancellation.

After a careful consideration of our current subscription rate we decided to leave the 2002 institutional rates unchanged (the last increase was in 1999 - from \$90 to \$118) but to increase the individual rate for AAS members/fellows from \$40 to \$50 and for non-AAS individuals from \$55 to \$60.

Management

In my report for last year I commented on the difficulties we were then experiencing in office management, first through the retirement of Robyn Wood on June 30, 2000 and then through the emerging health problems of her replacement Shirley Dean. Shirley informed me in October that on her doctor's advice she had no option but to resign. For a few weeks the situation looked bleak but then quite unexpectedly Robyn decided that retirement did not after all suit her and Denis and that they would be prepared to resume their duties. Needless to say, I breathed a sigh of relief and for the past 10 months both she and Denis have been happily back at work and are likely to stay with us for at least another few years.

Late May another disruption to management occurred when our office in Fisher Library was broken into and our new Imac computer was stolen. We had assumed that it was covered by Sydney Uni insurance (as used to be the case) but this was not so. Because of the fear of yet further thefts we were also disinclined to buy yet another new one, especially since it is mostly used only for email purposes. Eventually we were given a perfectly good second-hand Mac for nothing and a month later we were finally back in communication. We even have two additional back-up second-hand Macs, also donated by kind people with more up to date models. One might now say that we seem to be adequately fulfilling our categorisation by the tax department as a "charitable organisation"!

The third major change in management was the mutual decision of TAJA and the AAS to establish separate offices and this occurred, at least from our perspective, quite smoothly and amicably over the Christmas/New Year period when the AAS moved to the ANU. Indeed, it suited us very well for it was also a major factor in

Robyn's decision to resume work with only TAJA to look after.

Publication announcement

**AN ANTHROPOLOGIST IN PAPUA:
THE PHOTOGRAPHY OF F.E. WILLIAMS,
1922-1939: Michael W. Young and Julia
Clark:** A co-publication of the National
Archives of Australia and Crawford House
Publishing

F.E. Williams was one of the most talented and productive anthropologists of his generation. Australian-born and Oxford-trained, he spent twenty years - the entirety of his working career - as Government Anthropologist in the Australian Territory of Papua, then ruled by the 'benignly paternalistic' pro-consul, Sir Hubert Murray.

Williams' commitment to applied anthropology partly eclipsed his scholarly achievements. His career was coterminous with the reign of functionalism in British social anthropology. This is a good part of his historical significance, for he was in a unique position to fulfil some of the prescriptions of Bronislaw Malinowski's revolution concerning intensive (and extended) fieldwork and 'practical' anthropology. It was fitting, too, that Williams worked in Papua, homeland of the British ethnographic tradition as developed by A.C. Haddon and C.G. Seligman and brought to full maturity by Malinowski. As the dominant theoretical paradigm between the wars, functionalism was impossible to ignore. Although a diffident theorist, Williams was a discerning and exacting one. While accepting functionalism in good measure, he had the practical experience to judge its limitations. He repudiated the view that cultures were integrated wholes and that societies were systems of smoothly interlocking institutions. His argument that culture was always to some extent 'a hotch-potch and sorry tangle' was heresy in the halls of British academe and it is arguable that Williams' peers denied him the reputation he deserved.

Williams' fieldwork in Papua was of unprecedented breadth and duration. The rich and varied ethnography he bequeathed (most of it published in six monographs) is complemented by some 2000 glass plates and negatives. His photographic record of the peoples he worked among spans almost two decades: from 1922 when he made his first

trip to the Purari Delta, to 1939 when he visited the newly contacted Lake Kutubu and neighbouring valleys. During this period Williams took photographs in about eighteen different ethnographic locations scattered throughout the eight administrative Divisions of the Territory. His photography is therefore unique in its coverage of the inhabitants of Australia's largest colony.

One of the aims of this book is to document, through Williams' own photographs and whenever possible through his own words, the sheer variety of his ethnographic discoveries and fieldwork experiences. Some 240 images have been selected, about 200 of which appear in print for the first time. A substantial introductory essay provides the biographical, historical and anthropological contexts of Williams' ethnographic and photographic achievement. Such contexts are essential for a proper appreciation of his work: notably, the colonial milieu of Papua in the 1920s and 30s; Williams' important relationship with Lt-Governor Murray (with whom he did not always see eye-to-eye on matters of government policy); and his relationship with academic mentors such as Malinowski and R.R. Marett (who memorably said of Williams that he was 'a fine soldier who would make a grand explorer'). This book, then, is a pictorial celebration of the work of a brilliant ethnographer.

The book is being launched by Dr Tim Flannery, Director of the South Australian Museum at 12:30pm, Monday 10 December at the National Archives of Australia, Queen Victoria Terrace, Parkes ACT. All AAS members are invited.

Conferences, calls for papers

Strehlow Research Centre Conference, 18-20 September 2002, Alice Springs

The Strehlow Conference will be a forum for discussion of:

- Central Australian identities: Indigenous and non-Indigenous
- Narratives of collecting and their impact on the present
- The changing role of museums and the mediation of culture

- Addressing the secret and the sacred today
- Moral rights, image ethics, and cultural property
- The Strehlows in the context of British and German ethnologies
- The Strehlow Collection: New research

Invited speakers include members of the Strehlow family; Professor Diane Austin-Broos, University of Sydney; Dr Hart Cohen, University of Western Sydney; Mr Ian Dunlop, ethnographic film maker; Ms Jenny Green, linguist; Mr Barry Hill, writer; Dr Les Hiatt, AIATSIS, Dr Philip Jones, South Australian Museum, Mr Dick Kimber, historian; Dr John Morton, La Trobe University; Assoc. Prof. Walter Veit, Monash University; Professor Klaus-Peter Koepping, University of Heidelberg (Germany); Dr Ingrid Heerman, Linden-Museum (Germany); Mr Heinrich Middendorf, University of Heidelberg (Germany) .

A brochure to register for the Strehlow Conference will be available in April 2002.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Strehlow Research Centre
PO Box 831
ALICE SPRINGS NT 0871
Ph. 08 89511111
Fax. 08 89511110
Or email us direct at
brett.galtsmith@nt.gov.au

Brett Galt-Smith
Research Director
STREHLOW RESEARCH CENTRE

Revolution & Pedagogy: Interdisciplinary Perspectives on Change

The Ohio State University

Our conference will explore pedagogy as a focus of struggles by both conservative and radical revolutionary groups and regimes for control of mentalities. Scholars from all disciplines are invited to present specific case studies, address general issues associated with these conflicts, or explore historical parallels. The Ohio State University's consortium of Area Studies Centers, the Mershon Center, and interested departments will convene this international, interdisciplinary meeting in Columbus, Ohio, April 18-20, 2002. Paper-presenters' travel, room and board costs will be covered. Inclusion in the Program will require prior submission of a finished draft paper to the organizing committee. We plan to publish an edited volume of selected papers from the

conference. Honoraria will be awarded for papers accepted for publication.

Deadline for Proposal Submissions: Postmark Date January 7, 2002. **Deadline for Electronic Submissions:** January 14, 2002

Notification Date for Papers accepted for the Program: February 10, 2002

Due date for accepted papers to be received by the Program Committee: March 30, 2002.

The Ohio State University
Attn: Dr. Margaret Mills, Chair
Department of Near Eastern Languages & Cultures
203 Botany & Zoology Building
1735 Neil Avenue
Columbus, OH 43210
Phone: (614) 292-7136
Email: conference2002@osu.edu

Recovering the Past: Resources, Representations, and Ethics of Research in Oceania.

Call for papers: The next conference of the European Society for Oceanists (ESfO) will be held in Vienna, Austria, from 4 to 6 July 2002, co-hosted by the Austrian-South Pacific Society, the Institute for Cultural and Social Anthropology/Vienna University and the Centre for Scientific Research of the Slovenian Academy of Sciences and Arts.

For more information about the conference, timetable, description of working sessions, and a registration form on our conference, see the webpage (from Dec 15):

<http://www.univie.ac.at/esfo-conference/>

For more information about the ESfO in general:

<http://cc.joensuu.fi/esfo/index.html>

The deadline for preliminary registration and for abstracts is January 20, 2002.

Mailing address:

ESfO-Conference Committee
c/o Institute for Cultural and Social Anthropology
Vienna University
Universitaetsstrasse 7/NIG/IV
A-1010 Vienna, Austria.

Phone: +43-1-4277-485-08; Fax: +43-1-4277-9485;

Dr. Hermann Mückler (chair):
hermann.mueckler@univie.ac.at

Mag. Margit Wolfsberger (conference secretary): m.wolfsberger@gmx.at

Call for papers, Social Analysis (Gerry Bloustien)

This is a call for papers concerning a special edition of *Social Analysis*, 47: 3 entitled: *Envisioning Ethnography: exploring the complexity of visual methods in ethnographic research*, which I am editing, to be published in November 2003 by Berghahn Books, New York.

The kind of work I am seeking is that which demonstrates a reflexive approach to ethnographic fieldwork, exploring the complex methodological, theoretical and ethical implications of the visual in ethnography. I am planning to include key researchers from Australia, UK, Europe and USA to create an exciting and stimulating anthology.

The length of the articles will be restricted to about 7000 words as there will also be some book reviews in this review in this edition. Proposed title and abstracts should be sent to me Gerry Bloustien, no later than December 18th 2001.

Full papers should be sent by February 30th 2002. Further deadlines and information about the refereeing process will be sent early in 2002. The style guide and further advice for authors can be found on the Berghahn Books web site: <http://www.berghahnbooks.com/>. Please follow the links to US publishing style guide.

Dr Geraldine Bloustien
Senior Lecturer
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TAJA Financial statement 2000/2001

THE AUSTRALIAN JOURNAL OF ANTHROPOLOGY

Statement of income and expenditure

FOR THE 12 MONTHS ENDED 30th JUNE, 2001

1999-2000

2000-2001

INCOME			
	Subscriptions		
35,242	- Current	33,230	
4,687	- Back (Prior Year)	8,259	
309	- Special	294	41,783
	Interest		
1,076	- Commonwealth Cheque Account - St. James	1,298	
22	- Commonwealth Fixed Deposit Account - St. James	20	
2,356	- Commonwealth Fixed Deposit Account - St. James	1,839	3,157
	Other Income		
1,000	- AAS Annual Subscription to TAJA	1,000	
2,340	- Copyright Royalties	2,687	
	- Sale of Computer	500	
1,000			
	- Subsidy from La Trobe for publishing of TAJA 10:2		
72	- General Income		4,187
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48,104			49,127
	EXPENDITURE		
270	Bank Charges	412	
1,925	Book Reviews	270	
120	Computer Equipment - Keyboard		
	Computer Services - University of Sydney	240	
	Computer - Apple Macintosh and Laser Printer	2,078	
6,050	Editorial Expenses (M.R.Allen and P.Newton)	5,400	
543	General Expenses	777	
720	Preparation of Accounts		
5,451	Postage	4,554	
17,445	Printing	8,840	
3,506	Production Costs		
	Professional Services -		
3,444	Darwood Pty Ltd	2,335	
1,115	Shirley Dean	2,900	
60	Refund of subscription	10	
60	Royalties		
364	Software		
183	Stationery	19	
281	Telephone and fax	567	
1,850	Training of new staff	50	
3,443	Wrapping and mailing		
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46,830			28,452
1,274			
	SURPLUS for the 12 months ended 30 June, 2001		<u>20,675</u>

THE AUSTRALIAN JOURNAL OF ANTHROPOLOGY

BALANCE SHEET

as at **30th JUNE, 2001**

2000		2001
\$		\$
	ASSETS	
60,222	Bank Account - Commonwealth Business Account (20211010 78~9)	66,619
	Investments -	
50,000	Commonwealth Bank Term Deposit No.5009 0289	55,443
3,000	Commonwealth Bank Term Deposit No.5009 0246	3,112
4,000	Stock in Hand	4,000
1,250	Petty Cash Imprest Account	1,250
	Equipment -	
100	Photo Copying Machine	100
800	Macintosh Computer	
	Computer Keyboard	120
	Laser Printer	200
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119,372		130,844
	LIABILITIES	
12,800	Provision for Unpublished Issues	13,500
10,000	Miscellaneous Creditors	10,000
22,800		23,500
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96,572	NET ASSETS	107,344

Annual Financial Statements, Australian Anthropological Society

Note: for technical reasons (to do with the size of the resultant file), it has not been possible to include the AAS Annual Financial Statement in this newsletter. They will be sent separately to members as electronic files together with this newsletter.