

AUSTRALIAN ANTHROPOLOGICAL SOCIETY  
NEWSLETTER

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Clayton, Vic. 3168.

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JUNE 1987 NO. 35

1987 AAS CONFERENCE

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JUNE 1987 NO. 35

Chair: Joel S. Kahn  
Dept. of Anthropology & Sociology  
Monash University,  
Clayton, Vic. 3168

Hon. Sec.: Michael Stevenson  
Dept. of Anthropology & Sociology  
Monash University,  
Clayton, Vic. 3168

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The Australian Anthropological Society was formed in 1973 to "promote the advancement of anthropology as a professional discipline". Its membership of approximately 350 includes most practising anthropologists in Australia, with some members in countries overseas such as New Zealand, Papua New Guinea and Fiji. It also includes a broad representation of people working in related fields.

The AAS NEWSLETTER is published four times a year and provides a forum for the discussion of current matters relevant to anthropology and anthropologists. Contributions from all quarters are welcome. Such contributions should not normally exceed three thousand words and should be typed on A4 and single spaced.

The NEWSLETTER also publishes on occasion, contents of Australian journals, notices of other publications, conference notices, notices of positions vacant and sought, and "co-operation" notices. The last mentioned are notices of information, appeals, notices of material or equipment sought or offered, and is free for members.

Membership is currently \$20 per annum for salaried and \$10 per annum for unsalaried persons. It is open to anyone who is prepared to contribute to the objectives of the Society.

Further information is available from the Secretary:

Dr. Michael Stevenson,  
Department of Anthropology and Sociology,  
Monash University, Clayton, Vic. 3168.

Correspondence regarding the NEWSLETTER should be sent to the Publications Officer:

Dr. Dawn Ryan,  
Department of Anthropology and Sociology,  
Monash University, Clayton, Vic. 3168.

The DEADLINES for material to be published in NEWSLETTERS are:

For March edition - February 28  
June edition - May 31  
September edition - August 31  
December edition - November 30

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**VISITING RESEARCH FELLOW (6 MONTHS): PREHISTORY/CULTURAL  
RESOURCE MANAGEMENT**

Expressions of interest are invited for the above visiting Research Fellowship, tenable at the Institute in Canberra, or at a University, for a six month period.

The Fellowship is designed to enable those working in the field of pre-history and cultural resource management on short-term employment or consultancies the opportunity to devote themselves to a period of research. The Fellow will be expected to undertake detailed analysis that will develop and build upon previous work undertaken (e.g. survey-consultancy work) or to expand upon research in a manner not previously possible due to financial and/or time constraints.

Expressions of interest should include a specific statement of the work proposed to be undertaken during the Fellowship, the scope and extent of the research planned and the expected outcomes.

The salary payable will be equivalent to the range \$24,013-\$29,115 per annum depending on qualifications and experience.

Further details can be obtained from Dr. K. Palmer (Tel: (062) 46 1161) or Dr. Graeme Ward (Tel: (062) 46 1151), Australian Institute of Aboriginal Studies.

Expressions of interest, including the names and addresses of two referees, should be sent to the address below by Friday 14 August.

The Principal,  
Australian Institute of Aboriginal Studies,  
G.P.O. Box 553,  
Canberra. A.C.T. 2601.

**EDITORIAL**

Once more, the proverbial circumstances beyond the control of ... have made the **NEWSLETTER** very late, and I apologize sincerely for that. This issue contains very little apart from information about the Conference, not only because that is very much on our minds here at Monash, but also because no-one has sent any items for inclusion.

Previous Publications Officers have also complained at the members' apathy, but only Chris Healey has displayed the wit and flair to fill the gaps. I'm afraid that I lack the talent, so we have a thin but serious issue.

Like the other staff members here, I look forward to seeing many of you in August.

Dawn Ryan  
AAS Publications Officer

## MORE ON PNG RESEARCH VISAS

Mrs. Frances Deklin, Research Officer, Department of Anthropology and Sociology, University of Papua New Guinea, has offered the following advice:

Applicants should, in addition to the documentation required by the Institute of Papua New Guinea Studies, forward a copy of the research proposal to the relevant Provincial Government, and another to the PNG institution with which affiliation is sought.

On arrival in Papua New Guinea it is important that holders of research visas visit the Institute of Papua New Guinea Studies as soon as possible.

It is also essential to visit the affiliating institution, so that records of active research can be maintained.

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At the moment, Immigration will issue only single entry visas, valid for no more than two months. At the end of that time an extension must be sought.

Immigration is particularly strict in enforcing the law against entering the country on one kind of visa and then attempting to change to another. There have been some recent cases of researchers being compelled to leave the country and make an application for a research visa from Australia, even though there has not necessarily been an intention to deceive the authorities.

Higher Education Research and Development Society of Australasia  
Industrial Relations Society of Australia  
Institute of Australian Geographers  
International Law Association (Australian Branch)  
Royal Australian and New Zealand College of Psychiatrists  
Sociological Association of Australia and New Zealand  
Statistical Society of Australia

## APOLOGIES

Australian Agricultural Economics Society  
Australian Association for Social Work Education  
Royal Geographic Society of Australasia

## DO YOU KNOW WHERE THESE PEOPLE ARE?

The last two issues of the AAS Newsletter have been returned from the 'current' addresses of the people listed below. If you know where they can be contacted please inform Michael Stevenson, Dept. of Anthropology and Sociology, Monash University, Clayton, Vic. 3168.

Ms. C. Gaal  
Sandra Gifford  
Toni Kelly  
Dr. William McGregor  
J. Morieson  
Mr. D. Okuyama  
Iniyoko Ono  
Ms. K. Ram  
Geoff Stead  
L. Taylor  
N. Teckle  
M. Tonkinson

Many other ethical matters require more widespread and effective social science participation. The question of the confidentiality of research materials and records, a subject which particularly involves anthropology and law, is one of these.

Other matters discussed were the rapid deterioration of library and other research resources and the general need to bring home to decision makers at all levels that the social sciences have their own professional strength and expertise which should be recognized and put to use, rather than relying on the amateurish assumptions of those whose training and experience lie in other fields. A federation would also facilitate the extension of international contacts and cooperation.

The meeting was in no sense directed against other areas of learning and research. Dr. David Widdup, Executive Director of FASTS, spoke on the origins and work of that organization and emphasized the importance of seeking common ground, rather than giving any opportunity for strategies of 'divide and rule' to be applied. Two associations represented at the meeting are already members of FASTS. Consideration is to be given to whether it would be appropriate to include other associations in the humanities should they wish to be involved.

A small committee is to draw up a draft constitution and related proposals for the meeting on 31st July. There is no likelihood at this stage of establishing a structure as large, and expensive, as FASTS, which has a full-time Director, its own office accommodation and secretarial staff. Nevertheless, the meeting agreed that there is a present need and opportunity to establish a social science federation which will significantly improve the influence and the contribution which these subjects make not only to government but to the community at large.

A list of organizations represented at the June meeting follows. Any information about other appropriate organizations will be welcome.

#### ORGANIZATIONS REPRESENTED AT THE MEETING

Academy of the Social Sciences in Australia  
 Australasian Association for the History, Philosophy and Social Studies of Sciences  
 Australasian Political Studies Association  
 Australasian Universities Law Schools Association  
 Australian Anthropological Society  
 Australian and New Zealand Comparative and International Education Association  
 Australian and New Zealand History of Education Society  
 Australian Association for Research in Education Inc.  
 Australian Historical Association  
 Australian Institute of Welfare Workers  
 Australian Linguistic Society  
 Australian Population Association  
 Economic History Society of Australia and New Zealand  
 Economic Society of Australia

## INCORPORATION

The Corporate Affairs Commission of NSW has informed John Bern that some of the rules of the new Constitution need to be altered before incorporation can proceed. These alterations are, it seems, of a generally formal nature and the Executive could probably have gone ahead and made them.

However, given the importance of the issue and the imminence of the AGM, it was decided to discuss the point there before proceeding.

The matters that have to be attended to are as follows:

#### A. DISCIPLINING OF MEMBERS

The procedure (if any) for the disciplining of members and the mechanisms (if any) for appeals by members in respect of disciplinary action taken against them.  
 (This requires a rule stating that there is no procedure for disciplining members.)

#### B. ALTERATION OF OBJECTS

The manner of altering the statement of objects of the incorporated association.

#### RULES

The manner of altering and rescinding the rules and of making additional rules of the incorporated association. (This means that we have to re-word our Rule 24 to comply with the item on Special Resolution:

"For the purposes of this Act, a resolution of an association is a special resolution if -  
 (a) it is passed by a majority which comprises not less than three-quarters of such members of the association as, being entitled under the rules of the association to do so, vote in person or, where proxies are allowed, by proxy at a general meeting of which not less than 21 days' written notice specifying the intention to propose the resolution as a special resolution was given in accordance with those rules; or  
 (b) where it is made to appear to the Commission that it is not possible or practicable for the resolution to be passed in the manner specified in paragraph (a) - the resolution is passed in a manner specified by the Commission.")

### C. CUSTODY OF BOOKS, ETC.

The custody of books, documents and securities of the incorporated association.

#### INSPECTION OF BOOKS, ETC.

The inspection by members of the incorporated association of books and documents of the incorporated association.

(This means that we need additional rules stating where they are kept and where they can be seen, as in the following Model Rules:

"Except as otherwise provided by these rules, the public officer shall keep in his or her custody or under his or her control all records, books and other documents relating to the association.

"The records, books and other documents of the association shall be open to inspection, free of charge, by a member of the association at any reasonable hour.")

John Bern represented AAS at a meeting on professionalization in the Social Sciences, sponsored by the Academy of the Social Sciences in Australia held in Canberra on the 15th June, 1987. Here is the report on this meeting.

### TOWARDS A SOCIAL SCIENCE FEDERATION

On 15th June a meeting in Canberra of representatives of 21 social science associations, sponsored by the Academy, unanimously resolved to support in principle the establishment of a federation of Australian social science associations. A further meeting is to be held on 31st July at which the federation should formally be brought into being.

Several other associations which could not be represented expressed support for the idea and a number of others will also be contacted prior to the July meeting. It already seems clear that there is ample support for such a body and an important role for it to play.

The meeting was prompted in part by a realization that a body which was widely representative of opinion in the social sciences was needed to see that governments, public authorities, industry and the community were aware of the contributions which the social sciences had to make to Australian society. This is a task which the Academy shares but, because of its small size and narrower membership, cannot achieve on its own. Just as the Academies of Science and Technological Sciences and Engineering encouraged the formation of the highly successful Federation of Australian Scientific and Technological Societies (FASTS), the social sciences need to have an equivalent to the latter body.

In its absence, there is a real danger that the social sciences will drop out of consideration because of the much more effective (and highly creditable) work of the scientists and technologists. This is apparent in responses to the Report by the Australian Science and Technology Council (ASTEC) on 'Improving the Research Performance of Australia's Universities and Other Higher Education Institutions', issued in February. This was one of a number of matters discussed at the meeting of 15th June, which made it clear that there were many subjects on which the social sciences should seek to speak with one effective voice.

Other such subjects discussed included the increasing prominence of ethical problems and constraints. These come in many forms, such as the requirements laid down by the National Health and Medical Research Council for research on human subjects in any institution which receives funding from the Council. This is an instance of rules which were shaped with reference to other subjects having serious, if unintended, consequences for the social sciences.

## 1987 AAS CONFERENCE

### INTRODUCTION

The time of the 1987 AAS Conference is rapidly approaching. You will find details of dates, venue, the AGM, reception, dinner, accommodation and sessions in this issue of the Newsletter. It is important for our planning that all who intend to participate: let us have your accommodation requirements by 7th August, contact session convenors if you wish to offer a paper, contact Michael Stevenson if you want to convene a session. We have booked a fixed number of places for the conference dinner, and those wishing to attend will be asked to sign up and pay at Registration on the Monday morning.

It has been fifteen years since Monash last hosted the conference. As a consequence we are looking forward to a large and enthusiastic group, and we will do everything we can to ensure an exciting conference. Speaking personally, as a recent arrival in Australia, I look forward to this chance to meet colleagues who are otherwise so geographically dispersed. See you all at the Conference!

Joel S. Kahn  
Chair

The following sessions have been proposed. If you wish to volunteer a paper, please contact the convenor as soon as possible. If you wish to convene a session, contact the Secretary, Dr. Michael Stevenson.

- |    |  |  |
|----|--|--|
| 1. | <b>Dr. Dawn Ryan</b><br>Dept. of Anthropology<br>& Sociology, Monash<br>University, Clayton,<br>Vic. 3168.           | <b>Current Problems in Melanesian<br/>           Ethnography</b>   |
| 2. | <b>Dr. Don Miller</b><br>Dept. of Anthropology<br>& Sociology, Monash<br>University, Clayton,<br>Vic. 3168.          | <b>Issues in the Ethnography of<br/>           South and South-East Asia</b>                               |
| 3. | <b>Dr. Deborah Rose</b><br>Australian Institute<br>of Aboriginal Studies,<br>P.O. Box 553, Canberra,<br>A.C.T. 2601. | <b>Culture and Ecology</b><br>The theme is how people construct<br>and maintain the world they live<br>in. |

4. **Ms. Julie Carter**  
Dept. of Prehistory  
& Anthropology,  
The Faculties, A.N.U.,  
P.O. Box 4, Canberra,  
A.C.T. 2601.
- Aborigines in Settled Australia**  
Earlier interpretations are being challenged by new evidence and theory. Current research focusses on structural and cultural continuities between Aborigines in remote and settled Australia, on ideology, and on the relationship with other fourth world situations.
5. **Drs. Salim Lakha and Michael Stevenson**  
Dept. of Anthropology  
& Sociology, Monash  
University, Clayton  
Vic. 3168.
- Social Movements**  
Capitalism with its revolution of the relationship between human being and nature and with its chronic class struggles has not only produced wealth on a scale hitherto unknown but has also inspired many social movements which in themselves seek to oppose or even go beyond what is offered by bourgeois civilization. The convenors of this session call for papers that focus on such processes of opposition and criticism.
6. **Dr. Y. Yamada**  
Dept. of Japanese,  
Monash University,  
Clayton, Vic. 3168.
- Symbolic Anthropology**  
Call for papers that attempt to analyze myth, ritual, folklore, popular culture, life history, religious experience etc., through structuralism, literary criticism, phenomenology, etc.
7. **Ms. Shireen Lateef**  
Dept. of Anthropology  
& Sociology, Monash  
University, Clayton,  
Vic. 3168.
- Seeing the Native with a Native Eye**
8. **Dr. Martha McIntyre**  
Dept. of Sociology,  
La Trobe University,  
Bundoora, Vic. 3083.
- Current Problems in Medical Anthropology**
9. **Dr. Grant McCall**  
School of Sociology,  
University of New South  
Wales, P.O. Box 1,  
Kensington, N.S.W. 2033.
- Issues in Society and Culture**

TO: G. Silberbauer,  
Treasurer, AAS,  
Dept. of Anthropology & Sociology,  
Monash University,  
Clayton. Vic. 3168.

I enclose the following:

1987-88 Annual Membership Fees  
- \$20 (Normal) or \$10 (Student, etc.) \$ \_\_\_\_\_

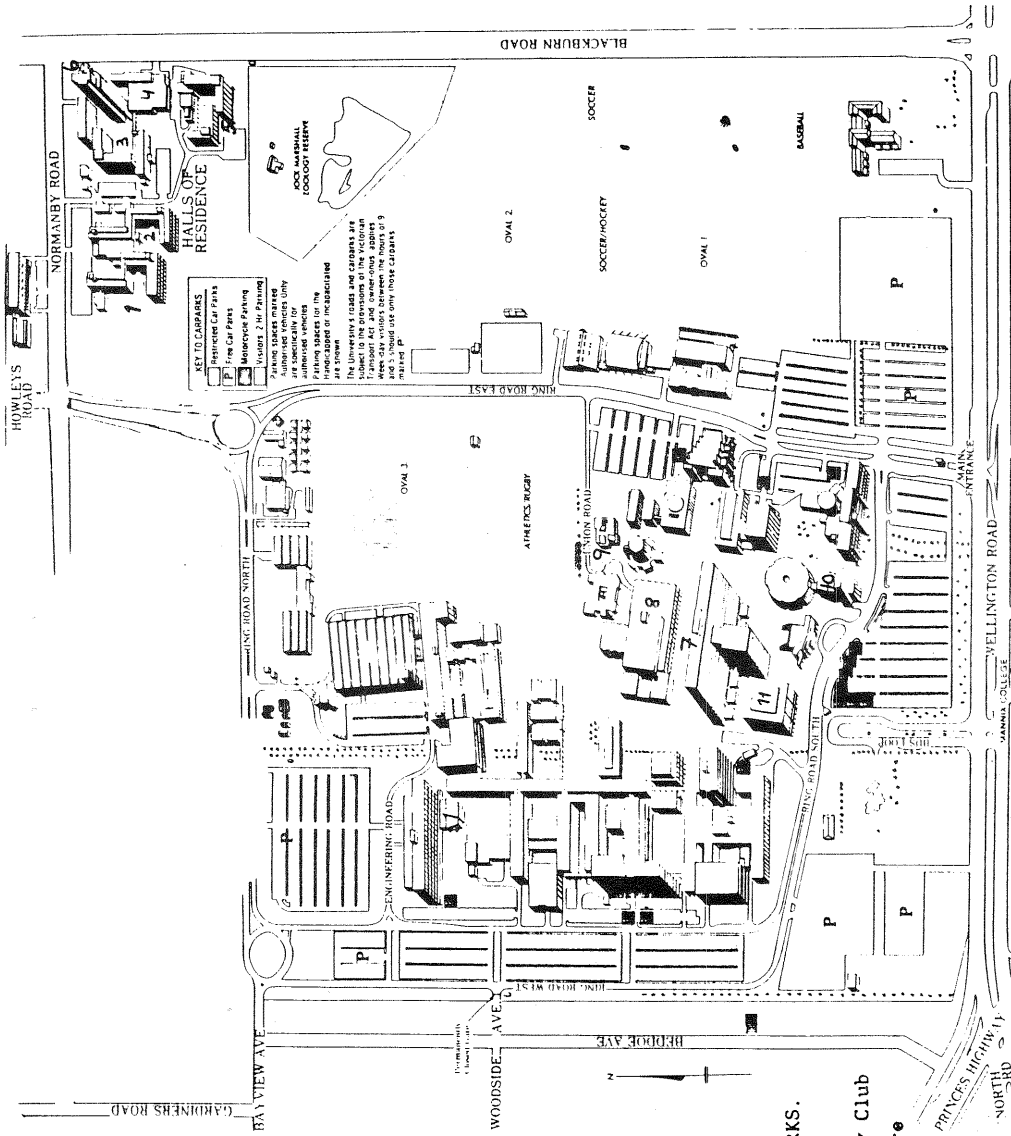
Registration for the 1987 Conference  
- \$12 (Normal) or \$6 (Student, etc.) \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Total \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**\$20 DUES FOR 1987/88 MUST BE PAID IN ORDER TO ATTEND THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING.**





**HALLS OF RESIDENCE**

1. Richardson Hall
2. Roberts Hall
3. Farrer Hall
4. Central Building  
(catering)
5. Deakin Hall
6. Mowitt Hall

**CONFERENCE VENUE**

7. Menzies Building

**OTHER USEFUL LANDMARKS.**

8. Union Building
9. Monash University Club
10. Alexander Theatre
11. Law Building

**TRAVEL TO CONFERENCE**

**BY PUBLIC TRANSPORT ...** From Tullamarine catch Airport-City Bus to Franklin Street. The simplest method is to then take a train from Flinders Street or Loop stations on the Dandenong/Pakenham line to either Huntingdale or Clayton. Buses run from these stations to the campus or there is a taxi rank at Clayton. With suitable connections the trip takes about 45 minutes - but it can take longer! An inner neighbourhood ticket will take you all the way via Huntingdale station and the bus, but you will need to purchase a comprehensive ticket for the trip via Clayton, which encompasses two neighbourhoods. The campus is also served by buses from Box Hill, Blackburn, Belgrave, Chadstone, Jells Park-Glen Waverley, Dandenong-Mulgrave, Oakleigh and Elwood.

**FROM THE CITY BY CAR ...** An easy route is along St. Kilda Road or Kingsway/Queens Road and then on to Dandenong Road. The campus's tall Menzies Building comes into view a kilometre or so before the left turn into Wellington Road on which the main entrance is located. Allow 40-50 minutes for the trip. Drivers should note that restrictions apply in some car parks weekdays 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. and fines do apply. There is ample unrestricted parking and, closer to buildings, designated two hour visitor car parks - check the map or ask at the Gatehouse.