

# Central States Anthropological Association – Annual Report for 2007

Submitted by: James Hamill, President

1. **Status, Activities and Accomplishments.** What has your section accomplished in 2007? The following are suggested categories of activities and accomplishments.

- ❑ Membership numbers (for 2007). List any factors you think may be affecting Section memberships.
  - As of the first of 2008 the Central States Anthropological Society (CSAS) has about 200 members
- ❑ Financial balances for both Section budgets and publication sponsored budgets, if applicable (for 2007). List any factors you think are affecting finances.
  - As of the end of 2007 CSAS had about \$8000 on hand. We were hurt severely by our participation in Anthrosource and have been struggling for several years with a declining membership. We believe that a mechanism to allow interested anthropologists to join CSAS without being members of AAA would help our membership roles and improve our financial situation.
- ❑ AAA meeting highlights.
  - CSAS participated in sponsoring 3 sessions of the 2007 annual AAA meeting.
- ❑ Spring meeting activities (if applicable).
  - The spring meeting of CSAS was held in Minneapolis Minnesota in April. The meeting included more than 160 presentations organized into 15 sessions.
- ❑ Internal communications including website development and use of a list serve (if applicable).
  - In 2007 CSAS developed a new website which is one of the channels we use to communicate with our members and other interested anthropologists. The web site provides current news of the Society's activities as well as information concerning upcoming events such as paper and session proposal forms for our annual meeting and registration forms for the meeting.

2. Future plans or activities (3-5) year time frame including efforts to increase membership

- ❑ Do you have any plans for membership and for new or changing publications?
  - CSAS has instituted a policy of offering membership to AAA members who are not CSAS members but participate in our annual meeting. The policy has resulted in the addition of at least 5 new members this year.

3. Other Items. Please tell us what your chief concerns and issues are, especially if they are not previously noted.

- a. While we have withdrawn from Anthrosource, and in particular from the publishing arrangement with UCP, and prefer to publish our newsletter-type information on our own. We did pay for the digitizing of our older materials including CIA and believe that it would be fair and decent of AAA to continue to share income from digital access of those materials with us.
- ❑ What issues would you like raised or recommendations would you like to make to the Long-Range Planning Committee?
  - CSAS needs the ability to attract non AAA members to its membership. As a small four field section with a regional focus we want to include in our membership anthropologists (usually at smaller colleges and universities) who do derive much benefit from membership in the national association but still wish to participate in a professional organization.
- ❑ What issues would you like raised or recommendations would you like to make to the AAA Executive Board?

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