

Central States Anthropological Society - Annual Report for 2008
Submitted by Claude Jacobs, President, January 31, 2009

Names and e-mail addresses of the Section officers during the period covered:

Immediate Past President: James F. Hamill (Miami University, Ohio) hamilljf@muohio.edu

President: Claude Jacobs (The University of Michigan – Dearborn) cfj@umich.edu

First Vice-President: Margaret Buckner (Missouri State University)
mbuckner@missouristate.edu

Second Vice-President: Robert C. Ulin (Western Michigan University) robert.ulín@wmich.edu

Second Vice-President-Elect: Homayun Sidky (Miami University, Ohio) sidkyh@muohio.edu

Secretary-Treasurer: Harriet Ottenheimer (Kansas State University) mahafan@ksu.edu

Nominations Committee: James W. Dow (Oakland University) dow@oakland.edu, (chair); E. Paul Durrenberger (Pennsylvania State University) epd2@psu.edu; Alan Sandstrom (Indiana Purdue University Fort Wayne) sandstro@ipfw.edu.

Executive Board Members: Alice Kehoe (University of Wisconsin Milwaukee) akehoe@uwm.edu; Nancy Eberhardt (Knox College) neberhar@knox.edu; Kathleen M. Adams (Loyola University Chicago) kadams@luc.edu; Cindy Vandenberg Hull (Grand Valley State University) hullc@gvsu.edu; Richard Feinberg (Kent State University) rfeinber@kent.edu; Bill Guinee (Westminster College, Missouri) bill.guinee@westminster-mo.edu

Unit News Co-Editors, appointed: Angela Glaros (University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign) glaros@uiuc.edu; Evelyn Dean (Indiana University) emdean@indiana.edu

CSAS Bulletin Editor, appointed: Alice Beck Kehoe (University of Wisconsin, Milwaukee) akehoe@uwm.edu, assisted by Amber Clifford (University of Central Missouri) clifford@ucmo.edu

Webmaster and Mailing List Coordinator, appointed: Raymond Bucko (Creighton University) bucko@creighton.edu

Archivist, appointed: Pamela Effrein Sandstrom (Indiana Purdue University Fort Wayne) sandstrp@ipfw.edu

Status, Activities and Accomplishments this year

1. Most up-to-date membership numbers:

Total Members

November 2007 – 192

November 2008 – 196

Membership, although it has decreased over the past few years appears to now remain at approximately 200. This includes both regular and student members. The November 2008 AAA total showing the following breakdown: 147 regular and 49 student.

Despite our low dues, potential members among students and a variety of faculty (junior, community college, and part-time) are unable to join because they cannot afford the required

AAA membership. Nevertheless, we continue efforts to recruit new faculty within the rank of assistant professor in order to replace our long-time members who die or retire and withdraw from active participation in the association.

Financial balances for both Section budgets and publication sponsored budgets, if applicable (for 2008).

Net assets at the beginning of 2008 were approximately \$9,000. Net assets at the end of 2008 were approximately \$15,300. The more healthy financial status of CSAS is due in large part to the fact that the organization no longer has to pay UCP for the publication of its Bulletin. The distribution of the Bulletin is now almost entirely electronic. The majority of the organization's expenses are related to the annual meeting, budgeted at approximately \$12,000.

2. List your Section's AAA meeting invited sessions, co-sponsored sessions, and any special events your Section sponsored or in which it participated:

2008 Invited Sessions at AAA:

"Collaboration Between AAA Sections in Advancing the Position of Practicing Anthropology within the AAA" (with Committee on Practicing, Applied, and Public Interest Anthropology)

"The Encultured Brain: Neuroanthropology and Interdisciplinary Engagement" (with Society for Psychological Anthropology)

"Unions in the Global Economy" (with Society for the Anthropology of Work)

3. Spring meeting activities:

The CSAS 85th Annual Meeting was held in Indianapolis, IN from March 27 to 29, 2008. More than 160 papers were organized into 35 sessions, representing all four fields of anthropology. The distinguished lecture was delivered by M. Nazif Shahrani (Indiana University) Chair, Department of Near Eastern Languages and Cultures; and Professor of Anthropology.

The 86th Annual Meeting is scheduled from April 2-5, 2009 at the University of Illinois Urbana/Champaign, IL

The 87th Annual Meeting is scheduled for April 7-11, 2010 at the University of Wisconsin, Madison, WI

4. Mentorship efforts:

CSAS continues to be an association dedicated to scholarly work in all fields of anthropology. The organization's small size ensures a high level of collegiality and time for scholarly dialogue and interaction, both formal and informal, between students, students and faculty, and professional anthropologists and independent scholars. It is not unusual for faculty to bring groups of students either to present papers or attend their first academic meeting. The organization's largely regional membership and meetings make it convenient for junior scholars to attend and enter into networks of scholars with similar research programs.

5. Additional outreach efforts (at or beyond the AAA meetings) to other sections, interest groups, and scholarly societies, government agencies, public education/community engagement, and underrepresented minorities:

The CSAS Bulletin has entered into an agreement with the Association of Senior Anthropologists to publish papers and information from their organization as space permits.

6. Awards presented this year on behalf of your Section

CSAS made four awards:

The 2008 Leslie White Award went to Antonie Dvor'áková, a Ph.D. Candidate at the University of Chicago. Her dissertation research project, "Beyond the "Two-Worlds" Conundrum: Native American Scholars' Experience," is a qualitative approach to comparing the experiences of accomplished Native American professors in the hard sciences as opposed to social sciences.

The 2008 Beth Wilder Dilliangham Award went to Brandi Janssen, a graduate student at the University of Iowa whose research interests include sustainable agriculture and local food systems. Her award money will help support her Master's research with Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) farmers in Iowa.

The 2008 CSAS graduate student paper competition was won by Audrey Ricke, a Ph.D. student at Indiana University for her paper: "The Power in Festivals: Reviving and Reasserting German Identity in Brazil."

The 2008 Undergraduate Student Paper Competition was won by Chelsea R. Iversen, a senior at Saint Mary's College, for her paper: "Disempowering Women: Human development and the Kerala Model."

7. Status and use of Section internal communications such as a website, list serve, or newsletter (if applicable):

CSAS has two list serves, one for the general membership and the other for the Executive Board. The organization maintains a web site to provide news and information. The CSAS Bulletin is now electronic. The Bulletin Editor is Alice Beck Kehoe, assisted by Amber Clifford.

8. Changes in bylaws or governance structure (if applicable):

CSAS adopted the following new bylaws:

1. Created a three-year position titled AAA Section Assembly Representative, to be appointed by the board of CSAS.
2. Amended the bylaws to offer Ex-officio (without vote) status on the board to all past presidents, and to change the title of Past President to Immediate Past President.

Future plans or activities in the next 3-5 years

1. Do you have any plans or activities specifically aimed at increasing your membership and/or broadening your membership (i.e., students, independent scholars, scholars of color)?

The organization will continue its efforts to build membership. However, there needs to be a way to provide some level of membership to people (retired persons, independent scholars, etc.) who are unable to pay the AAA membership. This is an ongoing CSAS discussion. Also, see number 4 (above)

2. Do you have any plans or activities aimed at creating new forms of scholarly communication or changing existing publications/communications?

CSAS plans to continue the electronic publication of its Bulletin. Also, see number 7 (above)

3. Any other projects that your Section has underway or discussed with its members:

Discussion has begun regarding ways that CSAS members might influence change in primary and secondary education requirements. For example, in Michigan, despite the importance of diversity in the schools and efforts to include courses that focus on diversity, primary and secondary education students are not able to major or minor in anthropology to complete their degree requirements.

4. What (if any) collaboration is your Section doing with other Sections, Interest Groups, or outside groups on the projects listed above?

CSAS has considerable overlap in membership with the Association of Senior Anthropologists. This is a fruitful relationship in terms of exchange of ideas and opportunities to share experiences that differed based on time of entry into the profession. In addition, CSAS as regional and ASA as employment-status ("retired") differ from most of the AAA sections which are research-interest based.

Please tell us what your chief concerns and issues are, especially if they are not previously noted:

1. What issues would you like raised or recommendations would you like to make to the Section Assembly leadership?

The Section Assembly should continue to support and encourage small sections.

2. What issues would you like raised or recommendations would you like to make to the AAA Executive Board?

We urge AAA to allow one-day registration for the annual meeting, to accommodate those who come only for a particular session (non-anthropologists, friends and co-workers, people who can't afford the whole fee including hotel, etc.). This would not be detrimental to AAA because it would gain some revenue from people who otherwise simply would not pay anything.

3. What issues would you like raised or recommendations would you like to make to the AAA Staff?

None at this time

Submitted by: Claude F. Jacobs