

Central States Anthropological Society - Annual Report for 2009
January 1, 2009-December 31, 2009
Submitted by Margaret Buckner, CSAS President 2009-2010

Names and e-mail addresses of CSAS officers (April 09-April 10):

Immediate Past President: Claude Jacobs (cfj@umich.edu)
President: Margaret Buckner (mbuckner@missouristate.edu)
First Vice-President: Robert C. Ulin (rcugla@rit.edu)
Second Vice-President: Hodayun Sidky (sidkyh@muohio.edu)
Second Vice-President Elect: P. Nick Kardulias (pkardulias@wooster.edu)
Secretary-Treasurer: Harriet Ottenheimer (mahafan@ksu.edu; harriet@ottenheimer.com)
Nominations Committee chair: Alan Sandstrom (sandstro@ipfw.edu)
Nominations Committee member: Alice B. Kehoe (akehoe@uwm.edu)
Executive Board Member: Kathleen M. Adams (kadams@luc.edu)
Executive Board Member: Cindy Vandenberg Hull (hullc@gvsu.edu)
Executive Board Member: Richard Feinberg (rfeinber@kent.edu)
Executive Board Member: Bill Guinee (bill.guinee@westminster-mo.edu)
Executive Board Member: Myrdene Anderson (myanders@purdue.edu)
Executive Board Member: Nancy Eberhardt (neberhar@knox.edu)
Executive Board Student Member: Audrey Ricke (acricke@indiana.edu)
Executive Board Student Member alternate: Terry Ann Liller (taliller@hotmail.com)
Anthropology News column co-editors: Angela Glaros (glaros@illinois.edu) and Evelyn Dean-Olmstead (emdean@indiana.edu)
CSAS Bulletin Co-Editors: Alice Kehoe (akehoe@uwm.edu) and Amber Clifford-Napoleone (clifford@ucmo.edu)
AAA Section Assembly Representative: Richard Feinberg (rfeinber@kent.edu)
Webmaster and Mailing List Coordinator: Raymond Bucko (bucko@creighton.edu)
Archivist: Pamela Effrein Sandstrom (sandstrp@ipfw.edu)

Status, Activities and Accomplishments this Year:

1. Most up-to-date membership numbers:

- As of Nov 30, 2009, our members "officially" numbered 192. At our secretary-treasurer's last count, it was 205.

- Factors that may be increasing or decreasing your Section membership:

- CSAS is the only AAA section based on region, rather than theme. We have a very high turnover rate as students--and to a lesser degree, faculty--move into and out of the region.
- In Fall 2009, one of our board members started a CSAS Facebook page, and as of Jan 31 there are 165 individuals who have signed on to it.
- We introduced two new membership rates this year: a half-price first-time introductory rate of \$5 for students and \$10 for regular members.
- We also introduced half-price membership dues for retired members.
- We have sent out emails to all anthropologists in the Central States region (from a list we made ourselves) publicizing both the Spring conference and the new introductory membership rate.
- For the first time in years, we held a CSAS Reception at the AAA meetings in Philadelphia.
- The AAA's method of counting membership is a constant, frustrating problem. For example, one person joined in December when she registered. Here's an excerpt from her response to an email stating that she wasn't on the list of CSAS members in January: "I renewed my status to the AAA and CSAS shortly before I sent my registration [by Dec. 15]. I just checked my status at aaanet.org. I am a member in good standing with the AAA, and it shows me as a member of CSAS. Member Id: 00040166; Expiration Date: 31-Jan-11; Sections: CSAS, SOLGA, SSA." From our secretary-treasurer: "If folks don't get their membership renewals in early enough in the month in which they are due, then they tend to get dropped from the rolls for a month or so. The result is that

we lose about 15 members each month, and we do not get them back until a month has passed, so we are almost continually down by 15 members or so. It means we look like we have 185 members when we really have 200, and we look like we have 200 members when we really have 215." Needless to say, the new membership software can't come soon enough for us!

- As the Spring conference approaches, I'm told by the secretary-treasurer that "new members are pouring in". We just hope they're all counted in May, and that members don't let their membership expire.

2. Financial balances for both Section budgets and publication sponsored budgets, if applicable (for 2009).

- Net assets as of Nov. 30, 2009: \$26,188.00 (up \$10,546.54 from beginning of year)
- Net assets for Leslie White award as of Nov. 30, 2009: \$17,860.16
- Net assets for the Beth Wilder Dillingham award as of Nov. 30, 2009: \$17,104.83

- List any factors you think are affecting your Section's finances:

- We had a very successful conference that was economical thanks to the cooperation and hospitality of the Anthropology Department of the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign. We even made a slight profit from it (and have correspondingly lowered registration fees for the 2010 conference).
- We are starting to rebuild our account after the years it was depleted by payments to AnthroSource.

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

- 0-121 "Latin@ Expressive Culture: About the Coming of Age of a Culture that is Always Embedded in Politics". Invited Session, Co-sponsored by CSAS and the Association for Latina and Latino Anthropologists.
- 1-019 "The End/s of E-Race-Ure in New 'Latino' Destinations: Transnational Migration, Racialized Identities, and the Transformation of 'Middle America'". Invited Session, Co-sponsored by CSAS and the Association for Latina and Latino Anthropologists
- 2-162 "Class and Identity". Invited Session, Co-sponsored by CSAS and the Society for the Anthropology of Work
- 3-038 "Exploring the Place of Anthropology at Illinois in the Discipline: Fifty Years" Sponsored by CSAS
- 3-073 "The End/s of an Era in Detroit: Refiguring Anthropological Research and Training in a 21st Century Post Industrial Urban Context" Cosponsored by CSAS and the National Association for the Practice of Anthropology
- 3-190 "CSAS Reception"

4. Spring meeting activities (if applicable):

- The 2009 conference, held on the UIUC campus in April, featured Virginia Dominguez as distinguished lecturer and was hugely successful. There were about 250 preregistered participants, and another 30 or so on-site registrations. There were 46 sessions, including special events.
- Thanks to the success of the 2009 conference, and to good publicity, the 2010 Conference, to be held in Madison April 8-10, will be even larger. Over 240 participants are already preregistered, and 50 sessions are scheduled. The preliminary program is online at: <http://courses.missouristate.edu/MBuckner/CSAS10Program.htm>
- The 2011 CSAS conference will be held at the University of Iowa. And venues for the 2012 conference are already being explored (U of Toledo, IUPUI-Fort Wayne).

5. Mentorship efforts (at or beyond the AAA meetings) towards students:

- At our Spring conference, we continue to encourage and welcome student presenters.
- We offer annual student paper prizes, both graduate and undergraduate; reviewers' feedback and comments are passed on to the applicants.

- We appointed a student board member to fill a position that has been vacant for years; and we have an alternate student board member, as well.
- At the CSAS reception in Philadelphia we made a point to welcome and pay special attention to students.

6. 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:

- Bill Guinee (board member) made announcements about our Spring conference on the "Open Anthropology Cooperative" Ning group, and sends out announcements on Twitter to "a pretty large following of anthropologists."

7. Awards presented this year on behalf of your Section, if applicable (please provide the title of the award, date presented, and full name, affiliation, and title of the project/paper/accomplishment of the awardees):

- The 2009 Leslie White Award winner is Sarah Trabert, an M.A. Candidate in Anthropology at the University of Iowa. The purpose of her research was to re-analyze the ceramics from the Scott County Pueblo site (14SC1) located in Scott State Park, Kansas, and compare those results with data collected from ceramics from other sites bearing the same cultural components.
- The Beth-Wilder Dillingham award was not given this year.
- Winner of the 2009 Undergraduate Paper Award was Mary C. Benedetto of University of Akron. Benedetto's paper was entitled "Como Caracoles: Barcelona Street Artists Leave Their Trail," and was presented in the panel "Artistic Engagements" at the 2009 CSAS conference.
- Winner of the 2009 Graduate Paper Award was Joseph Weiss of University of Chicago. Weiss' paper was entitled "Landscaped of Interconnection on the Northwest Coast," presented in the panel "(Im-)Migration, Identity, and Health" at the 2009 CSAS conference.
- At the 2009 conference, Dr. Bernice A. "Bunny" Kaplan received a certificate from CSAS in recognition of her years of "faithful membership and meritorious service" to the organization. Kaplan presented her first CSAS paper in 1946, served as Secretary-Treasurer (1956-1962) and Executive Board Member (1966-1969), and was CSAS President in 1971.
- Also at the 2009 conference, Dr. Justine Cordwell received a certificate from CSAS in recognition of her years of meritorious service to CSAS as well. Cordwell has served memorably at CSAS Annual Conferences for many years, and is best known as the designer of the CSAS logo and jewelry. Cordwell's design was based on a mica hand from Mound 25 in the Hopewell Site of Ross County, Ohio.

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

- The CSAS website was masterfully revised and updated this year, by webmaster Ray Bucko. The site is hosted at Creighton University: <http://www.creighton.edu/groups/csas/welcome/index.php>
- The CSAS listserv and CSAS board listserv assure good communication among members and board members, respectively.
- The CSAS Bulletin, published semi-annually, serves as a newsletter for our members.

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

- not applicable

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)?

- We will continue to publicize the Spring conference as widely as possible, including using the AAA mass-emailing option.

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

- We are considering rejoining AnthroSource. But to do that we need a committed senior editor who would be willing to sign a contract with Wiley-Blackwell. In the meantime, we will continue to publish an electronic version of the CSAS Bulletin that is mailed to members electronically and posted on the CSAS website.

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

- not applicable

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

- We will continue to join other Sections to co-sponsor Invited Sessions at the annual AAA meeting.

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?

- Because of the problems with keeping track of members as discussed above, CSAS would like to ask that Section Assembly continue to support CSAS (as all the sections did at the 2009 Section Assembly) and our request that the 225 member cut-off for voting Sections be suspended until the new membership software is up and running.

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

- Because of the problems with keeping track of members, CSAS would like to ask that the 225 member cut-off for voting Sections, and indeed for survival as an AAA section, be suspended at least until the new membership software is up and running.
- CSAS would like to go on record (again) that we are opposed to AAA meeting at any non-union facility; remind the Executive board of the Sectional Assembly's and E-board's approval (in 2002?) of the policy to not meet in non-union hotels (though that policy was softened to "strong preference" in a subsequent general body vote); and express our concern about the Association's decision to meet in a non-union hotel in 2010.

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

- We greatly appreciate the AAA Staff!