Annual Meeting in Lincoln, NE

The 96th Anniversary Meeting of the Central States Anthropological Society will be held at the Embassy Suites in Lincoln, Nebraska, from April 6th through April 8th, 2017. Faculty, students, independent scholars, and practitioners are invited to submit abstracts for papers, posters, organized sessions, workshops, and roundtables in all fields and subfield of anthropology, both academic and applied. The annual CSAS conference is student-friendly and features a paper competition for both undergraduate and graduate students (go to Awards page for more information). It also offers an opportunity for anthropologists from throughout the Midwest, from institutions large and small, to meet, talk, and network in a welcoming and professional environment.

UN-L Anthropology Department is celebrating its 50th anniversary this year, and will be co-sponsoring our meeting.

The CSAS meeting will be in the heart of Lincoln’s lively downtown, close to the university campus.

To see the attractions:

• Lincoln Convention and Visitors Bureau -- http://lincoln.org/

• Downtown Lincoln Association -- http://downtownlincoln.org/

• Lincoln Haymarket -- http://lincolnhaymarket.org/

During your visit, find places and events nearby with the Lincoln, Nebraska mobile app. Visit the Apple App Store (iPhone) or Google Play (Android), and search on #LNK.

More information about this at:

http://www.lcoc.com/lincolnnebraskaapp

THE DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSIONS IS

December 15, 2016
CALL FOR PAPERS

Faculty, students, independent scholars, and practitioners are encouraged to submit abstracts for papers, posters, organized sessions, workshops, and round-tables in all fields of anthropology, including applied, for the 96th Anniversary Meeting of the Central States Anthropological Society, which will be held at the Embassy Suites in Lincoln, Nebraska, April 6 through April 8, 2017.

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This year’s conference will offer two extraordinary plenary talks. The 2016 Distinguished Lecture will be given by Dr. Fred Smith. And a second special plenary address will be given by Dr. Richard Lee.

You must register for the conference before you can submit an abstract. If your abstract is not accepted, you can ask for a refund of your registration fee.

This year, the registration rates for CSAS members have been reduced. So if you are a member of AAA, join CSAS for $20 ($10 for students).
Welcome to Lincoln! Lincoln, the capital of Nebraska, was founded in 1856 as settlers were drawn to the vast salt marshes in the area. Lincoln is home to the University of Nebraska and several smaller private universities and colleges. Lincoln is growing as a regional hub for music, art, craft brewing and museums, and now boasts Pinnacle Bank Arena and its new surrounding entertainment district, the Railyard.

Welcome to Central States Anthropology Society Annual Meeting!
April 6-8, 2017
Embassy Suites by Hilton, Lincoln, NE

Registration

Registration rates: Early online registration rates are: CSAS regular member: $50; CSAS student member: $20; regular non-member: $90; student non-member: $40. (After March 6th the on-site registration rates are: CSAS regular member: $70; CSAS student member: $30; regular non-member: $110; student non-member: $50.)

To register: go to this AAA webpage. Click on “register” under Central States Anthropological Society (CSAS) 2017 Spring Conference. AAA members should login to their account; non-AAA members should create a temporary account. Once you complete item 3, “Select Meeting,” the registration categories will appear.

All meeting participants are welcome to attend the business lunch; the subsidized ticket price is $8.

To submit an abstract: Once you register (and pay fees), you will receive a registration confirmation email from aaameetings with a link to the submissions website. THE DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSIONS IS December 15, 2016.

If you have questions about the conference, or wish to discuss submitting panels or workshops, please contact:

Nobuko Adachi, CSAS 2017 Annual Meeting Program Chair
Illinois State University
nadachi@ilstu.edu
"There are Neandertals Among Us!
Understanding an Aboriginal People of Eurasia"

Scientific understanding of Neandertals has accumulated at an amazing pace, particularly fueled by the study of ancient DNA. Neandertals are not simply our close cousins, they are our ancestors. Neandertal ancestry represents only a small fraction of modern Eurasian (and even some African) gene pools, but these contributions are, or have been, critical to the survival of modern people. This presentation will focus on what we know about the role of Neandertals in the emergence of modern people outside of Africa and how this role is reflected in aspects other than genetics and genomics. Additionally, the importance of this “new light” on Neandertals for more far-reaching anthropological issues will be explored.

Fred H. Smith is a human paleontologist who has studied Neandertals for nearly a half-century. He has undertaken field and laboratory research in Europe, Western Asia, East Africa and South Africa and is best known for his work in Central Europe (particularly Croatia, Germany and Austria). In addition to the analysis of fossil samples from several important sites, including the Croatian sites of Krapina and Vindija and the original Neandertal site in Germany, Smith has contributed to broader issues concerning the biological origin of modern humans and the role of Neandertals and other archaic humans in that process. His Assimilation Model of Modern Human Origins now enjoys broad acceptance primarily as the result of recent studies of ancient DNA in Neandertals and early modern people. However, anatomical evidence supporting it also has long been, and continues to be, strong. The author of numerous scholarly publications on human evolution, Smith is currently University Professor Emeritus of Anthropology and Biological Sciences at Illinois State University. He has also held administrative and/or faculty positions at the University of Tennessee, Northern Illinois University, and Loyola University – and has also taught at the Universities of Zagreb, Hamburg, and Tübingen.
The question of violence in early human society and in human nature has been an issue of philosophical importance since the days of Hobbes, Locke and Rousseau. Recently some social and biological scientists have sought to provide empirical support for the Hobbesian view of life in the “state of nature” as “the war of all against all.” Hunter-gatherers, ancient and modern, form a crucial component of their arguments. This lecture examines the evidentiary bases of their theses, evaluating the ethnographic and archaeological research on hunting and gathering societies. Serious deficiencies are found in the arguments of the “bellicose school.” The lecture attempts to reset the terms of the debate on firmer empirical and theoretical grounds.

Richard Borshay Lee (Ph. D. UC Berkeley) is a University Professor Emeritus of Anthropology at the University of Toronto. He has held academic appointments at Harvard, Rutgers, and Columbia Universities, and research positions at ANU, and Kyoto University. His research interests include human rights and indigenous peoples, ecology and history, medical anthropology and AIDS, and the evolution of human behavior. He is internationally known for his studies starting in 1963, of hunting and gathering societies, particularly the Ju/'hoansi-!Kung San of Botswana and Namibia. His 1979 book “The !Kung San: Men Women and Work in a Foraging Society” was ranked among the top 100 works in science of the 20th century by American Scientist magazine. A Fellow of the Royal Society of Canada, and the U.S. National Academy of Sciences (Foreign Associate), he is past-president of the Canadian Anthropology Society and holds honorary Doctorates from the University of Alaska, Fairbanks, and Guelph University for his research and advocacy on behalf of indigenous peoples.
DON'T MISS these CSAS (co-)sponsored sessions!

American Anthropological Association Annual Meeting
Minneapolis, MN
November 16-20, 2016

• Thursday, November 17, 1:45-3:30: True Confessions: Ethical Conundrums from the Field (3-0900)

• Friday, November 18, 8:00-9:45, Life, Death, and Language Ideologies: Historical Accidents of Community Formation and the Framing of Evidence in Linguistic Anthropology (4-0265) (co-sponsor with the Society for Linguistic Anthropology)

• Saturday, November 19, 1:45-3:30, Climate Change, Health, and Wellbeing (5-0710) (co-sponsor with Anthropology and Environment Society)

• Sunday, November 20, 10:15-12:00, Gaming and Identity: Creation and Maintenance of Individual Identity within Gaming and Gaming Communities (6-0225)
Kent State University professor Richard Feinberg has been elected to the status of Honorary Fellow by the Association for Social Anthropology in Oceania (ASAO). Feinberg is one of three anthropologists to receive this honor in 2016. Only 25 researchers may be ASAO Honorary Fellows at any point in time. Current Honorary Fellows are from all over the world, including the U.S., Canada, Europe, Australia, New Zealand, and the Pacific Islands.

“I’m overwhelmed by this expression of appreciation for my contributions to Pacific research,” says Feinberg. “It’s the highest honor that can be bestowed by those colleagues most familiar with my work, and I’m eternally grateful!”

Feinberg is a leading researcher in the Pacific Islands, having conducted a total of four and a half years of field research in five different locations. Most of his work is with the Polynesians in the Solomon Islands and Papua New Guinea. His research has covered topics from kinship and social organization to religion and more.

“A lot of my work over the last couple decades has focused on indigenous navigation and spatial cognition,” says Feinberg, “particularly how people find their way from one island to another across hundreds, and sometimes thousands, of miles of open sea without instruments, and in most cases get where they planned to go.”

Feinberg has taught at Kent State since 1974 in the Department of Anthropology. He has written six books, co-authored one book, edited or co-edited seven books and special issues of journals, authored over forty journal articles, written dozens of book chapters, and been published in a variety of popular and academic venues. ASAO considers him to be one of the top 12 active scholars researching the Pacific Islands.

Before coming to Kent State, Feinberg had an opportunity to work full time in New Zealand, which would have moved him much closer to his research sites. However, he turned it down to stay near his family. Feinberg accepted a job offer at Kent State University.

“I liked the people in the department, and I thought that the department had a lot of potential,” says Feinberg. He thought he would only be here a few years, but ended up settling down with his family and has helped establish Kent State as a leading university for anthropological research.
CSAS past president P. Nick Kardulias (College of Wooster, Ohio) participated in the eighth World Archaeology Congress at end of this summer, in Kyoto, Japan. The Congress organized tours to archaeological and historic sites in Japan, including one that included visiting the Hyogo regional archaeological museum. Many hands-on activities are offered to visitors there, with creating fire by using a bow drill and tinder on a board popular with the archaeologists. Nick, on left, contributed his fire-power, guided by the museum docent in middle. Great excitement when sparks appeared in the tinder, which then was lifted up for the archaeologist to blow it into lively flame and drop it into its bowl.

Another CSAS Past President Honored

Alice Kehoe also participated in the WAC Congress (taking the photos of colleague Nick, above) and on returning home, was happily surprised by a message that she would be honored with the 2016 Distinguished Service Award by the Plains Anthropological Conference, October 14. The award, for “research, teaching, and scholarship,” recognizes her “enduring work in Anthropology and Archaeology” and, not on the plaque, her persistence, in sisterhood with several other women of her generation, in breaking the opposition to women working professionally.

The photo shows Alice with two of her students, LuAnn Wandsnider and Bruce Rippetoe, at the banquet.
CSAS OFFICERS

IMMEDIATE PAST-PRESIDENT, 2012-2016: Willie McKether
The University of Toledo, willie.mckether@utoledo.edu

The University of Toledo, willie.mckether@utoledo.edu

Illinois State University, nadachiilstu.edu

SECOND VICE-PRESIDENT, 2015-2019: Angela Glaros
Eastern Illinois University, acglaros@eiu.edu

SECRETARY-TREASURER, 2015-2018: Heather O'Leary
McMaster University, olear079@umn.edu or olearyh@mcmaster.ca

ASSISTANT SECRETARY-TREASURER, Adam Kaul
Augustana University, adamkaul@augustana.edu

ASSISTANT SECRETARY-TREASURER, Harriet Ottenheimer
Kansas State University, harriet@ottenheimer.com

NOMINATIONS COMMITTEE
Brigittine French—Chair, August 2015-August 2017
Grinnell College, frenchb@grinnell.edu

Erica Prussing--Member, August 2016-August 2018
University of Iowa, Erica-prussing@uiowa.edu

CSAS APPOINTED OFFICERS

UNIT NEWS CO-EDITORS

Lauren Anaya
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
laanaya2@illinois.edu

Cristina (Nina) Ortiz
University of Iowa
cristina-ortiz@uiowa.edu

AAA SECTION ASSEMBLY REPRESENTATIVE

Richard Feinberg
Kent State University
rfeinber@kent.edu

CO—WEBMASTERS

Margaret Buckner
Missouri State University, mbuckner@missouristate.edu

Matthew Buttacavoli
James Cook University, Cairns, matthew.buttacavoli@my.jcu.edu.au

MAILING LIST COORDINATOR

Matthew Buttacavoli
James Cook University, Cairns, matthew.buttacavoli@my.jcu.edu.au

ARCHIVIST

Pamela Effrein Sandstrom
Associate Librarian Emerita, Indiana University-Purdue University Fort Wayne, sandstrp@ipfw.edu

GOVERNING BOARD MEMBERS

2014-2017
Andrea Adams
Centre College
andrea.adams@centre.edu

Jennifer Santos Esperanza
Beloit College
esperanj@beloit.edu

2015-2018
Adam Kaul
Augustana College
adamkaul@augustana.edu

Jon Wolseth
Iowa State University
jwolseth@iastate.edu

2016-2019
Wayne Babchuk
University of Nebraska-Lincoln
wbabchuk@unl.edu

Jacquelyne Lewis-Harris
University of Missouri-St. Louis
antjharr@jinx.umsl.edu

CSAS BULLETIN CO-EDITORS

Alice Kehoe
akehoe@uwm.edu

Melony Stambaugh
Art Academy of Cincinnati
Gateway Community and Technical College stambaughm1@nku.edu