



WCAA Delegates Meeting, Chicago, November 2013

The meeting was chaired by WCAA Chair Michal Buchowski, and began with introductions.

New Constitution

Michal recalled that it had been accepted in Manchester, and is now available on the WCAA website.

Biennial Conference in Taipei in October 2014

Michal said that Shu-min Huang has proposed that the business meeting should take place on 2nd October, followed by the TSAE (Taiwan Society for Anthropology and Ethnology) conference on the 3rd and 4th. WCAA delegates will be staying at the Academia Sinica in Taipei.

Greg Acciaioli pointed out that one day may not be enough for the business meeting. Gordon Mathews replied that Shu-min had suggested to him that there was some flexibility regarding dates, but that they need to be finalised soon.

Setha Low proposed that the WCAA business meeting should take place on 1st and 2nd October. She will organise a new members' workshop for the morning of 1st October, and the business meeting will commence in the afternoon. The conference will take place on the 3rd and 4th of October, as already planned. A possible field trip could take place on 5th October.

Hearing that that about fifty people were expected to attend, Clara Saraiva asked about funding.

Greg responded that that the WCAA will have roughly AUD \$40,000, which translates into some, but not full travel funding for all delegates. Michal said that he would check with Shu-min to see if they could cover the costs of lodging.

Bela Feldman-Bianco asked if the AAA Committee on World Anthropologies could organise a panel there. Michal replied that they could do so. Beyond that, he suggested that a total of 6-7 workshops would be ideal, so that every participant could have some intellectual input.

Action items: Michal and Gordon will communicate with Shu Min to lock in these details. Vesna Vucinic will coordinate the panels.

Publications Report

Gordon noted that an issue of *Deja Lu* had come out, with fifteen articles. It is expected that the next issue will come together more quickly and will hopefully appear in February. He spoke about the WCAA Facebook page, and ended with a plea for new blog material, pointing out that there is a sizeable readership.

Antropologos Sem Frontieras Report

On behalf of Virginia Dominguez, Lauren Anaya reported on the establishment in Brazil of Antropologos Sem Frontieras, an initiative planned and launched by WCAA's Advocacy and Outreach Task Force. She noted that the ASF website would be up and running in the next couple of months.

Ethics Task Force Report

Clara Saraiva reported that the Task Force has been gathering ethics guidelines issued by member associations of the WCAA. The intention is to develop a set of principles that will appear on the Task Force webpage, rather than enunciate any universal guidelines.

Raminder Kahlon, the Ethics Task Force Chair, was not present at this Chicago meeting, but had wished to know if it was acceptable to expand the Task Force to include individuals who were not WCAA delegates. Following discussion, it was decided that it was perfectly acceptable for the Task Force to open up to others since the WCAA did not wish to be exclusivist.

EASA-ABA-AAA Virtual Seminar

Monica Heller reported on this seminar, titled *La lengua en el conocimiento antropológico/la langue et le savoir anthropologique/language and anthropological knowledge/língua e conhecimento antropológico*, which had been hosted on the WCAA website. There were 371 registrants from 24 countries; about half of them were unaffiliated with anthropological associations. Thus, there is substantial demand. There was significant technical learning from this experience, which will enable it to be done better in the future. Papers were up for 3 weeks, during which time all participants had access to them. Then there was a one-day live seminar. It has now been archived on the WCAA site in order to ensure continued access. Monica admitted that multilingualism did not work as hoped for.

Publication from Manchester WCAA Session

There was a discussion about publishing from the 'Displacement and Imobility' session organised by the WCAA in Manchester. The journal *Anthropological Forum* was mentioned as a possibility, and it was agreed that Bela would send a formal proposal to Greg in late December-early January.

Setha observed that it is important to publicise these publications. David Shankland pointed out that a unified WCAA and IUAES would make it easier for us to reach our community. In this context, Gordon suggested that it would be good for *Deja Lu* to also be placed on the IUAES website. He said that he would check with Rohan to see if the WCAA can be prioritised in such a link.

This led on to a discussion about open access. Terence Wright noted that the AAA website contains syllabi. Gordon said that it would be relatively easy to compile 'World Anthropologies' syllabi being used in different places. Leslie Aiello pointed out that the AAA CWA has a Teaching and Research Committee (consisting of Bela and Carla) which is engaged in this work. The WCAA could make this a joint project with the AAA CWA, and Leslie would lead on behalf of the WCAA.

Action items: Bela to send a proposal to Greg in late December-early January. Gordon to check with Rohan about the placement of *Deja Lu* on the IUAES website. Leslie to work on compilation of syllabi with the AAA CWA.

Joint IUAES-JASCA Meeting in Japan

Junji Koizumi first spoke about changes in the IUAES, noting that there are now only 12 people on the Board instead of 16. Faye Harrison has been elected as the IUAES President, and the Union is now taking a Commission-centred approach. The next World Congress will take place in Brazil, and the next inter-Congress in Japan in May 2014.

There will be an opening reception at an art museum on 14th May, and the inter-Congress will go from the 15th to the 18th of May. Their highly successful call yielded 160 panel proposals, so more than 30 of these had to be rejected. The high profile keynote speakers will be James Ferguson, Claudio Lomnitz and Marilyn Strathern.

There will be four WCAA panels on

(i) Urban futures (organised by Setha and Vesna)

- (ii) WCAA's 10th anniversary (organised by Gustavo Ribeiro)
- (iii) Ethics (Rosita Henry and Shao Hua)
- (iv) Statelessness (Greg).

The organisers are requesting that Chairs and Presidents of different anthropological associations should send in short (3 minute) videos on the theme of the conference, 'Future with/of Anthropology'.

American Anthropologist Update

Jim Weil reported that Bela and Carla from the AAA CWA had approached *American Anthropologist* editor Michael Chibnik, who had agreed to carry a regular 'World Anthropology' section in the journal. They are seeking articles of 2,000 to 2,500 words.

Routledge proposition

Setha reported that Routledge Publishers were offering a discount on purchases to WCAA members in return for having their logo and information on the WCAA website. After much discussion, it was decided that the WCAA would not wish to use the website in this way.

Panel Topics for Taiwan Conference

Setha suggested making further use of ongoing WCAA topics, such as environmental sustainability (panel to be organised by Greg and Thomas Reuter) and security (panel to be organised by Setha).

Michal informed the meeting that Thomas Reuter has been elected to the International Social Science Council.

Issue regarding Multiple Associations from a Single Country

There was vigorous discussion regarding whether or not it was appropriate to admit multiple anthropological associations from one country into the WCAA. In the end, there was consensus that the WCAA should be as inclusive as possible, even if it meant that numerous associations were to join from a single country. Accordingly, it was decided that the membership application received from the Madrid Institute of Anthropology would be sent around to delegates for voting as usual.

End of meeting.