

REPORTS FOR THE WCAA BIENNIAL MEETING IN TAIPEI

(2012-2014)

Report on New Member Associations, submitted by Mugsy Spiegel

My primary task as a member of the WCAA's Organizing Committee (OC) is to manage applications from new members and to seek out potential new members, particularly in those parts of the world where there has been little evidence of an anthropology presence.

The past two years has seen eleven associations applying for membership and eight¹ being admitted (the remaining three's² applications are still being voted on: if they are accepted the total membership will be 49 associations). The process for admitting new members involves the OC first commenting on applications and, if there is agreement there, all existing WCAA member associations are asked to vote.

I have also on a couple of occasions 'discovered' the existence of an anthropology association which is not a member of the WCAA and have approached its leaders to enquire whether they would wish to become a member.³ That is because the general goal of the WCAA is to include as members as many associations of anthropologists as possible from as wide a range of parts of the world as there are places where anthropology is formally taught or practiced. The reason for that is to ensure that as many anthropologies as possible are represented, that way to give voice to the wide diversity in our discipline.

One challenge I've experienced is that there are places where there is an anthropological presence, but too small a number of anthropologists there for them to have constituted an association.⁴ Another is that the tendency has been that those working broadly in the field of social-cultural anthropology have sought to become WCAA members whilst there is little interest shown by associations of physical anthropologists, archaeologists and, in some cases, linguistic anthropologists. This of course raises questions about how one should define the discipline and how that process might interact with the WCAA's commitment to recognizing multiple anthropologies – something that might itself be very much a facet social-cultural anthropology/ies. A third challenge is that there are places where state pressure and/or political instability is such that anthropologists keep close to or even under the ground – rather than establishing associations that make them visible.⁵

¹ Anthropological Association of Sweden; Latvian Association of Anthropologists; Norwegian Anthropological Association; Czech Association for Social Anthropology; Finnish Anthropological Society; Croatian Anthropological Society; Madrid Institute of Anthropology; Chinese Anthropological Society.

² Czech Ethnological Society; National [Italian] Academic Association for Cultural Anthropologists; Korean Society for Cultural Anthropology

³ Romanian Society for Social and Cultural Anthropology

⁴ Mozambique is an example

⁵ Pakistan is one such example; Iran is another

Report on WCAA Organized Panels, submitted by Vesna Vucinic

WCAA has been organizing panels on both intellectual and professional issues. They took place as symposia (comprising usually three to five panels) at major international anthropological meetings within which WCAA held its biennial meetings, or as individual panels at conferences at which WCAA held its interim meetings (e.g. IUAES congresses, AAA meetings, etc.). All WCAA Organizing Committee members participated in creating these panels, while my role was to coordinate this activity. Since 2012 the following WCAA organized panels were realized:

1) International Symposium “Anthropology of Global Issues” in New Delhi (2012)

1. “Engaged Anthropology from a Global Perspective: Promise and Problems”, organized by Setha Low
2. “Anthropology and Public Policy: Critical Perspectives and Productive Interventions”, organized by Greg Acciaioli
3. “Anthropology, Development and the Shaping of Globalization”, organized by Thomas Reuter
4. “Building a Network of Anthropologists without Borders – ASF”, organized by Carlos Caroso
5. “The Growing Power of IRBs and the Issue of Ethics for Anthropology Worldwide”, organized by Mugsy Spiegel
6. “Publishing, Prestige and Money in Global Economy”, organized by Thomas Reuter and Gordon Mathews (at the ASA Conference in New Delhi, 2014*).

2) AAA Meeting in San Francisco (2012)

Invited Session Sponsored By AAA Executive Program Committee “American (Anthropological) Imperialism? An Overdue Dialogue”, organized by Setha Low and Michal Buchowski: 7 participants.

3) IUAES World Congress in Manchester (2013)

1. Plenary panel “World Anthropologies Today: Experiences and Prospects” (sponsored by WCAA), organized by Gustavo Lins Ribeiro and Susana Narotzky: 6 participants.
2. “Displacement and Immobility: International Perspectives on Global Capitalism” (WCAA panel), organized by Bella Feldman Bianco: 9 participants.
3. “Averting a Global Environmental Collapse: The Role of Anthropology and Local Knowledge” (WCAA with IUAES), organized by Thomas Reuter: 13 participants.

4) AAA Meeting in Chicago (2013)

AAA Presidential roundtable session “Making Sense of Contemporary Capitalism: Theoretical and Ethnographic Reflections from the Multiple Vantage Points of World Anthropologies”, organized by Chandana Mathur: 7 participants.

5) ASA Decennial Meeting in Edinburgh (2014)

“Postcolonial Perspectives on the Enlightenment and Ethics” (WCAA Ethics Task Force), organized by Raminder Kaur and Soumendra Patnaik: 4 participants.

6) IUAES with JASCA in Chiba City (2014)

1. The Past and Future of WCAA (WCAA Tenth Anniversary Symposium), organized by Gustavo Lins Ribeiro: 15 participants
2. Urban Futures (WCAA, IUAES, JASCA joint panel), organized by Setha Low and Vesna Vucinic: 9 participants
3. Situating Statelessness: Anthropological Perspectives (WCAA and Commission on Theoretical Anthropology panel), organized by Greg Acciaioli: 6 participants.

Report on the WCAA Task Force on Advocacy & Outreach Activities (AOA), submitted by the Chair, Virginia R. Dominguez

Founding: The Task Force on Advocacy and Outreach Activities was established in August 2010 at the WCAA meeting in Maynooth, Ireland. Its designated objective was to explore the possibility of establishing something like ANTHROPOLOGISTS WITHOUT BORDERS. After about a year of discussions via Skype and email, the Task Force voted to establish such an organization legally headquartered in Brazil as a non-profit NGO initially devoted to providing non-profits and named communities and groups with anthropological readers/experts able to read, analyze, and critique documents prepared by government agencies and corporations whose conclusions trouble said groups or named communities. After further discussions at the WCAA meeting in New Delhi, India, Virginia Dominguez (USA) was elected to a 4-year term as Task Force chair and Carlos Caroso (Brazil) set about establishing ASF in Brazil (an act of legal filing and incorporation that finally took place in March 2013). At the moment Carlos Caroso (recent former head of the Brazilian Anthropological Association and current member of the WCAA's Org Committee) is President of ASF.

Background: A meeting of the nearly-full WCAA Task Force on AOA took place in Manchester, England, in August 2013. It had two major foci: (1) it discussed and revised the ByLaws of ASF (Antropologos sem fronteiras/Anthropologos without Borders) to enhance the presence of non-Brazil-based colleagues and to vote into those positions certain Task-Force members (& other interested colleagues); (2) it served as a broad and open-ended discussion of the Task Force itself, its existence, its mission, its possible transformation, and other tasks or activities it might take on beyond the initial exploration of the idea of an organization like ASF (which took about a year to explore) and its continued monitoring, participation, and support.

Since Manchester 2013:

- (1) A substantive revision of ASF (as per the Manchester meeting) was entered into the legal record in Brazil.
- (2) Tim Landry (now U of Oklahoma) has created an easy-to-use website for ASF. That website is: *antropologossemfronteiras.wordpress.com*

(3) Translations of the ASF ByLaws (into English & Spanish) have been made and posted onto the ASF website, and French and Italian ones have been commissioned. Translations into other languages (perhaps especially non-European ones) would be especially welcome.

(4) Several dozen colleagues have added their names & areas of expertise to the Volunteer Expert database that is part of the website, but we want many more.

(3) One-page announcements have been sent out in recent months to the WCAA membership & to foundations & NGOs, but we need many more. That announcement includes the two email addresses ASF currently has, one in Portuguese & one in English. They are: (1)

asf.antropologos.sem.frenteiras@gmail.com (if contacting ASF in Portuguese), and (2) **antropologossemfrenteiras.br@gmail.com** (if contacting ASF in English).

(4) So far, ASF has been approached by a few potential clients, but none matching ASF's stated mission.

(5) This August (2014) Lauren Anaya, Tim Landry, and I filed papers in the U.S. State of Illinois to establish an NGO to be called **ASF-US**. It is not limited to people in Illinois. This will be a U.S.-based version of ASF, imagined as legally independent but also as a Group Affiliate of the Brazil-based ASF. All of this is clearly envisioned and articulated in the official ByLaws of ASF. A similar NGO is being established in India, under the leadership of Soumendra Patnaik.

(6) While I would like to move to other fronts/other work of the WCAA AOA Task Force, I continue to focus on ASF and I believe we need to do so if ASF is to have a chance of achieving its goals.

Appendix:

The Task Force meeting in Manchester created an office of ASF Vice President and voted me (Virginia R. Dominguez) into that position. It also resulted in most WCAA Task Force members being voted onto the governing board of ASF OR its Advisory (Technical-Scientific) Council. Many signatures were obtained and official Minutes recorded. Voted onto the ASF Executive Board were Raminder Kaur (UK), Thomas Reuter (Australia), and Andrew ("Mugsy") Spiegel (South Africa). Voted onto the ASF Advisory Council were Greg Acciaioli (Australia), Michal Buchowski (Poland), Luis Roberto Cardoso de Oliveira (Brazil), Ellen Judd (Canada), Gustavo Lins Ribeiro (Brazil), Gordon Mathews (Hong Kong), Chandana Mathur (Ireland), Ruben Oliven (Brazil), Soumendra Patnaik (India), Francine Saillant (Canada), Vesna Vucinic-Neskovic (Serbia).

The Task Force meeting in Manchester also concluded with a general consensus (a) that the WCAA Task Force on Advocacy and Outreach Activities (AOA) ought to continue to exist; (b) that a focus on pre-university or non-university educational settings would be worthwhile but so might having the AOA serve as a type of clearinghouse for anthropological advocacy and outreach activities worldwide; and (c) that some new members would probably be added to the Task Force and some rotation of members would be good (but that we would wait to see how the WCAA Org Committee responded to a query by Raminder Kaur, Chair of the WCAA Ethics Committee, regarding procedures for adding or replacing members of the WCAA Task Forces).

Report on the WCAA Ethics Task Force, submitted by the Chair, Raminder Kaur

Activities

1. A panel was organised for the ASA decennial in 2014, “Postcolonial Perspectives on the Enlightenment and Ethics”, which went very well.
<http://www.nomadit.co.uk/asa/asa2014/panels.php5?PanelID=2784>
2. Plans were afoot to organise a panel, “Engaging with Ethics: The Problems of Codes and Guidelines for an Anthropological Future” at IUAES/JASCA 2014 but it had to be cancelled due to limited submissions.
3. Procedures for established and new members, and Associate Member status were clarified. So far, we have four new Associate Members confirmed in our last taskforce meeting at ASA 2014: Raul Acosta, Urmi Bhattacharyya, Dawid Bunikowski, and Debojyoti Das. Matei Candea had to step down from the taskforce due to his obligations as JRAI editor.

What next for the taskforce?

1. We discussed a Special Issue based on ASA panelists’ papers amongst other contributions from interested members of the taskforce where space and time permits.
2. We are seeking to apply for funding for a themed workshop in South Asia in 2016.
3. We are in the very early stages of planning a collaborative panel on media and ethics for EASA 2016.

Key Challenges

Practical: we have limited capacity to see through what we have identified. Clear and swift lines of administrative support are required to update the WCAA Ethics Taskforce page to:

- connect member associations url for ethical guidelines where they are available
- upload and update taskforce details, working papers and other material

Thematic: discussions have been raised about consultations to deposit qualitative field data with German and European funding bodies. The UK-based ESRC has already implemented these measures as a condition of awards. This practice of depositing fieldwork data is likely to spread to other countries and co-ordinated action from the WCAA is required.

Report on the WCAA Publications Taskforce, submitted by Gregory Accaioli

The publications task force has largely not been active since the last WCAA biennial meeting/symposium in Delhi due to lack of shared understanding concerning its focal aims and inability to find a suitable chair. Thus, a priority for this meeting should be a clarification of the purpose of this task force and the steps needed to fulfill that aim, along with selection of a chair. The following report is therefore a partial attempt to summarize what have been some of the highlights of WCAA publications since the 2012 meeting. As the report by Gordon Mathews

lists WCAA internet activities (*Deja Lu*, blog, facebook page), this report covers only printed publications.

At the 2012 WCAA meeting in Delhi, breakout groups specified a number of themes upon which the WCAA should focus for the 2 years up to this meeting: future of anthropology, climate change, issues of evidence, marginalization and displacement, migration, conflict (war and torture), financialisation of social life, environmental abuse, ethics and human rights, fair distribution of global resources, globalisation and natural resources, and displacements and immobilities: studies in global capitalism. The Intellectual Engagements Group selected three research themes – (1) War, securitization and financialisation of social life; (2) Environmental challenges and local knowledge; (3) Displacements and immobilities. These were agreed upon by the meeting as a whole as a framework for the next three years of panel organisation and publication. In addition, the WCAA has continued to generate publications that treat various national and regional anthropological frameworks in the context of global flows of knowledge.

The suggestion for an edited book to come out of each biennial meeting has not been acted on, in part because the diversity of topics covered in the 2012 symposium papers rendered impossible the delineation of a common theme, as publishers increasingly demand. This suggestion can, of course, be revisited in the context of this 2014 meeting/symposium.

One publication has resulted from the session organised by WCAA at EASA's 2008 biennial conference in Ljubljana: 'Changing flows in anthropological knowledge', edited by Michal Buchowski and Virginia R. Dominguez has been published as a Theme Section in the journal *Focaal* (Berghan Publishers), 63 (2012), with papers authored by Michele Hanks ('Introduction: The politics and ethics of collaboration among World Anthropologies'), Blai Guarné ('The world is a room: Beyond centers and peripheries in the global production of anthropological knowledge'), Buchowski ('Intricate relations between Western anthropologists and Eastern ethnologists'), Chris Hahn ('Faltering dialogue? For a doubly rooted cosmopolitan anthropology'), Dominguez ('Mutuality, responsibility, and reciprocity in situations of marked inequality: Dilemmas of, and concerning, US anthropology in the world'), and Johannes Fabian ('Comments on "Changing global flows in anthropological knowledge"').

Another journal module resulted from the WCAA panel 'Publishing, prestige and money in global anthropology' organised by Thomas Reuter and Gordon Mathews for the 2012 ASA conference in Delhi, which immediately followed the WCAA meeting/symposium. The following papers from that panel were published in the *Journal of Workplace Rights* (Volume 16, Number 3 - 4 / 2011-2012): Raymond A. Mazurek 'Academic Labor is a Class Issue: Professional Organizations Confront the Exploitation of Contingent Faculty'; Thomas Reuter 'New Hegemonic Tendencies in the Production of Knowledge: How Research Quality Evaluation Schemes and the Corporatization of Journals Impact on Academic Life'; Joseph Bosco 'The Formula as a Managerial Tool: Audit Culture in Hong Kong'; Gordon Mathews 'Contesting Anglo-American Anthropological Hegemony in Publication'; Michelle Daveluy 'The Academic Copyrights Trade: Canadian Scholars Buying the Privilege of Citation'; and Justin Gaurav Murgai and Charles W. Baker 'Sands of Change: Overcoming First World Hegemony Over Knowledge'.

In accordance with the WCAA research theme 'Displacements and immobility', a special double issue (i.e. linked consecutive issues) of *Anthropological Forum* tentatively entitled 'Space Configurations and Mobilities' and 'Displacements, Mobilities and Inequalities' respectively, under the guest editorship of Bela Feldman-Bianco, Monica Heller and Susana Narotzky, is

currently in the midst of refereeing, with a projected publication date in 2015. These issues consist of a selection of papers taken from three panels sponsored by the WCAA in whole or in part at the Brazilian biennial anthropological meeting (2012), the AAA annual meeting (2012), and the IUAES World Congress in Manchester (2013). The projected papers in the first issue include: Rosita Henry 'Doubly Displaced: Indigenous Australians and Museum Artefacts of the Wet Tropics'; Jaume Franquesa 'Wind farms and the production of uneven development in Southern Catalonia'; Michal Buchowski 'Immigrants in the City of Poznan (Poland): Can One City Exemplify Global Phenomena?'; Setha Low 'Processes of Securitization in Displacement and (Im)mobilities: Gated Communities, Market Rate Co-operatives and Condominiums in New York'; Gabriel DE SANTIS Feltran 'Brazilian Development and its Margins on Semantic Displacements and Social Conflict'; and Ayse Caglar 'Displacement of European Citizen Roma in Berlin: Sites of contentious politics'. The second issue includes: Noel B. Salazar 'Displaced Through Immobility' Versus "The Freedom to Stay Put"; Alicia Torres 'Migration, Development and Exclusion: Reflections From Ecuador'; Adriana G Piscitelli 'The Emotional Strength of the Language of Human Rights: International Human Trafficking Involving Brazilian Women'; Cheryl Mwaria 'Between a Rock and a Hard Place: African Americans and the Politics of the First Black President of the United States'; and Ida S Susser 'Displacement for the New Spectacle: Reshaping the Wounded City'.

Thomas Reuter also has plans to produce an edited volume from papers that came out of the panel on "Averting a Global Environmental Collapse: The Role of Anthropology and Local Knowledge", presented at the IUAES World Congress in Manchester (2013).

Individual papers linked to WCAA themes that have been published by past and present WCAA delegates and members of the executive in the last two years have also included:

Ribeiro, Gustavo Lins 2013 Global Flows of Development Models. *Anthropological Forum* 23:2:121-141.

Chaabani, Hassen 2012 Insights on the history of Anthropology: its emergence in the wider Middle East before it existed as a discipline, *International Journal of Modern Anthropology* 5: 80-87.

There are also plans to produce in association with the AAA Committee on World Anthropologies transcripts of some of the papers of the WCAA Webinar 'Language and anthropological knowledge', but these are still being implemented to our knowledge.

(Fellow delegates: Please inform us of any further publications inspired by the WCAA or related to its activities of which you are aware, as we will amend this report for the Minutes to be produced in accord with your additions! Many thanks.)

Report on Internet Activities, submitted by Gordon Mathews

The WCAA website, managed by NomadIT, is a central forum for information on WCAA. It is at <http://www.wcaanet.org/> All WCAA activities and initiatives are featured there.

One successful WCAA endeavor on the WCAA website has been *Deja Lu*. *Deja Lu* is an annual journal of reprints of anthropological articles from journals from around the world, edited by Gustavo Lins Ribeiro and Gordon Mathews, which was begun in 2012. We republish articles selected by the journals of the association members of the WCAA and other relevant journals in the field and give them global visibility. The first issue of *Deja Lu* came out in April 2013; the second issue of *Deja Lu* came out in February 2014, and consisted of 24 articles from a broad array of different countries' anthropologies. We are now beginning our work for the third issue, by contacting all the different anthropological journal editors around the world we can find, asking them for their selections. We will also be contacting American anthropological journals to specifically inform them that *Deja Lu* can provide a means by which they can contact non-American journals to find referees and editorial board members. You can read *Deja Lu* at <http://www.wcaanet.org/dejalu/index.html> If you have any questions or comments about *Deja Lu*, write Gustavo Lins Ribeiro, Universidade de Brasília gustavor@unb.br or Gordon Mathews, The Chinese University of Hong Kong, cmgordon@cuhk.edu.hk All WCAA members are strongly encouraged to put the above link to *Deja lu* on their website, to encourage global anthropology!

A less successful effort has been the WCAA blog, which has not been active for the past few months. This is because it was the work of only one person (Gordon Mathews), who was never able to get enough people contributing and commenting to make it a vibrant global anthropological forum. However, the blog remains, and is open for your contributions and energy! You can see the blog at <http://www.wcaanet.org/blog/> Please write Gordon Mathews if you would like to contribute to the blog or have ideas about its resuscitation.

WCAA also has a facebook page, run by postgraduate students at the Chinese University of Hong Kong, which contains both information specifically pertaining to WCAA and also a wide variety of other on-line links of anthropological links. Please have a look, and please post links where you can. <https://www.facebook.com/wcaanet> Please write Gordon if you have any comments or ideas!

Treasurer's Report, submitted by Gregory Accaioli

(Note: All figures are in Australian dollars (AUD), unless otherwise noted, since that is the currency of the Commonwealth Bank of Australia, in which the WCAA account resides. The value of the Australian dollar has fluctuated considerably in the last two year period from a bit over USD\$1.04 to a current value of just over USD\$0.85.)

Expenses for the last WCAA biennial meeting/symposium

Balance at the end of the WCAA biennial meeting in Delhi (8 April 2012):	\$14,715.08
(This figure takes into account all deductions made for payments to the Indian Anthropological Association for hosting the meeting/symposium. However, this did not include the reimbursements made after the conference—see below):	
Total of payments for (partial) meeting/symposium expenses: (for dinner expenses, lecture room rental, conference room rental, guesthouse rooms, etc.)	\$ 8,452.13
Reimbursements made to delegates at the biennial conference (to 14 delegates):	\$13,308.91
Reimbursements made to delegates after the biennial conference (to 10 delegates):	\$11,583.77
TOTAL reimbursements (including bank charges for wire transfers):	\$24,892.77
(Average reimbursement to each delegate: \$1037.20)	
Total Delhi meeting/symposium expenses:	\$33,344.90

Income since the last WCAA biennial meeting/symposium

Wenner Gren contributions	
2013 Wenner Gren annual payment (USD\$15,000 minus bank charges)	\$13,835.30
2014 Wenner Gren annual payment (USD\$15,000 minus bank charges)	\$16,103.44
TOTAL Wenner Gren contribution in last two years:	\$29,938.74
Voluntary contributions of member associations (pre-WCAA mtg 2012 round of \$ 4276.18)	
Round 1 2013 (11/2012-1/2014) [17 associations] (average: \$385.02/association)	\$ 6,545.35
Round 2 2014 (7/2014-9.2014 <i>so far</i>) [6 associations] (average: \$397.88/association)	\$ 2,387.30
TOTAL voluntary contributions since 2012 Delhi WCAA meeting	\$ 8,932.65
TOTAL income since 2102 WCAA meeting (minor interest accrual not included):	\$38,871.39

Expenses since last WCAA biennial meeting/symposium expenses acquitted

Payments (4) to NomadIT for website maintenance, <i>Deja Lu</i> , etc.	\$ 7,135.03
Payments (3) to ISSC for annual membership (reduced rate of €100/year)	\$ 491.37
TOTAL of non-meeting related expenses since 2012 WCAA meeting	\$ 7,626.40

Current balance [03-09-14](before expenses for this WCAA 2014 meeting): \$36,094.92

*P.S. Please note that the order of the reports follows the WCAA Biennial Meeting Agenda (Item 1.d and 1.e)