



ANSS currents

The Newsletter of the ACRL Anthropology and Sociology Section

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May 1990

1990 Annual Meeting Schedule

Program and Membership Meeting

Sunday, 6/24, 9:30am-12:30pm

McCormick Place North, L1

Executive Committee

Saturday, 6/23, 9-11am

Midland Hotel, Adler Room

Monday, 6/25, 2-4pm

Swiss Grand Hotel, Davos Suite

Bibliography Committee

Saturday, 6/23, 2-4pm

McCormick Place North, Table 25

Monday, 6/25, 9-11am

Swiss Grand Hotel, Bellinzona Room

Conference Program Planning, Atlanta

Saturday, 6/23, 8-9am

McCormick Place North, Table 31

Conference Program Planning, Chicago

Sunday, 6/24, 8-9am

McCormick Place North, L1

Nominating Committee, 1991 Elections

(closed meeting)

Sunday, 6/24, 4:30-5:30pm

(Check the program for meeting location)

Publications Committee

Sunday, 6/24, 2-4pm

(Check the program for meeting location)

Review & Planning Committee

Sunday, 6/24, 4:30-5:30pm

McCormick Center Hotel, Conf. Room 10

Be certain to check the final program for meeting locations



1990 ANSS Program:

"Profiles of the City: Using Ethnic Collections and Archives for Social Science Research"

Sunday, June 24, 1990

9:30am-12:30pm

McCormick Place North, L1

Co-sponsors:

Ethnic Materials Information Exchange Round Table (EMIERT)

and

Afro-American Studies Section (ACRL)

The program will explore Chicago's rich and varied cultural heritage, as exhibited in five of the Greater Chicago area's ethnic collections and archives. Speakers will describe their unique collections and discuss how urban sociologists and anthropologists, and other social scientists, use these ethnic materials to illuminate Chicago's, and the country's, rich cultural diversity.

Speakers:

Daniel Meyers, Regenstein Library, University of Chicago

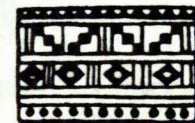
Janice McNeill, Chicago Historical Society

Robert Miller, Vivian G. Harsh Collection of Afro-American

History and Literature, Chicago Public Library

Robbin Katzin, Asher Library, Spertus College of Judaica

Kathryn DeGraff, Special Collections Librarian and University Archivist, DePaul



Committee Reports

1990 Midwinter Meetings

Executive Committee

Janet Steins, Chair

Present: Janet Steins, Stephen MacLeod, Cheryl Kugler, Ann Wood, Maija Lutz, Nancy Skipper, Margaret Dittmore, James Williams, Mary Koenig, Robert Ridinger, Bonnie Wright

Visitors: Gregory Finnegan, David Hovde, Lynne Schmelz-Keil,

Ellen Sutton, Hans Panofsky, Fred Hay, Pauline Manaka, Virginia Seiser, Anne Beaubien, Cathleen Bourdon.

The Executive Committee met twice during the ALA Midwinter Meetings, on Saturday and Monday afternoons from 2-4pm.

Reports were presented by the chairpersons of ANSS standing committees (Rob Ridinger for Conference Program Planning - Chicago, Nancy Skipper for Bibliography, Maggie Dittmore for Publications, Jim Williams for Nominating - 1990 Elections, and Cheryl Kugler, ANSS Chair-Elect, for Conference Program Planning - Atlanta).

As typical in recent years, representatives of the Tozzer Library at Harvard University (Lynne Schmelz-Keil) and the Library Anthropology Resource Group (Rob Ridinger and Hans Panofsky) also reported on their respective organization's activities.

Announcements were made by the Chair regarding the Section's 1989-90 budget, the ANSS Manual for Officers and Committee Chairs and Members, and the tentative schedule of section meetings at the Annual Conference. Regarding the scheduling of Executive Committee meetings, whereas the Saturday and Monday afternoon schedule used to work well for most members of the committee, in recent years it has put us in conflict with both meetings of the ACRL Board of Directors. Therefore, it was decided that in the future we will switch our Saturday meeting to a morning slot so that the ANSS Liaison to the ACRL Board (currently Maija Lutz), as well as any other interested ANSS Executive Committee members, may attend at least one ACRL Board meeting. Their second, Tuesday afternoon, meeting takes place when ANSS traditionally sponsors a tour.

Janet Steins and Cheryl Kugler, ANSS's members on the ACRL Activity Sections Council, reported that the issues of section program publicity, funding and post-conference publication were discussed with Cathleen Bourdon of ACRL. ALA has put restrictions on the distribution of individual program flyers, and so ACRL will produce a single flyer publicizing all section programs. Finally, there was strong agreement among members of the council that *C&RL News* should publish abstracts of papers presented at ACRL section programs.



Bibliography Committee

Nancy Skipper, Chair

The Committee welcomed a visitor, Cathy Doyle, who is a member of the new Law and Political Science Bibliography Committee. The two Bibliography Committees will continue to share relevant documents and information about their activities.

The first major agenda item discussed was the Executive Committee's proposal to alter the charge of the Bibliography Committee by forming a separate group to focus upon making contacts with relevant professional and academic associations or organizations.

With minor revisions, a new outline of criteria for analyzing indexes and abstracts was approved. Analyses of three indexes pertaining to criminology were discussed. The Committee decided to submit them as a comparative group of reviews. An analysis of *Current Index on Aging* will also be approved with some minor revisions. The Committee discussed a preliminary analysis of *International Review of Publications in Sociology* and decided that it would be very useful to combine it with analyses of *Sociological Abstracts* and *SocioFile*. Analyses of several other titles were planned for preliminary review at the next meeting. The Committee discussed the value of having the reviews appear in *ANSS Currents* and expressed the hope that more room would be available in the future.

Letters to publishers were reviewed.

The Bibliography Committee also discussed how best to respond to requests for suggestions on the upcoming supplement to Sheey's *Guide to Reference Books*. Although a few members of the Committee volunteered to review specific subject sections in their area of interest, it was generally agreed that the Committee could not afford to spend much additional time on the new project. The chairperson will suggest other possible sources of participation within ANSS.



Publications Committee

Margaret R. Dittmore, Chair

The latest issue of *ANSS Currents* was reviewed. A decision was made to include a statement in each Fall issue from the new Chair of ANSS and from each candidate for the Vice-Chair/Chair-Elect position. Jim Williams and Maija Lutz, the newsletter editors, and Steve MacLeod, who is responsible for type setting and layout, agreed to accept material for the newsletter in whatever format it is submitted.

Jim Williams was appointed to communicate with George Eberhart, ACRL, concerning several issues which arose during the meeting. These were: 1) Should *ANSS Currents* include a disclaimer when it publishes Bibliography Committee reviews?; 2) Can the size of the newsletter be increased? Is there some flexibility in the number of pages for each issue?; 3) What is the status of the complimentary issues? Who distributes them and who pays for their distribution?; 4) Has ACRL considered sending all section newsletters to all library schools?

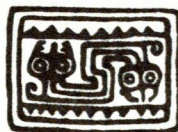
Steve MacLeod distributed copies of the Complimentary Subscriptions List (dated November 1989).

A brief look was taken at what some other sections are publishing in addition to their newsletters. There was no discussion concerning the other publication needs, if any, of ANSS itself.

Review and Planning

Stephen MacLeod, Chair

The Committee devoted the meeting to completing the ANSS Section Review, which was finished and submitted to ACRL by the conclusion of the conference.



Membership News and Announcements

The third edition (1989-90) of the ANSS section handbook, *A Manual for Officers, Committee Chairs and Committee Members*, is available to members from Ann Wood:

Ann Wood
University Library
University of Massachusetts
Amherst, MA 01002

Africana Resources and Collections: Three Decades of Development and Achievement is a recently published festschrift in honor of Hans Panofsky. He is Curator of the Melville J. Herskovits Library of African Studies at Northwestern University. In 1973/74 Panofsky was the second Chair of the newly formed Anthropology and Sociology Section (then called ANTS). The volume was published by Scarecrow Press in 1989.

Bonnie Wright has recently published an essay, "The Power of Articulation," in *The Creativity of Power*, edited by William Arens and Ivan Karp (W.D.C. Smithsonian Institution, 1989). The essay concerns West African bards.

Ann Wood points out the recent AAA publication of *Gender and Anthropology: Critical Reviews for Research and Teaching*. It is the result of a three year AAA Project on Gender and the Curriculum directed by Sandra Morgen of U Massachusetts. The book is a good resource for those concerned with women and gender issues in research and teaching. (Anne Wood, U Mass)

Christine Whittington (ANSS Publications Committee), Joyce Ogburn (ANSS Bibliography Committee), and Diane Zabel (ANSS member) are the authors of chapters in *The Social Sciences: A Cross-Disciplinary Guide to Selected Sources*, edited by Nancy L. Herron (Englewood, CO: Libraries Unlimited, 1989). Chris contributed "General Sources" (Chapter 1), Joyce contributed "Anthropology" (Chapter 6), and Diane was responsible for two chapters, "Sociology" (Chapter 7) and "Psychology" (Chapter 9). The book is a recent addition to Libraries Unlimited's Library Science Text Series. It is designed to be a guide for researchers as well as a teaching textbook for library science students, with an emphasis on the most important sources from the perspective of the practicing reference librarian. (Christine Whittington, Pennsylvania State U)

Joyce Ogburn would like to thank the individuals who responded

to her query about resources in anthropology bibliography. She welcomes any other suggestions in this area (see the last issue of *ANSS Currents*). The following includes some of the responses and additional titles she found:

Clark, Barton M. and John van Willigen. (1981) "Documentation and Data Management in Applied Anthropology." *Journal of Cultural and Education Futures* 2:23-27.

Clark, Barton M. (1983) "Documentation in Anthropology: Current Status and Needs," in *Clinical Anthropology: A New Approach to American Health Problems*. Edited by Demetri B. Shimkin and Peggy Golde. Lanham MD: University Press of America, pp. 315-323.

Geraci, Diane. (1989) "Commercial Bibliographic Databases Relevant to Anthropology." *CAAN (Computer-Assisted Anthropology News)* 3: 3-13.

Handler, Mark. (1989) "Anthropology," in *Information Needs in the Social Sciences: An Assessment*. Mountain View, CA: Research Libraries Group, pp 41-48.

Martlew, Roger, ed. (1984) *Information Systems in Archaeology*. Gloucester: Alan Sutton Publishing Ltd. (Contains several relevant articles).

Schmidt, Nancy J. (1984) "NTIS Reports on Contract Archaeology: Their Bibliographic Characteristics and Place in Academic Library Collections." *American Antiquity* 49: 586-599.

Wellin, Edward. (1989) "Medical Anthropology." *Choice*. November: 441-452.

Wepsiec, Jan. (1978) "Inquiry into the Syndetic Structure of the Library of Congress Subject Headings in Anthropology." *Library Resources and Technical Services*, 22:61-80.

Because of positive response to the 1989 ANSS Dallas Program, "Access to Anthropological Field Notes: Preservation, Collection and Ethical Issues," Bonnie Wright is submitting the same panel for the 1990 American Anthropological Association meetings in New Orleans this fall. In addition to those who participated in Dallas, Professor George Marcus (Rice U) has agreed to join as one of the discussants.

Please share your personal and institutional news with us — job changes, research in progress, book reviews, other publications, talks, new directions or institutes, significant acquisitions, etc. Send by September 7, 1990, to:

Maggie Dittmore
Bibliography Department
Howard Tilton Memorial Library
Tulane University
New Orleans, LA 70118.

Calendar of Events

May 16-19. Cultural Conservation: Reconfiguring the Cultural Mission, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C. Contact: Mary Hufford, American Folklife Center, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C. 20540. (202) 707-6590.

May 18-20. Society for Cultural Anthropology, Annual Meeting, Santa Monica, CA. Theme: The Making of Popular Culture. Contact: Robert Fernea, Dept Anthropology, U Texas, Austin, TX 78712. (512) 471-4206.

June 3-7. Fourth International Interdisciplinary Congress on Women, Hunter C-CUNY, New York, NY. Theme: Women's Worlds, Realities and Choices. Contact: Marsha Frankel, Dept Anthropology, Hunter C-CUNY, New York, NY 10021. (212) 772-5566.

August 5-17. Western Archives Institute, UCLA, Los Angeles, CA. Intensive two-week program in archival training. Contact: Laren Metzger, Western Archives Institute, Sacramento, CA 95814. (916) 445-4294.

August 18-24. International Federation of Library Associations, Annual Meeting, Stockholm, Sweden.

September 24-29. Second International Festival of Ethnographic Film, Manchester, England. Contact: Director, Royal Anthro'l Institute, London, England.

October 17-21. American Folklore Society, Annual Meeting, Oakland, CA. Contact: Timothy Lloyd, Ohio Arts Council, Columbus, OH 43205. (614) 466-2613.

Nov 1-4. American Society for Ethnohistory, Annual Meeting, Toronto, ONT. Contact: Judy Hicks, Dept Ethnol, Royal Ontario Mus, Toronto, Ontario, Canada.

Nov 28-Dec 2. American Anthropological Association, Annual Meeting, New Orleans, LA. Call for papers in January 1990 *Anthropology Newsletter*.



Bookshelf

Sociology

Reference Books:

The Adoption Directory. (Edited by Ellen Paul. Gale, 1989.) Data source for foster care, adoption agencies, support groups, and options for biological parenthood. Includes summary adoption laws for the U.S. states and six foreign countries.

The Blackwell Companion to Jewish Culture: From the Eighteenth Century to the Present. (Edited by Glenda Abramson. Basil Blackwell, 1990.) 1,100 entries on contemporary Jewish culture and

society. Includes biographical essays.

A Critical Dictionary of Sociology. (By Raymond Boudon and Francois Bourricaud; translated by Peter Hamilton. University of Chicago Press, 1989.) A translated abridgement of the French *Dictionnaire Critique de la Sociologie* (Press Universitaires de France, 1986. 2nd ed.) written by two sociologists "to present a critical analysis for the sociological tradition." Discusses concepts, theories, questions, and important individuals in essay entries which average about 1,700 words and include bibliographies.

Dictionary of Services for Refugees and Immigrants 1990-1991. (Edited by Alan Edward Shorr. Denali Press, 1990.) An expansion of the earlier edition. Guide to the services and programs of 958 U.S. local, regional and national groups and agencies. Biennial updates are planned.

Encyclopedia of Gambling. (By Carl Sifakis. Facts on File, 1990.) This comprehensive and entertaining treatment of gambling covers the contemporary scene and presents some history.

Encyclopedia of Homosexuality. (Edited by Wayne R. Dynes. Garland, 1990.) Historical, psychological, sociological, and medical aspects of the gay experience are covered in 770 articles.

The Irish-American Almanac & Green Pages. Rev. ed. (Edited by Brian E. Cooper. Harper, 1990.) Informative guide to Irish-American culture and society. Biennial updates are forecast.

Journals:

Progressive Periodicals Directory. 2nd ed. (Edited by Craig Canan. Progressive Education Group, P.O. Box 120574, Nashville, TN 37212. \$16.) Guide to 600 periodicals and newsletters on alternative social concerns. Arranged into 15 subject categories, with title index.

Black Ethnic Collectibles. (Jeannette Carson, 1401 Ashbury Ct. Hyattsville, MS 20782. Began publication 1988. Bi-monthly. \$16.) Guide to the collection of black memorabilia. Each issue includes five or six articles.

Japan Forum. (Oxford University Press, Walston St., Oxford OX2 6DP, England. Began publication 1989. Semi-annual. \$80.) Issued under the auspices of the British Association of Japanese Studies. Intended to cover all aspects of Japanese culture and society.

Bibliography Committee Reviews

Art and Archaeology Technical Abstracts (AATA)

Analysis prepared by:

Joyce L. Ogburn

The Pennsylvania State University

June 1989

A. Issues Reviewed:

Beginning with vol. 23 1986 AATA is compiled and produced from bibliographic information contained in the Conservation Informa-

tion Network (under the auspices of the Getty Conservation Institute and the National Museums of Canada).

Scanned volumes 6-26.

B. Frequency:

Currently published twice a year, two issues per volume.

C. Introduction:

General Description:

This index covers the more technical aspects of art and archaeology, abstracting articles which take an applied approach to the disciplines. Because it covers a wide variety of technical analyses, it would be useful in an art, chemistry, museum studies, or archaeology collection.

Scope:

AATA is truly international in scope, drawing on sources from all over the world in many different languages. The contributors also span the globe. The text is in English, while the titles are in the language of origin. The scope is clearly stated in Volume 6, 1966. In the later volumes, (1986-) the scope must be inferred from the "Guide to the Use of AATA."

D. Overall Usability:

This abstracting service has a well-designed classification scheme, appropriate cross-references, and several indexes. All citations in the cross-references and the indexes are contained in the same volume. It should be used by archaeologists looking for information on the technical aspects of archaeology on a world-wide scale. It probably would be most useful to curators of archaeological collections, field workers, archaeologists who work outside of North America, and researchers desiring the broadest possible literature search.

E. Coverage:

Type of Publications Abstracted:

AATA abstracts articles, reports, news items, books, A/V, machine-readable data files, and other publications from every major country in the world. The type of coverage is well-outlined in the section on the "Guide to the Use of AATA." Coverage of archaeology would be limited to those works appropriate to AATA's scope.

Subjects Covered:

This publication covers topics of general interest, technical aspects, including restoration, repair, and preservation, historical treatments, physical and chemical properties of artistic works and artifacts, and excavations.

F. Format:

Arrangement of Entries:

From 1984 on the abstracts in AATA are arranged under 7 sections: (1) Methods of examination and documentation ("the process of obtaining information or results, and/or storing this data"); (2) Conservation practice ("general concerns and conservation practice"); (3) Archaeological methods ("technical methods... but does not include... site surveys, listing of finds, or archaeological history"); (4) Architectural conservation, including landscape gardening ("information on treatment of buildings and historic sites and monuments"); (5) Conservation training; (6) History of technology

("non-substance-specific historical material"); and (7) Analysis, treatment, and techniques of works of art and objects of materials (a list is included).

Each abstract is numbered by volume and order of appearance in the volume. The author's name comes first, followed by the title. The language of the article is indicated. Journal titles are written in full, not abbreviated, and entries for journal articles contain issue number and month, if applicable. Entries also include number of figures or tables, and for books, number of pages.

Appendices and Indexes:

From 1966-1983 AATA contained a list of the periodicals abstracted and a supplement which was a critical, annotated bibliography on a selected topic. The later volumes (1984-) have separate indexes for authors, periodicals and distributors (including addresses), and subjects. Indexes are not cumulated. The entries in bold in the periodicals list are abstracted regularly (which may not be the same as completely).

Print and Binding:

The print, though small, is quite easy to read and printed clearly. The binding is sturdy and margins are adequate for binding.

G. Subject Access

Classified Arrangement:

The abstracts are arranged under broad headings with somewhat more specific subheadings such as methods, history and case studies. The headings primarily focus on objects/materials and techniques/methods. If one wants to go immediately to a heading to browse, it is easy to do. Each section of the abstracts is followed by a listing, in numerical order, of cross-referenced titles with their abstract number. This allows one to browse through the abstracts under "Archaeological Methods" and follow up on the articles cross referenced at the end of the section.

Index:

The subject index is incredibly lengthy; one volume had an index of 229 pages. The index contains detailed entries, starting with somewhat broad subjects further broken down by more minute subdivisions. No use of a controlled vocabulary was indicated and the index did not employ cross-references. Because of the detail of the index, one may need to browse the index extensively. For example, one entry under the index in the volume is "Flint tool - Identification Pavia Certosa (Pavia, Italy)." Broader headings are used as well, such as "Italy, Archaeology" and "Chert - tool dating." Some index terms are used consistently from year to year, for example "Computers" or "Conservation" with plenty of subheadings. All in all, a detailed index can be very useful when one is very familiar with it.

H. Time Lag:

Coverage is timely and current.

I. Editing:

The quality of the editing is good.

J. Document Availability:

Due to extensive coverage of foreign (primarily French, German, and Italian) literature and rather obscure publications, few libraries,

if any, will have all the resources on hand to provide immediate delivery of the needed material. Many libraries with archaeology collections will have the basic journals, such as "American Antiquity," that are abstracted. The end of the periodical list suggests that one may be able to obtain the literature through CAS, InfoQuest or Information on Demand.

K. Cost:

Thirty dollars per volume.

L. Comparison with Other Titles:

The uniqueness of *AATA* lies in its technical coverage of art and archaeology. The sources it covers in archaeology are well chosen and focus on technique and artifactual remains. Comparisons with *Anthropological Literature* and *Abstracts in Anthropology* show that *AATA* has a more international scope and covers a wider variety of literature than either of the two standard reference sources.

If an institution has a large collection of archaeological literature and a well-supported archaeology program, this publication, at \$30.00, is a bargain.

M. Summary of Positive Aspects:

AATA covers a wide variety of sources, making it very beneficial to archaeological research. Although no one issue contains a great many citations under the section on archaeology, there are a good many abstracts with information pertinent to archaeologists under other sections. *AATA* is a good source on methods, techniques, and materials, especially foreign literature. The use of full journal titles and complete bibliographic information gives the user the luxury of looking in one place for a complete description of each resource cited.

N. Recommendations for Improvement:

AATA seems to serve its purpose well. Larger cumulative indexes would prove very beneficial, although given the size of each index per volume, they would be quite lengthy. This kind of source would be very useful to have online. At this writing it is not known whether the Conservation Information Network is easily accessible or intended for public use.

Applied Social Sciences Index and Abstracts

London: Library Association

Editor, P.F. Broxus

Volume 1; Number 1-, 1987-

Analysis prepared by:

Robert C. Myers, revised by Janita Jobe, August 1989.

A. Issues reviewed:

Volume 2, 1988 and Volume 3, No.1, 1989

B. Frequency:

bi-monthly with annual cumulations.

C. Introduction:

Applied Social Sciences Index and Abstracts (ASSIA) is an easy-to-use, general index to social science literature with an emphasis on

British publications. It has several unique features which make it useful and readable.

D. Scope:

The scope, which is clearly stated in the annual volume, includes applied social science literature in the English language, as well as the core theoretical sociology literature. Categories of material included are clearly defined. The index fulfills its stated scope with an emphasis on applied literature in social services and economics.

E. Coverage:

ASSIA indexes applied literature in all areas of social services, economics, politics, labor, and human relations. It also covers underlying sociological theory. The index includes English language articles primarily from the United Kingdom, North America, Old Commonwealth countries, and Europe.

ASSIA covers primarily journals. It includes conference papers published in journals, but does not index book reviews, columns, news items, or articles less than one page. Dissertations, proceedings, and monographs are excluded. In 1988, *ASSIA* indexed 18,000+ articles from over 500 journals. Core journals are indexed cover-to-cover. Journals from fringe subject areas, e.g. psychology and medicine, are selectively indexed. There is no indication as to which journal titles are selectively or comprehensively indexed.

F. Format:

Each bi-monthly issue of *ASSIA* has separate subject and author indexes. There is no title index. The annual volumes cumulate the subject and author indexes. Entries are arranged alphabetically by rotating subject descriptors. The author index is alphabetical by author's last name and initials. Subject entries provide a complete and unabbreviated citation with a short abstract. Journal titles are spelled out in full. Citations also indicate whether tables, maps, references, etc. are included. The combined index/abstract format is easy to work with and very "browsable." The author index also provides a complete, unabbreviated citation and the first two terms in the subject entry where the abstract is located.

The quality of the print in *ASSIA* is good. The index uses bold face italics to highlight different elements in the entry. The type used for the abstracts is very small and pages are cramped, though still attractive. Users with poor vision will find it a strain to use. Both paper issues and annual cumulations are adequately bound. Margins are narrow for photocopying.

G. Subject Access:

ASSIA uses a string indexing approach rather than fixed subject headings. Key terms are followed by additional descriptive terms indicating relationship, action, time, etc. Indexing is based on an intellectual analysis of the article, not title keyword. Subject access is provided from various points by rotating terms or concepts in the string. *ASSIA* uses SEE references to the first word in an indexing string. It also provides RELATED HEADINGS and SEE ALSO references. Bold face type and different print sizes are used to highlight main headings and reference terms. Index terms are very British, as one would expect. Note, for example, lorries rather than trucks and public houses rather than bars or taverns. The use of string indexing allows more comprehensive retrieval than fixed subject headings. More irrelevant material is retrieved, but it is

easily eliminated by using abstracts and additional terms in the string. It appears that *ASSIA* has tried to increase the relevance of retrieved material by using specific rather than general index terms when possible. The selection of terms reflects descriptive, natural language, which also helps to determine the relevance of an article. Sample terms, such as INFIDELITY, SOUP KITCHENS and JUST COMMUNITY APPROACH are not always used by other social science indexing services.

However, this type of subject vocabulary creates problems because of the wide variety of different headings generated and inconsistency of their application. In the 1988 volume, there are subject headings for BOYS, GIRLS, YOUNG BOYS, YOUNG GIRLS, ADOLESCENT BOYS, ADOLESCENT GIRLS, YOUNG PEOPLE, YOUNG ADULTS, BLACK ADOLESCENT BOYS, BLACK YOUNG PEOPLE, and BLACK AMERICAN YOUNG PEOPLE. Cross references are generously provided, but they are frequently awkward, demanding more than one step to get to the main entry. Cross references are also missing in some key places.

The frustrations of using this index are illustrated by a sample search on teenage pregnancy for which there is no subject heading. However, there is a see reference from TEENAGERS to YOUNG PEOPLE and a see reference from YOUNG PEOPLE to ADOLESCENTS. There is no heading for ADOLESCENTS: PREGNANCY, but there are entries at ADOLESCENTS: FATHERS, ADOLESCENTS: MOTHERS, ADOLESCENTS: PARENTS, ADOLESCENT GIRLS: PREGNANCY, and ADOLESCENT GIRLS: MOTHERHOOD. Also at ADOLESCENT GIRLS is a reference to Related Headings at PREGNANCY, PREMARITAL.

H. Time Lag:

The time lag for articles indexed is approximately six months. The first bi-monthly issue for 1989 was received by American libraries in the late spring.

I. Editing:

The quality of editing is excellent.

J. Document Availability:

Most titles will be available in medium and large academic libraries in the United States.

K. Cost:

ASSIA's cost is \$756 per year or \$534 for the annual cumulation alone, a rather steep price for a service that significantly duplicates material indexed elsewhere.

L. Comparison with Related Titles:

Three major indexing/abstracting services in the United States serve the same market that *ASSIA* does. These are the *Social Sciences Citation Index (SSCI)*, the *Social Sciences Index*, and *Sociological Abstracts*. *ASSIA* compares favorably in price with *SSCI*, which comes in at a hefty \$3350, and far exceeds it in ease and accuracy of subject searching. *SSCI*'s coverage is more extensive, selectively indexing 4700 journals as well as monographic series and a large number of non-English titles. *SSCI*'s main purpose, though, is to provide citation rather than subject indexing. The price of the *Social Sciences Index* varies based on a library's journal subscriptions, but it is several hundred dollars less

than *ASSIA*. It indexes, cover-to-cover, 353 international, English language journals. Because it uses standard subject headings it may not provide the same level of subject access that *ASSIA* does, but it does include book reviews and biographical material. *Sociological Abstracts* is reasonably priced at \$325. In its index it combines fixed subject headings from a thesaurus with key concepts from article titles. Because of its index-to-abstract format it is more difficult to use than *ASSIA*. *Sociological Abstracts* is international in scope, including non-English titles. It also includes books and conference papers. Unlike *SSCI* and the *Social Sciences Index*, it provides abstracts.

M. Summary:

ASSIA is an easy-to-use tool to access literature in the social sciences. Especially appreciated are the following features: an author index with complete citations, the inclusion of every author, the combined abstract and subject index format, the inclusion of a complete citation rather than abbreviation, the selection of descriptive subject headings, and the generous use of cross references.

N. Recommendations:

The index would be greatly improved by more rigid vocabulary control and a published thesaurus. As it is, the patron must follow up all see, see also, and related heading references to retrieve relevant material. One still suspects that a great deal is lost because of the inconsistency of subject headings. The second necessary improvement is in cost. Both the *Social Sciences Index* and *Sociological Abstracts* can be purchased for less than the price of *ASSIA*. The service largely duplicates material indexed in the other two sources. *ASSIA* is a quality product which provides additional access to social science literature, but its cost and overlap with established services makes it forbidding to most American libraries.



ANSS currents is published by the Anthropology and Sociology Section of the Association of College and Research Libraries, a division of the American Library Association, 50 East Huron St., Chicago, IL 60611; (312)944-6780.

Co-editors: Maija M. Lutz, Tozzer Library, Harvard University, 21 Divinity Avenue, Cambridge, MA 02138; James Williams, Education/Social Sciences Library, 100 University of Illinois Library, 1408 West Gregory Dr., Urbana, IL 61801.

Production and circulation office: 50 E. Huron St., Chicago, IL 60611; (507) 389-5953.

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ANSS Chair 1989-90: Janet Steins, Chemistry Library, State University of New York, Stony Brook, NY 11794-3425 (phone: 516/331-2233).

ANSS Vice-Chair/Chair-Elect 1989-90: Cheryl C. Kugler, Vanderbilt University, 419 21st Avenue, South, Nashville, TN 37240-007 (phone: 615/322-3504).



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