



ANSS *currents*

The Newsletter of the ACRL Anthropology & Sociology Section
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1993 ANSS ELECTION RESULTS

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Angela Lee
Washington State University

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1993 NEW ORLEANS PROGRAM, "PORTRAITS OF LOUISIANA: EMPOWERING COMMUNITIES THROUGH DIVERSITY"

Drawing on rich local resources, ANSS presented a multimedia program concerning the documentation of selected groups forming the mosaic of Louisiana life and the role that libraries and archives should play in that endeavor. The program was situated within the larger debate current in American society as to who we are and how to conceptualize our history and pointed to the importance of such documentation in resolving that debate. Joint sponsors included ACRL Afro-American Studies Librarians Section, ACRL Racial and Ethnic Diversity Committee and the RASD History Section. Four speakers addressed the Sunday morning audience:

Florence E. Borders, Archivist at the Center for African and African American Studies, Southern University at New Orleans, spoke eloquently of the accomplishments of Afro-Louisiana women from the 1700s onwards and described her efforts to increase access to documentation concerning them. As founder and director of the Chicory Society for Afro-Louisiana History and Culture and editor of its publication, the *Chicory Review*, she created her own vehicle for recording and disseminating such information.

Irvan J. Perez, a spokesperson for the St. Bernard (LA) Isleño community, described the history and culture of the Isleño people who were sent by the Spanish to colonize Louisiana in the late 1700s and discussed his efforts and concerns with preserving it. He also sang three decimas, traditional Spanish songs which form an important part of the oral history of the group.

Ulysses S. Ricard, Jr., Senior Archivist, Amistad Research Center, spoke authoritatively of Louisiana's Creoles and others of African descent in early Louisiana. He referred to his ongoing efforts to collect and study local documentation concerning them dating back to the 1700s. He described the mission of the Amistad Research Center to collect and preserve primary materials of selected minority groups and how research in such collections broadened our knowledge and understanding of the contributions minorities have made historically.

Finally, Marcia Gaudet, folklorist at the University of Southwestern Louisiana, spoke of the history and multi-faceted culture of the Cajun peoples, illustrating it with slides from the Cajun rural Mardi Gras. She emphasized the pivotal role libraries and archives should play in providing accu-

LOUISIANA cont.

rate cultural documentation to counteract too often inaccurate images in the media of more popular writings.

The program was recorded and is available on audio cassette for \$24.00 plus shipping as order no. ALA327 from Teach em, 160 E. Illinois Street, Chicago, IL 60611; (312)467-0424; 1-800-225-3775; FAX (312)-467-9271. A summary of it also appears in the October issue of *C&RL News*. —Maggie Dittmore, 1993 Program Committee Chair

Message from the Chair

Kathryn Creely

By the time this appears, Halloween will be past. But let me issue a plea which will echo Count Dracula's cry: We want new blood! Seriously, folks, ANSS needs the help of all of its members, new and old, in order to be a vital, growing, interesting section. Our new Vice-Chair/Chair-Elect, Maggie Dittmore, will be looking for many volunteers in the coming months to serve on a vast array of committees. The Nominating Committee will be identifying candidates to run for office. If you have any inclination at all, now is the time to get involved. It'll be fun, I promise.

In view of the ominous rumblings from ACRL about finances, specifically long-term funding for newsletters, communication is obviously a hot topic this year. We will be exploring new avenues of communication, particularly electronic mail and list servers. It is my hope that we will be able to reach a large number of our members with list servers and that eventually this may obviate the need for a newsletter—since it's likely that newsletter funding will dwindle in the coming years. We'll keep you posted! Another area for development in the coming year is liaison to other organizations in academia. Two examples of such organizations are the newly-formed Council for the Preservation of Anthropological Research (CoPAR) and the Anthropology Librarians Research Group of the American Anthropological Association. The ANSS vehicle for whis work will be the Liaison Committee, currently chaired by Fred J. Hay.

A brief plug for our program for 1994. We will be presenting what we hope will be an exciting program in Miami, one that will appeal to all of our members. The focus of the program, very appropriate to our conference site, will be the cultures of the Caribbean. A panel of speakers will address the history of anthropological research in the region, current topics in sociological and anthropological research in the Caribbean, and cultural and social dimensions of the Caribbean population in Miami itself. See you there.

COMMITTEE REPORTS, ANNUAL 1993

Executive Committee

Maija M. Lutz, Chair

The ANSS Executive Committee met twice during the ALA Annual Conference in New Orleans. Chairs of committees and coveners of discussion groups reported on their activities. The first meeting was also attended by Anne Beaubien from the ACRL Board of Directors. Anne answered questions about ACRL/ALA finances and spoke briefly about an ACRL membership survey to be conducted this fall. The results of the survey will help ACRL set priorities at a time of dwindling resources.

A major concern of the Executive Committee continues to be the proposed phasing out of section newsletters. Although listservs may meet the total communication needs of some sections, others have certain requirements which can be met only through a printed newsletter. ANSS needs the printed newsletter in order to publish reviews of indexes and abstracts prepared by the Bibliography Committee, send complimentary copies to selected organizations and individuals involved in social science documentation, and serve those members who do not have access to electronic communication.

Actions taken by the Executive Committee during the conference included approval of a revised and expanded charge of the ANSS Professional Liaison Committee and approval of the formation of an ad hoc committee on Electronic Resources in Sociology. The charge of this ad hoc committee is to collaborate with the American Sociological Association in producing a comprehensive monograph on electronic data sources for sociologists. A suggestion was made to form an ad hoc committee to plan and implement a twenty-fifth anniversary celebration of ANSS as well as to form a membership committee one of whose functions would be to contact new and dropped members of ANSS.

Among the items of interest from reports of other organizations was the announcement that Tozzer Library's index *Anthropological Literature* will be brought out on CD-ROM by G.K. Hall/Macmillan in November and will also be available as a database in CitaDel in September.

Liaison Committee

Fred J. Hay, Chair

The newest member of the Committee, Laura Walters, hosted the Committee's meeting at Tufts University in May. At this meeting, we wrote a new charge for the Liaison Committee. The new charge, approved by the Executive Committee in June, specifies the following functions: 1.

identify individuals, organizations and professional bodies active in the documentation and librarianship of anthropology, sociology and related social sciences, 2. establish and maintain communication with such individuals and organizations, and 3. coordinate the Section's continuing awareness of relevant non-ANSS activities in bibliography and librarianship. The Committee's activities include, but are not limited to, the following: 1. establish and moderate a listserv for social science "documentalists," 2. create and maintain a directory of subject specialists, 3. promote the appointment of Section members as members of, or liaisons to, appropriate committees of social science organizations, and 4. mail complimentary subscriptions to *ANSS currents* to selected organizations and individuals in the field. We mailed the back issues of *currents* and are currently at work on establishing the listserv and compiling the directory of subject specialists.

Conference Program, 1994

Angela Lee, Chair

The Committee met twice at the Annual Conference to outline specific topics for the Miami program. The program, which will be solely organized by the Committee, is on the peoples and cultures of the Caribbean. The focus will be in three areas: (1) history of anthropology in the Caribbean, (2) current sociological and anthropological research in the Caribbean (including studies of the Caribbean population in Miami), and (3) library collections for Caribbean studies. The Committee plans to find local speakers from the disciplines of anthropology, sociology, and librarianship to address these topics.

Publications Committee

James W. Williams, Chair

Members examined the November 1992/May 1993 issue of *ANSS currents* and reviewed the 1992/1993 annual newsletter report, which is submitted to the ACRL Publications Committee. A revised report form and certain format changes to bring the newsletter into conformity with the newly adopted "Procedures for Producing ACRL Section Newsletters" were discussed. The content of future issues was also discussed. The "Membership News & Announcements" and "Notes & Queries" columns were judged to be quite important and material for inclusion will be actively solicited, if funds make it possible to publish two issues per year.

Bibliography Committee

David Carpenter, Chair

The Committee considered the latest news concerning the status of *ANSS currents* and how the potential electronic distribution of *ANSS currents* might effect its usefulness to section members. Committee members discussed the increasing impact that electronic discussion lists and other Internet resources are likely to have on scholarly communication and research. The Chair shared information about the features, coverage, and other characteristics of *Anthropological Literature on Disc*, scheduled for publication in November 1993.

The Committee considered its answers to questions posed in a letter from the Managing Editor of history serials for ABC-CLIO. The letter had been written in response to the Committee's recommendations for improvements to *Historical Abstracts* and *America: History and Life*. The Chair agreed to draft a letter to ABC-CLIO providing answers to the questions posed in the letter and conveying other responses from the Committee. The Committee also approved a letter to the publisher of *Francis Bulletin Signalétique 529: Ethnologie* communicating suggestions for improvement of the title, and an analysis of *Abstracts in Social Gerontology* for publication in the next issue of *ANSS currents*. Ongoing committee analyses of the *Bibliography of Native North Americans on Disc* and *Ethnic Newswatch* were the focus of lengthy discussions. Committee members proposed potential new titles for Committee analyses, and then identified and accepted individual assignments for work to be completed before the Midwinter 1994 meeting.

Review and Planning Committee

Robert B. Marks Ridinger, Chair

recorded by Maija M. Lutz

The Review and Planning Committee met during the 1993 Annual Conference in New Orleans to discuss the upcoming review of ANSS. Section reviews, which take place every five years, are mandated by ACRL. Our review is due to the ACRL Planning Committee on September 1, 1993. The review will assess the effectiveness of the section's activity, identify new projects and activities since the last review, discuss future plans of the section, and relate the activity of the section to the ACRL Strategic Plan.

DISCUSSION GROUPS

Sociology Librarians Discussion Group

Gary McMillan, Convener

The Group continued to discuss collection development issues. The "Economics and Sociology" conspectus outline was distributed, as were lists showing the American Sociological Association's (ASA) sections (with membership figures), subject headings from the ASA membership directory, and tables of contents categories from *Sociological Abstracts* and *Social Planning/Policy & Development Abstracts*. Several participants discussed their experiences in using the conspectus. Most indicated that they elaborated on the conspectus to highlight areas of sociological specialization not reflected there. These documents were used for in-house purposes only. Faculty were contacted for their input in the formulation of broader collection policy statements which focused on substantive areas of teaching and research (not how these subjects might be mapped onto the LC classification). It was noted with amusement that some faculty would undoubtedly be dismayed by a profile labelled "Sociology" which includes "Social and Public Welfare" (HV) and "Socialism" (HX) when so much effort has been expended to distance the theoretical, academic discipline from these social movements. Other topics discussed included: 1) standard sources/tools for measuring sociology collections to elaborate on the conspectus for collection assessment purposes; 2) the representation of electronically-retrievable resources in collection assessment reports (e.g., the availability of document delivery through UnCover, OCLC's FirstSearch, etc.), especially those prepared for accreditation reviews; and 3) the potential implications of document delivery services for serials collection development policy and budgeting, and the role of interlibrary loan.

Anthropology Librarians Discussion Group

Greg Finnegan, Co-Convener

There were three major items on the agenda: choosing a Co-Convener to serve with Chris Smith after this meeting, future ALDG topics, and an open discussion of reference sources (favorites? needed? unexpected or unusual 'treasures?')

Cheryl Naslund (Institute for Development Anthropology) volunteered, to general acclaim, as Co-Convener. The question of future discussion topics was not reached; one that had been suggested remains for consideration: Anthropological Review Media: Good, Bad & Ugly? (This had

been prompted by discussion on ANTHRO-L of a reported new policy excluding ethnographies from review in the *American Anthropologist*, leaving them to be reviewed in *American Ethnologist*.)

The overall thrust of the reference sources discussion was in the direction of electronic and networked resources, and planned or 'in process' projects. Polly Grimshaw queried the future of the Human Relations Area Files. Lynne Schmelz, a member of the HRAF Board of Directors, was able to respond; the gist of her reply was that given at the San Francisco ALDG meeting when HRAF was the main topic: there is a move into electronic publishing, but this is not envisioned as replacing the paper or microfiche Files. Kathy Creely reported that the University of Hawaii has a Pacific Islands database, running on their system with CARL software. She also reported that the Australian National University is building a database of Pacific Islands manuscripts. Finally, Creely discussed a project at Sacramento State University to scan the complete ethnographic literature on the Trobriand Islands into a full-text database. Shari Grove raised the question of Internet-accessible databases in Sociology and Anthropology. Angela Lee asked for input on the reference needs and problems of international business students, who need anthropological material but lack the background to understand and evaluate it. Kathy Creely seconded the point, noting that UCSD anthropologists were 'leery' of the international business graduate program.

Joyce Ogburn (Yale) announced that she is revising her article on anthropology reference tools for a second edition of *The Social Sciences: A Cross-Disciplinary Guide to Selected Sources* (general editor, Nancy L. Herron; Englewood, CO : Libraries Unlimited, 1989.)

Twenty people signed the attendance sheet; seventeen indicated they were ANSS members, three did not specify.

NOTES & QUERIES/MEMBERSHIP

NOTES & ANNOUNCEMENTS

The ACRL Board of Directors approved funding for two issues of section newsletters for FY 1994, but it nonetheless appears very probable that newsletter funding will be phased out during the next five years. As a section, ANSS must begin to explore alternative avenues for communication and/or alternative sources of finance from which to continue to publish currents.

To encourage communication more immediately, the editors hope to reactivate two popular currents columns: "Membership News & Announcements" and "Notes &

& Queries." Members are urged to send material for either or both columns for inclusion in the May 1994 issue. Please send items no later than February 1 to: Nancy S. Skipper, Olin Library, Cornell University, Ithaca, NY 14853. e-mail: NSS3@CORNELL.EDU (607) 255-5176.

Council For The Preservation Of Anthropological Records (CoPAR)

Reported by Lynne M. Schmelz

The Wenner-Gren Foundation for Anthropological Research has sponsored two conferences addressing the need to preserve anthropological records. The first one, held in 1992, resulted in the publication of *Preserving the Anthropological Record*. Those attending this conference also formulated a "Resolution on Preserving Anthropological Records" which has been adopted by many major anthropological organizations.

The second conference, held in May 1993, was convened to identify courses of action to implement goals identified by the resolution listed above and to create a structure that would encourage anthropological associations and the archival community to work together. The conferees at this conference decided to initiate the founding of a non-profit organization, the Council for the Preservation of Anthropological Records (CoPAR).

The key purposes of CoPAR are "...to identify, encourage the preservation, and foster the use of the records of anthropological research." Programs will be created to "foster awareness of the importance of records preservation; provide information on records locations and access; help provide support for existing repositories; and provide consulting and technical assistance about records preservation guidelines, bequests, and other parts of the preservation process." Special projects will be conducted as needed.

An Interim Steering Committee has been established to plan and implement CoPAR as a permanent organization. Nancy J. Parezo (University of Arizona) and Don Fowler (University of Nevada) are co-chairs. The Wenner-Gren Foundation has given a grant to help set up CoPAR and the possibility of future funding from NEH is being explored. The Steering Committee will be meeting in November at the Annual Meeting of the American Anthropological Association in Washington, D.C. For more information, contact Lynne M. Schmelz, Tozzer Library, Harvard University. Telephone: 617-495-2253. E-mail: LYNNE@HARVARDA.HARVARD.EDU

CAM Now Available For Purchase

CAM: Cultural Anthropology Methods Newsletter publishes short articles and reviews on social science methodology. Topics covered include both quantitative and qualitative methods including the use of sampling and statistics, management of field notes and other texts, analyses of cognitive data, innovative uses of new technologies, and library and bibliographic research methods. The editors (and regular contributors) are Russell Bernard, Pertti Peltto, Oswald Werner and Stephen Borgatti.

CAM, which began publication in 1989, was originally subsidized by the National Science Foundation. It became available by subscription with its ninth issue. *CAM* is published three times a year and the U.S. subscription rate is \$15.00 for individuals or libraries. Back issues and bulk rates are available. Write: ECS/CAM, 2815NW 38th Drive, Gainesville, FL 32605.

CAYONI: Traditional Creek Wood Carving

The Tozzer Library will again, during the 1993-1994 academic year, host an exhibit of wood carvings by Cayoni.



"Altamaha." Wood carving by Cayoni. Title from the Altamaha River in south Georgia where Cayoni and other members of the Creek (Muskogee) Indian people lived. Wolf's head became a religious symbol as a marker for fresh water that was safe to drink during the Trail of Tears forced march in the early nineteenth century.

Bibliography Committee Review

ABSTRACTS IN SOCIAL GERONTOLOGY: CURRENT LITERATURE ON AGING

Newbury Park: Sage Publications and the National Council on the Aging, Inc. *Continues Current Literature on Aging*, published by the National Council on the Aging, Inc. vol. 1-32, 1957-1989.

Reviewed by: Ellen Sutton and Janita Jobe, July 1993

Issues reviewed: Vol. 35 (1993)

Frequency: Quarterly

Introduction: *Abstracts in Social Gerontology (ASG)* has replaced its predecessor, *Current Literature on Aging*, as one of the primary indexing and abstracting services in the field of gerontology. It is distributed at no extra charge to all members of the National Council on the Aging (NCOA), and is designed to respond to needs of practitioners as well as researchers. The principle value of this source lies in its focus on the specific area of social gerontology and its employment of trained subject specialists for retrieval and analysis of relevant materials. An editorial board of approximately eighteen scholars and practitioners oversee this publication. Its format is straightforward and easy to use. Its scope, coverage, and list of subject headings are selective, but it is an excellent resource for most practitioners, student researchers, and others not requiring comprehensive coverage of the field.

User Instruction: There is no user instruction for this tool. However, the layout is logical and the table of contents facilitates its use.

Scope: The publication fulfills its stated intent to produce abstracts of important recent literature, along with "information sufficient to evaluate their need for the material and with pertinent data to aid in locating it." Literature covered includes "books, articles, pamphlets, government publications, legislative research studies, as well as other fugitive material." Summaries of theses and dissertations are solicited and considered for inclusion. Citations are chiefly to materials in the English language, although this is not stated.

Coverage:

1. Subjects covered: all aspects of aging, including social, biological, medical, economic, psychological, and many others. The editors address the needs of practitioners as well as researchers in deciding which works to cover in this source.

2. Geographic areas covered: Coverage is international, although predominantly U.S. and, to a lesser extent, other English-speaking countries. Each issue contains citations to at least several articles or other works about non-English speaking countries.

3. Languages included: English

4. Publications included: a. Most publications abstracted are periodicals, but a number of books, government publications, research reports, fugitive materials, dissertations and theses are abstracted as well, b. Each quarterly issue contains approximately 250 abstracts, producing a total of 1,000 abstracts for a full volume. In addition, each issue contains another 250 bibliographic citations to works not abstracted, c. Approximately seventy-five journals are scanned regularly for inclusion. Around twenty core gerontology journals are fully indexed, and the remaining related journals are selectively indexed, d. There is a list of journals indexed in the final (fourth) issue of the volume. This list carries no indication of whether journals are indexed selectively or inclusively.

Format:

1. Indexes: Each quarterly issue contains an author and a subject index at the end of each issue. These are cumulated in the last issue of the volume.

2. Arrangement of entries: There are two sections of *Abstracts in Social Gerontology*: Abstracts and Related Citations. Within each of these sections, works are presented in a classified arrangement which includes approximately twenty fairly broad categories. Entries within the categories are in alphabetical order by author.

3. Citation style: Citations to articles are complete and their elements are presented in logical order and standard format. Book citations do not include ISBN numbers, and citations to agency reports do not include information about the agency, such as address, which would help in acquiring the reports.

4. Print: The print is legible and the typography professional. The use of varying sizes of letters and bold type serves to make the contents more readable.

5. Binding: The issues are paperbound with a glossy cover; internal margins are minimally adequate for subsequent cloth binding.

Subject Access (quality of indexing):

1. Subject index: Selection of subject terms is somewhat conservative, but the terms are appropriate and carefully chosen.

2. Terms used are single terms, without subdivisions, and all terms applied to a specific work are presented in bold type under each citation.

3. Cross references are not employed, nor are terms hierarchical. Terms are included in the subject index of a given issue only if they have been applied to a work cited in that particular issue.

4. The articles are presented in a classified arrangement in which there are approximately twenty categories. If a category does not apply to the works included in a given issue, that category is omitted from that issue.

Time Lag: Many citations appear in this index within several months of their publication. The issues of the index appear in the nominal month of publication (e.g., the June 1992 issue was published in June 1992).

Editing: The quality of the editing of citations and the text of the abstracts seems to be very high, and no typographical errors were noted in a fairly extensive scanning of several issues. The quality of writing in the abstracts is also high, and the subject of the article is placed in the context of trends in the field of gerontology. Abstracting is performed by professional abstractors at NCOA, most of whom are librarians who have worked in the field of social gerontology for more than ten years. Decisions as to what publications to include are made by an editorial staff highly familiar with the literature of the field.

Document Availability: Most academic libraries will have most of the published literature cited. The larger research libraries will hold government publications; few libraries will have the unpublished reports from agencies and other more ephemeral material cited. No mention is made of document delivery. (The publisher does not provide a reprint service.)

Cost: The cost of an annual subscription is \$126.00 for institutions, \$64.00 for individuals. California rates are higher: \$135.14 for institutions, \$68.64 for individuals per year.

Comparison With Related Titles: Various indexes in the social sciences, such as *Psychological Abstracts* and *Sociological Abstracts (SA)*, include relevant articles on social gerontology. *SA* scans a number of the same journals covered in *ASG*, although those more oriented toward health issues are omitted in *SA*. Approximately half of the 72 journals scanned in the 1992 volume of *ASG* were also covered by *SA*. The authors have been able to identify only one printed index specifically on aging other than *ASG*. It is *Index to Periodical Literature on Aging* (Vol. 1-, 1982), which is published by Wayne State University Press. The latter source covers a broader definition of the subject, and a wider array of literature (it is compiled from more than 500 English-language periodicals, including scholarly, scientific, specialized professional fields, and popular journals if

the content is judged to have permanent reference value). However, *Index to Periodical Literature on Aging* is a bit more costly (\$170.00 per year for institutions or individuals) and has experienced an erratic publication schedule (volume 9, for 1991 is scheduled for publication in 1993). Additionally, the index is scheduled to be discontinued after the 1993 volume.

Another indexing source which focuses on social gerontology is *AgeLine*, a database which has no print counterpart. *AgeLine* currently abstracts approximately 3,000 works per year, more than three times the number abstracted in *ASG*. (*ASG* cites approximately 2,000 works per year, half of which are accompanied by abstracts.) *AgeLine* comprehensively indexes sixty core journals (more than twice the number of core journals of *ASG*). *AgeLine's* utility for the college and research library community has been greatly increased by its recent publication as a CD-ROM product covering all years (since 1978).

Summary of Positive Aspects: *Abstracts in Social Gerontology* is a well conceived, attractively produced, authoritative index on literature in the field of aging. Although selective in scope and coverage, items are chosen carefully for inclusion from the core gerontology literature and other relevant literature. Abstracts are well-written and informative. Its greatest strength is the thought that has gone into the selection of included items and the quality of abstracting.

Recommendations For Improvement: A list of journals indexed in each issue, along with a designation as to whether a journal has been selectively or comprehensively indexed, would be helpful. Aside from that, the inclusion of citations and abstracts of a larger portion of useful literature covering the social aspects of gerontology might improve this product, but that could result in a significant increase in its cost and therefore effect its availability to practitioners and researchers.

1994 ANSS CANDIDATES

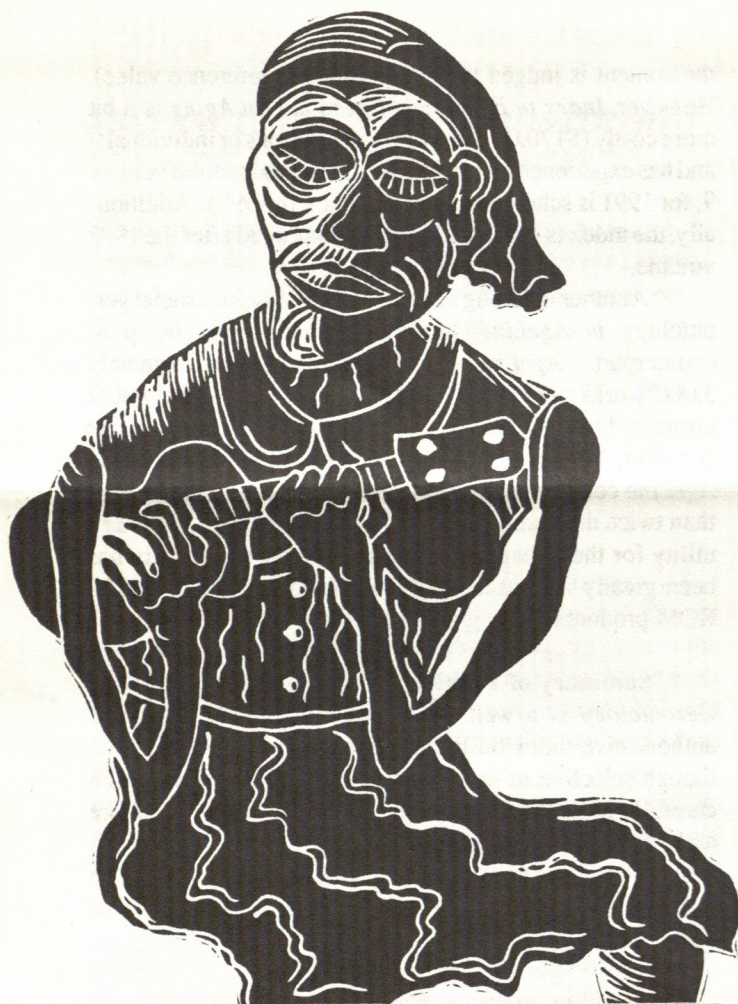
ANSS Nominating Committee, chaired by Janita Jobe, has nominated the following individuals as candidates for the 1994 ANSS election.

CHAIR:

James Williams, University of Illinois

MEMBER-AT-LARGE:

Joan Berman, Humboldt State University
Carol Kem, University of Florida



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Detail from G.D. Davidson's "Ukulady" depicting Little Laura Dukes, one of the last survivors of the great jug bands of prewar Memphis. A photograph of Ms. Dukes appeared on the cover of *Practicing Anthropology* 13(3), 1991. "Ukulady" used by permission of the artist.

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Co-Editors: James Williams, Education/Social Sciences Library, 100 University of Illinois Library, 1408 West Gregory Dr., Urbana, IL 61801, (217)244-1869, JAMESWW@UIUCVMD.BIT; Fred J. Hay, Tozzer Library, Harvard University, 21 Divinity Avenue, Cambridge, MA 02138, (617)495-2292, DIXON@HARVARDA.BIT.

Design and Layout: Fred J. Hay

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ANSS Chair, 1993-1994: Kathryn L. Creely, University of California--San Diego, Central Library 0175-R, La Jolla, CA 92093-0175, (619)534-2029, KCREELY@UCSD.EDU.

ANSS Vice Chair/Chair-Elect, 1993-1994: Maggie Dittmore, University of Pennsylvania Library, Van Pelt-Dietrich Library Center, 3420 Walnut Street, Philadelphia, PA 19104-6206, (215)898-0119, DITTEMORE@A1.RELAY.UPENN.EDU.



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