



Paul Stoller presents the 1999 Victor Turner Prize to Robert Desjarlais.

fiction, ethnographic poetry and drama, performance texts and performative writing. We ask that you submit five double-spaced copies of your manuscript in APA format. Manuscripts should be no more than 30 pages long, with footnotes, references, tables and figures on separate pages. Include an abstract of approximately 150 words. QI has recently instituted a submission fee for all manuscripts (the fee is waived if the author is a graduate student). Please contact: Norman K. Denzin, *Qualitative Inquiry*, Dept of Sociology, U Illinois, 326 Lincoln Hall, 702 South Wright St, Urbana, IL 61801; tel 217/333-0795 or 333-1950, fax 217/333-5225, n-denzin@uiuc.edu or elavsky@students.uiuc.edu. We also have information about the journal, including a fax order form, at our publisher's website ([www.sagepub.com](http://www.sagepub.com)). If you have any other questions, feel free to contact Denzin or Elavsky.

Remember that we cannot produce this column forever without your help! Contact either of us at Dept of Anthropology, 265 McGraw Hall, Cornell U, Ithaca, NY 14853; 607/255-6773 (Vilma) or 607/254-5026 (Fred); fax 607/255-3747. Email Fred at [fwg1@cornell.edu](mailto:fwg1@cornell.edu) (that's the number 1 after fwg, not the letter l) or Vilma at [vs23@cornell.edu](mailto:vs23@cornell.edu).

## Society for Latin American Anthropology

LINDA J SELIGMANN, CONTRIBUTING EDITOR

### New Contributing Editors

This is the last issue that Ramona Pérez and I are co-editing. We have enjoyed facilitating dialogue and debate among our members. We have also had the pleasure of getting to know some of you who have enthusiastically contributed to our section column. Our heartfelt thanks to all of you who have helped to make the SLAA column a prominent and interesting one over the last three years. Material for future columns should be sent to Fernando Santos-Granero, Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute, PO Box 2072, Balboa, Ancon, PANAMA; tel 507/212-8114, fax 507/212-8148, [santosf@tivoli.si.edu](mailto:santosf@tivoli.si.edu). He will be coordinating submissions to the column, together with co-editors Marta Zambrano ([zambran@bacata.usc.unal.edu.co](mailto:zambran@bacata.usc.unal.edu.co)) and Gustavo Lins Ribeiro ([gustavor@guarany.cpd.unb.br](mailto:gustavor@guarany.cpd.unb.br)). Because the new co-editors are based in Latin America, we expect that they will provide refreshing perspectives on Latin American anthropology.

Please remember that column entries should not be more than 4 pages double-spaced, and that you will need 2 months of lead time before they come out in the *AN*. With the inauguration of SLAA's electronic newsletter, we would like you to submit *AN* entries that are not time-constrained. *AN* entries for the SLAA column include

but are not limited to: commentaries, topics for debate, short pieces on research, political analyses, ethical dilemmas, human rights issues, descriptions of national anthropologies and brief discussions of recent publications.

### SLAA at LASA 2000

By Janet Chernela

SLAA will have a significant presence at the upcoming XXII International Latin American Studies Association Meetings (LASA), Mar 16-20, 2000, at the Hyatt Regency, Miami, FL. SLAA is sponsoring several sessions, including "Reconceptualizing Latin Americanist Anthropology: A North-South Dialogue" (Thurs 10:15 am). The session consists of three "dialogues": 1) Reconceptualizing Latin America: Daniel Mato (U Central de Venezuela), Alejandro Lugo (U Illinois at Urbana); 2) Revisiting the Indigenous: Demetrio Cojti Cuxil (UNICEF-Guatemala), Diane Nelson (Lewis and Clark C); and 3) The Crisis of Globalization: Bruce Mannheim (U Michigan, Ann Arbor), Gustavo Lins Ribeiro (U Brasilia). SLAA will also have a Business Meeting, a guest speaker session, featuring Victor Hugo Cárdenas of Bolivia, and a joint reception sponsored by SLAA with the Latin American and Caribbean Center of Florida International U. Look for SLAA forums on Reformulating Latin America; Reconceptualizing the Indian; The Crisis of Globalization; Hands Across The Hemisphere; and Cooperation And Connections For The New Millennium.

A few words about LASA. The Latin American Studies Association (LASA) is the largest professional Association in the world for individuals and institutions engaged in the study of Latin America. With over 4,800 members, 25% of whom reside outside the US, LASA is the one Association that brings together experts on Latin America from all disciplines and diverse occupational endeavors across the globe. Come and help contribute to a strong SLAA presence at the LASA meetings!

### 2000 SLAA Invited Sessions

By Marilyn Moors and Janet Chernela

The SLAA program committee is soliciting proposals for a limited number of SLAA invited sessions at the forthcoming Annual AAA Meeting in San Francisco. The topic for the 2000 Meeting is "The Public Face of Anthropology in the Millennium" and AAA encourages panels that represent the differing fields of anthropology (how or what can each field add to the debate?) within the wider context of critical issues: social justice, health research and health policy, education, development, environmental degradation, conservation movements, grassroots initiatives, local resistance, globalization, science, technology and the information revolution, violence, conflict and peace, and race/ethnicity, gender and class. We are looking for innovative and creative linkages, especially between practice, linguistics,

archaeology and physical and cultural anthropology.

Proposals should include session title and abstract, name(s), affiliations and addresses of all organizer(s), paper presenters and discussants. Although abstracts of papers are not necessary at this time, titles are. Questions may be directed to Marilyn Moors ([moorsgn@gcnet.net](mailto:moorsgn@gcnet.net)) or Janet Chernela ([chernela@fiu.edu](mailto:chernela@fiu.edu)). Materials should be submitted by Mar 1 to Marilyn Moors, 1014 Buffalo Run Rd, Friendsville, MD 21531; tel 301/746-4057. The Feb *AN* will carry an announcement for application procedures for partial travel funding. Invited sessions applications must ensure the participation of all of their members regardless of outside funding.

### Teaching Human Rights

By Lynn Meisch

Among our other projects, the SLAA/ALLA Human Rights Committee is compiling an annotated bibliography of books, journals and articles suitable for teaching Human Rights in undergraduate and graduate classes, which we will make available to all. Please send the complete reference (annotated or not) for readings in English, Spanish or Portuguese on human rights in general, military aid, immigration and border issues within the USA, and human rights issues within Latin America to Lynn A Meisch, Dept Anth and Soc, PO Box 4613, Saint Mary's C of California, Moraga, CA 94575; [lynnmeis@aol.com](mailto:lynnmeis@aol.com).

Ramona Pérez, Dept Anth, U North Texas, PO 310409, Denton, TX 76203-0409; tel 940/565-4160, fax 940/565-4663, [rperez@scs.cmm.unt.edu](mailto:rperez@scs.cmm.unt.edu). Linda J Seligmann, Dept Soc and Anth, MSN 3G5, George Mason U; Fairfax, VA 22030-4444; tel 703/993-2129, fax 703/734-0844, [lseligm2@gmu.edu](mailto:lseligm2@gmu.edu).

## Society for Linguistic Anthropology

JIM WILCE AND CYNDI DUNN, CONTRIBUTING EDITORS

This last column I (JW) will edit contains my selective and unofficial reportage on the 1999 annual meeting, and my historical musings on the state of our subdiscipline.

We can use a 1970 essay by Dell Hymes, pointing out five different contributions "linguistic method" can make to "ethnography," to measure some changes in linguistic anthropology. Linguistic method, first, "facilitates," ie, provides ethnographic access to an unfamiliar people. Whether it is because they are doing their fieldwork "at home" or they rely on the work of other scholars of language to ease them into learning to speak in a new community, fewer graduate students see the need for "linguistic methods" today—missing insights such methods provide even to native speakers. The second, data-"generating," function of linguistic method is still evident when, for example, Bourdieu (1991) uses



Labov to make some of his points; investigators of language provide grist for others' mills. Whenever we see ethnographic texts sprinkled with native terms used as metonyms for insiders' categories or knowledge, we are seeing the third function, "validating" the ethnographer's status. But such use of native terms out of their speech contexts is rightly criticized from both postmodern and empiricist standpoints. As for the fourth or fifth uses of linguistic method, linguistic anthropologists are, by definition, uniquely qualified. At the turn of the millennium, we continue to offer "penetrating" insights (using linguistic methods for "reaching deeper, commonly tacit, levels of thought and pattern" [much in evidence at the 1999 meetings' panels]) and foundational visions (using linguistic insights to build social theory) for the broader discipline, and to learn from it as well. As an example of the latter, linguistic models of "performativity" are spawning ever more culture-theoretic insights through the work of Judith Butler and Kira Hall, among others.

Let me pursue further the continuity and discontinuity between the themes and methods we pursue at the turn of the millennium and those characterizing linguistic anthropology in the 1960s. In broad terms, the types of work represented in the Gumperz and Hymes collections of 1964 and 1971 are still with us. Those of us who cross-identify as sociolinguists tend to analyze bigish data sets and use some tried-and-true methods. I am struck by the way the matched guise procedure developed by Lambert in the 1960s is being used in the Ukraine in the 1990s by Laada Bilaniuk, as it was by Woolard in Catalonia in the 1980s. Conversation analysis (CA) has collected new adherents; anthropological practitioners have examined taped conversations in languages of Asia and Oceania. Although those who include bodies-in-social-space in their analysis of talk might be framing their work in relation to different theories, 1960s concerns—with the coordination of speech and movement and the intersubjective production of acts and meanings—are evident in recent work. Some of us still study ethnopoetics and verbal art, giving new attention to performance and genre as theoretical constructs; our theorizing of both performativity and performance becomes "foundational" for social sciences. Whether or not they foreground continuities with work by Bernstein or Gumperz, some contemporary linguistic anthropologists work at the intersection of class, locality, power, solidarity, and linguistic codes-increasingly in multiethnic and multilingual societies. Furthermore, 1950s rumors of the death of "the Sapir-Whorf hypothesis" have turned out to be greatly exaggerated; the 1980s and 1990s have witnessed the publication of quite a few volumes addressing linguistic relativity. The popularity of Pinker's *Language Instinct*, with its rather unconstrained critique of Whorf has, perhaps, contributed to Whorf's ongoing relevance for linguistic anthropologists, even as they may critique his work. Research on children's use of language, pioneered by Ervin-Tripp, evolved into increas-

ingly ethnographic studies; Ochs, Schieffelin and their students have fleshed out the paradigm of "language socialization." Gender was not a clear focus in the early Gumperz and Hymes collections, but issues around language and gender have certainly focused much of our energy since then. Investigators have turned from simple correlations to deconstructing gender categories and exploring gender performances, always linked with class and other "variables."

I have framed this history as one of continuity. Stephen O Murray's *Theory Groups and the Study of Language in North America* includes some apt warnings about constructing such visions of continuity. But I have larded my references to continuity with notes of new departures. In making a transition to what is very current news as I write (just after the annual meeting), let me move from theory to practical reifications of it in the textbooks we use. The state of the books we teach with is a measure of the state of our art. Until 1997 there was only one textbook—Nancy Hickerson's—whose title was simply *Linguistic Anthropology*. Duranti's was the second. The fact that it was brought out by Cambridge, and in their "red book" series on linguistics, says something about the status of the subdiscipline. It is also noteworthy that quite a few major publishers—Cambridge, Oxford, Pennsylvania, Texas and Routledge, to name a few—publish outstanding series that include or are exclusively devoted to linguistic anthropology, and other publishers regularly bring out monographs by linguistic anthropologists. A recent edited collection, *Natural Histories of Discourse* (Silverstein and Urban, eds), made its way to the center of discourse in one 1999 AAA panel. Let me speak more generally about what the meeting accomplished or announced.

#### Informal Annual Meeting Report

My report will mix impressions from the SLA Board meeting, the SLA business meeting, and some of the many excellent sessions organized by our members. At the 1998 meeting, a new student essay contest was inaugurated. In Nov 1999, the winners of the first SLA Student Paper Award were announced: co-authors Andrew Wong and Qing Zhang (Dept of Linguistics, Stanford U) received the award for their paper, "Tongzhi men zhan qi Lai!: The Linguistic Construction of the Tongzhi Community." Members of the Award Committee were Barbara LeMaster, Bambi B Schieffelin and Alessandro Duranti. *JLA* changed editors in 1999, and the annual meeting included updates from both editors. Outgoing editor Judith Irvine reported that the journal had received 19 submissions in the first part of the year. Alessandro Duranti had received six more since assuming the editorship in Aug. At the SLA business meeting, then-President Duranti and Charles Briggs reported on a survey of the role of linguistic anthropology in North American departments (watch for a report in an upcoming *AN* issue). Duranti noted that SLA membership grew by about 20% this year. There must be a connection between this fact and the constant

problem at the annual meetings, viz, that key sessions are scheduled in small rooms which, of course, are bursting at the seams. Briggs also mentioned a need for more post-dissertation level linguistic anthropology grant submissions to the NSF; certainly grants are key to the institutional strength of any research agenda, including those our section believes in. In addition to the NSF, I would personally recommend that column readers whose work touches deafness, medicine, or psychology seek research funding from one of the many institutes and programs within the NIH.

There is more good news regarding our institutional position. Because of its increase in membership, SLA was afforded three invited session spaces at the meeting, which were filled with the double session, "Real-Time Discourses of Whiteness: Linguistic Production of Identity and Ideology," (Sara Trechter, organizer) and "The Relevance of Critique in Discourse Analysis" (James Collins and Monica Heller, organizers). In addition, 17 SLA-reviewed organized sessions were held, and 18 individual papers were organized into sessions. To borrow the themes of some of those panels, we are pioneering critical studies of communities of interpretation and communities of style. Outgoing program organizer Barbara LeMaster handed a successful legacy to Laura Miller, who is the contact for all who want to organize invited sessions (by Mar 1; see her address, below). Those 1999 AAA Executive sessions which were organized by SLA members were highly visible performances (with plenty of performative oomph, I'd say) of our role in the whole discipline. We saw a stunning assertion of that role in the contribution to an understanding and critique of "modernity" made in the AAA Executive Session organized by Miyako Inoue and Joel Robbins. To the extent that we have been effectively asserting the relevance of our terms—our "lexicon for the millennium"—linguistic anthropologists are, we hope, not only reflecting the larger discipline's debates but also being influential in the terms of those debates. I am referring not only to the forthcoming special issue of *JLA* (which arose out of a 1998 AAA Executive session) but to the rethinking of key terms like narrative as "time telling" in Frank Proshan's 1999 AAA Executive session. Let me echo the sentiment of the SLA business meeting in gratitude to outgoing SLA President Duranti for the effectiveness of his work for the section; that will continue in his work on the AAA Executive.

Congratulations to Elinor Ochs, SLA's President-elect. Jill Brody continues as SLA Secretary-Treasurer. Ana Celia Zentella continues as one of the SLA Board's members-at large. The other, John Haviland, also serves on the AAA Human Rights Committee, where he could help SLA members pursue concerns for language rights, among others. Pam Bunte has filled the linguistic anthropology slot on the AAA Nominations Committee. Congratulations to SLA member Susan Gal not only on beginning her section presidency but on becoming chair of Anthro-

polology at U Chicago. Congratulations also to SLA members Jane Hill (outgoing AAA President) and Don Brenneis, the new AAA President-elect. We don't want to claim that they only work within linguistic anthropology—they do much more—but it is heartening to our section to have them representing anthropology as a whole. I close with reference to the SLA invited session on "The Relevance of Critique." In the words of the discussant, Mary Bucholtz, and presenter Jan Blommaert, the session asked "What is the role of the historical, the economic, the political, in producing the linguistic issues we seek to understand? What is the role of the linguistic in producing the historical, the economic, the political? How do global processes shape local contexts and how, if at all, does the local get to talk back?" These are, it seems to me, new and vital questions for our subdiscipline to be asking. Other panels asserted that the critique of referentialism has been made well, but that linguistic anthropology must continue to press home the critique of personalist intentionalism as an ideology of semiosis pervasive in academia and in our social worlds—an ideological touchstone of modernity. The meetings give evidence that the discipline is well positioned to carry on with this and other unfinished items on our agenda.

#### Calls For Papers

The Center for Language, Interaction and Culture Graduate Student Association at UCLA and the Language, Interaction and Social Organization Graduate Student Association at UCSB call for papers for the Fourth Annual Conference on Language, Interaction and Culture to be held May 18-20, 2000 at UCLA. Papers should address topics at the intersection of language, interaction, and culture, and data should consist of naturally occurring behavior. Potential methods include, but are not limited to, conversation analysis, discourse analysis and ethnographic methods. Send 3 copies of a 500-1,000 word extended abstract of the paper, including title, a brief description of methodology and a description of the data, to arrive by Feb 14. No information identifying the author may appear in the abstract. Send to: CLIC Graduate Student Association U of California, Los Angeles Dept of Applied Linguistics, PO BOX 951531, 3300 Rolfe Hall, Los Angeles, CA 90095-1531.

*Useful Addresses: Susan Gal, President, SLA; Department of Anthropology, U Chicago, 1126 East 59th St/Haskell Hall; Chicago, IL 60637; 773/702-2551 s-gal@uchicago.edu*

*Alessandro Duranti, Editor, Journal of Linguistic Anthropology, aduranti@ucla.edu, Dept of Anthropology, UCLA, Los Angeles, CA 90095-1553.*

*Laura Miller, SLA Program Organizer, Dept of Soc and Anthro, Loyola U, 6525 North Sheridan Road, Chicago, IL 60626; lmille2@luc.edu; 773/508-3469; fax 508-7099.*

*Society for Linguistic Anthropology listserv: sla@list.sscnet.ucla.edu.*

*Cyndi Dunn, SLA column co-editor, 940/565-3311, cdunn@unt.edu.*

*Richard Senghas, new SLA column co-editor and linganth email list administrator, owner, linganth@cc.rochester.edu or richard.senghas@sonoma.edu.*

## Society for Medical Anthropology

HOLLY PETERS-GOLDEN AND ANN MILES,  
CONTRIBUTING EDITORS

### Call For Invited Session Proposals

*By Ruthbeth Finerman (Memphis)*

SMA members are strongly encouraged to submit proposals for SMA Invited Sessions for the AAA annual meeting, to be held Nov 15-19, 2000 in San Francisco. Proposals selected for SMA Invited Session status are ensured a spot on the meeting schedule and receive special designation in the AAA Annual Meeting Program. While there are a limited number of SMA Invited Sessions, proposals which are not selected for this status will continue to be reviewed for a place on the schedule among the volunteered submissions. Sessions may choose to address the AAA meeting theme, but they are not required to do so. This year, the AAA annual meeting theme will be the "Public Face of Anthropology."

SMA members who plan to organize a symposium and are interested in seeking Invited Session status are urged to discuss their panel ideas with the SMA Program Chair as soon as possible. This will ensure that proposals are solid, helping them to secure a place on the schedule. For additional help in preparing successful session and paper proposals, see the accompanying story on "How to Write an Effective Abstract for the SMA Program."

The SMA Program Chair must review and select Invited Sessions in advance of volunteered paper and session abstracts. Consequently, SMA Invited Session proposals must be received no later than Mar 25, 2000. Proposals should be sent directly to Ruthbeth Finerman, SMA Program Chair, Dept of Anthropology, Campus Box 526671, U of Memphis, Memphis, TN 38152. Session proposals and registration fees also need to be submitted directly to AAA Headquarters by April 1. For additional information, and to discuss your proposal ideas, contact Finerman at 901/678-3334; fax 901/678-2069; finerman@memphis.edu.

### How To Write An Effective Abstract

*By Ruthbeth Finerman (Memphis)*

Admittedly, no volunteered paper or session abstract can be guaranteed a position on the annual meeting program, since the ultimate decision to accept or reject submissions lies with the AAA Program Chair. However, proposals that are highly ranked by the SMA's committee are likely to receive approval on the final program. Since bribery and extortion won't work, your best bet to win support for the SMA Program is to write a superior proposal. A solid submission should

accomplish all of the following: First, be sure you follow all directions on materials for submission. AAA Headquarters will not even forward your proposal to the SMA Program Chair if your paperwork is faulty, or if it is submitted past the deadline. Proposals for SMA Invited Session status must be received by the SMA Program Chair by Mar 25. Proposals for volunteered papers and sessions must be reach AAA Headquarters by Apr 1.

Second, be sure that your proposal is as detailed and well-constructed as possible. Offer specifics on key topics, since the Program Committee is particularly likely to reject a proposal if the theme isn't clear. Note if presentations will be based on original research (vs secondary sources) and, if possible, include an overview of the study data and methodology. It is also helpful to identify the location and time frame for research. Abstracts that offer precise information tend to earn a higher rating. Papers and sessions may choose to address the AAA meeting theme, "Public Face of Anthropology," but they are not required to do so.

Third, ensure that paper and session abstracts are well-written and carefully proofed. Proposals that are poorly composed and troubled by fundamental errors in spelling and grammar are disheartening to review. Even if accepted, they then become a lingering embarrassment to the author, when published in the AAA Meeting Abstracts.

Fresh and innovative proposals are greeted with enthusiasm by the SMA Program Committee. Nevertheless, any abstract that fails to meet the above criteria will earn a low ranking and reduced chances for appearing on the AAA meeting schedule.

Individuals requiring information or wishing to discuss their ideas for papers or sessions are welcome to contact SMA Program Chair Ruthbeth Finerman at 901/678-3334; fax 678-2069; finerman@memphis.edu.

### Call For Papers

A special issue of *Radical History Review*, co-edited by Anne-Emanuelle Birn and Gerard Ferguson, will explore the history of the health professions in an attempt to offer new perspectives on the relationship between society and 20th century medicine, public health and the health sciences. They invite papers that offer political, social and cultural analyses of professional struggles, medico-scientific developments, role of civil society, corporatization of medicine and public health, role of political institutions, race, class and gender formations and intersections, and other themes bearing on the relationship between the health professions and society in the US, global and comparative contexts. Maximum length is 20-25 pages, including endnotes (please follow *Chicago Manual of Style* 14th edition historical endnotes style). Send 5 copies of your double-spaced manuscript by Feb 15, 2000 to: Gerard Ferguson, Health Policy Robert F Wagner Graduate School of Public Service, New York U, 4 Washington Square N, New York, NY 10003-6671; gerard.fergerson@nyu.edu or aebirn@newschool.edu.

