

that it took to come out to my mother 18 years ago, but I'm still proud of having taken the step to try to introduce my secret life to my informants. Thank you again everybody for having given me the nerve to do so.

Please send your comments, new column ideas, or other information to Barb West at bwest@uop.edu. To sign up for the SOLGA listserv, send a message to listserv@american.edu with "subscribe solga-1" in the body of the message.

Society for Linguistic Anthropology

MARK ALLEN PETERSON AND JAMES STANLAW,
CONTRIBUTING EDITORS

SLA and SSILA

Elinor Ochs and Leanne Hinton continue to move ahead in their efforts to bring the SLA and Society for the Study of Indigenous Languages back into a comfortable working relationship. Although the two organizations enjoy a long history and considerable crossover membership, last year the SSILA voted not to meet with the AAA because the financial requirements were so burdensome, especially on members who were not anthropologists. Instead, SSILA met with the Language Society of America.

SLA Board Members are currently trying to create a more equitable relationship, modeled on the one used by the Society for Medical Anthropology and its affiliates. Under this model, SSILA would be an official affiliate of SLA, and would be allotted space for a business meeting and a certain number of paper sessions, reviewed by the SLA programming committee. SSILA members would not have to belong to AAA to present papers although they would pay the standard non-member conference registration.

If approved by the SLA and AAA, this proposal would still need to be voted on by the SSILA members.

Student Board Members

The referendum held as part of the 2003 elections successfully amended the SLA by-laws to mandate a student representative to the board. Elinor Ochs has asked Lori Johns to fill that post until an election can be held. Johns is a graduate student in the Anthropology of Linguistics PhD program at CUNY, and program officer of the National Association of Student Anthropologists (NASA). She is interested in language rights, language policy and language ideologies.

Student Essay Contest

The SLA invites graduate and undergraduate students to submit a paper on linguistic anthropology. Winners will receive \$100, and be recognized in the AAA *Anthropology News*. Graduate winners will also be invited to submit their papers for review in the *Journal of Linguistic Anthropology*. Submission guidelines appear elsewhere in this issue. The deadline for submissions is Jan 15, 2004.

Sapir Book Prize

The SLA invites nominations for the Edward Sapir Book Prize. This prize is awarded alternate years to a book that makes a significant contribution to our understanding of language in society, or the ways in which language mediates historical or contemporary sociocultural processes. Submission guidelines appear elsewhere in this issue. Deadline for submissions is Jan 15, 2004.

Peripatetic Editor

Contributing editor Mark Allen Peterson has moved yet again. He is now Assistant Professor of Anthropology and International Studies at Miami University in Oxford, OH. He can be reached at petersm2@muohio.edu.

Please send your comments, contributions, news and announcements to Mark Allen Peterson (petersm2@muohio.edu) or James Stanlaw (stanlaw@ilstu.edu).

Society for Medical Anthropology

NANCY VUCKOVIC AND JANELLE TAYLOR,
CONTRIBUTING EDITORS

Joint 2004 SMA/SfAA

By Kathryn Oths (U of Alabama)

The joint meeting of the Society for Applied Anthropology and the Society for Medical Anthropology will take place March 31 to April 4, 2004, in Dallas, TX. The theme of the 2004 meetings—Social Science and Advocacy—emphasizes the past, present and future role of social scientists as advocates and the implications of this role in research, teaching and application.

We'd like to make this a banner year of participation in what has, out of popular demand, become a fruitful every-other-year collaborative effort with the SfAA. With its broad cultural diversity and rich history, in a state with one of the highest concentrations of schools and medical centers in the US, Dallas is an ideal location for a joint meeting. Please consider organizing or co-organizing a session on a topic of your interest.

The SMA suggests considering cutting edge medical anthropological issues, especially as they relate to social science and advocacy, such as: Primary Health Care; Health Disparities; Migrant Farm Workers; Chronic Disease; Epidemiology and Anthropology; Risk; Complementary and Alternative Medicine; Nursing Shortage; Substance Abuse, especially Tobacco; Media and Medicine; E-medicine; Medical Mistakes; Methodological Issues; and, Antibiotic Resistance. If you wish to suggest other viable topics, organize a session, submit an individual paper or poster, or simply talk over your potential ideas, please contact either Mimi Nichter (U of Arizona, mimin@u.arizona.edu), or Kathy Oths (U of Alabama, koths@tenhour.as.ua.edu), the co-program chairs for the SMA portion of the meetings.

For more information, visit the SfAA web site at www.sfaa.net and click the annual meeting link

on the left side of your screen. From here, you will be able to register for the meeting and submit paper and session abstracts. You will also find information about the conference location, meeting hotel and travel to Dallas.

SMA Announces Two New Awards

By Craig James (U Colorado-Denver)

The Society for Medical Anthropology is pleased to announce two new awards in applied medical anthropology: the Career Achievement Award, and the Practicing Medical Anthropology Award. The awards will be given in recognition of significant accomplishment in applying anthropology to real world problem solving in the area of health. Candidates for both awards will be selected based on evidence of engagement in and contributions to socially relevant problem solving. Of particular importance is a candidate's demonstrated ability to use effectively the full range of anthropological tools—methods, theory and principles—in cross-disciplinary contexts. Inaugural awards will be announced at the joint 2004 SMA/SfAA meetings. Awardees will be presented with a plaque of appreciation and a \$200 check.

Career Achievement Award

The SMA Career Achievement Award is designed to honor career-long (at least 10 years post PhD) contributions to establishing the practice of medical anthropology as a full partner in solving health problems. Of primary interest is a record of working effectively as part of interdisciplinary health research efforts, and of academic or popular publications, presentations, lectures and technical reports produced for audiences both within and outside of anthropology.

Practicing Medical Anthropology Award

The SMA Practicing Medical Anthropology Award is designed to honor scholars engaged in applying anthropological principles in particular health project settings. It will be presented in recognition of anthropological contributions made in the context of a specific project setting or problem arena. Successfully working as an integral team member in applied projects demonstrating innovative problem definition and research methods for solving health problems is a primary interest.

Please send letters of nomination (self-nominations are permitted) by Jan 31, 2004 to: Linda Anne Rebhun, Chair Society for Medical Anthropology Practicing Awards Selection Committee, Yale U Dept of Anthropology, PO. Box 208277, New Haven, CT 06250-8277; linda-anne.rebhun@yale.edu. For package/express mail delivery services the address is 51 Hillhouse Ave, New Haven, CT 06511. Subsequent to nomination, the candidate will be contacted by the committee and asked to submit a CV, candidate's statement, one additional letter of recommendation and examples of pertinent writings.