I. SAE Officers, 2009-2010

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President-Elect: Deborah Reed-Danahay (der5@buffalo.edu)
Secretary: Deborah Altamirano (draltamir@charter.net)
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Program Committee Chair-Elect: Jillian Cavanaugh (jcavanaugh@brooklyn.cuny.edu)
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Student Representative: D. Seth Murray (dsethmurray@gmail.com)
SAE Journal Editor: Liam D. Murphy (lmurphy@saclink.csus.edu)
H-SAE Co-editor and SAE Webmaster: Roland Moore (rolandmo@pacbell.net)
H-SAE Co-editor: Jelena Karanovic (H-SAE@karanovic.org)
Special Publications, Berghahn Series: Sharon Roseman (srosem@mun.ca)

II. Status, Activities and Accomplishments, 2009

1. Membership and Finances:
2009 Revenue: $11,250
2009 Expenditures: $6,392
Net Assets, 31 December 2008: $18,085
Net Assets, 31 December 2009: $12,278

The SAE financial situation has stabilized since 2007 because of the new Wiley-Blackwell agreement. However, the SAE needs to consider several changes to its budget because revenue is decreasing and expenses are increasing.

Membership: During 2009, SAE membership has remained steady at around 450 members, about half of whom are student members. As our membership dues are the primary source of revenue for the society, this is good news. However, in general membership has decreased from 505 in January 2004 to 457 in September 2009. The 2010 budget anticipates a continued decrease to 303 professional members ($30) and 158 students ($12). The result will be a decrease of $360 membership revenue in 2010. While this is a relatively small amount, it needs to be taken into
consideration against increased costs at annual meetings and for JSAE. In the past six months, professional memberships seemed to have stabilized, while student membership has begun to drop. This may be significant for programming decisions, including decisions related to the future of the JSAE journal.

**Meeting Costs:** The cost of AAA meetings has been increased in the 2010 budget to $3,701. This figure reflects the full cost of the roundtable luncheon ($2,836), $400 for a wine bar after the Douglass speaker, $100 for dinner for the Douglass speaker, his/her guest, and the SAE representative who is hosting the speaker, and $365 registration fee for the Douglass speaker when it cannot be waived.

**Douglass Endowment:** The SAE will need to increase the principal of the Douglass endowment. If we increase it by $10-15,000, with current interest rates the SAE would be able to return to its pre-2007 expenditures of $2500. Individual donations can be added to the existing fund.

We expect the costs of our Distinguished Lecture at the Annual Meetings, our SAE-Council for European Studies pre-Dissertation fellowship, and our journal to rise, and in two years to also see the reduction in the subsidy we receive in the AAA publishing deal with Wiley-Blackwell. In 2010 we continue to consider how to increase the principal in the endowment that pays for the Douglass Distinguished Lecture and we are considering the future of the journal in order to prepare for future contingencies.

2. SAE Annual Meeting Invited Sessions and Special Events:

a. SAE hosted three **invited panels** in 2009, all of which were co-sponsored by other sections: ‘Old and New Minorities in Europe’, co-sponsored with the Committee on Minority Issues in Anthropology; ‘The End/s of Area Studies: Latin Americans in Europe’, co-sponsored by SLACA; and ‘Lévi-Strauss, Europe, and the Ends of Anthropology’, co-sponsored as a Presidential session.

b. SAE hosted its **annual roundtable luncheon.** In 2009, we had six roundtables with a total paid registration of 48 tickets (8 spaces at each table = 1 leader [comp lunch] + 7 registrants). The hosts were Donald Carter, Julie Hemment, Werner Krauss, Jessaca Leinaweaver, Andrea Muehlebach, and Nadia Seremetakis. The hotel catered the lunch, which was quite good in terms of quality and presentation and fell within our budget. Negotiating with the caterer and seeking advice on the menu paid off.

c. The SAE **William A. Douglass Distinguished Lecture** was delivered by Renée Hirschon (‘Being at Home in the Global Village: Challenges for Anthropology in the 21st Century’) of Oxford University. Her talk filled a modestly sized room (with capacity for approximately 150) beyond its capacity. The lecture was followed by an SAE-sponsored buffet and cash bar, which was extremely well attended and allowed for a good deal of collegial networking.

4. Awards:

Each year the SAE awards an annual book prize, for the best book published the previous year in the anthropology of Europe. In 2009 the **William A Douglass Book Prize** was awarded to *Cosmopolitan Anxieties: Turkish Challenges to Citizenship and Belonging in Germany*, by Ruth Mandel, University College London (Duke University Press, 2009).
Each year the SAE awards a pre-dissertation fellowship, paid for by the SAE but awarded in conjunction with the Council for European Studies. In 2009, the Pre-Dissertation Fellowship Award went to Lindsey West, UNC-Chapel Hill, for research entitled ‘Who Counts? Birth and Citizenship Experiences of Migrant Women in Geneva’.

Each year the SAE awards a prize to the best graduate student essay and best undergraduate student essay submitted for SAE consideration of the prizes. The winner of the 2009 graduate student paper award was Maryna Basylevych (SUNY Albany), for a paper entitled "Prestige Concept Reconsidered." The 2009 SAE undergraduate paper competition prize went to Marguerite Hoyler (Duke University) for her paper "Safe for Integration?"

Andrea Muehlebach, the SAE Special Projects and Publications Chair, led SAE efforts to modify the SAE’s annual 2010 SAE Graduate Student Prize Paper Competition. This year, the SAE solicited abstracts (rather than article-length papers) from graduate students with the aim of selecting 3-4 finalists. All finalists will get the opportunity to present their work alongside senior anthropologists on an invited roundtable at the 2010 AAA. One of them will be awarded a 400$ prize at the 2010 SAE business meeting. The aim of the competition is to provide upcoming young scholars with a forum to present their work in conversation with established Europeanist anthropologists and to create a mentoring structure for those finalists who wish to publish their work.

The prize committee was made up by Jillian Cavanaugh, Neringa Klumbyte, and Andrea Muehlebach. 31 abstracts were received. Because of the high number of submissions, only a little more than 10% made it to the final round. They are Elif Babul (Stanford University), who explores the ways in which forms of Europeanness get circulated into Turkey through EU human rights education programs; Sarah Bakker (UC Santa Cruz), who looks at liturgical singing and chant amongst Dutch-Syriacs who define themselves as ‘more-than’ European in their Middle Eastern Christian identity; Rachel Cesar (Berkeley), who investigates contemporary Spanish exhumation practices that re-script past-present relations in post-dictatorship Spain; and Dong Ju Kim (Michigan), who studies how Polish farmers’ uses of second-hand agricultural machines shape their perspectives of Europe, modernity, and the future.

The invited roundtable "New Directions in the Anthropology of Europe: The SAE Student Prize Paper Roundtable Discussion" will be made up of the four finalists and Professors Matti Bunzl and Susan Gal. Professor Herzfeld has agreed to mentor all finalists who aim to publish their work in an anthropological journal. We hope to see you all there. The roundtable hopes to showcase exciting and highly original work coming out of Europeanist anthropology today.

5. Publications:

a. The Journal for the Society of the Anthropology of Europe [JSAE] encountered unforeseen problems in 2009, due largely to the serious illness of its editor. One issue was published and one delayed until 2010. In 2009 JSAE received 12 submissions and its acceptance rate was 20%. The Executive and general membership at our 2009 Business Meeting voted to nominate the JSAE Book Review Editor as Editor for vol. 10 (2010). The SAE is currently considering whether to move to an on-line electronic journal for vol. 11 and after.

b. In the last while, the SAE with Berghahn Books publishers of Oxford and New York successfully launched the books translation project which was initiated several years ago. The series is entitled “European Anthropology in Translation”. The first three books in the series...

6. Communications:

a. Out-going secretary, Ben Passmore, and incoming secretary, Deborah Altamirano, managed our contributions to the Anthropology Newsletter. Ben Passmore had continued to focus SAE section columns on the theme “Can Europe Still Provoke?” He did this despite some problems getting people to follow through with their contributions to the column. At our annual executive committee meeting he offered his appreciation of Student Representative, Seth Murray, who supported Ben’s efforts to find contributors for the column.

In-coming secretary, Deborah Altamirano, had her first column as SAE contributing editor in the December issue of the AAA Newsletter. She has established a broad theme for the column this year, “New Directions in the Anthropology of Europe.” To that end, the first column featured a report by Italian graduate student, Domenico Crisafuli, on his research on Vilnius, Lithuania, as the 2009 Cultural Capital of Europe. She also reported that the Douglass Distinguished speaker, Renée Hirschon, and Douglass book prize recipient, Ruth Mandel, have each agreed to contribute future columns.

b. H-SAE and the SAE Exec Committee lists also serve as major means of communication. H-SAE serves as our main vehicle to distribute calls for papers, to announce new publications, and to initiate discussions on matters methodological, theoretical and professional. Updated course syllabi relevant to the anthropology of Europe are also placed on H-SAE.

H-SAE editors (Roland Moore and Jelena Karanovic) report that in 2009 there were no major controversies on the list to report, hence the majority of postings were conference and publication announcements. Over 700 subscribers to the list receive messages, and there continue to be more people subscribing to the list than dropping off. In 2009 the new book review editor, Abby Drwecki, alpicken@umail.iu.edu, a doctoral candidate in anthropology at Indiana University, coordinated 4 new book reviews that appeared under the auspices of the H-SAE list, reviving a long-moribund practice giving the list wide visibility across the H-NET system. Executive Committee member Tracy Heatherington created a new and more appealing look for the SAE website, located at http://www2.h-net.msu.edu/~sae/sae/

7. Mentorship:

The SAE elects a student representative to the executive committee to serve a 2-year term, and includes student mentorship in a number of its annual activities. In 2008-09, the SAE continued to encourage graduate students to publish in the Journal for the Society of the Anthropology of Europe (JSAE). The student representative and other SAE executive board members recruited students to attend panels at the AAA meetings that featured research on Europe, and asked the students to write short panel and paper summaries for inclusion in the SAE column in the Anthropology News and for dissemination on the SAE listserv. Students were also asked in advance of the AAA meeting to take photographs of various SAE activities, such as the awards ceremony, and submit them with their account from the meetings. Graduate students returning from recent fieldwork were also solicited to submit and share reports of their preliminary findings.
Over the course of 2009, an important development to SAE’s mentorship program has centered on the reorganization of the SAE Graduate Student Paper award. Paper submissions are now reviewed by the Award Committee, and the top-5 ranked student papers are accepted and will compose a student-only panel at the AAA meetings, titled “New Directions in the Anthropology of Europe.” An additional outcome of this new organization of the SAE Graduate Student Paper award is that finalists will be paired with senior anthropologists of Europe who will assist and mentor them through the publication process of their paper. SAE believes that this will not only increase student participation at the annual meetings, but will develop more meaningful and lasting mentoring relationships between junior and senior scholars.

Thomas M. Wilson
President 2009-10
7 April 2010