SHA Annual Report
2009 Annual Reports should cover the period from January 1, 2009-December 31, 2009

Names and e-mail addresses of the Section officers during the period covered:

President, Frederic W. Gleach fwg1@cornell.edu
President-elect, James Taggart jtm.taggart@fandm.edu
Secretary, Vilma Santiago-Irizarry vs23@cornell.edu
Treasurer, Julia Offen julia.ffen@oswego.edu
Editor (A&H), George Mentore gm3c@virginia.edu

Status, Activities and Accomplishments this year

1. Most up-to-date membership numbers: 264 (Nov 2009)
   • List any factors you think may be increasing or decreasing your Section
     membership: DOWN: GENERAL ECONOMY, OUTDATED WEBSITE; UP: MEETING
     ACTIVITIES, GENERAL VISIBILITY

2. Financial balances for both Section budgets and publication sponsored budgets, if
   applicable (for Nov 2009). $67606 (SHA net), $12198 (Turner Prize account)
   • List any factors you think are affecting your Section’s finances: W-B CONTRACT,
     STABLE MEMBERSHIP AND DEVOTED MEMBERS

3. List your Section’s AAA meeting invited sessions, co-sponsored sessions, and any
   special events your Section sponsored or in which it participated:
   Invited Sessions:
   TRANSLATING FEELING IN THE AMERICAS: NEW APPROACHES IN THE
   ANTHROPOLOGY OF EMOTION
   CREATIVITY AT WORK
   Invited Roundtables:
   REINVIGORATING OUR CLARITY: EDITH TURNER’S INSPIRATIONS UPON
   THE ENDS OF ANTHROPOLOGICAL WRITING
   INTERDISCIPLINARY COLLABORATIONS
   Cosponsored (with Executive Program Committee):
   EXPLORING THE "BOUNDARIES" OF EXPRESSIVE MEDIA IN
   ANTHROPOLOGY
   Cosponsored (with Middle East Section)
   EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES, CULTURAL RIGHTS, AND ETHICS OF FIELDWORK
   AND PUBLICATION
   Cosponsored (with AES)
   THE “TRAINING” PROBLEM IN SOCIOCULTURAL ANTHROPOLOGY:
   METHODS COURSES AND THE POLITICS OF METHOD IN
   ANTHROPOLOGY TODAY AND TOMORROW
   Special Events:
   AWARD WINNING WRITING IN HUMANISTIC ANTHROPOLOGY
   "COMING CLOSE"—LITERARY READINGS IN ETHNOGRAPHY
   AAA ANNUAL WRITERS GROUP
   SHA RECEPTION HONORING EDITH TURNER
   SHA EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING
   SHA GENERAL BUSINESS MEETING
   Special Events (Workshops)
   HOW TO PUBLISH YOUR FIRST SCHOLARLY BOOK
   SUBMITTING TO A PEER-REVIEWED JOURNAL
   ETHNOGRAPHIC WRITING AND ITS DISCONTENTS
   POETIC WRITING FOR ANTHROPOLOGISTS
4. Spring meeting activities (if applicable): N/A FOR 2009
5. Mentorship efforts (at or beyond the AAA meetings) to any of the following:
   - undergraduate and/or graduate students: WE HAVE GRAD & UG BOARD MEMBERS
   - junior scholars: WORKSHOPS ON WRITING AND PUBLICATION
   - independent scholars: SEVERAL INCLUDED IN INVITED SESSIONS
6. Additional outreach efforts (at or beyond the AAA meetings) to other sections, interest
groups, and scholarly societies, government agencies, public education/community
engagement, and underrepresented minorities: SESSION CO-SPONSORSHIPS; PRIZE
COMPETITION ANNOUNCEMENTS GO TO BROADER AUDIENCES
7. Awards presented this year on behalf of your Section, if applicable (please provide the
title of the award, date presented, and full name, affiliation, and title of the
project/paper/accomplishment of the awardees):
   VICTOR TURNER PRIZE to Matthew Engelke (LSE) for A Problem of Presence:
      Beyond Scripture in an African Church
   VTP Honorable Mention to Billile Jean Isbell (Cornell U) for Finding Cholita
   ETHNOGRAPHIC FICTION PRIZE shared by James Wood and Laura Biaggi
   POETRY PRIZE to Christina Lovin; Second Prize to Brynn Champney; Third Prize to
      Angela Just; Honorable Mention to Felice Wyndham and Ira Joe Fisher
   SHA PRESIDENTS AWARD FOR GRADUATE STUDENT WRITING to Pearl Chan,
      Honorable Mention to Hisako Omori
   SHA PRESIDENTS AWARD FOR UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT WRITING to
      Shad Stroh
   ALL PRIZES PRESENTED AT THE ANNUAL MEETING IN PHILADELPHIA
8. Status and use of Section internal communications such as a website, list serve, or
   newsletter (if applicable): LISTSERVE HOSTED BY AAA WORKING WELL; "PRESIDENTIAL
   BLAST" EMAILS ARE EFFECTIVE; OUR WEBSITE HAS FALLEN OUT OF DATE AND IS IN THE
   PROCESS OF BEING UPDATED
9. Changes in bylaws or governance structure (if applicable): CURRENTLY REVIEWING
   BYLAWS FOR UPDATES

Future plans or activities in the next 3-5 years
1. Do you have any plans or activities specifically aimed at increasing your membership
   and/or broadening your membership (i.e., students, independent scholars, scholars of
   color)?
   WE ARE ATTEMPTING TO DEVELOP INVITED SESSIONS CO-SPONSORED WITH OTHER
   SECTIONS TO CONTINUE TO DEVELOP INTERACTIONS ACROSS SECTIONS
2. Do you have any plans or activities aimed at creating new forms of scholarly
   communication or changing existing publications/communications?
   IN ADDITION TO UPDATING OUR WEBSITE WE HOPE TO DEVELOP SECTIONS THERE FOR
   LITERARY AND/OR ARTISTIC MATERIALS
   WE HAVE MODESTLY EXPANDED THE SIZE OF ANTHROPOLOGY & HUMANISM (AT SECTION
   EXPENSE)
3. Any other projects that your Section has underway or discussed with its members:
4. What (if any) collaboration is your Section doing with other Sections, Interest Groups, or
   outside groups on the projects listed above? WE ARE WORKING WITH SEVERAL OTHER
   SECTIONS (E.G. ALLA, SVA) ON SESSIONS AND EVENTS

Please tell us what your chief concerns and issues are, especially if they are not previously
noted:
1. What issues would you like raised or recommendations would you like to make to the Section Assembly leadership?

**Unsurprisingly, since two of our officers are active in the processes, we are supportive of the changes being made to give a greater voice to the SA in governance.**

2. What issues would you like raised or recommendations would you like to make to the AAA Executive Board?

**We are strong proponents of sustaining small sections as active participants in the AAA at all levels. Particularly in the current economic situation there is financial pressure that may affect individual abilities to retain multiple section memberships, making that perhaps a less reliable marker of vitality than others (e.g., activities at or beyond the annual meeting, enthusiasm of support for representative issues).**

3. What issues would you like raised or recommendations would you like to make to the AAA Staff?

**Please remember that most members only think about staff when something goes wrong. Those of us who work regularly with the staff generally recognize the great work that is being done everyday on our behalf.**