

2012 Candidate Bios

President

Robert Alvarez

It is an honor to be nominated for President of the Society for Applied Anthropology. Inspired by my first SfAA meetings I have been an active member since the early 1970's and have served as a member of the Public Policy Committee, the Program Committee, and was also Chair of the Malinowski Award Committee. Most recently I was a member of the SfAA Executive Board. In the American Anthropological Association I served on the Ethics Committee, as chair of the Committee on Minority Affairs, and was a founding member and subsequently President of the Association of Latina and Latino Anthropologists. The SfAA nomination comes at a time when I believe I can be of best service to my colleagues, the society, and the communities with which we are involved. My retirement last year from the University of California, San Diego (UCSD) allows me the time to devote to the society. At UCSD, I served my department (Ethnic Studies) and the University in a variety of capacities. This included Director of Graduate Studies, Department Chair, and UCSD Representative to the UC Presidents Committee on Latino Research, and board member for the Centers for Latin American Studies, U.S.-Mexico Studies, and Comparative Immigration Studies. I was also the Director of the Center for Global California Studies. These positions have provided a sound foundation in administration and program development focusing on research and application.

My career and life as an anthropologist have been guided by a commitment to social justice, and the empowerment of our communities. This stems from both my personal history growing up along the U.S.-Mexico Border and from my experience in a broad range of social-change contexts. I made the decision to pursue applied anthropology after over three years in the U.S. Peace Corps (Panama and Puerto Rico) as a Volunteer and Trainer in the early 1970's. It was there that I discovered the value of anthropology in understanding the effects of social change, inadvertent power, and inequality. I returned home, to San Diego, and intermittently worked in the produce industry (in which I was raised), pursued an M.A. at San Diego State University, and completed my PhD in Social Anthropology at Stanford in 1979. My initial career objectives were to stay out of the academy and to apply my anthropological knowledge in programs of social change. Yet, most of my professional work has been through the affiliation with academic programs. In 1980 I received a postdoctoral fellowship with the Institute of Urban and Minority Education (IUME) at Teacher's College Columbia University, where I was also fortunate to have been an active member of the Program In Applied Anthropology. I taught as part of the Applied Program, but was also engaged in IUME Centers for Race Desegregation, Title IX, and National Origins working in New York City Schools and urban neighborhoods. Subsequently, I worked with the Cross Cultural Research Center at Sacramento State University, where I conducted leadership, and ethnographic training, with teachers, community, and indigenous leaders in the Federated States of Micronesia, the Republic of Belau, the Northern Marianas (Guam and Saipan), as well as in Chicano/Mexicano and Indigenous communities in the U.S.

In 1985 I re-entered the produce world and worked in the U.S.-Mexico Fruit Industry working from Mexico as a representative of a Mexican chile-packing distributor to the Los Angeles Wholesale Market. This experience provided me with a realistic and deep understanding of the U.S.- Mexico Border, U.S. Government Policy, transnational process, ethnic entrepreneurial strategies and of Mexico. This was a five-year ethnographic experience from which much of my current research stems. A number of my publications (many in Human Organization) focus on ethnic markets and entrepreneurs. My current work focuses on global agriculture, and particularly the role played by the "transnational state," and it's influence in local, regional, and global processes.

In 1990 I decided to "return" to academia through the Department of Anthropology at Arizona State University (ASU). At ASU I founded the Program in Applied Anthropology, and developed an applied research program to engage both graduate students and community in effective educational and policy efforts. I was Chair of the Socio-cultural Sub-discipline and Director of Graduate Studies. I was

also director of ethnography and evaluation of various university programs that included the Project for the Improvement of Minority Education, The Office of Youth Preparation and the President's Building Great Communities Program. Most recently at UCSD I directed the Logan Heights Ethnography Project in the Chicano/Mexican community where I was raised. I have maintained a strong commitment to education at all levels, aimed primarily at economically disadvantaged and "minority" student success in public education. Throughout my career I have been dedicated to advancing non-traditional students and faculty in the university.

I have had a long and diverse career and a strong research and publication record: a sound foundation for serving as president of the society. I welcome this opportunity and look forward to my continuing service.

Tim Wallace

I entered my PhD program in anthropology at Indiana University with an impatient desire to bring my passion and skills for helping vulnerable peoples. I never lost that desire. It took me a while to discover that I had to become a decent anthropologist first. Joining the Society for Applied Anthropology turned out to be the most important portal through which I could find ideas, support and identity as an applied anthropologist. During my 35+ years at North Carolina State University in the Department of Sociology and Anthropology, I have worked in many different research settings, been a consultant in a number of domestic and international projects, been heavily involved in curriculum development, including building an undergraduate applied program, worked with graduate students from programs across the campus and internationally, and been committed to preparing students for careers inside and outside of anthropology. Whether working with collaborators, clients or the many hundreds of students I have mentored, I have conveyed to them my twin passions for anthropology and for its applications. Learning is a lifelong process, and each research or applied experience I have had, whether in South or Central America, East or West Africa, Central Europe, Japan or even my home state of North Carolina, has probably given me more than whatever I was able to give from my expertise. My first years focused on educational change in Peru, community development and commodity marketing in Ecuador, Togo, and Mozambique, environmentally sustainable projects such as one I worked on in Madagascar. Over the past twenty years I have focused on issues of ecotourism and heritage conservation, particularly in recent years in Costa Rica and Guatemala. My most recent research concerns tourism, identity and globalization in the communities around Lake Atitlan in the Guatemalan Highlands, and pottery tourism and tradition "branding" in central North Carolina. Over my career I have numerous publications from reports, to journal articles, book chapters, edited books, commentaries and teaching manuals.

At NC State University, I have occupied many leadership positions both in the university and in my own department. I served as Anthropology program director on several occasions; and I contributed heavily to the establishment of our undergraduate anthropology program and our graduate masters program. I have been honored on four occasions with outstanding student teaching and adviser awards. I am the current President of the National Association for the Practice of Anthropology (NAPA) (2010-2012) and was the editor of the NAPA Bulletin (now the Annals of Anthropological Practice). I am also a Past-President of the Southern Anthropological Association, a NCSU Japan Scholar Faculty Fellow, and a former President of the Association of North Carolina Anthropologists. For the last 19 years I have led the NC State Ethnographic Field School, which I started in 1994 with a program in Keszthely, Hungary, later moved to Quepos, Costa Rica. The Guatemala program has been functioning in the Lake Atitlán region since 2002 when I was a Fulbright Fellow at the Universidad del Valle de Guatemala. I am well schooled in transforming organizational structures to adapt to new times.

With the SfAA I have served as an Executive Board Member (2003-2005), been active on several annual program committees, and have worked diligently as the Editor of the SfAA News, published quarterly. During my tenure as the editor of this publication, we have been able to expand it and update its delivery technology by also preparing an html version in addition to the pdf version. As editor I have also continued to work in service to the SfAA as a Board member, and this has given me an unusual amount of insight into the workings of our organization. I have come to understand the immense importance of the very existence of the SfAA; not only to our membership, but also to those who are not our members but whom we also serve: the vulnerable peoples of the US and the rest of the world where we work.

As a long-term, active member of SfAA's Executive Board, (first as an elected board member, and then as an editor), I have been closely involved with steering the organization during these complicated times and helping set the agenda for the future. The SfAA is nearing its 75th anniversary and I believe it is our role to see that the organization stays true to its mission, while charting a course that strengthens our voice and contributes meaningfully to the issues of relevance to our membership. The SfAA President has a responsibility to push forward the needs and concerns of our membership within and outside the Society, and if elected I will work to ensure that everyone's voice is heard and that we work to address the needs and interests of all of our members. At the same time, we must maintain and enhance what SfAA already offers to its membership, including students, whether through the Society's service opportunities, publications, networking, stewardship, or through partnerships with organizations inside and outside the anthropological community. Also, we must continue to make students feel that the SfAA is their home and provide them with opportunities for service. Finally, I will work hard to protect and maintain the financial stability the SfAA already has, which is essential for the health of the organization, and I will vigorously maintain and promote the excellence of our annual meetings.

Board of Directors, Slate A

Lisa Gezon

I graduated in 1995 with a Ph.D. in anthropology, with a focus on cultural anthropology, from the University of Michigan. I have been teaching Anthropology at the University of West Georgia since 1996, and I currently hold the rank of Professor in the Department of Anthropology. My primary research area has been in Madagascar, where I have examined issues of human-environmental relationships. In my first project, I considered relationships between local people and the newly enforced national reserve, focusing on the micropolitics of access to and control over the land and its resources. This work resulted in several publications, including a book entitled *Global Visions, Local Landscapes: A Political Ecology of Conservation, Conflict, and Control in Northern Madagascar* (AltaMira Press) in 1996, an article in *Human Organization*, an co-authored piece with a local collaborator in *Practicing Anthropology*, and a book chapter in a book I edited with Susan Paulson, entitled *Political Ecology, Across Spaces, Scales and Social Groups* (2005, Rutgers University Press). My second major project has been to examine the commodity chain of the drug khat in northern Madagascar, focusing on evaluating its multiple dynamics regarding health, political economy (global and local), and culture. This work is in press with Left Coast Press in the book series edited by Merrill Singer and Pamela Erickson entitled *Advances in Critical Medical Anthropology*. In my next project, I plan to examine wellness as a focus of complementary and alternative medical practices in the United States and as experienced by western travelers to a small town in Guatemala.

For the SfAA, I have been involved in many ways since I joined in 1995. I have been involved in *Human Organization* both as an author and as a reviewer. I co-edited a guest issue with Susan Paulson in 2003, entitled *Locating the Political in Political Ecology: An Introduction*. I have presented ten papers at SfAA annual meetings. I was twice invited to be on the SfAA program committee. I served on the Malinowski Committee for several years, and I was elected to be on the Nominations and Elections

Committee in 2008. I served as chair of that committee in 2010. I have been a Fellow of the Society for about ten years.

My focus in applied anthropology has been in teaching both in the United States and in the field. I have proactively involving local Malagasy university students in research while teaching them research methods. My primary focus in teaching at UWG, which is a solely undergraduate anthropology program, has been four-field introductory courses, environmental anthropology, medical anthropology, linguistic anthropology, and gender studies. Applied anthropology comes in teaching students what applied anthropology is, demonstrating how every subject area has an applied component, and in making students aware of career possibilities in anthropology. In the textbook I have co-authored with Conrad Kottak (*Culture*, 2010, McGraw-Hill), we introduce students to applied in a dedicated chapter, as well as through examples throughout the book. As a member of the board, I would explore possibilities for increasing awareness of applied anthropology opportunities for undergraduates by developing, for example, online content. My position as a professor of undergraduate students puts me in a good position for envisioning these possibilities.

I am excited about the possibility of serving the Society as a member of the board and about working with other dedicated professionals to learn from each other, carrying our visions farther than we could imagine doing on our own.

Lois Stanford

I am an associate professor of anthropology at the Department of Anthropology, New Mexico State University, Las Cruces. I received my PhD degree in Anthropology from the University of Florida in 1989, with a minor in Agricultural Economics. At New Mexico State University, I serve as the graduate advisor in the Department of Anthropology, oversee the undergraduate supplementary major in sustainable development, and supervise the graduate minor in food studies in anthropology. Locally, I serve as president of the board of directors of La Semilla Food Center, a non-profit organization, funded by the Kellogg Foundation, that focuses on youth education and garden projects, community education of food issues, and support of local foodsheds. In this capacity, I am currently involved in seeking funding and supporting local food projects, including community gardens, school gardens, curriculum development, and community education. I have overseen a series of NMSU service learning courses in the region, focusing on food security and poverty alleviation. I currently serve as co-chair for the upcoming local symposium, Quality of Life as Social Justice, a collaborative project between the university, local agencies, non-profit organizations, and local communities, in an effort to develop collaborative partnerships to address poverty and social justice issues in the U.S.-Mexico border region.

I have conducted applied research on food production systems and the impact of globalization in Mexico and the US Southwest. I am completing two books, one on the binational integration of the avocado industries in Michoacán and in California, and the second on the chile industry in New Mexico. In Mexico, my research focused on the transformation of the local avocado production system in response to the internationalization of the market. In New Mexico, my research examined on the human impacts of the transformation of New Mexico's chile industry, focusing on the different perspectives and experiences of the growers, farmworkers, processors, and buyers. My research interests lie in the area of local food movements, food security, food heritage, conservation of food diversity, and food sovereignty, in both minority Hispanic and Native American communities.

From 2003-2005, I served as president of the Culture and Agriculture section of the American Anthropological Association. I currently monitor the C&A list serve. I serve as a member of the SfAA Malinowski Award Committee, and I served on the local committee for the organization of the 2009 SfAA meetings. If elected to the Board of the Society for Applied Anthropology, I would welcome the opportunity to serve the organization and to collaborate with other board members to develop and promote the organization. As an applied anthropologist, I work closely with local and regional community organizations in an effort to bring anthropological perspectives, concerns, and methods to projects addressing economic and food insecurity. I believe that the Society for Applied Anthropology brings anthropological perspectives and practices into the public arena in a way that no other

anthropological association does. I would welcome this opportunity to work closely with the SfAA's Board, Executive Committee, and the membership to develop the association's professional capacity and to broaden public awareness and engagement. Based on my experience in community engagement, I would like to contribute by broadening and strengthening the relationships between the SfAA and local community organizations and to develop training and professional opportunities for students in applied anthropology.

Board of Directors, Slate B

Josiah Heyman

My Ph.D. is from the City University of New York, 1988. I am Professor of Anthropology and Chair of the Sociology and Anthropology Department at the University of Texas at El Paso. In this border setting, I am deeply involved with the education of working class students, and in community-based research with marginalized communities and migrants. I have especially been involved in advocacy for human rights and social justice. I am chair of the Board of Directors of a 4,000 plus member base-community organization, the Border Network for Human Rights, and a policy analyst and advocate for a coalition of border human rights stakeholders engaged in extensive negotiations with Congress and Administration in Washington. Much of my recent scholarly publishing has examined the challenging realities of community engagement and activism.

I have participated actively in the Society for Applied Anthropology for most of two decades, especially as a member (1997-2008, 2011-present) and chair (2001-2007) of the Public Policy Committee. During my time on that committee, its members developed an overall vision for the committee focusing on educating SfAA members in public policy skills, and supervised a large collection of documents helping with public policy teaching and advocacy that are on the SfAA website. We also developed procedures for composing and reviewing public policy proposals that were submitted for SfAA Board action.

While I remain committed to public policy and human rights/social justice-oriented engagement, I see my role on the SfAA Board as ascertaining the priorities of SfAA members and exploring how the organization—within its constrained resources—can most effectively assist a wide cross-section of members. That is, we need to research what SfAA members want in the way of support, information, and assistance, and determine how we can provide transferrable “tools” to make the members more capable across the range of their activities. This, I think, the best way to serve the diverse SfAA membership, rather than prioritizing one particular topic or approach. And I am firmly committed to the long run sustainability and growth of the SfAA. In a period when public, community-oriented, and engaged anthropology are widely spoken of, the SfAA is a crucial forum and organization that can bring these aspirations into reality.

Robert Rubinstein

I am an anthropologist who works in peace and conflict studies and in medical anthropology. I received a Ph.D. in Anthropology from SUNY Binghamton, and a Master of Science in Public Health from the University of Illinois in Chicago. I am currently professor of anthropology and international relations at the Maxwell School of Citizenship and Public Affairs at Syracuse University, where I directed the Program on the Analysis and Resolution of Conflicts from 1994-2005. Earlier I served as the assistant for program analysis to the vice-president for planning at the University of Chicago. My medical anthropology work focuses on combining epidemiological and anthropological methods examining sources and ways to redress disparities in healthcare. I worked for The American Academy of Pediatrics, and was the research director for collaborative research to prevent blinding trachoma in Egypt, which involved managing all aspects of the collaboration between the University of California and the University of Alexandria. I have worked with the United Nations Department of Peacekeeping, the United Nations Department of Internal Oversight Services, and the United States Army Peacekeeping Institute. From these two perspectives, my research and professional activities during the past two decades have focused on developing anthropological approaches to social justice, human rights and intervention, and to translating those perspectives into action.

I have published articles on my medical anthropological work in *Human Organization*, *Medical Anthropology Quarterly*, and *The Journal of Health Care for the Poor and Underserved*, among other places. My articles on peacekeeping and conflict resolution have appeared in many journals, including *International Peacekeeping*, *Security Dialogue*, and *Anthropology Today*. I am the author or editor of 9 books, including *Dangerous Liaisons: Anthropologists and the National Security State* (with Laura McNamara), *Peacekeeping Under Fire: Culture and Intervention*, and *The Social Dynamics of Peace and Conflict: Culture in International Security* (with Mary LeCron Foster).

I am committed to public anthropology, and work to develop these areas within anthropology and to bring anthropology to local, national and international arenas. I served as the first Executive Secretary, and then Co-chair, of the Commission on Peace and Human Rights of the International Union of Anthropological and Ethnological Sciences, I serve on the board of directors of the Ploughshares Fund. I have long been active in SfAA. I currently am serving a chair of the public policy committee and chair of the Sol Tax Award committee. I believe that anthropology brings a unique perspective to issues of public policy. As a member of the SfAA Board of Directors I will work to advance our disciplinary ability to communicate anthropological perspectives effectively to publics, organizations and agencies.

Nominations & Elections, Slate A

Kathleen DeWalt

I am a professor of Anthropology and Public Health at the University of Pittsburgh and a member of the SfAA since 1973. I currently serve as the as the Director of the Center for Latin American Studies, a US Department of Education funded National Resource Center for Latin American Studies. I received my doctoral degree in Anthropology from the University of Connecticut in 1980. I am a nutritional anthropologist and qualitative methodologist. Throughout my career I have worked in both basic and applied research in the US and Latin America.

My doctoral training was interdisciplinary, with about one third of my work in anthropology, one third in nutritional sciences, and one third in community medicine. After taking my first professional appointment as an Assistant Professor of Behavioral Sciences in the College of Medicine at the University of Kentucky I began a series of projects that worked at the intersection of agricultural research and extension, food security and health in economically marginal communities in Latin America. As part of the Sorghum and Millet Collaborative Research Support Program I worked in Mexico and Honduras both on the evaluation of the impact of shifting agricultural policy and research on small producers. In 1987 I began a series of projects in Ecuador funded through USAID, USDA, NSF and the McArthur Foundation that addressed both the policy and practical concerns of including food security and nutrition goals in agricultural research and extension and in developing approaches to community based natural resource management. The McArthur Foundation project resulted in a number of implementation programs carried out by Ecuadorian NGOs and funded by various agencies aimed at developing new models of community management of natural resources in Carchi, Province Ecuador. An NSF funded restudy of two women's cooperatives in Manabí Province led to a 20 year follow up of these project allowing for a long term evaluation of the impact of income generating projects on women's control of income, social power and the welfare of their children. My current research focuses on the changing livelihoods and food security of Kichwa speaking people in the Ecuadorian Amazon.

While at Kentucky I served on the Advisory Board for the Center for Rural Health and as the Director of the Research Center for Health Risk Reduction in Rural Youth (HRRRY), a center that focused on both basic research and applied program to reduce risk to youth funded by the National Institute for Nursing Research. At the University of Pittsburgh I have served as the Associate Dean of Arts and Sciences for Graduates Studies, Co-director of the Master's Degree in Bioethics, as well as Director of Latin American Studies.

I have a demonstrated commitment to service to our professional organizations. I have served as President of the Council on Nutritional Anthropology (now the Society for the Anthropology of Food

and Nutrition); on the executive committee of the Society for Medical Anthropology; as a member and chair of the AAA Committee on the Status of Women in Anthropology; as the applied anthropology member of the Nominations Committee for the AAA; and, currently, as chair of the Malinowski Awards Committee for SfAA. As a result of my broad-ranging interests and training I have a wide network and an excellence sense of the needs of the SfAA. I believe that I can be an effective member of the nominations committee and look forward to serving the SfAA in this role.

Kerstin Reinschmidt

I hold a Ph.D. in medical/cultural anthropology (2001) and an M.P.H. (2003) in Community Health Practice from the University of Arizona. Drawing on anthropological and public health theories and practices, I have about 15 years of experience working on both sides of the U.S.-Mexico border as a medical anthropologist and a public health professional. My applied work in chronic disease prevention and health promotion with the Mexican American populations in U.S.-Mexico border communities has successfully aimed at the reduction of health disparities by focusing on the interplay of physical and mental health issues, on *promotor/a*-based interventions, and on families.

Currently an Assistant Professor of Public Health at the University of Arizona, I have been employing anthropological approaches in broad public health and anthropological contexts through research and teaching. I have advocated for the recognition of the value of trained anthropologists in medical and public health settings to raise awareness of the unique skills anthropologists have to offer for applied causes. In collaboration with community and university partners, I authored and compiled "*SONRISA*," a bilingual curriculum toolbox for CHWs on mental health associated with diabetes. The curriculum has received significant attention from agencies and individuals within and outside the U.S., resulting in numerous invited presentations and trainings. I am pleased with the applied value of *SONRISA* and its contribution to community capacity building to help promote health equity. Publication outlets for my research, including the Journal of Health Care for the Poor and Underserved, Preventing Chronic Disease, The Journal for Primary Prevention and the Journal for Community Health, also promote the qualitative work of applied anthropology among other disciplines. Since the fall of 2008, I have enjoyed teaching two large undergraduate public health courses which serve as excellent venue for bringing applied, medical and cultural anthropology into students' consciousness. Most recently, I co-developed and am recurrently teaching the graduate course "Qualitative Research Methods in Public Health." As these examples demonstrate, my work as a medical anthropologist in public health has been supporting the mission of the SfAA on a daily basis and it would be an honor to bring this rich experience to a service position for the Society.

I have been a member of the SfAA since 1999 and have always enjoyed attending annual meetings, intrigued by the diversity of attendees, excellent networking opportunities and fascinating presentations. If elected to the Nominations and Elections Committee, I would gladly help accomplish the tasks at hand during a 2-year term. I would strongly advocate for applied anthropology and the SfAA with public health colleagues and students. A widely cast professional network would allow me to invite diverse experts in applied work to join the cause of the SfAA and to serve as candidates for positions in a way that would best benefit the organization.

Nominations & Elections, Slate B

Kerry Feldman

I have interwoven teaching, research (usually of an applied nature) and service at the University of Alaska Anchorage (UAA) since being among the founding members of our anthropology department in 1973. In such an enormous geographical state with the largest percentage of indigenous peoples in the U.S. (ca. 17%), only a few urban-like locales and over 200 villages and small towns, most of them not connected via a roadway, my goal was to promote a collegiality among anthropologists working in Alaska. I proposed and co-originated the first Alaska Anthropological conference in 1974, out of which developed the Alaska Anthropological Association. Our 39th annual meeting is being hosted by the University of Washington Department of Anthropology in 2012. I co-proposed an MA program in applied anthropology in our department that was approved by the University of Alaska Board of

Regents in 1999. Twenty local practicing anthropologists, from many federal, state and private organizations, wrote letters of support and serve now on our advisory board. We have a seamless interface between our academic program and anthropologists employed outside of academia who offer internships for our students (CRM, cultural, and forensic tracks).

I have conducted applied research and published results on a wide variety of topics and social problems in Alaska for four decades to demonstrate the need for anthropological method and theory in any area of social life involving diversity: education, human rights, aging, health care, drug abuse, tribal recognition, subsistence hunting, EIS and oil leases, and more. More importantly, our students now fill important positions around the state and bring anthropological holism and ethical concerns to problem identification and resolution. Alaska Native students who graduated from our program are usually leaders in some sphere of life affecting Alaska Native peoples. My ethnohistorical research played a key role in tribal status for King Salmon Natives, the last tribal recognition made by the U.S. (2000).

I have presented papers at SfAA meetings since my graduate student years, mentored by Robert and Beverly Hackenberg, and serve as requested on committees (currently on the Del Jones Student Travel Award Committee). I have served on the Executive Committee of the Consortium of Practicing and Applied Anthropology programs (COPAA) for many years. I served as an associate editor of *Human Organization* under editor Michael Angrosino. I am currently President of the Alaska Anthropological Association, and professor emeritus at UAA.

Jerry Moles

I'm an independent consultant advising communities, universities, elected officials, NGOs, and government agencies on improving natural resource management and local economies. My Ph.D. is from Stanford University and I have a MA from Marshall University in sociology, and a BS from East Tennessee State University in sociology-political science.

Before and after graduate school, I've been actively involved in community responses to environmental and economic change ranging from mining and farming communities in Appalachia, to slums in Peru, villages in Guatemala and Sri Lanka, and lumbering and fishing communities along the NW coast of California. As a founding board member of the Watershed Research & Training Centre in Hayfork, California, International Analog Forestry Network, New River Land Trust, Grayson LandCare, and Sustain Floyd; I've been active in the creation of effective organizations. As the cofounder and current chair of the board of the NeoSynthesis Research Centre of Sri Lanka, I continue to guide an internationally appreciated effort to improve incomes while stabilizing landscapes and protecting water resources. A brief note on the success of the Centre: Over the past 10 years, 470,531 trees of more than 3000 species have been planted on 24,395.11 acres. Over 5000 farmers have converted their home gardens to forest gardens, benefiting 29,176 persons directly and over 1,599,652 persons indirectly (removing harmful contaminants from water supplies). Innovative restoration methods including analog forestry have increased soil organic matter, improved moisture retention, increased habitat for biodiversity and the frequency and abundance of many native species. Dramatic income growth, enhanced nutrition and increased food security have been recorded. Analog forestry is now practices in 14 countries. Similar successes have been experienced in other efforts. My role has been that of catalyst using interpretations based upon anthropological insights to describe existing conditions, organize effective groups, and establish ongoing adaptive management schemes learning from each project to better address the future.

I have served twice on the SfAA program committee and am willing to serve as a member of the nomination committee. Over the past number of years, there has been an over representation in SfAA from the academic community. I would like to see the diversity of perspectives increased by drawing anthropologists into the fold not only from national and international agencies but also from the NGO community and independent consultants.

Student Representative

Rebecca Crosthwait

I am Ph.D. student at the University of Kansas, where I also obtained my M.A. Throughout my graduate studies I have always been engaged by applied anthropology and how it can positively impact society. I came to the discipline and the KU Department of Anthropology to study under Dr. Don Stull after working for over four years on migrant and adult basic education and community development in a rural community with a large meatpacking plant. These experiences not only continue to impact my research but also ground my work and motivate me.

My research interests include trying to understand both the broad impacts and impetuses of global migration and the local-level meanings of global changes. I am specifically interested in the maneuverings of Mexican workers who balance precarious lives at the intersection of labor market changes, immigration policy decisions, energy industry volatility, and a climate-scape that is increasingly unpredictable.

My M.A. thesis, which dealt with subnational-level transnational activities and projects in Mexico, educated me on the theoretical and policy issues surrounding international migration. I have also conducted ethnographic fieldwork with the University of Arizona's Bureau of Applied Research in Anthropology in South Texas. On this project, I worked with Drs. Diane Austin and Tom McGuire, studying communities with shipbuilding and fabrication industries. As an NSF Integrative Graduate Education and Research Training (IGERT) fellow, I have had numerous opportunities to expand how I communicate and use anthropological insights and methodologies in an interdisciplinary context with rural communities in Mexico, science stations in Greenland, Kansas farmers, and a mentorship with students at Haskell Indian Nations University. During summer of 2011, I was an intern at the Mexico City office of the International Organization for Migration where I wrote grants aimed at securing funding for large-scale research on environmental and climate change impacts on human mobility in Mexico.

Serving as the student representative on the SfAA Board of Directors would be a great honor. I have served as a graduate student representative on a number of committees at the KU Department of Anthropology and the KU College of Liberal Arts and Sciences and am ready to hear and voice the aspirations and concerns pertinent to a new generation of applied anthropologists.

Benjamin Gray

I am a second year Ph.D. student at the University of Kansas, studying under Dr. Don Stull. I decided to pursue a career in anthropology after working for several years in corporate marketing and development for a non-profit. My master's thesis explored the dominant discourse about sex offenders in the U.S. and the unexpected effects that discourse has had on the U.S. legal system, adults' public interaction with children, and the direction of scientific research in this difficult area. After completing my M.A., I became a research assistant on an NSF EPSCoR project for the state of Kansas that focuses on biofuels, climate change, and farmers' land-use decisions. My Ph.D. research examines how the threats of climate change and water shortages affect decision making among farmers in western Kansas and the Great Plains and how agricultural technology both constrains and enables decision-making possibilities. I am also interested in how rural communities adapt to declining populations and struggle to maintain infrastructures that can meet the needs of its members.

I have a B.A. from Rollins College in Winter Park, Florida, and an M.A. from the University of Kansas. I have given two conference presentations (including one at the SfAA meeting in Seattle in 2011) and am currently preparing two manuscripts for publication based on my current research. I have been active in the Graduate Students for Anthropology organization at the University of Kansas and have served as both its secretary and vice president. I look forward to the opportunity to serve in the Society for Applied Anthropology.

Jonathan D. McLeod

I am currently pursuing a PhD in the School of Anthropology at the University of Arizona, with an emphasis in environmental anthropology, alternative economies, and development anthropology. Since arriving in Arizona I have worked as a researcher at the University's Institute of the

Environment, helping to conduct integrated climate and social science assessments in the Southwest in order to help vulnerable sectors of society adapt to climate change in our increasingly extreme desert environment. I am constantly humbled by the dedication, brilliance, and creativity of my colleagues in Tucson.

My pursuit of anthropology has its roots in my years as a high school student living in Singapore, after which I studied comparative religion and literature at Georgetown University. I will be returning to Southeast Asia to conduct dissertation research in Indonesia on the role of small-scale agriculture and rural livelihoods in biodiversity and cultural conservation. My experiences from a previous life managing restaurants in San Francisco helped spark a passion for local food movements, and my time spent as a photographer in the Peruvian Andes and Amazon--where I documented a campaign against major hydroelectric projects--led to a more serious engagement with indigenous rights and alternative forms of development. Most recently I have been inspired by David Graeber's work with the Occupy Movement and his challenge that anthropology needs to better communicate ethnographic knowledge in ways that can help inspire and shape new political and economic forms. I am also an aspiring though still quite poor gardener, chicken farmer, yogi, and guitarist.

Carla Pezzia

I am a doctoral candidate in the anthropology department at the University of Texas at San Antonio. In my dissertation, I explore the complex political and psychosocial relationships between mental health experiences and political economic disparities in the Western Highlands of Guatemala. I also hold a Master of Public Health from the University of North Texas Health Science Center. The combination of these two degrees provides me a strong foundation for appreciating and contributing to the field of applied anthropology.

Throughout my graduate career, I have been actively involved in leadership positions at various levels. I served as both President and Secretary for our departmental graduate student association. I also served as both President and Public Relations Officer for our university-wide graduate student association. As such, I am used to working with a wide variety of people, from students to administrators, in an advocate position ensuring that the needs of all parties are being met.

I have had the honor of actively participating within the SfAA for several years. I regularly organize and contribute to student based panels for the annual meeting. This year, I have also helped to co-organize a workshop designed for graduate students at the research planning stage. I served as Assistant Editor of the SfAA News from 2008-2010. Currently, I am coordinating a student-based initiative for the SfAA Human Rights and Social Justice committee. I look forward to serving student members and the association further as the Student Representative to the Board of Directors.