1-1-1997

Gleanings From Academic Gatherings


III. Future Volumes of the History of Anthropology Series

Plans previously announced for HOA 9 as a transitional volume on “The Past and Future of the Historiography of Anthropology” (cf. HAN XXII.2, Dec. 1995) have had to be abandoned. Under the editorship of Richard Handler, HOA 9 (now entitled "Voices Long Unheard: Excluded Ancestors and Inventable Traditions") will be devoted to papers treating figures, groups, and topics which have not been incorporated into canonical constructions of the history of anthropology.

HOA 10 (to be entitled "Significant Others") will focus on the importance of intimate relationships in the history of anthropology. The work of various types of professional collaborations constructed out of personal relationships—romantic couples (heterosexual or lesbian/gay, married or "illicit," public or clandestine), mentors and students, ethnographers and informants, armchair scholars and field researchers—has played a significant role in shaping the trajectory of the discipline. The stuff of gossip, such relationships have not yet been given much serious theoretical or historical attention. Yet, as "Significant Others" will suggest, examining intimate professional relationships leads to important issues about the gendering of ethnographic authority, "male" and "female" styles of writing, the politics of class, professional standing, gender and sexuality within the academy, and the influences of gendered and institutionalized authority on the production of anthropological knowledge.

Prospective contributors should contact the editor, Richard Handler, by email (rh3y@virginia.edu) or by post (Department of Anthropology, University of Virginia, Charlottesville, VA 22903).

IV. New Series in the History of Anthropology—the University of Nebraska Press announces the inauguration of Critical Studies in the History of Anthropology, to be edited by Regna Darnell and Stephen O. Murray.

GLEANINGS FROM ACADEMIC GATHERINGS

American Anthropological Association—The session on “Franz Boas: New Perspectives on the Man and his Anthropology” included papers by Julia Liss (Scripps) on Boas and the problem of Jewishness, by Lee Baker (Columbia) on Boas as public intellectual, by Regna Darnell (Western Ontario) on his relation to his first generation students, by Rosemary Zumwalt (Davidson) on Boas and his students in the 1920s, by Ira Jacknis (Hearst Museum) on Boas and Kroeber, by Herb Lewis
(Wisconsin, Madison) on his relation to Darwinism, by Roger Sanjek (Queens) on his ethnography, by Aldona Jonaitis (Alaska Fairbanks) on the Mowachaht whalers’ shrine, and by Abraham Rosman and Paula Rubel (Barnard) on Primitive Art, commentary was offered by George W. Stocking, Jr. and Walter Goldschmidt.

The session on “The Intersection of Politics and Anthropology” included papers by Dorothea de Wett (Florida) on “Pocket Book Ethnology: Anthropology for War”, by A Lauria-Perricelli (New School) on research in Puerto Rico, by G. Colby and C. Dennett on the impact of corporate funding on counter-insurgency research, by David Price (St. Martin’s) on anthropologists and McCarthyism, and by William Peace on the impact of the Palmer raids.


American Society for Ethnohistory—The November 1997 meetings in Mexico City included a number of papers relevant to the history of anthropology. Among them were those by Thomas Buckley (Umass, Boston) on Kroeber’s style in Native Californian ethnography, by Alice Bullard (Georgia Institute of Technology) on the French idea of subjectivity and the Kanak of New Caledonia, by Regina Darnell (Western Ontario) on E.C. Parsons’ “American Indian Lives”, by Albert Hurtado (Arizona State) on Herbert Bolton’s views of the Mexican people, by Ann McMullen (Milwaukee Public Museum) on Frank Speck and the impact of anthropology on native culture, by H. B. Nicholson (UCLA) on the illustrations in Sahagún, by Lisa Patt (CUNY) on Sahagún and the parts of the body, and by P. S. Raibmon (Duke) on Kwakwa ka’wakw at the Chicago World’s Fair of 1893.

Cheiron—At the June 1997 meeting at the University of Richmond, there was a session devoted to “Anthropology and Linguistics in Historical Perspective,” with papers by Miriam Meijer (on Buffon), Tara Tayyabkhan (on Benjamin Lee Whorf), Philip Cho (on the Tower of Babel), and Willow Roberts Powers (on the rapprochement of anthropology and the social sciences). The June 1998 meeting will be held at the University of San Diego; proposals for papers or sessions must be submitted by February 2, 1998, to Prof. Leila Zenderland, American Studies, California State University, Fullerton (lzenderland@fullerton.edu; 714-278-3800).

DEATH NOTICES

Douglas Cole, of the Department of History, Simon Fraser University, whose important contributions to the history of anthropology on the Northwest Coast include Captured Heritage: The Scramble for Northwest Coast Artifacts (University of Washington Press, 1985), died early this fall, leaving behind the manuscript for the first volume of his planned two volume biography of Franz Boas, which was to have been published by the University of Washington Press.

Wilcomb Washburn, of the Smithsonian Institution, distinguished historian of the U.S. colonial period, with emphasis on Native American-EuroAmerican relations, and long-time subscriber to HAN, died last February at the age of 72, having seen to press the book noted above: Against the Anthropological Grain.