number 57 | November 2012

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Letter from the President

Dear EASA members,

Many of you shared the joys and intellectual excitement of the 12th EASA Conference at Nanterre. This has been one of the major achievements of this two year period that is coming to an end. Workshops were many and well attended and the organization made things easy and smooth for everyone. In particular I want to extend personal thanks on behalf of the Executive to the Local Committee and its main responsible Isabelle Rivoal, to the team of student volunteers, and to the NomadIT team. I think we all had the feeling of participating in a community of European anthropologists, however diverse our methodological and theoretical frameworks may be. In the difficult economic and political conjuncture and with the EASA membership growing, it is this feeling that we want to nurture.

Some of us think that this identity is tied to our profession as anthropologists, our way of posing questions and looking at what surrounds us. Others think that it is also very centrally about being anthropologists in Europe or being anthropologists of Europe. Some think that this identity has to be protected from the assault of other social scientists or of anthropologists from elsewhere. Others think this is not necessary. This debate was launched at the Member’s Forum in Maynooth and has been pursued through an e-survey and a debate within the Executive Committee and at the Nanterre Member’s Forum. Those of you who were present at the Member’s Forum witnessed an attempt at reaching a compromise that the Executive Committee presented for debate. Unfortunately the wording of the proposition appeared to make membership more, rather than less restrictive, which was not the original aim. Members present at the forum voted not to change the constitution and this was a sound decision given the unintended consequences of the proposal as it was presented.

However, with the increase in our participation in large multidisciplinary projects, and our intellectual miscenagation and collaboration with other disciplines, it becomes important to reflect on what makes our difference and how to strengthen our identity as anthropologists. Is it a matter of disciplinary counter-hegemony? Is it a matter of geographical counter-hegemony? Is it an issue of defence against powerful neighbours? And if so, what is the best defence? Or, rather, is it that we have something to give –perspective, method, theory—that others long for? And if so, what is the best way to spread our bounty? It is also pertinent to revisit what we mean by Europe; what geographical, political and social entity serves our purpose and furthers our common goal of strengthening social anthropology and maintaining a vibrant community of scholars. Let’s keep the debate going in a productive way.

Another debate the Executive Committee had during their meetings in Paris, the significance of which was born out in the very small proportion of voting members at the member’s forum, was about the introduction and implementation of electronic voting. We use this for electing the Executive Committee, and technically it would be possible to extend it to other voting matters. The discussion is in its early days, but we welcome any feedback from the members on this possibility.

Another major achievement of EASA during this two year period has been its attempt at becoming an active partner at international Social Science and Humanities (SSH) associations that aim at consolidating the presence of the SSH in research programmes. We have been involved in the EASH (European Alliance for the Social Sciences and Humanities) that emerged from the need to enhance the participation of SSH in the European Union Horizon 2020 (H2020) research programme. This association seems at present to be dormant but it contributed an active and successful lobby when key decisions where being made in Brussels in the spring. At present EASA is considering participating in Initiative for Science in Europe (ISE), an association aiming at more involvement of researchers in the governance of the European Research Area policies, at improving cross-border research collaboration frameworks, as well as at defending important programmes such as the Marie Curie and ERC within the H2020 programme. Although this is not specifically a Social Science and Humanities interest group, we think it might be important to have our voice recognized and heard on equal terms by colleagues in other disciplines whether we have similar or different views about Science policy in Europe and its desired orientation. Within anthropology, the World Council of Anthropological Associations (WCAA) seems to be gathering momentum and EASA is preparing a virtual webinar together with the Association of Brazilian Anthropology (ABA) and the American Anthropological Association (AAA) in an attempt to strengthen substantive collaborative interaction among WCAA associations. The webinar will be taking place in the autumn of 2013.

The two year cycle of the Executive Committee is drawing to an end. Some of us have finished their term as Secretary (Thomas Fillitz) and Treasurer (David Shankland) after six years of devoting their time and energies to strengthening EASA in all its different dimensions, in collaboration with the various elected members of successive Executive Committees. The success of their work is obvious to all of us and we cannot thank them enough for their commitment. We welcome Alberto Corsín-Jíménez (Secretary) and Rachael Gooberman-Hill (Treasurer) who will be taking over from them at the hand over to the new Executive in February 2013. Of the elected members in the present Executive Committee, only Maria Couroucli has served twice and cannot stand for re-election. She has devoted four years to EASA and has contributed to giving it its present form. All our thanks as well for her time and commitment. Those of us who can still stand for re-election (not having served two terms) might try our chances again at the new elections.

Elections of a new Executive Committee will be announced soon and we encourage you all to participate. The new Executive Committee will have the challenge of steering EASA to its 13th biennial conference in Tallinn!

See you there!

Susana Narotzky
Elections to the Executive Committee

As the term of function of the elected members of the present Executive Committee is ending, applications elections are openend. From the present Executive Committee, Maria Courouci has to stand down. Candidates must be ordinary members, and any candidature has to be nominated and supported by ordinary members.

Any application must comprise:

1) A short personal presentation (max. 150 words);  
2) A picture of the candidate;  
3) the name of the nominating member;  
4) the name of the supporting member.

Members interested in submitting their candidature are invited to send their application to the Secretary, Thomas Fillitz [thomas.fillitz(AT)univie.ac.at]

Deadline of Application: November 28, 2012  
Presentation of Candidates in Newsletter 58, mid-December 2012  
Voting Period | January 7 - 18, 2013  
Results | January 25, 2013  
Hand-over | February 14 - 17, 2013 in Tallin

Call for a New Book Series Editor

The Executive Committee of EASA is searching a new Book Series Editor.

Profile for Book Series Editor

Function Period max 4 years (2013-2017)

- Communication with Berghahn Books  
- Contacting possible authors, editors;  
- Networking with EASA members for submitting manuscripts (in particular at EASA conferences)  
- Contact with EASA-Network coordinators for possible publications  
- Communication with authors and editors reg. manuscripts (Advising them reg. submission of projects, revising of projects/manuscripts, the on-going production until final book, negotiations with Berghahn Books, etc.)  
- Check language issues in manuscripts  
- Find the right reviewers for manuscripts, get the reviews in an acceptable time  
- Communication with the Treasurer reg. financial matters  
- Communication with an advisory board for book series (to be created)  
- Coordinating the EASA book prize competition (provide evaluations, etc.)  
- Reports to the EASA-Executive Committee (~ 3 per year)  
- Provide information for the EASA-website reg. book series  
- 1 yearly report for AGM, Members’ Forum, and for publication in the EASA-Newsletter  
- Presentation of the Book series outcome during the EASA Biennial Conferences (book launches)

Application Deadline | January 30, 2013  
Please send your application to the new secretary, Alberto Corsín-Jiménez <alberto.corsin-jimenez(AT)cchs.csic.es>
EASA BOOK PRIZE 2012

The Executive Community awarded the EASA Book Prize 2012 to

Ieva Raubisco

for her manuscript

"Life in a Negative Space. Moral Disintegration in Post-War Chechnya"

EASA Book Prize 2014

The EASA-Book Prize 2014 will be awarded according to the following new rules:

- The best manuscript published in the last 2 years in Berghahn EASA Book Series.
- The prize is fixed to € 1.000,00 and an advert in Anthropology Today.
Members’ Forum | AGM

Minutes Members’ Forum Paris, 13|07|2013 | 16:40 – 17:58

1. General Reports

- President
  - Presence in international Associations – in the interest of EASA and Social Anthropology in general
    - EASH European Alliance of Social Science and Humanities reg. Horizon 2020 in March 2012, two meetings so far
    - International network | WCAA
      - EASA to acquire an active momentum
      - 2 meetings in the last year
      - EASA presence is strong with M. Buchowski, WCAA Deputy Chair, former EASA President, and Chandana Mathur, Secretary of WCAA
  - Growing Membership ...
    - 1,450 delegates at EASA 2012
    - Last year 1,200 members, today 2,200
      - 62% Full members
      - 11% Associate members
      - 27% Student members
    - By income category (approx)
      - Above € 50,000 | 10%
      - Between 25,000 – 49,999 | 26%
      - Below 24,999 | 37%
  - This growth should be considered as a turning point, EASA has to adjust its structures in a positive manner:
    - EASA present on Twitter and Facebook
    - Membership Directory to enable a better networking
    - New Website Design – Thanks to NomadIT

- Finances (David Shankland)
  - Presentation of Income 2012, the expected one for 2013
  - Cash Float presently € 200,000
  - Maynooth Conference 2010 with a strong plus (€ 10,000)
  - Nanterre Conference 2012 will also be very positive
  - Expenses for EASA membership:
    - Nanterre Conference: € 20,000 for subsidising members
    - Book Prize 2012: € 5,000
    - Network funding 2011: € 16,000

- Journal (Mark Maguire) s. Appendix
- Book Series (James Carrier) s. Appendix

1. Changes of Constitution | to be voted by Members Forum

- There have been discussions about membership categories and the sponsorship for membership in the Executive Committee over the last year.
- A survey was sent out twice to members via Email distribution and the Newsletter (Number 56, April 2012). Responses were sizeable. After having analysed them, the Executive Committee has decided the following:
- The debate should continue regarding Sponsorship, as there was no clear assessment, answers and opinions were evenly distributed.
- Regarding Membership Categories, there was a clear trend to abrogate the difference between Ordinary and Associate Members.
  The Executive Committee therefore submits the following changes of the Constitution, as may be seen in the
After reading the changes, a lively discussion followed – the main arguments against any change:
- EASA is already part of a wider community within WCAA;
- The aims of creating the Association would be taken out with these changes;
- Our shared common field is Europeanness, within the present wider geopolitical framework, this is not the moment to give that up. The changes would imply to lose the specificity of Europeanness;
- There are countries where there is no such specific degree in anthropology. Many Ordinary Members would have to become Associate Members;
- The reason for a change of Constitution does not appear mandatory.

Given the lively debate, the proposal of the Executive Committee was not directly submitted to voting. Beforehand, the President proposed a vote whether the present membership (only ordinary members allowed to vote) wants a change of Constitution or not.

“Should the Constitution remain unchanged?”
35 for the motion (i.e. no change)
18 against the motions (i.e. for changing it)

2. Membership Fees | Decision of the Executive Committee (10|07|2012, unanimous)

New Membership Fees:
- High Income Category [Above € 50.000]  € 100,00
- Middle Income Category [Between € 25.000 – 49.999] € 75,00 (previously € 80,00)
- Low Income Category [Below € 24.999]  € 40,00 (previously € 50,00)
- Students’ Fees  € 30,00

Associate Members:
- High Income Category [Above € 50.000]  € 100,00
- Middle Income Category [Between € 25.000 – 49.999] € 75,00 (previously € 80,00)
- Low Income Category [Below € 24.999]  € 40,00 (previously € 50,00)

Explanation:
- The Executive Committee decided these changes in view of the present crises (financial and jobs);
- With the change of the lowest income category fees, the Executive Committee also wishes to encourage PhD-students to become full members.

3. Book Prize

Awarded to Ieva Raubisco:
"Life in a Negative Space. Moral Disintegration in Post-War Chechnya"

4. New Book Prize Rules and Network Regulations

New Book Prize Rules for book prize 2014
- The best manuscript published in the last 2 years in Berghahn EASA Book Series
- € 1.000,00 as prize;
- Advert in Anthropology Today.

Networks
- There are presently 20 networks, and more than 5 to apply.
- There are new network rules (published in Newsletter 56, April 2012, and sent out to Network convenors for commenting and approval)
- In the future, the communication between network convenors and Executive Committee should be more regular. Therefore, an elected member of the Executive Committee and the Secretary will take care of it.
- Network Funding (only for any category of members of EASA)
  - New formal application and report form
  - Funding for 2013:
5. End of Term of Offices
   - Maria Couroucli | Elected member, has accomplished two terms
   - David Shankland | Treasurer, end of 6 years term
   - Thomas Fillitz | Secretary, end of 6 years term
   - James Carrier | Book Series Ed., end of 4 years term, but continue for a year as “Acting Book Series Editor” (see below)

6. New Appointments
   - New Treasurer | Rachael Gooberman-Hill, Bristol
   - New Secretary | Alberto Corsín-Jiménez, Madrid
   - Book Series Editor | James Carrier continues as “Acting Book Series Editor” until AGM in Autumn 2013. Manuscripts may be submitted during that time.
     - Search for new Book Series Editor by the new Executive until that date in collaboration with James Carrier and Marion Berghahn.

7. Elections to the Executive Committee 2013 | The precise dates to be published in the next Newsletter and on the EASA-website
   - Call by November 2012 in the Newsletter and on Website
   - Deadline for application November 28, 2012
   - Elections January 7 to 11, 2013
   - Results mid-January 2013
   - February 14 to 17, 2013 “hand-over”

8. EASA2014
   - The Executive Committee selected unanimously Tallin as site of EASA2014

9. General Matters
   - Maria Vivod from Serbia requested a “symbolic support” from EASA for her difficult situation due to a refusal of a local government to allocate a research fund.
   - No other matters from the floor.

CLOSING of Members’ Forum at 17:58.
PROPOSED CHANGES OF MEMBERSHIP – CHANGE OF CONSTITUTION

Text proposed at Members Forum 13|07|2012
finally not submitted to voting!

The Association will have five categories of membership:
founder members, ordinary members, honorary members, associate members and student members

Founder members are those who attended by invitation the inaugural general assembly of the unincorporated Association called the European Association of Social Anthropologists, on Saturday 14th January 1989.

Ordinary members are social anthropologists who have been admitted to membership by decision of the Trustees. Eligibility for Ordinary membership is based on one of the following criterion:
Possession of a graduate degree (or equivalent) in social anthropology from a European university, or.
Possession of a teaching or research post in social anthropology which is at a European university or European institution of equivalent standing.

Only Ordinary members based in Europe for the term of office may stand for elections as Trustees and/or for appointed offices of the Association (Treasurer, Secretary, Journal Editor, Book Series Editor).

Honorary members are distinguished scholars who are designated honorary members by decision of the Trustees.

Associate members are those who do not have a graduate degree in social anthropology do not meet the criteria for ordinary membership, but who can show evidence of substantial and active involvement in the pursuit of social anthropology as a scholarly subject in a European country.

Student members are students in a Master programme in social anthropology, in a PhD programme in social anthropology, or a Master and/or PhD programme in social sciences with focus on social anthropology.

An applicant for Ordinary Membership, Associate Membership or Student Membership should be communicated to the membership administration by the applicant and supported by the sponsor. Decisions regarding membership are taken by the Trustees.

An Honorary Membership may be proposed by any member of the Association. Nominations are communicated to the Secretary by the applicant. Decisions regarding Honorary Membership are taken by the Trustees.

Members of the Association will have those rights and obligations as set out in 1.6.1 – 1.8.4 below and as determined from time to time by the Trustees in accordance with their powers set out in these Articles of Association.

Founding Members, Ordinary Members and Honorary Members have the right to receive the Association’s publications, to attend its Conferences, to speak and vote at the Members Forum, to stand for election as Trustees and to vote in elections for the Trustees.

Associate Members have the right to receive the Association’s publications, to attend its Conferences, but not to vote at the Members Forum, or to stand for election as Trustees and/or for appointed offices, or to vote in elections for the Trustees.

Student Members have the right to receive the Association’s publications, to attend its Conferences, but not to vote at the Members Forum, or to stand for election as Trustees and/or for appointed offices, or to vote in elections for the Trustees.

Each Member shall pay the Association the annual Membership Fee as agreed from time to time by the Trustees.

AGM – Report Editors of Social Anthropology | Anthropologie Sociale

Mark Maguire

On behalf of the editorial team, myself, David Berliner (co-Editor), Johanna Markkula (Assistant Editor), and Vlad Nemescu (Book Reviews Editor), I am happy to report only good news! According to the Wiley Blackwell Publisher’s Report for 2011, Social Anthropology is now available in more than 3,500 institutions worldwide via the licensed sales programme; it achieved an overall renewal rate of 99%. There has also been 35% increase in full-text downloads in the period from 2010 to 2011. Simply put, unlike most academic journals in the world SAAAS is growing! In 2011-2012 we appointed an International Editorial Advisory Board, an important step to ensure oversight and make important decisions on especially contentious manuscripts.

Today, our journal issues are larger and our turn-around times are very good – in many cases we go from submission to print in less than one year. Our intention is to preserve the core structure of the journal and emphasize the publication of high-quality, internationally peer reviewed articles in each issue, ideally in French and English.

The Journal is growing because of the members of EASA, so we encourage you to submit manuscripts.
I. Report to the membership on the activity of the EASA book series.
   A. It covers the period since the last report, in Maynooth in August of 2010.
II. During that period, five new titles were published, with two more expected to be out the end of this year.
   A. One of those is in the translation series:
      1. With that, the Wenner Gren grant that funded the series is exhausted and the series now is complete.
III. During the period since the last report, the series received new 14 submissions, not including the prize competition submission.
IV. As you may know, the prize competition was administered by the book series.
   A. The competition received 14 submissions, of which 12 met the published requirements.
   B. All the valid submissions were processed and passed to the Executive for consideration.
V. Final words:
   A. Want to thank all those who helped support the book series,
      1. By offering advice and by evaluating submissions.
         a. You will have seen the formal acknowledgement to those who evaluated submissions, which appears in the EASA newsletter from time to time.
   B. Also, want to thank those who submitted projects to the series.
      1. One of the pleasures of having overseen the series is to learn of work that people are doing.
   C. And, of course, I want to thank the publisher Berghahn, and the people who work there, for their efforts on the series.
      1. The result of those efforts is something we all can be proud of.

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**Accounting of Maynooth 2012**

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<th>Income Item</th>
<th>Amount €</th>
<th>Expenditure Item</th>
<th>Amount €</th>
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<td>University of Maynooth bill</td>
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<td>WGF grant</td>
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<td>Buses and cabs</td>
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<td>Publisher income</td>
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<td>Entertainment ticket sales</td>
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<td>Entertainment costs</td>
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<tr>
<td>Regn &amp; banquet income</td>
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<td>Presidents reception</td>
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<tr>
<td>EASA travel grant income</td>
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<td>Publisher receptions</td>
<td>1249</td>
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<td>Poster, book, badges, conference materials, t-shirts</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Plenary speaker, Funded delegate costs</td>
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<td>Interpretation costs</td>
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<td>Prior visit costs (Exec and NomadIT)</td>
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<td>Exec, Sci Comm, Vols, NomadIT expenses</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Vol coordinator payment</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Banking &amp; accountancy costs</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>NomadIT bill</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total Income</strong></td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total expenditure</strong></td>
<td><strong>143.993</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Balance</strong></td>
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APPOINTMENTS

New Treasurer and New Secretary

During their meeting in Paris-Nanterre (July 10-13, 2012) the Executive Committee has appointed Rachael Gooberman-Hill as new Treasurer and Alberto Corsín-Jiménez as new Secretary of EASA. We wish all the best for their future function!

Rachael Gooberman-Hill

It’s a pleasure to introduce myself to EASA members as your new treasurer from February 2013. As a member of EASA for some 12 years, I’m honoured to have this chance to serve the membership. I’d like to thank David Shankland for his capable stewardship of EASA finances as treasurer over the past 6 years.

A little about myself: my PhD from the University of Edinburgh explored class and kinship in the Solomon Islands. Since 2000, I’ve been working in applied health research, and am fortunate to engage my diverse research interests within in health and healthcare. A unifying strand in my work is a desire to emphasise the value of anthropology and anthropologists to researchers, clinicians and health policy makers. With many years experience in managing research monies, I plan to harness that experience to fulfil my role within EASA.

I look forward to serving as treasurer and to seeing you in Tallinn at the 2014 conference.

Alberto Corsín Jiménez

Alberto Corsín Jiménez is a Senior Scientist in Social Anthropology at the Spanish National Research Council, and Head of the Social Sciences Board at the Spanish National Agency for the Evaluation of Science. He has a DPhil in Social Anthropology from the University of Oxford and an Msc from the London School of Economics. He has just finished a book „A trompe l’œil anthropology for a common world“, where description is placed at perpendicular angles vis-a-vis emerging forms of global public knowledge. He is also the editor of „Culture and well-being: anthropological approaches to freedom and political ethics“ and „The anthropology of organizations“. His current work examines the rise of an urban commons movement and the development of open-source urban hardware projects by architects, artists and engineers.

Most of his academic writings are available for download at his website [http://sites.google.com/site/acorsinlimenez/articles].
Networks

Rules regarding the establishment of new Networks
as decided by the Executive Committee

Organisers of new EASA-Networks should apply to the Secretary with an outline of the new network, including the intention, objectives, and possible activities.

* The minimum number of members for a network is 20 scholars – not all need to be members of EASA. The convenors, however, have to be members of EASA (any category).
* Only members of EASA (any category) can vote for the convenor. The convenor should be approved by the Executive Committee.
* After publication on the Association’s website and in the Newsletter, convenors should inform the Secretary of the names of the Network members. The Executive Committee will then officially implement the Network.
* For the time of their ‘office’, Network convenors are responsible to the EASA-Executive Committee.
* Reports on network activities should be submitted yearly by the end-November to the EASA-Secretary for publication in the EASA-Newsletter.
* The EASA-Secretary, or another member of the Executive Committee, should keep regular contact with Network convenors.
* EASA-Networks have the right to one official Network-workshop at EASA’s biennial conferences.
* Depending the financial situation of the Association, The Executive Committee may provide financial support to Network activities in the non-biennial conference years, via a call published on the Association’s website and in the Newsletter.
  - Applications: Networks should provide an application describing the concrete activity, the overall budget plan, and detailing the use of the EASA funds.
  - Final report: Within two months of completion of the activity, Networks have to submit a report and accounts to the Secretary, detailing the activity and use of EASA funds. The final report will be published in the EASA-Newsletter, after approval by the Executive Committee.
  - The Executive Committee is free in its decision to allocate funds to particular Networks, and the related amount.
* The EASA-Executive Committee encourages Networks to consider publications within the EASA-book series (applications to the EASA-book series editor).
* Any publication series or the creation of a journal (whether online or in print) in the name of the EASA network should be submitted for approval to the EASA-Executive Committee, in advance. Related contracts with publishers must also be submitted to the Executive Committee before signing.
* The EASA-Executive Committee may close a Network upon request of the convenors, or if the Network had no activities for at least two years, after previous communication with the Network convenors, or if network activities explicitly contravene the intentions and objectives of the network or EASA.
* The Executive Committee reserves the right to re-launch an inactive Network.
Application Form for Funding of Network Activities
to be downloaded from EASA-Website

APPLICATION FOR EASA NETWORK FUNDING 2013

Please send the application electronically to the new EASA Secretary
Alberto Corsín-Jiménez
alberto.corsin-jimenez@cchs.csic.es
[Deadline January 30, 2013]

* Name of Network:

* Name of Network Convenor (name and Email):

* Contact Person (name and Email):

* Title of the Activity:

* Type of Activity (conference, workshop, etc.):

* Date and Duration of the Activity:

Outline of the project (max. 300 words)

Details regarding budget (in €)
please use a separate sheet as Excel table

* Overall Budget (travel, accommodation, premises, etc.)

* Requested EASA Funding (max. € 4.000)
  Funding is only available for EASA members: for cross-border travel, and for accommodation for all EASA members who are not leaving in the place of the activity.

Network Funding 2013

- Network convenors are requested to use the application form for requested funding activities
- Total amount € 25.000,00
- Max. funding per Network € 4.000,00
- Funding of cross-border travel and accommodation (the latter of all eligible applicants)
- The money has to be spent by December 31, 2013
- Besides the report of the funding activity, networks are requested to send a yearly report of their activities to the Secretary. These will be published in the Newsletter.
Security is a powerful but elusive concept in the contemporary moment. For generations of political thinkers, security has been understood as the supreme concept: the most vital of interests, the precondition for liberty, and the foundation stone of government, society and civilization itself. Especially in the wake of the terrorist attacks on September 11, 2001, applied and academic security studies have mushroomed, often extending out from a Cold War lineage and often drawing explicit connections to a western intellectual ‘heritage’. This field has grown as a consequence of powerful (in)securitization processes and the influence of the multi-billion dollar global security industry.

Today, security is everywhere – it is the leitmotif of the contemporary moment. Anthropology has much to say. This network of scholars will advance Social and Cultural Anthropology’s contribution to the study of security by focussing especially on anthropological and ethnographic contributions to the following kinds of topics:

- Asylum seekers, refugees, undocumented and other migrants as objects of (in)securitization
- Surveillance, CCTV, policing, identification
- Borders, international relations, human security
- Security policy making and expertise
- Governmentality, biopower, the ban-opticon
- Security industry and new technologies
- Uncertainty, risk, insecurity, and new threats such as bio-security and environmental displacement
- Critical anthropological, forensic and evolutionary discussions of security

We are interested in understanding the uncertain dangers that are problematized today, the risks, precautions, calculations and preparations that are embedded in today’s processes of (in) securitization, and the actual interventions and diverse modes of subjectification that arise.

These days, ethnography is an increasingly popular ‘methodology’ in the world of security. Ethnography is often configured as a ‘ride-along’ method, a new boots-on-the-ground form of research. However, anthropological perspectives are still lacking, especially perspectives that call critical attention to ethics, processes of subjectification, transnational assemblages, (non)local experiences, and the styles of reasoning that are characteristic of transversal forms of ‘expertise’. Anthropological perspectives are important, but we must also seek to understand the form and situatedness of those perspectives and the available horizons on which they are levelled. Beyond narrow-gauge discussions of methodology, we must begin to consider the range of conceptual tools that are necessary and the range of conceptual work that should be undertaken.

We invite expressions of interest in joining the network. We also encourage you to propose initiatives and topics of discussion.

Contact: catarina.frois(AT)netcabo.pt

Convenors:
Catarina Frois, Institute of Social Sciences – University of Lisbon, Portugal
Nils Zurawski, Institute of Cultural Anthropology, University of Hamburg, Germany
Mark Maguire, National University of Ireland Maynooth, Ireland

We have organised an interest group on the Anthropology of Art inside VANEASA. Members of VANEASA have expressed their interest in the subject in the past. Our objective is to build a network to share information, proposals and ideas. Our aim is also to attract anthropologists who don’t belong to Vaneasa yet but who have a specific interest in art. We will not use a separate mailing list, we will channel our messages through the [Vaneasa] mailing list (vaneasa(AT)lists.easaonline.org). You can send your messages directly to the mailing list. In the longer run, the aims of the interest group would be: - To establish a network of anthropologists interested in research on, and/or collaboration with, art practice. - To exchange information about projects, conferences, publications, exhibits, events and calls in the field of the anthropology of art. - To promote the organisation of projects, conferences, debates, publications, exhibits and events who contribute to the field of the anthropology of art. At this point, discussing the definition of “Anthropology of Art” and how it relates to “Visual Anthropology” would be perfunctory, we want the group to be as inclusive as possible; ultimately, the group will be defined by its members. In the future, we can propose debates or conferences on the definition and/or limits of the field, if we want to.

For more information about the interest group on the Anthropology of Art, email Roger Sansi at (ans01rsr(AT)gold.ac.uk)
EASA BOOK SERIES
James Carrier

Members who are new to the EASA may not know about the book series, about what it publishes and how it operates. In this newsletter I want to explain these.

The first book published in the EASA series appeared in 2003, and by the end of 2012 twenty titles will be published with another three being ready for publication. The series hopes to publish between two and four titles each year.

The series aims to publish works on any anthropological topic, and they can be edited collections or monographs. The only requirement, in fact, is that the person submitting a proposal to the series is a member of the EASA.

The series is published by Berghahn Books (www.berghahnbooks.com/series.php?pg=easa_seri), which publishes a number of works of interest to anthropologists. Although Berghahn is the publisher, the series is run by an editor appointed by the EASA.

How the series works

It is unusual for anyone to submit a completed manuscript to the series. Rather, most people send me an e-mail describing a project, and asking if the series would be willing to consider it. I read the description and make suggestions about how it might be strengthened, to make it more likely to appeal to the specialist readers who evaluate submissions. Once the description is in good shape, I get the proposer to complete the New Book Outline that Berghahn requires for all submissions to the series.

Once I have these materials, I locate specialists to read the proposal. Often these are other EASA members, but they might not be. I ask those specialists to complete their reports in a month or six weeks, and usually they do. Once I have those reports, I prepare an overall evaluation of the proposal and present it to Berghahn for approval. That overall evaluation lays out the decision on the proposal and explains it in terms of the comments from the specialist readers.

Three sorts of decisions are possible.

1) The proposal may be very good indeed, which means that it would require no important rethinking or modification. That is, the topic is interesting, the argument is sound and coherent, and the proposal takes into account existing important work and ideas that relate to the topic. In that case, it would be accepted by the series. That means that Berghahn would offer a contract for the work, and the proposer would agree to submit the completed work to me by the agreed date. Once I have the complete work, I send it out once more to specialists, usually the same people who read the proposal, and ask them to complete their evaluations within three months. Their main task is to see if the text lives up to the promise shown in the proposal. If those readers think that it does live up to that promise, the work is then accepted for publication.

Readers may, of course, make suggestions about how the text could be strengthened, but usually these are relatively minor. If readers have doubts, I communicate these to the author, and between us we see if the text could be revised to deal with those doubts.

2) Very few proposals are good enough to be offered a contract. Instead, most are good, but need to be made stronger. In this case, I consult with the proposer. I explain what my decision is and how I arrived at it, drawing on the comments from the specialist readers. I indicate the most important criticisms that the readers have and try to suggest ways to deal with them. As well, I may suggest that the proposer write a complete text, taking into account the evaluation of the proposal. If the proposer decides not to do so, that is the end of it. If the proposer does decide to produce the complete text, I wait, and occasionally send messages asking how things are going. Once the proposer sends me the complete text, I treat it as a new submission of a manuscript rather than a proposal. I then send it out to specialist readers, preferably the people who read the initial proposal. Once I have their reports, I produce an overall evaluation.

That evaluation may be an acceptance, though there may be suggestions for final, minor revision. Equally, it may be a rejection.

3) Finally, it may be that the specialist readers think that the work is of good quality, but needs to be strengthened if it is to be accepted for the series. If this happens, I explain things to the author and indicate what sort of revision seems to be important. In some cases, the revisions that are needed are relatively small, and in that case it may be that the revised manuscript would not need to go to specialist readers again. I would evaluate it myself. In other cases, the revisions may be more substantial, in which case the revised manuscript would need to go to specialist readers once more. If they are satisfied, then the work would be accepted in the series.

Although there are a lot of steps to the process, the system I have described is fairly simple: a person proposes a project, we work to make it as strong as we can, and we see what specialist readers have to say.

If you are thinking about a book, or want to know more about the series, look at the EASA web site (www.easaonline.org/bookseri.htm) or send me an e-mail (jgc(at)jcarrier.demon.co.uk).
Bourses et prix de la fondation Martine Aublet

Anne-Christine Taylor | Paris

I. Les bourses.

Dans le cadre de son action éducative, la Fondation Martine Aublet, créée en 2011, souhaite remettre en 2012 entre dix et quinze bourses de recherche doctorale à des étudiants (sans distinction de nationalité) inscrits en troisième cycle (éventuellement en co-tutelle) dans un établissement d’enseignement supérieur français. La Fondation espère être en mesure de pérenniser cette offre de bourses.

Ces bourses sont destinées à soutenir la production des connaissances dans le domaine des cultures et des civilisations non-occidentales passées et présentes. Elles concernent par exemple l’étude des productions matérielles et des œuvres immatérielles de tel ou tel groupe ou ensemble de populations, l’étude monographique d’une société particulière, l’analyse d’un champ de pratiques, de réseaux et de processus sociaux, la documentation et l’analyse de vestiges archéologiques (à l’exclusion de ceux relevant de la paléontologie pré-néolithique), l’histoire d’un groupe ou d’une région, l’histoire des relations entre populations non-européennes et entre celles-ci et le monde occidental (l’histoire connectée), etc. Elles s’adressent donc aux jeunes chercheurs en anthropologie sociale et culturelle (y compris l’ethnolinguistique et l’ethnomusicologie), en histoire de l’art, en histoire, en archéologie et en sciences du patrimoine, en sciences politiques et sociologie du développement.

Un certain nombre de bourses (trois ou quatre ?) pourraient être à terme ‘fléchées’ vers des domaines de recherche, des pays ou des aires culturelles choisis, en fonction des souhaits du Conseil d’administration de la Fondation ainsi que des souhaits du musée du quai Branly.

Les bourses sont d’un montant de 15 000 euros chacune. Elles sont destinées en priorité à financer des recherches dites de terrain : enquête ethnographique auprès d’une population, recherches d’archives (à l’étranger), participation à des campagnes de fouilles… Elles concernent donc la phase initiale de la réalisation d’une thèse (première et deuxième année de 3e cycle) plutôt que la phase de rédaction finale (à partir de la troisième année). Elles sont ouvertes à tous les étudiants, sans condition de nationalité, inscrits l’année de leur candidature dans un établissement d’enseignement supérieur français (université, école…), la fiche d’inscription faisant foi. Le dossier de candidature devra être accompagné d’une lettre du directeur de thèse. Les lauréats recevront leur bourse de la Fondation sous forme de deux versements annuels. Ils seront tenus de remettre à la Fondation un résumé de projet, financement excepté, à mi-parcours de leur recherche, puis un rapport complet à l’issue de celle-ci (dans les deux mois après la fin de la bourse).


L’appel d’offre de la Fondation a suscité un nombre élevé de candidatures : 196 dossiers admissibles (à titre d’exemple, l’appel d’offre international pour les bourses de recherche du musée du quai Branly, plus étroitement ciblées que celles de la Fondation, suscite environ 140 candidatures par an). Chaque membre du ‘Comité des rapporteurs’ a donc eu à juger une vingtaine de dossiers. Les experts de ce comité sont rémunérés par la Fondation pour leur travail ; ceux du conseil scientifique, dont la charge est moins lourde, ne le sont pas.

II. Le prix.

La Fondation Martine Aublet souhaite décerner un prix annuel, d’un montant de 20 000 euros, à un ouvrage - et plus généralement à une trajectoire de recherche - ayant contribué de façon marquante à la connaissance des cultures et des civilisations non-occidentales. Ce prix sera offert à une personnalité scientifique reconnue, soucieuse de transmettre son savoir à un large public, et dont l’œuvre est publiée en France. Il concerne les mêmes champs disciplinaires et domaines de recherche que ceux privilégiés par l’offre de bourses.

Lors de la dernière session du Conseil scientifique, le 24 septembre, a été désignée lauréate du prix Martine Aublet pour 2012

Françoise Héritier
Professeur honoraire au Collège de France
In the future, we are planning to publish conference announcements on the EASA-website, as it will enable to better conform to deadlines of these conferences.

October 2012

International Conference
Norms in the Margins and Margins of the Norm. The Social Construction of Illegality
The Royal Museum for Central Africa (Tervuren), the Free University Brussels and the Katholieke Universiteit Leuven Tervuren, Brussels, Leuven October 25-27 2012.

The conference proposes to reflect on the relations between the dynamics of criminalization and the construction of State powers, on the one hand, and on criminal strategies - legal or not -, moral economies in the illegal spheres, the ploys and tactics of „deviant“ groups on the other hand. Law and the informal norms tied to its various uses are viewed as processes seized upon and retaillored by actors for their own purposes and strategies, in a context where penal policies commanding conformity in collective behavior are not necessarily aimed at eliminating crime and illegalism (Foucault), but essentially broaden the areas of intersection and interaction between State coercion, criminal trajectories, and the management of norms. These considerations suggest various potential tracks for analysis. How do State and supra-national criminalization activites construct landscapes of illegality? How are the legal and illegal sides of global capitalism's underground economies intertwined? What are the ethical justifications given for the legal and illegal constructions? How are norms inhabited, legitimized and challenged in the marginal spheres of today’s illegal and criminal worlds? How do the legality and legitimacy of the illegality-producing societal spheres maintained and perpetuated? Another area of inquiry would bear on our practice as researchers. How can we, as researchers, circulate in the spaces created by penal policies, between the analysis of state-led coercive processes and the observation of criminal trajectories? What ethical, political and epistemological issues are raised by investigation of the illegal and criminal spheres? Faced with objects of this sort, what positions and reflexive policies can research advance? Studies will therefore pertain both to the production of the categories of illegality and to the production of ethical categories in the underworld, while stressing the intertwining and ambiguous entanglements of legal and illegal networks and creation of moral economies.

For more information please refer to the following URL: http://illegality.africamuseum.be. If you wish to register, please send your registration at soon as possible to the following address: norms-illegality2012@africamuseum.be

November 2012

First International Conference on Anthropology and Urban Conflict
Desertions, Counter-Movements, and Forced Mobilizations in the Contemporary City
Universitat de Barcelona | Facultat de Geografia i Història November 7 - 10, 2012 Conflictseubrands2012@gmail.com

AAA 111th Annual Conference

December 2012

Migration, Memory, and Place
Copenhagen December 6 – 7, 2012
http://migrationandculture.ku.dk/call/

The Conference on Anthropology & Sustainability in Asia
Anthropological Perspectives on Holistic Sustainability
The Landmark Bangkok Hotel
Bangkok, Thailand December 15-17, 2012

The 2012 Conference on Anthropology and Sustainability in Asia invites scholarly interactions among academics, researchers, doctoral students to submit anthropological perspectives in Cultural, Social, Linguistic, Political, Economic, Biological, and Archaeological areas. The deadline for abstracts/proposals is 31 October 2012. 
Enquiries: submissions@casas2012.org
Web address: http://www.casas2012.org/submissions
CASA2012 Organizing Committee Secretariat
cordinator@casas2012.org
www.casas2012.org

2013

January 2013

Tourism and the Global South:
Landscapes, identities and development.
University of Lisbon January 24 – 25, 2013
http://www.wix.com/tptceq/13

June 2013

RAI Film Festival
National Museum in Edinburgh and Anthropology Depts. of Scotland

May 2013

3rd Island Dynamics Conference - with Performing Island Identities
Famagusta May 14 – 18, 2013 http://www.islanddynamics.org/3idc.html

August 2013

Evolving Humanity, Emerging Worlds
17th IUAES World Congress University of Manchester August 5 – 10, 2013
www.iuaes.org

October 2013

Locations: anthropology in the academy, the workplace, and the public sphere
GAA (DGV) Biennial Conference 2013 Mainz University October 2 – 5, 2013

Call for Workshops
For quite some time, anthropology in Germany has been expanding, thanks to consistently high rates of student enrolment, the creation of new academic chairs and a growing demand for intercultural skills and anthropological expertise. Given anthropology’s engagement with both the political and epistemological consequences of the post-colonial critique, will (and can) the discipline become the vanguard of the academy? Or, should it remain on the margins, as a discipline that destabilises and subverts the Euro-centric biases of neighbouring disciplines? But in a post-
modern world no longer geographically or epistemologically structured by centre-periphery hierarchies, what is the raison d’être of a discipline traditionally devoted to the global periphery? On the other hand, maybe there is a strong case precisely to the contrary? In such a fractured, decentred world anthropology’s established strengths might be what is most needed: its attention to the hermeneutics of informal practices, confounding realities and diverging domains of meaning. What are the methodological and theoretical implications when anthropological fields of enquiry are broadened – from the marginalised to the elites, from the peripheries to the centres of global society? How do anthropologists deal with the conflicting demands of their research ethos of unbiased understanding, on the one hand, and, on the other hand, public expectations to take a political stand? To what degree can or should anthropologists champion the interests of their interlocutors? How can the increasing anthropological engagement in such areas as development cooperation, international business or even the military be reconciled with a disciplinary ethos of critical observers of power rather than as parties to it? Can anthropology continue to be a troublesome discipline and still prepare students for the job market? The 2013 conference of the German Anthropological Association will explore these questions and anthropology’s ambivalent locations in the academy, the professional world and the public sphere. In university contexts anthropologists work increasingly in interdisciplinary networks. What consequences does this have for the discipline’s self-definition and its methods? Considering that neighbouring disciplines have made participant observation and “ethnography” part of their own methodological repertoires, what is the added value of our discipline? Most anthropology students go on to work outside the university. What demands does this place on the anthropological curriculum? What aspects of the discipline are relevant to graduate professional lives? In what ways does feedback from these professional contexts present new challenges and opportunities for anthropological theory? In public debates on the integration of immigrants and the challenges of multicultural society, civil war, failed states, genocide, and other urgent socio-political or security issues, German anthropologists only seldom make notable contributions. Should this reticence be overcome, and, what would a “public anthropology” look like? For the 2013 German Anthropological Association conference we welcome contributions which attend to these and related questions. The thematic and regional groups as well as all members of the GAA are invited to submit workshop proposals that are in some way related to the conference theme. Please submit your proposal along with an abstract (max. 250-300 words) as well as the contact data of the workshop convenor(s). The deadline for submissions is 31st August 2012. In order encourage greater attendance of individual workshops and panels, the organizers reserve the right to limit the total number of workshops as well as the duration of individual workshops to a maximum of two sessions (of 90 minutes each, with at least three but at most four contributions). Additionally, in keeping with the established “two-role” rule, each participant may take on no more than two active roles at the conference (such as present a paper and act as discussant, convene a workshop and present a paper, etc.)
kontakt@dgv-net.de
GAA – German Anthropological Association
c/o Institut fuer Ethnologie und Afrikastudien
Johannes Gutenberg-Universitaet Mainz
Forum 6
55099 Mainz
Germany

November 2013

AAA 112th Annual Meeting
Chicago Hilton
November 20 – 24, 2013
www.aaanet.org/meetings