

Society for Cross-Cultural Research Newsletter

Volume 24, Number 2

Fall, 1996

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SOCIETY FOR CROSS-CULTURAL RESEARCH 26th ANNUAL MEETING TO BE HELD IN SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS, FEBRUARY 19-23, 1997

Report from Incoming President, Susan Abbott

The 1997 Annual Meeting of the Society for Cross-Cultural Research will be held at the historic Menger Hotel in San Antonio, Texas. The hotel was built in 1859 on the plaza next to the Alamo just two blocks from the famous Paseo del Rio or River Walk that meanders through the center of the old city of San Antonio. It's a wonderful location for our meeting and will attract a good attendance of both old members and those newly interested in what the SCCR has to offer. So make your plans now to present your latest research, visit with your friends and acquaintances, and learn what one of the Southwest's great cities has to offer.

I want to encourage all of you to generate interesting symposia for the meeting. It is clear from our membership survey published in the spring issue, that no matter how attractive the location, you come primarily because you want to hear interesting papers about exciting research. I am busy contacting

people and encouraging them to get involved. I want all of you to do the same so that we can create a memorable meeting for all of us. We've got a great location so let's put together a great intellectual experience to go along with it!

This year, as Program Chair, I am open to different formats for sessions. The traditional format of related papers, each getting 15-20 mins is fine as far as it goes. But it is not the only possibility. Perhaps you are interested in hearing one or two people discuss at greater length recent works on the same or closely related topics followed by substantial time for in depth discussion with the audience. Perhaps you would like to have a workshop on some interesting and potentially useful methodologies you've always wanted to learn more about. Whom might we ask to give this kind of workshop? If you have ideas, contact me by e-mail, letter, or phone and let me hear about them. I'll follow through and arrange these kinds of events. Registration forms are at the end of this newsletter.

The meetings will begin Wednesday evening with registration and a reception; the first paper sessions will start at 9:00 AM on Thursday morning and continue through Sunday morning. The banquet will be scheduled for Friday night. There will be at least one other evening reception with cash bar. I am planning the usual morning coffee services to help you get your eyes open and your minds in gear.

If you have never visited San Antonio, you are in for a treat. The weather should be pleasant in late February. San Antonio dates from the early eighteenth century and has an old Spanish flavor and multi-cultural heritage. Nearby are several old Spanish mission sites; and the hill country towns to the north like New Braunfels reflect their origins in substantial German settlement in the last century. It's the former starting point of the Chisholm Trail. The city is home to several museums with foci as diverse as Texas prehistory and history, circus memorabilia, fine arts, and U.S. Army medicine from the Civil War to the present. There are botanical gardens, 3 lakes within the city limits offering sailboating and fishing, and for the exercise-minded --3 one mile jogging trails through the downtown area. Many excellent restaurants are available including dinner boats boarded from the Paseo del Rio. I will be sure to schedule sufficient free time during the meeting so that you can taste something of this attractive city.

HOTEL RESERVATIONS FOR THE 1997 ANNUAL MEETING

The Menger is an attractive historic hotel in central San Antonio. The room rates for our meeting are a standard \$90 per night for both single and double occupancy. These are a special group rate. The hotel will guarantee this rate until January 19, 1997. After that time it will release any remaining rooms and you will not get our group rate. Room rates are subject to local tax which is currently 15%.

Hotel self parking is currently \$4.95 plus 7.5% tax per day; valet parking is \$9.95 per day. Hotel reservations can be made directly with the reservation service of the Menger Hotel in San Antonio. Their toll free number is 1-800-345- 9285. Be sure to name the SCCR when you make your reservation so you can get our special room rate.

AIR TRANSPORTION

Group rates have been arranged through American Airlines which has a hub in the Dallas/Ft.Worth airport north of San Antonio. They have many flights each day connecting to San Antonio. To arrange your tickets through American Airlines and receive the group discount, you must phone their First Call Desk at

1-800- 221-2255 and give our Star File # 1327LS. This is the only way you can receive our special discount. Be sure to tell them when you call to make your reservations that you are traveling to attend the Society for Cross- Cultural Research's Annual Meeting so proper credit can be given.

GROUND TRANSPORTATION

For those wary of the air, Amtrak stops in San Antonio with 3 times a week on the Miami/Los Angles route; 3 times a week on the Chicago route; and there is daily service via Austin, Ft.Worth/Dallas, Little Rock, St.Louis, and Springfield.

The San Antonio Airport is 13 miles north of the city center and is served by several airlines. Taxi fares from the airport to the city center are \$14-\$16. There are also airport shuttle services provided by Star Shuttle. They charge \$6 one way; reservations can be made by phoning (210) 341-6000. 24-hour advance reservations are recommended. Auto rental services are available at the airport from all the major national chains. You might also consider some of the locals like Chuck's Rent-A-Clunker (210) 922-9464.

Within the city, street cars provide rapid transit about the city and will get all of us to the historical sites. including the Spanish Governor's Palace, La Villita, St. Paul Square, the Southwest Crafts Center, Institute of Texan Cultures and the King William area. There are 95 regular bus routes in the city, 4 regular downtown streetcar routes, as well as taxis. You will do just fine without a car.

AN HISTORICAL NOTE

Both the Alamo and the Chisholm trail are part of American history and folklore. The Alamo is one of many mission-forts that Spanish priest founded in their new-world territories. Texas was a province of Mexico until the American and some Mexican settlers, dissatisfied with authoritarian rule from the distant Mexico city, proclaimed their independence in 1835. On February 23, 1836, the army of the Mexican General Santa Ana, attacked the Alamo. The 183 Texans stationed in the mission.held out under siege, to give the Texan troops, under General Sam Houston time to organize. When Santa Ana finally took the Alamo on March 6, his troops shot the wounded and burned all bodies. The dead included two popular folk heros, Davy Crockett a famous frontiersman and congressman from Tennessee, and James Bowie, inventor of the bowie knife, a hunting knife and weapon widely used by western settlers. The news incited widespread public indignation. Six weeks after the fall of the Alamo the Sam Houston's Texas troops of defeated Santa Ana's army, captured the Mexican General and established the free Republic of Texas, with Huston as its first Governor. The battle cry "Remember the Alamo" has remained as part of the folklore of Texas and the United States.

The Chisholm trail is the most famous and one of the longest of the cattle drive trails used by Texan ranchers after the civil war to drive to Missouri where they could be shipped to Eastern states on the newly built transcontinental railroad. The Chisholm trail was over 1000 miles long.



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THE PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

by Lew Hendrix



Recently concerns have been expressed about the financial health of the SCCR. While the Society is solvent, one current concern is that the Society must purchase more copies of our journal from Sage Publishers than we send out to members. Several suggestions were made for closing this gap at the 1996 business meeting in Pittsburgh. While we plan to renegotiate this part of the contract with Sage, we are also trying to gain about forty or fifty new members for the SCCR. Blanket advertising is generally expensive and ineffective for a specialized group like the SCCR. In its place we have devised a three-pronged approach for advertising that is either less expensive or more directed than are blanket mailings.

First, Bill Divale has prepared a new brochure on the SCCR. We plan for members to urge colleagues who are interested in comparative research to join the Society and to send them copies of the brochure. If you want your copies right away, just e-mail me (lhendrix@siu.edu) or call (618-453-7625). Be sure to indicate how many copies you want and the slow-mail address where you will receive them. Otherwise, you can pick up your copies next February at our meeting in San Antonio. These brochures also will be available for members of other social science organizations at their meetings.

A second prong is our new SCCR homepage on the internet, which Bill Gabrenya has up and running well, which may add to our visibility. Tell your friends and students about it. If you have not visited the website, have a look at it. The URL is: <http://www.fit.edu/CampusLife/clubs-org/sccr>

The third prong is free advertising in our own journal, *Cross-Cultural Research*. Mel Ember will be placing an ad with a membership form in each issue. Like the internet page, this advertising is free, except for the labor going into it. While we do not anticipate massive responses from any of these sources, a few journal or internet browsers may want to join the SCCR.

Another recurrent issue for the SCCR--one that may relate to membership--is the question of joint meetings with sister organizations oriented toward cross-cultural psychology and social networks. If SCCR were a lively and constructive presence at joint meetings, we might get a few new members. I do not know the pros and cons of joint meetings, or the extent of enthusiasm within SCCR. The council will discuss this possibility for the 1999 meeting. If you have ideas or opinions on this matter, please communicate them to me.

THIS AND THAT

Roy Malpass



XCUL, the Cross-Cultural Psychology discussion list, is back on-line after an extended illness. Its address is: XCUL@UTEPA.BITNET or XCUL@utepvm.utep.edu. To subscribe you may send a message to listserv@utepvm.utep.edu that says:

 `sub xcul your real name`

The listserver will take your address from the message header. If you want to change addresses, you may leave the list by sending to LISTSERV@UTEPVM.UTEP.EDU the following message

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signoff xcul
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and then re-subscribing as described above. If you have difficulties with the list, let me know at rmlpass@utep.edu.

International Association for Cross-Cultural Psychology

Marshall Segall, President, IACCP



At the recent IACCP meetings in Montreal, there was discussion in the executive committee of dues structure, membership recruitment, and newsletter dissemination. No action was taken in respect of these issues regarding pooling efforts with SCCR. IACCP looks forward to continued cooperation with SCCR (viz.- a-vis, participation in each other's meetings), but will go it alone in recruitment, maintaining a separate dues structure, and disseminating its newsletter. IACCP will continue to use regular mail for its newsletter (rather than e-mail) but it should be recalled that IACCP does have a Web page, where much of its news is available electronically.



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 **Society for Cross-Cultural Research**

Cross-Cultural Research

Mel Ember, Editor

The scope of our journal *Cross-Cultural Research* has expanded. We now publish any studies that deal systematically with cross-cultural issues pertaining to the constants and variables of human behavior. This means that we are receptive to submissions from all the sciences dealing with humans on a global level (not just anthropology), including psychology, sociology, political sciences, economics, human ecology, and evolutionary biology. We are not interested in publishing studies that merely establish differences between cultures. Rather we prefer to publish studies that narrow down the explanatory possibilities by statistically linking the dependent variable(s) to possibly causal predictor(s).

In the few years since Sage Periodicals Press took over as publisher of the journal, subscriptions have more than doubled. It is encouraging that most of the new subscribers, in this age of declining library fortunes, are libraries in this and other countries. As editor of the journal, I am pleased that our efforts are reaching an expanding audience.

Summer Institutes in Comparative Anthropological Research

Carol Ember, Director

The National Science Foundation, in a grant to the Human Relations Area Files, will support the fifth of six Summer Institutes in Comparative Anthropological Research. The next Institute will be held at the Claremont Colleges, Claremont, California (July 2 - August 12, 1997). The directors and principal instructors will be Carol R. Ember, Michael L. Burton, and Robert L. Munroe. Twelve participants will be accepted for the three-week intensive course in the design and execution of systematic comparisons.

Instruction will cover regional and worldwide comparisons, using primary and secondary data, and include lectures, discussion, and hands-on experience with coding, computerized data, and state-of-the-art statistical methods. A large part of the training is developing individual projects based on each participant's interests. Tuition as well as room and board (on campus) will be provided to the invited participants. Preference will be given to applicants with a Ph.D. in anthropology who are interested in comparative anthropological research (but have had little or no training in it) and who teach or would like to teach research methods to graduates or undergraduates in the United States. For further information and instructions on how to apply, please contact:

Dr. Carol R. Ember, Executive Director
Human Relations Area Files
755 Prospect Street
New Haven, CT 06511

Telephone: (203) 764-9401
FAX:(203) 764-9404
e-mail: embercm@minerva.cis.yale.edu

Deadline for applications: March 15, 1997

The participants in last summer's institute held at the Claremont Colleges were: Salah Bassiouni, Eric Canin, Lewellyn Hendrix, John R. Johnson, Kathryn Kamp, Ann Metcalf, Sarah Soh, Margaret Swain, Lynn Thomas, Sita Venkateswar, and Stanley R. Witkowski

Newsletter News

Leigh Minturn, Editor



This newsletter is in courier font and full page format to conform to the e-mail format being sent to SCCR members with e-mail addresses.

I have had little or no response to the following items in the spring newsletter: a) inquiries about women; b) mailing lists of potential SCCR members; c) questions concerning scheduling and locations of meetings. d) response to discussions or sessions on cloistering & chaperoning or definitions of cleanliness and purity Douglas Caulkins has had no response to discussion or session on history of technology.

If members will send me information about recently published books, I will include it in future newsletters.

Desperately seeking Logos: If anyone can construct a good design for the e-mail logos, please send it to me. I copied the stylized map used from 1976 to 1993, but the results were not satisfactory.

PUBLICATIONS

Lewellyn Hendrix. 1996. *Illegitimacy and Social Structures: Cross-Cultural Perspectives on Nonmarital Birth*. Westport, CT: Bergin and Garvey, an Imprint of Greenwood Publishers.

Until the last few decades, theorists such as Frederick Engels, Bronislaw Malinowski, Kingsley Davis and William Goode treated illegitimacy as the basis of marriage around the world. More recently feminists and sociobiologists and others have made illegitimacy a tangential part of their theories. To test these theories, Hendrix uses original data codes on sanctions for nonmarital birth for 122 societies in the Standard Cross-Cultural Sample. Illegitimacy is not universally condemned, as early functionalists claimed. Some societies handle illegitimacy in a relaxed way, while others use restitutive or repressive sanctions. The work tests various theoretical ideas about structural factors involved in the regulation of illegitimacy, including subsistence technology and population factors, social hierarchy and complexity, marital residence, descent, sexual inequality, extended family structure, affection for children, and father-involvement with infants and children. While there is a tendency for sanctions to be more repressive with greater hierarchy and centralization, other factors such as sexual inequality and father-involvement interact with these in interesting ways to affect illegitimacy sanctions. The last chapter applies the findings to the current issue of teen pregnancy in the U.S., noting that most proposals for dealing with the

problem come from a narrow band in the middle of the cross-cultural spectrum of variation, and suggesting that the U.S. is moving from a repressive treatment of illegitimacy toward a restitutive treatment. This shift is linked in part to basic features and changes in the sociocultural system, and partly to women's involvement this century in dealing with the problem of illegitimacy.

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCES: 1997

Fifth European Congress of Psychology

Dublin, Ireland, July 6th-11th

for information contact:

Secretariat, Fifth European Congress of Psychology
96 Haddington Road, Ballsbridge, Dublin 4, Ireland
TEL: 351 1 6685442, FAX: 353-1 6685226, e-mail: psi@iol.ie

or

Congress Organizers, A Touch of Ireland Conferences Ltd.
96 Haddington Road, Ballsbridge, Dublin 4, Ireland

TEL: 353 1 6680888, FAX: 353 1 6685226, e-mail: atoi@iol.ie

International Council of Psychologists (ICP)

55 th Annual Convention

Graz Congress Center Austria, July 14 - 18 1997

For information contact:

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