

Council on Anthropology and Education (CAE) Annual Report

January 1, 2009 - December 31, 2009

Submitted by

Teresa L. McCarty, CAE Outgoing President

February 14, 2010

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

2009 CAE Executive Board:

Teresa L. McCarty, President (Teresa.McCarty@asu.edu)

Bryan McKinley Jones Brayboy, President-Elect (Bryan.Brayboy@asu.edu)

Norma González, Past President (Ngonzale@email.arizona.edu)

Peter Demerath, Treasurer (pwd@umn.edu)

Angela Arzubiaga, Secretary (Angela.Arzubiaga@asu.edu)

Status, activities and accomplishments this year

1. ***Most up-to-date membership numbers:*** 567

- Factors affecting Section membership: CAE membership has declined from a high of 900+ in 1991 to 567 in 2009. The latter figure represents a decline from 650 in 2008. While CAE remains a vibrant section, these trends are of concern and addressing them was a major focus of my presidential year. I served on the Section Assembly's Task Force on Membership; as part of that, I polled the membership of CAE and 3 other sections (see report submitted to the SA and EB in spring/summer 2009). There was a robust response, with the following identified as the biggest challenges to growing and diversifying our membership:
 - a. Cost of membership, especially for students, the largest pool of new members.
 - b. Cost of attending the Annual Meeting, especially in light of a national recession.
 - c. Perceived irrelevance of the field to public policy and to K-12/non-university educators.
 - d. Need for heightened mentorship, particularly among students and underrepresented groups.To address these challenges, incoming president Bryan Brayboy and I are establishing a CAE Ad Hoc Membership Task Force to investigate membership trends and make recommendations for increasing both the numbers and the diversity of our membership.

2. ***Financial balances for Section budgets and publication sponsored budgets (for 2009):***

- CAE net assets as of November 30, 2009: \$73,941.49.
- AEQ publication expenses as of November 30, 2009: \$41,163.79 (variance of \$178.79 from budgeted amount).
- Factors affecting CAE finances: Revenues generated from the Wiley-Blackwell contract enabled us to launch new initiatives to enhance our membership and mentoring efforts. At the same time, editorial costs for *AEQ* continue to rise, requiring greater contributions by CAE (from \$15,000-\$16,000 annually in previous years to more than \$40,000 last year) and by the host institution (see "*AEQ-at-a-Glance*," Appendix A). In 2009 the CAE Executive Board, in consultation with the incoming *AEQ* editor, determined an annual CAE budget amount for the journal's field office of \$33,555, which equals the total CAE budget for *AEQ* in 2008 (\$40,855) minus \$7,300 allocated to the outgoing editor's office during that editorial transition year.

3. ***CAE invited sessions, co-sponsored sessions, and special events:*** CAE received 67 paper proposals and 47 session proposals. The breakdown of invited, co-sponsored, and special sessions is as follows:

- Invited sessions (8):
 - a. *Ethnography and Language Policy – New Means, New Ends, New Times* (Presidential session co-sponsored with SLA)

- b. *Preschool in Three Cultures Revisited: China, Japan, and the United States*
 - c. *Negotiating “Hyphenated Selves” in Global Contexts: An Ethnographic Look at the Experiences of Immigrant Youth in the Netherlands, Spain, Denmark, Israel and the United States*
 - d. *The End(s) of Neoliberalism? Understanding the Current Civic Moment in Higher Education* (Presidential session)
 - e. *CAE New Scholar Invited Session*
 - f. *Beyond Macro and Micro in the Linguistic Anthropology of Education* (co-sponsored with SLA)
 - g. *Worlds of Learning: Anthropologies of Education Beyond the English Language Zone*
 - h. *CAE New Scholar Invited Session*
- Special events (9):
 - a. *CAE-AEQ Reception Honoring Anthropology at Penn*¹
 - b. *CAE Works-in-Progress Session* (a mentoring session featuring the work of emerging scholars)
 - c. *Open Forum: CAE Policy Engagement Working Group* (a newly formed group to advance educational anthropology perspectives in public policy)
 - d. *CAE Graduate Students of Color Mentorship Program* (cosponsored with ALLA)
 - e. *CAE Mission Committee Open Meeting*
 - f. *Endless Loose End/s of the Mother-Ethnographer*
 - g. *CAE All-Committee Meeting* (a meeting of all CAE committees to plan next year’s program)
 - h. *The Role of the (Student) Researcher in Ethnographic Methodologies: Strategic and Ethical Considerations*
 - i. Joint reception co-hosted with AFA, ABA, ALLA, SLACA, SANA, and SOLGA.
4. **Spring meeting activities:** CAE does not hold a spring meeting. However, the Executive Board held a teleconference in May 2009 to discuss CAE priorities for the next 2-5 years. A follow-up Executive Board retreat to develop a detailed plan of action was held at Arizona State University on October 25, 2009. (Four members of the 2009 CAE EB are from Arizona, minimizing expenses.)
5. **Mentorship efforts:**
- Undergraduate and/or graduate students, junior scholars, and independent scholars:
 - a. As in previous Annual Meetings, CAE sponsored a *New Scholar Invited Session*, a *Works-in-Progress Session* pairing junior and senior scholars who discuss the junior scholar’s paper, *Graduate Students of Color Mentoring Session*, and (new this year), a panel on *The Role of the (Student) Researcher in Ethnographic Methodologies*.
 - b. CAE’s Web site includes information on how to become involved with the section through its standing committees, student events at the Annual Meeting, and links to the student listserv and Facebook group.
 - c. CAE has a standing committee on mentoring.
 - d. As president I chaired the Section Assembly’s Mentoring Task Force and polled the CAE membership on mentoring efforts, challenges, and “best practices” (a final report was submitted to the SA and EB, and circulated among the CAE membership, in spring/summer 2009).
 - e. In 2009 the CAE Board established the CAE Early Career Presidential Fellowship to support professional development and mentoring for educational anthropologists early in their academic careers. In 2010, five \$500 inaugural fellowships will be awarded for travel and mentoring at the Annual Meeting (see Appendix B).
6. **Additional outreach efforts:** Within AAA, CAE continues to partner with various sections on mentoring underrepresented and new scholars (see #3 above). Incoming president Bryan Brayboy and

¹ This Special Event was held at the University of Pennsylvania Museum of Archaeology and Anthropology, and cosponsored by the University of Pennsylvania Department of Anthropology, Graduate School of Education, and Annenberg School for Communication.

I are working closely with the leadership of the American Educational Research Association (AERA), to which most CAE members belong, to facilitate cross-organizational partnerships.

7. **CAE-sponsored awards** (all awards were presented at the 2009 CAE Business Meeting, 2/4/09):
 - 2009 George and Louise Spindler Award recognizing distinguished contributions to the anthropology of education: Douglas E. Foley, University of Texas at Austin.
 - 2009 CAE Outstanding Dissertation Award: Immaculada M. García Sánchez, UCLA, for *Moroccan Immigrant Children in a Time of Surveillance: Navigating Sameness and Difference in Contemporary Spain*. Amanda Lashaw (University of California-Berkeley) was the second place finalist; Angela Booker (UC-Davis) and Zeena Zakharia (Teachers College Columbia) received honorable mentions.
 - 2009 CAE New Scholar Travel Award: Five \$150 awards and 2 \$100 awards were allocated on a competitive basis to: Angela Booker (UC-Davis); Omaia Dessureault (University of Arizona); Rucheeta Kulkarni and Silvia Nogueron (both Arizona State University); Anne Rios (UC-Santa Cruz); Eva Maria Oxelson (UC-Santa Barbara); and Alexander Posecznick (Teachers College).
8. **Status and use of Section internal communications such as a Web site, listserv, or newsletter:**
 - Newly appointed CAE Web specialist Silvia Nogueron revamped and updated the CAE Web site (<http://www.aaanet.org/sections/cae/cae-home.html>).
 - In 2009, CAE transferred its listserv from H-Net to the AAA-sponsored “binhost.”
 - The CAE *AN* column continues under the capable editorship of Steve Biolostok, University of Wyoming. As president, I contributed 2 CAE columns and an essay in the December 2009 theme section on the Future/s of Anthropology, entitled “No Anthropologist Left Behind: Reclaiming an Anthropological Voice in Education Policy Reform” (with Bryan M. J. Brayboy).
9. **Changes in bylaws or governance structure:**
 - A bylaws change was recommended by the CAE Board at its 2009 meeting, pending final revisions approved in a subsequent electronic Board vote. The changes would amend Articles VII.5.c and Article XI to make the process for appointing the *AEQ* editor more transparent, inclusive, and conducive to editorial transition planning (see Appendix C).²
 - A proposal that included a new CAE-wide elected position (Mission Committee member) was proposed by the Mission Committee (MC) in spring 2009. The Board’s response to the proposal (in an electronic vote) was mixed, and I tabled the proposal pending clarifications to be provided by the MC. The MC’s response was discussed at the Board’s December 3 meeting, at which time additional clarifications were requested. The MC has since responded and its revised proposal is slated to be submitted to the Board for a vote in February/March 2010.

Future plans or activities in the next 3-5 years

1. **Membership initiatives:** Incoming president Bryan Brayboy and I will establish an Ad Hoc Committee on Membership to study and poll CAE members on downward membership trends, and make recommendations for recruitment, retention, and diversification of CAE membership.
2. **Plans for new forms of scholarly communication or changing existing publications and communications:** In conjunction with 2 new CAE policy initiatives (see #3 below), we plan to produce periodic policy briefs on pressing issues of education policy and practice.
3. **Other CAE projects underway or discussed with its members:**

² The bylaws changes were recommended by an Ad Hoc Committee charged with reviewing the process for the appointment of *AEQ* editor. The committee was initiated by past president Norma González and composed and charged by me in spring 2009.

- New public policy initiatives. The **CAE Collaborative Analysis Network (CAE CAN)** is an interdisciplinary consortium of scholars and practitioners who will study, simultaneously, focused education problems (e.g., high-stakes testing) at multiple sites, using anthropological theories and methods. The **Policy Engagement Working Group (PEWG)** will disseminate anthropological expertise to our academic, practitioner and policymaking publics. Both groups met and launched their initiatives at Special Event Sessions at the 2009 AAA Annual Meeting (see #3 above).
- New mentoring and professional development initiative. The **CAE Early Career Presidential Fellowship Program** will inaugurate its first cohort of fellows at the 2010 Annual Meeting.

4. ***Collaboration with other Sections, Interest Groups, or outside groups on the projects above?***

- CAE will collaborate with IGAPP, SfAA, and AERA on the policy initiatives.

Please tell us what your chief concerns and issues are, especially if they are not previously noted:

1. ***What issues would you like raised or recommendations would you like to make to the Section Assembly leadership?*** Current CAE issues include: (1) increasing the numbers and diversity of our membership, (2) enhancing mentoring mechanisms, (3) securing ongoing financial support for *AEQ* that is not overly dependent on the host institution, (4) devising mechanisms for public policy engagement, and (5) enhancing collaboration with other sections and sister organizations such as AERA and the Society for Applied Anthropology (SfAA).
 - a. Membership and mentorship: These are twin issues that can be conceptualized as recruitment and retention. Addressing them is crucial to sustaining our membership base and diversifying our leadership pool. What will be the follow-up on the SA Membership and Mentoring Task Force recommendations?
 - b. Journal support: *AEQ* is still largely supported by in-kind contributions from its host institutions. This means that individuals from institutions without significant financial resources (i.e., those that are not Research Intensive or privately well endowed) cannot be competitive in editorial appointments. CAE would like to discuss with the SA, EB, and AAA leadership creative strategies for securing adequate short- and long-term financial support for the journals.
 - c. Public policy engagement: CAE would like to discuss with other sections how we can leverage cross-sectional expertise to impact pressing public policy issues, including education.
 - d. Collaborative partnerships: In the interest of addressing all of the issues above, much more can be done to strengthen cross-sectional collaborations. In addition, CAE in particular and AAA as a whole would benefit from stronger linkages with SfAA.
2. ***What issues would you like raised or recommendations would you like to make to the AAA Executive Board?*** See #1, above (the same issues are important for the EB).
3. ***What issues would you like raised or recommendations would you like to make to the AAA Staff?*** See #1, above (the same issues are important for the AAA staff leadership).

Finally, on behalf of the CAE Board, I want to express our appreciation to the staff for their support in planning the meeting (Carla Fernandez); enhancing CAE communications, including the new listserv and Web site (Lisa Myers); working with the SA (Kim Baker); supporting the *AEQ* transition (Oona Schmid and Sharon Stein); providing technical assistance on the budget (Suzanne Mattingly); supporting CAE's *AN* column (Dinah Winnick); providing quick follow-up on membership questions (Richard Thomas); and trouble-shooting thorny issues that arose over the course of the year (Bill Davis). In the current financial environment, we hope that AAA will be able to retain all its excellent staff.