FRYXELL AWARD COMMITTEE CONCERNED ABOUT THE
STATUS OF INTERDISCIPLINARY STUDIES

The Fryxell Award Committee has expressed deep concern about the decrease in the frequency and quality of interdisciplinary studies in American archaeology. The request of the Committee, its report to the 49th Annual Business meeting appears here.

REPORT OF THE FRYXELL AWARD COMMITTEE TO THE
SAA ANNUAL MEETING - 1984

The Roald Fryxell Award was established in 1976 to honor and commemorate Roald Fryxell, an inspiring teacher of geoarchaeology at Washington State University until his death in 1974. The award recognizes outstanding work in one or more of the field sciences that establish the natural contexts of archaeological sites and settlement systems. Studies in geology, biology, ecology, and geochronology are appropriately recognized by this award when they support archaeological research. The award was first presented in 1978, and was given annually until 1983. The first six recipients were: Najum Siddiqi, Karl W. Butzer, David A. Baerreis, and John Guilday. The Award Committee established in 1983 came concerned about the finite number of medals, and recommended that the award be presented biennially, and that the duration of the awards, and of the commemorations, could be extended to span a generation, at least. The SAA Executive Committee agreed with the recommendation, and, therefore, no award will be given in 1984, and the awards will be presented biennially from 1985.

The Fryxell Award Committee, currently comprised of Ed Bense, Jonathan Davis, and Dena Dincauze, asked to speak at the membership at this meeting to communicate a concern about the fate of interdisciplinary studies in American archaeology. We perceive a serious problem, wish to present it here.

The Committee notes, with concern, that the practice of archaeological site structure, age, and condition depends upon knowledge of the depositional history and the chemical and physical processes subsequently affecting the materials. Such knowledge can only be achieved by informed study of the sediments and soils that constitute the site matrix. Settlement systems cannot be responsibly understood without an informed understanding of their physical context--information that must come from trained geomorphologists and other field geologists. The physical and chemical studies upon which analyses of site materials and material ages depend, more and more require detailed information about the field conditions under which those materials were recovered. Context, again. Studies of human diet selection, procurement strategies, and processing of materials require understanding, similarly, of the contexts of deposition and of recovery. Without sophisticated data collection by appropriately trained archaeologists and supporting consultants, the logic by which we derive human meanings from archaeological observations may rest upon error or worse.

At a time when the exploration of human adaptations can be supported by analytical techniques of astonishing precision, the contextual data gathered in the field are of less than optimal quality. At a time when predictive modelling for regional studies and site survey is seen as leading toward greater precision, the absence of contextual field data and of the expertise to gather and utilize it is a bitter irony.

(continued on page 2)
FRYXELL AWARD COMMITTEE CONCERNED ABOUT THE STATUS OF INTERDISCIPLINARY STUDIES
(continued from page 1)

This jeremiad is not meant to imply that no good work is being done. Indeed, it is the flourishing of our technical capabilities that makes the current situation so disappointing. Excellent work is being done, at the state-of-the-art and well beyond, by individuals, some of whom, we trust, will receive the Fryxell award in the future. However, we find our concerns to be well founded on current practice in Americanist archaeology, and we urge you all to consider what must be done to raise multidisciplinary studies to higher esteem and wider application on these continents.

Respectfully submitted,
Dena F. Dincauze, Chair
April 13, 1984

Distinguished Service Award Nominations
Solicited by SAA
John Speth

The Distinguished Service Award established by the Society for American Archaeology is presented annually to a member for specific accomplishments of extraordinary quality. Recognition can be granted in a wide range of areas relating to archaeology including, for example, teaching (academic as well as public education), research (theory, method, application of new technology, analysis, etc.), and conservation of archaeological data (curatorial, legal, managerial), as long as two basic criteria are met. First, the contribution must be truly extraordinary in nature (not expected in the normal course of events) and must be widely recognized as such; and second, it must be of a positive and lasting quality.

The Society is accepting nominations from members for the 1985 Award, which will be presented at the 50th Annual Meeting in April 1985, in Denver. Each recommendation should be supported by a statement documenting concisely and thoroughly the achievements of the nominee. Mail prior to November 9, 1984, to Dr. John Speth, Chair, DSA Committee, Museum of Anthropology, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, Michigan 48109.

Dr. George Arthur is compiling information regarding collections of published and unpublished materials relating to the American bison or buffalo and the wood bison. This information will form the basis for a bibliography to be published by the Canadian Plains Research Center, University of Regina.

Individuals and organizations with relevant information are asked to contact Dr. Arthur at:
Department of Anthropology
University of Regina
Regina, Saskatchewan
Canada S4S OR2
(306) 584-4195

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Dr. Marilyn P. Beaudry, Smithsonian Institution

Dr. Marilyn P. Beaudry, Smithsonian Institution is soliciting a doctoral fellow in materials analysis, is beginning a study of the use of specular hematite pigment on Pre-columbian Mesoamerican ceramics from all time periods. Dr. Beaudry would appreciate information about archaeological occurrence of pottery using this pigment (purple-red color, "sparkle" from small reflective platelets) as well as any samples of ceramics or pigment for laboratory analysis. Quantity sufficient to make a thin section or other mount is all that is required.

Please contact Dr. Beaudry at UCLA Institute of Archaeology, Los Angeles, California 90024, until September 15. After September 15, she can be contacted at Conservation Analytic Laboratory, Smithsonian Institution, Washington, D.C. 20560.

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Esmee Webb of the University of London will be in the United States from October to December 1984 as a visiting Research Fellow at the University of Maine, Orono, Center for Early Man Research, and in Canada from January 1985 at least through Easter as a Visiting Fellow at the University of Calgary. Ms. Webb is interested in giving talks or seminars on the following topics:

1. The peopling of the Americas from an Old World Perspective.
2. How far do faunal remains in Middle Paleolithic case sites reflect human activity - or - What's for breakfast?
3. The uses of data base management systems in British archaeology: examples of on and off site applications.

Ms. Webb can be contacted at:
(October through December)
Center for Early Man Research
University of Maine
Orono, ME 04469
(207) 581-2197

OR
(January to Easter)
Institute for the Humanities
University of Calgary
Calgary, Alberta
Canada T2N 1N4
(403) 284-7238

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I have read with interest and concern the notice (relative to what constitutes a modest amount to a campaign and with belonging to a particular party and voting one's conscience and with the difference between the two. Disagree with our representatives with equal frequency. The reality of the process is that one constituent contributing a modest amount to a campaign and with belonging to a particular party and voting one's conscience and with the difference between the two.

We are all familiar with the pragmatics of my comments were simply unable to operate on such a level. As an alternative to such high pressure tactics, I propose we steer the more difficult course between pillars and cadres of full-time archaeologists. It is better to have...and able to compete on the same level as the "big boys"—those powerful interests which routinely spoil our resources for pure, short-term profit. We really want to compete in this league? If so, then we are talking about a war chest of millions of dollars and cadres of full-time archaeological lobbyists as unprincipled as their counterparts in business. I doubt that we are either willing or able to operate on such a level.

As an alternative to such high pressure tactics, I propose we steer the more difficult course between high professional ethics and honest political activism. Let us least consider the long-term consequences of our actions explicitly lest we lose all semblance of our larger ethical responsibilities.

Sincerely,

Michael Allen Hoffman
Research Professor
University of South Carolina

The SAA office in Washington has passed on to me a copy of your letter [Michael A. Hoffman] of 6 July and is pleased to see your interest in the political process. The pragmatics of my comments were simply to enhance the level of attention paid to archaeological constituency. The reality of the process is that one first has to have recognition by the representative, where one can have any influence whatsoever, and that recognition comes more readily to those who have contributed to a campaign. We know that the political situation is a complex one and that we often agree and disagree with our representatives with equal frequency. However, that has little to do with how we wish that representative to vote on important things about which we are willing to write to him or her.

If my letter was successful in doubling the number of archaeologists who make political contributions and do write to their representative, then I will have been successful in doubling our influence in Congress. There wold still be a long way to go, but such enhancement of our influence is what my responsibility is at present.

I share your concern with regard to maintenance of personal and professional ethics, but I can assure you that contributing a modest amount to a campaign and voting are two separable events with different contexts and different objectives. We are all familiar with belonging to a particular party and voting one's conscience and with the difference between the two.
The School of American Research was founded in 1907 and is a non-profit advanced research institution in anthropology and related disciplines. In addition to its Resident Scholar program, it conducts advanced seminars and archaeological excavations, publishes scholarly books and houses a major research collection of Southwest Indian arts.

OPPORTUNITY FOR MUSEUM STAFF TO WORK ABROAD

The International Council of Museums Committee of the American Association of Museums (AAM/ICOM) is pleased to announce its exchange program, "International Partnerships Among Museums," for 1984-85. Museums of any type or size may apply to exchange a mid-level professional staff member with a foreign museum for a period of six weeks.

Through "Partnerships", museum professionals, such as conservators, curators, educators and exhibit designers, have the opportunity to gain experience outside their own environments through first-hand observation of the practices of a museum abroad. Museums, by exchanging professional staff, share technical expertise and ideas, and help increase mutual understanding of cultural traditions and values. Past exchanges have laid the foundations for continuing cooperation between the partner museums.

Funded by the U.S. Information Agency, the program provides partial travel and subsistence support for all participants. Deadline for application is September 20, 1984. Further information and application materials may be obtained from the AAM/ICOM Program Coordinator, American Association of Museums, 1055 Thomas Jefferson Street, NW, Washington, D.C. 20007; telephone (202) 338-5300.

MEETINGS

1984 INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON PREHISTORIC ROCK ART AND ARCHAEOASTRONOMY

The 1984 International Conference on Prehistoric Rock Art and Archaeoastronomy will be held October 7-12, 1984, at the University Conference Center, Little Rock, Arkansas, presented by the University of Arkansas at Little Rock with funding from the Winthrop Rockefeller Foundation.

This conference will bring together 320 of the top authorities of rock art and archaeoastronomy, in North America and in the world.

Registration

This is a limited-seating conference and registration is provided for the first 300 persons, on a first-come, first-served basis. Registration should be sent as soon as possible; registration fee is $40.00. State Archaeological Surveys can be billed for registration fees of applicants.

Accommodations

If you wish, all accommodations for travel and lodging for the duration of the conference can be made through EXECUTIVE TRAVEL by telephone their toll-free number 1-800-643-4577. They will be happy to arrange train, air and other travel for you, and to arrange your motel/hotel rooms prior to your arrival. A block for premium rooms at the Little Rock Excelsior Hotel, the premier hotel in Arkansas, has been reserved for conferees. If you wish to register these rooms ($49.00 per night, single occupancy), please contact them directly, or Executive Travel. The telephone number for reservations at the Excelsior Hotel is (501) 375-5000. If you are flying into Little Rock, shuttle service to and from the Little Rock Airport is provided by this hotel. Other, less expensive accommodations can be obtained, but these are far from the site of the conference. The Excelsior Hotel is adjoined to the University Conference Center where all activities will be held.

Presentations and Papers

As will be noted in the schedule, there are 18 presentations through the daytime for the first three days of the conference. These presentations will be made by leading authorities in the fields of rock art and/or archaeoastronomy who have been selected to represent a broad spectrum as possible. Since the goal of the conference is to bring together for the first time a convergence of research methods and interpretive concerns, these individuals were chosen for such a broad overview.

Seminars

Each evening there will be a total of six seminar sessions being held simultaneously, each dealing with a specific branch of study. Four such seminars will be concerned with rock art studies and interpretations, recording, preservation, etc., and two with archaeoastronomy. At these evening sessions will be the opportunity to share with others your research and ideas in specific fields. The topics for each seminar session will be described in Bulletin Two.

Field Trip

An excellent opportunity to see Arkansas' unique rock art will be made available as an option for 100 conference participants. As with conference registration, this is a first-come, first-served registration. Bus transportation will transport conferees on Thursday morning, October 11, to the beautiful Petit Jean State Park, atop a mesa-like mountain in central Arkansas, about one hour from Little Rock. Accommodations are provided, at the conference's expense, in the outstanding Mather Lodge, at $27.00 for the night's lodging plus meals (extra). During Thursday and Friday, persons will be invited to hike to the outstanding rock art sites which are found throughout the mountain, these being led by experienced archaeoastronomers along well-established trails. The park is unique in beauty and geology, and you are encouraged to take part of this optional two-day excursion. Transportation back to the Excelsior will be made Saturday morning, October 13, so that all can plan weekend travel back home or to other destinations.

During the evenings (Thursday and Friday) at the mountain, time will be at hand to continue informal discussions (meeting rooms are available), or to just stroll through the rustic Arkansas environment.

Publications

The proceedings of both the invited papers and all the seminar and discussion groups will be published. The cost and availability of the Proceedings will be announced to all conferees.

The 1984 International Conference on Prehistoric Rock Art and Archaeoastronomy brings together those in the fields in an effort to begin establishing cooperative studies of these prehistoric enigmas. With the increasing interest in prehistoric astronomy, the field...
CALL FOR PAPERS

A planning committee from the Southwest Museum, the Southern California Historical Society, and the Los Angeles Public Library, invites scholars to submit abstracts for papers to be read at a one-day symposium on Charles Fletcher Lummis to be held on February 2, 1985, at the Southwest Museum in Los Angeles. This date marks the Centennial of Lummis' arrival in Los Angeles. The symposium will reexamine Lummis' role in creating and promoting what has been called the "fantasy heritage" of Spanish California and the Southwest, and identify what was of lasting importance in his work as photographer, editor, folklorist, ethnographer, museologist, librarian, historian, etc.

Send abstracts of not more than 100 words by October 1, 1984, to:

Romaine Ahlstrom
Collection Development Manager
Lummis Symposium Committee
Los Angeles Public Library
630 West Fifth Street
Los Angeles, California 90071

For more information write, or call (213) 626-7555, Extension 207.

SUN BELT SOCIAL NETWORK CONFERENCE

The Fifth Annual Sun Belt Social Network Conference will be held on February 14-17, 1985, at the Palm Beach Hilton, Palm Beach, Florida. Session topics of interest to archaeologists include analysis of social networks, networks through time, statistics and networks, networks in historical research, and computer programs for network analysis. Individuals interested in presenting papers in a symposium on the application of the network approach to archaeological data should contact Jill Neitzel, School of American Research, P.O. Box 2188, Santa Fe, New Mexico 87501.

CALL FOR PAPERS

A session on SEM uses in Archaeology is being formed for the 1985 meeting of the Scanning Electron Microscopy Society to be held in Las Vegas, Nevada (March 31 - April 5, 1985). All general and specific techniques, research and applications are solicited to provide the broadest possible range of uses, e.g., phytoliths, lithic use wear, pollen, seeds, osteological analysis. Completed papers must be submitted by January 1, 1985, for publication-quality review prior to acceptance in the Symposium.

For more information contact:

W. M. Hess, (Symposium Organizer)
Director of Electron Optics Laboratory
Department of Botany and Range Science
401 WIDE
Brigham Young University
Provo, Utah 84602

OR
Irwin Rovner
Associate Professor of Anthropology
Department of Sociology and Anthropology
NCSU
Raleigh, North Carolina 27695-8107
MIDDLE ATLANTIC ARCHEOLOGICAL CONFERENCE

The Annual Meeting of the Middle Atlantic Archaeological Conference will be held April 12-14, 1985, at the Henlopen Hotel in Rehoboth Beach, Delaware.

Arrangements Chairman: Joseph M. McNamara, Division of Archeology, Maryland Geological Survey, The Rotunda, Suite 440, 711 W. 40th Street, Baltimore, Maryland 21211.

Program Chairman: Dennis C. Curry, Division of Archeology, Maryland Geological Survey, The Rotunda, Suite 440, 711 W. 40th Street, Baltimore, Maryland 21211.

Session Topics: General, Lithics, Mortuary Customs, Urban Archeology, Late Archaic Projectile Points.

ARCHAEOLOGY ANNOUNCEMENT

The Anthropology Program announces the inauguration of an annual Archaeometry competition to incorporate within a single framework anthropologically-oriented archaeometric projects. Such proposals which previously were submitted under the Program's regular research and Support for Radiocarbon Laboratories competitions will now be evaluated in this new context. Proposals will be reviewed by archaeologists to determine potential anthropological contribution and by physical scientists to assess technical feasibility. The Program recognizes three broad classes of archaeometric proposals: 1) requests to support laboratories which provide archaeometric services; 2) projects to develop and refine archaeometric techniques; 3) proposals to apply existing techniques to specific bodies of archaeological material. "Laboratory support" (1) and "technique development" (2) projects will be included within the Archaeometry competition. "Technique application" (3) projects are best evaluated in a more strictly archaeological context and, therefore, will be considered in the general research competition.

Laboratory Support Awards

The Radiocarbon Laboratory Support Competition initiated in 1982 is broadened to include all U.S. laboratories involved in the anthropologically-relevant archaeometric research. Awards will provide a modest but long-term "core" of funding that will allow laboratories to increase analytical capacity through the addition of new and replacement of overage equipment and the retention of key personnel. The goal of the awards is to increase the contribution of these laboratories to anthropologically oriented archaeology. Proposals should contain:

1) A discussion of a laboratory's specific commitment to solving problems of recognized archaeological significance.
2) An explicit statement which describes how the laboratory will increase productivity measured in terms of reduced turnaround times and/or increase in the number of archaeological samples to be dated each year. The applicant should discuss the characteristics of the samples to be processed, the specific technical problems relating to these types of samples, and specific techniques utilized to deal with these problems.
3) An explanation of the laboratory's plan to ensure that it will attract samples of high archaeological interest and quality and a discussion of the criteria employed to select and assign priorities to samples.
4) A discussion of the current standards of accuracy and precision maintained by the laboratory and how these standards will be continued or augmented.
5) A statement of existing resources available to the laboratory including current institutional support and projected income, and a discussion of how Foundation support will be used in addition to (rather than in lieu of) presently available funds. Policies and practices with respect to fees for dating services should be described.
6) A justification of the budget for personal and equipment needed to achieve these basic goals.

Awards are not intended to provide full operation support for the laboratory or to replace funding for ongoing laboratory personnel. Therefore, they will not include such items as the regular salary of a laboratory director or the cost of expendable supplies. Budget items may include: 12-month salary for a full-time professional laboratory associate at the postdoc level, funds for the acquisition of new laboratory equipment and up to two months of full-time equivalent salary during the year for the laboratory director or the cost of expendable supplies, support active collaboration with archaeologists. Laboratories which receive awards will also be permitted to submit "regular" research applications for the support of focused research projects. Total support for an investigator will be carefully reviewed.

The Foundation plans to fund up to six laboratories at about $75,000 each per year. Applicants may request up to five years of support.

Technique Development Proposals

Applicants should prepare a standard research proposal. In addition to a description of the technique and methodology to be employed, the potential significance of the technique to anthropologically-oriented archaeological research should be specifically described. Women, minorities, and the physically handicapped are strongly encouraged to apply for support under this program.

Formal proposals should be prepared in accordance with relevant instructions in Grants for Scientific and Engineering Research (NSF 83-57). Twenty copies are required and the descriptive portion of the proposal should not exceed 15 single-spaced pages. Proposals should be submitted by November 30, 1984, for anticipated awards in the late spring of 1985. Prospective applicants are advised to contact the Program Director, Dr. John E. Yellen, Anthropology Program, National Science Foundation, Washington, D.C. 20550, (202) 357-7804, before submitting a proposal.

PEOPLE ON THE MOVE

Awarded

Greg Cajete has been awarded one of the first two of the School of American Research's Katrin H. Lamo Fellowship. Mr. Cajete, a native of Santa Clara's will use his fellowship to study the School's cole...
Attention: Society for American Archaeology Members
Special Discount Prices Available on Annual Review of Anthropology and Annual Review of Ecology and Systematics
For members who order through the Society office.

The Society for American Archaeology and Annual Reviews Inc. (a nonprofit scientific publisher) are pleased to announce an arrangement whereby the Annual Review of Anthropology and the Annual Review of Ecology and Systematics may be purchased at a 15% discount from list price by members of the SAA as a benefit of membership in the SAA. Members must send their orders to the Society to obtain the discount. If you are a member and wish to take advantage of the discount price, but have an existing standing order with Annual Reviews, you must cancel your order directly with Annual Reviews and reorder through the Society. See ordering information below.

Annual Review of Anthropology, Volume 13, 1984
(Revised October)
EDITOR: Bernard J. Siegel
ASSOCIATE EDITORS: Alan Beals, Stephen A. Tyler

Annual Review of Ecology and Systematics
(Revised November)
EDITOR: Richard F. Johnston
ASSOCIATE EDITORS: Peter W. Frank, Charles D. Michener

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Members are eligible for a 15% discount off retail price
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Payment in U.S. dollars must accompany order
Checks payable to Society for American Archaeology
Retail price: $27.00 USA/$30.00 elsewhere (California orders, add applicable sales tax)

Please send:
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Annual Review of Ecology and Systematics, Vol. 15
SAA member price: $22.95 USA/$25.50 elsewhere

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PEOPLE ON THE MOVE

Awarded (Continued from page 6)

and its research potential for Native Americans. He is a graduate of New Mexico Highlands University and received his Masters degree from the University of New Mexico. Cajete teaches Native American philosophy, science and art at the Institute of American Indian Arts, is working on his Ph.D. through the International College in Los Angeles and is an accomplished artist known for his painting and jewelry work.

Awarded

Ramona Sakiestewa has been awarded one of the first two of the School of American Research's Katrin H. Lamon Fellowships. Ms. Sakiestewa, a member of the Hopi tribe, will study the School's collection of Pueblo embroidery, comparing the historic designs and techniques with contemporary work. She will also conduct interviews with Pueblo weavers in the Rio Grande Valley, collecting information which will help the School continue to develop its collection. Sakiestewa, who is known for her contemporary weavings, attended the School of Visual Arts in New York and has served on panels for the National Endowment for the Arts and the New Mexico Arts Division.

Appointed

Dr. Mary Elizabeth King, formerly Director of the University Museum, New Mexico State University, Las Cruces, New Mexico, has been appointed to the post of Associate Director of the Museum of New Mexico for Anthropology to head the Museum of Indian Arts/Laboratory of Anthropology, Santa Fe, New Mexico. Dr. King's appointment was effective as of July 9, 19...

* * *

PLACEMENT CENTER

SENIOR HISTORIC ARCHEOLOGIST -- Gilbert/Commonwealth is seeking M.S. and Ph.D. level applicants for a full-time permanent senior staff position. Applicants should have an active research interest in the historical archaeology of the Midwest or Southeastern United States, a strong history background, and extensive prior contract CRM experience. Applicants must have the ability to supervise both fieldwork and data analysis. Also essential is an ability to communicate expertly both in writing and in all administrative aspects of cultural resources management. Duties will include major project management and marketing, including proposal preparation, research, and document preparation...

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The BULLETIN of the Society for American Archaeology, ISSN 1741-5672, is published six times a year by the Society for American Archaeology. Alan S. Downer, Editor. The BULLETIN is distributed free to all U.S. members of the SAA and all institutional subscribers to AMERICAN ANTIQUITY. Non-member subscriptions are available for $10.00 per year. Correspondence relating to subscriptions, address changes, claims for lost issues, should be addressed to the Society for American Archaeology, 1511 K Street, NW, Suite 716, Washington, D.C. 20005. Information for inclusion in the BULLETIN, articles for publication, letters to the Editor, should be sent to SAA BULLETIN, 6889 Quay Street, Arvada, Colorado 80003.