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## President's Column

Dan Ingersoll  
*Saint Mary's College of Maryland*

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# President's Column

**Dan Ingersoll**

Saint Mary's College of Maryland

## **It has been a very good year!**

The spring semester has drawn to a close and finally I have a moment to catch my breath and write this column, which has been past-due for n weeks to David Johnson. Speaking of David, the first thing I want to say is a million thanks for nearly ten years of dedicated editorship. It was sometime during the last century—1994 to be exact—that David began as “Interim Editor” for volume 21, number 2 of *Southern Anthropologist*. He ascended to Chief Editor for the next volume, and the rest is history—our SAS history. Gigabyte did it all: took photographs (can you remember a time when David wasn't pointing that Leica for illustrating SA, editor or not?) to remind us what a great time we had at the meetings, sketched cartoons to make us laugh, printed challenging articles to keep us thinking, and published our students' prize-winning essays. As if being editor were not enough, in 1998 and 1999 he served as President-Elect and President, respectively. We owe him big time. David is retiring from the editorship but not from the SAS, so I'm sure he'll be there to help in all of the transitions. The editorship of SA will continue on in the capable hands of Celeste Ray and Eric Lassiter.

Congratulations to John Studstill for piloting us through another productive SAS year as our president. He kept us rolling and happy and now continues to advise us as Past President. Question: What professional anthropological society has the best meetings and the most fun parties? Answer: We do. Thanks to Past Presidents John Studstill and Barbara Hendry, Secretary/Treasurer Margaret Bender (she's the one who gets you to send in your dues and registrations) and many others, our Baton Rouge meeting was a great success. Helen Regis

(Program Chair), Mandy Dickerson (Program Coordinator), Miles Richardson (Local Arrangements), and Program Committee members David Beriss, Jeffrey Ehrenreich, and Antoinette Jackson did it up big for us. How about that fabulous Cajun group, The Magnolia Sisters? And the lively Spanish Town Mardi Gras? Fine tonic for creeping Calvinism and the Protestant work ethic. And way to go with the good timing for the SAS meetings, you folks at LSU! As usual, the Keynote Address and Keynote Symposia were excellent. Important features of the meeting were the Student Paper Award (Kate Meatyard, Chair, Lindsey King, and Hector Qirko evaluated all those papers and made the tough choices) and the Mooney Award (Hester Davis, Chair, Daryl White, and Carrie Douglas devoured a pile of books). LSU's Department of Geography and Anthropology and Mary Lee Eggert, and Michelle Ashton supplied resources and logistic support. Thanks, all of you: I know you worked very hard behind the scenes to prepare for and orchestrate this memorable annual meeting. By the way, Miles: all your planning and worrying really paid off. In the works: the first five years of SAS Proceedings will be reprinted, due to the creative energies of incoming Proceedings Editor, Chris Toumey, and Judith Knight (she's the one who has generously run the book exhibits at our meetings over the past few years) of the University of Alabama Press. Chris is also hard at work editing the next new volumes to appear. We have had extraordinary good luck in our SAS editors—before Chris, Michael Angrosino did a beautiful job of editing countless volumes of the Proceedings. Like David, Michael has been one of the selfless powerhouses keeping SAS strong,

vibrant, and self-reflective. Michael serves as a major repository for SAS corporate memory, so we should remember Michael for his contribution as he has remembered us.

As your current president, I'm pronouncing the state of the SAS union sound and solid. It has been a very good year. We have great plans for the future,

and I invite you to join in on those plans for programs, meetings, and publications—more on those plans in the next column. But for now, I will just assure you that we will continue holding the best meetings and the best parties, all the while supplying you with thought-provoking publications.



## **SAS Endowment Campaign for Education and Outreach in the South**

The Endowment is now in its seventh year of fund-raising towards a \$30,000 goal.

The purpose of the endowment is to:

- support student participation in the meetings and the student prize competition,
- expand the knowledge of anthropology in and of the South and to smaller colleges and universities which do not yet offer courses in anthropology,
- bring the message of our discipline to minority institutions through a dynamic speakers bureau,
- encourage minority participation in the field and at our meetings, and
- reward outstanding scholarship in the anthropology of the South with the annual presentation of an enhanced James Mooney prize.

At present the Endowment is about one-third of the way to the goal, so your contributions are needed!

**Please take time to make a campaign pledge or donation and send it to:**

Dr Max E White

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Piedmont College

PO Box 10

Demorest, GA 30535

email: <mwhite@piedmont.edu>; Tel: (706) 778-3000 ext 261; Fax: (706) 776-2811

## **SAS Annual Meeting Announcement**

The annual meetings will be held **March 18-21, 2004**, at the Holiday Inn Select Atlanta/Decatur, Decatur, Georgia.

Due dates for papers and abstract will be announced later.

Meeting Organizers:

George Armelagos (Emory University) and Daryl White (Spelman College)

*We invite your help in any aspect of the meetings.*

Contact: Daryl White: [dwhite@spelman.edu](mailto:dwhite@spelman.edu)

### **SAS Key Symposium 2004: *Globalization and the Evolution of Emerging Disease***

**Abstract:** The concept of epidemiological transition provides a means of understanding the changing relationship between humans, pathogens and other disease insults. The adaptation of hominid populations in the Paleolithic created a disease ecology that minimized the impact of infectious disease. The shift to primary food production about 10,000 years ago resulted in the first epidemiological transition marked by the emergence of infectious and nutritional diseases that continues to the present. The origin and rise of social inequalities that are a feature of the post-Neolithic society play a major role in the emerging disease pattern. Within the last century, some populations underwent the second epidemiological transition in which public health measures, improved nutrition and medicine resulted in declines in infectious disease and a rise in non-infectious, chronic and degenerative diseases. On the eve of the antibiotic era, we are entering the third epidemiological transition in which there is both a re-emergence of infectious diseases previously thought to be under control and the emergence of novel diseases. Many of the emerging and re-emerging pathogens are antibiotic resistant and some are multi-antibiotic resistant, having the potential to be spread globally and affecting both populations that experienced and those that never experienced the second epidemiological transition. The symposium will examine these subjects from both biological and cultural perspectives.