



ANSS CURRENTS

The Newsletter of the ACRL Anthropology & Sociology Section
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MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR

Katie Whitson

Welcome ANSS members to another exciting year! I want to thank last year's Chair, JoAnn Jacoby, for her achievements and direction. I could not have asked for a better mentor, and I am very enthusiastic about the new year. Last year under JoAnn's leadership, we established the new ad hoc committee on Assessment of Library Collections and Services. The committee's charge will be: "*To investigate, review and develop guidelines for the assessment of library collections and services in sociology. The Committee will work with the American Sociological Association and other relevant scholarly organizations to create and disseminate these guidelines.*" Many thanks to David Woolwine who has volunteered to chair this new committee.

Our Annual program, *Native American Heritage in the Nation's Capital*, was a huge success. Thanks very much to Liz Cooper for chairing this fabulous event and to all the members of the 2007 Program Planning Committee for developing such an informative session. I would also like to highlight the exceptional work done by our Instruction and Information Literacy Committee (IL), co-chaired by Triveni Kuchi and Susan Macicak. Because of the IL Committee's outstanding work on Information Literacy Standards, we were invited to a reception at the American Sociological Association headquarters in Washington, D.C. during ALA Annual. The information literacy standards were recently sent to ACRL's Standards and Accreditation Committee, where we anticipate they will be approved at the 2008 Mid-Winter meeting.

Our 2008 Action Plan was approved by ACRL. This plan will provide funding for members of the IL committee to attend and offer workshops at the ASA and AAA conferences during 2007-08. Due to the exceptional work of our committees and discussion groups, we really did have an amazing year!

Last year as Vice-Chair, I had the pleasure of

appointing many new ANSS members to committees. ANSS is a very active, successful Section; that success is made possible by our hard-working volunteers. I thank all of you for your participation. Our new Vice-Chair, Randy Hertzler, will be making appointments to committees during the months ahead. If you would like to serve on an ANSS committee or serve as a discussion group leader, please fill out the volunteer form available at <http://www.acrl.org/volunteer>. I also encourage you to subscribe to our listserv, ANSS-L, <http://www.lib.odu.edu/anss/anss-l.html>. I look forward to working with all of you in the year ahead!

COMMITTEE REPORTS

ANSS Instruction and Information Literacy Committee Susan Macicak & Triveni Kuchi, Chairs

The ANSS Instruction and Information Literacy Committee submitted the draft standards document, approved by the ANSS Executive Committee at Midwinter 2007, to the ACRL Standards and Accreditation Committee, the last step before ACRL reviews it for approval. The draft currently resides at <http://www.lib.utexas.edu/subject/ss/anssil/index.html>.

The committee will focus on establishing a repository of teaching and assessment materials that will bring together assignments, curricula, IL projects, syllabi, active learning techniques, etc. drawn from librarians and faculty. A prototype is currently under development. Submission information is forthcoming.

At the American Sociological Association Annual Meeting on August 13, 2007, Patti Caravello, Triveni Kuchi and Professor Ed Kain co-presented a workshop on integrating information literacy into the Sociology curriculum. The well attended workshop included a discussion of IL in anthropology and sociology, strategies for faculty and librarian collaboration, and hands-on exercises to help participants develop assessable, information-rich coursework embedded in the major curriculum.

Bibliography Committee

Jeff Knapp, Chair

The first item discussed was the "changing of the guard" of the committee from Randy Hertzler to Jeff Knapp, due to Randy's election as ANSS Vice-Chair/Chair-Elect. Randy actually chaired this meeting. The committee settled in to discuss the Jennifer Nason Davis's review of *eHRAF*, appearing in this issue of *ANSS Currents*. This was an extremely tricky review to do, and the committee expressed its appreciation to Jennifer for tackling it.

The next review will be of *AnthroSource*, by Jeff Knapp. The committee usually likes to alternate between reviews of anthropology and sociology databases, and although the prior review is also an anthropology resource, the committee deemed it acceptable due to the sheer demand for a review of *AnthroSource*. Jeff will begin work on the review in the fall and distribute his first draft to the committee in November 2007. Publication of the review will be in the Spring 2008 issue of *ANSS Currents*.

Conference Program Planning Committee 2008

Rebecca Troy-Horton & Meg Westbury, Co-Chairs

The theme for the 2008 ANSS program at the ALA Annual Meeting in Anaheim, CA is "The Lady, the Tramp, and the Lion King: Mixed Messages About Gender, Race, and Ethnicity in Disney's Magic Kingdom". The program takes place in the midst of what is arguably the largest cultural enterprise in the world, Disney. Through an interdisciplinary panel, the program will explore the representation of race and gender in Disney media and will present an opportunity to think critically about, and perhaps challenge, preconceived notions about Disney and its effect on popular culture. Speakers include Betsy Hearne, PhD (Professor of Library Science, Univ. of Illinois); Claudine Michel, PhD (UC Santa Barbara); Patricia Little, PhD (CSU San Bernardino); and Keith Harris, PhD (UC Riverside).

Liaison Committee

David Hovde, Chair

Building upon the rich relationships our section has built with the American Anthropological Association (AAA) and American Sociological Association (ASA), circa 30 ANSS members attended a reception and brainstorming session hosted by ASA staff at their Washington, DC Headquarters. Part social, part informational, the discussions were wide ranging.

During the more formal portion of the evening we discussed information and quantitative literacy

standards and programs, scholarly communications and departmental and student assessment issues. Several high-level actors in the ASA and AAA were present, each expressing a desire to "bring librarians into the fold" on these types of concerns. We solidified the plan to work together with ASA staff on a rapid assessment tool for library collections and services to be employed when ASA teams go on departmental reviews.

We would like to express our gratitude to Carla Howery, ASA Director Academic and Professional Affairs, for her continued efforts to reach out to our membership and her wonderful hospitality. We wish her well into retirement and look forward to working with Margaret Weigers Vitullo, the incoming Director of Academic and Professional Affairs.

ANSS Membership Committee

Co-Chairs Liz Cooper and Susan Bennett-White

The Membership Committee did not sponsor a Social this year as the ASA Reception was held during our usual Social hour timeslot on Friday night. We are looking forward to the next ANSS Social at Midwinter in Philadelphia. At Midwinter we will also re-instate the Buddy program and will be looking for ANSS members to volunteer as a buddy to a new member (see blurb in *Currents* for more information).

Membership helped organize ANSS volunteers to participate in ACRL new member orientations at the ACRL National Conference in Baltimore and the ALA Annual Conference in DC. Liz Cooper, Sue Erickson, Merrie Davidson and Katie Whitson helped staff ANSS booths during these orientations. These orientations were a great new way to connect with new ACRL members.

This year, among other things, Membership will work on the following: revising the new/dropped members letters, revising the ANSS events sign-in sheets (to include "return to" information) before Midwinter, investigating sending the ANSS brochures to library schools (especially to Social Science Reference professors), looking in to adding ANSS member profiles to website, *Currents*, etc..

Publications Committee

Erin Daix, Chair

The Publications Committee discussed several ANSSWeb issues including migration to the ACRL server, reorganization, and the addition of new LC subject headings related to anthropology and sociology. A recommendation was made to have the Publications Committee assume responsibility of

maintaining ANSS information on the ACRL wiki. A suggestion was made to move several sections of ANSSWeb to the ACRL Wiki. The Committee hopes with this move, ANSS members will help contribute to the updating and maintenance of the bibliographies and guides to subject literature.

Subject and Bibliographic Access Committee

Isabel del Carmen Quintana, Chair

The committee came up with a list of questions to work on for future monthly postings on ANSS-L. There will be postings on the new limited use of uniform titles for periodicals; subject and form/genre access for visual anthropology; access for materials on Creole/pidgin dialects; qualitative research; and conferences, how and when they are cited. The committee has received positive feedback on the postings of new subject headings in the social sciences, so we will continue these postings and archive them in ANSS-Web as well. Finally, the committee discussed other ways to reach out to our community. We are very eager to receive cataloging questions to be answered in our postings, and to receive requests for new subject headings to be added to Library of Congress Subject Headings. Forms/information are available on ANSS-Web.

IFLA Social Sciences Standing Committee

Report Liz Cooper (Member, Social Sciences Standing Committee)

The Committee met at the annual IFLA conference in Durban, South Africa this August. The 14 appointed and elected members represent the IFLA Social Sciences Section, which consists of 79 members.

At the IFLA Annual Conference in Durban, the Section sponsored a program, attended by over fifty people, entitled, "Evidence Based Practice in Social Science Libraries: Using Research and Empirical Data to Improve Service". The program included five contributed papers, one of which was written and presented by ANSS member, Pauline Manaka. Pauline's paper focused on her work at UC Irvine using evidence-based practice in a grass-roots peer-training program. The papers from the program should be available soon on the IFLA Social Sciences Libraries Section webpage. The Section has several activities planned that may be of interest to ANSS members:

- 1) Related to the evidence based practice theme of this year's program, the Section will survey social science librarians in the spring to determine their views of evidence based

practice and their use of it in research and program development.

- 2) In conjunction with the upcoming IFLA World Congress Meeting in Quebec City in August 2008, the IFLA Social Sciences Section will sponsor a satellite meeting in Toronto on August 6-7 entitled, "Disappearing Disciplinary Borders in the Social Science Library: Global Studies or Sea Change".

Candidates for ANSS offices--2008

Shawn Nicholson, Chair, Nominating Committee sends special thanks to the Committee (Venta Silins and Elisa Tan) and all who participated in this process: MEMBER-AT-LARGE Jennifer Darragh, Virginia Commonwealth University; Lisa Yuro, University of Alabama; VICE-CHAIR/CHAIR-ELECT Elizabeth (Liz) Cooper, Emory University

DISCUSSION GROUP REPORTS

Anthropology Librarians Discussion Group

Elizabeth Breakstone, Convener

Susan Macicak, co-chair of the ANSS Instruction and Information Literacy Committee (IILC), presented the Information Literacy Standards for Sociology and Anthropology (<http://www.lib.utexas.edu/subject/ss/anssiil/index.html>). The group discussed the document and the role that librarians can play in promoting information literacy among Anthropologists and the AAA. People spoke about the challenges and successes they've faced in working with faculty and students. Given the variety of ideas among anthropologists about how students should learn how to do research, this is a challenging but critical topic to discuss. Groups like the IILC are leading the way, not just in ANSS but in all of ACRL, in creating standards for this work.

CJ/Criminology Librarians Discussion Group

David Bickford, Convener

Mary Jane Brustman, conducted the discussion group as Convener Dave Bickford was not able to attend.

Mary Jane focused the discussion on collecting and accessing government and legal materials for criminal justice collection development. She presented a list of questions which served as a springboard for the attendees to discuss significant collection development issues and practices. Topics included: developing specific guidelines for including government and legal materials in criminal justice collection development policy; identifying specific law

sources or types of sources that we feel are important; describing how electronic "libraries" like Westlaw, Lexis-Nexis are helpful and used; reviewing and monitoring the most appropriate government documents or linking to them, especially the important government statistical sources; and the process of selecting and linking free government and legal materials through library catalogs or via webpages.

Jon Harrison also updated the group on Michigan State's project to archive pdf files. 11 Persons attended this session; Brian Williams will serve as the new leader. We have appreciated the fine leadership of outgoing convenor David Bickford. Submitted by Sally Willson Weime.r

Sociology Librarians Discussion Group

Christina Smith, co-convenor

Fourteen ANSS members were in attendance at the Sociology Librarians Discussion Group on Saturday, June 23, 2007. We used as a springboard for our discussion the recently published article, "Information Seeking in Academic Research: A Study of the Sociology Faculty at the University of Wisconsin-Madison," Yi Shen, *Information Technology & Libraries*, March 2007, 26 (1): 4-13.

We do not often see faculty in the library. They start from known sources by chaining, and contact colleagues who share their research interests. The faculty we do hear from are often older faculty who may be baffled by proxy servers and computers. At other times faculty questions are filtered through their graduate assistants. Faculty like to browse journals. They may send students to the library with assignments echoing how they themselves find literature: "Search these four journals for articles." In a library instruction session, faculty may tell the librarian to "be sure to tell them about JSTOR," regardless of whether it is the best direction to go in.

Suggestions of approaches for librarians include: "Using scholarly indexes will give you a competitive edge. Anyone can bang on a keyboard and find something. I'm here to help you go beyond the 500-600 item search, save time, and get better information."

Potential topics for the Midwinter meeting in Philadelphia include: collection assessment, maintenance of print reference collections, print journal titles duplicated in JSTOR, and decisions regarding what to put into remote storage.

Native American Heritage in the Nation's Capital: Representation, Repatriation and Resilience"

The 2007 ANSS program featured an interdisciplinary panel of four scholars. After a meet and greet continental breakfast provided by our friends at Proquest CSA, our program moderator Annie Paprocki introduced our speakers:

Candace Greene, an ethnologist at the National Museum of Natural History, is a specialist in Plains Indian pictorial art and senior editor of *The Year the Stars Fell: Lakota Winter Counts*. Green explained that winter counts are calendrical documents, often kept on buffalo robes, where each year is denoted by a pictogram. *The Year the Stars Fell* refers to the Leonid meteor storm of November, 1833, an event depicted on all known Lakota winter counts. Green worked with Lakota people to curate a Web exhibit (<http://wintercounts.si.edu>) that was honored with a World Summit Award in 2005.

Emil Her Many Horses, Associate Curator at the National Museum of the American Indian, is a member of the Oglala Lakota nation. He was lead curator for the inaugural permanent exhibition, "Our Universes: Traditional Knowledge Shapes Our World," which focuses on indigenous cosmologies—worldviews and philosophies related to the creation and the order of the universe. During his presentation, Her Many Horses highlighted his collaborations with the Quechua of Peru and the Yup'ik people of Alaska.

Dorothy Lippert, an archaeologist at the National Museum of Natural History, discussed the contradictions and complexities arising from her multiple identities as a Choctaw, an archaeologist, and a repatriation case officer. She discussed how the 1990 Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (NAGPRA) is ameliorating long-standing tensions between archaeologists, museums and Native peoples.

Suzan Shown Harjo (Cheyenne & Hodulgee Muscogee) is President and Executive Director of the Morning Star Institute. She is a poet, writer, lecturer, curator and policy advocate who has helped Native Peoples recover more than one million acres of land and numerous sacred places. Harjo gave a moving personal account of her role in the passage of important federal legislation, including NAGPRA and the National Museum of the American Indian Act. The program website can be found at: <http://www.lib.odu.edu/anss/2007Program.pdf>

ANSS Members' News

Stephen Fowlkes, formerly at Tulane University received a Master of Preservation Studies from its School of Architecture in May, 2007. He resigned his position at Tulane in September to start a new job with the Louisiana Division of Historic Preservation, working in New Orleans to help administer the Historic Building Recovery Grant program, which utilizes federal funds to help remediate hurricane damage to historic buildings in the hurricane zone in the state of Louisiana. Stephen's new email is coulonguesthouse@yahoo.com

Sue Erickson, formerly Bibliographer for Anthropology and Sociology at Vanderbilt has been promoted to Director of System-wide Public Services. Congratulations Sue! She has promised to encourage those who replace her to participate in ANSS.

JoAnn Jacoby and **Jo Kibbee** completed work on a revised and updated edition of *Cultural Anthropology: A Guide to Reference and Information Sources*. Published by Libraries Unlimited in May 2007, the guide can be previewed on Google Books (<http://books.google.com/>).

My Trip to South Africa as Part of IFLA 2007 Conference: What a Memorable Experience. By Pauline D. Manaka, UC Irvine

I feel very fortunate for the support the UC Irvine Libraries gave me to attend The International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions (IFLA), 73rd General Conference and Council at its first meeting on African soil in Durban, South Africa. Being a native South African, I pushed myself to have some concrete scholarly contributions at this meeting.

Together with Carol Ann Hughes, Associate University Librarian, our proposal based on the work of the ALL Ref Training team at UCI Libraries was accepted by IFLA's Social Science Libraries Section. Carol did not attend, so I developed a PowerPoint presentation on my own. "**Grass Roots Peer Training: an Evidence-Based Experience**" http://www.ifla.org/IV/ifla73/papers/154-Manaka_Hughes-en.pdf

The theme was "Evidence based practice in social science libraries: using research and empirical data to improve service".

I also presented a poster on "Plagiarism." It addressed the dilemmas of academic librarians

confronted with student plagiarism, especially when asked to mediate by faculty. Understanding all resources available to us, not only technology, such as Turnitin.com., is important.

The Web Design services of our Library helped me with a 7.3 X 3.8feet poster, "**Are We Masters, Detectives or Partners? Research Librarians Using Technology to Diagnose Plagiarism**".

My hero, radical activist Justice Albie Sachs, was the keynote speaker.

<http://www.concourt.gov.za/text/judges/current/justicealbiesachs/1.html>

His first words were something like this, "libraries are boring, and conferences are more boring, so what should we expect of this conference of librarians?" By the end of his talk there was nothing boring about him understanding the global role libraries play, especially in a developing nation like South Africa! Other leaders like Tourism & Culture Minister Paulo Jordan extended their respect and hospitality to the international community of librarians and the work we do throughout the stay!

I had the best dose of African appreciation myself. I have no doubt that this is the first time IFLA has experienced such a large attendance of librarians of African descent worldwide!

Are you new to ANSS? Will you be attending Midwinter? Would you like to meet a veteran ANSS member who can help you learn more about ANSS?
Are you an ANSS veteran willing to share your knowledge? Will you be attending Midwinter? Would you like to meet and help a new ANSS member?

If you answered yes to any of the questions above, consider signing-up for the ANSS Membership Committee's Midwinter Buddy Program. We'll assign veteran ANSS members as buddies to new ANSS members. You and your buddy can set a time to meet and talk, attend ANSS meetings, or attend the ANSS Social together (Friday, January 11, 6pm-8pm). If you are interested, just send an email to liz.cooper@emory.edu to sign-up!



ANSS Executive Committee at ALA Annual in
Washington, DC

***The issue continues on the next page in single
column format to enable the screen shots in the
review to display completely.***

Review**eHRAF Collection of Ethnography**

Jennifer Nason Davis, University Library, University of Michigan

7/20/07

Review of *eHRAF Collection of Ethnography*, accessed July 2007

Publisher: Human Relations Area Files, Inc. (HRAF)

Reviewed: January - July 2007

Date span of coverage: Historical - present

Address: Yale University, 755 Prospect Street, New Haven, CT 06511-1225

Tel: 203-764-9401 or 1-800-520-HRAF

Web: <http://ets.umd.umich.edu/e/ehrafe/>Email: hraf@yale.edu**Cost**

Institutional site license ranges from \$3,295-3,895 annually, depending on the size of the library collections budget; this price includes membership in HRAF. Lower fees for high schools, small public libraries, Native American institutions and institutions in some countries outside the U.S. and Western Europe are available. See details on the HRAF Web site, http://www.yale.edu/hraf/collections_body_ethnodues.htm. Institutions can save on fees by subscribing together as a consortium. Sponsoring Membership entitles institutions to play a role in HRAF governance; annual dues and fees are \$5,450.

Introduction

HRAF (Human Relations Area Files) is a not-for-profit membership research institute located at Yale University. HRAF was formed in the 1940s, as a resource for the cross-cultural study of world cultures. "HRAF" as a product refers to the electronic format here under review and to its earlier microfiche, paper and CD-ROM formats as a whole.

eHRAF Collection of Ethnography is a sub-set of HRAF, a largely full-text database of ethnographies including monographs, articles, dissertations and unpublished manuscripts. Some documents are original translations of foreign texts. A companion database, eHRAF Collection of Archaeology was launched in 1999 and is available by separate subscription.

eHRAF is intended for an academic audience including working anthropologists and anthropology students. It has a reputation for being difficult to use, for reasons which will be explained.

For the modern researcher eHRAF's initial attraction lies in the fact that so many ethnographies, about 3,500 titles, are in a single place, arranged by culture. Most sources are available in full text; a few documents from early installments to the database include only relevant excerpts from the texts. Though its content is unique, the real strength of HRAF lies in its indexing. The HRAF indexing system is based on two thesauri designed to allow for cross-cultural comparison; one is a list of cultural groups world-wide, the other is a subject thesaurus. HRAF is highly unusual in that every document is indexed at the paragraph level.

Since an informed use of eHRAF depends on an understanding of the history of this product, this review explains that history in some detail. HRAF plans to release a new interface for eHRAF in 2008, to be renamed eHRAF World Cultures. A preview of some of these changes follows as well.

Scope, size, coverage and currency

HRAF makes no attempt to include ethnographies on all cultures of the world. As of July 2007, eHRAF includes 155 cultures. In contrast, the microfiche set includes 355 cultures. Each year HRAF chooses 10-15 cultures from the microfiche set to update and add to eHRAF; each installment of about 40,000 pages includes approximately 60% old material converted from microfiche and 40% new material. HRAF recently decided to speed up this process and complete the conversion of remaining culture files within five years. Sponsoring Members were surveyed for their preferences on which cultures to convert first. eHRAF includes 50 cultures not previously included in the fiche set at all.

By fall 2007 eHRAF will consist of about 390,000 pages taken from 3,500 source documents. Cultures included are primarily those that are well-studied so that HRAF can provide in-depth coverage and include source materials spanning several centuries. The largest coverage is for the Navajo culture, consisting of over 27,000 pages of text from 252 source documents. A more typical file is the Wolof culture file, with 3,100 pages from 42 documents.

Because some source documents are ethnohistories, the time-span coverage of eHRAF can be said to be historic to the present day. Most sources are monographs and articles resulting from the field research of anthropologists. Other authors include physicians, geographers and linguists. Early materials include accounts from explorers, travelers, missionaries, colonial government officials, soldiers, and other primary sources. Some documents are authored by indigenous peoples themselves. Most titles are monographs and journal articles, but dissertations and government documents are also included. A few documents are transcriptions of folk tales and songs. Nearly all materials are in English—in fact many eHRAF documents are original translations of works originally written in other languages, including French, German, Spanish, Chinese and Russian. An exception to this is transcriptions of folk tales and songs that appear in the original language. Some culture files include an extensive supplementary bibliography compiled by HRAF editors.

A summary of the date-range and size of each culture file can be found under “Cultures: All Formats” on the eHRAF collections Web page, <http://www.yale.edu/hraf/collections.htm>, but this list does not indicate the types of sources included. The HRAF representative was also not able to provide the percentage of source types in eHRAF. Within eHRAF itself it is not possible to browse the source bibliography. Information on source types can only be obtained by viewing the publication information page provided with each source title. A spot-check of 65 source documents from six culture files revealed materials originally published 1886–1998: 28 of these were journal articles, 16 were complete monographs, 7 were extensive excerpts from monographs, 7 were essays, 4 were dissertations, 3 were HRAF-authored bibliographies and 1 was a conference proceeding. Of this sample, 9 documents were translations.

Each full-text document is preceded by a publication information page, which includes an abstract and original publishing information. The “long” view of the publication information page also includes a code indicating the occupation of the author and an estimation of the quality of the document as a source. In the past, HRAF attempted to be comprehensive, so documents considered to be less reliable were sometimes included in the microfiche set. The more questionable of these sources have generally been omitted from the electronic set. The spot-check of 65 sources found all documents in the sample to have the highest ratings: 4 and 5. For example, Document 16 is a 1970 article about a village in Kodiak, Alaska. The publication information page gives the date and location of the field work, and the evaluation code Ethnographer-5, indicating that the author, Harumi Befu, is an ethnographer whose work is considered to be an excellent source of primary data. The name of the HRAF analyst who made this evaluation is also included, though there is no indication as to how the evaluation itself was made.

eHRAF culture files are not updated on a continuing basis. New material is included annually with each installment of culture files, but HRAF does not retrospectively update culture files that were added previously. HRAF considers each culture file to be a separate edited entity, analogous to an

anthology, containing both new and historical materials. For each culture a file description is provided, including the creation date of the microfiche file and its update to electronic format; no new material should be expected after the release of the electronic file.

MARC records are not available for individual source titles in eHRAF, but records for the 155 culture files can be purchased from OCLC as a set. Each MARC record includes a complete contents note for that culture, no matter how extensive, thus providing greater access and visibility for eHRAF in the library catalog.

Format and organization

HRAF has undergone several format incarnations. HRAF began around 1951 as a set of facsimiles on 5" X 8" cards which arrived in annual numbered installments. This system has continued through the various format changes over the years and continues today, with installments consisting of updates to the electronic database. In the late 1950s HRAF began converting the paper set to microfiche, but microfiche production ceased in 1993. Documents were selectively converted from microfiche to CD-ROM in 1993-2001. The CD-ROM set was, in turn, the basis for the electronic product known as eHRAF.

Today, the paper set has been completely superseded by microfiche, and the CD-ROM set has been superseded by the electronic product. Institutions that subscribe to eHRAF and own the complete microfiche set may withdraw the paper and CD-ROM formats, as these have been superseded by the fiche and electronic formats, respectively. Institutions should retain their fiche set for the time being as it is still about twice the size of the electronic product, both in terms of the number of cultures included and in pages of material.

Researchers concentrating on a single culture included in eHRAF need look no further. Those who do not find their culture in eHRAF should use the microfiche set, though researchers will need to augment this with other bibliographic sources for more recent material. Cross-cultural comparison requires the use of both electronic and fiche formats. For example, a student looking for transhumance practices world-wide will be able to identify many such cultures in eHRAF, but may find many more by searching the microfiche set also.

Electronic record structure, retrieval and display

As mentioned, HRAF operates with two thesauri, the Outline of Cultural Materials (OCM) and the Outline of World Cultures (OWC). The OCM is a subject index of over 700 topics and corresponding 3- and 4-digit codes for each term. These codes are required for accurate searching in eHRAF. The OCM is available online and can be browsed from within eHRAF alphabetically or hierarchically. The 2007 "6th edition with modifications," will be available online with the new interface to be released in 2008, and it will be updated continuously. At present the 5th edition is the latest available. The OCM can be purchased in paper for convenience in using the microfiche set, since the OCM codes are consistent between the fiche set and the electronic format.

An abbreviated Outline of World Cultures (OWC) is also available online from within eHRAF. In print, the OWC has 2944 entries; the online edition has only cultures included in eHRAF. As with the OCM, users can browse the OWC alphabetically or hierarchically by region and country from the "browse" tab. The new interface will also include browsing by sub-region. Each culture is represented by a 4-digit alphanumeric code; for example the Ganda culture is represented by FK07. Users do not strictly need to refer to the OWC to search eHRAF however; the small number of cultures represented in eHRAF means it is fairly easy to select these from the scroll-down box.

The new interface promises to automatically link search words to the relevant OCM or OWC code. Choosing terms from the thesauri should then be less necessary, though HRAF representatives recommend continuing to use the OCM codes for sophisticated searching.

The simplest way to use eHRAF is to browse by culture. For example, a user seeking material on the Koryak culture, an aboriginal population in Siberia, can hit the browse tab and either find "Koryak" in the alphabetical list or browse geographically, going to Region: Asia, then Country: Russia, Culture: Koryaks, RY04. Upon opening the Koryak culture file, as with every culture in eHRAF, the user finds a file description, a file table of contents and a cultural summary. The file description summarizes materials in eHRAF and in the microfiche set and gives the publication date of each. The file table of contents is simply an author/title list linking to the source materials. The cultural summary will be especially appreciated by students, as it provides an encyclopedia-type introduction to each culture. In this case, the cultural summary includes alternate names ("ethnonyms") for the Koryaks, notes on their location, language, history, religion, economy, kinship, settlements, and other cultural details. In fact, many of the cultural summaries have been adapted from the "Encyclopedia of World Cultures" (Boston, Mass: G.K. Hall, 1991-1996).

Cross-cultural searching in eHRAF is considerably more difficult. The researcher who tries the search tab is confronted with a search form in three parts. The top section requires an OCM code. The center section is for full-text keyword searching. In the third section users can search or limit by culture.

To take advantage of eHRAF subject indexing, the use of the three-digit OCM subject codes is required in the present interface. The OCM code list is linked next to the search boxes; a pop-up box offers the same choice of alphabetical browsing or hierarchical browsing available from the "Browse Subjects" screen, though the pop-up hierarchical code list is of little use since the codes lacks labels. Up to three codes can be chosen with the present interface but this number will not be limited in the new interface. For example the researcher could search for taboos on personal names by choosing OCM 551 (Personal Names) from one of these lists; the usage notes explain that 551 would be a better choice than 553, which is for the bestowal of names in infancy.

Although the center section of the search page allows keyword searching in eHRAF, this is actively discouraged in the current interface. Since keyword searching bypasses the strength of HRAF—its indexing—this is discouraged by labeling the search box "exact word or phrase." The "Help" and "What Word to Choose?" links both lead to a lengthy explanation of the shortcomings of keyword searching. The new search interface, eHRAF World Cultures, promises to include both a basic and an advanced search page. Basic search will include an "eHRAF Search" feature that links search words to the OCM and OWC codes automatically. The advanced search page will allow Boolean searches of an unlimited combination of subjects, cultures and phrases.

In the third search box, cultures can be chosen singly or in multiples (using **ctrl-click**) from the scroll-down list. The default is to search all cultures simultaneously. Alternatively, users can go to the browse tab and browse cultures alphabetically or geographically, as described above.

For all search types, results of over 100 hits have an unnecessary speed-bump: the system will ask if the user wants to continue. Once subject codes and cultures are entered in the search boxes, the search is executed very quickly.

Search results are organized by region, and within that alphabetically by culture. The number of paragraphs and documents containing that concept are given for each culture. For example, a search on the concept of taboos on personal names (OCM 551) across all cultures reveals 7,173 paragraphs from 917 documents that include this concept. A researcher trying to identify a culture for whom this is a very important concept might observe that eHRAF contains 355 paragraphs from 15 documents in the Zulu culture file (FX20), but only one paragraph from one document about naming practices of the Koryak culture (RY04).

Each hit in the results view displays a list of documents in brief citation format. The document list does not include the date of publication, nor can the results be sorted in any way. For example, if the search brings up a list of 18 documents, the user may need to try them all to locate the most recent document on this concept. Each document title links to second list, this time of numbered

matches of hits within chapters, each leading to a paragraph containing the concept being searched. The numbered links themselves give no information at all, so again the user may need to try them all to find the most relevant results. Thus, a search with many hits may require four intermediary screens before an actual document is viewed.

1. Initial Results View

Your search returned 7173 matching paragraphs within 917 documents in all cultures with ...
OCM subject codes: 551
word/phrase[s]: ""

Click on a culture name to view all results for that culture only.

Region	Culture
Africa	Akan, FE12 63 matching paragraphs in 16 documents Amhara, MP05 28 matching paragraphs in 5 documents Azande, FO07 51 matching paragraphs in 8 documents Bagisu, FK13 12 matching paragraphs in 2 documents Banyoro, FK11 15 matching paragraphs in 6 documents Dinka, FO08 21 matching paragraphs in 2 documents

2. Results for Zulu (FX20)

Your search returned 15 documents in Zulu FX20 with ...
OCM subject codes: 551
word/phrase[s]: ""

Click on a document title to view *detailed results* for that document.

Region / Culture	Documents
Africa / Zulu FX20 [More about this culture]	Berglund, Axel-Ivar / Zulu thought-patterns and symbolism / Document Number: 8 <i>(10 matching paragraphs)</i> Callaway, Henry, 1817-1890 / The religious system of the Amazulu: izinyanga zokubula; or, divination, as existing among the Amazulu, in their own words, with a translation into English, and notes / Document Number: 12 <i>(16 matching paragraphs)</i> Callaway, Henry, 1817-1890 / Nursery tales, traditions, and histories of the Zulus, in their own words, with a translation into English, and notes / Document Number: 13 <i>(5 matching paragraphs)</i>

3. Results for Document Number 15: Raum, Otto Friedrich / The social functions of avoidances and taboos among the Zulu

eHRAF Collection of Ethnography - results view - Mozilla Firefox

File Edit View History Bookmarks Tools Help

eHRAF Collection of Ethnography

Home Search Browse Help Contact

Your search returned 292 matching paragraphs within this document in Zulu FX20 with ...
OCM subject codes: 551
word/phrase[s]: ""

[Help with results](#)

Region / Culture	Documents
Africa / Zulu FX20 [More about this culture]	Raum, Otto Friedrich / The social functions of avoidances and taboos among the Zulu / Document Number: 15 (File Size: 3582K bytes) Section Section Section matches: 1 CHAPTER ONE: HLONIPHA OF SPEECH I. SURVEY OF ZULU NAMES matches: 1 A. INDIVIDUAL NAMES matches: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10 B. GROUP NAMES matches: 1, 2, 3, 4 C. KINSHIP TERMS matches: 1 II. NAME AVOIDANCES IN THE FAMILY OF ORIENTATION A. FATHER matches: 1, 2, 3 B. MOTHER matches: 1, 2 C. CHILDREN matches: 1, 2 D. SIBLINGS 1. PERSONAL NAME matches: 1

4. Results for a single match

eHRAF Collection of Ethnography - document view - Mozilla Firefox

File Edit View History Bookmarks Tools Help

eHRAF Collection of Ethnography

Home Search Browse Help Contact

The social functions of avoidances and taboos among the Zulu / Raum, Otto Friedrich / Doc. Number: 15

[Help with document view](#)

CHAPTER ONE: HLONIPHA OF SPEECH
 I. SURVEY OF ZULU NAMES
 A. INDIVIDUAL NAMES

OCM 551 OCM 553
 Each Zulu has a number of names from childhood on.

Publication Information

Front Matter

Section
 Section
 Section
 Section
 Section
 Section
 Section
 Section
 Section
 Section
 Section
 Section

In cases where one document contains many matches, the user will want to go to the chapter or section heading in order to read several matches in context.

5. Document section view

eHRAF Collection of Ethnography - results view - Mozilla Firefox

File Edit View History Bookmarks Tools Help

eHRAF
Collection of Ethnography

Quick Search Help

Home Search Browse Help Contact

Your search returned 13 matching terms within 1 document in Zulu FX20 with ...

OCM subject codes: 551

word/phrase[s]: "taboo"

1 to 13 of 13 matching terms

[Help with results](#)

Region / Culture	Documents
Africa / Zulu FX20 [More about this culture]	Raum, Otto Friedrich / The social functions of avoidances and taboos among the Zulu / Document Number: 15 (File Size: 3582K bytes)

Section

Section

Section

match ... demand it. More irregularities occur with the SM taboo. A ...

CHAPTER ONE: HLONIPHA OF SPEECH

VI. ALTERNATE GENERATIONS

C. SECOND DESCENDING GENERATION

match ... vacate his hut for them. His hut would have been taboo to his own Da for that purpose. (451) has no ...

VII. NAME AVOIDANCES IN THE ROYAL FAMILY

D. KING AND COMMONERS IN NAME AVOIDANCES

1. Commoners Speaking

match ... ief, nor common words which resemble in sound the tabooed names." He quotes the following examples: ...

The document source list ("eHRAF Source Bibliography") can be searched alone by author, title, and keyword in the abstract. In the present interface, however, results cannot be sorted, complete citations are not given, and there is no way to export results. The new interface promises to remedy the latter two of these shortcomings.

Indexing and subject access

As mentioned earlier, indexing in HRAF is unique and wonderfully granular in that every paragraph of each document has one or more OCM code assigned to it. In this age of keyword searching, students in particular may find this system to be archaic and cumbersome. Anyone who has ever seen the LC "see references" for a cultural group like the Yanomamo, however, will appreciate the need for a controlled vocabulary when searching for ethnographic material. The thorough notes and cross-references in the OCM thesaurus also testify to the complexity inherent in anthropological research. The double thesauri system with indexing at the paragraph level, often with several OCM codes assigned to a single paragraph, allows for cross-cultural comparison as in no other database. Even products like ISI's Social Science Citation Index are limited to the keywords supplied by the author and in the article abstract—a far cry from the level of indexing offered in HRAF.

User guidance

eHRAF has help pages both within eHRAF and through links to the HRAF Web site. Although extensive, the help files are not especially well organized and do not have a search feature. Since the initial search screen is not user-friendly, results screens are not obvious and the help section is voluminous, users may well give up before they actually find a relevant document in eHRAF. If it performs as promised, the new search engine should clear up much of this confusion and make eHRAF far more user-friendly for the novice.

The eHRAF help section includes a tutorial on how to search HRAF. The HRAF home page also includes a guide to how HRAF can be used in teaching, complete with sample exercises. Customer service representatives are very helpful and sometimes attend ALA and ACRL conferences.

Tutorial sessions are available to member institutions via telephone with speaker-phone.

Document availability and export options

Most documents in eHRAF are complete and in full-text. At present eHRAF has no download options however, and printing is limited to a screen print of a single section or chapter. The only alternative to this would be to copy and paste individual passages into a word processor program. The new search interface promises to include the ability to print, download and e-mail search results, but downloading and printing will still be limited to 10 paragraphs.

Comparisons with related resources

HRAF is the only database to provide full-text primary source materials for anthropology, world-wide in scope, and with paragraph-level indexing to allow for cross-cultural comparison. Even when some of the source materials from eHRAF eventually appear on the Web as the result of mass-digitization projects, nothing will replace the thorough subject indexing provided by HRAF. Some other databases overlap in that they contain selected primary source materials (such as Facts On File's *American Indian History Online*), and also index journal literature or provide introductions to various cultures, but as a collection of indexed, full-text ethnographies, HRAF is unique.

Positive aspects

The content and indexing of eHRAF is not only unique, it is tailored to experts in the field. Yet even undergraduate students can find helpful introductory material browsing by culture, and will find useful introductions in the cultural summaries. No researcher would want to use eHRAF as their only source of information on a culture, but eHRAF is an excellent place to start for those cultures included in the product so far. For cross-cultural comparison HRAF is indispensable, and a literature search reveals that many academic articles do cite HRAF as a source of information for this type of research.

Recommendations for improvement

HRAF fills an information gap by providing ethnographic data in context, but at present it may be difficult to convince library patrons to even try it. The main drawback of HRAF is the difficulty of use for the newcomer. Students may be frustrated by the steep learning curve required to search eHRAF, only to find that the database contains a relatively small number of cultures. HRAF as a whole (the microfiche and the database together) is a unique product, but to use it effectively requires a great deal of knowledge about how and why it was created. This should not be the case.

The digital conversion of the fiche set planned for completion within five years, including updates and omissions of outdated material, should do much to improve this database. Many searching and download problems are expected to improve with the new interface, but export and printing options for the full text will still not be possible; these are features that students have come to expect in a full-text database.

Several important improvements have been promised in the near future with the new interface, but with so many electronic products available to students it will be an uphill struggle for HRAF, and any librarian who wishes to recommend eHRAF, to convince patrons to try this database when other more intuitive products are available.

To provide a product desirable to libraries and their users HRAF should be more usable as a full-text archive with stable links and MARC records to individual works provided by HRAF itself. After the microfiche conversion, or perhaps simultaneous with this effort, HRAF should concentrate on updating the culture files with more recent material. The continuous addition of more cultures will undoubtedly be expected by subscribers also. Finally, all changes to the interface should be rigorously tested by way of usability studies with librarians, anthropologists, and especially, with

students.

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Preliminary Meeting Schedule, 2008 Philadelphia

Friday, January 11

6:00 – 9:00p.m. ANSS Social

Saturday, January 12

8:00-9:00 Executive (1st of 2)
10:30-12:00 Sociology Librarians' Disc. Grp.
10:30-12:00 Subject & Biblio. Access Cmttee
1:30-3:30 Liaison
1:30-3:30 Membership
1:30-3:30 Publications
1:30-3:30 Assessment of Library Collections & Services
1:30-5:30 Bibliography
4:00-5:30 CJ/Criminology Disc. Group

Sunday, January 13

10:30-12:00 Conference Planning 2008
10:30-12:00 Nominating Committee 2009
10:30-12:00 Conference Planning 2009
10:30-12:00 Instruction & Info. Literacy
4:00-5:30 Anthropology Librarians' Disc. Group

Monday, January 14

8:00-10:00 Review & Planning
10:30-12:00 Executive (2nd of 2)



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