Status, Activities and Accomplishments this year

1. Most up-to-date membership numbers:
   Our November 2008 membership information has SANA at 448 members – 285 regular members and 163 student members. Fluctuation over the past year has been minimal. We are down from 465 a year ago. Our list serve currently has 770 subscribers (members and non-members).

   List any factors you think may be increasing or decreasing your Section membership:
   We, like other sections, are very concerned about the impact of cuts in departmental budgets as they have and will likely continue to impact the ability of the section to retain members and for members to be able to be active, e.g., to attend conferences. We decided to go to every other year conferences, at least right now, and to seek partnerships with other sections, to help with this problem. Our plan for 2010 is to co-sponsor our spring conference with (at least) AES.

2. Financial balances for both Section budgets and publication sponsored budgets, if applicable (for 2008).
   Our current net assets (according to the last report as of 12/30) are $29,544. We began the year with net assets of $23,463, have $13,576 in revenue to date and $7,495 in expenditures to date.
   - List any factors you think are affecting your Section’s finances:
     On the plus side we are in better shape than at this time last year; on the minus side we are worried about the drop in membership and the long term effects of this and the larger economic crisis. By not having a spring conference we will be saving monies.

3. List your Section’s AAA meeting invited sessions, co-sponsored sessions, and any special events your Section sponsored or in which it participated:
   This information is attached.

4. Spring meeting activities (if applicable):
   SANA co-sponsored a meeting with AES April 3-5th in Wrightsville beach, North Carolina called “Democracy, Disorder and Discontent.” The meeting was very successful. The SANA sessions, in particular, were well attended and the intellectual content high. I am not sure these are the final figures but I believe our share of the registration fees totaled $5,510 and our expenses were
in the neighborhood of $6,686. Although that is not a huge loss it was one reason we decided to go to every other year meetings.

5. Mentorship efforts (at or beyond the AAA meetings) to any of the following:
   - undergraduate and/or graduate students: We offer the St. Clair Drake Student Travel Grants for Students to attend the AAA meetings. This year we awarded 5 travel grants to graduate students to attend the AAA meetings and they were honored publicly at our meeting. We also mentor graduate students as they serve as representatives on our Board.
   - junior scholars:
   - independent scholars:

6. Additional outreach efforts (at or beyond the AAA meetings) to other sections, interest groups, and scholarly societies, government agencies, public education/community engagement, and underrepresented minorities:

7. Awards presented this year on behalf of your Section, if applicable (please provide the title of the award, date presented, and full name, affiliation, and title of the project/paper/accomplishment of the awardees):
   This year the SANA Prize for Distinguished Achievement for the Critical Study of North America was awarded to Professor Jane Collins, University of Wisconsin.

8. Status and use of Section internal communications such as a website, list serve, or newsletter (if applicable): We are in the process of considering significant changes in our website. Noah Gillespie, working with Julian brash, at the University of Toledo has proposed change which the Board continues to discuss. We expect changes to happen in the next few months.

9. Changes in bylaws or governance structure (if applicable): We were successful in getting a by-law change to add a third at large Board member and added this member at the 2008 meeting. We are currently building our nominations slate which will include one at large member, the secretary and treasurer. At this point there are no major planned changes in governance. We are going to institutionalize and formalize term lengths for the three graduate student representatives we currently have on the board, something that is in process right now.

Future plans or activities in the next 3-5 years

1. Do you have any plans or activities specifically aimed at increasing your membership and/or broadening your membership (i.e., students, independent scholars, scholars of color)? Nothing beyond what we are currently doing. Our membership chair is thinking about this.

2. Do you have any plans or activities aimed at creating new forms of scholarly communication or changing existing publications/communications? We have a wonderful new editor for North American Dialogues who is working to make this publication more tri-cultural. This has included naming a small editorial board the composition of which explicitly recognizes the desire to do outreach to and solicit and review pieces by scholars from Mexico and Canada, as well as the U.S.

3. Any other projects that your Section has underway or discussed with its members: We are working on our website.

4. What (if any) collaboration is your Section doing with other Sections, Interest Groups, or outside groups on the projects listed above?

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? I did raise at the Section Assembly an issue which is very important to
SANA, and appears, at least on the basis of informal conversations I have had with others, is an issue of quite broad concern – the restricted formats for annual meeting sessions. One of the topics of extensive discussion at this year’s SANA retreat and annual meeting, was the yearning of many of us for sessions that could be less rigidly structured in terms of a series of 15-minute papers with discussants. We propose a broader menu of scientific session formats that could all be designed to foster more vibrant intellectual exchange at the one (or two, if you hold your own meeting) annual meetings each year. We want to see panels that could stimulate dialogue, debate, real exchange among participants and with the audience, something that is all too rare when people give a series of 15 minute (and go over often) papers and then the discussant discusses 9 often without having had benefit of the papers much in advance), and the “really good part” is a few minutes. On the other hand, we want to be sure that the non-standard formats we are proposing “count” as papers so people can still get travel funds. There has to be a better way to accomplish both ends!!

2. What issues would you like raised or recommendations would you like to make to the AAA Executive Board?
One of SANA’s priorities is the continuing diversification by race, ethnicity, gender, sexuality status, and nationality of the field of anthropology. We are hoping to intersect with the AAA Commission on race and Racism in Anthropology in ways that we, as a section, can help in a discipline-wide effort to promote growing diversity among graduate students and faculty in our field. Re: the Executive Board – the issue has to do with how to connect sections with the efforts of central committees such as this one.

3. What issues would you like raised or recommendations would you like to make to the AAA Staff?
Society for the Anthropology of North America
Sessions and Events

Wednesday
Diversity, Multiculturalism and Hegemony
12:00 PM  1:45 PM  Yosemite A

Transnational Lives, Political Practices
4:00 PM  5:45 PM  Lombard

Race, Multiculturalism, and Paradoxes of "Equality"
6:00 PM  7:45 PM  Continental Parlor 2

Troubled citizens; troubling citizenship: paradoxes of inclusion and engagement
6:00 PM  7:45 PM  Continental Parlor 3

Thursday
New States of War and Policing
8:00 AM  9:45 AM  Yosemite B

Post-Industrial Realities: Work, Welfare, and Health Care
8:00 AM  9:45 AM  Continental Parlor B

Board Meeting
12:15 PM  1:30 PM  Union Square 12

Transnational Exigencies: Deportation as Social Experience
1:45 PM  3:30 PM  Taylor B

Urban Subjects of Value: Ethnography in the Neoliberalizing City
1:45 PM  3:30 PM  Sutter B

Inclusion, Collaboration and Engagement In the Research and Praxis of Karen Brodkin
4:00 PM  5:45 PM  Sutter B

Network of Concerned Anthropologists Open Meeting
6:15 PM  7:30 PM  Continental Parlor 1