A QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER FOR AFRICAN STUDIES ASSOCIATION MEMBERS

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FROM THE SECRETARIAT...

Bulletin -- ASA CHANGES DATES OF 1991 ANNUAL MEETING

We received word on December 20 that the hotel selected for the 1991 Annual Meeting in St. Louis was being closed by its owners as of January 1, 1991. After some frantic scrambling, we located two other possible sites for our conference, both of which were able to accommodate us only on a single weekend—November 23-26, 1991.

We are pleased to announce that we have contracted with the Adam's Mark Hotel, a lovely facility with excellent meeting space, for our 34th Annual Meeting. The Adam's Mark is located in the heart of downtown St. Louis across from the city's most famous landmark, the arch, beyond which flows the Mississippi River.

Unfortunately, there are two problems with the November meeting dates. By planning well in advance and working with all ASA meeting participants, we hope to minimize possible difficulties.

First, the dates of the 1991 ASA Annual Meeting overlap, though they do not coincide with, the annual meeting of the American Anthropological Association, scheduled to convene from 20-24 November in Chicago. We are in touch with the AAA and hope to work with their program committee to schedule ASA panels to accommodate anthropologists wishing to attend both conferences.

Second, the 1991 ASA meeting will be held just before the Thanksgiving holiday, beginning on Saturday morning, November 23 and ending at midday on Tuesday, November 26. Some US-based ASA members will welcome these dates, arguing that students rarely attend class anyway on the Monday and Tuesday before Thanksgiving. However, because air traffic gets very heavy at that time of year, it will be important that participants reserve and purchase their air tickets well in advance. We have been assured by several airlines that inexpensive fares are available even at peak holiday travel times, provided tickets are purchased early. We expect to be able to circulate the preliminary program by midsummer this year, and we urge members to purchase their air tickets as soon as they receive the preliminary program.

Meanwhile, we have published on pages 33-36 the forms for the proposal of panels and papers. Please remember that you must be a 1991 ASA member when you submit your proposal for consideration for the program. Keep in mind too that participants normally will be accepted to make only one presentation: as a paper presenter, a roundtable participant, or a discussant. However, individuals may chair one panel and in addition make one presentation.