
ASA NEWS

 **A NEWSLETTER FOR
AFRICAN STUDIES
ASSOCIATION MEMBERS**

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Please note that the United States Postal Service does not forward publications. To ensure uninterrupted delivery, your address must be updated at least five weeks before the new address goes into effect. Address updates may be made online at www.africanstudies.org or in writing to the Secretariat at ASA, Rutgers-The State University of New Jersey, Douglass Campus, 132 George Street, New Brunswick, NJ 08901. If a publication is returned, the ASA will suspend all future mailings until the new address is received.

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From the Executive Director...

On behalf of the Board and the ASA membership, I would like to thank the following individuals for their tireless commitment in working with the Secretariat for a successful 48th Annual Meeting in Washington, DC: Program Chair Elisha Renne and the members of the Program Committee; Local Arrangements Committee Co-Chairs Gilbert Khadiagala and Margaret Lee, and the members of the Local Arrangements Committee. The effervescence of collegial encounters during the Annual Meeting often results in work that is published in ASA journals. I would like to thank the ASA journal editors Ralph Faulkingham (ASR), Mitzi Goheen (ASR), and David Henige (HIA) for their important service to the Association. Finally, the dedication of the ASA Prize and Award Committees is evident through the Presidential Lecture and Award Ceremony, and I would like to thank everyone who served on these committees in 2005.

A record 1,985 payment-confirmed registrants attended the Annual Meeting along with approximately thirty student volunteers and a dozen representatives from media outlets. Some ASA members took advantage of the serendipity of the overlapping meeting of the Middle East Studies Association to enjoy joint panels and roundtables and admission to the MESA Exhibit Hall and Film Festival. MESA members reciprocated, and they happily joined in the celebration during the ever-popular ASA Dance Party! As always, the exhibits were highly valued, and the Secretariat invites members to help identify potential future exhibitors. The Final Program was also replete with advertisements. Contact the Secretariat should you know of other potential advertisers. If you have not done so already, please download and complete a participant evaluation form from the ASA website and return it to the Secretariat. The participant evaluations provide important feedback to the Board and the Secretariat for planning future Annual Meetings.

Two other noteworthy events occurred in Washington, DC: a Town Meeting, which was convened in response to reactions to the Treasurer's report regarding the status of ASA finances (please see President Joe Miller's letter in this issue for further information). In addition, a meeting was held to discuss the mutually beneficial relationship between the ASA and ASA Coordinate Organizations. This discussion will continue in the coming year.

ASA membership follows the calendar year, January 1 through December 31. Please renew by March 15th to ensure full membership privileges, including receiving all ASA publications, voting in the ASA elections and on other ASA matters, serving on ASA committees, and nominating individuals for the Distinguished Africanist and International Visitor awards.

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