

American Folklore Society

2012

ANNUAL REPORT

CONTINUITY and creativity



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FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear Friends,

It has been my pleasure and honor to serve as President of the American Folklore Society in 2012. Every day I grow prouder and more confident in our field and in the Society. This year, AFS marks its 125th year as a scholarly society, will hold its 124th annual meeting in October, and—believe it or not—will publish the 500th issue of the *Journal of American Folklore*! Our organization has never been stronger. Our endowment fund—meant to help support and strengthen AFS for the next century and beyond—has over \$120,000 in it today, and to date, members have pledged an estimated additional \$1.1 million that will come to AFS from their wills and estates in future decades. Our membership numbers continue to grow, with roughly two thousand members and subscribers representing a variety of disciplines and types of professional institutions, and—most importantly for our future—including a growing number of students. In the current economic and political climate, our growth and successes are truly triumphs.

Each year our organization also becomes more international. One sixth of our membership now lives outside of the United States, and our partnerships with folklore societies in other countries continue to grow. Underway since 2007, our China partnerships have led to funding from the Henry Luce Foundation to support the China-US Forum on Intangible Cultural Heritage, and, more recently, to funding from the Ford Foundation's Beijing office to explore further collaborations. We have now held three conferences together with our Chinese colleagues (one in the US and two in China). Our final conference in this series, focusing on comparing fieldwork and archival practices in our two countries, will take place at the Smithsonian's National Museum of the American Indian in May 2013. We are also currently working on our second China-US professional exchange program, supported by the Luce Foundation with additional funding from the Asian Cultural Council, which has facilitated American scholars visiting China and Chinese scholars visiting American universities and agencies. We're now seeking further funding for comparative explorations of ethnographic museums and of undergraduate and graduate education in folklore studies in China and the US.

Since 2010 we have also been working on establishing a partnership with the Instituto Nacional de Antropología e Historia/National Institute of Anthropology and History (INAH) in Mexico. At our 2011 Bloomington and 2012 New Orleans annual meetings, we included sessions on folklore studies in Mexico, jointly presented by AFS and INAH. In 2011 we signed a memorandum of understanding with the Folklore Society of Japan, which in 2012 helped to facilitate live-translated Japanese-language presentations from Japanese folklorists at the annual meeting. In June 2013, we will be inviting the International Society for Folk Narrative Research to meet with us for a joint AFS/ISFNR meeting in the US in 2016. While we are still the *American Folklore Society*, we understand that our relationships with folklorists around the world contribute significantly to the depth, breadth, and richness of our understanding of our discipline.

Building on the success of our award-winning Open Folklore collaborative project with Indiana University Libraries, we continue to work to make folklore materials more accessible online. Using funds provided by the National Endowment for the Humanities, AFS has been coordinating work on the National Folklore Archives Initiative. Our project team has developed a database to contain information about the collections of folklore archives around the country, and since

the summer of 2012, 12 archives have been testing the database by entering information about their collections. Our team is also carrying out a national survey of smaller, more “hidden” collections, and will be entering that information into the database as well. In the next year, the database will go public, and will provide a unified point of access to information about these collections across the US—one that will grow in value over time as more archives add more information to it. We hope to link our archives database with Open Folklore before long, so that a single search (for, say, work on traditional boatbuilding, folk Catholicism, or oral epic traditions) will be able to encompass published and unpublished scholarly work, web resources, and archival holdings. It’s a testament to the value of our National Folklore Archives Initiative that folklore archivists from several other countries have approached us about the possibility of “building out” our project to include their countries, and that archivists from several other fields have contacted us, wanting to adapt our work to their own needs.

In 2012 we also continued the work we’ve done since 2009 with funding from the National Endowment for the Arts to support consultancies for public folklore organizations and professional development opportunities for individual public folklorists. Finally, we have just begun the 11th year of our partnership with the American Folklife Center’s Veterans History Project to offer community-based workshops led by folklorists and oral historians to document the experiences of US military veterans.

We often say that “AFS” (the organization) received a grant or contract to carry out this or that special project, but in fact, a major part of the funding AFS receives for these projects ends up directly benefiting people and organizations in our field through direct payments for work on a project, support of consultancies to provide an organization with outside expertise, participation in field-wide efforts that bring greater visibility to all parties involved, or support of professional development opportunities that help individual folklorists gain needed skills. It’s important to remember that “AFS” is, after all, the sum of its members, and that the AFS that receives these grants and contracts includes a great many of you and your organizations.

This past summer, the *Journal of American Folklore* launched its multimedia site, operated for us by the University of Illinois Press, on which *JAF* authors can place photos, sound, and video, evidencing and enhancing their work. These documentary materials will be permanently linked to their corresponding *JAF* contributions, and stable URLs will allow for permanent citations of these multimedia works. Our congratulations go to *JAF* editors Tom DuBois and Jim Leary, to their editorial staff, and to the University of Illinois Press for making this development possible.

I am delighted that this year we are continuing the AFS-supported folklore and public policy working groups by adding a new area to our focus. Following the efforts of our working groups on health and public policy and folklore and historic preservation, our new working group will focus on folklore and museum policy and practice. These groups explore new ways to get our message out, beyond the walls of academe and our public agencies, in order to engage the field of folklore more fully in public policy arenas where the perspectives and work of folklorists can make significant contributions.

In 2013 we begin our third long-range planning effort, undertaking a review and update of our present strategic plan. I want to thank the more than four hundred of you who provided detailed and thoughtful responses to last winter's member survey, and to Rob Vanscoyoc of the AFS staff for his work to review, collate, and analyze those responses. Your responses will be especially valuable to us as we begin to review our current practices and our plan for the future.

Most important and exciting, we are beginning to transition the AFS Endowment Fund from its so-called "quiet phase," in which we held private conversations with potential donors, to inviting all of our members to include AFS in their gift giving and in pledges from their future estates. For those who don't know, the executive board created the Endowment Fund in 2003 as a way for Society members and friends to support the field of folklore by strengthening its scholarly organization for the long term. Since this campaign began, our colleagues have made present gifts or pledged future contributions with a future value, so far, totaling over \$1.2 million. Of course, of this total, only about 10 percent now resides in our endowment account. The remainder will come to the Society over many years in various forms as part of members' estates, but we are building future stability for our Society. We encourage you to contribute to the Endowment Fund, which offers you a way to leave a valuable legacy to the field in which you have spent your career. Anyone can make a gift to the fund; we welcome present gifts and future pledges from you in any amount. Your gift will help to provide a source of permanent financial support to the Society, sustaining its ability to support work that expresses your personal and professional values. We need you to help us continue all of the work I've summarized above that we are doing to support our members and our field.

Last but not least, I want to thank our incredible staff: our executive director Tim Lloyd, our associate director Lorraine Cashman, and our administrative associate Rob Vanscoyoc. As all of you who have had any personal interaction with the Society's staff know, they are the ones who keep us moving forward, with smiles and, I believe, a real joy in the service they provide for our field. I would also like to thank our executive board, the people who have participated in our many important committees over the year, and all of you, our loyal members, who remind us on a daily basis why we love our field.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Diane E. Goldstein". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned to the left of the typed name below it.

Diane E. Goldstein, President

HIGHLIGHTS

Membership

As of August 31, 2012, AFS membership was up 13 percent from five years ago. Student membership was up 39 percent from then.

Annual Meeting

The annual meeting in New Orleans was one of the best attended in AFS history (only the centennial meetings in 1988 and 1989 had higher attendance). There were just over eight hundred registrants, including a record number of international participants.

The sites for the next three AFS annual meetings are Providence, RI (October 2013), Santa Fe, NM (November 2014), and Long Beach, CA (October 2015).

Communications

Journal of American Folklore editors Thomas A. DuBois and James P. Leary, along with Paul Arroyo of the University of Illinois Press, successfully produced and debuted a *JAF* multimedia site, onto which authors can publish audio and visual materials to supplement their *JAF*-published work.

The *AFS Ethnographic Thesaurus* found a permanent online host in the Indiana University Digital Library Program.

Special Projects

AFS received new grants and contracts for special projects to benefit the field:

- From the Asian Cultural Council, for additional support of AFS's China-US professional exchange program.

- From the Ford Foundation, for support of two planning meetings of the leaders of AFS and the China Folklore Society.

AFS also continued work on these existing special projects:

- The AFS-managed national program of community-based workshops about collecting oral histories from military veterans, now in its 11th year (American Folklife Center's Veterans History Project)
- The China-US Forum on Intangible Cultural Heritage, which is producing four conferences comparing China and US policies on ICH, and a series of professional development exchanges for younger academic, public, and independent folklorists from the two countries, now in its first phase (Henry Luce Foundation)
- The AFS Consultancy and Professional Development Program, now in its fourth year (National Endowment for the Arts)
- The scholarly edition of the James Madison Carpenter Collection, a major collection documenting folksong, folk drama, folk music, and customs in the United Kingdom and, to a lesser extent, the US (National Endowment for the Humanities)
- The National Folklore Archives Initiative, an AFS collaboration with academic, governmental, and public folklore organizations across the country, now in its design and testing phase (National Endowment for the Humanities)

Folklore and Public Policy

AFS supported the activities of a working group on folklore and historic preservation

policy. This working group has been undertaking a number of efforts intended to provide meaningful opportunities for folklorists to join current dialogues about historic preservation policies of the future.

Election

The nominating committee produced an excellent slate of qualified candidates for the 2012 election, evidenced by the fact that all final vote counts were some of the closest in memory. Margaret A. Mills and Michael Ann Williams were nominated for president. Brent Björkman, Charlie McCormick, Tom Mould, Pravina Shukla, and Carolyn Ware were nominated for three open seats on the executive board. Laura Marcus Green and Margaret Capili Magat were nominated for an open seat on the nominating committee.

Michael Ann Williams of Western Kentucky University was elected president for a 2013–2016 term. She will serve as president-elect in 2013, as president beginning in 2014, and as past president in 2016.

Brent Björkman of Western Kentucky University, Pravina Shukla of Indiana University, and Carolyn Ware of Louisiana State University were elected to the executive board for 2013–2015 terms.

The executive board also elected Maria Carmen Gambliel of the Idaho Commission on the Arts for a 2013–2015 term on the board.

Laura Marcus Green, an independent folklorist from Santa Fe, New Mexico, was elected to the nominating committee for a 2013–2015 term.

The number of members casting votes rose from 317 in the last presidential election in 2010 to 377 in 2012—a 19 percent increase.

AFS Prizes and Awards

The annual Lifetime Scholarly Achievement Award went to Wolfgang Mieder of the University of Vermont.

The Chicago Folklore Prize for the best book-length work of folklore scholarship of the year went to Debra Lattanzi Shutika of George Mason University for *Beyond the Borderlands: Migration and Belonging in the United States and Mexico* (University of California Press, 2011).

The Benjamin A. Botkin Prize for achievement in public folklore went to Bob Gates of the Kentucky Folklife Program and to Ethel Raim of the Center for Traditional Music and Dance in New York City.

“The annual meeting in New Orleans was one of the best attended in AFS history... [with] over eight hundred registrants... [and] a record number of international participants.”

The Zora Neale Hurston Prize for the best student work on African or African diaspora folklore went to Kate Parker Horgan of The Ohio

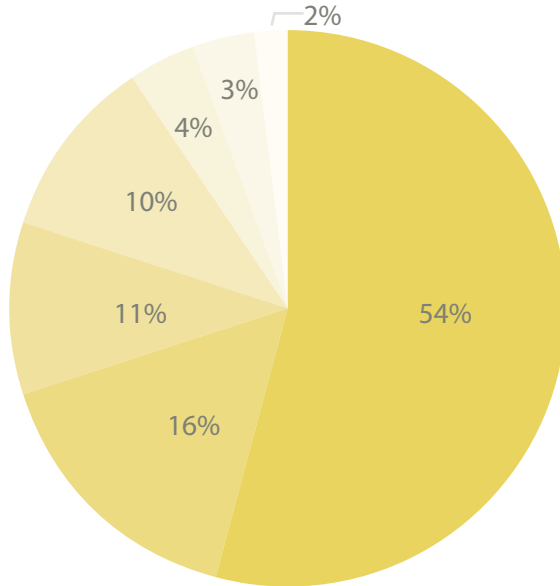
State University for her paper “Unofficial Histories in Katrina Survivor Narratives.”

The Américo Paredes Prize for achievement in studying one’s own culture and encouraging students and colleagues to do the same went to Olivia Cadaval of the Center for Folklife and Cultural Heritage, Smithsonian Institution.

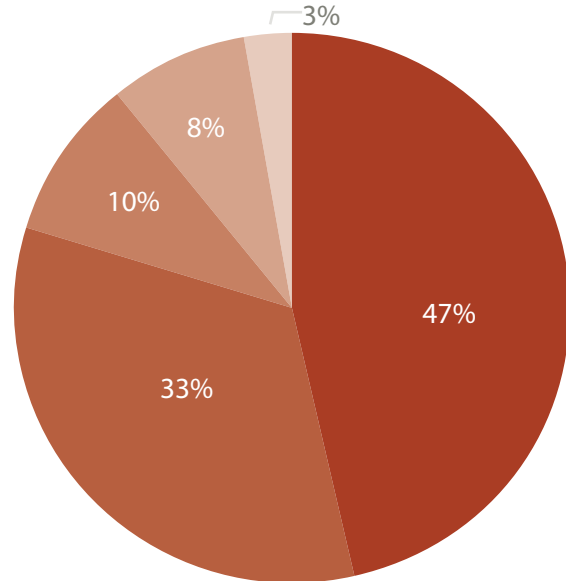
Jane Beck, Burt Feintuch, Marcia Gaudet, and Jim Griffith were made Fellows of the American Folklore Society.













FINANCIAL SUMMARY

Revenue



Expenses



 Grants and Contracts	\$419,634	 Programs	\$358,274
 Publications	\$124,004	 Management/Administration	\$254,789
 Membership	\$81,790	 Publications	\$73,342
 Annual Meeting*	\$75,950	 Annual Meeting*	\$62,700
 Other Revenue	\$32,059	 Sections	\$20,300
 Investment Income	\$26,670		
 Sections	\$14,235		

Total Revenue	\$774,342	Total Expenses	\$769,405
Net Income	\$4,937		

* As the AFS fiscal year actually runs from September 1 through August 31, the annual meeting figures displayed here represent the 2011 meeting in Bloomington.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Committee on International Issues

This year the committee was able to support five foreign scholars with travel stipends to the AFS conference in New Orleans: Valentina Punzi (Università degli studi di Napoli L'Orientale), Jeremy Woodruff (Neue Musikschule Berlin), Helmut Groschwitz (Rheinische Friedrich-Wilhelms-Universität Bonn), Tongju Diao (Shandong University), and Yujun Yang (Chung Cheng University). All of these recipients presented papers at the conference. We hope to cultivate our relations with them in coming years.

In light of the growing international visibility of the Society and the prolonged tenure of several of our members, the committee on international issues granted itself a coup d'état in 2012.

Michael Dylan Foster has replaced me as committee chair. I have cycled off the committee, and so have the other longest-serving members, Dorry Noyes and JoAnn Conrad. Agreeing that the committee would benefit from having fewer members, we have asked everyone except new arrival David McDonald to cycle off. Katey Borland of The Ohio State University has also joined the committee. Katey, David, and Michael will be joined, as usual, by an appointee from the executive board. Committee members will serve renewable three-year terms.

We have also agreed that the committee needs to rethink its mission and direction. For instance, as member Mark Bender has pointed out, "There is a potentially very large number of eligible [Chinese] candidates simply due to the large number of folklorists and folklore programs in China and the big push towards 'preserving' national heritage under way today. Another factor to consider is the

multi-ethnic picture in China." The American Folklore Society's international engagements are increasing every year. The committee hopes to help these efforts.

Serving on this committee has been an inspiring activity for which I am grateful.

Lee Haring, Chair

Cultural Diversity Committee

The members of this committee in 2012, with the ending dates of their terms, were Marilyn M. White, Chair (2013), Jerrilyn McGregory (2014), Selina Morales (2014), Diana N'Diaye (2013), Amy Skillman (2012), and William Westerman (2012).

"The American Folklore Society's international engagements are increasing every year."

At the annual meeting in New Orleans, the committee discussed several programming and scheduling recommendations and possibilities for the 2013 annual meeting in Providence, including outreach and special invitations to members of the Cape Verdean community and a reunion of Gerald L. Davis Travel Award recipients.

The committee also undertook a study of the process for publicizing and reviewing the applications for its existing awards, the Zora Neale Hurston Prize and the Davis Travel Awards, and is making plans for a committee page on the AFS website.

Finally, the committee discussed focusing its diversity efforts (and the majority of AFS's membership-development efforts) on undergraduate education; after all, it is where the folklorists of the future, largely, are now.

Marilyn M. White, Chair

JOURNAL OF AMERICAN FOLKLORE

From the General Editors

Issues 497–500 of the *Journal of American Folklore* contained 2 addresses, 11 articles, 1 creative writing piece, 3 notes on practice, and a variety of obituaries and reviews. In including notes on practice, the editors made good on their promise to create openings for the discussion and presentation of activities related to the practical work of folklorists. In terms of submissions, *JAF* received a total of 54 articles during the calendar year. Of these, the journal rejected 29, accepted 9, and still had 16 under review at the end of the year.

The past year also marked the launch of a permanent [multimedia companion site to *JAF*](#), maintained by the University of Illinois Press, to accommodate additional still photographs (including color images), video clips, and sound recordings complementing the print version of the journal and linked to the electronic version. This addition not only aligns *JAF* more closely with our field's longstanding commitment to multi-format ethnographic documentation and production, but also prepares the journal for a possible shift to fully electronic delivery should such a transformation be warranted and supported by the AFS board and membership.

In recognition of the 125th anniversary of AFS and the 500th issue of *JAF*, we have also striven to create a combination of "special" and "themed" issues assembled from individual submissions that address emergent and enduring emphases in our field. Volume 125 (2012) commenced with a special issue on the legacies of Américo Paredes (accepted by the prior *JAF* editors), followed by a trio of issues consisting of individual submissions organized, respectively, to illuminate trauma and the politics of culture, African American folklore, and children's folklore. The first volume of 2013 (volume 126, number 499)

and the landmark 500th issue to come are both "themed" publications. The former concerns American Indian folklore, offering contemporary scholarship regarding cultures dominating early 20th-century volumes of *JAF* but largely neglected since then. The latter examines the pioneering efforts of exemplary women folklorists. Subsequent *JAF* issues in development will rely similarly on a combination of special and themed issues to engage such broad topics as Asian American folklore, Mexican American folklore, digital folklore, developments in computational folklore related to archives and databases, folk music traditions and the construction of "country music" (considered 50 years after the landmark issue on "hillbilly" music), and more.

We anticipate that, by the end of the 2013 calendar year, we will have accepted and organized *JAF* issues that will extend to the end of our editorial term. Likewise, in keeping with prior practice in *JAF* editorial transitions, we plan to accept roughly a year's worth of additional pieces to hand over to the incoming editors who, we assume, will be appointed in early 2014 and will begin their work in January 2015 during our final year as co-editors.

For whatever it's worth, we have found co-editing *JAF* to be a challenging and sometimes complicated job, and are perpetually grateful to be able to share the work. This is not to say that the job is too much for a single editor, but rather to point out that, in our case, a shared editorship has worked very well indeed.

Thomas A. DuBois and James P. Leary, Editors

Book Reviews

From January 1 to November 1, 2012, 84 books were received for review. The *JAF* editors received 19 completed reviews and 33 reviews

were published during this time frame. There are currently 37 books out for review. I would like to thank everyone who has completed a review during the last year. Reviewers and potential reviewers are welcome to [contact me](#) directly with any further inquiries.

A backlog of books written by folklorists and in need of review continues to exist; I encourage prominent and active members of the field to contribute to the important scholarly task of evaluating research and contributions to knowledge by doing book reviews. If solicited to write a review, please consider every possibility to agree, or be prepared to suggest the name of an even more qualified colleague.

Gregory Hansen, Book Review Editor

Exhibit and Event Reviews

In 2012, interest in writing exhibit and event reviews picked up considerably. Two reviews are in the office, and I am preparing them for publication. More exhibit reviewers volunteered this year or were drafted by colleagues, and I patiently await their submissions. I am actively looking for reviewers for specific exhibits (including one touring in China), and I always welcome recommendations for exhibits and events to review. The field is flush with exhibits and events produced by folklorists or of interest to the field. Finding reviewers in close proximity, however, continues to prove difficult. As current outstanding reviews are received, *JAF* could soon see at least six new exhibit reviews.

Lisa L. Higgins, Exhibit and Event Review Editor

Sound Recording Reviews

In 2011, I reviewed and approved for publication eight sound recording reviews. During 2012, *JAF* was still publishing a backlog of reviews approved by the previous editors. Because of the backlog, I solicited fewer reviews last year. Three are in the works but are yet to have been received. As the journal has now caught up with the backlog, I plan to solicit more reviews again in 2013.

Willie Smyth, Sound Recording Review Editor

Website Reviews

In 2012, I received four web review contributions, of which three were approved for publication. Website reviews, a relatively new feature in *JAF*, focus primarily on the utility of the site for research and teaching. While web reviews often talk about a site's scholarship and how it fits within the standards of the cultures addressed, they must also address issues of navigation and interface design. Reviews should be up to one thousand words long, including the title, bibliographic information that runs at the top of the review, and the body of the review itself.

Nicole Saylor, Website Review Editor

The *JAF* multimedia companion site “aligns *JAF* more closely with our field’s longstanding commitment to multi-format ethnographic documentation and production.”

SECTION PUBLICATIONS

Children's Folklore Review

This 34th volume of *Children's Folklore Review* offers research by children's folklore scholars in both the United States and Japan. I am delighted that our journal is continuing to publish international submissions and want to encourage other international scholars to submit manuscripts for future issues.

The first article, "Manipulating Play Frames: The Yo Momma Joke Cycle on YouTube," was written by Steve Stanzak, one of the two co-winners of the 2011 William Wells Newell Prize. Stanzak's innovative article analyzes YouTube performances of jokes, in which the way the jokes are told seems to be a more important source of humor than the jokes themselves.

Besides Stanzak's Newell Prize-winning essay, this volume of *Children's Folklore Review* contains three other essays. Linda Kinsey Spetter's "Zashikiwarashi, The Ghost That is Saving Japan" explores the relationship between traditional stories about ghosts of unborn children and current social problems in Japan. It is very interesting to see that this ghost has six different visual representations, one of which is on the cover of this volume of *Children's Folklore Review*. Robyn M. Holmes's "Young Children's Table Talk with Peers in Early Childhood Settings" examines the intricacies of young children's conversation during lunch, taking into account gender, social class, and other important variables. In contrast to Holmes's study of young children, my own essay "The White Lady of Devil's Elbow" addresses the behavior of teenagers who play pranks related to a well-established local ghost legend near Owego, New York.

All back issues of *Children's Folklore Review*, except the most recent one, are now available online on [Indiana University's ScholarWorks website](#). It is wonderful to know that the

research published by our journal is now accessible to anyone who has a computer.

I want to thank the Dean's Office at Harpur College of Binghamton University, which has covered all the expenses of *Children's Folklore Review* during my time as editor. I am also very grateful to Kathy Buchta for her excellent work on layout/design, and to Sheridan Press for its fine printing and mailing service.

I am glad to continue as editor of *CFR* for the coming year but have asked the executive board of the Children's Folklore Section to find a new editor by the end of 2013. The new editor will need to have a subvention of approximately \$2,500.00. If it proves to be difficult to find a subvention, another option would be to go to web-only publication. The Children's Folklore Section has been discussing this option for several years and may decide that it makes sense for future issues of the journal. I hope the journal can continue to be printed and mailed but know that it may not be financially feasible to do so. *CFR* has been a significant and successful journal; I hope it will continue to thrive in the future.

Thanks very much for your support of *Children's Folklore Review*.

Elizabeth Tucker, Editor

Digest

In September, the Foodways Section of AFS relaunched its publication, *Digest*, as an online, open-access academic journal. Editors of the new *Digest*, Diane Tye and Mike Lange, draw on the support of students and faculty in Memorial University of Newfoundland's Department of Folklore as well as Champlain College's Graphic Design and Web Design programs. Diane (at Memorial) handles the

content and editing while Mike (at Champlain) takes care of the design and digital publication. Keeping folklore at the core, the editors hope to attract submissions from a wide range of disciplines, and to appeal to a wide audience by including material ranging from full-length peer-reviewed articles to smaller miscellany.

Volume 1, number 1 of the new series of *Digest* included five articles: Jennifer Rachel Dutch's "Grandma's Gone Global: Recipe Transmission from the Kitchenette to the Internet"; Claire Forstie's "From Rosy to Regrettable: Mixed Nostalgia and the Meanings of Jell-O Salad"; Michael Lange's "Sweet Bedfellows: Continuity, Change, and Terroir in Maple Syrup"; Greg de St. Maurice's "'The Real of the Real': Kyoto's Heirloom Vegetables and Articulations of Authenticity"; and Claire Schmidt's "'She Said She'd Never Even Had Fried Chicken!': Fried Chicken, Humor and Race in *Bob Roberts*." Appropriately, the inaugural issue of the relaunched *Digest* looked to the future of foodways research with the celebration of student work. This focus is evidenced in the publication of four articles that were winners of the Sue Samuelson Award for Foodways Scholarship (first place winners and honorable mentions from 2010 and 2011).

The editors of *Digest* hope to publish current ethnographic work as well as report on works in progress. Volume 1, number 1 featured "Food for Decoration: An Ethnographic Note on Semana Santa in the P'urhépecha Community of Santo Santiago de Angahuan, Michoacán, México," an ethnographic report by Mintzi Auanda Martinez-Rivera on her research on food as Holy Week decoration in Santo Santiago de Angahuan, Mexico, in 2009. LuAnne Roth's "Poison is Poison: Folklorist/Parent Seeks Curricular Antidotes to the Myth of the First Thanksgiving" reflects on important contributions folklorists might make to educational curricula.

Finally, the first issue included three maple syrup recipes, one illustrated recipe for Newfoundland tea buns, reprints of historic food ads, two photographs, and a book review.

Since the release of volume 1, we have been actively soliciting materials for upcoming issues. Preparations are already underway for *Digest* 2.1, which is scheduled to be released in spring 2013.

Michael Lange and Diane I. Tye, Editors

The Folklore Historian

Volume 28 (2011) was printed and mailed in August 2012. The manuscripts for this volume were all solicited from panels at the 2010 AFS meeting in Nashville—two from the Greatest Generation panel, and one from the panel announcing the AFS Oral History Project. The volume included an excerpt from Fife Folklore Archivist Randy Williams's interview of Barre Toelken for the project.

We included several photographs with the Michael Owen Jones history of the UCLA Folklore and Mythology Program and Center. Receiving and formatting the photos delayed production but the finished product was worth the wait. The volume received excellent editorial assistance from Christa Baxter Drake, a Brigham Young University graduate student.

The journal continued with photography on the front and back covers for 2011. Advisory editors continued to be Michael Dylan Foster, Ellen McHale, Ronald Baker, W. F. H. Nicolaisen, Simon Bronner, and Nan McIntire.

With the move from Indiana State University, the advisory editors agreed that Hoosier Folklore Society members will no longer receive the journal with their membership. I am working

with Lorraine Walsh Cashman of AFS to ensure that all affected subscribers, including libraries, continue to receive the journal.

We received few queries or submissions in 2012, though one was accepted for the 2012 volume. Although we had planned for volume 29 to come entirely from a 2011 AFS panel organized by Thomas Carter, only a paper by Carter was promised.

Volume 29 may come out in 2014 with more submissions and/or as a themed issue on the 125th anniversary of the American Folklore Society. Advisory editors can help plan appropriate sessions for the Providence meeting in October 2013 and solicit more manuscripts based on those sessions.

The journal continues to receive support from the BYU College of Humanities as well as from the Folklore and History Section. Editing and production support is provided by the BYU Humanities Publication Group with Mel Thorne as director.

Jill Terry Rudy, Editor

Jewish Cultural Studies

The [Jewish Cultural Studies Series](#) is published by Littman Library of Jewish Civilization in cooperation with the Jewish Folklore and Ethnology Section of the American Folklore Society. In 2012, copyediting was completed for volume 4 of the series, *Framing Jewish Culture: Boundaries and Representations*, edited by Simon J. Bronner and scheduled for publication in late 2013. A call for submissions was also issued for the fifth volume, on Jewish cyberculture, to be edited by Simon J. Bronner and Andrea Lieber.

Simon J. Bronner, Editor

New Directions in Folklore

[New Directions in Folklore \(NDiF\)](#) is the refereed, open access e-journal of the NewFolk@AFS Section, a community of over one hundred scholars, professionals, and graduate students dedicated to pushing the envelope of scholarship in the exploration of contemporary culture. This year we had the pleasure of publishing volume 10, number 1. It contained two full-length articles—"Don't Laugh at Kim-Il Sung: Anecdote, Occupational Narrative and Representation in Guy Delisle's *Pyongyang*" by Nicholas Hartmann, and "Absurdist Narratives in the Sunshine State: Comic, Criminal, Folkloric, and Fantastic Escapades in the Swamps and Suburbs of Florida" by Jason Marc Harris—as well as a "Notes" essay by Michael Dylan Foster titled "The Fall and Rise of the 'Tourist Guy': Humor and Pathos in Photoshop Folklore."

We currently plan to publish a special double-issue in spring 2013 that will feature a handful of excellent folkloristic articles, notes, and book reviews—many of which have already completed the peer review process—including Matthew Hale's "Airship Captains, Pith Helmets, & Other Assorted Brassy Bits: Steampunk Personas and Material-Semiotic Intertextuality," winner of the NewFolk@AFS Section's first annual Bill Ellis Prize for the best graduate student essay that combines research and analysis on folklore (broadly construed) and digital culture, popular culture, or new media. This special issue of *NDiF* will also introduce a first-ever "proceedings" section to the journal, this time featuring voice-overdubbed PowerPoint presentation slideshows from several of the presenters who participated in the NewFolk-sponsored panel at the 2012 meeting of the American Folklore Society in New Orleans.

Trevor J. Blank, Editor

ARCHIVES REPORT

Archives

During 2012, Utah State University Library's Special Collections and Archives division provided excellent reference services for the American Folklore Society's records, processed all recent Society accruals, and updated the AFS archive's robust [Encoded Archival Description \(EAD\) finding guide](#). In 2013, with Tim Lloyd we will explore options for accessioning digital materials. Thank you to all who deposited their AFS papers during 2012. Those wishing to donate AFS materials may do so by contacting USU Manuscript Curator [Clint Pumphrey](#).

The USU interviews include transcripts, sound, photographs, and more. Interviews housed at other institutions are mostly analog and not available online; however, links lead users to descriptive records at the owning institutions, where in some cases transcripts are available. AFS members can help us enrich this important collection of folklorist wisdom and memory by creating and contributing new interviews. For more information on the protocols and standards for interviews conducted for our oral history project, please visit the [project's page](#) on the USU Library's website.

Randy E. Williams, Liaison and Curator

Oral History Project

Since 2011, USU's Special Collections and Archives division and Digital Initiatives program have partnered with the Society on the "Collecting Memories: Oral Histories of American Folklorists" project, which offers a descriptive listing of interviews with American folklorists that are held at USU and other institutions, and serves as the physical repository for all AFS- or USU-generated oral histories of folklorists. AFS's History and Folklore Section is also a partner in this effort.

During 2012, USU archival staff refined the metadata for this project and assisted AFS in the production and documentation of an interview with Henry Glassie at the AFS annual meeting in New Orleans. We intend to carry out other interviews at future AFS meetings and at other sites throughout the year. Both the [digital collection](#) and the [guide to the physical collection](#) generated by the project are now available online. We are also exploring the creation of a crowd-sourced, online "Folklorists' Genealogy" database in the future, which would trace the connections between teachers and students in our field.

DELEGATE REPORTS

American Council of Learned Societies

Again this year as in many years past, the ACLS chose to meet in Philadelphia, near the headquarters of its founding organization, the American Philosophical Society. Two concurrent sessions preceded the formal meeting. One, "The Future of International Education and Research Collaboration in Challenging Times," noted the presence of students from Africa, India, and Eastern Europe, the rise of newly industrialized countries, the opportunities for collaboration offered by new technologies, and the emergence of new private universities. Funding initiatives launched by ACLS and the Social Science Research Council have the potential to transform scholarship in Africa. Pursuing these initiatives, our friend Sandra Barnes (University of Pennsylvania) left soon after the annual meeting for Tanzania.

The other pre-meeting session, led by William E. Davis, Executive Director of the American Anthropological Association, discussed "Learned Societies, Humanities Journals, and Federal Mandates." All learned societies, including AFS, have publication as an essential part of their mission. How shall we sustain our role as publishers when journals are multiplying, costs are ascending, and library budgets are being reduced by as much as 30 percent? The paradox has been stated by Stewart Brand: "On the one hand information wants to be expensive, because it's so valuable.... On the other hand, information wants to be free." The funding difference between fields like ours and the field of medicine suggests that the mandate of the National Institutes of Health could well be extended. The NIH mandate "ensures that the public has access to the published results of NIH funded research. It requires scientists to submit final peer-reviewed

journal manuscripts that arise from NIH funds to the digital archive PubMed Central upon acceptance for publication." As a means to this end, Open Access and the Creative Commons license (though unfortunately not AFS's Open Folklore program) were briefly mentioned.

This discussion was a first step in bringing together publishers (learned societies) and libraries. Project MUSE's journal *Portal: Libraries and the Academy* was mentioned as a resource for both. At the end I thought, Open Access should realize the librarian's dream of making knowledge available. But today's students imagine all knowledge is free. They know too little about who has paid for their easy access. Don't graduate programs have an obligation to teach students how knowledge today is being produced?

The formal annual meeting was called to order by chair Kwame Anthony Appiah, who then asked us to stand for a minute in memory of members now departed. The nominating committee put forth the name of Earl Lewis, Provost and Professor of History and African American Studies at Emory University, as the new Chair of the ACLS Board. After the committee had agreed on the nomination, it transpired that Earl Lewis has been appointed the next President of the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, effective March 2013. Thus his ACLS term will be curtailed and a successor named. Other nominations this year shifted Kwame Anthony Appiah to a seat on the ACLS Board, and appointed Richard Leppert (University of Minnesota) to the board. Good news for folklore studies is that our colleague Thomas A. DuBois has been appointed to the Executive Committee of the Delegates, on which I formerly served, for a three-year term.

In regards to its fellowship program, this year ACLS offered the largest number of funding opportunities in its 94-year history.

Competition is still under way for the Public Fellows program, which partners ACLS with non-profit agencies and universities. The number of awards in the central fellowship program was restored to 65, and stipend levels were increased. In more good news for the field of folklore, ACLS fellowships were awarded to two folklorists this year. Ali Colleen Neff, a doctoral candidate in cultural studies and communication studies at the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, received a Mellon/ACLS Dissertation Completion Fellowship for "Generation 'Fly to Fly': Sounding Bodies, New Cosmopolitanisms and Urban Transformation in the Sounds and Styles of Senegalese Women's Pop." Candace Slater, a Professor of Spanish and Portuguese at the University of California, Berkeley, received an ACLS Fellowship for her project "Beset by Marvels: Wonder, Change, and Violence in Northeast Brazil."

The subject of the morning discussion with ACLS fellows was "Emerging Themes and Methods of Humanities Research." In keeping with a growing emphasis on interdisciplinary cooperation was a joint presentation by ACLS Collaborative Research Fellows Alejandro L. Madrid and Robin D. Moore. Equally engaging was the talk by New Faculty Fellow Rebecca Schuman, who is producing fascinating insights by juxtaposing Wittgenstein and Kafka on the basis of "language skepticism." In the same spirit, I was delighted to discover the existence of medical ethnomusicology in the presentation by Jessica A. Schwartz, who documents the musical memories among Marshall Islanders of the effects of America's 1946–58 nuclear weapons tests. As the United States continues to depopulate and militarize other islands, like Diego Garcia, much remains to be researched in this interdisciplinary.

The luncheon speaker was James A. Leach, chairman of the National Endowment for the

Humanities. With much acclaim, he censured the recent Supreme Court Citizens United decision. Over lunch I had some good chat with Anthony Appiah about African proverbs, the decline of US-based African folklore research, and his concept of cosmopolitanism.

In the afternoon, Sewell Chan, a deputy op-ed editor at *The New York Times*, chaired a symposium on "How the Humanities Help Us Understand Economic Behavior." Participants were Alexander J. Field (Santa Clara University), Jonathan Levy (Princeton), and Deirdre McCloskey (University of Illinois-Chicago). One fruit of the discussion was to distinguish economic history, sometimes a requirement for economics majors, from the history of economic thought, which would be far more useful to them. The assumptions economists make about "human nature" were posed against the ignorance of humanists about economics. The distinction between risk, which is a matter of probability, and uncertainty, which is ineradicable, was rather forgotten by 20th-century economists, who thought they had only to calculate risks. Literature and folklore demonstrate that despite the economist cliché, people do not act in their own interest, especially if they do not know what that is. Humanistic studies put language and metaphor at the center of human relations, an insight that could infuse the thinking about economic behavior.

This year's Charles Homer Haskins Award Lecture, "A Life of Learning," was delivered by Joyce Appleby, Professor Emerita of History at UCLA. She has extensively explored early American history and culture in a number of books; her review of her life of learning was absorbing and engaging. As always, I was grateful to represent AFS at this informative and stimulating meeting.

Lee Haring, Delegate

National Recording Preservation Board

As determined by the Library of Congress,

The National Recording Preservation Board, mandated by the National Recording Preservation Act of 2000, is an advisory group bringing together a number of professional organizations and expert individuals concerned with the preservation of recorded sound. The Board is one of three components established by the legislation to form a comprehensive national program to ensure the survival, conservation, and increased public availability of America's sound recording heritage. The other two components of the program are the National Recording Registry and a fund-raising Foundation.

The Board is appointed by the Librarian of Congress and consists of one member and one alternate from each of seventeen organizations representing composers, musicians, musicologists, librarians, archivists, and the recording industry, as named in the law. In addition, the Librarian of Congress may appoint up to five "at-large" members.

Until this year, the board's most visible activity has been the creation of the annual National Recording Registry, intended to represent the cultural, historical, and aesthetic significance of audio recordings and to highlight the need for audio preservation. As the AFS representative, I've been especially interested in nominating, and lobbying for, field recordings to that registry, and sometimes in partnership with the Society for Ethnomusicology's representative, we've had good success.

This year, though, has seen two important new developments. First, after years of study and consultation, a national recording preservation plan is now complete and ready for release. Hopefully it will be a major step forward, making recommendations at the national level, setting standards, inspiring the creation of new programs, and in other ways advancing the cause. Second, also after years of work, the National Recording Preservation Foundation is now up and running. Gerald Seligman, formerly of WOMEX, who has deep experience at the intersections of music, culture, and commerce, is the new director, and a board is in place. The Foundation, also mandated by Congress, is charged with raising funds and developing relationships to forward the goals of the national plan.

"At the Library of Congress's invitation, the Society will offer its experience and expertise."

As I write, Timothy Lloyd and I have just finished discussing ways in which AFS

might be involved in the new national plan for audio preservation, and, at the Library of Congress's invitation, the Society will offer its experience and expertise. AFS has been working with several of the issues given priority in the NRPB report—especially education in audio archiving and preservation, and best practices and metadata standards for audio preservation and archiving—and will be working with the NRPB and the Library of Congress on future national efforts in these areas.

For more information, visit the [NRPB website](#), where you can find links to the National Recording Registry, the Foundation's page, and the list of publications and reports the NRPB has produced. When the new national plan is made public, presumably it will also be available via this site.

Burt Feintuch, Delegate

UNESCO

On behalf of AFS, I attended the fourth session of the General Assembly of the States Parties to the Convention for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage at the United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) in Paris, France.

This year's meeting was meant to reflect on the last ten years since the convention was enacted. The core of the plenary session was a step-by-step review of the Operational Directives and a more general assessment of the progress of the ICH convention as it has played out

in real life. To kick things off in high gear, the secretariat proposed a ceiling on new nominations. Apparently the number of nominations for protective and urgent safeguarding status has overworked the secretariat to the point that they are unable to process all the requests. The system is bottlenecked at the point of entry. As the secretariat succinctly put it, "Time plus human resources equals no ceiling." The implication, then, is that the opposite is also true.

Curiously, only about 25 percent of the project budget has been allocated so far, leaving an enormous surplus of money. Overall, state parties aren't applying for nominations though the reasons for this remain unknown: Lack of awareness in the field? Too much paperwork without proper support? The question of why there weren't more nominations was left unanswered. So state parties aren't applying for support, the ICH has a ton of money, yet the secretariat insisted that they couldn't sustain their workload. Bureaucracy prevails.

"The creation of an NGO forum seems a positive step in the contribution and influence of a UNESCO convention that is already a natural fit for AFS and others."

The question of a ceiling on new nominations motivated the debate for much of the week. If a ceiling were imposed, the criteria for which support is given would also fall into question. Would countries with a certain number of existing programs in place be denied future support until other countries could "catch up" to their representative number, thereby favoring those with fewer elements on the Representative and/or Urgent Safeguarding List? Would Urgent Safeguarding proposals be favored over Representative List proposals?

What if two countries submit a single shared proposal but one of them is already well-represented on the list and the other one is underrepresented?

Until the third day, things looked bleak as to how AFS could lend its expertise. The secretariat then introduced a proposal that would expedite the nomination process. It concerned the possibility of eliminating the subsidiary body of the process, a first tier examination team whose task is to

provide the Committee with an overview of all nomination files and a report of its examination, and shall, in particular, include in its examination:

- a. an assessment of any nomination's conformity with the inscription criteria as provided in the Operational Directives, benefitting from the technical information to be provided by the Secretariat, if the Subsidiary Body so requests;
- b. a recommendation to the Committee to inscribe, or not to inscribe, the nominated element. (ITH/10/5.COM/CONF.202/6)

The evaluation of nominations would then fall to the consultative body, a second tier team responsible "for the examination...of nominations to the Urgent Safeguarding List, proposals to the Register of Best Safeguarding Practices, and requests for International Assistance greater than US\$25,000 (Decision 6.COM 12)." The consultative body is made from six experts, who do not represent a state party, and six members of various NGOs.

The idea that more power would be given to unaffiliated experts and NGOs to determine inscription eligibility caused great concern with the politicians and lawyers who represent their individual states. Who are the NGOs? How and who determines their accreditation? Will objectivity, impartiality, and/or the entire process be compromised? And on and on. The general distrust by the state parties of the NGOs as well as experts was palpable and even included rhetoric by Venezuela about "introducing foreign elements." By the end of the third day there was no consensus.

In an effort to combat the negativity and, more importantly, to create a unified voice, NGOs met separately all week long both to meet each other formally and discuss ways in which we can impact and effect change within the convention. There are many issues, the least of which is that NGOs can't intervene in the plenary session until all member states have spoken. Thus, those who know the constituency the best sit silently in the back and listen to those who know their constituency the least tell everyone what their constituency needs the most. This is true, too, since the experts, like the NGOs, often work directly with those who apply for nominations. For both, the status of an observer creates its own hard and fast ceiling.

Other issues that were discussed during the NGO forum included capacity building, ideas for best practices, the need for connections between ICH and education in the field, sustainable development, and the like. At the end of the week, a six-part statement of purpose of the newly created NGO forum was outlined with the intent to submit it to the secretariat for consideration. The components of the abstract are as follows:

- To monitor the process of the proceedings of the convention
- Comment on the proceedings of the convention
- Advise or dissuade on proceedings related to the convention
- Contribute case studies of best practices
- Draw conclusions as to the future of the convention
- Express reactions toward the general assembly and states parties during the plenary debate

The creation of an NGO forum seems a positive step in the contribution and influence of a UNESCO convention that is already a natural fit for AFS and others. A [website](#) has been established as a way for NGO members to keep abreast of issues and proceedings as they return to the field. With any luck this just might lead to new partnerships between NGOs, experts, and state parties where politics, defensiveness, and acrimony have previously ruled the game.

Steven Hatcher, Delegate

SECTION REPORTS

African Folklore

Convener: Johnston A. K. Njoku, Western Kentucky University

No activity reported.

Archives and Libraries

Convener: Terri M. Jordan, University of Oklahoma

This year, the section communicated through a [listserv](#).

At the AFS annual meeting, the section:

- Directed two pre-conference workshops—“Introduction to Digital Audio Field Recording” and “Preparing and Preserving Digital Folklife Fieldwork Materials”—that were each attended by about eight people.
- Hosted an “Ask an Archivist” table in the exhibition room, staffed by section members in rotating shifts, where interested parties could stop by and ask archive-related questions.
- Sponsored a Diamond session that was attended by at least 30 audience members.
- Awarded the Brenda McCallum Prize for an exceptional work dealing with folklife archives or the collection, organization, and management of folklife materials to Mark Allan Jackson of Middle Tennessee State University for the audio compilation *Jail House Bound: John Lomax’s First Southern Prison Recordings, 1933*, which contains supporting photographs and historical information.
- Held a business meeting.

British Folk Studies

Conveners: Thomas A. McKean, University of Aberdeen, and Stephanie Smith, Smithsonian Institution

No activity reported.

Chicano and Chicana Folklore

Conveners: Norma E. Cantu, University of Texas at San Antonio, and Rachel V. Gonzalez, Indiana University

The Chicano/a Section and Latino/a Section meet and collaborate together.

This year, the sections communicated through a [listserv](#) and a [Facebook page](#).

At the AFS annual meeting, the sections:

- Sponsored a performance by local artist and activist Jose Torres-Tama titled “Aliens, Immigrants and Other Evil Doers.”
- Sponsored a panel.
- Co-sponsored panels with the local planning committee and with the Instituto Nacional de Antropología e Historia (INAH).
- Organized a section dinner event.
- Awarded the Compañero de las Américas Award to Ariana Hall, founder of CubaNOLA, a cultural and arts organization connecting Latin America to New Orleans.
- Held a business meeting.
- Elected 2013 Latino/a Section conveners Mintzi Martinez-Rivera and Maria Angelica Rodriguez of Indiana University.

Children's Folklore

Convener: Spencer Green, Pennsylvania State University, Harrisburg

This year, the section:

- Published volume 34 (2012) of *Children's Folklore Review*.
- Gave the 2012 Aesop Award for the best recently published children's book incorporating folklore to *Which Side Are You On?* by George Ella Lyon, illustrated by Christopher Cardinale.
- Awarded Aesop Accolade Honorable Mentions to *Mouse and Lion*, by Rand Burkert, illustrated by Nancy Eckholm Burkert; *The Matatu*, by Eric Walters, illustrated by Eva Campbell; and *Walking on Earth and Touching the Sky: Poetry and Prose by Lakota Youth at Red Cloud Indian School*, by Timothy P. McLaughlin, illustrated by S.D. Nelson.
- Awarded Iona and Peter Opie Prizes for the best recently published scholarly book on children's folklore to Kathryn Marsh of the University of Sydney for *The Musical Playground: Global Traditions and Change in Children's Songs and Games* (Oxford University Press, 2008), and to Anna R. Beresin of the University of the Arts for *Recess Battles: Play, Fighting, and Storytelling* (University Press of Mississippi, 2010).
- Awarded Opie Honorable Mentions to Carla Pascoe for *Spaces Imagined, Places Remembered: Childhood in 1950s Australia* (Cambridge Scholars Publishing, 2011); Steve Roud for *The Lore of the Playground: One Hundred Years of Children's Games, Rhymes and Traditions* (Random

House, 2010); and Elizabeth Tucker of SUNY Binghamton for *Children's Folklore: A Handbook* (Greenwood Press, 2008).

At the AFS annual meeting, the section:

- Sponsored three sessions.
- Held a business meeting that was attended by about 15 people.
- Elected 2013 convener Jared S. Rife of Pennsylvania State University, Harrisburg.

Dance and Movement Analysis

Convener: Nadia Denov DeLeon, Western Kentucky University ALIVE Center for Community Partnerships

This year, the section communicated through a closed [Facebook group](#).

At the annual meeting, the section held a business meeting that was attended by about ten people.

Eastern Asia Folklife

Conveners: Jessica A. Turner, Virginia Intermont College, and Ayako Yoshimura, University of Wisconsin, Madison

This year, the section communicated through a [listserv](#).

At the AFS annual meeting, the section:

- Awarded the Jonathan T. Yeh Award for Student Scholarship in Asian and Asian American Folklore to Suzanne Barber of Indiana University for her paper "Shaoshon: A Return to Mao, A Return to Home."

- Held a business meeting that was attended by about 25 people.
- Elected 2013 convener Jing Li of Gettysburg College.

Folk Arts and Material Culture

Convener: Martha C. Sims, The Ohio State University

This year, the section communicated through email and the AFS group tools.

At the AFS annual meeting, the section held a business meeting that was poorly attended.

Folk Belief and Religious Folklife

Conveners: Margaret Kruesi, American Folklife Center, and Leonard Norman Primiano, Cabrini College

At the AFS annual meeting, the section:

- Sponsored the Don Yoder Lecture in Religious Folklife, delivered by Donald Cosentino of the University of California, Los Angeles, titled "Why Did Gede Let This Happen?: Catastrophe and Theodicy in 21st-Century Haitian Vodou."
- Sponsored three paper panels.
- Awarded the 2012 Don Yoder Prize for the best graduate student paper in folk belief and religious folklife to Benjamin Gatling of The Ohio State University for "The Guide after Rumi: Tradition in Tajik Sufism."
- Held a business meeting that was attended by about 20 people.

Folk Narrative

Conveners: Linda J. Lee, University of Pennsylvania, and Adam D. Zolkover, independent

This year, the section communicated through a listserv, an open [Google+ group](#), and an open [Facebook group](#) that has 155 members.

The section also established a [Café Press store](#) with section-branded merchandise and met its modest first-year fundraising goals.

At the annual meeting, the section:

- Sponsored the second biennial Stith Thompson Lecture, delivered by Kay Stone of the University of Winnipeg, titled "The Crack in the Mirror: The Grimms as Storytellers to the World."
- Sponsored four paper panels, all attended by 15–35 people.
- Held a business meeting that was attended by about eight people.

Folklore and Creative Writing

Conveners: Aunya P. R. Byrd, Lone Star College System, and Brittany Warman, The Ohio State University

This year, the section communicated through the AFS group tools and a [listserv](#).

At the annual meeting, the section:

- Presented a forum featuring 12 members.
- Held a business meeting that was attended by about 20 people.

- Elected 2013 conveners Aunya P. R. Byrd of Lone Star College System and Christine Widmayer of George Mason University.

Folklore and Education

Conveners: Lisa L. Higgins, Missouri Folk Arts Program, and Lisa Rathje, Company of Folk

This year, the section communicated through the AFS group tools.

At the AFS annual meeting, the section:

- Awarded the Dorothy Howard Folklore and Education Prize for work that effectively encourages K–12 educators or students to use or study folklore and folkloristic approaches in all school environments to *Through the Schoolhouse Door: Folklore, Community, Curriculum*, edited by Paddy Bowman and Lynne Hamer (Utah State University Press, 2011), and to “Here at Home” cultural tours, a project developed by Wisconsin Teachers of Local Culture (a partnership of the Center for the Study of Upper Midwestern Cultures, the Wisconsin Arts Board, Folklore Village, and K–12 educators from throughout Wisconsin).
- Sponsored seven sessions.
- Sponsored the annual Local Learning Workshop, which was attended by approximately 50 people during the course of the morning.
- Held a business meeting that was attended by about 20 people.
- Elected 2013 conveners Nelda R. Ault of the Utah Department of Workforce Services and Lisa Rathje of Company of Folk.

Folklore and Literature

Conveners: Shelley A. Ingram, University of Louisiana, Lafayette, and Todd D. Richardson, University of Nebraska at Omaha

At the AFS annual meeting, the section sponsored a panel.

The section also held a business meeting that was attended by about nine people.

Folklore and Oral History

Convener: Kathryn Wilson

No activity reported.

Folklore Latino, Latinoamericano, y Caribeño

Conveners: Mintzi Martinez-Rivera, Indiana University, and Nadia Denov DeLeon, Western Kentucky University ALIVE Center for Community Partnerships

See Chicano and Chicana Folklore.

Foodways

Conveners: Eve Jochowitz, New York University, and LuAnne K. Roth, University of Missouri

This year, the section:

- Communicated through email and the AFS group tools.
- Re-launched *Digest* as an online academic journal. Diane I. Tye of Memorial University and Michael Lange of Champlain University

served as co-editors. A number of section members served on the editorial board.

- Awarded the 2012 Sue Samuelson Award for best student paper on foodways to Katie White of the University of Maryland for "Traveling with Yellow Mary: Gullah Culture, Migration, and the Sensory in Julie Dash's *Daughters of the Dust*." Second place went to Nancy Yan of The Ohio State University for her paper "Wor Sue Gai and Claiming Local Identity."

During the annual meeting, the section hosted a reception at the Southern Food and Beverage Museum. About one hundred people attended the event, which provided an opportunity for learning about regional foodways while socializing with colleagues.

The section held a business meeting that was attended by about ten people.

Graduate Students

Conveners: Amber Slaven and Jessica Stevens, Western Kentucky University

This year, the section communicated through a [Facebook group](#).

The section awarded its Kara Nicole Bayless Prize for best graduate student paper to Marcus Cederström of the University of Wisconsin, Madison, for "Folkloristic Koinés and the Emergence of Swedish-American Ethnicity."

At the AFS annual meeting, the section co-sponsored a graduate student lounge with the American Folklore Society.

The section also elected 2013 conveners Alessandra A. Dreyer and Kaitlyn Markert of Western Kentucky University.

History and Folklore

Convener: Simon J. Bronner, Pennsylvania State University, Harrisburg

This year, the section:

- Communicated through the AFS group tools.
- Published volume 28 (2011) of *The Folklore Historian*, edited by Jill Terry Rudy of Brigham Young University. The issue featured articles on "Collecting Memories: Oral Histories of American Folklorists," the AFS oral history project.
- Awarded the biennial Wayland D. Hand Prize for the best book combining folkloristic and historical perspectives to *The Irresistible Fairy Tale: The Cultural and Social History of a Genre*, by Jack Zipes (Princeton University Press, 2012) and *A Lark for the Sake of Their Country: The 1926 General Strike Volunteers in Folklore and Memory*, by Rachelle Saltzman (Manchester University Press, 2012).

Independent Folklorists

Conveners: Susan Eleuterio and Amber Ridington, independent

This year, the section communicated through the AFS group tools.

The section also held an online business meeting that was attended by six members.

At the AFS annual meeting, the section:

- Met with the AFS Executive Board and representatives from academic folklore programs and public folklore institutions.

- Held a business meeting and meet-and-greet with an Indi-Folk group web forum demonstration that was attended by about 12 people.
- Elected 2013 conveners Susan Eleuterio and Andrea Graham, both independent folklorists.

Jewish Folklore and Ethnology

Convener: Simon J. Bronner, Pennsylvania State University, Harrisburg

This year, the section:

- Communicated through a [listserv](#) and through Facebook.
- Completed copyediting of the fourth volume of the Jewish Cultural Studies Series, published by the Littman Library of Jewish Civilization in cooperation with the American Folklore Society. The new volume, *Framing Jewish Culture: Boundaries and Representations*, edited by Simon J. Bronner, is due for publication in the fall of 2013.
- Issued a call for papers for the fifth volume of the Jewish Cultural Studies Series. Volume 5 will explore Jewish cyberculture, will be edited by Simon J. Bronner and Andrea Lieber, and is currently slated for publication in late 2014.
- Sponsored a panel on new directions in folklore and ethnography at the meeting of the Association for Jewish Studies in Chicago in December 2012.

At the AFS annual meeting, the section held a business meeting.

Lesbian Gay Bisexual Transgender Queer and Allies (LGBTQA)

Convener: Eileen Condon, New York Folklore Society

At the AFS annual meeting, the section sponsored three paper panels.

The section also co-sponsored the *Qualia* 2012 Goodwin-Stewart Competition (PoJo Award).

Medieval Folklore

Convener: Katie Lyn Peebles, Marymount University

This year, the section communicated via email.

At the AFS annual meeting, the section:

- Sponsored two panels.
- Held a business meeting that was attended by about five people.
- Elected 2013 conveners Kerry Kaleba of George Mason University and Steve Stanzak of Marymount University.

Mediterranean Studies

Conveners: Tina Bucuvalas, City of Tarpon Springs, and Adam Grydehøj, Island Dynamics

This year, the section communicated via [listserv](#).

At the AFS annual meeting, the section:

- Sponsored a panel.
- Ran a silent auction table.

- Elected 2013 conveners Adam Grydehøj of Island Dynamics and Incononata Inserra of the University of Hawai'i, Mānoa.

Music and Song

Conveners: Margaret Steiner, Indiana University, and Stephen D. Winick, American Folklife Center, Library of Congress

At the AFS annual meeting, the section:

- Sponsored the Phillips Barry Lecture, delivered by Michael J. Bell of the Massachusetts Historical Society, titled "I Am Going to Print a Book of Plays': Francis James Child's Road to the Ballad."
- Sponsored informal instrumental and vocal jam sessions each night of the meeting. Over three nights, about one hundred or more people participated.
- Held a business meeting that was attended by about ten people.

NewFolk@AFS

Convener: David J. Puglia, Pennsylvania State University, Harrisburg

This year, the section communicated through an open [Facebook group](#).

The section also published volume 10 of the online journal [New Directions in Folklore](#).

At the AFS annual meeting, the section:

- Awarded its first annual Bill Ellis Prize for the best graduate student essay combining research/analysis on folklore, broadly construed, and digital culture, popular

culture, or new media, to Matthew Hale of Indiana University for "Airship Captains, Pith Helmets, & Other Assorted Brassy Bits: Steampunk Personas and Material-Semiotic Intertextuality."

- Sponsored a Diamond session that attracted a standing-room-only audience of about one hundred people.
- Held a business meeting that was attended by about 12 people.

Nordic-Baltic Folklore

Conveners: Merrill Kaplan, The Ohio State University, and Kristin Kuutma, University of Tartu

This year, the section:

- Communicated through email.
- Added a [Facebook group](#).
- Awarded the Boreal Prize for an outstanding article-length student essay on a folklore topic having to do with Northern Europe and/or the diasporas of its various peoples to Marcus Cederström, whose paper will appear in *Arv, the Nordic Yearbook of Folklore*.
- Elected 2013 conveners James P. Leary and Thomas A. DuBois of the University of Wisconsin, Madison.

Politics, Folklore, and Social Justice

Conveners: Meredith Martin-Moats, McElroy House: Organization for Folklore, Oral History, and Community Action; and Mario Montaña, Colorado College

This year, the section communicated through email and the AFS group tools.

The section awarded its 2012 William Still Citation for lifetime achievement in community cultural work to Mary Howell, New Orleans civil rights attorney and activist.

At the AFS annual meeting, the section sponsored five sessions.

The section also held a business meeting that was attended by about 15 people.

Public Programs

Conveners: Anne Hatch, Wyoming Arts Council, and Sally Van de Water, independent

This year, the section communicated through email, the AFS group tools, and the [Publore listserv](#), which has more than eight hundred subscribers.

At the AFS annual meeting, the section:

- Partnered with AFS to award the Benjamin A. Botkin Prize for lifetime achievement in public folklore to Bob Gates of the Kentucky Folklife Program, and Ethel Raim, co-founder of the Center for Traditional Music and Dance in New York City.
- Awarded the Travel Stipend for Independent Folklorists to Gwendolyn Meister of the Nebraska Folklife Network.
- Sponsored 13 sessions.
- Sponsored a mixer for students and emerging professionals.
- Held a business meeting/auction that was attended by about one hundred people.

- Elected 2013 conveners Brent A Björkman of Western Kentucky University and Guha Shankar of the American Folklife Center, Library of Congress.

Socialist and Post-Socialist Area Studies

Conveners: Erik A. Aasland, Fuller Graduate School of Intercultural Studies, and Elo-Hanna Seljamaa, University of Tartu

This year, the section communicated via email.

At the AFS annual meeting, the section sponsored a panel.

The section also held a business meeting.

Space, Place, and Landscapes

Convener: Elijah Gaddis, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

This year, the section communicated through a [listserv](#) and Facebook.

At the AFS annual meeting, the section held a business meeting that was attended by about seven people.

Storytelling

Conveners: Jo Radner, American University, and Joseph D. Sobol, East Tennessee State University

This year, the section awarded the Dan Crowley Prize for an outstanding student paper exploring the process of storytelling to Milbre Burch of the University of Missouri for her essay "Learning to Listen to an All-

Day Talker: First-, Second- and Third-Hand Hearing of an Oral Performance by Ray Hicks.”

At the AFS annual meeting, the section sponsored a tour.

Visual Media

Convener: Sharon R. Sherman, University of Oregon

Section on hiatus.

Women’s Section

Conveners: Suzanne Barber, Indiana University, and Katherine Borland, The Ohio State University

This year, the section communicated through the AFS group tools and a listserv.

At the AFS annual meeting, the section:

- Awarded the Elli K ng s-Maranda Professional Prize for superior work on women’s traditional, vernacular, or local culture and/or feminist theory and folklore to Yvonne R. Lockwood, formerly of Michigan State University Museum, for her book *Finnish American Rag Rugs: Art, Tradition, and Ethnic Continuity* (Michigan State University Press, 2009).
- Gave the Elli K ng s-Maranda Student Prize for the best student paper or production on women’s traditional, vernacular, or local culture and/or feminist theory and folklore to Elizabeth Zaleski of The Ohio State University for her essay “Other Writer’s Mothers: Reflections on Representing Family.”

- Sponsored a session.
- Held a croning that was attended by about 80 people.
- Held a business meeting that was attended by about 35 people.
- Elected 2013 conveners Katherine Borland of The Ohio State University and Kristina G. Downs of Indiana University.

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