



American Library Association  
Association of College and Research Libraries

## ANSS CURRENTS

The Newsletter of the ACRL Anthropology & Sociology Section  
Vol. 20, No. 2 ISSN 0888-5559 Fall 2005

### MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR

Shawn Nicholson

What a trying beginning to the academic year for our friends in Louisiana, Mississippi, Alabama and Texas. The wrath of two hurricanes is truly unfathomable to many of us. It is heartening to witness the outpouring of concern and the genuine offers of help and support to those we have come to know and to those we simply share compassion for. The events in places like New Orleans have moved us spiritually, emotionally, pragmatically and even mundanely, as we as individuals wrestle with the aftermath and our institutions assess their role in rebuilding, helping and making plans for their future. It is a pleasure to be part of such a caring, supportive community.

### Preliminary Meeting Schedule, 2006 San Antonio

#### Friday, January 20

ANSS Social 6-?

#### Saturday, January 21

|                                  |                    |
|----------------------------------|--------------------|
| Executive (1 <sup>st</sup> of 2) | 8:00 - 9:00a.m.    |
| Liaison                          | 10:30 - 12:30 p.m. |
| Review & Planning                | 10:30 - 12:30p.m.  |
| Subject & Bib. Access            | 10:30 - 12:30p.m.  |
| Soc. Lib's Disc Group            | 10:30-12:30p.m.    |
| Publications                     | 1:30 - 3:30 p.m.   |
| Bibliography                     | 1:30 - 5:30 p.m.   |
| Crim. Justice/Crim. Dis.Group    | 4:00-5:00 p.m.     |

#### Sunday, January 22

|                           |                 |
|---------------------------|-----------------|
| Conf. Prog Planning 06    | 10:30-12:30p.m. |
| Nominations               | 10:30-12:30p.m. |
| Information Literacy      | 10:30-12:30p.m. |
| Membership                | 10:30-12:30p.m. |
| Anthro. Lib's Disc. Group | 4:00-5:00 p.m.  |

#### Monday, January 23

|                                  |                 |
|----------------------------------|-----------------|
| Conf. Prog. Planning '07         | 8:00-9:00 a.m.  |
| Executive (2 <sup>nd</sup> of 2) | 8:00-10:00 a.m. |

### CANDIDATES FOR ANSS OFFICES – 2006

James Haug, Chair, Nominating Committee

#### MEMBER-AT-LARGE

Elizabeth Cooper, Emory University

Lisa Yuro, University of Alabama

#### VICE-CHAIR/CHAIR-ELECT

Katharine A. Whitson, University of Washington

Stephen Fowlkes, Tulane University

#### Vice-Chair/Chair-Elect Candidate's Statements:

##### Stephen Fowlkes

Candidate was unable to provide information due to the closing of Tulane University caused by Hurricane Katrina.

##### Katharine A. Whitson

Education: University of Washington, MLS, 1992; University of California, Berkeley, B.A., Anthropology, 1972. Current Position: Head, Access Services/Reference Librarian, University of Washington, Bothell/Cascadia Community College, 2000-present. Previous Positions: Access Services Librarian, University of Washington, Bothell, 1997-2000. ALA Activities: ACRL ANSS: Liaison, ACRL, 2004-05; LAMA SASS: Member, Circulation/Access Services Committee, 2000-05; ACRL ANSS: Member, Review & Planning Committee, 2001-03; ACRL ANSS: Secretary, Executive Committee, 2001-03; ACRL ANSS: Member, Bibliography Committee, 1999-2002. State and Regional Library Association Activities: Community College Librarians and Media Specialists (CLAMS): Member, 2000-05; Washington State Library Association: Member, 2000-05. Publications: Author, "Electronic Reserves: Pilot and Evaluation," *Journal of Interlibrary Loan, Document Delivery, and Information Supply* (Haworth Information Press), v. 10(3); 2000; Author, "Sociological Abstracts - [review]," *ANSS Currents: The Newsletter of the ACRL Anthropology & Sociology Section* (Anthropology and Sociology Section of ACRL), November 2000. Accomplishments: LAMA/SASS Circulation/Access Services Committee - Program Committee Member and Presenter for LAMA Pre-conference: "One-Stop Shopping" - ALA Annual 2002. LAMA/SASS Circulation/Access Services Committee - Program Co-Chair and Presenter: "Patron Privacy: Creating Practical

Policies in light of FERPA, CIPA, and the Gramm-Leach Bliley Act" - ALA Annual 2004.

**STATEMENT:** As the selector for anthropology and folklore at the University of Washington, Bothell and Cascadia Community College Campus Library & Media Center, ANSS has given me the opportunity to meet new colleagues, learn more about relevant resources in my field, and find out what innovations are taking place at other institutions. My positions as Secretary to the ANSS Executive Committee and ANSS Liaison to ACRL have provided me a better understanding of the missions of both ANSS and ACRL. If elected Vice-Chair/Chair-Elect, one of my goals will be to introduce new librarians to ANSS. I will work toward increasing membership by promoting the interdisciplinary focus of ANSS and by investigating service avenues for librarians unable to attend conferences. In addition, I will do my best to enhance our section's programs by collaborating with related professional organizations and ACRL sections.

### COMMITTEE REPORTS

#### **Ad Hoc Information Literacy Committee (2004-2006)**

Triveni Kuchi, Susan Macicak, Co-Chairs

ANSS Ad Hoc Information Literacy Committee (ANSS-IL) has been reviewing the extensive literature related to standards in Anthropology, Sociology and Criminology disciplines. While drafting preliminary standards the Committee continues to monitor the progress of The ACRL Information Literacy Advisory Committee (ILAC).

During the Summer of 2005, the ANSS-IL submitted an ACRL Action Plan proposal for funding to bring faculty to the 2006 ALA Annual meeting for input and further refining of the draft standards, as well as funding for ANSS-IL representatives to cycle back to the professional association meetings (ASA) following the meeting with classroom faculty at ALA Summer 2006.

Thanks to the efforts of ANSS's Sally Weimer and Pauline Manaka at the August 2005 American Sociological Association's Teaching and Learning section meetings in Philadelphia, PA, we already have some interest.

#### **Bibliography Committee**

Janet Steins, Chair

The Committee gave a careful reading of the first draft of JoEllen Broome's review of the Public Affairs International Services databases (See Review this edition of *Currents*). PAIS in CD-ROM format was reviewed back in 1995 by Cheryl Naslund (see *ANSS Currents* vol. 10, no.1), making JoEllen's review quite timely.

The committee also saw a first draft of Randy Hertzler's

review of Ethnic Newswatch. Resources being considered for future reviews include GenderWatch and AnthroSource.

This was the final Bibliography Committee meeting for Jose Aguinaga, Valery King, Penny Whitten, and Christine Menard, and so we will be looking forward to welcoming four new members at the San Antonio meeting in January 2006.

#### **Conference Program Planning Committee 2005**

Lynn C. Hattendorf Westney, Brian Quinn, Co-Chairs

The ANSS 2005 program "Are Subject Librarians an Endangered Species?" attracted almost 200 curious librarians who wanted to know if they have a future in the changing library atmosphere of the twenty-first century. After a continental breakfast funded by Cambridge Scientific Abstracts, Wade Kotter, ANSS Chair, introduced our four endangered? speakers: Jane McKeever, Education, Psychology, and Library Science Librarian, University of Chicago; Darlene Nichols, Psychology and Sociology Librarian, University of Michigan; Daniel Tsang, Asian American Studies, Economics and Political Science Bibliographer and Social Science Data Librarian, University of California, Irvine; and Kara Whatley, Life Sciences Librarian, New York University.

After a mesmerizing program in which all speakers shared their perspectives and viewpoints on a number of questions the Program Planning Committee had prepared for them, our speakers responded for almost an hour to a barrage of interesting questions from the audience. Are subject librarians an endangered species? The consensus of our speakers and our audience was that we are not and will not be as long as we continue to embrace and welcome change in all facets of our respective library positions.

Our five-page bibliography spanning 1975 - 2005 is now available online at

[www.lib.odu.edu/anss/bibs/endangered.pdf](http://www.lib.odu.edu/anss/bibs/endangered.pdf)

#### **Conference Program Planning Committee 2006**

Terry Epperson, Chair

The theme for the 2006 ANSS program at the ALA Annual Meeting is "Drug Foods, Fast Foods, and Feasts: The Social Science of Eating." A panel of speakers will address the topic of food from diverse historical, sociological, anthropological, and public health perspectives. Building on anthropologist Sidney Mintz's analysis of sugar as the quintessential "drug food," the panel will examine changing cultural conceptions of sugar in the US from the early nineteenth century to the present. Other tentatively scheduled topics include analysis of spatial correlations between fast food restaurants, poverty,

and obesity as well as discussion of library and archival resources in New Orleans for research in culinary culture and history. The program has received the maximum possible funding from ACRL and is tentatively scheduled for Sunday, June 25, 8:00 am-12:00 pm.

#### **Liaison Committee**

Susan Bennett White, Lisa Yuro, Co-Chairs

At the meeting, the group discussed three main agenda items: an overview and change of the committee charge; updating and expansion of the Currents mailing list; and liaison activities reports.

After a brief discussion concerning the committee charge, all members agreed to propose to the Executive Council that the disciplines of criminology and criminal justice be formally added to the committee's official charge. This recommendation was made at the Executive Committee meeting on Sunday, June 26 but failed to pass the council vote.

Jennifer Nason Davis reported from last Midwinter on her attendance at the ACRL Council of Liaisons. After discussion, it was determined that the chair of the Liaison Committee be an ex officio member of ARCL Council of Liaisons. Sally Wilson Weimer reported on liaison work with the American Sociological Association. She is on the Teaching and Learning Committee of ASA, which promotes work with bodies outside ASA. She will be attending the ASA annual meeting in August and will report back on further developments in this area.

Members devoted the remainder of the meeting time to careful consideration of changes for the Currents mailing list. Basic cleanup of the bad addresses is complete. The committee would like to expand the list to include at least 25 more anthropology bodies; the "top ranked library schools," and several criminal justice organizations. In order to expand this list, it is clear that more copies of the newsletter will be needed. A request for more copies of the newsletter, paid for by special funding available to promote the elements of the ACRL strategic plan, was brought to the Executive Council.

#### **Membership Committee**

Susan Erickson, Susan Bennett White, Co-Chairs

The ANSS Membership Committee is working with the Publications Committee to create a new "Welcome to ANSS!" web page targeted to new and prospective members. 24 people attended the ANSS Social at Annual Conference. Everyone enjoyed the great food and atmosphere at Sayat Nova, an Armenian restaurant.

#### **Publications Committee**

JoAnn Jacoby, Chair

ANSS Publications Committee Meeting. Thomas Mann will be retiring in one year and will only be serving as ANSS Currents co-editor for two more issues. The committee decided to postpone the migration of ANSSWeb to the ALA server pending the new Content Management System, due out sometime in 2006. In the meantime, we thanked Erin Daix for maintaining a good relationship with the Old Dominion University (ODU) tech folks and will send a letter of thanks to ODU for continuing to host the site. The Committee looked at ACRL's new template for section brochures. JoAnn Jacoby will try to get an electronic version of the template from ACRL, do some mockups, and show them to the Membership Committee to evaluate whether the template can be customized to suit the needs of the section. Isabel Quintana agreed to draft a brief statement outlining the benefits of ANSS-L and instructions for joining that Membership can use in their correspondence.

#### **Review and Planning Committee**

James D. Haug, Chair

Among the several matters considered in the course of the meeting, the first was design and production of a portable word-processor template for official correspondence by ANSS officers. It was decided that design of the template should be referred to the Publications Committee. The chair then introduced the matter of the committee's letter to the University of California Press (UCP) regarding *AnthroSource*, the portal to digitized publications of the American Anthropological Association (AAA) co-developed by the UCP and AAA. Discussion focused on a constructive reply to the ANSS that the chair had received shortly before traveling to Chicago. The committee moved to report on the two letters in the following Monday's meeting of the Executive Committee. The next item considered was rewriting of the charge of the Liaison Committee so that it would explicitly include criminal justice and criminology. After agreeing on a suitable phrase, the committee forwarded the modified charge to the Executive Committee for approval or rejection. The final matter treated by the committee was the issue of dual voting by co-chairs of standing committees in meetings of the Executive Committee. Following extended critical discussion, it was agreed to modify the wording of Section I of Article VI of the ANSS Bylaws, which defines the composition and voting members of the Executive Committee. The modification proposed by the committee would preclude dual voting. Since the proposed revision would change a bylaw, it will be submitted to ANSS members for a vote.

#### **Subject and Bibliographic Access Committee**

Isabel del Carmen Quintana, Fred J. Hay, Co-Chairs

Members reviewed the work of the previous half year, cataloging questions answered and published via ANSS-L and the ANSS webpage, and progress on making the

Subject Heading suggestion form on the web interactive. Questions the committee will answer in the next half year were prioritized and assigned to individual members. The Co-Chairs welcomed Elisa Tan (Project Muse) as a new member of the committee and encouraged guest Shannon Hoffman (Brigham Young) to join ANSS and the Subject and Bibliographic Access Committee.

## DISCUSSION GROUP REPORTS

### Anthropology Discussion Group

Gail Egbers, Elizabeth Cooper, Co-Conveners

We discussed the possible use of blogs to communicate with our faculty and students, how people are supporting the GIS software, how to find good anthropological films, and AnthroSource. At the Midwinter meeting in San Antonio we will have a report from the Information Literacy Task Force and discuss ways to locate non-print sources like visual artifacts.

### Criminal Justice/Criminology Librarians Discussion Group

Jon J. Harrison, J. Christina Smith, Co-Conveners

Philip Virta, General Reference Product Manager for Proquest, gave an overview of the Criminal Justice Periodical Index. A handout describing the product, identifying complimentary databases, listing the original criminal justice periodicals index subject terms (164), additional criminal justice terms used in Proquest (340), and a list of journals covered including ISSN, citation, abstract, full text, and image coverage, whether journal is considered scholarly/peer reviewed, publication type, length of embargo if applicable, publisher, country, and subject is available. CJPI currently covers 76 full text journals (a few are embargoed for up to a year), with indexing and abstracts for another 156 titles. Full text is a relative term. Proquest does not cover advertising, calendars, covers, etc.; perhaps cover-to-over coverage with a few limitations is a more appropriate description.

CJPI is careful to distinguish between scholarly versus trade publications, relying on Ulrich's, publication web sites or editorial pages for feedback. Articles can also be translated into various languages (machine generated but enough to get a sense of what the article is about).

The future might include: Hot Topics, color pictures, author profiles, citation analysis, dissertations, RSS feeds and NCJRS reports, and selected grey literature. CJPI is known for its focus on practical matters or issues; Criminal Justice Abstracts for theoretical or academic articles. If CJPI ever wanted to become more comprehensive, then it might add more theoretical articles or better yet, merge with CJA, combining the best features of both. For more information, contact Philip Virta at philip.virta@il.proquest.com or call 800-521-0600. David Bickford (david.bickford@phoenix.edu) will be the next Convenor.

### Sociology Librarians Discussion Group

Brian Quinn, Sally Willson Weimer, Co-Conveners

EBSCO's Carola Yeakle, National Accounts Manager Proprietary Secondary Database, Dave Mangione, VP of Management and Craig Brandt, Managing Editor offered a comparison between Soc Index and Soc Abstracts. The audience raised questions regarding the comparison in terms of thesaurus, subject content and journal names, especially full text access, frequency of updating, full text, number of PDF's and searchable cited references. Michael P. Allen's article, "The Quality of Journals in Sociology Reconsidered" was cited as a means to understand core journals.

Beginning in 2006, Soc Index plans to index journals from Criminal Justice Abstracts and Social Service Abstracts and provide 5000 author profiles. For more information, please see:  
<http://www.epnet.com/academic/socindexFT.asp>

## REVIEW

### Cultural Anthropology and Sociology in PAIS International and PAIS Archive

Reviewed by JoEllen Broome  
Zach S. Henderson Library  
Georgia Southern University  
Statesboro, Georgia  
June 20, 2005

Producer: CSA (Cambridge Scientific Abstracts)  
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Bethesda, Maryland 20814  
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FAX: 1-301-961-6720  
E-Mail: Technical support: support@csa.com  
Telephone Support: 1-800-843-7751, Opt. 5

Web Site: <http://www.csa.com>

Vendor:  
OCLC Online Computer Library Center, Inc.  
6565 Frantz Road  
Dublin, Ohio 43017-3395  
Direct phone: 614-764-6000  
Toll Free: 1-800-848-5878  
Fax: 614-764-6096  
E-mail: oclc@oclc.org  
Website:  
<http://www.oclc.org/firstsearch/ordering/default.htm>

**Cost Information for the OCLC FirstSearch Service:** There are two purchase options for PAIS. One is an annual subscription made by an individual institution or through a consortium arrangement with pricing based on the number of FTE students at a particular institution or on some range of FTE students in a consortium. The second is a per-search option where the institution purchases in blocks of five hundred searches as needed.

### **Introduction**

This is a review of the Public Affairs Information Services (PAIS) databases as offered online by OCLC.

### **History and Homage**

The year 2004 marked the 90<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Public Affairs Information Service. The fact that the visionary founders of this remarkably long-lived service were social science librarians should be a point of pride for all. It started in New York City in 1914 as a non-profit publisher of digests and bibliographies developed for a growing body of new public policy literature. For an interesting historical overview of PAIS by Bonnie Ryan see the Winter 2004 issue of *Social Science Division Bulletin*. A successful relationship with the Economics Division of the New York Public Library began in 1919.

The weekly *Bulletin of the Public Affairs Information Service* became the chief product, and its publication pattern of quarterly cumulations was followed by an annual volume that was precedent-setting. The variety of publications indexed became an early distinguishing characteristic of PAIS. According to Ryan, "Materials indexed include monographs and book chapters, articles from the popular press and scholarly journals, grey literature, publications from organizations and associations, government documents and English language materials published in other countries" (Ryan, 2004). Imitators in other fields such as education and psychology now have this breadth, however such an all encompassing approach to materials worth indexing is not the prevalent model even today. Non-English language materials added from 1972 forward coincided with the issuing of a separate Foreign Languages Index that included works in French, German, Italian, Portuguese, and Spanish (Ryan, 2004).

### **Merger Mania Latecomer**

The shuffling of products (databases, electronic journals, etc.) that often occurs during the merger and divestiture antics of owner/providers and the parallel drop/add predilections of vendors creates havoc for librarians. During the twentieth century, PAIS survived as a highly regarded entity untouched by these corporate machinations in the library world. Then in 2000, two non-profits-- OCLC and PAIS -- merged in what was promised, via press releases, as a cost effective arrangement with ambitious plans for joint projects. Near the end of December of 2004, Cambridge Scientific Abstracts announced that it was the newest owner of PAIS International and PAIS Archive (developed under the auspices of OCLC). As presently understood, CSA will continue to publish a print version in addition to the online databases though it has not stated an intention to publish a CD-ROM version as reviewed in an *ANSS Currents* issue published in 1994. Why is it important to be aware of this recent and quick succession of partnerships? The corporate changes may affect the quality and reputation of PAIS. While the contact information, product interface, and searching protocols, understandably change, so too might the quality of customer/technical support and the pricing structures that seem to rise but never fall. But personnel changes may prove the biggest concern of all. For example, the former editorial staff of nine seasoned librarians housed in the New York Public Library greatly benefited from a long term relationship with that august public institution (Ryan, 2004). No more; the CSA editorial offices are now located in San Diego. Nine of the 14 Social Science editors currently employed are assigned to PAIS, but none of them are librarians (six have B.A. degrees while the other three hold M.A. degrees). Furthermore, each has been assigned other duties in addition to PAIS. In the near future *ANSS Currents* may require yet another review of PAIS in its next incarnation.

### **PAIS via OCLC/FirstSearch**

The OCLC FirstSearch version of PAIS, available at the reviewer's institution, will be evaluated for coverage of cultural anthropology and sociology. It is also for sale by the new owner on the CSA Illumina, Silver Platter (until February 2006), and Dialog platforms. Of the two disciplines, anthropology is covered less comprehensively. For this reason it is important to uncover the hidden value of this database for anthropology researchers. Because the coverage of sociology in PAIS is well established, my review of its content is briefer

### **Scope, Coverage and Currency**

According to the CSA home page (<http://www.csa.com>), the PAIS International database contains references to some 540,100

journal articles, books, government documents, statistical directories, grey literature, research reports, conference reports, publications of international agencies, microfiche, Internet material, and more. Newspapers and newsletters are not indexed. The above count includes records incorporated from the PAIS print Foreign Language Index which began publishing in 1972. It merged with the PAIS Bulletin in 1990. As a result, there are publications from over 120 countries throughout the world. In addition to English, some of the indexed materials are in French, German, Italian, Portuguese, and Spanish. Dates of coverage are 1972 to the present, and the database is updated monthly.

PAIS International's companion database, PAIS Archive, is the retrospective database. Similarly packaged, PAIS Archive offers selective subject and bibliographical access to periodicals, books, hearings, reports, grey literature and so on. At this time, Part I of the conversion project, containing over 850,000 records covering the years from 1937 to 1976 is available. Part II of the project covering 1915 to 1936 is slated for completion by late Fall 2005. Readers may recall that this retrospective conversion project was announced during the PAIS/OCLC partnership but never fully materialized.

### Document Availability

Neither PAIS International nor PAIS Archive is a full-text database. Each provides citation information, an abstract and descriptors based on established subject headings that may lead to related article sets. For both there are links to external resources with holdings information and some full-text sources like JSTOR. Holdings information is conveniently imbedded in the databases through WorldCat which allows for identifying local library ownership of a given monograph or serial. If holdings are unknown, there is a direct link to the home catalog for an immediate title search by the user which can then be incorporated into an electronic Interlibrary Loan form offered by his or her institution.

### Indexing and Subject Access

At the most basic level by doing a simple keyword search, PAIS International provides descriptors with each bibliographic entry. These suggest acceptable subject terms assigned by the PAIS indexers and can be used to link to related sets of articles within the database. Advanced and Expert searching offer further capabilities. In the Advanced search mode under "Subjects" resides the PAIS Thesaurus. Clicking on it and entering a word, **anthropology** or word stem with truncation, **anthropolog\*** leads to a list of appropriate terms with an "Expand" option for more specificity—country by country for example. One learns by entering the concept **cultural anthropology** that the preferred Thesaurus term is **ethnology**, which is also true for **races of man** and **social anthropology**.

Searching in Expert mode offers an additional icon for an "Index" which gives article counts next to the chosen concept—**anthropology—231**. The Thesaurus option is available in this searching mode as well. Both controlled vocabulary points of entry help the researcher refine the search strategy to obtain better results. In PAIS Archive a special feature called "Historical Descriptor" appears with each bibliographic entry. Since this is a retrospective database, knowing about unfamiliar or dated terminology, or about gradations of meaning that differed historically for a term still in use, like **culture**, may be helpful or even critical for a successful search. Subject headings assigned to the archival database reflect the historical nature of the entries as well. For example, **administration of justice** or **manufacturing and heavy industry** are archaic concepts for the contemporary PAIS International but remain useful for the retrospective companion database.

### Cultural Anthropology in PAIS International and PAIS Archive

Public officials, diplomatic historians, public interest advocates, environmentalists, public administrators, academics, businessmen, government researchers in medicine or science, sociologists and economists are a few of the natural constituents for these databases. In addition, cultural anthropologists may find rich troves of information in them as well.

In PAIS International, searching a series of significant terms netted these results:

**anthropolog\*** 366; **cultur\*** 11, 205; **ethnic\*** 6300; and **ethno\*** 551. For example, searching the truncated keyword **anthropolog\*** brought up an interdisciplinary entry entitled, "Making sense of hell: three meditations on the Holocaust," from a 1999 issue of the journal, *Political Studies*. The abstract explains that political analysis examined what made the Holocaust possible while sociology and anthropology looked at the uniqueness of the Nazi persecution of Jews during WWII. Another sample entry is from a 1998 Portuguese language monograph, "Indigenismo e territorializacão..." The English abstract describes it as a study of forces used to subject and control indigenous tribes in Brazil. In PAIS Archive, similar searching yields the following numbers: **anthopolog\*** 277; **culture\*** 5045; **ethnic\*** 636; and **ethno\*** 86.

As the two publications cited above demonstrate, PAIS coverage of cultural anthropology does not include core publications. An excellent article, "Journals of the Century in Anthropology and Archaeology," that appeared in *Serials Librarian* in 2001

includes a list of major anthropology titles and none are indexed in PAIS. Nevertheless, there is enough information on cultural anthropology in the two databases to recommend them as worth consulting.

### Sociology in PAIS

The same PAIS constituencies listed above for anthropology are appropriate for sociology. The features described above, such as graduated searching levels, the thesaurus, and holdings information, are in place for subject-specific searching in sociology. In PAIS International, searching a series of significant keywords with public policy implications netted these results: **sociology\*** 6605; **aging** 1523; **crimonolog\*** 478; **crime and criminals** 3193; **demograph\*** 7277; **environment** 8164; **violence** 4905.

For example, a **crime and criminals** search brought up a citation for a 2004 article entitled, "Forecasting crime and narcobusiness: Iraq after the war" from the journal *Conflict, Security & Development*. The following monograph citation resulted from a simple search using the keyword **demography**: "Does voting technology affect election outcomes? Touch-screen voting and the 2004 presidential election," published by the National Bureau of Economic Research in 2005. In PAIS Archive, searching the same word string netted the following results: **sociology\*** 6220; **aging** 772; **demograph\*** 1068; **crime and criminals** 1723; **criminology\*** 963; **environment** 1733; **violence** 701. A **crime and criminals** search brought up a 1975 article, "White racism, black crime, and American justice..." in *Phylon*. Searching the keyword **sociology** brought up an article from *Journal of Political and Military Sociology* entitled, "The future of ROTC on the small college campus." Finally, a 1975 SuDoc monograph authored by the U.S. House Select Committee on Aging looks at "Pension problems of older women..." It would seem that national concerns of thirty years ago are amazingly similar to headline issues now facing the country, and are no doubt of equal interest to today's library researchers in sociology.

A somewhat dated but still useful article by a professor of sociology that appeared in the ceased ALA publication *Footnotes* reinforces the value of PAIS to sociologists. The author evaluated the quality of 58 journals in the field and ranked them by two objective measures --core influence and total influence. The top ten titles from his rankings were searched via the Source line in PAIS, and the result was that six out of the ten top titles are indexed in both PAIS International and PAIS Archive. (There is, however, a slight difference in which of the ten top journals are indexed by both PAIS International and PAIS Archive because some titles ceased publication). This result serves as an informal but worthwhile indicator of the value of PAIS to sociologists and researchers in closely allied fields. PAIS is a database of choice, ranked in the first tier to be consulted along with Sociological Abstracts, Annual Review of Sociology Online, or Social Sciences Index.

### Conclusion

The reputation of PAIS for high quality and its longevity make it a preferred resource in the social sciences. The design of the databases in FirstSearch is excellent since it provides the searcher with the Thesaurus and Index features. PAIS databases are user friendly. They would not rank as first-stop or the top choice for cultural anthropology because major journals in the field are not included. Rather, they would be good candidates to be included in a group of resources to check at the outset of a research project, or one that called for casting a wide, interdisciplinary net for any and every source connected to a topic of interest.

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- Ogburn, Joyce L., J. Christina Smith and Gregory A. Finnegan, (2001), "Journals of the Century in Anthropology and Archaeology," *Serials Librarian*, 39(4), 69-78.
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**Vice-Chair/Chair-Elect, 2005-06:** JoAnn Jacoby, University of Illinois Library 100 Main Library, 1408 W Gregory Dr., Urbana, IL 61801-3607. (217) 244-1869 [jacoby@uiuc.edu](mailto:jacoby@uiuc.edu)

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For descriptions of committees, go to:  
<http://www.lib.odu.edu/anss/committ.html>