AFRICAN SPECIALTY GROUP MEETING, CHICAGO, 3/8/06


1 Chairs Update:
- ASP sponsored 6-8 sessions at this year’s AAG Meeting. Encouraged members to attend all sessions.
- Membership has increased from last year’s 250 to over 300 this year
- State of ASP coffers is very strong. The balance as at January was $4200. This is an improvement from last year’s figure of $800.
- Revenue from our journal (AGR) and membership dues has increased
- Our newsletter is out on LISTSEV
- Send e-mail to the President if your name isn’t on the LISTSERV
- Stressed the need to re-introduce students’ awards at annual our meetings.

2 Report on AAG Group Chairs’ Meeting:
- Specialty groups were encouraged to submit membership reports on the AAG website.
- Discussed how to schedule sessions to avoid conflicts.
- ASG members should not submit sessions without permission from the group.
- The new AAG President emphasized the need for the association to take a position on national issues.

3 AGR Interim Editor’s Report:
- Florence Margai explained that she took over the interim editor’s position almost two years ago.
- Encouraged more libraries to subscribe to the journal.
- Explored on-line publication.
- Publication delayed last year because of the change in publishers.
- Next issue should be out soon.
- Encouraged members to submit high quality manuscripts.
- Members who didn’t receive copies of the previous issue should send email to the President.
- Until we get more funds, we cannot produce two volumes of the journal a year.
- Distributed advert for the AGR Editor’s position. The search committee is chaired by Joseph Oppong.

Suggestions to Editor:
- Publish two or more volumes per year.
- Every other year, we should publish a session organized by our group at the AAG conference.
• At the end of our the AAG annual conference, the editor should send out email inviting presenters to submit their manuscripts for publication

4. National Geographic Society:
Two officials from this organization asked for members input on how the following topics on Africa should be taught in the classroom:
• Cultural geography
• African history
• Physical geography
• Population, economy and environmental health issues
• Website: http://www.nationalgeographic.com/geographicaction/

5. ASP Social
Calvin Masilela suggested Vee-Vee’s African Restaurant and Cocktails, 6232 North Broadway, Chicago, IL.

Meeting Adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted By:
Seth Appiah-Opoku