E-MERGENT ANTHROPOLOGIES: PRACTICE PAROCHIALIZES AS BANDWIDTH INCREASES

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Symposium organized by Maximilian C Forte and Eliot K Lee Anthropologists on the Internet: Observations by the Participants

Annual Meeting of the American Anthropological Association, Chicago November, 1999



Emergent Practices

Professional Service

- On-Line Publication
- NAPA On-Line Resume Workshop
- NAPA Mentor Program

General Broadcast of Anthropological Concepts

- Kennewick Man on Trial Museum Exhibit
- Data Elicitation and Decision Aids
 - FINCALC
 - WORKPAYS
- Community Collaboration and Service
 - Intertribal Council on Hanford Health Projects



Professional Service: On-Line Publication



Journal of Political Ecology: Case Studies in History and Society

VOLUME 5 (1998)
VOLUME 4 (1997)
VOLUME 3 (1996)
VOLUME 1 (1994)
PESO
LINKS
JOBS
NEWS
PUBLIC FORUM
ORGANIZATION
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VOLUME 5 (1998)

- 1.Announcement of the Journal of Political Ecology: Adobe PDF, ascii or postscript
- Cover of the Journal of Political Ecology: Adobe PDF, ascii or postscript.
- Masthead of the Journal of Political Ecology: Adobe PDF, ascii or postscript.
- Submission Guidelines and Copyright Notice: Adobe PDF, ascii or postscript.
- 5. Political Ecology Society Announcement: Adobe PDF, ascii or postscript.

ARTICLES

 The Value of a River by J. Stephen Lansing, Philip S. Lansing and Juliet S. Erazo Adobe PDF, ascii, postscript. (See also simulation model, video, and related materials)

BOOK REVIEWS

Reviews: Adobe PDF postscript HTML.

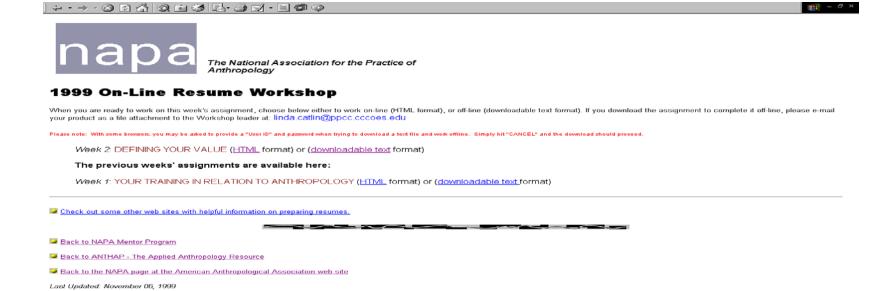
environmental health

Professional Service: On-Line Publication

- Journal of Political Ecology
 http://dizzy.library.arizona.edu/ej/jpe/jpeweb.html
- Intended Audience: Scholars and Students
- **Site Content**: Peer-Reviewed Articles, Book Reviews; amplified by multi-media (e.g., video, real-time hydrology simulation modeling)
- Advantages of Web Medium: More timely book reviews; absence of page limits to restrict appropriate and timely treatment of important topics; access and forum for exchange
- Challenges: Variable range of technology among users;
 "stigma" of on-line publication status



Professional Service: NAPA Resume Workshop



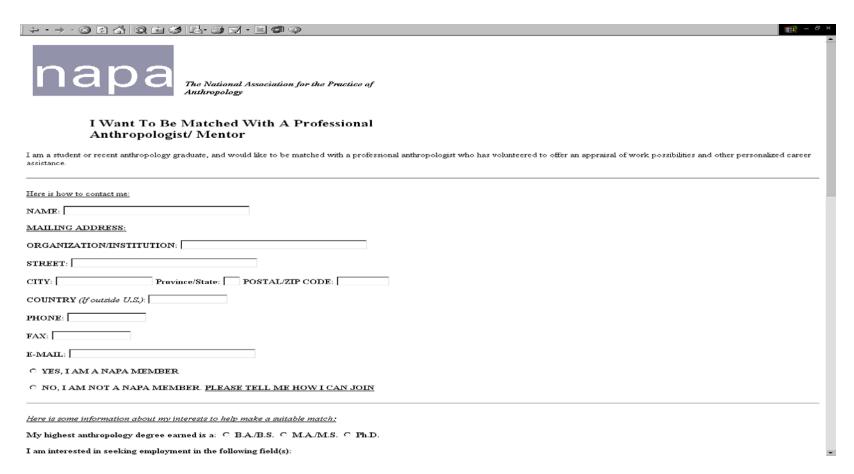


Professional Service: NAPA Resume Workshop

- **URL:** http://www.aaanet.org/napa/index.htm (also available at http://anthap.oakland.edu)
- Intended Audience: Anthropologists in non-academic job markets
- Site Content: 6-week guided tutorial on constructing a resume
- Advantages of Web Medium: Facilitates one-to-many interaction for geographically dispersed participants, where didactic information exchange is relatively instrumental
- Challenges: Variable range of technology among users



Professional Service: NAPA Mentor Program



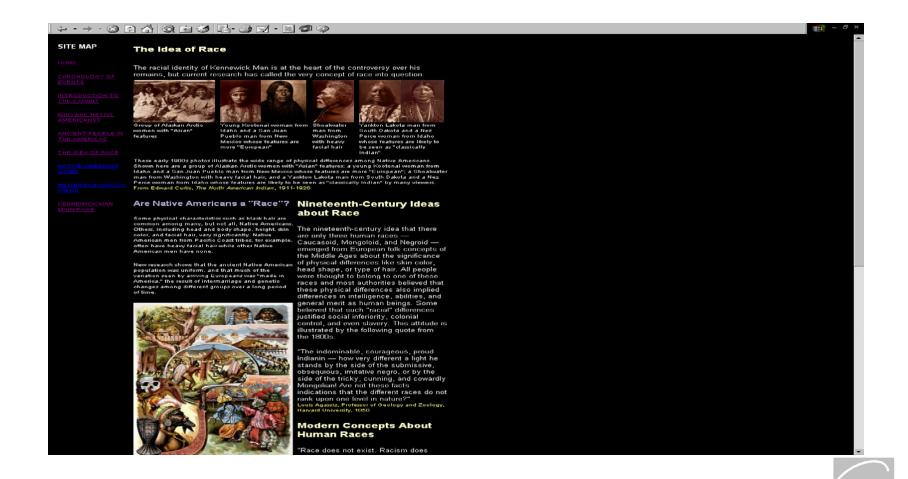


Professional Service: NAPA Mentor Program

- **URL:** http://www.aaanet.org/napa/index.htm (also available at http://anthap.oakland.edu)
- Intended Audience: Anthropology students and recent graduates in the non-academic job market
- **Site Content**: Internship database and links to web resources; links to web resources on resume-building; Application form to request suitable match for mentor relationship
- Advantages of Web Medium: Platform-indepenent; Pulls together relevant information resources, facilitates one-to-many interaction
- Challenges: Variable range of technology among users; updates



Broadcast of Anthropology Concepts: Kennewick Man on Trial Museum Exhibit



Broadcast of Anthropology Concepts: Kennewick Man on Trial Museum Exhibit

- **URL:** www.washington.edu/burkemuseum/exhibits.htm
- Intended Audience: General Public
- **Site Content**: Exhibit label text and illustrations; web links to educational resources; information about booking the travelling exhibit
- Advantages of Web Medium: Access beyond the museum's metropolitan area
- Challenges:
 - Variable range of technology among users
 - Static site content
 - Site maintenance



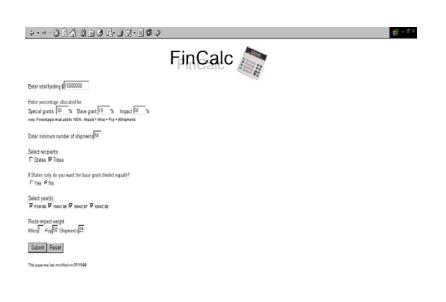
Tesuque Pueblo (NM)

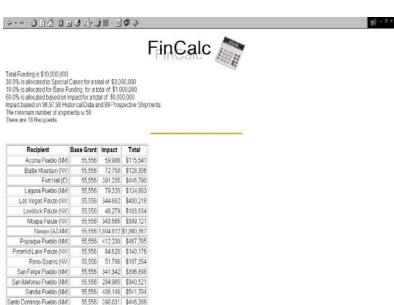
Umatila (OR)

55,556 142,366 \$197,922

55,556 588,177 \$643,732

Wells Colony (NV) 55,556 72,906 \$128,462







- **URL:** www.policycenter.com/fincalc
- Intended Audience: Decision-makers at the Department of Energy, and key constituents involved in decisions about allocation of financial assistance to states and Indian tribes located along DOE's hazardous materials transportation routes
- Site Content:
 - Data Entry User assumptions about importance of various criteria that affect the allocation of federal financial assistance



- Underlying Database MS-ACCESS database that contains history of hazardous materials shipments (by number of shipments, shipment contents, highway, rail and route miles across and adjacent to all state and tribal jurisdictions) as well as history of federal financial assistance to states and tribes since 1991 for transportation emergency preparedness, by jurisdiction, funding agency/program, and year.
- Output Real-time allocation of funds by jurisdiction based on user assumption inputs.



Advantages of Web Medium:

- Platform-independent
- Requires no user knowledge of database programming or operation
- Available to geographically dispersed multi-user group members simultaneously
- Reveals variation in underlying premises that guide various constituents' judgments about how financial assistance should be allocated
- Challenges: Database maintenance







- URL: www.policycenter.com/workpays
- Intended Audience:
 - Welfare recipients living in selected public housing developments
 - The employment specialists helping to support residents' transition from welfare to the workforce



Site Content:

- Data Input personal information about current and prospective changes in income and family circumstances
- Underlying Database MS-Access-based repository of guidelines for public assistance benefits, Earned Income Tax Credits, and calculation of rent liability
- Output Anonymous comparison of current and projected or hypothetical net income after enrolling in "Jobs-Plus" program



Advantages of Web Platform:

- Platform-independent
- Requires no user knowledge of database operation
- Available to dispersed users simultaneously
- Provides elementary training in computer skills
- Guides conversation with employment specialist to help determine whether "Jobs-Plus" program is appropriate for individual households

Challenges:

- Range of user skill-levels
- Restricted support for non-English speakers
- Social distancing effect of computer use in this setting



Community Collaboration and Service: ICHHP



Feedback

Last Updated April 20, 1998



Community Collaboration and Service: ICHHP

- Intertribal Council on Hanford Health Projects
 www.policycenter.com/ichhp~1.htm
- Intended Audience: Member Tribes and General Public
- Site Content: Organizational history, by-laws, strategic plan, links to Member tribes and environmental health resources
- Advantages of Web Medium: Centralized access to charter materials; referral resource for public queries
- Challenges: Static site content; site maintenance



Summary of Challenges by Practice Domain

Static site content

- Publication
- Communicating with general public

Database maintenance

- Data elicitation and decision aids
- Community collaboration

Site maintenance

- All
- Variable range of user skill-levels and access to technology
 - All
- Restricted support for non-English speakers
 - Community collaboration
 - Data elicitation and decision aids
- Social distancing effect of computer use in this setting
 - Communicating with general public
 - Data elicitation and decision aids



Implications of Five Technology Trends

- Five Trends (From AAA Advisory Group on Electronic Communications - www.aaanet.org/agec.htm)
 - Increasing bandwidth and processing speed
 - Decreasing costs of memory storage
 - Increasing availability and affordability of ancillary equipment
 - Increasing accessibility of content in nontraditional venues and to non-academic audiences
 - Increasing commercial feasibility of microtransaction cost recovery for publishers



Implications of Five Technology Trends

- "Static content," "user skills," "resources available" challenges addressed, maybe ...
 - Increasing bandwidth and processing speed
 - Decreasing costs of memory storage
 - Increasing availability and affordability of ancillary equipment
- But what about "maintenance," "social distance," and "dominance of English"?

