

From the Editors

I am delighted and honored to have been asked by my colleagues at the Institute of Ethnology of the Academia Sinica to serve as editor-in-chief of the newly constituted *Taiwan Journal of Anthropology*. The new journal continues in the venerable tradition of its predecessor, the *Bulletin of the Institute of Ethnology*, to published peer-reviewed research articles, review articles, and research notes of particular interest to the field of Taiwan-oriented anthropology. In addition, as the new name and format intend to convey, the editorial board has undertaken an ambitious agenda oriented toward broadening not only the geographical purview of the journal, but also the intellectual scope of its publications.

This broadening of geographical and intellectual purpose registers the remarkable development of anthropological study both in and about Taiwan over the past two decades. Since I began my career as a professional anthropologist in Taiwan during the 1970s, it has been extremely gratifying to keep abreast, however intermittently, with the work of Taiwanese anthropologists. I am impressed not only by the growth of the discipline here, but also by the increasing intellectual range and sophistication of research and writing. I note with nearly equal gratification a similar trajectory among American and other non-Taiwanese anthropologists working on and in Taiwan. By the same token, the interests of Taiwanese anthropologists have extended beyond an earlier emphasis on Taiwan itself to include China, the overseas Chinese, and Southeast Asia.

There has been substantial growth of anthropological research and writing in Chinese language outside of Taiwan, too. Not to belabor the point, it seems to be an appropriate historical moment for Taiwan to assert its stature as an internationally significant locus of anthropological work, and the *Taiwan Journal of Anthropology* aspires to constitute such a statement. The articles in this first issue include pieces by anthropologists from Taiwan, Hong Kong, Sweden, and the United States addressing a broad spectrum of intellectual issues with substantial comparative and theoretical weight. As these articles attest, the editorial board is committed enthusiastically to encouraging publications addressed to the world community of anthropologists, and I am confident that the promise of this first issue is only the beginning of new and exciting things to come.

Editor-in-Chief

P. Steven Sangren

《臺灣人類學刊》的創刊，是人類學在華文世界發展的一個里程碑。它即使不是華文世界第一份專業人類學刊物，但我們至少有意使它成為這個領域的代表性學術期刊。而這也意味著華文人類學界，已成熟到足以透過專業雜誌來開展共同的論述空間，以供研究上的切磋。本刊也是份雙語刊物，接受國際學界不使用華文寫作的有關學者之英文來稿，使華文人類學界與世界人類學界能超越語言的障礙，而有更多接軌的機會。事實上，由本刊的刊務委員遍及世界各地，創刊號主編由知名的國外學者來擔任，均具體說明這刊物有意跨出機關刊物與區域性雜誌的限制，面對更鉅大、更多樣的挑戰，最終能貢獻華文人類學研究於一個更開放、更廣闊的國際人類學社區。

本刊定位為雙語刊物而非純粹英文的國際性期刊，自然是積極地期望華文世界的傑出人類學研究，不僅能不受限於語言文字或研究課題的特殊性而被國際學界所忽視，更能藉此刊物挑戰國際人類學界。更重要的，土著語言的表達方式本身最能呈現該文化的某些關鍵特性，而研究成果實際上也就是該文化發展的結果，更反映乃至創造了該文化當時的心性。做為華文世界人類學的代表性刊物之一，發掘以華文撰寫的優秀人類學研究論文，《臺灣人類學刊》自是責無旁貸。

再者，本刊以國際性的專業人類學刊物自許，除了接受投稿外，亦會不定期地由刊務委員或編輯委員會舉薦適當人選，推出某個特定或新課題的專號，以便深入探討及推展任何有意義且具發展潛力的研究主題。中央研究院民族學研究所也願意就相關議題先行舉辦學術研討會，以為該專號水準的提昇而暖身。而本刊出版到一定期數後，不同的課題有一定的累積時，中央研究院民族學研究所也計劃將這類的論文集結成專書出版，來引起進一步的討論與發展。正如學術論文的出版只是研究過程的一部分一樣，本刊希望在整個學術研究水準的提昇與突破上，能扮演更多且積極的媒介性角色。

最後，這份新期刊衷心盼望能發掘出對文化瞭解更深刻、更廣闊、更具創新之研究成果。這樣的研究誠屬不易，除了由深廣的學養與足夠的經驗累積所打造出來的厚實基礎外，必須對已有的觀點與定論能不斷質疑和自我挑戰，而達精益求精之境界。對於人類社會與文化之未來抱有夢想與希望，以及對人類學知識本身有所期待，更是超越前人成就之極限的動力來源。但學科突破或新學問的產生，往往需要研究者漫長時間之醞釀，更需有旁人慧眼之洞識、批評與支持。在這點上，我們誠心期待這刊物能成為開展新境界的推手。

刊務委員會召集人／協同主編

黃應貴