

**GRADUATE WORKSHOP IN APPLIED ANTHROPOLOGY
AND PARTICIPATORY RESEARCH**

**CASCA 1991
University of Western Ontario
London, Ontario
May 12, 1991 9:30-11:30 a.m.**

Gwen Reimer, Co-ordinator and Special Editor

In Spring 1990, the Co-Editors of NEXUS contemplated ways in which graduate students in Departments of Anthropology across Canada might come together to discuss current issues important to our future as professional anthropologists. Furthermore, we hoped that NEXUS might serve as a medium to put such a discussion in print and thus allow students unable to participate in person, to have access to this discussion. Consequently, we decided to approach the Canadian Anthropology Society (CASCA) about sponsoring and organizing a student forum on issues in the future of applied anthropology at the next annual conference. We proposed to translate the event into a special publication in NEXUS.

This is that translation. The papers that follow are printed in the order in which they were presented. Whether by coincidence, or as a reflection of current concerns shared by graduate students -- particularly those contemplating an 'applied' career -- the presentations fit together in a neat and almost chronological manner. Reimer raises questions about the pre-field experience, specifically the ethical and political contradictions in doing applied research for academic (Ph.D. dissertation) purposes in an Inuit community. Kurelek's presentation addresses the pre-, the post-, but in particular the actual field experience of M.A. research among the Innu, focusing on the sometimes difficult and inconsistent roles in which we find ourselves. Arratia evaluates the post-field experience in light of different perceptions of participatory research and development in rural Chile. Fortuitously, each includes participatory research as a primary theme. Concluding this special section is a paraphrased summary of the discussion that followed. NEXUS sincerely hopes that our readers will benefit from this written version of what proved to be a lively forum.

NEXUS is grateful to the Society of Applied Anthropologists of Canada (SAAC) for co-sponsoring this workshop, in particular Professor Wayne Warry who acted as main liaison and faculty advisor. NEXUS also thanks the co-ordinators of CASCA 1991 for accommodating this student session. Above all, we appreciate those persons who actively involved themselves in the workshop as either presenters, discussants, or audience participants.

In all, the first NEXUS Student Workshop was a successful and worthwhile endeavour. We hope it will have set a precedent for future productive student sessions.

Gwen Reimer