

the anthrObserver

University of Iowa Department of Anthropology Newsletter 2002-2003

Anthropology at Iowa

Florence E. Babb, Chair

Greetings and welcome to our annual issue of the anthrObserver. This year, the Department of Anthropology at the University of Iowa is pleased to have join us our newest faculty member, North American archaeologist William Graves, who comes to us as a fresh Ph.D. from Arizona State University. We are also fortunate during this period of budgetary constraint to be conducting two more searches for permanent appointments, in medical anthropology and linguistic anthropology. Moreover, we have with us this year four visiting anthropologists who are enriching our curriculum and make excellent colleagues: Brigittine French, Hiroyuki Hashimoto, Meena Khandelwal, and Erica Prussing.

As most readers of the anthrObserver are aware, the Department of Anthropology at the University of Iowa has faculty representing the four major subfields of cultural anthropology, biological anthropology, linguistic anthropology, and archaeology. In addition, the Department has important connections to other social sciences, physical and biological sciences, arts and humanities, as well as area studies programs at Iowa. Following a departmental review late last spring, all of the faculty met together for a half-day retreat that generated a productive discussion of the particular strengths in Iowa's Anthropology program.

[continued on pg. 2]



UI Anthropology at the AAA meetings in New Orleans, November 2002

In This Issue:

New Foci for Anthro, 2

Meet the Visiting Faculty, 4

AAA in New Orleans, 6

Post-Comp Fee in Effect, 8

June Helm Award, 9

Degree Recipients, 10

Alumni News, 11

Faculty Updates, 12

New Publications & Awards, 13

DEPARTMENT WELCOMES NEW ARCHAEOLOGIST

Sarah Ono

Last summer, William "Billy" Graves successfully defended his dissertation at Arizona State University and relocated from Tempe to Iowa City, where he has joined the department as an assistant professor. After ten years in graduate school, Billy says he was ready for a change. The move to Iowa and into the role of "professor" has been a "natural transition" according to Dr. Graves. So far the first year at the university has lived up to what he expected; it is exciting and he has greater freedom to do the things he wants – which he recognizes is a position of privilege.

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[Anthropology at Iowa cont.]

In an effort to bring greater visibility to innovative areas of actual and planned collaboration among faculty and students, the Department has identified four areas of shared research interests that cross the traditional subfields and build on our long-time strengths, including feminist, medical, economic, and Latin American anthropology, among other specializations. These areas and the faculty who work in them are outlined below. By sharing these reconfigured foci with our readers near and far, we hope to stimulate further thinking about promising new directions in the field of anthropology and our own engagement in developing new knowledge in the field.

New Departmental Foci

Gender, Sexuality, Health and Demography

Florence E. Babb, Thomas H. Charlton, Virginia Dominguez, Laura Graham, Ellen Lewin, Mac Marshall, Glenn Storey

This group of faculty from cultural and linguistic anthropology and archaeology addresses broad social dynamics that are marked by gender, sexuality, and other vectors of cultural difference and that reveal significant change throughout history and in the contemporary period. Individuals are understood to bear the effects of such change on the body and populations are likewise affected in material and other ways. As anthropologists, we are concerned to examine how people interact in the world based on perceived cultural identities and practices.

Cultural Politics and Representations

Florence E. Babb, Thomas H. Charlton, Michael Chibnik, Rudi Colloredo-Mansfield, Virginia Dominguez, Laura Graham, Ellen Lewin, Mac Marshall, Doug Midgett, Scott Schnell

Members of this group consider ways in which cultural institutions, practices and forms of expression create, sustain, and mediate relations of power within society. Power asymmetries and dynamics may be located in diverse areas of culture, from institutional structures to the production of artistic objects or performance. Linguistic and sociocultural anthropologists in this group approach these questions from a variety of perspectives.

Politics, Economy and Environment -- Past and Present

Florence E. Babb, Thomas H. Charlton, Michael Chibnik, Russell Ciochon, Rudi Colloredo-Mansfield, James Enloe, Robert Franciscus, William Graves, Mac Marshall, Doug Midgett, Scott Schnell, Glenn Storey

This group concentrates on materialist approaches to both contemporary and past human societies to build on areas of faculty strength and to provide bridges among them. Materialist approaches have long held an important place in archaeology and sociocultural anthropology. This group envisions research and instructional connections between our archaeologists and biological anthropologists and those sociocultural anthropologists who investigate economic anthropology, political economy, and anthropological studies of the environment and human ecology.

Paleoanthropology

Russell Ciochon, James Enloe, Robert Franciscus, William Graves

This group takes an interdisciplinary approach to the study of extinct human ancestors, encompassing human and primate paleontology (the fossil record), and Paleolithic archaeology (the cultural record) framed in geological, ecological, and evolutionary contexts. Here at Iowa, we have particular research strengths in early primate paleobiology, Asian *Homo erectus*, Later Pleistocene genus *Homo* evolution, especially Neandertals, and early modern humans, as well as the Middle and Upper Paleolithic archaeology of Europe.

[Graves cont.]

Billy grew up in Biloxi, Mississippi amidst the rich cultural history of the Gulf Coast. He is a graduate of Biloxi High School before going on to Southern Methodist University for his BS in anthropology. Now that Billy has found his way to Iowa he is jumping on the "Hawkeye" bandwagon and making a smooth adjustment to the midwest climate. Even though he was already freezing in November, Billy says the best thing about Iowa is getting out of the Arizona heat, and the fact that people here are so nice "it's shocking."

So what is Billy planning to do with the newfound freedom that goes with being a young professor? He is looking ahead to new projects as he continues his work in Pueblo sites that he considered in his Ph.D. research. He is also initiating plans to develop a University of Iowa field school that would operate in Central New Mexico. When Billy is able to take a break from Macbride Hall, you might find him at Record Collector buying vinyl and cultivating his interest in music. And if you know of good Mexican food nearby, let him know, as he has heard about the "good pork in the midwest."

New Hire Enhances Department and Spring Brings Announcement of Honors

Anthropology is pleased to be adding a new face to the department in the fall. Our department welcomes the hire of a tenure track linguistic anthropologist, **Adi Hastings**. Adi will be moving to Iowa City after having completed his Ph.D. at the University of Chicago.

Meena Khandelwal will also return in the fall. She has accepted a joint tenure track appointment between Anthropology (50%) and Women's Studies (50%).

Congratulations to **Brigitte French** and **Chad Uran**! Brigitte has been awarded a Mellon Post-Doctoral Fellowship at Grinnell College in Grinnell, Iowa for the next two years. Chad has recently learned that he is a recipient of a three-year Ford Foundation Pre-Doctoral Graduate Fellowship.

The 2003 Seashore-Ballard Fellowships have been announced and it is a pleasure to say that we have two fellows in the anthropology department: **Kate Dernbach** and **Jon Wolseth**.

Anthropology Hosts 2002-2003 Colloquium Series and Ida Beam Distinguished Scholar

Rayna Rapp visited UI as an Ida Beam Distinguished Visiting Professor, sponsored by Anthropology & Women's Studies. Along with her presentation of a public lecture and a round-table discussion, Rapp presented in the department on her collaborative work focused on genetic citizenship. A sampling of the colloquiums presented this year include:

Roger Sullivan (Global Health Studies, University of Iowa), "Schizophrenia in Palau: Biocultural Dimensions"

Kamala Visweswaran (Anthropology & Asian Studies, University of Texas, Austin), "Gendered States: Rethinking the Place of Culture in South Asian Human Rights Work"

Loma Ishi (History & AINSP, University of Iowa), "Travel Writing at Hopi"

Charles Hilton (Visiting Assistant Professor, Department of Anthropology, Grinnell College), "Bioarchaeology of Prehistoric Inuits from Pt. Hope, Alaska"

Katina Lillios (Associate Professor of Anthropology, Ripon College), "Histories in Prehistory: A New Interpretation of the Engraved Plaques of Copper Age Iberia"

Frank Solomon (Department of Anthropology, University of Wisconsin, Madison), "'Writing Without Words' and the Ethnographic Khipus of a Peruvian Village"

Jon Wolseth (Ph.D. candidate, Department of Anthropology, University of Iowa), "Safety and Sanctuary: Youth, Urban Violence and Pentecostal Conversion in Honduras"

Anthropology Graduate Student Updates

Kelli Beer has returned to Iowa after completing her MA at Chicago. Her research interests include: hair; ideologies of cultural mixing in popular culture; hip hop and reggae in the global milieu; manipulations of alterity and desire in the public sphere; the anomalous; and representations of the sense(les)s in (post[-post])modernity. **Margaret Burchianti** is in her third year of the Ph.D. program. Last May she received her M.A. after completing her M.A. paper, "Building Bridges of Memory: The Mothers of the Plaza de Mayo, Argentina's Desaparecidos, and the Stakes of the Present." In future dissertation research she hopes to continue working on issues of gender, social memory, and violence in Argentina.

Brandy Case Haub finished the M.A. degree last May, on the topic: Giftedness, Gender and American Culture. Brandy received the Iowa Talented and Gifted Association (ITAG) research award, based on her M.A. research. She has submitted her M.A. to AEQ (Anthropology and Education Quarterly) as a possible journal article. Brandy's dissertation work will consider Puerto Rico and issues of identity and cultural politics.

Brad Casucci finished his M.A. in Spring 2002 and is now looking into mental illness in the community and medical pluralism in Kenya. Brad is looking forward to what the future holds.

Barb Davidson fears she has turned into one of those invisible ABD students. She was in northern Thailand from October to April this past year collecting data on TB in Hmong villages. Despite it being a strange time to be abroad, especially after the bombing in Afghanistan started, Barb learned a great deal and now has heaps of data. She is completing an MPH degree, and working with the UI Student Health TB program.

Graduate Students Continued

Lindsey Eaves-Johnson is a first year Master's candidate in Bioanthropology. Originally from St. Louis, Mo, she received her BA in History (Holocaust/Judaic Studies) from the University of Missouri-St. Louis (with a minor in Anthropology). Lindsey is currently interested in: the origins of language in paleohistory and research on "the Other" as it pertains to Bioanthropology: (i.e., Neanderthals and "Archaic" Homo as Others), in order to better evaluate the characteristics of modernity being used in taxonomy and see what is being overlooked or misinterpreted because of "the Other" mindset.

Jeanne Frerichs is in Sweden conducting her dissertation fieldwork with her husband and son, Finn. Jeanne is supported by the American Scandinavian Foundation and a Fulbright dissertation grant.

Janet Gardner is currently working on two articles for publication and preparing her NSF application for dissertation research, which will involve travel to Europe and possibly Africa. This summer she spent 6 weeks in Central Europe looking at Neandertal and Early Modern Human fossils, as part of her on-going research into patterns of disease and trauma in early humans. This travel was funded with a Stanley Fellowship, as well as support from the department.

Rachel Horner is in her second year of study at the UI. Her interests have led to a focus in medical anthropology, particularly within the realm of complementary and alternative therapies. She spent her summer doing Master's research at Palmer Chiropractic College, examining the attitudes and beliefs of chiropractic students as they are socialized into the profession. This year, Rachel plans on joining the MPH program in addition to her regularly scheduled course of study in the department.

Hiroyuki "Hiro" Hashimoto Tomomi Naka

Professor Hashimoto is an Associate Professor in the Department of Japanese Culture at Chiba University in Japan. His research interests are diverse, including anthropology of performance, museum anthropology, folklore history, and cultural history of performing arts in Japan and the Marshall Islands. Hashimoto says that his diverse research interests are centered on the relationships between "seeing" and "being seen." As well as exploring the cultural and social meanings of the performing arts as forms of representation, Hashimoto examines and incorporates practitioners' points of view.

Professor Hashimoto says that he is enjoying his stay in Iowa City the most among his experiences as a visiting scholar at various universities in the United States. At the University of Iowa, not only has he taught a course, but he also attended several classes taught by UI faculty members. He says that both of these experiences were informative for his further studies. The fact that two students stopped by his office during my one-hour visit suggests that some of the students who took his class or classes with

Roger Sullivan Comes to Iowa Carrie Hough

Beyond the hallowed halls of Macbride, many of the University of Iowa's anthropologists wear different hats and lend their talents to other departments and disciplines such as nursing, medicine and international programs. One such anthropologist, new to Iowa this academic year, is Roger Sullivan, who has been awarded a two-year postdoctoral fellowship by the Global Health Studies Program. Colloquium enthusiasts will remember Roger's fall semester presentation on links between substance use and schizophrenia in Palau, Micronesia. Before beginning studies in physical anthropology at the University of Auckland (PhD 2002) in his native New Zealand, Roger worked for 10 years in engineering trades as an apprentice fitter/turner in the Naval Dockyards in Auckland. During his university career, he was employed in mental health social work, which contributed to his research interests.

In the fall, Roger continued his research on mental illness and its causes in Palau, and he returned to the US in late February, along with his fiancée Marta. This spring and for the duration of his fellowship Roger will teach the Global Health Seminar, a core course offered every semester for the Global Health Certificate and a popular class among students of medical anthropology. In his adjustment to life in the midwest, Roger has found that the best thing about Iowa is its friendly and welcoming people. It's not too late to welcome him to Iowa yourself. He can be found across the river at his office, 350 International Center.

ERICA PRUSSING

Carrie Hough

Coming to the University of Iowa was a midwestern homecoming of sorts for medical anthropologist Erica Prussing, who currently holds a visiting joint appointment in Anthropology and Community and Behavioral Health. Though she grew up in a Big 10 university town, Champaign-Urbana, Illinois, Erica has known many homes, from her east coast years as an undergrad in Massachusetts to her west coast graduate school tenure in southern California, and dissertation fieldwork in the Northern Plains. Liking Iowa City to a cross between Champaign and Lame Deer, Montana, she appreciates the aspects of the university and city, such as the Writer's Workshop and Prairie Lights, which lend a humanistic and pioneering spirit to this college town. When Erica is not preparing for or teaching the three classes she is offering this semester, you might just find her hanging out with her 9-year old lab-mix canine companion or making soap. This creative and therapeutic outlet recalls her days in chem. lab (protective eyewear!) and its final product is readily given away.

Erica's academic and research interests in medical anthropology and Native American health issues were solidified during two years of clinical health care work in San Diego County before graduate school in anthropology at UC-San Diego and, later, public health at UC-Berkeley. Her interest and aptitude in the natural sciences was fostered in part by her father, an engineering professor at University of Illinois, and she was a pre-med major at Wellesley. She feels that growing up with "a scientist in the house" has given her an appreciation for and a critical eye toward the sciences that has enabled her to pursue a Master's of Public Health while concurrently taking anthropological fieldnotes on the work of epidemiologists. Bridging anthropology and public health, Erica finds inspiration in science studies and anticipates her continuing research to involve an ethnographic approach to epidemiology and the ways in which this science has shaped American conceptions of health and illness through the explanatory power of both individual and social determinants.

Stop by the office and say hello to Shari Knight our new secretary. Kathy Foreman's departure in January left anthropology with an unoccupied desk in the department office. In February, Shari Knight took up the task of being Beverly Poduska's right hand and the organizing force behind the department. Shari came to UI after working for 12 years as the secretary at Kirkwood Elementary. She says it was "good training" for managing lots of tasks at once, but wanted a change -- which anthropology has provided. Shari has three children, a yellow VW Bug, and enjoys reading. She is new to anthropology, but is learning lots of new information (fast!). We are glad to have her, and all the best to Kathy and the new baby, Michael. Stop by and visit some time -- you can say hello to Shari!

Carrie Hough powered through comps in the fall, and is now busy with grant applications and prospectus writing. She is growing smarter by the day and was honored with the Global Health Studies 2002 Exceptional Graduate Student Award. With that under her belt she plots future travels to a tropical island.

Alexis "Lexi" Matza worked at the Michigan Womyn's Music Festival last summer and investigated how gender and identity become inscribed on the body in a politically contested and socially deviant space.

Tomomi Naka hopes to continue her work among conservative Mennonites in the U.S., focusing on the relationships between their faith and work. She presented her MA work at the Central States Anthropological Society's annual meeting last year, and is working to get a TA certification for non-native English speakers. Tomomi says, "Any English help to improve my English will be appreciated."

Kari Olson is currently writing her dissertation, which focuses on women's perspectives on reproductive health in urban China. She was in Beijing for fieldwork during 1999-2000, and returned there last summer, helping her husband, Charles, run a summer program for American college students (and doing minimal follow-up research, but only minimal as they had two kids in tow). Kari received a Seashore Dissertation Fellowship this year, which is helping to cover childcare costs while she writes. She hopes to finish before the end of 2003.

Sarah Ono is up to her ears in fourth-year activities, including (but not limited to): comps, keeping up with Hollywood and a highly mobile group of informants, serving as editor of the department newsletter, applying for grants, and working with the editorial staff at MSU's WID-Working Papers series to complete the collection of AAA papers she edited with Jackie Comito (Ph.D. 2001) as a tribute to Margery Wolf.

Graduate Students Continued

Gudrun Putz is currently conducting her dissertation research in the Netherlands. She is investigating the situation of former-Soviet migrant workers (primarily street sellers and sex-workers) in the context of European integration and anti-immigration policies. For this research, she received Wenner-Gren, Fulbright, and T. Anne Cleary awards.

Michelle Ramirez completed her dissertation, "Suffering, Modernity, and Morality: Menopause in Urban Oaxaca," and is spending Spring 2003 teaching at the National University of Ireland, Maynooth.

Maria Beatriz "Betty" Rodriguez-Feo has been in Angola for the last year doing dissertation archival and field research and intends to stay there for another academic year. She is investigating expressive cultural exchanges between Cuba and Angola.

Judy Siebert is currently writing her dissertation. Judy's research in Chile was funded by a Stanley Fellowship. Her focus is on language change in the 1850s German immigrant community of southern Chile's Lake District.

Samantha Solimeo successfully completed her comprehensive exams and dissertation prospectus last year and is now officially ABD. In the spring of 2002 she was honored by her fellow students with the June Helm Award for Excellence and Service in Anthropology. She then conducted a ten-week pilot study with the financial assistance of the Department of Anthropology and the Parkinson's Disease Foundation's "Summer Fellowship for Investigative Research." Samantha is currently completing her degree requirements in the College of Public Health at the UI, and plans to graduate with her MPH this May. Her dissertation research on the meanings of aging, self, and chronic illness among older adults with Parkinson's Disease, will commence this August.

AAA Meetings 2002: New Orleans, LA

The department had a very good showing at the 2002 American Anthropological Association meetings in New Orleans, Louisiana. In addition to graduate alumni and numerous former (mostly visiting) faculty who presented papers or organized sessions, the following faculty and graduate students helped to spread the word about what we are working on here in Iowa.

Laura Graham and **Florence Babb** (with **Victoria Rovine** UIMA): Co-Organized "Beyond Binaries: Globalizing Objects, Identities and Aesthetics." Graham presented "Xavante CPR: Control of Public Re-Presentation," and Babb presented "Traveling Sandalistas: From Revolution to Resorts in the 'New' Nicaragua."

Florence Babb: Session Co-Organizer & Co-Chair (with **Lynn Stephen**, University of Oregon), Invited Presidential Session, "Autonomy in an Age of Globalization: The Work of June Nash."

Virginia Dominguez: Discussant for "A Jewish Science?"; Presenter in "Recuperating the Material: Papers in Honor of Sidney W. Mintz."

Rudi Colloredo-Mansfeld: Presenter in "Committed Fieldwork: Beyond Imagination."

Mac Marshall: Presenter in "Studying Tobacco and Tobacco Use: An Increased Role for Anthropologists."

Scott Schnell: Presenter in "Reading History in the Landscape: Observation, Intuition, and Memory in Telling Local Stories of Continuity and Change."

Brigitte French: Presenter in "Misrecognition, Linguistic Awareness, and Linguistic Ideologies: Ethnographies and Approaches."

Erica Prussing: Presenter in "Social Justice and the Distribution of Health."

Karen Haslett: Presenter in "Bilingual and Multilingual Educational Policy and Its Impact on Identity Construction of Linguistic Minorities in a Global Context."

Jon Wolseth: Presenter in "Violent Pasts and Presents."

Margaret Burchianti: Presenter in "Violent Pasts and Presents."

Kevin Kelly (Public Health, Adjunct Anthropology): Presenter in "What Can Biological Anthropology Contribute to Medical Anthropology?"

Congratulations to all those who attended the meetings and represented the University of Iowa. Cheers to our graduate student organization which was awarded a travel grant from the University of Iowa Student Government (UISG) to help with travel expenses. Nice job, **UIGSAA**! And cheers to **Emily Lee** for hosting a fantastic party. See you all in Chicago in 2003!

The Linguistic Plight of a Grad Student

Lexi Matza

I will be the first to admit that my graduate student hazing at Iowa is far from complete. Somehow I managed to make it well into my first semester associating the word 'fat' with, well, fat. So imagine my consternation when I looked over at one of my peer's notebooks during the feminist anthropological theory seminar last fall to see "F.A.T." written on the top. Now, however, I am a real grad student. I fling phrases around like 'fat' to mean the femanth' seminar (said quickly enough for the words to slide together. See also medanth'). Fast forward to this year's triple A's, and as I am leafing through the program guide (volunteering leaves one a lot of time for such activities) I stumble upon a session called 'FAT'. No verbose and intricate title following a semicolon, either. Enthused, I read on, expecting a session similar to our seminar; however, it was nothing of the kind. It was on, well, fat. Those of you who saw the listing in the program know that each of the talks was similarly sparsely entitled, such as *Fat is Hot*, *Cheetos*, *Phat*, *Lardo*, *Porn* or *Elvis*. In the big guide, it said that Don Kulick and Anne Meneley, the organizers of the panel,

specifically had each paper provide a short name to comment on the 'fatness' of titles. This level of detail orientation was the first signal that I was going to love this panel. Of course, the real love came from the panel itself. Joan Gross spoke about the idolization of largeness in hip hop fashion, and the highlight of her panel was hearing her read lyrics like "I like big butts and I can not lie" in a deadpan academic voice. Kenneth Little spoke about the canonization of fat Elvis as an iconic figure, replete with photographic evidence. My favorite, however, was a talk given by Don Kulick, who managed to inform and titillate, entertain and teach. He talked about a specific type of Fat Porn that fetishizes women eating rather than their sexuality. Though the topic itself was fascinating, it was more his presentation that I found impressive. He managed to theorize the talk with aplomb, bringing in Lacan and Kristeva; my favorite quote from that panel is, "The phallus here is pasta and pancakes." All in all, the session was both quite fun and informative. However, thanks to them, I am faced with a renewed difficulty in distinguishing 'FAT' from FAT.

Kenda Stewart is a second year student in feminist anthropology. She spent summer 2002 in Berlin, Germany conducting research on citizenship legislation and the construction of identity among Germans and Turkish migrants.

Andria Timmer is currently writing up the research she did in Nicaragua on perceptions of malnutrition in children. She has a paper in the NAPA Bulletin due to be out soon.

Steve Tulley is living in Los Angeles, his true "home," where he is writing his dissertation.

Chad Uran is Anishinaabe from White Earth (UI MA 2002, U of MN BA) He is interested in the theory and practice of sovereignty among the western Great Lakes Ojibwe. His MA paper took the linguistic turn to examine how the acquisition of Ojibwemowin as a second language created a space for the cultivation of an Ojibwe political consciousness.

Jerry Wever is currently in the Seychelles for six months, finishing up the last third of his 18 months of Caribbean/Indian Ocean comparative dissertation research. His project entitled *Shaping creolization processes: Expressive culture and creole identity in St. Lucia and Seychelles* has been funded by Wenner Gren, SSRC, and the Ford Foundation. He spent one full year in St. Lucia, during which time he presented a paper on creolization in Jamaica at the 2nd International Caribbean Culture Conference, in honor of Kamau Brathwaite. He is currently co-organizing an early-spring conference in the Seychelles in the course of co-editing a volume of research on the Seychelles. Upon his return stateside he plans to present another paper on creolization at the Caribbean Studies Conference in Cuba in May, 2003.



Graduate Students Continued

Jess White is a first year PhD student in physical anthropology, working on fossil primates and the evolution of prosimian primates. She spent the summer working in the Great Divide Basin of Wyoming looking for Eocene primates (and actually found some!).

Jon Wolseth received a Wenner-Gren research grant to conduct his dissertation field research in Honduras. Jon is freshly back from the field for fall, trying to organize and write his dissertation on youth culture in Honduras. He will have the assistance of a Seashore-Ballard writing grant in the coming year,

Heads Up --Post Comp Fee in Effect Fall 2003

Lise Vandervoort, COGS President, with contributions from Sarah Ono

If you've been at the UI for two or more years you may remember a controversy over the UI's attempt to raise the post-comp fee by 488%. Graduate students who had taken their comprehensive exams and were no longer taking credits were required to pay a \$70 post-comp fee each semester to maintain their registration. In 2000, the UI proposed a 488% increase to that fee and presented it to the Regents for a vote before informing graduate students of the change. Once the news became public, a combined GSS/GPSS committee confronted the Graduate College and demanded that the enormous fee hike be reconsidered.

Despite the University's continued resistance, the GSS/GPSS committee was able to forestall the fee hike until Fall 2003. The new policy will require post-comp students to pay a minimum of 2 hours worth of tuition per semester (currently \$488), whether those hours are for actual credits or not.

Students may only petition for exemption due to a temporary lapse in their academic program such as medical and maternity leave, or military obligations.

So, how can you minimize the economic impact on you? COGS suggests that if there are credits that you may take after your comprehensive exams (courses or dissertation/thesis credits), be sure to wait and take them post-comp. That way you will be getting something in exchange for your money, not just paying for required empty tuition hours. Also, work with your advisor and the department DGS to develop a plan of study that takes this new post-comp fee into account and moves graduate students through their program efficiently. And as always, show your support for COGS!

Department of Anthropology Stewards:

Alexis Matza, Sarah Ono, Megan Pfaff, Kenda Stewart, and Brad Casucci, Area Steward and member of the COGS bargaining unit 2002-2003.

For more information talk to a Steward or contact COGS at: cogs@cogs.org.

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: Visit the UI Anthropology web site @ :
: <http://www.uiowa.edu/~anthro> :
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The weather couldn't keep the grad students (and a couple of moms) away from the spring picnic!



Mmmm... we ended the 2001-2002 year with good food

June Helm Award Keeps Expectations High: Samantha Solimeo, 2002 Honoree

Jon Wolseth, JH Award Recipient 2001

The June Helm Award for Service and Excellence in Anthropology is an annual award offered to a graduate student our department. In the Fall of 1997, some graduate students who were sitting on hiring committees noticed that many of the applicants had "named awards" and that these awards often caught the eye of such committees. Over the next semester an idea germinated to create our own award -- an award for graduate students, created by graduate students, given by graduate students. At the same time, because June Helm was soon to retire, graduate students wished to honor her and her service to the department and discipline as best we could. The two ideas came together and the Award was born. June Helm, as long-time department matriarch, the faculty member who had been at Iowa even before Iowa had an anthropology department, was approached with the idea of having a graduate student award in her name. She enthusiastically consented, with one condition: that the award stay in the hands of graduate students and would never be used by faculty in any political gerrymandering or posturing.

Over the next few years, the graduate students were busy formalizing the award. During the first couple of years, the award was informal. Soon, however, we began to contact alumni of the department -- both graduate and undergraduate -- fundraising in the hopes that the award would grow over time. Working in conjunction with the University Foundation, the award gained campus-wide recognition and, although institutionalized within the University, still remains true to the caveat of June Helm: the award is operated by and for graduate students.

There are four award criteria that those who are privileged enough to have the honor of being nominated must fulfill. First, students are eligible only if they have been on campus for the year of the award and have ABD status or are in the process of writing their comprehensive exams. Second, students must have participated in non-course and non-assistantship activities that were of benefit to other graduate students, the department, and the larger university community. Past nominees have held positions in the graduate student anthropology association, the Graduate Student Senate, University of Iowa Student Government, and COGS. Such activities demonstrate a commitment to service that the award seeks to honor, not to mention a dedication to bettering our time spent at the university as graduate students. Third, nominees must have demonstrated support for a holistic, four-field approach to anthropology and not limit their area of interest and inquiry to their specific research focus. From participating in the four-field core seminars with verve to engaging in dialogue across sub-disciplines, this is important to foster a sense of all of us as anthropologists and adding to our understanding of humans across time and space. Finally, and perhaps most importantly, nominees, in the true spirit of June Helm, must demonstrate a willingness to speak their mind in the classroom and on departmental issues in the face of unfairness, discrimination, and all out absurdity. Nominees go out on a limb by not keeping quiet, by furthering discussion, and by actively denouncing what is deemed to be unfair.

Graduate students awarded the 2002 June Helm award to Samantha Solimeo. Samantha is a worthy winner. Her past activities in service to the department and the greater graduate student community include service as a member of search committees, as student representative to faculty meetings, and as COGS steward -- a job she has moved from our department to take across the river to Public Health. Her quiet demeanor hides a strong sense of fairness and an ability to speak up and out in times of need, both in encouragement to other graduate students and to speak reason to those in power. She is deserving and dedicated and exemplifies what the June Helm Award for Service and Excellence is all about.

Growth of the June Helm Award...

1998: June Helm Award established; Jackie Comito recipient

1999: Michael Dunne recipient

2000: Steve Tulley recipient

2001: Jon Wolseth recipient

JH Award endowed through an initial contribution by June Helm and fundraising by the UI Foundation.

2002: Samantha Solimeo recipient

Service begins with each of us. If you are interested in donating for the June Helm Award please make contributions payable to the University of Iowa Foundation and indicate Anthropology Graduate Student Award Fund, account: 30-153-002. Thank you!

BA Recipients (May 2002)

Molly J. Buhrow
Mandi R. Call
Lisa A. Devine
Katie A. Ehlert
Andrew C. Farley
Joel Fassbinder
Rebecca L. Halbmaier
Elizabeth J. Handwerk
Jordan L. Houchins
Tiffany R. Huston
Anne M. Jennings
Michelle L. Koch
Eric A. Kratz
Theresa M. Lammer
Allyson A. Lane
Kristine A. McCulloh
Michael T. McGuire
Sara A. Mech
Lisa J. Meiners
Aimee K. Miller
Megan L. Mulherin
Andrea L. Musel
Laura E. Noth
Christopher J. Pfalzgraf
Sarah E. Pitzen
Johanna E. Reimer
Sabrina R. Shields
Adam M. Skibbe
Joseph R. Stroehle
Clark H. Sturdevant
Angela J. Ter Wee
Traci L. Vandeest
Juliana R. Waechter

BA Recipients (August 2002)

Melinda D. Curphy
Megan L. Donnelly
Liesel S. Fischer
Karli J. Kirsch
Keegan W. Mykris
Tim V. Sexton
Jennifer A. Woodhouse

Ph.D. Recipients and Dissertation Titles

Douglas Hertzler, "Agrarian Cultures of Solidarity: Campesino Unions and the Struggle for Land and Community Development in Santa Cruz, Bolivia" (defended March 27, 2002)

Emily Lee, "A Story of Strategies: Negotiating State and Society in Chengdu, China" (defended April 15, 2002)

Velana Huntington, "Bodies in Context: Holistic Ideals of Health, Healing, and Wellness in an American Orisha Community" (defended April 16, 2002)

Rebecca Johnson, "Change in Woodland Diet and Vessel Form at the Gast Farm Site in Southeast Iowa" (defended April 18, 2002)

Michael Dunne, "Change and Continuity in Prehistoric Foodways: A Paleoethnobotanical Analysis of the Middle to Late Woodland Transition at the Gast Farm Site (13LA12) in Southeast Iowa" (defended April 19, 2002)

William Whittaker, "Zooarchaeological Analysis of the Roman Frontier Economy in the Eastern Netherlands" (defended April 25, 2002)

Gudrun Haraldsdottir, "Cooperation and Conflicting Interests: An Ethnography of Fishing and Fish Trading on the Shores of Lake Malawi" (defended May 6, 2002)

Michelle Ramirez, "Suffering, Modernity, and Morality: Menopause in Urban Oaxaca" (defended in December 2002)

MA Papers Presented in the Department on May 11, 2002

Bella Bowman, "Chemical Evidence for Dental Health and Dietary Practices in Roman Dobodja: A Strontium-Calcium Study"

Margaret Burchianti, "Building Bridges of Memory: The Mothers of the Plaza de Mayo, Argentina's *Desaparecidos*, and the Stakes of the Present"

Brandy Case Haub, "At the Intersection of Cultural Ideals: Giftedness, Gender, and American Culture"

Brad Casucci, "Ignoring AIDS: Ignore-ance, Modernity, and Sugar-Daddies Among the Youth of Three Kenyan Secondary Schools"

Katharine Dale, "Struggles for Individualism Through Baseball in Japan"

Valerie Johnson, "Just a Bunch of Neandertals? A Comparative Archaeological and Anatomical Study of Throwing Technology and Shoulders in the Late Pleistocene"

Steven Miller, "The Evolution of Cranial Robusticity in Genus Homo"

Nicole Pineda, "Island Visions: Cooperative Strategies for Development and Conservation"

Joshua Polanski, "Patterns of Functional Integration in the Hominoid Cranium"

Benjamin Willett, "The Maya, Modernity, and Guatamala"

Tomomi Naka presented her MA paper, "Negotiating New Environments: 'Conservative' Mennonite Responses to the Diversification of Occupations", at the Central States Anthropological Society Annual Meeting in March 2002.

UI Alumni News

Linda Allen (MA, Ph.D.) became the Dean of Fine Arts & Humanities at Kirkwood Community College in Cedar Rapids in April 2002. She also has a recent article:

“Maintaining Marshallese Fundamentals with Christian Fundamentalism” in a special issue of *Pacific Studies* 25(1&2): Constructing Moral Communities: Pacific Islander Strategies for Settling in New Places, edited by Judith S. Modell.

Lisa Devine (BA with Honors 2002) received a Fulbright to pursue archaeological research in China.

Jim Hazen (BA 1999) just completed two years of service in the Peace Corps in Madagascar as an education volunteer. He is currently working with a refugee resettlement in Chicago as an Americorps VISTA Leader. Jim is looking to return to school to focus on nutritional aspects of health and culture, specifically in disaster relief, whether the disaster natural or man made.

Timothy C. Keenan (MA 1993) currently resides in Sacramento, CA where he works as a Public Health Nurse for the Refugee Health Program of the Sacramento County Dept. of Health & Human Services, and as a Graphic, Layout and Production Specialist for the California Healthcare Interpreters Association.

Margot Neverett (Ph.D. 2001) presently serves as Director of Placement and Testing at Lincoln Land Community College, Springfield, IL, where she is also teaching anthropology and geology courses.

Alice Oleson (BA with Honors) is writing her dissertation at Wisconsin-Madison based on fieldwork with Mortlock Islanders living on Pohnpei. She is also teaching at the University of Dubuque. She and Brian Brown were joined by baby girl, Cecelia “Cece” on October 8th.

Laura Vandiver (BA) is now enrolled in a graduate program in anthropology at Missouri-Columbia.

Anthropologists Participate in 5th Annual James F. Jakobsen Graduate Forum

An Anthropology session at the Graduate Forum was moderated by **Chad Uran**, and included the following papers:

Margaret Burchianti, “Building Bridges of Memory: The Mothers of the Plaza de Mayo, Argentina’s *Desaparecidos*, and the Stakes of the Present”
Brandy Case Haub, “At the Intersection of Cultural Ideals: Giftedness, Gender, and American Culture”

Grant McCall, “Examining Namibian Early Hominids Through Stone Tools”

Jon Wolseth, “Safety and Sanctuary: Pentecostal Youth and Urban Violence in Honduras”

Kinship Korner

Marriages:

Brandy Case married Mike Haub in May 2002 on the Drake campus. They are now Brandy & Mike Case Haub (no hyphen, please).

Erica Hill (former visiting faculty) married Daniel Odess in August 2002. They have moved to Fairbanks, AK (PO Box 80327, Fairbanks, AK 99708).

Jess White married Matt Bonnan in October 2002, in Illinois.

Gudrun Putz married Benjamin Willett in December 2002 in Minneapolis, MN.

Births:

Gus was born to Kate & Dan Dernbach in September 2002.

Finn Henry was born to Jeannie & Tim Freirichs on March 17, 2002.

Michael Christopher was born to Kathy & David Foreman on November 10, 2002.

Zoe Liesl was born to Cesca & Rudi Colloredo-Mansfeld on September 27, 2002. She joins Sky & Mia.

Ike was born to Tish & Chad Uran on February 14, 2002. Ike joins sisters, Cleo & Della.

Congratulations to everyone!

What University of Iowa Anthropology faculty members are up to...

Florence Babb, Department Chair, has travelled to Cuba and Nicaragua since the publication of her book, *After Revolution: Mapping Gender and Cultural Politics in Neoliberal Nicaragua*. She has an article forthcoming in *Cultural Anthropology* and is up for election as Chair of the Association for Feminist Anthropology.

Tom Charlton has on-going research into state development in Mesoamerica including current work on Aztec and Teotihuacan state formation near Mexico City. In Iowa, his research is directed toward Euroamerican cultural development with a focus on Plum Grove, Iowa City. In collaboration with Patricia Fournier and Cynthia Otis Charlton, he has a commissioned manuscript in press on the ceramic tradition in the Basin of Mexico following the Spanish conquest.

Michael Chibnik's book on the immersion of Mexican wood carvers into the international folk art market will be published by the University of Texas Press in March 2003. Dr. Chibnik has also been nominated for the presidency of the Society for Economic Anthropology.

Russell Ciochon has an on-going multidisciplinary research project in Java, Indonesia examining when the first humans (*Homo erectus*) arrived there and the type of environment that drew them to this remote area of Southeast Asia.

Rudi Colloredo-Mansfeld's recent book, *The Native Leisure Class: Consumption and Cultural Creativity in the Andes*, considers the native peoples in the Ecuadorian Andes, who use consumer goods and traditional material culture to define values and identity.

Virginia Dominguez is the current editor of the journal *American Ethnologist*, which now makes its home in our department. She is working on visual cultural politics, especially historical and contemporary interventions aimed at decentering the United States.

James Enloe presented at the ninth International Conference on Hunting and Gathering Societies in Edinburgh, Scotland; the ninth quadrennial International Congress of the International Council Archeozoology in Durham, England; and the International Union for Quaternary Research in Aix-en-Provence, France.

Bob Franciscus is analyzing the 26,000 year old Upper Paleolithic cranial remains from the Pavlovian site of Dolní Vestonice in central Europe, and is involved in an interdisciplinary project to reconstruct the vocal tract anatomy of Neandertals.

Laura Graham, Director of Graduate Studies, is researching Native Amazonians in the international public sphere, indigenous media, discourse, and performance in public arenas.

Billy Graves is doing research on inter-pueblo sociopolitical relations and power in the late prehistoric and early historic Rio Grande region of central New Mexico. He plans to begin an excavation project in New Mexico to be run as a UI archaeological field school.

Meena Khandelwal's ethnography, *Women in Ochre Robes: Gendering Hindu Renunciation* is being published by SUNY Press in a series on Hinduism edited by Wendy Doniger; it is due out this summer.

Ellen Lewin is conducting fieldwork on gay fathers in the Chicago area. She is editing a reader in feminist anthropology. Her co-edited book, *Out in Theory*, has recently been published by University of Illinois Press and was the subject of a feature article in the *Chronicle of Higher Education* (11/22/02). Dr. Lewin also had a letter to the editor published in the *NYTimes*(3/4/03).

Mac Marshall is writing a book on the transnational migration from and sociocultural transformation of Namoluk Atoll, Micronesia, a community he has studied for the past 34 years. His co-authored book, *Alcohol and the Developing World*, has just been published. Dr. Marshall's 4-year term as editor of *Medical Anthropology Quarterly* finished at the end of 2002. Dr. Marshall is on phased-retirement and he is splitting his time between Iowa City and Santa Rosa, CA.

Douglas Midgett is continuing research on political economy in the eastern Caribbean and he is completing a book on tourism in Monserrat. He is also doing research on the planning process for managing the Upper Missouri River National Monument in Montana. Dr. Midgett has contributed the introduction to *The People's Forest* (2002), by Robert Marshall, and "Cricket and Calypso" in *Culture, Sport and Society*, J. A. Mangan, ed. (2003).

Scott Schnell, Director of Undergraduate Studies, continues to do extensive fieldwork in Japan focusing on the concentration of power and challenges to central authority through the mobilization of localized identities.

Glenn Storey, who holds a joint appointment in the Department of Classics, is pursuing archaeological research of the Roman Empire in Holland and Sicily.

Graduate Students Claim Awards Locally and Nationally

In the past year a number of graduate students have been honored with awards for their work, and support to help complete research or writing. **Samantha Solimeo** was awarded the Parkinson's Disease Foundation Summer Fellowship in Investigative Research for 2002. **Kari Olson** was a 2002 Seashore-Ballard Fellowship recipient. In addition to successfully defending his dissertation, **Michael Dunne** was honored with the Graduate College Distinguished Dissertation Award. This spring all of the anthropology graduate students who presented at the James F. Jacobsen Graduate Forum earned accolades: **Brandy Case Haub** - 3rd Place in Humanities, **Margaret Burchianti** and **Jon Wolseth** - Honorable Mention in Humanities, **Grant McCall** - Honorable Mention in Social Science.

Undergraduates Gain Recognition

Three of our anthropology honors students have received accolades for their work. **Andrew Annis** has been awarded an Iowa Presidential Scholarship for Study Abroad. **Jennifer Stokes** was awarded a Bowman Travel Grant, a Gilman Scholarship, and a Summer and Short-Term Scholarship for Study Abroad. She is using her awards to offset the costs of her participation in the Crossing Borders Field Course, conducted this year in St. Lucia and Trinidad. Jennifer stayed on in Trinidad following the course to conduct additional field research for her honors thesis. **Teri Ventura Chaven** was admitted into the UI Law School for fall 2003. She has also received a Law Opportunity Merit Fellowship. Nice work to all three!

UI Makes Good Showing: 2002 AAA Election Results

Virginia Dominguez, AAA Nominations Committee (Undesignated Seat #2)

Florence Babb, AAA Committee on Minority Issues in Anthropology (Undesignated Seat #2)

Kendall Thu (UI PhD), AAA Committee on Public Policy (Undesignated Seat #5)

Larry Zimmerman (Adjunct Faculty), AAA Ethics Committee (Archaeology Seat)

Katherine Spielmann (Former UI Faculty), AAA Ethics Committee (Secretary)

Kari Olson (UI PhD Candidate), Society for Medical Anthropology, Student Slate of the Executive Board

SELECTED PRIZES & PUBLICATIONS

Scott Schnell was awarded a Fulbright Research Fellowship and will be spending the 2003-2004 academic year in Japan at Nanzan University. He was also awarded, but declined, a research fellowship from the Japan Society for the Promotion of Science (JSPS).

Bob Franciscus received a Second Old Gold Fellowship to conduct human paleontological summer research in the Czech Republic, Croatia and Austria in 2002. He also received a secondary appointment as an Assistant Professor in the UI Interdisciplinary Neuroscience PhD Program. Dr. Franciscus published on "The Midfacial Morphology" in *Portrait of the Artist as a Child: The Gravettian Human Skeleton from Abrigo do Lagar Velho and its Archaeological Context*, J. Zilhao & E. Trinkaus, eds. (2002); "Hominid Evolution: Neanderthals" in *The Encyclopedia of Evolution*, Vol. 1, M. Pagel, ed. (2002); and a forthcoming article in *Journal of Human Evolution*.

Meena Khandelwal has been awarded a grant from the American Institute of Indian Studies to support nine months of ethnographic research in India. Her research is on diasporic Hinduism and the role of transnational renouncer-gurus.

Laurie Graham has a piece, "How Should an Indian Speak? Brazilian Indians and the Symbolic Politics of Language Choice in the International Public Sphere" in *Indigenous Movements, Self-Representation, and the State in Latin America*, Jean Jackson and Kay Warren, eds. (2003).

Mac Marshall is one of several co-authors of the recently published book, *2002 Alcohol in Developing Societies: A Public Health Approach*, published by the Finnish Foundation for Alcohol Studies in collaboration with the World Health Organization.

Mike Chibnik's book, *Crafting Tradition: The Making and Marketing of Oaxacan Wood Carvings* is now available through the University of Texas Press.

The Women and International Development Working Papers Series at Michigan State University published, *Who's Afraid of Margery Wolf: Tributes and Perspectives on Anthropology, Feminism and Writing Ethnography* (W.P. #277) in January 2003. The anthology includes contributions by: **Sarah Ono, Jacqueline Comito, Michelle Ramirez, Margaret Burchianti, Jason Carter, Carolyn Hough, Velana Huntington, Stephen Tulley, Kari Olson, and Margery Wolf.**

IOWA ANTHROPOLOGY ALUMNI LOCATOR & UPDATE FORM

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YEAR OF GRADUATION _____

DEGREE _____

NEWS ITEMS _____

The anthObserver is published annually by the University of Iowa Department of Anthropology. Its goal is to create awareness of the intellectual diversity and achievement of UI anthropology students, faculty, and alumni.

2002-03 Editor: Sarah Ono
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DEO: Florence Babb

<http://www.uiowa.edu/~anthro>

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