# the anthrObserver

University of Iowa Department of Anthropology Newsletter 2004 - 2005

## DEPARTMENT NEWS

Contributed by Michael Chibnik, DEO

This has been a year of significant changes in the anthropology department with two faculty leaving and two arriving. Mac Marshall, who joined the faculty in 1972, has retired. Mac advised more M.A. and Ph.D. students than any other faculty member and was instrumental in making our department an important center of medical anthropology. Fortunately, the strength of our department in this subfield is continuing with the appointments of Erica Prussing and Nanette Barkey. Erica, who had taught as a visiting professor for two years, joined the tenure-track faculty in fall 2004. Nanette, who conducts fieldwork in Africa, will start teaching



(with a joint appointment in the College of Public Health) in fall 2005.

Florence Babb who,

came to our department in 1982, has taken an endowed chair in women's studies at the University of Florida. We are actively exploring possibilities for additional faculty members and should have some interesting news to report in the next newsletter.

[department news cont. on pg. 2]







University of Iowa archaeological field school, Central New Mexico, summer 2004. Photo: Billy Graves

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[department news cont.]

An outstanding group of new students joined our program in fall 2004. You can read about many of our graduate students on pp.18-22. Another extraordinary class of students will be entering the program in fall 2005. One reason why we have been able to attract such good classes if that we have developed new sources of financial support for graduate students, mostly through teaching assistantships provided by the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences. Laurie Graham, our director of Graduate Studies, has worked tirelessly at developing these new sources of financial support.

Our faculty and graduate students continue to work on diverse and fascinating projects around the world. You can read about some of their activities in this newsletter on pg. 23. Our undergraduate and graduate students continue to lead interesting lives after they leave Iowa. We would very much like to hear more about our alumni. Please send news about yourself either by regular mail to Michael Chibnik, Department of Anthropology, University of Iowa., Iowa City, IA 52242 or by email to michael-chibnik@uiowa.edu.

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

2004-2005 Editor: Sarah Ono

Faculty Advisor & Department Chair: Michael Chibnik

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

In the summer of 2004, The International Forum for U.S. Studies (IFUSS) held a working conference in Rio de Janeiro, entitled "Looking North: Latin American Perspectives on the U.S. and Comparative Perspectives," which capped off a three-year long IFUSS project on Latin American scholarship about the U.S., funded by the Rockefeller Foundation. The conference was lead by Co-Directors Jane Desmond and Virginia Dominguez, along with Sonia Torres, from the Universidad de Federal Fluminese, who graciously acted as IFUSS' Brazilian host. Conference participants have taught American subjects in universities in Cuba, Argentina, Chile and Brazil, in addition to the work they have done at UI and in the U.S. In addition to our IFUSS affiliates, members from IFUSS' International Advisory board attended, bringing U.S., Indian and European perspectives on American Studies to the conference's working group. IFUSS also held a public two-day symposium on the UI campus. Scholars from the U.S. and abroad presented their research on the role of "America"--as idea, as political entity, and as cultural imaginary-- in the world. This symposium brought together scholars from Germany, South Africa, the United Kingdom, Hungary and Japan, all of whom are specialists on the U.S. in a variety of fields ranging from literature to political science, to present research on the image of America in the world. Topics ranged from the production of cultural meaning across borders, to the perceived and actual influence of American ideologies across the globe. Whether the object of study is film, music, cultural translation, policy-making, or international security, experts explored the relationship between the weight of America as an actual and symbolic site and regions else-[see photo of event on page 15] where.



Photos are provided by Billy Graves and were taken during the course of the UI Archaeological Field School Central New Mexico, summer 2005.

#### UI STUDENTS & FACULTY HEAD TO CENTRAL NEW MEXICO FOR HANDS-ON ARCHAEOLOGY

In the summer of 2004, Professor Billy Graves traveled to the University of Iowa Archaeological Field School in Central New Mexico. The field school was established in the Salinas District of Central New Mexico (southeast of Albuquerque). The primary field site was Abo Pueblo, a part of the Salinas Pueblo Missions National Monument, located about ten miles west of the town of Mountainair.

Last summer, eight students (5 from UI and 3 from other institutions) and two teaching assistants, Rhiannon Jones and Grant McCall, made the trip to Abo Pueblo with Graves. The field school's focus was on field methods, in particular, excavation and mapping. Because the UI field school works closely with the federal government and tribal government, it provides a unique introduction to cultural resource management (CRM).

Not only did the field school provided a great hands-on experience for the participants, but it also produced a wealth of material resources that current and future students can use in their research. The cataloguing and analysis of the summer's finds are the next step. Billy's hope is that much of the work will be conducted as part of MA and Ph.D. research by UI students.





## An Unusual Spring Break in Haiti

Contributed by: Maureen McCue

Haitians experienced the ousting of their democratically elected president, two environmental disasters, and escalating violence which together caused the deaths of at least 5,000, probably many more, all within a year. This combination of events is earily reminiscent of events that unfolded over the time I worked in Nicaragua at the end of the Sandinista rule, and in the years immediately after when Nicaragua too was devastated by storms, unnatural disasters, and widespread violence. The similar patterning of long standing structural violence, state violence, and interpersonal violence are not unique to either Haiti or Nicaragua. Instead, given their familiar outlines and the associated suffering in so many other impoverished and unstable parts of the world, this pattern deserves attention. Along with four students and two other faculty, I felt compelled by the unfolding of these events in Haiti to go "see for myself."

President Aristide was removed from office in Feb. 2004, then in May rains and landslides killed 2,665 Haitians followed soon after by Hurricane Jeanne in Sept. which caused another 1,000 deaths with more than 1,000 people reported missing, presumed dead. During the same storm, only 11 were reported dead in the Dominican Republic. Rains in Haiti were less strong than the ones that struck the Dominican Republic, yet the loss in lives and livelihoods was much higher in Haiti than in the rest of the Caribbean. Before, during and after each storm, reports of gang violence, rapes, and murders kept surfacing.

Our delegation went to learn directly from residents of cities and remote rural villages about Haiti's health, environmental, and human rights challenges, and how the situation might be remediated. I was especially keen to experience the program for health organized and directed by Dr. Paul Farmer in Cange, Haiti. Dr. Farmer and others have focused on the meaning and management of the poor health suffered routinely by the world's poorest and most marginalized populations. Often based in Haiti, Dr. Farmer's work and writings restore dignity, depth and context to so many "poor nobodies", while exposing the subtle and not so subtle ways the world's wealthy and powerful contribute to so many mountains of misery.

Striking a very different tone, our popular press brings us irregular updates on the violence that seems ever present in Haiti. As described by the mainstream press, Haitians seem to be intrinsically violent, difficult people; their inexplicable challenges are insurmountable; the Nation is "ungovernable." While we might hear about rapes, disappearances, "politically motivated killings," attacks by, or on, violent mobs in Port au Prince's most crowded neighborhoods, we hear little that probes or questions the long and complicated history of Haiti. The valuable resources brutally extracted in colonial and postcolonial Haiti are overlooked. Less accessible still is the information that the most crowded, violent Haitian slums are built on top of dump sites that reek with raw sewage and overflow pools of unidentified chemical liquids and fumes whenever it rains, so much so that the very ground, air and water pose constant threats to the lives of the inhabitants crowded there. For many who live there, violent men with guns are just one more thing to try to avoid in the every day struggle for survival.

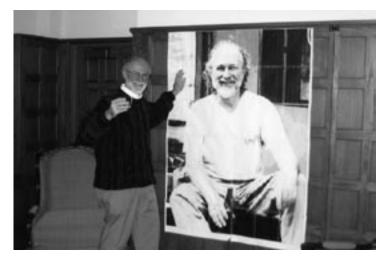
During our stay we were exposed to both the violence and the beauty of Haiti. Our brief encounter helped us to understand the situation much better

than we could just reading about it from here. For example, the Zanmi Lasante project, started by Dr. Farmer was far more comprehensive and inspiring than any of us had imagined. So were the challenges. Without infrastructure, sanitation, education, or a functioning public health system, one program, no matter how comprehensive and caring, cannot really change the overwhelmingly poor health status of Haiti. Without a competent and caring government, poor people's needs are endless and overwhelming. However, the comprehensive and holistic approach to health devised by the Zanmi Lasante project (as well as several other inspiring projects and programs we visited) certainly serves as an important model for health care that restores dignity and heals the spirit even while it attends to the body. Each of us are eager to return to learn more and by staying longer next time, be able to join Dr. Farmer and others working with Haitians in pragmatic solidarity.

[Maureen McCue, an M.D. who is an adjunct professor of anthropology, will be giving a talk about Haiti and the U.S. role in the current instability (as well as that of the last few decades) at 7:00 PM in Cedar Rapids on May 17. If anyone is interested they can contact her for more information.]



Mac Marshall with students in Alcohol and Culture, Fall 2004 [Photo credit: Lavanya Murali]



Mac Marshall poses with image of himself constructed by Alexis Matza (not pictured) as he bids farewell to Iowa City and heads west to Santa Rosa, California. We'll miss you, Mac! [Photo credit: Kate Dernbach]



Meena Khandelwal, Mac Marshall & Betty Rodriguez-Feo at Mac's retierment party, December 2004 at the IMU [Photo credit: Kate Dernbach]

## BA DEGREES CONFERRED SPRING 2004

KATHERINE ANN BLATCHFORD DANA LEAF CONKLIN KRISTIN M. DAVIS THAYNE PHILBROOK FARRIER ADAM DAVIS FOSTER BREANNE ELISE FRYK ZACHARY LEIGH HALL KRISTY K HIROKAWA **BRIAN PAUL HOBBS** ANDREW HARRISON HYZER TINA M. LUSE KARA LYNN MARKS CRYSTAL R MEYER WILLIAM KENNETH MIKESELL ABIGAIL MARY NATHANSON JANA OWCZARZY DEANNA K. PAPPIN SEAN PATRICK QUINN AARON LESLIE ROEMIG **DUSTIN ROBERT ROTH** SOREN A. RUNDQUIST MARIE SHIRLEY SARA RICHARD LEE SAWYER KRISTA R. SCHROEDER ALAN FRANK SCHULTZ **DEVRA ANTOINETTE SHEFFER** JENNIFER SHIPLEY ZACHARY M. SMITH HEATHER ANNE STEELE E. J. SUNSTRUM KAVITHA KULACHANDRA THIMMAIAH ZACHARY NATHAN VANSELOW MIRANDA L. WARD LINDEE K. WEILAND

## BA DEGREES CONFERRED SUMMER 2004

CHRISTIAN MORGAN BROWN SARA ANN FILSETH BRIAN MATHEW KAULBARS DAVID M. MARTENSON ANGELA KAY STORK

#### Undergraduate Honors News

The fall Undergraduate Honors Seminar enrolled nine students working on projects that ran the gamut from on-line readers' communities dedicated to nautical fiction to the cultural meaning of Las Vegas weddings. Lacking the space to cover all the projects, I will highlight a few of the seniors and how they cover the various subfields of anthropology.

Jeremy Decker participated in Professor Graves' field school in the summer in 2004, returning to analyze stone artifacts for information about the subsistence economy of the Abo Pueblo in New Mexico. He plans to continue his studies in archaeology at the University of Northern Arizona and has been awarded the Sanxay Fellowship from the University of Iowa's Graduate College to support his graduate work.

Amy Michael researched the facial pathologies of a 26,000 year old woman from the Dolni Vestonice site, testing competing hypotheses related to interpersonal violence or a congential defect. Her research involved careful comparative work with modern specimens, a review of clinical literature, and consultation with art historians about Paleolithic female iconography and asymmetry in masks in cultures around the world.

Kavita Narayan's honors thesis is similarly ambitious. It is rooted in her observation that Indian feminists fight to restrict abortion practices while US feminists work to expand access to abortion services. While the differences are most obviously attributed to an Indian cultural bias that leads to selective abortion of females, Kavita became interested in how the opposed positions relate to the universality of human rights and the specific notions of womanhood upon which they stand. During the fall semester, she took her concern out of the library and into settings in the local community where she interviewed both prochoice and pro-life activists.

Contributed by Rudi Colloredo-Mansfeld

## PHI BETA KAPPA SOCIETY ALPHA OF IOWA CHAPTER \* UNIVERSITY OF IOWA

Alpha of Iowa chapter has invited the following Anthropology majors to accept membership in Phi Beta Kappa:

Danielle Frost Bradley Jeremy T. Decker Troy R. Fadiga Kimberly Lynne Nelson

The induction ceremony will be held May 1st, 2005 in the Richey Ballroom, IMU

## JIM ENLOE HONORED WITH COLLEGIATE TEACHING AWARD Contributed by LINDSAY EAVES-JOHNSON

Many of us can think of that one special professor who went the extra mile to make a difference in our lives, both inside and outside of the classroom. For a number of students in the Anthropology Department, that one special person has been our own Jim Enloe. Professor Enloe, a Pleistocene zooarchaeologist, was awarded the **College of Liberal Arts and Science Collegiate Teaching Award (2005)**, after having been nominated by undergraduate Anna Katz and faculty supporter, Glenn Storey. Numerous students, undergrad and grad wrote in letters supporting his nomination. Some of these letters were bound and presented to Jim at an informal appreciation party in the Natural History Museum on Feb 18, 2005, organized by Jess White and catered by Thai Spice. In addition to department recognition, he and others were honored on April 18, at the 2005 Faculty Honors Celebration in the IMU's Richey Ballroom. This event is held annually to distinguish faculty members who garnered major College and University awards, as well as significant national and international distinctions, over the past academic year. The list of 2005's Collegiate Teaching Award recipients include:



LEFT TO RIGHT: Grant McCall, Jessica White, Angela Collins, Glenn Storey, and Jim Enloe celebrate Jim's teaching award in Macbride Hall Photo credit: Lindsay Eaves-Johnson

## M.A. Degrees Conferred in 2004

### LINDSAY EAVES-JOHNSON

"Anthroposcopic and Metric Corroboration of Sex Documentation in the UI-Stanford Collection"

Chair: Bob Franciscus

### RHIANNON JONES

"Prehistoric Settlement Patterns and Landscape Sediment Assemblages in the Upper Mississippi Valley"

Chair: Billy Graves

### Ph.D. Degrees Conferred in 2004

#### CHRISTINA TAYLOR BEARD-MOOSE

"Public Indians, Private Cherokees: Indigenous Identity at the Intersection of Tourism,

Acculturation, and Cultural Continuity"

Chair: Florence Babb

#### JON WOLSETH

"Taking on Violence: Gangs, Faith, and Poverty Among Youth in a Working-Class

Colonia in Honduras" Chair: Florence Babb

#### BRYAN ELDREDGE

"The Role of Discourse in the Formation and Maintenance of Deaf Identity and the Deaf-

World'

Chair: Laura Graham

#### 2004 JUNE HELM AWARD PRESENTATION TO RECIPIENT, BRANDY CASE HAUB

Delivered on Saturday, May 8th, 2004 Iowa City, Iowa [Read by Alexi Matza on behalf of Sarah Ono]

The June Helm Award provides an opportunity for the graduate students to remind each other of why we always feel so busy, and to publicly recognize the contributions to the department that go above and beyond the classes, papers, grading, and teaching, that alone keep us pretty busy. The nomination process is designed to provide a forum for graduate student memories. Ideally, that's when people you've never met start talking-story about other people you've never met, and it clicks that this department has been around for a while and that there is a history of graduate student activism, a presence of our collective voice for a reason, and ah, you guessed it, a sense of community. It's a chance to recall all the things you did when you first arrived -- before you became a hermit, or realized what a great distraction a baby can be. The June Helm Award connects us to an idea of legacy that has been cultivated by people named "Jackie" and "Mike." And hopefully it inspires those early in their program to keep coming to meetings and taking on thank-less tasks. This is the seventh year the June Helm Award has been presented to a deserving graduate student, and it is a melancholy year because it is the first time June is not here to witness the presentation.

I, personally, hold a certain admiration of June. There was a period when we spent quite a bit of time together, and I got to know her when she was in a good mood and told funny stories about fieldwork and the real reason she wanted to be President of the AAA. I also got to know June Helm the spitfire, who did not hesitate to tell you when something was "bulls\*\*\*." June was a four-field kind of girl herself. She read everything. Literally. If you had the opportunity to visit with her in her office you likely noticed the ever-present pile of journals and newsletters that surrounded her. June kept up on developments in her areas of research and interest, and she kept up on sub-fields she really didn't give a damn about. It was all anthropology, and knowing her background, it made sense to her to read it all and to maintain a working knowledge of the discipline as a whole. And in true June Helm fashion, she remembered what she'd read. There were days when it was hard for her to communicate as fast as her mind moved. A great frustration to her, and at times a saving grace for me because it meant I could keep up with her as she pointed around the room tracing the history of a particular disciplinary development. She'd referred to an American Anthropological Association (AAA) document from 1982, and the most recent

Then she'd add her personal experience with the scholars involved, just for color and usually a good laugh.

It was not just her vast knowledge, nor her memory for when and where ideas were published, but her ability to make connections within a discipline that at times can feel fragmented. Even if she couldn't figure out why I wanted to talk about certain topics, she'd humor me and send me home with a stack of resource materials to contemplate. June had the ability to create bridges across time, and theoretical movements, and sub-fields. She didn't see the point in talking about her achievements, but she did take pride in having this award named after her. June was not always the warmest or the most tactful with graduate students. She was a tough cookie and she had opinions – no bones about it. But she could be an advocate for graduate students, and as this award remembers her, she was a voice that spoke out against unfairness, discrimination, and all out absurdity. Or so we tell it each spring.

So finally, having given myself a chance to reflect on June, I'd like to present this year's June Helm Award to a woman who has stuck with this department, whether funded or not, and over the past four years has found her voice, and is now in a position where she responds to other people who say, "this might be a stupid question, but..." In her nomination it was said that, "Brandy [not only has a] great attitude, but she really represents what the June Helm Award stands for. In classroom situations, she endeavors to understand more than her personal research interests. Not content to wear parochial goggles, Brandy stays on task until she gets all of it, which is something to admire." Like all who make it to this point, Brandy has stuck it out through coursework and assistantships. Early on she also was willing to volunteer for vacant offices and positions, even if she had little to no idea what she was getting herself into. Her service as UISG Representative comes to mind. Thank goodness for Jon Wolseth who dragged Brandy through the gauntlet of meetings that year! The road to ABD status has not always been easy for Brandy, whether related to funding... or her research... or funding for her research, much of the road has been uphill. And yet Brandy has found time and energy to ask questions and to talk with people consistently. Brandy's trademark has always been to ask lots of questions. Whether advocating on her own behalf or for someone else, Brandy never backed down from asking for clarification. As a result she has become a source of information for many. She has provided an ear for students who entered the program behind her, and makes time to meet with incoming and prospective students, who inevitably have lots of questions. Brandy is an active participant in the feminist track and frequently takes it upon herself to initiate and host meetings. She also refined her hosting skills during her service as colloquium shopper and provider of snacks. Brandy is also appreciated for her sustained optimism and energetic attitude. Again I'd like to quote her nomination, "Even if things are crappy, Brandy tackles a situation, problem, or controversy with high energy and a smile and a lot of humor."

It is not always easy to remain upbeat and fun over the years, but Brandy Case Haub has done it, and we recognize her as the 2004 June Helm Award recipient.

Growth of the June Helm Award...

1998 (award established): Jackie Comito

1999: Michael Dunne 2000: Steve Tulley 2001: Jon Wolseth

Award endowed through contribution by

June Helm & UI Foundation fundraising

2002: Samantha Solimeo

2003: Sarah Ono

2004: Brandy Case Haub

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### Memorial Donations for June Helm

can be made out to the University of Iowa Foundation, and may be earmarked for either the "Anthropology Graduate Student Award Fund," account number: 30-153-002, or the "Anthropology Gift Fund," account number 30-153-001.

Please make a note on the check that it is "in memory of June

Helm." Contributions can be sent to:

The University of Iowa Foundation

P. O. Box 4550

**RUSS CIOCHON** is keeping busy attending symposia and publishing journal articles. Invited International Symposia: 1) Three-Dimensional Context of Zhoukoudian Locality 1 Homo erectus – A New Model Based in the Notes of Jia Lanpo. Invited lecture at the International Symposium on Paleoanthropology in Commemoration of the 100th Anniversary of the Birth of Prof. Pei Wenzhong and the 75th Anniversary of the Discovery of the Peking Man Skull, Beijing, China, October 18-22, 2004. 2) Three-Dimensional Context of Zhoukoudian Locality 1 Homo erectus – Implications for Analyzing Paleoanthropological Sites in Southern China. Invited lecture at 40th Anniversary of Yuanmou Man Discovery and the International Symposium on Paleoanthropological Studies, Kunming, Yunnan, China, April 29-May 3, 2005. Refereed Journal Articles: 1) 2004 Brute of Dragon Bone Hill (N.T. Boaz and Ciochon). New Scientist, vol. 182, no. 2443 (April 17), pgs. 32-35. 2) 2004 Mapping and taphonomic analysis of the Homo erectus loci at Locality 1 Zhoukoudian, China (N.T. Boaz, Ciochon, Qinqi Xu & Jinyi Liu). Journal of Human Evolution 46: 519-549. 3) 2004 Landscape Development Preceding Homo erectus Immigration Into Central Java, Indonesia: The Sangiran Formation Lower Lahar (E.A. Bettis III, Y. Zaim, R.R. Larick, Ciochon, Suminto, Y. Rizal, M. Reagan & M. Heizler). Palaeogeography, Palaeoclimatology, Palaeoecology 206: 115-131.

### FACULTY UPDATES

TOM CHARLTON is currently analyzing materials from excavations and surface surveys at 6 rural sites east and northeast of Teotihuacan which were occupied from A.D. 1-650. "We are looking for patterned similarities and differences between these sites and the very large site of Teotihuacan.... At the same time we are carrying out, with Mexican colleagues, prelimininary surveys throughout a zone of small lakes in the northeastern Basin of Mexico. This area seems to have been rich in resources, obviously lacustrine which attracted migratory waterfowl during the winters, and which provided fish and reeds at other times. In addition to these resources there is also a major obsidian source in the region. We are interested in how the large state systems exploited these resources and how small states in that region of resources were able to survive in the face of such large state interest in the area."

MIKE CHIBNIK is serving his second year as department chair. He was on leave in the fall (2004); he was the first Stanley-International Programs Obermann Fellow – in residence at the Obermann Center on the UI campus (at Oakdale). As a Fellow, he gave a lecture in December at the UI Museum of Art about his research in Oaxaca. Mike is also working on an exhibit of Oaxacan wood carvings which will be at the UI Museum of Art December 2005-March 2006. "We hope that the exhibit will also travel to other museums. Some pieces in the exhibit will come from private collections (including my own) or will be borrowed from other museums. Most of pieces in the exhibit have been specially commissioned. I traveled to Oaxaca in October to meet with wood carvers to commission the pieces." The exhibit is called Oaxacan Wood Carving: The Creation of an Artistic Tradition. Mike's May 2005 piece, "Experimental Economics in Anthropology: A Critical Assessment" appears in the latest *American Ethnologist*. He presented this paper in a plenary session on experimenting (sponsored by the American Ethnologist) at the meetings of the American Ethnological Association in April. Mike has recent publications in Anthropology of Work Review 25:3-8 (2004), "Artists and Aesthetics: Case Studies of Creativity in the Ethnic Arts Market" (with five other authors including Rudi Colloredo-Mansfeld), and "Figuras de Madera de Bursera en Oaxaca Mexico," in *Productos* Forestales, Medios de Subsistencia y Conservación: Estudios de Caso Sobre Diversos Sistemas de Manejo e Productors Forestales No Maderables. Volumen 1 – Latina América. M. Alexides and P. Shanley, eds. (2004). Forthcoming "American Merchants and Mexican Folk Art: The Buying and Selling of Oaxacan Wood Carvings" in *Pleasure*, *Profit*, and *Rufuge*: American Adventures in Mexico, N. Bloom, ed., published by Rowman and Littlefield.

**RUDOLF COLLOREDO-MANSFELD** completed a chapter titled "Consumption" for a newly published A Handbook of Economic Anthropology (2005) edited by James Carrier. His current field research examines commodity designers in two Andean market towns, one indigenous the other mestizo, gathering evidence for the way cultural stockpiles of ideas affect economic growth during times of drastic market reforms.

VIRGINIA DOMINGUEZ continues to spend a very great percentage of her time editing, shaping, and reinvigorating the American Ethnologist. Innovative work includes creating joint online/print essays, making some audible, and making some available in "sneak previews." "[I]n a unusual move, this past spring/summer 2004 the AES Board of Directors voted to ask me to do a full second term as Editor of American Ethnologist." It was quite a surprise and a wonderful vote of confidence. She has created special sessions and workshops at AAA'04 and AES'05, the former on HOW TO WRITE AND PRE-PARE MANUSCRIPTS FOR ANTHROPOLOGY JOURNALS and the latter on EXPERIMENTING (in the world, in anthropology, and with publication). In 2004, Virginia was invited to do (write and deliver) two new, special invited/keynote papers, one at the Tanner Humanities Center at the University of Utah entitled "STATUTES, DOCKETS, AND SUPREME COURT RULINGS: REFLECTIONS ON THEIR APPEAL AS EVIDENCE," and the other at the Biennial Meetings of the Hungarian American Studies Association entitled "SUSPICION, CRITIQUE, AND PURSUIT: How Do U.S. Cultural Anthropology, U.S. Cultural Studies, and U.S. American Studies View One Another?" Virginia spoke at the New York Academy of Sciences in Feb. 2004 on Caribbean scholarship, its directions, and issues, and at the University of Illinois-Urbana/Champaign in April, where she presented a version of a paper now in press entitled "ESCHEWING RACISM, DISAVOWING RACISM, INVOKING RACISM: VISIONS OF VIRTUE IN WORLDS OF INEQUALITY." On May 20 at Northwestern University, she will give a special invited/keynote paper, currently entitled, ENGAGEMENT: POLITICS, PHENOM-ENOLOGY, AND POSSIBILITY. This summer Virginia will co-lead a 3 week federally-funded Travel Seminar on caste, race, and efforts to undermine them that will go to Durban, South Africa, and Mumbai, India. She is doing this with UI Anthro. Ph.D. and former student, Balmurli Natrajan (now an Assistant Professor at Iowa State), UI historian Paul Greenough, and 5 Crossing Borders graduate students selected for the project because of relevant interests and likely contributions.

JIM ENLOE had a developmental leave from the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences during the fall semester (2004). Continuing to pursue his long-term research programs in France, he spent the summer and fall in excavation and analysis of Middle and Upper Paleolithic sites. Funded by a Summer Research Fellowship from International Programs and an Arts and Humanities Initiative Grant from the Vice President for Research, he excavated at Arcy-sur-Cure and at Pincevent with colleagues from the Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique. Analysis of the faunal remains from Pincevent led to submission of a manuscript for publication in Gallia Préhistoire. Several publication appeared this past year, including "Equifinality, assemblage integrity and behavioral inferences at Verberie" in *Journal of Taphonomy*, "Taphonomy and site structure of a Late Pleistocene open-air site" in *Processual Archaeology: Exploring Analytical Strategies, Frames of Reference and Culture Process*, edited by Amber Johnson, and "Hunter/gatherer food sharing: Ideology and ecology" in *Hunters and Gatherers in Theory and Archaeological Research*, edited by George Crothers. He attended and presented papers at the Society for American Archaeology, Paleoanthropology Society, and European Association of Archaeologists annual meetings. Funded by a National Science Foundation Research Grant, he co-organized an international joint CNRS-NSF workshop on "Verberie and the Origins of Domesticity," with Ezra Zubrow, University of Buffalo and Françoise Audouze, CNRS.

BOB FRANCISCUS was a senior author on two book chapters and co-author on 4 additional chapters in *Early Modern Human Evolution in Central Europe: The People of Dolni Vestonice and Pavlov* (E. Trinkaus & J. Svoboda, eds.), Oxford University Press (in press). He was also a co-author with several colleagues on a book chapter, "The Pe tera cu Oase and early modern humans in southeastern Europe" in *Neanderthals and Modern Humans Meet?* (N. Conard, ed.), Kerns Verlag (in press). Bob was awarded a UI Biological Sciences Funding Program grant as principal investigator (\$49,080). This past January, he was an invited speaker for an international symposium: Neanderthals Revisited: New Approaches and Perspectives (K. Harvati & T. Harrison, co-organizers), sponsored by the Center for the Study of Human Origins, New York University and the Max Planck Institute for Evolutionary Biology, Leipzig, held in New York. He was also a consultant and film participant for the BBC Horizon documentary "Neanderthal" which aired on February 10, 2005, and will be aired in the US on the Science Channel.

LAURA GRAHAM and her husband, TM Scruggs of the Dept. of Music, received Fulbrights to spend next year at Universidad de Los Andes (ULA) in Merida, Venezuela. "I will be elaborating the research I have been conducting on Brazilian indigenous peoples in the public sphere to include the activities of Venezuelan indigenous peoples. I will also be teaching a course at ULA on Language & Speech in the USA; the class will focus on language politics and diversity in the US. I also hope to get some writing done while I am on leave and relieved of DGS responsibilities." She is pleased to report that American Ethnologist accepted her piece, "A Politics of Existential Recognition" (forthcoming). This is the first piece Laurie has published in English on her project with Brazilian Indians in public arenas.

ADI HASTINGS is continuing to write up his work on Sanskrit language revival. He has several journal articles and a book chapter currently under review dealing with aspects of that topic, as well as one on colonial language surveys in India. He also co-edited a special issue of the *Journal Language and Communication* (2004) entitled "Acts of Alterity," dealing with the problematic issue of assuming a necessary correlation between language use and identity performance. He will be traveling to Fiji this summer on an Old Gold Summer Fellowship to lay the groundwork for a new ethnographic project on language and ethnic politics in the Indo-Fijian community.

**BILLY GRAVES** [see FIELDSCHOOL article, pg. 3]

MEENA KHANDEWAL is on leave this spring. She says, "I am conducting ethnographic research in Rishikesh, India on global aspects of Hindu renunciation. My previous research was in Hardiwar rather than Rishikesh, and the two places are only a few miles apart but very different. While Haridwar draws Indian tourists and pilgrims, Rishikesh has attracted Indian and foreign visitors interested in asceticism for decades. Many are 'spiritual' tourists, but the most interesting people I've met here are those who have decided to settle here, more or less permanently, for the sake of their ascetic practices. I have been trying to obtain statistical information on migration. For some reason, the Government of India considers this information to be classified. However, since 'anything is possible in India' (I've decided that this is a particularly Indian ethos that really means everything is negotiable) I am still hoping to obtain this information. In the meantime, I am also talking to a variety of people here to explore the following issues: What is the meaning and experience of travel for those who come here for extended periods of time? From the perspective of Indian gurus, is contemporary global travel (to the US or Europe) a continuation or a radical break from classical ascetic ideals of itinerancy and mobility? What is the significance of Rishikesh as a place for ascetic practice?"

**ELLEN LEWIN** sends this update: "I am on leave this year, thanks to funding from the NEH, spending most of my time at the Obermann Center. I have two major projects for the year. The first is a book on gay fathers, based on the research I've been conducting since about 1999, but mostly in Chicago in 2002-2003. The working title is: *Dreaming the Family: Gay Men and Fatherhood in America*. The second is a reader of classic papers in feminist anthropology for Blackwell, called, not surprisingly, *Feminist Anthropology: A Reader*. Progress on both endeavors seems pretty glacial as I near the end of the year." Ellen's co-edited book, *Out in Theory: The Emergence of Lesbian and Gay Anthropology*, was awarded the 2004 Ruth Benedict Prize for Outstanding Scholarship on a Lesbian or Gay Topic (edited volume category) by the Society of Lesbian and Gay Anthropologists (SOLGA). She recently presented a paper at an interdisciplinary feminist conference at Purdue University, Trans/Positions, and will be presenting at the upcoming meetings of CASCA (the Canadian Anthropology Society) and SANA (Society of Anthropology of North America) in Merida, Mexico. She is also participating in a Presidential Plenary Roundtable at the AAA meetings in Washington, DC, "What's All the Fuss About Same-Sex Marriage?: Family, Marriage and the New Culture Wars in America."

## **FACULTY UPDATES**

**KATINA LILLIOS** continued her research on the society and culture of Late Neolithic and Copper Age (3000-2500 BC) Iberia. She authored "Lives of Stone, Lives of People: Re-Viewing the Engraved Plaques of Copper Age Iberia" for the European Journal of Archaeology (2005). She received an Arts and Humanities Initiative Grant to support the creation of an on-line catalogue of the engraved plaques, which was published in the fall of 2004 (www.uiowa.edu/~anthro/esprit). Anthropology graduate student Angela Collins and Dennis Crall (Academic Technologies) worked with Katina on the creation and development of the database. She presented papers on the historiography and iconography of the engraved plaques and on the political economy of groundstone tools in prehistoric Portugal at the Iberian Archaeological Congress in Faro, Portugal. She also gave a paper on the spatial analysis of the plaques at the Archaeological Institute of America meeting in Boston in January. Over the past year, she collaborated with graduate students Alexander D. Woods on an experimental study of the plaques and Erica Begun on a statistical analysis of the formal elements of the plaques (the latter project with much-appreciated assistance from Michael Chibnik). Both projects have been designed to better understand how these intriguing objects were made and used.

MAC MARSHALL says "it's a bit early to send you my impressions of retirement." Technically, he is on leave until midsummer, at which point he'll become fully and officially retired and an emeritus faculty member. Mac's plans over the next few years involve: writing, travel, and professional service. Mac has just completed and submitted a journal article on his on-going tobacco research, and has several other articles in various stages of development having to do either with medical anthropology/alcohol and drug studies or with his interests in Pacific ethnography and kinship studies. He also has data for two authored books: one on Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD) and the other on a history of tobacco in Micronesia (from the late 17th century to the present. Mac is embracing living in California; he has several trips planed with Margery Wolf, as well as his son, Kelsey. He'll continue to serve as AAA Secretary until November/December 2006, and that role entails being Chair of the Nominations Committee and a member of the AAA Executive Board. He'll remain Chair of the AnthroSource Working Group of AAA until December 2005, and has just been appointed to a 3-year term as a member of the AAA Commission on Governance.

**DOUGLAS MIDGETT** continues research on Caribbean political economy and the process creating the management plan for the Upper Missouri River Breaks National Monument. Regarding the latter, further research will continue in the summer of 2005 as the plan nears its institution. Doug published a chapter, "Cricket and Calypso: Cultural Representation and Social History in the West Indies," which appeared in Ethnicity, Sport, Identity: Struggles for Status (edited by J.A. Mangan and A. Ritchie), and an article, "The Nevis Secession Vote: The Search for Explanations," to appear in the *Journal of Eastern Caribbean Studies*. Another article, "Cocky vs. Staffy: St. Lucian Electoral Politics since Independence," is slated for publication as a chapter in a volume on post-independence St. Lucia, (edited by T.S.D. Joseph), and under review for *Human Organization* is an article, "It's About Water: Anthropological Perspectives on Water and Policy," co-authored with Inga Treitler. A book, Butler House: Encounters with Grenada is under review. Doug organized a session, "The Environmental Writer Meets the Anthropologists: A Discussion with Richard Manning," for the recent Society for Applied Anthropology meetings, and will present a paper, "A Tale of Two Tests: Cricket and Nationalism in the West Indies," at the Caribbean Studies Association meetings.

## **FACULTY UPDATES**

ERICA PRUSSING published papers in medical anthropology and pediatrics journals this year, based on postdoctoral work about complementary/alternative medicine use by parents for children with developmental disabilities. She will spend much of this summer revisiting a Native American reservation community in Montana, in order to complete a book based on her doctoral dissertation about gender, identity, and the cultural politics of drinking and sobriety. She is also completing the initial phases of her next project, which integrates anthropology, epidemiology, and science studies to consider the production of knowledge about "racial"/ethnic disparities in infant mortality in the U.S.

SCOTT SCHNELL returned last summer from his year-long sabbatical in Japan. He is nearing completion of a book manuscript, the tentative title is, *Disregarded Voices: Ema Shu, the Mountain Folk, and the Politics of Memory in Modern Japan*. He has two book chapters in press. One, entitled "The Rural Imaginary: Landscape, Village, Tradition," will appear in *A Companion to the Anthropology of Japan*, published by Blackwell. The other, "Conducting Fieldwork on Japanese Religions," will be included in the *Nanzan Guidebook for the Study of Japanese Religions*. He also has two journal articles currently under review; this first is a spin-off from the book manuscript, but the second marks a new research direction. It is entitled "Mountain Gods and Angry Spirits: Mixed Metaphors of the Japanese Alpine Landscape," and examines folk religious images of the forested mountains and their significance in terms of local ecology. Last June, Scott was able to climb the mountain that is the focus of his research, and appears to have been greeted favorably by the mountain god. He will return there again this summer to continue his fieldwork.



In March 2005, IFUSS sponsored a symposium that brought together UI students & faculty, and international scholars. [above] Virginia Dominguez moderates a panel at "'America in the World': Discourses of Americanization and Anti-Americanism." From left to right: Virginia Dominguez, Sabine Broeck (University of Bremen, Germany), Linda Kerber (UI Department of History).

Photo credit: Kristin Solli

## **ADJUNCT FACULTY**

JOHN DOERSHUK taught Human Origins through the S&E Program during Fall 2004 and Indians of North America during Spring 2005. Carrie Hough was Grader for the class and was a terrific teaching colleague. During the past two semesters Doershuk supervised three students pursuing Independent Study credit hours in archaeological lab methods; these students areassisting with research on the Gillett Grove Oneota Culture site in northwest Iowa and a Late Archaic site located in Johnson County. Doershuk is scheduled to teach Indians of North America during Fall 2005 and Midwestern Prehistory during Spring 2006. He expects to have one or two Independent Study students in the lab both semesters as well (anyone interested should contact him). He is currently working on several journal articles concerning results of field investiga-tions at several Iowa archaeological sites resulting from either past field schools he has supervised or UI-OSA General Contracts Program activities for which

he has served as principal archaeologist (and co-Principal Investigator with Steve Lensink). The program secured just over \$500,000 in new grants and contracts during the past year, including work involving ground-penetrating radar (coordinated with Glenn Storey and William Whittaker), traditional archaeological survey, and site-specific testing projects as well as a two-month/10-person mitigation excavation at a buried site along the Iowa River. that yielded substantive data on Late Archaic lithic reduction sequences and excellent geomorphological context data including a much needed radiocarbon date for the region for this time period. He is continuing through 2005, to serve on the Register of Professional Archaeologists (RPA) Field School Certification Committee and the RPA Standards Board; for the latter, he is chair in 2005.

[Adjunct Faculty Updates continued on page 16]

## ADJUNCT FACULTY CONT.

KAREN HASLETT has been teaching two evening courses each semester through the Saturday & Evening College: "Language, Cul ture and Communication" (Fall '04& Spring '05), "Anthropology and Education" (Fall '04), and "Latinos, Language, and Learning" (Spring '05). In April 2005, she presented her dissertation findings on language ideologies and their effect on the education of Latino/a students in Marshalltown, Iowa, at the Society for Applied Anthropology meeting in Santa Fe. The paper, "Blurring the Borders: An Ethnographic Look at the Classroom Practices of Linguistic Border-Crossers in an Iowan Community," will be part of a session she co-organized with Katherine Richardson Bruna (Iowa State) entitled, "Border Lives in the Heartland: Exploring the School and Community Contexts of Latinos in the Midwest." Karen also works part-time as the Ecumenical Outreach Coordinator of the United Campus Ministry, a progressive ecumenical Christian ministry at the University of Iowa. She says, "Whether it be in academic or religious communities, I see my role as an anthropologist as working to build bridges among people of diverse backgrounds and/or ideologies."

VELANA HUNTINGTON is teaching four classes this spring, and has a chapter coming out later this year, "Awon Ara Ki i She Okuta: Bodies are not stones: Holistic Bodily Health and Wellbeing in Orisha," in *African/American Religions and the Body*, edited by Y. Chireau (Indiana University Press). She is also writing another piece for an anthology about Gloria Anzaldua that will \*hopefully\* be accepted and come out next year. Velana presented a paper last spring at the AES meetings in Atlanta, Georgia, entitled, "God Speaks in Different Ways to Us: Holistic: Healing Practices in Orisha."

MAUREEN MCCUE participated in the faculty-student trip to Haiti over spring break. While there the group checked in with Paul Farmer of Partners in Health – please see Her piece on the trip "An Unusual Spring Break in Haiti" (Pg. 3). She says, "I'm thinking I'd like to do some kind of repeat visit, focused on a couple other sites and for a day or two longer this coming Spring 2006. Perhaps with a longer preparation period we can raise a bit of money to support both students and bring along better donations."

RACHELLE "RIKI" SALTZMAN is the Folklife Coordinator and Grants Coordinator for the Iowa Arts Council, a division of the Department of Cultural Affairs. She is engaged in a project entitled, "Taste of place: Place-based foods in Iowa." This project will document a variety of place-based Iowa foods that connect the ecological production capacity of a region with the culture and traditions of its inhabitants. Five to 10 place-based Iowa foods will be identified that meet certain cultural, geographic and ecological criteria: ingredients must be or have been grown and/or processed in Iowa; the food must have some historical, ethnic, ecological or geographic heritage; and the food must have some kind of "story" related to it, which would make its Iowa connection clear. The unique "stories" from each of the state's major ecological regions may play a role in marketing those foods locally, regionally and nationally.



Brandy Case Haub conducting fieldwork interview with Juan Mari Bras in Puerto Rico

#### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Kelli Beer married Neil Cadogan in Guyana in June 2004

Margaret Burchianti is happy to announce her engagement to Prahlad Gupta

Carrie Hough will be getting married to Rob Decker (who happens to have been an anthropology major as a UI undergrad) in an Iowa City ceremony in September 2004

Samantha Solimeo and Ernie Cox welcomed baby Sofia on September 26, 2004

Congratualtions to everyone!

Visit the UI Anthropology website @ http://www.uiowa.edu/~anthro for updates on people & events in the department



(left to right) Ernie Cox and Samantha Solimeo with baby, Sofia, and Erica Prussing, fall 2004 [Photo credit: Carrie Hough]

### Recent and Forthcoming Graduate Student Publications

#### Kelli Beer

June 2005. "Blue Heron Broken" and "Hail the Bean: 1 Pilgrim's Path through Seattle's Rite of Passage." *Anthropology and Humanism*.

Fall 2005. "The Snake that Bit Medusa: One (Phenotypically) White Woman's Dread(s)." Blackberries and Redbones: Critical Articulations of Black Hair/Body Politics in Africana Communities, ed. Regina Spellers and Kimberly Moffitt. Cresskill, NJ: Hampton Press.

#### **Andria Timmer**

Forthcoming. "Competing Discourses in the Political Economy of Hunger." Nutritional Anthropology.

2005 "Prenatal Malnutrition and the Risk of Schizophrenia." *International Journal of Global Health and Health Disparities*.

2004 "Learning Through Doing: The Importance of Fieldwork in Education of the Undergraduate." *NAPA Bulletin*.

## **GRADUATE STUDENTS:**

### WHO THEY ARE & WHAT THEY ARE UP TO

\* Indicates a student who joined the department this year

#### \*MEREDITH CATHERINE ANDERSON, B.A.

Meredith Anderson is a first year graduate student from Duluth, Minnesota. It is her passion for Mexico which brings her curiously to Iowa. She is currently planning to focus her MA work in Teotihuacan. Meredith enjoys archaeology, skiing and fair weather. Next year Meredith with serve as COGS Steward for the department along with JENNA GRANT.

#### \* ADAM ANDREWS

Adam Andrews is a sociocultural anthropologist; his interests include: anthropology of religion and psychological anthropology (vernacular religion; cognition, culture, and lived experience). He received his MA in Folklore, 2004, University of Oregon--Thesis "A Vernacular Theory of Religion: Personal Experience and Culture in the Lives of Gay Latino Immigrants" and a BA in Dance and English, 1999, University of Iowa. Adam is from Columbus Junction, IA, and he says, "In my first life I worked as a choreographer and dance teacher, and was the founder and artistic director of a small non-profit repertory dance company in Oregon organized as a youth outreach program. A significant part of my decision to return to Iowa for (more) graduate school was the desire to be near my family before my career forces me to be elsewhere."

#### **KELLI BEER**

Kelli's Ph.D. research will explore underlying "discourses of integration" operative in the life history narratives of Maharishi Vedic City (MVC) citizens, specifically investigating how those discourses manifest through the plurisensorial signs MVC folks display in public and private performances of selfhood and citizenship. Away from campus, Kelli spends most of her time in Des Moines, as enthusiastic spectator and chauffeur, driving her 14 year old daughter, Gianni, wherever coaches, teachers, and conductors demand that she performs. "My daughter represents about 3/4 of my life--in time, energy, heart, soul, etc.!"

#### MARGARET BURCHIANTI

Margaret is working on her dissertation proposal and hopes to begin preliminary dissertation fieldwork in Iowa by the summer. This year she has been teaching in the Rhetoric Department and writing her comprehensive exam papers.

#### **BRANDY CASE HAUB**

Brandy Case Haub is currently conducting her dissertation research on the Puerto Rican independence movement, supported by a T. Anne Cleary, a UI Graduate College Summer Fellowship, and summer funding from the UI Department of Anthropology. Her research took her to San Juan, Puerto Rico for five months in 2004, where she was affiliated with the University of Puerto Rico Institute of Caribbean Studies. She is now spending seven months in New York City as a Research Fellow at the CUNY-Hunter College Center for Puerto Rican Studies as she meets with stateside independence supporters within the Puerto Rican community. Brandy plans to return to Iowa at the end of July to begin writing her dissertation, and to teach "Introduction to Culture and Society" at UI. She has taken up volunteering at an all-volunteer, no-kill cat rescue group in New York called KittyKind, and has happily added a second kitty to her own family. Move over Morphine!

#### \*TOMI CASTLE

Tomi Castle's subfield is socio-cultural anthropology. Her interests include feminist anthropology, urban anthropology, gender and sexuality, citizenship(s) -- all in Latin America (esp. Brazil). Tomi has an M.A. in Latin American Studies from Vanderbilt and she is currently working on her M.A. paper for the University of Iowa, on "lesbian citizenship," tentatively titled, "'How to Live Well': Citizenship as Inclusion in Urban Brazil."

#### \* ANGELA COLLINS

Angela is a first year graduate student with an archaeology focus; she is working with Glenn Storey.

#### GRADUATE STUDENTS CONT.

For her MA research, Angela wants to explore colonialization and enculturation issues through a study on Romano-Batavian ceramics near Nijmegen, in the Netherlands. Angela says, "I grew up in Fort Collins, Colorado but I have been living in Iowa for going on four years. I came out here for an archaeological technician job with the Office of the State Archaeologist here in Iowa City. Some side skills and interests I have are illustrating archaeological artifacts and designing archaeological publications."

#### KATE DERNBACH

Kate taught "Ethnology of Oceania" this semester, and finished her dissertation, which she defended at the end of April. Kate's dissertation is titled: "Popular Religion: A Cultural and Historical Study of Catholicism and Spirit Possession in Chuuk, Micronesia." In November, she presented a paper in at the Canterbury Convocation of the AAA meetings in San Francisco on gender, magic and sorcery in Chuuk. Kate says, "My 'free time' (ha ha) is spent with Gus who is now 2 1/2."

#### \* MANDY DICKERSON

Mandy Dickerson is a post-MA, pre-comprehensive student in the sociocultural anthropology program. Her doctoral research examines how individuals in Jamaica incorporate ethnomedical knowledge and ethnobotanical craft into contemporary strategies for maintaining health and livelihood. Mandy's Masters thesis, "I-tal Foodways: Nourishing Rastafarian Bodies," was completed as a graduate student in the Geography & Anthropology Dept. at Louisiana State University. She received the M.A. in Anthropology in 2004, before moving here to start UI Anthropology doctoral program.

#### LINDSAY EAVES-JOHNSON

She's currently taking Advanced Gross Anatomy after completing Gross Anatomy for Medical Students this past fall—can't get enough of those cadavers! Over last summer she conducted 7 weeks of research on rib anatomy at the American Museum of Natural History and the Smithsonian Institution. This April, she will be presenting the results of that study to the members of the AAPA for her first ever podium presentation. As a result of this summer study, she was invited to

write a chapter of an up-coming monograph on the Pt. Hope Alaskan Inuits' Bioarcheology and to present a paper in a special AAPA session in Alaska next year. She looks forward to conducting pre-dissertation research in Israel and South Africa this summer. The trip to Israel will be even more meaningful given that she and her husband, James, will complete their conversion to Conservative Judaism on Mar. 20, 2005.

#### \*JENNA GRANT

This is Jenna's first year at Iowa. She moved here from Cambodia, and her research interests include: ethnographic and experimental film-making, feminist anthropology, and medical anthropology. She also has a staggering record collection and likes rabbits.

#### \* MICHELE HANKS

Michele came to Iowa from the east where she completed her BA at Mount Holyoke. She is a historical anthropologist with an interest in 19th century women in anthropology, and a budding interest in Franz Boas. Michele loves archives. She will spend the summer conducting MA research and continuing to explore Iowa.

#### NATHAN HOLTON

Nathan Holton is a PhD candidate studying paleoanthropology. In addition to his dissertation examining jaw mechanics in living humans he is also involved in a number of research projects pertaining to the evolution of later hominid facial anatomy. Nathan will be presenting new research this spring detailing masticatory muscle scarring patterns in recent and fossil humans.

#### RACHEL HORNER

Rachel Horner is currently in her fourth year of studying medical anthropology at the UI. Last summer she participated in the UI Brazilian language and culture program in Salvador, Bahia, where she studied Portuguese and developed dissertation ideas. She is now brushing up on Italian in order to conduct dissertation research on the Slow Food movement in Italy. In August, Rachel will complete her MPH degree in Community and Behavioral health following a practicum study with the Iowa Center for Evaluation Research.

#### GRADUATE STUDENTS CONT.

#### **CARRIE HOUGH**

Carrie Hough returned from her fieldwork in The Gambia in September 2004. At the beginning of the new year she started writing her dissertation, which deals with the complex positionality of the Kanyaleng (organizations of infertile, subfertile, or childless women) in contemporary Gambian society as well as the development work they have been recruited to undertake in recent years. She is presenting papers this spring at the SfAA meetings in Santa Fe as well as the University of Michigan's Reproductive Disruptions conference. Carrie received a Seashore-Ballard Dissertation Fellowship for 2005-2006.

#### RHIANNON JONES

In May, Rhiannon completed her master's project, "Prehistoric Settlement Patterns and Landscape Sediment Assemblages in the Upper Mississippi Valley." This summer, she was a TA for Billy Graves' archaeological field school in central New Mexico. Of the experience she says, "We worked at Abó Pueblo, part of the Salinas Pueblo Missions National Monument. On weekends, the field school went on field trips to such regional attractions as Chaco Canyon and White Sands." She is currently working on nailing down a doctoral project.

#### \* SCOTT MADDUX

Scott Maddux is a first year graduate student in the biological anthropology program. He is currently working on his Master's project involving the morphology of the canine fossa and its implications in the fossil record. He is planning to travel to Vienna, Austria this summer to conduct research on the skeletal collections housed at the Naturhistorishes Museum.

#### \*HANNAH EYRE MARSH

Hannah is from Baltimore, MD and she completed he undergraduate degree at the University of Michigan. She is in Biological Anthropology and her interests include: Javanese Homo erectus; site stratigraphy; field work; knuckle-walking. Hannah's MA Research is on stratigraphy and geochronology of Sangiran Dome, Java. This summer she is attending the Koobi Fora Field School, Kenya, to enhance field skills and

for analogous research for Sangiran. In her free time Hannah is an avid ballroom dancer, fly-fisher, camper, and hiker.

#### **ALEXIS MATZA**

Alexis Ruth Matza is in her fourth year here at the UI, making final preparations for her long sojourn to Boston, MA for her dissertation fieldwork. In Boston, she will explore testosterone use in the aging male and the transgender populations, looking at the "medicalization of masculinity." Lexi has been enjoying her comprehensive exams this spring and inhabiting graduate carrel #60 in the library. Lexi has recently been awarded a Wenner-Gren Foundation grant for her doctoral research.

#### \* LAVANYA MURALI

Pronounced LA-van-ya, with the stress on the first syllable, Lavanya is from New Delhi, India. She holds an M.A. and an M.Phil. in Sociology from the Delhi School of Economics, University of Delhi. Lavanya's MA here at UI will draw on her M.Phil dissertation and she tell us, "I'm looking at some central ideas of Hindutva - Hindu right-wing fundamentalism/ nationalism - and how they operate when they are decontextualized and recontextualized. For my doctoral research, I'm planning to look at the various 'discourses' that are related to the AIDS epidemic in India, how they are produced and constituted, how the epidemic is recontextualized and reimagined, how these discourses inform each other, the transmission of ideas and concepts, the language that surrounds the epidemic."

#### TOMOMI NAKA

Tomomi is conducting Ph.D. field-research in Pennsylvania among the Mennonite. She received a Graduate College Summer Fellowship for dissertation writing this summer.

#### \* JANA OWCZARZY

Jana is a pre-Master's student in the sociocultural anthropology program. She is interested in women's reproductive health care in Central Europe, specifically the Czech Republic. Jana is a Crossing Borders Fellow.

#### SARAH ONO

Having completed 18 months of Ph.D. field-research in December, Sarah is back in Iowa City for the spring term. She is organizing her data on Hollywood and film festivals into dissertation chapters, and is presenting this research at the AES/SPA meetings in April and the UI Jakobsen Forum. She received a Graduate College Summer Fellowship for dissertation writing this summer.

#### JULIE PLUMMER

Julie has been on medical leave for the past year and a half due to breast cancer and chemo/radiation treatments. "I am happy to report that my prognosis is very good and that I have regained my hair and most of my energy and am now actively working toward my Master's degree again." All of Julie's coursework is completed - just the paper to go! Her paper topic is soil phosphate analysis as a means of archaeological investigation.

#### BEATRIZ "BETTY" RODRIGUEZ-FEO

Betty just got back to the US from very long term field research in Angola last year and returned to Iowa City last semester, where she is trying to balance work, dissertation writing, and taking care of a toddler! Betty says, "My hope is to finish and get a job!" She received a Graduate College Summer Fellowship for dissertation writing this summer.

#### JUDY SIEBERT

Judy just came back from South America (March 2005), where she spent time with her research subjects: Chileans of German descent in the Lake District of southern Chile. Currently, Judy is rewriting her dissertation and teaching virtually full-time at Cornell and Coe colleges (Iowa). Judy says, "While in Chile, I was pleased to learn that my research consultants felt my conclusions were reasonable and valid. I am looking forward to having more time in the near future (once I've successfully finished my dissertation which I am diligently focused upon). I wish I could say that degree is now complete and here is a long list of my academic accomplishments; but, as is true for so many of us, it continues as an 'act in progress' (although I attend many conferences, speak frequently, and am active in ethnic studies and curriculum development.) My hobby is distance bicycling, and I feel that soon I

can pedal along blissfully happy knowing my degree is complete and that I can dedicate myself to learning, writing, teaching, and clearing my mind on the seat of my bike. For those of you looking forward to this point in your academic experience, I send you good energy and good hope for the future."

#### SAMANTHA SOLIMEO

The year 2004 found Samantha completing 12 months of field research on aging among Iowans living with Parkinson's Disease. She was awarded a dissertation grant from the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality and is looking forward to her new role as Editor of the Association for Anthropology and Gerontology's quarterly newsletter. The remainder of 2005 promises great change as Samantha is working hard to complete her dissertation for a summer graduation. She begins a two-year post-doc at Duke Medical Center in Gerontological Public Health this fall. She also received a Graduate College Summer Fellowship for the home-stretch!

#### ANDRIA TIMMER

This is Andria's fourth year in the program and she is currently working on completing her Master's in Public Health, focus in community and behavioral health. Andria is a Co-founder of Health BRIDGE, a non-governmental organization in the beginning stages of organizing. Andria's recent and forthcoming publications are listed in "Publications" (Pg. 17).

#### STEPHEN TULLEY

Stephen Tulley is working in educational assessment at a community college in California while completing his dissertation. Steve also maintains a blog that you can check out at: www.angryanthropologist.blogspot. com

#### JERRY WEVER

Jerry Wever is in Iowa City writing up his dissertation entitled, "Postcolonial Creolizations: Reclaiming power, decolonizing creolization in expressive culture in St. Lucia and the Seychelles." He has organized a panel on global Country and Western for the upcoming AAA conference.

#### GRADUATE STUDENTS CONT.

#### **ALEXANDER WOODS**

Things are going well, if a little hectic, for Alexander Woods. After a fruitful summer of research near Paris, he is finishing up his MA this spring, working on a spatial analysis of reindeer remains from the Magdalenian site of Pincevent. Alexander's side projects include: The Iowa City Atlatl team and The Iowa City Flintkapping group, of which he says, "the group has exploded this semester... I think we've had as many as 10 people in the museum of natural history breaking rock at once." He is putting the finishing touches on an article he is publishing with Prof. Lillios on the results of experimental work with Iberian Slate Burial Plaques, which was presented in Faro, Portugal this past fall. Alexander has served as president of UIGSAA this year. He says, "I plan on finishing this semester off with a bang and forging ahead into the unexplored depths which will be my PhD research."

#### NATASHA WILSON

Natasha is a second year PhD student ("yes, I survived my first year of graduate school in Iowa and this is no small matter for me"). She is a Graduate College Merit Fellow and Crossing Borders Fellow. Natasha was awarded a FLAS fellowship this past summer

to study Dutch at the University of Minnesota, and a Crossing Borders fellowship over the winter break to conduct follow up research in New Orleans, where she was born, raised, and lived until August of 2003 when she came to the University of Iowa. Natasha explains, "My research takes an ethno-historical approach to understanding female same-sex relations in two sites in the African Diaspora, New Orleans and Paramaribo, both urban cities in the circum-Caribbean. I am engaging this project from both a political economic and expressive cultural point of view. I spent part of last summer conducting preliminary research with working class women of African decent in Paramaribo, Suriname, who practice what is locally called "Mati Wok" and might be loosely translated into standard English as "friend (with lesbian connotations) work." Before coming to the University of Iowa, I had already conducted an ethnographic project in New Orleans amongst African American working class female-bodied transgendered men and their families. I followed up that research over the winter break by recoding the performances of their "anthem" and looking for the ways this anthem provides particular insights into the political economic realities that shape their lives, including their choice of intimate and sexual partners."



## LOOK AT ALL THOSE SMILING FACES

(left to right on couch) Cindy Toll (alumna), Alexis "Lexi" Matza, Rachel Horner, and Kenda Stewart Photo credit: Carrie Hough (Fall 2004)

### ALUMNI NEWS & UPDATES

**JASON CARTER** (MA 2001) was accepted in the George Washington University's joint PA/MPH program! "This is great news because not only do I get to stay in a city I love [Washington, D. C.], I get to be a part of an amazing program."

**DOUG HERTZLER** (Ph.D. 2002) is on leave this semester from his position at the Washington Community Scholars' Center of Eastern Mennonite University. He is spending the semester in Guatemala and Bolivia with his family and 23 undergraduate students from Eastern Mennonite and Catholic University of America (Washington DC). "It has been a very busy semester so far. The students are taking intensive Spanish study in Guatemala and I am teaching three courses in Anthropological fieldwork, State policies and indigenous peoples, and Religion and social movements." Doug has an article, "Campesinos and Originarios! Class and Ethnicity in Rural Movements in the Bolivian Lowlands," which will be out in the next issue of the *Journal of Latin American Anthropology* 10(1).

**ROCKY SEXTON** (Ph.D. 1996) is still working at the Center for Interventions, Treatment, and Addiction Research at Wright State University School of Medicine in Dayton, Ohio. You can contact him at: <a href="mailto:Rocky.Sexton@Wright.Edu">Rocky.Sexton@Wright.Edu</a>. Rocky's recently published work includes:

2005. "Rice Country Revisited: The Socioeconomic Transformation of a French Louisiana Subregion." *Louisiana History*.

2005. "Barriers and Pathways to Diffusion of Methamphetamine Use Among African Americans in the Rural South." *Journal of Ethnicity in Substance Abuse.* 

**JON WOLSETH** (Ph.D. 2004) is currently working as a Peace Corps volunteer in Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic with Niños del Camino, an NGO that works with street kids. As part of this work he is developing a night outreach program for kids who live on the street and a series of parenting workshops with kids who have opted to return to their homes.

FYI, did you know about the UI Anthropology Graduate Program Alumni Network? If you are an alum of the department check out http://groups.yahoo.com/group/anth-alum and consider joining the listserv. "We welcome all grads (or soon-to-be-grads) to join us to share resources, 'network' re: jobs/research, and support each other academically, intellectually, and personally as we move beyond the walls of Macbride." [anth-alum website]

Randy Ziegenhorn (Ph.D. 1997) died October 22, 2004 at the age of 46. After graduating from Augustana College with a degree in English, Randy farmed in Illinois for a number of years. After entering our graduate program, Randy decided to focus his research on the Midwestern agricultural issues he knew well. He was an extraordinarily able and dedicated student who took only four years to complete his course work, conduct field research, and write up his doctoral dissertation. Randy's Ph.D. thesis "Networking the Farm: The Social Structure of Cooperation and Competition in Iowa Agriculture" won the D.C. Spriesterbach prize for the best dissertation in social sciences at the University of Iowa during 1995-1997. A revised version of the thesis was published as a book by Ashgate Press in 1999. Randy also published an article in Human Organization ("A River Full of Fish: Industrial Catfish Production and the Decline of Commercial Fishing in the Upper Mississippi River, 2000, pp. 162-168) and chapters for two edited collections of anthropological articles.

After finishing his doctorate, Randy decided not to seek full-time academic work. He continued to farm in Illinois and taught parttime at Cornell College in Mount Vernon, Iowa, where he was one of the most popular instructors. Randy is survived by his wife Diane Machatka and two children.

[Contributed by Michael Chibnik]

## The AnthrObsever

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