

Department Update

Contributed by Russell Ciochon, DEO

The past year has witnessed many noteworthy transformations in the makeup of the Department of Anthropology, here at the University of Iowa. Due to the loss of significant senior faculty members over the past three years, the department of Anthropology now has the unique opportunity to restructure itself. Since its inception in 1969, as its own entity separate from Sociology, the Department of Anthropology has undergone a steady evolution, with our members and foci changing with the times; a look at the *AnthroObserver* from even five years ago reveals a much different department than the one seen today. From the beginning, the department included socio-cultural anthropologists, archaeologists, and linguistic anthropologists, and in 1986, the first biological anthropologist (myself) was hired. Today, the department boasts a four-field faculty with 9 full-time faculty members in one of the many branches of socio-cultural anthropology, 5 archaeologists, 2 linguistic anthropologists, and 2 biological anthropologists, supplemented by a whole host of capable emeritus, visiting and adjunct faculty members. Many of the current department strengths are chronicled within the



pages of this newsletter. I would like to take this opportunity to point out just a few of the fascinating accounts you will be introduced to within this year's *AnthroObserver*.

It is with great regret that we bid farewell to our friend and colleague, Virginia Dominguez who, after 14 years at UI, has chosen to take a faculty position at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign next fall. Virginia has been an asset to the department not only through her editorship of the *American Ethnologist*, her esteemed publications and impassioned teaching, but also through her frequent reminder for us to explicate, "How is this anthropology?" As mentioned in the last newsletter, Doug Midgett, who joined the faculty in August 1972, retired in June of 2006. Doug has stayed on for a term as an emeritus faculty member,

In this Issue

Indigenous Filmmakers Visit---2

Photo Gallery: 2006 Events---3

Graduate Hired at Tulane---4

Sid Mintz Visits UI---5

Atlatl Team Now Official---6

Welcome to Sonia Ryang---7

Faculty Updates---7

2006 Degree Conferrals---14

Graduate Student Updates---15

Undergraduate News---21

2006 June Helm Award---22

though his more regular contributions and courses related to urban anthropology and Caribbean cultural studies will be missed greatly.

Fortunately, moving into the department are a number of excellent and enthusiastic academics, including Sonia Ryang who joined us this year (spotlighted on p. 7) and Margaret Beck, a North American archaeologist who will join us next fall. We are also pleased to welcome Matthew Hill, a Paleo-Indian zoo-archaeologist, as a new adjunct faculty member in the fall. The process of a search for a new hire is always an exciting one that

brings together the department faculty and students, leading us to envision a new who we are and where we are going as a departmental community. As we embark upon a building phase, we are mindful that we have occasion

to mold a stronger and more unified faculty and students that continues to build on our academic strengths within the respective subfields. This prospect represents a noteworthy advancement, but also a

considerable challenge. What will the next year hold in store for us? I can only be certain that we will meet the challenges of the future in a cohesive fashion.

Visiting Film Makers

By Laura Graham and Susie Donaldson

During the months of February and March 2007 filmmakers David Hernández Palmar and Caimi Waiásse Xavante visited Iowa City to share their individual and collaborative work. Both filmmakers have worked individually with University of Iowa anthropologist Laura Graham during her fieldwork among the Xavante in Brazil and the Wayúu in Venezuela and Colombia. Currently all three, with the help of UI Honors graduate Drew Annis (2003), are working on two collaborative projects. One is editing footage that Graham and Hernández Palmar filmed during a trip to central Brazil in May 2006 in which Xavante staged a protest against devastating effects they are experiencing as a result of uncontrolled soy cultivation in areas immediately adjacent to their areas. (Mato Grosso state, where Xavante reside, is Brazil's

largest soy producing region and Brazil is the world's leading soy exporter.) The other project focuses on the centrality of dreams, and cultural beliefs and practices related to dreaming and dream sharing among Wayúu and Xavante peoples. The project involves exchanges between dreamers and dream interpreters/practitioners from the two indigenous groups that will be videoed by Wayúu and Xavante filmmakers.

As well as speaking in Graham's class on Multi-Media Ethnography, both David and Caimi participated in events sponsored by the Department of Anthropology (and numerous other entities on campus including International Programs, the Center for Ethnic Studies in the Arts and the Institute for Cinema and Culture). Together with Laura Graham, in the departmental colloquium they spoke about Indigenous Video and each

reflected on his own work and their collaborative efforts. David and Caimi also screened two films later in the week. Caimi showed *Darini: Spiritual Initiation of Xavante Children* (46 minutes, 2005) and David screened *Sujuitaya Yosuu* (The Liberation of Yosuu, 20 minutes, 2005). Both film makers have been working extensively with Laura Graham. She is writing about the work of each as well as about their experiences in collaboration.

Graduate students Eric Dickerson and Jenna Grant participated in this collaborative effort. Eric served as a production assistant during film edition and Jenna assisted in many ways including the filming of the colloquium presentation.



*Editing film
Photo by Drew Annis*



*Caimi, Laura, David, and Drew
Photo by Eric Dickerson*

2006 Photo Gallery:

Doug Midgett's Retirement Party



Faculty, staff and students bid farewell to Doug Midgett with a festive gathering in Iowa Hall.

Colleagues and friends offered memories and good wishes, and Doug read a passage to illustrate his newest passion: writing fiction.



Department Holiday Party



Faculty, staff and graduate students enjoy food and drink in the Natural History Museum, adding to the relaxation that comes with the end of a semester.



Graduate A achieves Faculty Position

Contributed by Cerisa Reynolds

This winter, Visiting Assistant Professor and recent Ph.D. recipient Grant McCall was offered the position of Assistant Professor in the Department of Anthropology at Tulane University. The graduate students and faculty in the Department of Anthropology here at the University of Iowa would like to congratulate Grant on his new job, and wish to summarize some of the accomplishments Professor McCall has made during his time here at the University of Iowa.

In August of 2001, the Department of Anthropology welcomed Grant McCall into their graduate program, just months after he had earned a B.A. with honors in anthropology from Grinnell College. In May of 2003, Grant was awarded his Master's, and just three years later, he earned his Ph.D. During the 2006-2007 school year, Grant was hired as a Visiting Assistant Professor in our department.

Grant has published in a variety of journals and edited volumes, including the *Journal of Human Evolution*, *Lithic Technology*, *Current Anthropology*, and the *African Sociological Review*. He has also presented his research at a minimum of two professional conferences every year since 1999, including such conferences as the American Association of Physical Anthropologists, the Society for American Archaeology, and the American Anthropological Association. In addition, Grant was awarded

an Honorable Mention Prize at The University of Iowa's James F. Jakobsen Graduate Forum in both 2003 and 2004.

Grant has also had a wide range of teaching experience. He was a Teaching Assistant for a variety of classes, including the department's Archaeological Field School at Abo Pueblo, Salinas Pueblo National Monument in New Mexico during the summer of 2004. While completing his graduate studies, Grant also taught an Introduction to Anthropology course at Grinnell College in 2004, and was the sole instructor in the following classes within our department: Seminar in Rock Art Research, Rock Art and Culture, and Humans and Technology. As visiting assistant professor in 2006-2007 he taught the Introduction to Prehistory course as well as a course entitled Special Topics in Archaeology: Lithic Analysis.

Regarding field work, Grant has an impressive resume. First, from 1998 through 2003, he conducted ethnographic/ethnoarchaeological fieldwork among the Ju/'hoansi of Northeastern Namibia. From 1999 through 2005, he was also the primary investigator of the Nhomadom Archaeological Research Project, a project that surveyed and excavated Early and Middle Stone Age sites in the Kaudom National Park of Namibia. Grant spearheaded this project in the hopes of creating a better



understanding of the relationships between site use, mobility patterns, and subsistence during the Middle Pleistocene. In the upcoming summer, Grant will return to Namibia as one of the primary investigators of the Sperrgebiet Stone Age Archaeological Research Project (along with our very own James Enloe and Art Bettis from UI's Department of Geoscience).

In addition to these endeavors, Grant has spent countless hours demonstrating flintknapping at the University of Iowa Natural History Museum, was a competitor for the Iowa City Atlatl Team, and played for the University Rugby team for eight seasons.

Both the graduate students and faculty alike are proud that such a deserving scholar has been given this great opportunity, and we wish Grant all the best in his career at Tulane University.



Sidney Mintz in Iowa City!

On Friday, April 6th distinguished anthropologist Sidney W. Mintz visited the University of Iowa campus. Mintz's most famous research concerns the Caribbean Region, and the anthropology of food, and he is well known for his many influential publications including *Sweetness and Power* (1985). Although he retired in 1997, Mintz has continued to teach in the United States and institutions worldwide.

During this visit Mintz participated for the second time in the



Mintz explaining creolization

Following the luncheon Mintz met with Sonia Ryang (our newest faculty member, see pg. 7) to be interviewed as part of a project to record the oral history of anthropology. Those who know Mintz and those who had the opportunity to meet with him during his visit understand just how much his life and research form an important chapter of the history and future of our field. We look forward to his future visits to the University of Iowa!



Doug Midgett introduces Sidney Mintz

Department of Anthropology's Colloquium Series by presenting a paper entitled "Emerging Creole: Creolization and the Construction of Culture." Faculty, students, and other interested parties packed into a large Schaeffer Hall classroom to hear Mintz speak on the definition of creolization in terms of a specific historical and geographical locus, and to link its definition to the anthropological concept of culture.

Mintz's friend and UI Department of Anthropology emeritus faculty member Doug Midgett introduced the distinguished speaker.

The following morning Mintz had lunch with a number of anthropology, Latin American studies, and international studies students. He fielded questions concerning his Friday talk and shared interesting stories about fieldwork, famous social scientists, and the life of an anthropologist. Mintz's light

hearted nature made the lunch both an informative and entertaining affair. He remarked before leaving the students that he hoped to be able to continue the trend of speaking at the the University of Iowa by giving a third talk in another 10 years!



Mintz addresses a rapt audience

University of Iowa Atlatl Team Update

Contributed by Alex Woods

The Iowa City Atlatl Team is now THE UNIVERSITY OF IOWA ATLATL TEAM! After four long years Anthropology students have finally gotten their beloved spearthrowing sport officialized. The Iowa Atlatl Team, which practices the ancient skill of using an atlatl (or spearthrower) to throw projectiles, is currently practicing to take on their arch rival, the Grinnell College Raging Cows, at the Annual RAGING COW atlatl meet. The Team is itching to win back the trophy which they just barely lost in 2006. Atlatlists Kimberly Townsend and Marie Richards are set to try and break into the women's world rankings as Coach Alexander Woods is



The Iowa Atlatl Team at Last Year's 2006 Raging Cow event at Grinnell College

trying to move up into the top rankings. The team hopes to take between 15 and 20 students to the Grinnell Competition this year, and also attended events at Cahokia Mounds World Heritage Site

and Luther College earlier this school year.

The Iowa Atlatl team is open all interested students and is growing larger every day. Go Hawks!

Announcements

- ◆ Jennifer Skrmetti married Amish Trivedi on July 1, 2006 on the University of Georgia campus in Athens, Georgia.
- ◆ Lavanya Murali and Daniel Proctor married August, 15 2006 in Iowa City.
- ◆ Bryan Kendall and wife Erin welcomed their first child May, 8 2006.
- ◆ Jonathan Thomas and wife Heather are expecting their first child in August.

Many Thanks . . .

to Beverly Poduska and Shari Knight! Faculty and students of the UI Department of Anthropology are continually grateful for all that Beverly and Shari have done and continue to do to assist us in our teaching, research, and studies. Even this newsletter would not be possible without their assistance and support. Thank you.



AnthGrad President, Hannah Marsh, presents Beverly and Shari with a thank you from the graduate students at the 2006 Holiday Party

UI Welcomes Sonia Ryang

The University of Iowa Department of Anthropology is pleased to welcome newest faculty member Sonia Ryang. Sonia joined the university in the fall of 2006 as an associate professor of anthropology and international studies, and C. Maxwell and Elizabeth M. Stanley Family and the Korea Foundation Scholar of Korean Studies. Sonia came to the University of Iowa from John Hopkins University, where she had taught for nine years. Prior to her appointment at John Hopkins, Sonia worked as a Research Fellow at the Australian National University, an appointment she received after earning her Ph.D. in Social Anthropology from Cambridge University.

Sonia's doctorate and many subsequent research projects dealt with Korean diasporic community in Japan, among other topics. Her past publications in this area include *North Koreans in Japan: Language, Ideology, and Identity* (1997) and *Koreans in Japan: Critical Voices from the Margin* (2000, editor). Her co-edited book, *Diaspora and Beyond: Koreans in Japan* (provisional title) will be issued from University of California Press in 2008. She is completing a book on autobiographic writings of diasporic women, *Gender, Self, Diaspora: Ethnography of Autobiographics of Korean Women in Japan and the US*.

Sonia is currently interested in the way form-of-life unfolds in diverse social systems, including totalitarianism and liberalism. She is approaching this issue by exploring vulnerable populations in two different societies: the disabled in the United States and the exiled in North Korea. Her analyses of other areas of inequity are embodied in her recently published books, *Japan and National Anthropology: A Critique* (2004) and *Love in Modern Japan: Its Estrangement from Self, Sex, and Society* (2006), and numerous journal articles



including “Does It Have to Be hESC? A Note on War, Embryo, and the Disabled” (published in *Anthropological Quarterly* in 2006).

Sonia has two children, a daughter (age 8) and son (age 5). She plays

classical piano, Beethoven being her favorite. Her favorite poet is Rimbaud, favorite city, Sydney, Australia, and favorite movie, *Silence of the Lambs*. Her mentors are Alan Macfarlane, Marilyn Strathern, and Sidney Mintz. One of the funniest episodes in Sonia's career process: She responded to the wrong ad for a Johns Hopkins position. When she split with her former boyfriend in Australia, she decided to go some place far away and chose to look for a position in the U.S. She saw an ad which was to replace Professor Sidney Mintz, who was to retire in a few years. The ad said something to the effect of “the world-renowned, internationally acclaimed anthropologist.” Sonia stopped and wondered if that was “Americanism”: “you know, they love big words...” In any case, she decided to give it a go. As it happened, Hopkins was also looking for a junior Asianist when she applied, and although they had completed all rounds of interviews and campus visits of candidates, they decided to invite her over for an interview. Due to the flight schedule, she stayed in Baltimore for eight days, interviewing and getting wine and dined. By the time she returned back Down Under, she had a phone call, offering her the position. In her first semester at Hopkins, she was still saying things like “fair dinkum,” which nobody understood (it's an Australian expression meaning “for real”).

Full-Time Faculty Updates:

Nanette Barkey:

Nanette Barkey is completing her second year in the Anthropology and Community and Behavioral Health departments. On the teaching scene she has introduced a new course (Understanding Africa), revived two courses not taught for several years (Anthropology and International Health, and Applied Anthropology), and taught Ethnographic Research Methods to a great cohort of graduate students. Prof. Barkey coordinated the team of Kevin Wolkober (IT student), Shari Knight, Beverly Poduska, and Mike Chibnik to replace the

department's website. The new site was launched in February 2007. Check it out at <http://www.uiowa.edu/~anthro/>.

Professor Barkey's research this year is divided into three areas. She is using her data on psychosocial stress and blood pressure in post-socialist Mozambique to explore new forms of social support. She is finishing a book with Pamela Erickson titled *The Medicalization of Social, Political, and Economic Problems* for the Rutgers University Press series in Medical Anthropology. The two case studies Nanette is writing explore the medicalization of war and of childhood obesity and malnutrition. The third research project takes her back to central Angola where she did research in 1994-95 and in 2004. Professor Barkey is writing an article on post-war reconciliation through the exhumation and reburial of the dead in the city of Kuito, and she will spend June and July 2007 examining psychosocial stress and its effects on the health of adults in Kuito.

Thomas Charlton:

During 2006 Professor Thomas H. Charlton continued teaching courses he originated in the Department including: 113:012 Introduction to Prehistory; 113:163 Archaeology of Mesoamerica; 113:164 Comparative Prehistory; and 113:268 Seminar in Archaeological Theory and Method. He taught the Department's field course in archaeology (113:199) at Plum Grove. Several students participated in the conservation and preservation of cattle bones in 113:162 Laboratory Methods in Archaeology in the fall. Visiting Scholar Mtra. María Eugenia Guevara Muñoz, an expert in preservation and restoration from Mexico, contributed significantly to the course. Professor Charlton is currently preparing a new course for the Fall Semester, 2007, 113:117 The Maya: Archaeology and Ethnohistory.

In addition to Plum Grove research Professor Charlton with colleagues, Patricia Fournier, María Eugenia Guevara Muñoz, Hector Neff, Deborah Nichols, and Cynthia Otis, continued studies of Teotihuacan period rural settlements in Mexico. Progress in this research was presented at the International Congress of Americanists in Sevilla, España, the Meetings of Midwestern Mesoamericanists in Beloit, WI, and the Meetings of the Society for American Archaeology in San Juan, Puerto Rico.

Collaborative research into Late Postclassic and Colonial period Basin of Mexico was also presented at the Meetings of the Society for American Archaeology, the INAH-Penn State seminar on Mesoamerican Urbanism (University Park, PA), and the II Congreso de Arqueología Histórica (Mexico City). Several papers on this topic were accepted for publication: a chapter in an Elsevier *Encyclopedia of Archaeology* on Mexican Historical Archaeology (in press); and a chapter on ceramic manufacture at Otumba, in an edited book (in press University of Arizona Press). Two publications also appeared, one in 2006 a chapter on Colonial period ceramics in an edited volume published by INAH, the other an article in *Arqueología Mexicana* 2007 on figurines.

Professor Charlton is currently exploring the relevance and potential of historical archaeological research in Spain and France.

Michael Chibnik:

After Mike Chibnik finished his term as department chair in May, he was able to find more time for non-administrative matters. In summer 2006, Mike conducted further research in the state of Oaxaca in Mexico and finished a journal article ["Oaxacan Wood Carvings in the World of Fine Art: Aesthetic Judgments of a Tourist Craft," *Journal of Anthropological Research* 62(4):491-512]. In the spring and winter Mike worked on two publications that will doubtless be read by more people than anything else he has written. The March 2007 *Anthropology News* (published by the American Anthropological Association) includes a section guest-edited by Mike that provides anthropological perspectives on recent conflicts in Oaxaca. Mike's other widely-read publication is the cover story of *Muse* magazine in February 2007. *Muse*, published by the same company that puts out *Smithsonian*, is a often-humorous popular science and history magazine

aimed at “tweens” 10-14. The magazine, which has a circulation of about 50,000, can be found in many schools and public libraries. Mike’s lavishly illustrated article (accompanied by cartoons!) about Oaxacan wood carvings is called “Whimsical Wood.”

Mike has been invited to give the annual Erika and Paul Bourguignon Lecture on Art and Anthropology at Ohio State University in May 2007. His plans for next year include conducting additional research in Oaxaca, teaching the graduate seminar in sociocultural anthropology (113:240) for the first time, and developing a new graduate seminar on ecological anthropology to be taught in spring 2008.

Russell Ciochon:

Russ has spent the last year balancing his new duties as DEO with his academic research on Southeast Asian *Homo erectus* and *Gigantopithecus*. He completed a substantial edited compendium, *The Human Evolution Source Book*, 2nd edition, with colleague John Fleagle (2006, Prentice Hall, 722 pp.), which includes key articles that encompass the spectrum of human evolution, from new techniques in dating and genomics to descriptions of new discoveries like the enigmatic *Homo floresiensis* (the so-called “Hobbit”) of Indonesia. The greater part of his past year, however, has been consumed with his extensive editing and contributions to the best-selling biological anthropology text, *Introduction to Physical Anthropology*, 11th ed., (Jurmain, R., Kilgore, L., Trevathan, W., Ciochon, R.L., 2007, Thomson-Wadsworth, 560 pp.).

In addition to these major undertakings, Russ has also completed five peer-reviewed journal articles and two book chapters. Two of these works have been recently published (articles in *Natural History* and *Journal of Vertebrate Paleontology*), while three are in press (including chapters in *Stony Brook Symposium: Out of Africa I* edited by R.E.F. Leakey, J.G. Fleagle, and F. Grine; and *Elwyn Simons: Symposium Honoring his Contributions to Evolutionary Biology*, edited by J.G. Fleagle). Also in press at the *American Journal of Physical Anthropology* is “Assessing mandibular shape variation in *Gigantopithecus* and ‘*Indopithecus*’ using a geometric morphometrics approach,” coauthored with University of Iowa Anthropology graduate student Steven Miller and recent Ph.D. Jess White. Finally, two articles are currently in review at the *Journal of Human Evolution* and the *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences, USA*.

Unsurprisingly (since we all know his penchant for gab), in spring 2006 Russ was featured on the popular NPR game show, “Whad’ya Know.” He was also quoted in five separate articles in *Science* over the course of 2006 and 2007 regarding “Java Man’s first tools,” the shoulder and arm of the “Hobbit,” the tools of *Homo erectus* on Flores, a critique of critics of *Homo floresiensis*, and on the Plain of Jars in central Laos. Eclectic as always in its scope, Russ’ current work has primarily focused on elucidating the paleoenvironments in place in the Sangiran Dome, Java, when the first *Homo erectus* settlers colonized the region some 1.6 mya.

Rudolf Collaredo-Mansfeld:

Rudi Collaredo-Mansfeld recently published an article “Money of Moderate Size” on the dollarization of the Ecuadorian economy and is currently at work a book titled *Fighting Like a Community: Andean Civil Society in an Age of Indian Uprisings*. On leave with support from a University of Iowa Faculty Scholar Award, he is continuing research in Ecuador into the way family firms in Andean market towns exploit and regenerate cultural identity in order to be economically competitive.

James Enloe:

Jim Enloe continues research on Paleolithic sites in France. His research on Verberie, site of the University of Iowa advanced archaeological field school from 1991-2002, resulted in 2006 publications in

Geoarchaeology: An International Journal, a chapter in D. Ruscillo, ed., *Recent Advances in Ageing and Sexing Animal Bones: 9th ICAZ Conference, Durham 2002*, from Oxbow Press, and a chapter in Haws, Hockett and Brugal, eds., *Paleolithic Zooarchaeology in Practice*, in *British Archaeological Reports* 1564. In 2006, Jim continued field work on faunal remains at Pincevent, France, working on material from a terminal Upper Paleolithic level which documents the transition of hunted prey from over 95% reindeer to 50% horse. This research yielded two papers in *Gallia Préhistoire*. In addition, Jim continued his collaboration with Francine David, CNRS, in the excavation of Middle Paleolithic levels of the Grotte du Bison at Arcy-sur-Cure. This important site documents the transition from Neanderthals of the Middle Paleolithic to anatomically modern humans of the Upper Paleolithic. He will return to Arcy-sur-Cure this summer. It has also been an active year for public and professional presentations, with presentations in France, Mexico and Puerto Rico.

Robert Franciscus:

Bob was an author or co-author on eleven publications in the past year. The most recent of these include co-authorship on a recently published article: "The cranial morphology of early modern Europeans" in the *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences* (2007) 104:1165-1170, and co-author on an Editor's Choice article: "Transverse skeletal and dentoalveolar changes during growth" in the *American Journal of Orthodontics & Dentofacial Orthopedics* (2006) 130:721-31. He was also a co-author on a chapter: "The Pe^otera cu Oase and early modern humans in southeastern Europe" in the 2006 volume: *When Neanderthals and Modern Humans Met*, N.J. Conard (ed.) Tubingen: Kerns Verlag, pp. 145-164. Bob was also a film participant and scientific consultant last year for: "On the Trail of Neanderthals" (WDR Television, Köln, Germany) which aired in July, and "The Voice of Neanderthals" (RTL2 Television, Munich, Germany) which aired in May. In July, Bob also contributed to *Discover Magazine's Ask Discover* column: "Could Neanderthals and modern humans have spoken to each other?" (July, 2006) 27:16. This past April, Bob also presented the results of recent collaborative experimental work: "Experimental growth modification in pigs and craniofacial evolution in *Homo*" to the Department of Biological Anthropology & Anatomy at Duke University, and was co-author on a paper given by Scott Maddux at the American Association of Physical Anthropologists meeting in Anchorage this past March: "Qualitative and quantitative assessment of infraorbital surface topography in recent and fossil *Homo*" (*American Journal of Physical Anthropology*. Suppl. 42:123).

Laura Graham:

Laura Graham returned to UI this spring after an exciting Fulbright teaching fellowship in Venezuela. Having completed her tenure on the American Anthropological Association's Committee for Human Right (for which she served as Chair in 2005) she continues to chair CfHR's Task Group on Language and Social Justice. She also serves as a coordinator of Xavante Warã Association's projects with Cultural Survival in Brazil and continues to be involved in advocacy for Xavante. Last year she wrote an Expert Witness Report on Xavante land claims for a case Brazilian Federal Court. Laurie is pleased to report that the Judge ruled in favor of the Xavante's claim. Laurie has served as consulting anthropologist on several recently documentary films on Wayúu peoples in Venezuela. Among her immediate projects is the book she is now writing tentatively entitled, *Xavante in Public: Re-presenting and Performing "Indianness" in the Public Sphere*. She is also coordinating a collaborative indigenous video project that brings together Xavante and Wayúu indigenous filmmakers and focuses on the centrality of dreams, cultural beliefs and practices related to dreaming and dream sharing among Wayúu and Xavante peoples. This spring, she brought two filmmakers, Caimi Waiásse (Xavante) and David Hernández Palmar (Wayúu), to visit and present their work at UI. In their spare time the three were working on a collaborative video project that documented a Xavante protest for land and water rights [see article on page 2].

Adi Hastings:

~Biosketch not available~

Meena Khandelwal:

Meena's new co-edited book on women's renunciation in South Asia (India, Nepal, Bangladesh) was released by Palgrave Macmillan in September 2006 and an Indian edition is in press at Zubaan, a Delhi-based feminist press. Last Spring, Meena presented a paper "Foreign Swamis at Home in India" at the South Asian Studies Program colloquium at UI and a symposium on Religious Transnationalism in South Asia at Syracuse University in April. This paper, based on ethnographic research in India, has just been published in the journal *Identities: Global Studies in Culture and Power*. Meena was elected as secretary of Association of Feminist Anthropology and began her term in Fall 2006.

Ellen Lewin:

Ellen Lewin and her colleague, Bill Leap (American University) have just completed her co-edited collection, *Out in Public*. She is continuing to move ahead with her ethnography of gay fathers, *Dreaming the Family*, which she hopes to finish in the summer. She attended a conference in Paris in December, "The Experience of Norms," which connected her with scholars in Europe who also work on lesbian and gay family issues; she and one of that conference's co-organizers, Eric Fassin (Ecole Normale Supérieure), are organizing a session for the 2007 AAA meetings, "The Racialization of Sexual Orientation in National and Transnational Politics." Finally, she is starting to develop plans for an edited volume on lesbian and gay family formations across racial and national boundaries.

Katina Lillios:

Katina Lillios is happy to report that her book *Heraldry for the Dead: Memory, Identity, and the Engraved Stone Plaques of Neolithic Iberia* was accepted for publication by the University of Texas Press and should be out in the spring of 2008. Needing a pause from the Iberian plaques, she has undertaken new writing projects and is exploring new research questions. In the summer of 2006, Katina and Billy Graves co-directed the Obermann Seminar *Comparative Archaeologies: Prehistoric Iberia (3000-1500 BC) and the American Southwest (AD 900-1600)*, which brought thirteen archaeologists from Spain, Portugal, Austria, England, and North America to Iowa City for 10 days of presentations and discussions on the topics of art, gender, histories, landscapes, and bodies in their respective areas. Serving brilliantly as assistants during this 10-day seminar were graduate students Anna Waterman and Jonathan Thomas and undergraduate majors John Willman and Jody Hepperly. Katina is currently editing a volume based on the revised papers for this seminar. In the summer of 2007, Katina will direct excavations at the Late Neolithic (3500-2000 BC) burial site of Bolóres, Portugal. This season of work will determine the site's potential for a long-term study of human populations in this region during a critical period of economic and social transformation. This project, funded by the Social Sciences Funding Program, will involve colleagues from the German Archaeological Institute in Madrid, the Office of the State Archaeologist, and the Department of Geoscience, as well as students from the University of Iowa - Anna Waterman, Jonathan Thomas, and John Willman. Her third project is a study, in collaboration with Portuguese archaeologist Ana Martins, of the intersections of colonialism (and decolonization) and Portuguese archaeology. Katina presented papers at the Union Internationale des Sciences Préhistoriques et Protohistoriques meeting in Lisbon, Portugal and at the *Materialitas* conference, held at University College Dublin, Ireland. Katina has been enjoying her work as Director of European Studies, which has held a series of luncheon talks by visiting scholars, faculty, and graduate students.

Erica Prussing:

Erica Prussing focused intensively this year on her 13+ years of ethnographic research about how alcohol-related problems are understood and addressed in a Native North American reservation community. An article about women's experiences with sobriety is in press at *Culture, Medicine and Psychiatry*. A second article, about the cultural politics of reservation addiction services, is under review as part of a special

issue of *Ethos*, which also includes submissions by colleagues from the University of Michigan, University of Chicago, and York University. Finally, a book manuscript based on this long-term ethnographic project (*Reconfiguring the Empty Center: Gender and the Cultural Politics of Sobriety in a Native American Community*) is nearing completion—a process that Erica has found to be labor-intensive but gratifying. She continues to visit the reservation each year, keeping tabs on emerging events and getting community members' feedback on drafts of her publications. She also continues to formulate plans for her next project, which will offer an international perspective on indigenous activism for greater local control of health (especially epidemiological) research. Closer to home, she continues to work with numerous graduate students whose research concerns health, science studies, and/or activism in our department as well as across campus. She also serves on the steering committees of the American Indian & Native Studies Program and the Global Health Studies Program, and will coordinate the core seminar for Global Health Studies in spring 2008. For interested students and faculty colleagues this spring, Erica helped to coordinate a visit and screening of a film by Marcy Rosenbaum, an anthropologist in the Department of Family Medicine at UI who co-created an evocative film about the life, health care experiences, and death of a woman with cancer in rural Kentucky.

Sonia Ryang:

Sonia started her appointment as an associate professor of anthropology and the C. Maxwell and Elizabeth M. Stanley Family and the Korea Foundation Scholar of Korean Studies in fall 2006. Her most recent book, *Love in Modern Japan: Its Estrangement from Self, Sex, and Society*, was published in October 2006 from Routledge. Her co-edited volume on Korean Diaspora will be published from the University of California Press in spring 2008 and she is now completing a book tentatively entitled: *Gender, Self, Diaspora: Ethnography of Autobiographics of Korean Women in Japan and the US*. In an article this year, "Does It Have to be hESC? A Note on War, Embryo, and the Disabled," Sonia explores life's variegated worth and the mechanism that many societies including ours have in making the decision who to let live and who to kill (*Anthropological Quarterly* vol. 79 pp. 509-529, 2006). She was the key note speaker in Korean Women's Diaspora International Conference in Tokyo, October 2006. Her current projects concern 1) North Korean totalitarianism and 2) disability and the feminist ethic of care.

Scott Schnell:

Last spring Scott Schnell was awarded a Short-Term Research Grant from the Japan Foundation. He also received an Arts and Humanities Initiative Award from the University of Iowa. The two awards together allowed him to spend fall semester in Japan conducting fieldwork and archival research on mountain-oriented asceticism and localized religious concepts. His article, Ema Shu's 'The Mountain Folk': Fictionalized Ethnography and Veiled Dissent," was published in *Asian Folklore Studies*. Most recently, Scott received a Curriculum Development Award from International Programs to develop a new course entitled "Environmentalisms," which he plans to offer for the first time this fall. The course will be cross-listed in Anthropology and International Studies.

Glenn Storey:

Glenn's edited volume, *Urbanism in the Preindustrial World: Cross-Cultural Approaches*, was published by the University of Alabama Press in 2006. He recently gave an invited colloquium at Iowa State "Rome and Teotihuacan: Proto-typical Hyper-urban Centers of the Ancient World." He gave another invited colloquium at the University of Miami, "Megalopolis and Mbanza: A Typology of Preindustrial Cities." Glenn will read AP Latin exams again this summer while completing the editing of a Classical Greek grammar and introductory textbook by the Nigerian scholar Dr. James A. I. Eezzuduemhoi, with a targeted release date in 2008. He has just completed two papers: "Rome and the Mesoamerican Urban Tradition," invited chapter for the *Conference Proceedings of The Mesoamerican Urbanism Project*, 6th Meeting, Joint Instituto Nacional de Antropologia e Historia, Mexico and Penn State University (Occasional Papers of the Department of Anthropology, Penn

State University, University Park, Pennsylvania), and “Modeling the Macro-Economics of the Roman Empire, or Globalization as World-Systems Without the Guilt,” invited chapter, *New Perspectives on the Ancient World*, edited by Pedro Paulo Funari, Renata S. Garraffoni, and Bethany Letalien.

A djunct and Visiting Faculty Updates:

John Doershuk:

John taught “Indians of North America” through the S&E Program during fall semester 2006 (23 students) and the same course during spring semester 2007 as a combined CLAS and S&E offering (109 students); for the latter, he was ably assisted by course grader Juli Williams. Also during the spring he supervised Anthropology student Elizabeth Petrenko’s Independent Study credit hours in archaeological lab methods at the OSA. John also continues to be a member of Bryan Kendall’s M.A. committee. John attended the Midwest Archaeological Conference (MAC) annual meeting last fall as a co-presenter and was also elected to an Executive Board position for this organization. He continues through 2007 to serve on the Register of Professional Archaeologists (RPA) Field School Certification Committee and is the President-elect of the Association of Iowa Archaeologists.

Maureen McCue:

Dr. McCue has been busy on several fronts wearing all her hats—global health, medical anthropology, physicians for social responsibility—at jaunty angles. No sooner did the highly successful Oct 06 UI Global Health Studies conference on Humanitarian Assistance as an Instrument of International Politics end, than she began work on an even bigger event, Health Consequences of Global Warming, to be held Sept 13-16, 2007 (save the date!). She was also recognized for her contributions to international health and human rights at the annual Iowa City Human Rights Commission awards breakfast in late October.

Time between now and the fall conference will be very full. She has been invited to give a paper at the 35th anniversary celebration of Gonashasthaya Kendra (GK) where she visited with other UI faculty and students last summer. GK is a novel and highly successful indigenous holistic health system serving rural Bangladeshis. After 35 years of growing from a small military MASH unit into a complex of 2 hospitals, pharmaceutical factory, university, and unique training programs for women, GK founders seek advice on appropriate and reinvigorating new directions (thoughts and ideas appreciated). Dr. McCue is also working on a short course on the human right to health to be given at the Atlanta based US Social Forum this summer with collaborating faculty from such disparate parties as the Boston based Partners in Health program and Prof. David Legge of Victoria, Australia.

Another exciting undertaking is the development of a study abroad site for undergraduates and graduates being developed in the beautiful Ecuadorian cloud forest communities of Maquipucuna, north of historic Quito. Students and others who choose to be involved there (budding medical anthropologists invited) will be assessing the impacts of ecosystem preservation on the health and well-being of the communities whose lives depend on sustaining their unique and endangered forest.

Rachelle Saltzman:

Rachelle H. Saltzman, Ph.D. has been the Folklife Coordinator for the Iowa Arts Council/Department of Cultural Affairs since 1995. She has been the recipient of grants from the Leopold Center for Sustainable Agriculture to study place-based food in Iowa and has developed a website that puts a public face to the research http://www.iowaartscouncil.org/programs/folk-and-traditional-arts/place_based_foods/index.htm, Saltzman works with a variety of communities and individuals to provide assistance with multicultural and diversity issues, project development, event planning and implementation, presentation of traditional arts and artists, grant writing, and curriculum content. She is also manager of Iowa Community Cultural grants and a grant administrator for the Iowa Arts Council’s grant programs. In collaboration with Seven Oaks Audio, Saltzman produces “Iowa Roots,” a series of 5-minute radio programs (broadcast on Iowa Public Radio)

that explores cultures and traditions <http://www.iowaartscouncil.org/programs/folk-and-traditional-arts/iowa-roots/index.shtml>. She is the director of the Iowa Arts Council's "Cultural Express: Traditional Arts on Tour," which includes 11 exhibits and live programs. She was the Iowa Curator for the Iowa Program for Smithsonian Institution's 1996 Festival of American Folklife and the Curator for the Sesquicentennial Commission's 1996 Festival of Iowa Folklife. Saltzman also directed the 2001 Festival of Iowa Folklife, the Iowa Folklife Institute, and "Iowa Traditions in Transition," a program to document and present the traditions Iowa's refugee and immigrant artists in public libraries. Since 1982, she has worked in the field of public folklore at private non-profit and state agencies in eight states, where she directed folklife festivals and other public programs, organized conferences, curated exhibits, conducted research, and received several grants from the NEA and NEH as well as from state and non-profit organizations. Saltzman, who obtained her Ph.D. in Anthropology/Folklore from the University of Texas at Austin, is the author of numerous public folklore publications as well as peer-reviewed articles in the *Journal of American Folklore*, *Anthropological Quarterly*, *Journal of Folklore Research*, *New York Folklore*, *Southern Folklore*, *Southern Exposure*, and edited collections.

Shirley Schermer:

Schermer is instructor for an Independent Study course Spring Semester 2007. She received an Iowa Science Foundation grant for a pilot project as part of a statewide comprehensive overview and synthesis of Iowa burial data. During the fall and spring semesters she supervised an intern who is assisting with the research for this project. Fall and spring semesters Schermer supervised student volunteers (two fall semester, four spring semester), one intern, and one work-study student who are helping with degreasing, labeling, and inventorying UI-Stanford Collection skeletons. Schermer and Joe Artz (Office of the State Archaeologist) will be going to Kosovo in April for the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding between the University of Iowa and the University of Prishtina, visiting university facilities and Kosova archaeological sites, and planning future collaboration with Dr. Edi Shukriu, University of Prishtina (UP). Dr. Shukriu is interested in receiving technical assistance on setting up a human osteology laboratory at the UP for bioarchaeological research and training of students in human skeletal analysis, and also in developing a GIS program for Kosovo. This international collaboration holds the potential for future student and faculty research and exchanges between the UI and UP. Schermer continues to serve on the Society for American Archaeology Public Education Committee, advisor for *DIG* magazine, archaeological advisor to the State Preserves Advisory Board, and member of the editorial board for the *Journal of the Iowa Archeological Society*.

MA Degree Conferrals:

Spring 2006:

Adam Andrews, *A Vernacular Theory of Religion: Personal Experience and Culture in the Lives of Gay Latino Immigrants* (Lewin)

Angela Collins, *Transcultured Pottery: An Analysis of Batavian Grey Ware from Roman Period Netherlands* (Storey)

Scott Maddux, *A Discrete and Geometric Morphometric Assessment of Infraorbital Region Morphology in the Genus Homo* (Franciscus)



Hannah Marsh, *Javan Homo erectus: Stratigraphic and Paleontological Insights into the State of Research on Sangiran Dome* (Ciochon)

Lavanya Murali, *Email in a Thousand and One Accents: The Nature of "Indian English"* (Dominguez)

Jana Owczarzy, *Involuntary Reproductive Loss: Czech and US Women's Discourses* (Prussing)

Anna Waterman, *Health Status in Prehistoric Portugal: Dental Pathology and Childhood Mortality Patterns from the Late Neolithic Burials of Feteira (Lourinhã)* (Franciscus & Lillios, co-chairs)

Summer 2006:

Jenna Grant, *Biomedicine, Ethics, Nations: A Controversial AIDS Clinical Trial in Cambodia* (Dominguez & Prussing, co-chairs)

Julie Plummer, *Soil Phosphate Analysis as an Archaeological Technique: Investigations at the Double Ditch Site (130B8), O'Brien County, Iowa* (Graves)

Fall 2006:

Meredith Anderson, *Thin Orange Trade Ware Distribution in Rural Teotihuacán Sites of the Northeastern Basin of Mexico* (Charlton)

Erica Begun, *Studying Figurines: How Archaeologists Interpret Figurines from the Neolithic of Southeast Europe and the Formative of Mesoamerica* (Charlton & Lillios, co-chairs)

PhD Degree Conferrals:

Spring 2006:

Erik Paul Filean, *Domestic Cattle and Economic Change in the Roman Period Lower Rhineland: The Civitas Batavorum Volumes I & II* (Storey)

Grant S. McCall, *Lithic Technological Perspectives on Early Hominid Site Use and Mobility Strategies* (Enloe)

Summer 2006:

Carolyn A. Hough, *Disruption and Development: Kanyalengs in the Gambia* (Lewin)

Fall 2006:

Jessica L. White, *Functional Morphology and Evolution of the Adapiform Dentition, with Particular Emphasis on the Asian Sivaladapidae* (Ciochon)

A dventures in Graduate S tudies

Meredith Anderson:

Meredith Anderson is currently packing up her third year as an archaeology graduate student in the Anthropology Department. She recently completed her MA, which focused on site function as determined in part by trade ware at Teotihuacan, Mexico. Her ongoing interests include trade networks, site formation, state boundaries, water management, and other issues of power and economy at Teotihuacan. She is currently negotiating collaboration for future projects with a student working in Tepeaca, and is going to head off to Mexico this summer to check out site and collection availability for her dissertation proposal. Meredith has interests peripheral to archaeology, such as fronting an ambitious rock and roll band, and exploring the dark underbelly of roller derby.

Erica Begun:

Erica is a Mesoamerican ceramicist currently specializing on figurines and Early/Middle Classic pottery from the Lake Patzcuaro region of West Mexico. Following her interest in trade relations between West Mexico and Teotihuacán, she is working with Tom Charlton. Erica recently recieved her MA, which was based on her research on figurines.

Margaret Burchianti:

Margaret is continuing her dissertation research in Cedar Rapids on social memory of the war in Vietnam.

Eric Dickerson:

Eric Dickerson received his BA in 1999 and MA in 2004, both from LSU. Eric is a PhD student (post MA, pre-Comp), advised by Virginia R. Dominguez. He studies music and performance as a means to understand cultural politics, especially focusing on the expressive culture of the African Diaspora. His most recent field research, which laid groundwork for his future dissertation project, was a visual- ethnographic study of late-night street parties in rural Jamaica. Eric is from Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

Mandy Dickerson:

Mandy is a sociocultural anthropologist in her third year, currently focusing on comprehensive exams and dissertation fieldwork proposals. She continues study on the manufacture, circulation, and use of plant- based medicines in health and self-care in the Caribbean region. This summer she plans to start an oral history of Jamaican bioscientific research on cannabis-based medicines. In her spare time she enjoys working with a local organic farming collective and learning about native plant and heirloom seed exchanges in Iowa.

Susanna Donaldson:

Susie is finishing her first year at the University of Iowa and is excited to embark on her first fieldwork experience this summer. She will be joining Northeast Tennessee tobacco farmers during their summer growing season and will be examining whether or not recent tobacco (agricultural) policy changes are affecting socio-economic conditions in the region. Susie is also frantically finalizing a paper on the Farm Security Administration ' s 1930s resettlement of southern tenant farmers, which she will be presenting at the Annual Meeting of the Rural Sociology Society this August.

Jenna Grant:

Jenna Grant is a third year graduate student in sociocultural anthropology. Jenna received her MA in summer 2006 for a paper about ethical, biomedical, and national discourse in controversy over an HIV prevention clinical trial in Cambodia. She spent summer 2006 at the University of Wisconsin, Madison, studying Khmer. (See photo below, taken after rehearsing a



Jenna and classmates

Khmer play with classmates.) In November, she was invited to screen and discuss her film (*Sakamapeap*, 2005) with the Visual Studies cluster at UC Davis, which was a highly enjoyable experience. Jenna's interest in filmmaking has expanded to studying film theory and ethnographic film, and she has incorporated these areas into her teaching this spring. Jenna continues to explore the intersections of visual and medical anthropology, and science studies more broadly. For her dissertation she plans to study the use of visual images to produce medical and scientific knowledge in Cambodia, both during the colonial era and today.

Lindsay Eaves-Johnson:

Lindsay is going into her fourth-year post-MA and was shocked, as well as humbled, to receive the June Helm Award in 2006. She is now ABD and plans to defend her PhD proposal later this spring. Her project focuses on correlating thoracic shape with respiratory variables in living humans using CT scans and 3-D visualization and digitization software. This work is part of her greater effort to create a theoretical baseline for which to study bioenergetics in fossil hominids (particularly Neandertals). This research has brought her together with Biomedical Engineers and Pulmonary specialists, as well as a Tyrolean Iceman named, "Ötzi." She presented one facet of her research at the AAPA Meetings in Philadelphia during March 2007, where she and her co-authors examined sex and climatic-related differences in the cross-sectional geometry of mid-series ribs at the posterior angle and midshaft. Her love of human form and physiology even led her to successfully TA Medical Gross Anatomy last fall where she taught 1st year Iowa medical students the ins and outs (but mostly the "ins") of the human body, as well as participate in projects involved in plastination and hyperostosis frontalis interna (HFI). Lindsay also remains active in the broader Iowa City/Coralville communities as Secretary of Iowa City Darwin Day Organization, co-President of Agudas Achim Sisterhood, and as an English Setter foster parent for Illinois Birddog Rescue. In February, she presented a program entitled, "The Soul of Childhood: The Life and Works of Janusz Korczak," as part of the Respectful Communities Project coordinated by the University of Iowa Office of Equal Opportunity and

Diversity. She has additionally become certified as an United Animal Nations (UAN) Emergency Animal Rescue Services (EARS) Volunteer and as an American Red Cross First Responder.

Nathan E. Holton:

Nathan E. Holton is a PhD candidate studying paleoanthropology. With support from the National Science Foundation, Nathan is currently conducting research regarding bite force production and efficiency in living humans. Additionally, Nathan is involved in a number of ongoing research projects including experimental work in facial growth and investigating changes in size and robusticity in the genus *Homo*.

Rachel Horner:

After successfully defending her dissertation proposal in May 2006, Rachel Horner spent the summer in Siena, Italy taking advanced Italian language courses. She returned to the Piedmonte region of northern Italy in the fall to begin preliminary research with the Slow Food Movement.

Bryan Kendall:

Bryan Kendall has been working in the site records department of the Iowa Office of the State Archaeologist during the 2006/2007 school year. His MA work has focused on applying data from site record forms to improve predictive GIS models in Allamakee County, IA. Bryan presented preliminary findings from this research at the Council for Minnesota Archaeology Conference in Mankato, MN. Current research topics include landscape-scale archaeology, geomorphic processes and the material record, and recognizing and addressing survey bias.

Scott Maddux:

Scott Maddux is in his third year in the Paleoanthropology concentration at the University of Iowa. After finishing his paper entitled "A Discrete and Geometric Morphometric Assessment of Infraorbital Region Morphology in the Genus *Homo*," Scott received his Masters degree from the University

of Iowa in May 2006. Scott continues to work on several exciting projects, including a collaborative paper entitled “Temporal and geographical patterning of mandibular corpus dimensions in Homo using Mantel tests,” a book review of Steve Webb’s *The First Boat People* for *American Anthropologist*, and an article based on his Masters research for the *Journal of Human Evolution*. This summer Scott plans to visit the American Museum of Natural History (New York, NY) and the National Museum of Natural History (Washington, DC) to continue data collection on the human infraorbital region.

Hannah Marsh:

Hannah is a 3rd year biological anthropology student now beginning work on her Ph.D. She received her BS in Biological Anthropology from the University of Michigan in 2004, and her MA in Anthropology from the University of Iowa in 2006, focusing on the geology of *Homo erectus* find sites on Java. She is currently focusing on cranial vault thickness as a species indicator within human evolution fossil record, focusing specifically on *Homo erectus*. She is also heading an effort to study the similarities and differences in ankle morphology of chimps, gorillas and humans, hoping to understand the tempo and mode of ankle evolution from a knuckle-walking ancestor to a human biped. She is also participating in a joint Indonesian-American geological/paleoanthropological team studying the hominid fossil find sites of Java, Indonesia. Hannah has completed fieldwork in Wyoming with Dr. Phillip Gingerich in 2003, the Koobi Fora Field School in 2005, and geological surveys of Sangiran Dome, Ngandong, and Mojokerto, Java in 2006. She is also president of the University of Iowa Anthropology Graduate Student Association, and a TA for Human Origins.

Lavanya Murali Proctor:

Lavanya is from New Delhi, India. She came to the University of Iowa in the Fall of 2004 with an M.A. and M.Phil. in Sociology from the Delhi School of Economics, University of Delhi. Lavanya’s M.A. paper at this university considers the use of “Indian English” in e-mail. Her dissertation research will examine the discursive construction of English as

aroute to upward mobility in India, and will be conducted in schools in Delhi. Her interests include language politics, cultural politics, the anthropology of India, and gender.

Tomomi Naka:

Tomomi is finishing up her second year after her dissertation fieldwork. Although writing a dissertation is a challenge, she is making some progress. She is fortunate to be able to teach an evening course (Introduction to the Study of Culture and Society) and she enjoys preparing for the class and interacting with students in her class. In January 2007, Tomomi participated in the Obermann Graduate Institute on Engagement and the Academy. She enjoyed meeting with graduate students, faculty members, and staff members of non-profit community organizations and discussing how research and teaching at higher education could be further connected with community members beyond the university. In late July to August 2007, Tomomi will spend time at Elizabethtown College (Pennsylvania) as a Summer Graduate Fellow and will explore future research possibilities.

Sarah Ono:

Sarah Ono returned to the department this spring following her medical leave. She has resumed work on her dissertation, and in February worked on the 79th Academy Awards as a Stage Coordinator on the red carpet.

Cristina (Nina) Ortiz:

Cristina is a second year student this year and is having a blast. She spent the summer vagabonding around Iowa, interviewing people, attending/crashing quinceañeras, popping into churches, and just generally being nosy. She is currently in the process of writing her MA paper about quinceañeras in Iowa and continues to be interested in Hispanic communities in Iowa. Nina is an active member of LGSA (Latino Graduate Student Association), a group facilitator for Mujer at WRAC, and a TA in the Spanish department. She is looking forward to having post-MA status and is a little disturbed by the fact that she is referring to herself in the third person.

Daniel Proctor:

Dan joined the department in 2005 after finishing his MA at Florida Atlantic University in Boca Raton, Florida. His dissertation work is primarily concerned with bipedal locomotion and evolutionary and comparative anatomy of the foot.

Cerisa Reynolds:

Cerisa has spent the 2006-2007 school year working on her Master's, wherein she has analyzed a sample of faunal remains from the Darkmold Site, a Basketmaker II site just north of Durango, Colorado. The Basketmaker II people represent the first farmers in the northern Southwest, but there is disagreement as to how this happened. Some scholars feel that the Basketmaker II people represent hunter-gatherers who learned of maize agriculture through diffusion (the in situ model), while others argue that the Basketmaker II people migrated into the northern Southwest bringing the knowledge of agriculture with them (the migration model). The Durango Basketmakers have specifically been hypothesized to represent the in situ developmental model, as opposed to the Western Basketmakers who are thought to more closely resemble the migration model. Cerisa's research seeks to find means by which the faunal record can help us understand the shift to agricultural dependency, as well as any differences between those seen as in situ Basketmakers and those seen as migrant Basketmakers.

Maria Beatriz Rodriguez-Feo:

Maria Beatriz Rodriguez-Feo (Betty) recently presented a paper "Religious Synthesis in Healing and Witchcraft in Urban Luanda," at the African Studies Association (ASA) meeting last November in San Francisco. In this paper she analyzed synthetic (syncretic) practices in Angola in light of the relationship between the capital and the provinces and in the way that they expose the dichotomy in the literature on syncretic practices: syncretism presented as either celebrated mixture or as a degeneracy of an ethnic purity.

Currently Betty is busy finishing her dissertation. Recently she submitted a panel proposal on Cuba-Africa for this year's ASA meeting in New York. She is the Diversity Dialogue Services Coordinator at the Women's Resource and Action Center (WRAC) and is hoping to use this platform for people to discuss issues of anti-oppression and "dialogue across difference."

Kenda Stewart:

Kenda Stewart (2001 cohort) is currently conducting her field research in Israel. Her research focuses on identity within the Arab community in Israel, particularly in the context of Palestinian Arab women's participation in soccer at the "professional" level in the Israeli football league. She is currently living and working in Haifa while interviewing and conducting field research with the women's football club in Sakhnin --the only Palestinian Arab team in the Israeli Women's Soccer League.

Jonathan Thomas:

Jonathan is an archaeologist interested in how the organization of production of material culture reflects social relationships among groups of emerging social complexity. In particular, he focuses on how the appropriation and recontextualization of visual imagery might signal connections between craft specialists who produce ritual objects. How are these recursive practices manifested in the archaeological record?

Jonathan's work is focused on different strategies of craft specialization in the Southwestern Iberian Peninsula during the Late Neolithic, a region which provides an excellent opportunity to monitor nascent specialization and social complexity in Western Europe at this time, and more broadly in terms of prehistory. He is particularly interested in the production of Late Neolithic Iberian slate plaques (<http://research2.its.uiowa.edu/iberian/index.php>). Morphometric analysis of experimental replica plaques has shed some light on the variables which help to distinguish specialists or groups of specialists. This research will hopefully be useful in understanding plaque production, standardization, and the character of specialization in Iberia at this time.

During the summer of 2007 Jonathan will be participating in the excavation of the rockshelter site at Bolóres in the Estremadura district of Portugal, under the aegis of Dr. Katina Lillios and Dr. Michael Kunst. Last year he was lucky enough to win a Stanley Award for Graduate Student Research, and has just been nominated for a University of Iowa Outstanding TA Award. Jonathan and his wife Heather are expecting their first child in August.

Jennifer Trivedi:

Jennifer is a socio-cultural anthropologist working on earning her Master 's degree. Her MA work looks at the portrayal of disasters, vulnerability, and casinos in the Biloxi, Mississippi area. Part of that work will be displayed as a poster presentation at the Society for Economic Anthropology 's conference on "The Political Economy of Hazards and Disasters." In addition to these issues, Jennifer is interested in identity, post-disaster (natural and man-made) recovery, intersections of morality and politics, and issues related to East Europeans and their descendents.

Anna Waterman:

Anna Waterman is a biological anthropology PhD student at the University of Iowa. She completed her MA in the Spring of 2006 (MA paper titled "Health Status in Prehistoric Portugal: Dental Pathology and Childhood Mortality Patterns from the Late Neolithic burials of Feteira II (Lourinhã)") and is now continuing her research on health status in prehistoric Portugal for her doctoral dissertation. This summer Anna will be participating in Dr. Katina Lillios 's excavation of the Late Neolithic burials of Bolores in the Lisbon peninsula of Portugal.

Jerry Wever:

Jerry Wever is completing his dissertation entitled

"Post-colonial Creolizations: Expressive culture and empire rollover in St. Lucia and the Seychelles."

Jerry was the recipient of the 2006-7 Ballard/Seashore Dissertation Fellowship and is finishing his writing in Atlanta. He is now on the job/post-doc market and will defend by summer of 2007.

Alissa Whitmore:

Alissa Whitmore graduated from the University of Iowa in 2006 with a B.A. in Anthropology and Classics. She is currently contemplating her impending Masters paper, which likely will have to do with gender and archaeology, and possibly gender in Greek Archaeology as well. She swears she will be doing something academically productive over the summer, but she 's not sure specifically what that will be yet.

Juli Williams:

Juli Williams is a 2nd year sociocultural anthropology student. She plans to finish her MA on perceptions of landscape in a forest-dependent community in Oaxaca, Mexico in July. She will then shift gears to enroll in the School of Library and Information Science and the Center for the Book here at the University of Iowa. She is very excited to have received the Olson Fellowship to work in Special Collections at the Main Library; starting July 1st you 'll find her there, so please come by for a visit!

Alexander Woods:

Alexander D. Woods is finishing up his last semester of course work this semester and getting started on his PhD research studying the role of raw material in the decision making process of Upper Paleolithic blade producers. The atlatl team is going stronger than ever, having just become an official University of Iowa club sport, and Alex is still teaching and demonstrating stone tool manufacture in the Museum of Natural History.

**Congratulations to 2007
Seashore/Ballard Dissertation Fellowship Winners!
Tomomi Naka and Brandy Case-Haub**

Undergraduate News

From the Undergraduate Honors Seminar:

Contributed by Rudi Colloredo-Mansfeld

The Department of Anthropology's honors students continue their impressive record developing creative research projects. During the Fall semester 2006, seven students enrolled in the honors research seminar. Their thesis projects include the following:

Kelly Wilhelm is developing a proposal to analyze impurities in iron artifacts from Bronze Age Europe. His goal is to be able to see whether the sources of ore can be identified and to come to a conclusion about the level of control political elites could exercise over the sources. While he concentrated on finding models for the analysis he sought to perform with a Scanning Electron Microscope, he also consulted with archaeologists both at the University of Iowa and at other institutions to be able to situate his work at the forefront of current debates.

For much of the semester, **Amanda Parker** framed a project that assessed the stereotype of

deviancy associated with "gamers" or those involved with video and table top games. She made the case that the cultural and social significance of gaming groups rests in the relationships they make possible. She developed a number of variables to help bring social interactions into focus and then, most creatively, looked at the variables across a number of groups, including two gaming groups, a bowling club, a weight watchers group and a bible study group. She showed how their degree of sociality could then be compared.

Mara Kellog researched the politics of free trade in Costa Rica. Drawing on her study abroad experiences in Puntarenas, Costa Rica, she looked at the national debates for and against CAFTA-DR, the proposed free trade treaty between Costa Rica and the United States. Her thesis concentrated on the way free trade would once again aggravate regional inequalities within the Central American nation.

Undergrads Advising Fellow Undergrads

During 2006 registration for spring classes the Anthropology Student Organization offered a novel service—peer advising for fellow undergraduates interested in majoring or minoring in anthropology. During much of November, six anthropology undergraduates met with students in 115 MacBride over the lunch hour. Peer counselors advised students on how to get started on a major in anthropology, how to sequence their courses, how to finish up general education credits, how to initiate independent studies, and how to match their academic interests to departmental course offerings. More importantly, anthropology students who participated in this event provided first hand knowledge of what it is like to be an anthropology student at the University of Iowa,



and brought a younger face to anthropology advising. We hope that this collaborative effort of faculty and peer advising in the department of anthropology will continue and add to the growth of our department.

June Helm Award 2006

When Professor June Helm was nearing retirement, a group of graduate students approached her with the idea of creating a graduate student award in her honor. Those who had served on hiring committees in the past had noticed that several of the successful candidates had been recipients of “named awards.” An award named after June Helm would provide the department with its own named award, and even more importantly, would honor June Helm’s many years of service to the department and to the discipline of anthropology. June’s record of service, and her reputation for standing up to “absurd bureaucratic practices and departmental policies,” had earned her the tremendous respect of many. June enthusiastically gave her support and her name to the award upon one condition: that the award remain in the hands of graduate students and not in the hands of the faculty.

After several years, graduate students approached the UI Alumni Association and Foundation about setting up a special fund where donations could be made in June Helm’s name to the award. Now, the June Helm award’s \$50 stipend comes from this fund, which is generously supported by current and former anthropology graduate students. Now that June Helm is no longer with us, the award is presented with honorable admiration and remembrance of all she did for our department and the discipline as a whole.

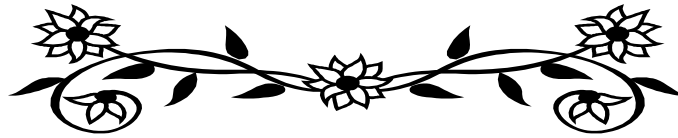
The June Helm Award is unique because it is completely independent of the faculty, and represents a moment when we as graduate students can recognize one of our own colleagues and peers for their commitment and service to our organization, our department, and to the discipline. Graduate students elect the nominees, handle the voting, and distribute the award each year based on the following criteria which honor the spirit of June Helm: a commitment to service both in the Department of Anthropology and in the wider university community.

**Congratulations to 2006
June Helm Award recipient,**

Lindsay Eaves-Johnson!



*Lindsay and King Arthur of
Wyndtree Farm*



Message from the
2006-2007
AnthroObserver Editor:

I would like to thank everyone who made this newsletter possible. I would especially like to thank Shari Knight who helped me with the printing and mailing of the newsletter and all those who contributed articles and photographs. Finally, thank you to all the faculty, graduate students, and alumni who updated us on their adventures in anthropology.



The editor enjoying her favorite summer activity—fishing!

**For more information on the
University of Iowa's
Department of Anthropology
please visit our newly
renovated website:**



**[http://www.uiowa.edu/
~anthro/](http://www.uiowa.edu/~anthro/)**

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, alumni and staff.

2006-2007 Editor:
Susanna Donaldson

Faculty Advisor:
Erica Prussing

Department Chair:
Russell Ciochon

The AnthroObserver

Department of Anthropology
114 Macbride Hall
Iowa City, IA 52242-1322